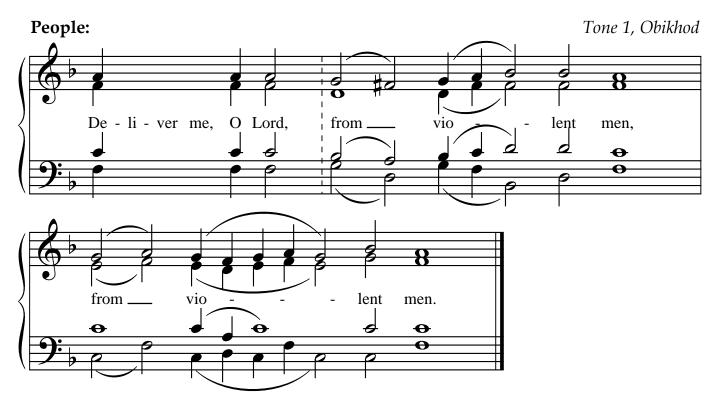
O Gladsome Light is sung.

The Three Readings

Priest: Let us attend! Peace be unto all! Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 1st tone. Deliver me, O Lord, from violent men.



Reader: From those who have schemed unrighteousness in their hearts all the

day long!

People: Deliver me, O Lord, from violent men, from violent men.

Reader: Deliver me, O Lord...

People: ...from violent men., from violent men.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from Exodus.

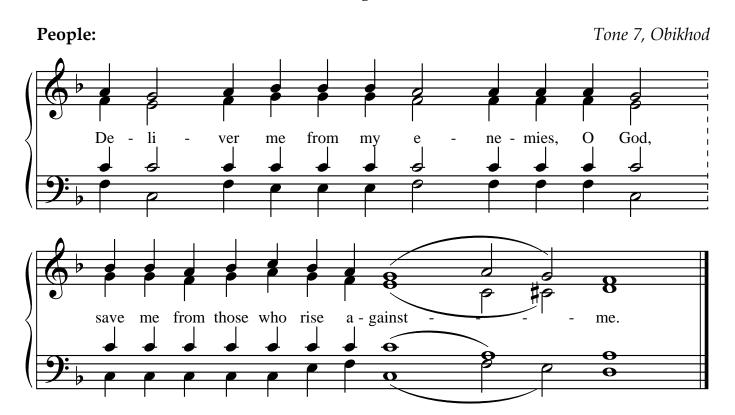
Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Exodus* 19:10-19)

Then the Lord said to Moses: 'Go to the people and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. And let them prepare for the third day, because on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. You shall set limits for the people all around, saying, "Be careful not to go up the mountain or to touch the edge of it. Any who touch the mountain shall be put to death. No hand shall touch them, but they shall be stoned or shot with arrows; whether animal or human being, they shall not live." When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they may go up on the mountain.' So Moses went down from the mountain to the people. He consecrated the people, and they washed their clothes. And he said to the people, 'Prepare for the third day; do not go near a woman.' On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain, and a blast of a trumpet so loud that all the people who were in the camp trembled. Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God. They took their stand at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the Lord had descended upon it in fire; the smoke went up like the smoke of a kiln, while the whole mountain shook violently. As the blast of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses would speak and God would answer him in thunder.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 7th tone. Deliver me from my enemies, O God, save me from those who rise against me.



Reader: Deliver me from those who work evil!

People: Deliver me from my enemies, O God, save me from those who rise against me.

Reader: Deliver me from my enemies, O God...

People: ...save me from those who rise against me.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Job.

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: (Job 38:1-23 & 42:1-5)

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: 'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?— when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped"? Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and it is dyed like a garment. Light is withheld from the wicked, and their uplifted arm is broken. Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this. Where is the way to the dwelling of light, and where is the place of darkness, that you may take it to its territory and that you may discern the paths to its home? Surely you know, for you were born then, and the number of your days is great! Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war? What is the way to the place where the light is distributed, or where the east wind is scattered upon the earth? Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain, and a way for the thunderbolt, to bring rain on a land where no one lives, on the desert, which is empty of human life, to satisfy the waste and desolate land, and to make the ground put forth grass? Has the rain a father, or who has begotten the drops of dew? From whose womb did the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the hoar-frost of heaven? The waters become hard like stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, or loose the cords of Orion? Can you lead forth the Mazzaroth in their season, or can you guide the Bear with its children?' Then Job answered the Lord: 'I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours

Then Job answered the Lord: 'I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. "Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?" Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. "Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me." I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Isaiah.

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Is.* 50:4-11)

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; He Who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God Who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of His servant? Who walks in darkness and has no light, yet trusts in the name of the Lord and relies upon his God? But all of you are kindlers of fire, lighters of firebrands. Walk in the flame of your fire, and among the brands that you have kindled! This is what you shall have from my hand: you shall lie down in torment.

Priest: (says the prayer before the Trisagion)

People: sing the Trisagion

Priest: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

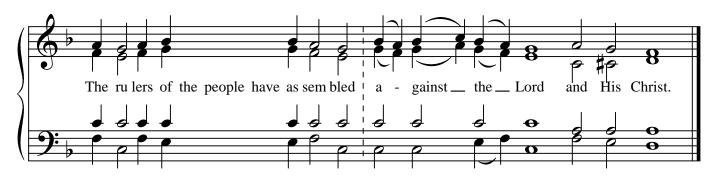
Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 7th Tone: The rulers of the people have assembled against

the Lord and His Christ.

People: Tone 7, Obikhod



Reader: Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

People: The rulers of the people have assembled against the Lord and His Christ.

Reader: The rulers of the people have assembled...

People: ...against the Lord and His Christ.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the first epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: (1 Corinthians 11:23-32)

Brethren, For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is My body that is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For all who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgement against themselves. For this reason many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

Priest: Peace be unto you, Reader.

Reader: And unto your spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Blessed is he who considers the

poor and needy! The Lord will deliver him on the day of trouble!

People: *sing the Alleluia*

Reader: My enemies say to me in malice: "When will he die and his name perish?"

People: sing the Alleluia

Reader: He who ate bread has lifted up his hand against me!

People: sing the Alleluia

