The 26th Day of October
+ Holy and Glorious Greatmartyr Demetrius, the Myrrhgusher of Thessalonica; Commemoration of the Great Earthquake at Constantinople in 740 A.D.

An All-Night Vigil may be served if the Superior so wishes.

Small Evening Service

incomplete, as of 10/2014

Great Evening Service

After the Introductory Psalm, “Blessèd is the man...,” the first Antiphon.  
At “Lord, I call...,” 8 stikhera,  
These 4 stikhera, in Tone 2: To the melody, “When from the tree....”

O glorious martyr Demetrius, /  
Thou art a radiant star illumining thy native land /  
Protecting her from the assaults of her enemies /  
Delivering her from every storm and affliction. /  
Therefore, she joyously offers thee praise, O blessèd one, /  
By keeping thy feast on this day every year ///  
Praising the Lord with faith and love Who hath so glorified thee. (Twice)

O passion-bearing martyr of Christ /  
Like the sun thou dost illumine the world with the rays of thy miracles. /  
Therefore, on this day we celebrate thy [holy] memory /  
And delight in all thy wonders, O blessèd one, /  
Keeping thy sacred festival with faith. /  
And as thou hast great boldness before the Lord ///  
Enter Him to save us, thy servants, from every [misfortune] and calamity.

Thy side was pierced by spears for the sake of the Savior, /  
Whose side was pierced [for our sake] upon the Cross, /  
For with love didst thou emulate Him in thy suffering, /  
O passion-bearing Demetrius, /  
Revealing to all the victorious power of thy witness [for Christ]: /  
Casting down the tormenting oppressor ///  
Through thine invincible witness, O martyr of Christ.

And these 4 stikhera, in Tone 8: To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”
O most glorious wonder! /
Heaven and earth joyfully shine forth today. /
Praising the memory of the martyr Demetrius
[Behold] he is crowned with [honor] by the angels! /
And he receives the praise of men. /
See how he suffered! See how well he fought the fight! ///
Casting down the evil enemy in victory for Christ. (Twice)

O most glorious wonder! /
Demetrius enlightens all the ends of the earth /
With the rays of his miracles, /
And he himself is illumined by the never-setting Light /
And delights in its eternal radiance. /
The clouds of barbarity are dispelled by his brightness; ///
All infirmities are driven away and the demons are vanquished.

O most glorious wonder! /
The thrice-blessèd Demetrius, /
Who for the sake of Christ was pierced [by the spear], /
Now slays the enemy [with] a two-edged sword, /
Cutting down the arrogance of the adversary /
And destroying the fierce assaults of the demons. /
To him let us cry aloud: O holy Demetrius, ///
Ever protect us who faithfully honor the memory with love

Glory..., in Tone 6: (By the Emperor, Leo of Byzantium)
Come, all ye that love the feasts of the Church /
And let us assemble today /
At the universal festival of the passion-bearer [Demetrius]. /
Let us all celebrate his memory and cry aloud: /
Rejoice, for rending the robe of impiety with faith /
And clothing thyself with the courage of the Spirit! /
Rejoice, for casting down the schemes of the enemy /
By the power given thee by the One true God! /
Rejoice, for when thy body was pierced by the spear /
Thou didst spiritually emulate for us Christ’s holy Passion. /
Implore Him then, O Demetrius, thou adornment of the martyrs, /
That we be delivered from all visible and invisible enemies ///
And that our souls may be saved.

Now and ever…, Dogmatic Theotokion, in the Same Tone:
Who will not bless thee, O most holy Virgin? /  
Who will not sing of thy most pure child-bearing? /  
The Only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father, /  
But from thee He was ineffably incarnate; /  
God by nature, yet man for our sake; /  
Not two persons, but one in two natures. /  
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessèd Lady ///  
To have mercy on our souls.

[Or the Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week if a Resurrection Service]

The Entrance and the Prokeimenon of the Day.

Three Readings:

The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah (Composite 16. Isa. 63:15-64:5,8-9):

63:15 Look down from heaven and behold from Thy holy habitation and Thy glory. Where is Thy zeal and Thy strength; where is the abundance of Thy mercy and compassion that Thou hast withheld Thyself from us? 16 For Thou art our Father, for Abraham knew us not, and Israel acknowledged us not; yet do thou, O Lord, our Father, deliver us; Thy name hath been upon us from of old. 17 O Lord, why hast Thou made us to err from Thy way and hardened our heart that we should not fear Thee? Return for Thy servants' sake, for the sake of the tribes of Thine inheritance, that in but a little while we may inherit Thy holy mountain. 18 We are become as at the beginning, when Thou didst not bear rule over us, neither was Thy name called upon us. 19 If Thou shouldest open the heaven, trembling shall take hold upon the mountains, and they shall melt as wax melteth before the fire. And fire shall burn up the enemies, and the name of the Lord shall be manifest among the adversaries; the nations shall be troubled at Thy presence. 3 Whensoever Thou shalt do glorious things, trembling from Thee shall take hold upon the mountains. 4 From of old have we not heard, neither have our eyes seen a God beside Thee and Thy works, which Thou shalt perform unto them that wait for Thy mercy. 5 For He shall meet them that work righteousness, and they shall remember Thy ways. Behold, Thou wast wroth, and we sinned; therefore have we erred … 8 But now, O Lord, Thou art our Father, and we are clay; we are all the work of Thine hands. 9 Be not sore wroth with us, neither remember Thou our sins forever. And now look Thou upon us, for we are all Thy people.

The Reading from the Prophecy of Jeremiah (2:2-12):

[And the Word of the Lord came unto me, saying] 2 …Thus saith the Lord: ‘I do remember the mercy of thy youth and the love of thy growing, in following the Holy One of Israel,’ saith the Lord. 3 ‘Israel was holy unto the Lord, the first-fruits of his
increase; all that devour him shall offend; evils shall come upon them,’ ’ saith the Lord.  
4Hear ye the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob and all the families of the house of Israel.  
5Thus saith the Lord: ‘What transgression have your fathers found in Me that they are gone far from Me and have walked after vanities and are become vain?  
6Neither said they, ‘Where is the Lord that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, that guided us in the wilderness, in a land boundless and untrodden, in a land that no man passed through, and where no son of man dwelt?’  
7And I brought you into Carmel to eat the fruits thereof and the goodness thereof, but ye entered in and defiled My land and made Mine inheritance an abomination.  
8The priests said not, ‘Where is the Lord?’ And they that handled the law knew Me not; the pastors also were ungodly toward Me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after that which did not profit.  
9Wherefore I will yet plead with you,’ saith the Lord, ‘and with your children’s children will I plead.  
10For pass over to the isles of Chettim, and see, and send unto Kedar, and consider diligently, and see if such things are come to pass.  
11Will the nations change their gods? And these are no gods. But My people have changed their glory for one wherefrom they shall not profit.  
12The heaven was astonished at this and trembled greatly over it,” saith the Lord.

The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (4:7-15)

4:7 The righteous man, though he die early yet shall he be at rest. 8For old age is not honored for length of time, nor is it measured by number of years; 9but wisdom is gray hair for men, and a blameless life is ripe old age.  
10There was one who pleased God and was so beloved of Him, that while living among sinners he was taken up.  
11He was caught up lest evil change his understanding or guile deceive his soul.  
12For the fascination of wickedness obscures that which is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind.

At the Litya, the stikhera of the Temple, and these of the Saint, in Tone 1: (By Ven. George the Sykeiote):

Rejoice, O city of Thessalonica / 
Sing praises and make glad, adorning thyself with faith / 
For thou holdest a great treasure in thy bosom — / 
The glorious passion-bearing Demetrius, the [martyr] for the truth. / 
Delight in his miracles and in the healings they accomplish! / 
Behold how he strikes down the bold assaults of the foreign enemy! / 
And with thankfulness, let us cry out to the Savior: /// 
O Lord, glory to Thee!
**26 OCTOBER: HOLY GREATMARTYR DEMETRIUS; THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE**

*(By Anatolius):*

Let us brighten this day with beautiful hymns /
And let us proclaim abroad the great accomplishments /
Of the all-praised and great martyr Demetrius, /
For courageously he turned back the assaults of the demons: /
He steadfastly endured in the arena /
And he was taken away [to heaven] in victory, ///
Praying to the Savior that He may save our souls.

*[Another Stikheron, by Germanus, is not translated at this time]*

**Glory..., in Tone 5: To the melody “Let us proclaim abroad....”**

Let us assemble with faith and love, /
Let us celebrate this festival and clap our hands for joy, /
In honor of our great champion, [Demetrius]. /
Behold, the legions of heaven also rejoice today, /
For he was pierced by a spear for the sake of our King and Lord /
Who was pierced [for our sake] upon the Cross, /
And destroyed Lyæus together with his lecherous pride. /
The earth and sea both wonder at the appearance of this great luminary; /
The young rightly rejoice for he is an example to the youth, /
To the old he is a pillar of support, to the poor, a source of riches, /
To the pilgrims, a shelter, to soldiers, a fellow warrior, /
A fellow traveler with those who sail across the depths of the sea, /
To all, he is a firm and steadfast intercessor! /
Together with Thessalonica, let us all cry aloud with faith: /
O most glorious Demetrius, deliver us from every sorrow and need, ///
And through thy prayers save us, thy servants.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the Same Tone: (by the Patriarch, Germanus)**

Come, let us raise our horn, /
For the Virgin Mother and Queen of all /
Hath bowed down from heaven to bless all those who sing her praises. /
Come, all ye faithful assembled together, and let us extol her in song, /
For she gave birth to the King of all /
Who in His love for mankind destroyed the power of death, /
Come, all ye pastors and teachers, and honor the most-pure Mother of the Good Pastor: /
For she is the golden lamp and the Light-bearing cloud, /
The second heaven and the tablet of stone, /
The golden jar of manna and the fiery throne of God, / 
The unopened gate of the Word, the refuge of all Christians. / 
Come, let us praise her and let us cry aloud to the palace of the Word: / 
Make us worthy to humbly attain the heavenly Kingdom /// 
For nothing is impossible through thy [holy] intercessions.

At the Apostikha, these stikhera, of the Earthquake, in Tone 2: (By Symeon of the Wonderful Mountain)

When the earth is troubled in fear of Thy rage / 
The hills and mountains are shaken / 
But look down upon us with an eye of compassion, / 
And be not wroth with us in thine anger; / 
But me merciful toward the work of Thy hands, / 
And deliver us from the terror of the quaking of the earth /// 
As thou art good and lovest mankind.

Verse: He looks on the earth and it trembles.

Fearful art Thou, O Lord, and who can resist Thy wrath? / 
Or who can entreat or supplicate Thee, O Good One, / 
On behalf of the people who have sinned against Thee and are in despair? / 
The hosts of heaven, the angels, principalities, powers, and the thrones, / 
The dominions, the cherubim, and the seraphim cry out to Thee on our behalf: / 
Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Lord: / 
Do not despise the work of Thy hands, /// 
And in Thy compassion save Thy beleaguered [people].

Verse: Thou hast made the earth to tremble, Thou hast broken it.

The Ninevites, because of their offenses, / 
Heard the threat of their destruction by an earthquake; / 
Yet through the mediating sign of Jonah emerging from [the belly of] the whale / 
They cried out in repentance to Thee. / 
And Thou didst accept their cry / 
And took pity on Thy people, their babes and cattle / 
So, take pity on us, relieve our punishment and save us /// 
For the sake of Thine own third-day Resurrection

Glory..., in Tone 8: (By Anatolius)

O ever-memorable Demetrius, / 
Thy most pure and blessèd soul /
26 OCTOBER: HOLY GREATMARTYR DEMETRIUS; THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE

Resides now in the heavenly Jerusalem, / Whose walls are adorned by the hand of the unseen God. / While thine all-honorable and valiant body lies at rest in its temple on earth, / An inviolate treasury of miracles and a remedy for diseases, / From which we draw all manner of healings. / [Therefore, we implore thee], O greatly-praised one, / Keep this city which magnifies thee / From the assaults of the adversaries, /// For thou hast boldness before Christ, Who hath so glorified thee.

Now and ever…, Theotokion, in the Same Tone:

O Virgin unwedded, O Mother of God on high / Thou hast ineffable conceived God in the flesh / And being beyond reproach, thou hast granted us all purification of our transgressions. / Accept the supplications of thy servants; / And do thou, who now receivest our entreaties, /// Pray for us all to be saved.

After the blessing of the loaves, the Troparion of St. Demetrius, in Tone 3:

O victorious Demetrius / Thou wast given to the world as a powerful protector against dangers / And an invincible soldier of Christ, / As thou didst inspire Nestor to overcome the pride of Lyæus /// So intercede with Christ God that He may grant us great mercy. (Twice)

Now and ever…, Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos….

Morning Service

At “God is the Lord…,” the Troparia:

The Troparion of the Earthquake, in Tone 8:

O Thou Who lookest upon the earth and makest it tremble, / Deliver us from the fearful threat of earthquake, O Christ our God. / Send down upon us Thine abundant mercies through the intercessions of the Theotokos /// For Thou art the only Lover of mankind. (Twice)

Glory…, that of St. Demetrius, in Tone 3:

O victorious Demetrius … [see above]
26 OCTOBER: HOLY GREATMARTYR DEMETRIUS; THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE

Now and ever..., that of the Earthquake:
O Thou Who lookest upon the earth.... [see above]

After the 1st Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4: To the melody, “Thou hast appeared today....”

Piously and devoutly we celebrate today /
The feast of the passion-bearer Demetrius ///
For he ceaselessly prays Christ to grant peace unto all and great mercy. ( Twice)

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the Same Tone:
Let us bless the Theotokos, O ye faithful, /
Our speedy deliverance in time of trouble and misfortune, /
And our helper and fervent intercessor before God, ///
For through her we have been delivered from corruption.

After the 2nd Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4: To the melody, “Quickly go before....”

Today the Church of Christ celebrates thy memory /
O glorious martyr Demetrius, /
And she gathers the faithful to praise thee worthily /
As a true warrior and vanquisher of the enemy. /
Therefore, through thy prayers, deliver us from every trial and temptation, ///
O divinely-wise one. ( Twice)

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the Same Tone:
O Mother of God, we praise thee, /
And we glorify thine ineffable birthgiving, O Bride of God, /
Through which we are delivered from the deceit of the [enemy] /
And from every misfortune. /
Therefore, we faithfully cry to thee, O all-praised one ///
Have mercy upon thy flock, O Sovereign Lady Theotokos!

Polyeley and Magnification:

We magnify thee, O holy Greatmartyr and victory-bearer Demetrius, and we honor thy precious sufferings which thou didst endure for Christ.

Selected Psalm verses:

God is our refuge and strength.
Our help in the afflictions that come heavily upon us.
Therefore we shall not fear, though the earth be troubled and shaken.

**After the Polyeley, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 8:** *(not translated as of 10/2014)*

1st Antiphon of the 4th Tone *(The Song of Ascents)*, “From my youth....”

**Prokeimenon, in Tone 4:**

*God is wondrous in His saints, / the God of Israel.*

**Verse:** The Lord has shown the wonders of His will to the saints who are in His land.

**Let every breath praise the Lord!** …

**Gospel:** (36) Matt. 10:16-22.

**After Psalm 50 (51), the Post-Gospel Stikheron, of the Saint, Tone 6:**

Come, all ye that love the feasts of the Church   /  
And let us assemble today   /  
At the universal festival of the passion-bearer [Demetrius].   /  
Let us all celebrate his memory and cry aloud:   /  
Rejoice, for rending the robe of impiety with faith   /  
And clothing thyself with the courage of the Spirit!   /  
Rejoice, for casting down the schemes of the enemy   /  
By the power given thee by the One true God!   /  
Rejoice, for when thy body was pierced by the spear   /  
Thou didst spiritually emulate for us Christ’s holy Passion.   /  
Implore Him then, O Demetrius, thou adornment of the martyrs,   /  
That we be delivered from all visible and invisible enemies   /  
And that our souls may be saved.

**Three Canons: One of the Earthquake, with six troparia including the Irmos, in Tone 6; and two of the Greatmartyr Demetrius, Tones 4 and 8.**  
--- incomplete as of 10/2014

**After the Third Ode, the Kontakion of the Earthquake, in Tone 4:**

Deliver us from the fearsome trembling of the earth, O Lord,   /  
And from the unbearable grief we suffer on account of our sins.   /  
Take pity on the Orthodox people   /  
Whom Thou hast purchased with Thine own Blood, O Master and Lord.   /  
Deliver us not unto destruction by the terrible quaking of the earth;   /  
For we know none other God but Thee,   /  
And Thou hast promised us: “I am with you, and no one shall be against you.”
After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of Saint Demetrius, in Tone 2:

Truly God Who didst grant thee invincible power /
Hath clothed the Church in purple dyed by the streams of thy blood, /
And He protects thy city with love ///
For thou art its foundation, O Demetrius.

Exapostilarion of the Saint:

Thou didst arm Nestor with the Cross, O Demetrius, through which he overthrew the pride of Lyæus in the arena; and like Christ, thy side was pierced with a spear: with it protect thy faithful flock [from harm]. (Twice)

Glory..., Now and ever:

O Lord, Who lookest upon the earth and makest it tremble, deliver us from the fearful threat of earthquake through the prayers of the Theotokos, whom Thou didst give us to be the protectress of all Christians.

At the Praises, 6 stikhera of the Saint,

These 3 stikhera, in Tone 4: To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”

When thy side wast pierced by the spear /
Thy wound proved fatal instead to the enemy /
For thy spear killed him and made him of no effect. /
Deliver us from such malice as his, O Demetrius, /
And give us strength to withstand the torments of passions through thy holy prayers, ///
That, through the fear of God, our hearts and souls may find mercy.

Thou art a river overflowing with spiritual grace, [O Demetrius], /
And we pray thee, in thy great mercy, /
That our souls may be cleansed in the streams of its waters, /
For they have been soiled by the offense of our passions, /
And that by the mystical sprinkling of [grace] /
We may be purified from all defilement, and delivered from every calamity ///
And from eternal torment, O holy one.

Thou didst appear as a radiant star over the earth, /
And the shining splendor of thy miracles /
Enlightens everything under the sun, O glorious Demetrius, /
Driving from our souls the gloom of darkness through thy [holy] prayers. /
Therefore, heal the infirmities of all who lovingly celebrate thy memory, ///
O glory and boast of the martyrs.
And these 3 stikhera, in Tone 5: To the melody, “Rejoice...”

**Come** to us, O martyr of Christ, / 
As we implore thee to grant us thy compassionate protection, / 
And deliver us from the threat of torment by the enemy, / 
And from the raging madness of heresy. / 
For we are naked like the prisoners, / 
And being oppressed, we wander in the mountains and live in caves. / 
Take pity on us, O all-praised one, and relieve our pain; / 
And intercede with God, to end the storms that beset us, /// 
For He grants the world great mercy.

**Thou** art an invincible bastion that does not fear the assault of the enemy, / 
An unbreakable rampart, a fortified foundation, / 
And the foe is powerless against thee and all calamities are turned away. 
**Thou** art the defender, builder and champion of thy city, O Demetrius, / 
And we beseech thee, O all-blessèd one: / 
Intercede with God, for we are in danger and wretchedly oppressed, /// 
That He grant the world great mercy.

The assembly of the passion-bearers is gathered [today] / 
Each displaying the virtues / 
Through which they valiantly inherited the delight of the pure and blesseèd life. / 
Standing now among them, O Demetrius, / 
Pre-eminent and glorified in thine imitation of Christ; / 
For like Him, thou wast honored to be pierced with a spear. / 
Beseech Him earnestly on our behalf / 
That He may deliver us who honor thee / 
From every sorrow and grievous affliction /// 
For He grants the world great mercy.

Glory..., in Tone 4: (The composition of Andrew of Jerusalem)

Let us honor Demetrius on this, his annual celebration, / 
The martyr most-wise in teachings and victorious through his suffering, / 
For he completed his course through the shedding of his blood, / 
And shone forth upon the world with the light of his miracles; / 
For he loved the Master and showed compassion on the poor, / 
And he saved the people of Thessalonica from dreadful misfortunes; / 
For through his spears he inherited the grace of the Savior’s side / 
From which Christ poured out upon us the streams of life and incorruption / 
When Himself He was pierced with a spear. /// 
So we glorify Christ God Who through His martyr works healing for all.
26 OCTOBER: HOLY GREATMARTYR DEMETRIUS; THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the Same Tone:

Deliver us from every necessity, O Theotokos, / Who gavest birth to the Creator of all, / That we may all cry out to thee: /// Rejoice, thou only defender of our souls.

The Great Doxology and the Dismissal.

Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: four from the Third Ode of the Canon of the Earthquake, and four from the Sixth Ode of the second Canon of the Greatmartyr.

1-2. The earth is full of wrath in that we have called down Thine anger upon us because of our sins, O Master; but take pity on us, Thy servants, O compassionate King of all.

3. Having shaken the earth, Thou hast made it firm again, O Lord; Thou hast chastened and cleansed our infirmities, confirming us in the divine fear of Thee, O Most-blessèd One.

4. Let us flee from sin, O brethren, for it gives birth to the bitterness of death, the quaking of the earth, and unbearable suffering; and let us run instead to God bringing Him the pleasing offering of our repentance.

5-6. Thou didst blossom spiritually like the fruitful olive tree, and wast slain by the spear-wielding soldier; and streams of myrrh now flow from thy tomb for the comfort of the faithful, O Demetrius.

7. Thou didst reveal thyself like unto a bee busily pollinating all the divine virtues; and thy spotless soul is now like unto a honeycomb flowing with myrrh, delighting our souls, O blessèd one.

8. Thou didst love Christ with all thy soul and didst follow Him to the source of myrrh’s spiritual fragrance where thou didst join in a better communion; now, thou pourest forth myrrh in unceasing streams. O Demetrius.

The Troparion of St. Demetrius, in Tone 3:

O victorious Demetrius / Thou wast given to the world as a powerful protector against dangers / And an invincible soldier of Christ, / As thou didst inspire Nestor to overcome the pride of Lyæus /// So intercede with Christ God that He may grant us great mercy.

The Troparion of the Earthquake, in Tone 8:
O Thou Who lookest upon the earth and makest it tremble, / Deliver us from the fearful threat of earthquake, O Christ our God. / Send down upon us Thine abundant mercies through the intercessions of the Theotokos /// For Thou art the only Lover of mankind.

The Kontakion of the Earthquake, in Tone 4:
Deliver us from the fearsome trembling of the earth, O Lord, / And from the unbearable grief we suffer on account of our sins. / Take pity on the Orthodox people / Whom Thou hast purchased with Thine own Blood, O Master and Lord. / Deliver us not unto destruction by the terrible quaking of the earth; / For we know none other God but Thee, /// And Thou hast promised us: “I am with you, and no one shall be against you.”

The Kontakion of St. Demetrius, in Tone 2:
Truly God Who didst grant thee invincible power / Hath clothed the Church in purple dyed by the streams of thy blood, / And He protects thy city with love /// For thou art its foundation, O Demetrius

The Prokeimenon (Earthquake), Tone 6: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance! Verse: To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Another Prokeimenon (Saint), Tone 7: The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord and shall set his hope on Him.

The Epistles: (331-ctr) Hebrews 12:6-13 (Earthquake), and (292) Timothy 2:1-10 (Saint)

The Alleluia (Earthquake), Tone 4: O God, Thou hast cast us off, Thou hast scattered us! Verse: Thou hast made the earth to tremble, Thou hast broken it: Heal its breaches, for it has been shaken.

Another Alleluia (Saint), Tone 4: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Gospels: (27) Matt. 8:23-27 (Earthquake), and (52) John15:17-16:2 (Saint)

Communion Hymns: Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.