

GREAT VESPERS PROPERs FOR JULY 17TH

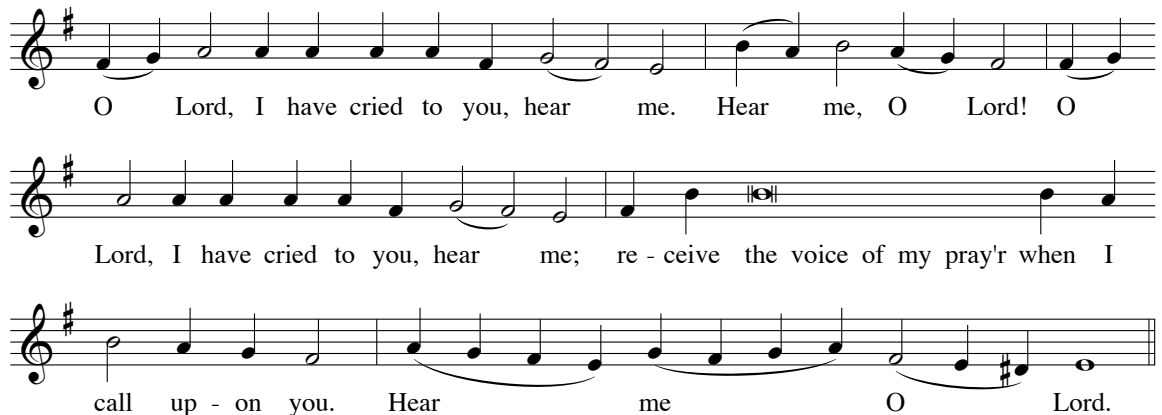
from the Menaion

✚ **The blessed martyr, Paul Gojdich, bishop of Preshov.** Born in 1888 in Ruske Perklany in Prjashevschina to a priestly family. Though his family wanted him to go into medicine or law, he felt called to the priesthood and entered the Preshov seminary in 1907. He chose the celibate priesthood and was ordained in 1911. In 1922, he entered the Basilian monastery of St. Nicholas at Chernecha Hora. He was renowned for his long hours of prayer and for his work with the youth of the Church. In 1926, he was appointed as Apostolic Administrator of the Eparchy of Preshov, and was ordained bishop in 1927. Through independence, war, and near famine conditions, he was a good shepherd to his people. In 1949, the Communist government of Czechoslovakia began its liquidation of the Byzantine Catholic Church, and Bishop Gojdich worked through every means at his disposal to keep his priests and people loyal to their Byzantine Catholic Church and to Rome. He was arrested in 1950, tried in a mock trial in 1951. The secret police made every effort to break Bp. Gojdich and have him recant the Union of Uzhorod, but he remained faithful. However, his health was completely broken by the maltreatment he received, and he died in the penitentiary of Leopoldov, Slovakia. (1960)

✚ **The holy great martyr Marina (also known as Margaret),** at Antioch in Pisidia. It is said that she dedicated her body to Christ by her virginity and her martyrdom.

The First Kathisma ("Blessed is the man..") is sung.

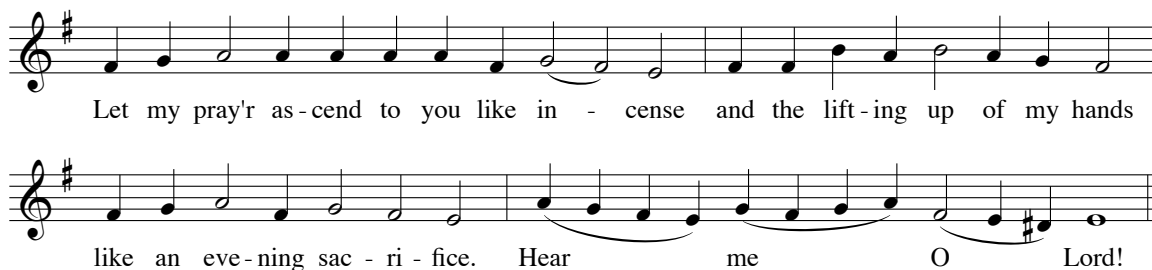
Psalm 140 (Tone 1)



O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O

Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I

call up - on you. Hear me O Lord.



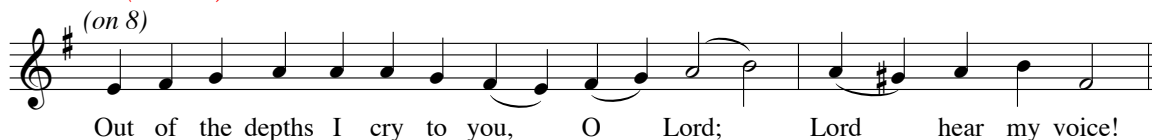
Continue with Psalm 140: "O Lord, set a guard before my mouth..." (p.58).

Stichera at the Lamplighting Psalms

Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise *your* name.
Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness *to* me.

8 stichera for our venerable father and confessor, Paul from the Menaion:

Cantor - (Tone 1):



(8) (7) (6) Sticheron

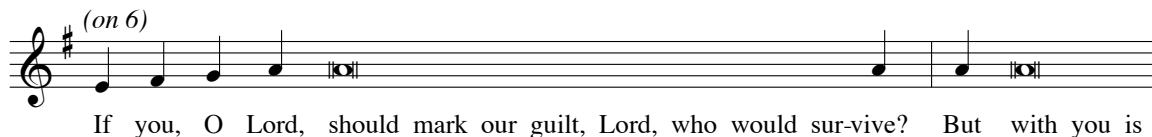
O Divinely-wise, and blessed Paul, * brightening your sacred and divine vestments with the purple of your blood, * you ascended from strength to virtuous strength * and from glory to greater glory; * now entreat the Lord that peace and great mercy ** may be granted to our souls.

Cantor:



Repeat: "O Divinely-wise, and blessed Paul..."

Cantor:





found for - give - ness: for this we re - vere you.

Repeat: "O Divinely-wise, and blessed Paul..."

Cantor:



My soul is wait-ing for the Lord. I count on his word. My soul is longing for the



Lord more than watch - man for day - break.

(5) (4) (3) Sticheron

As a truly lawful priest * you first offered to God the bloodless sacrifice, * then as a most true Martyr by the spilling of your blood * you offered yourself to Christ as a whole-burnt and acceptable sacrifice, * O Godly-spoken and all-honored one ** entreat Him on behalf of those who sing to you.

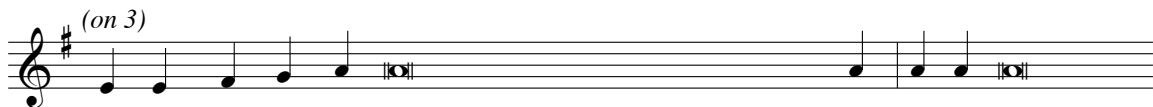
Cantor:



Let the watch-man count on day - break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

Repeat: "As a truly lawful priest..."

Cantor:



Be-cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion, Is - ra - el indeed he



will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

Repeat: "As a truly lawful priest..."

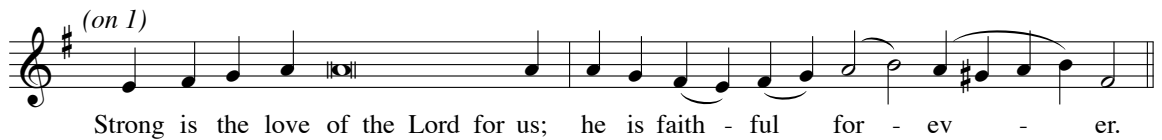
Cantor:



(2) (1) Sticheron

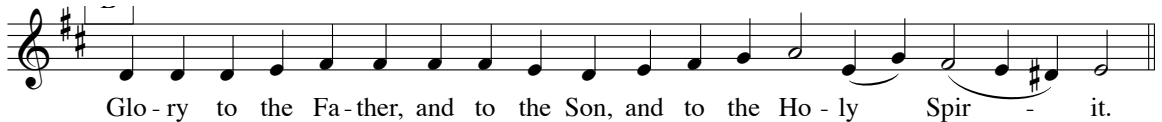
By your precepts and teaching, * O holy Father, * you have brought to Christ legions of Martyrs, * not only by instructing and teaching in word, * but by offering yourself as an example, O Divinely-wise one; * pray together with them ** that peace and great mercy be granted to our souls.

Cantor:



Repeat: *"By your precepts and teaching..."*

Cantor - (Tone 6):



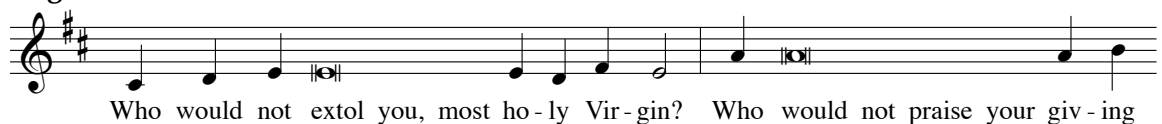
Doxastikon

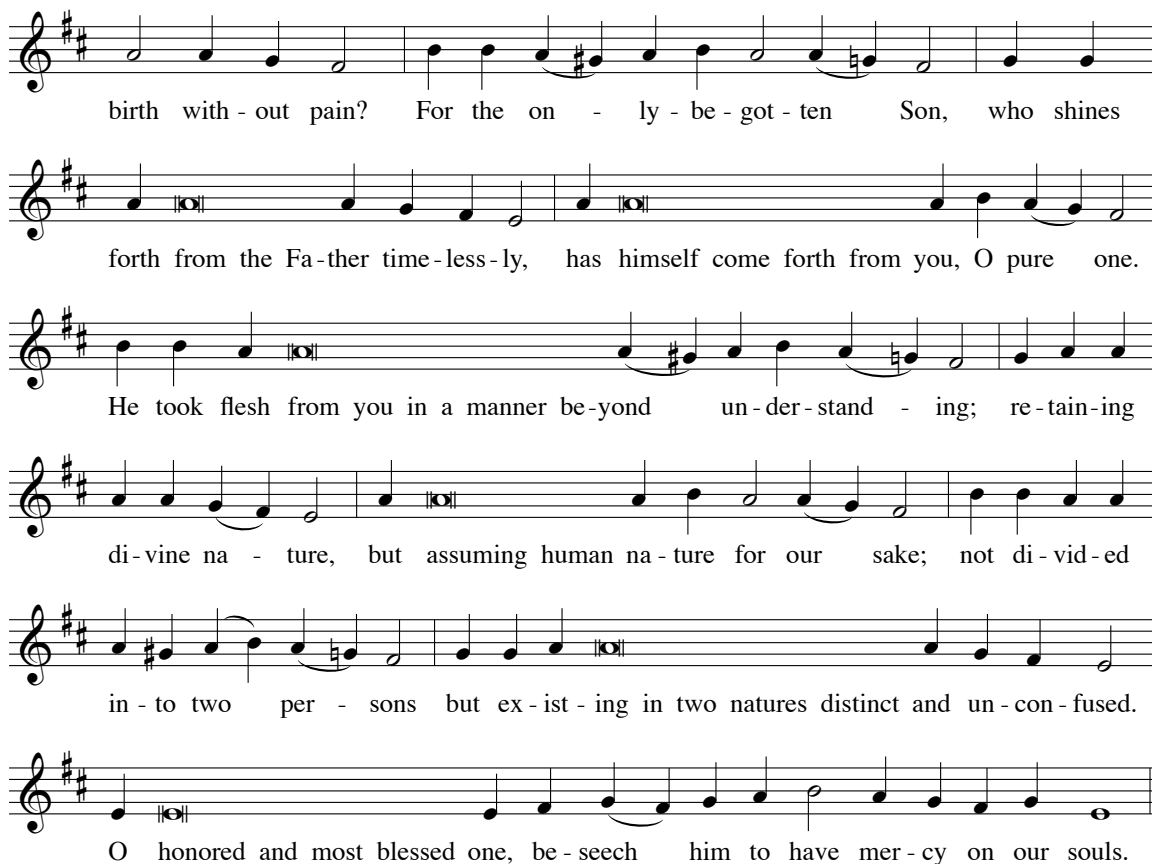
O blessed Paul* performing the divine and ineffable mysteries to the very end * you remained a most lawful vicar of Christ, * thereupon shedding your own blood for Christ our God, * offering yourself as a sacrifice well pleasing to Him; * wherefore having boldness before Christ, * always intercede on behalf of those who in faith and with love honor your most venerable memory, * that they be saved from all dangers, ** misfortunes and attacks of the enemy.

Cantor - (Tone 6):



Dogmatikon





birth with - out pain? For the on - ly - be - got - ten Son, who shines
 forth from the Fa-ther time-less-ly, has himself come forth from you, O pure one.
 He took flesh from you in a manner be-yond un-der-stand - ing; re-tain-ing
 di-vine na - ture, but assuming human na - ture for our sake; not di-vid-ed
 in - to two per - sons but ex - ist - ing in two natures distinct and un-con - fused.
 O honored and most blessed one, be - seech him to have mer-cy on our souls.

Continue with "Wisdom..." and the Hymn of the Evening (p. 12)

The Prokeimenon is for the Day of the Week (pp. 114-115).

Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 43:9-14 (EOT 303)
- 2) Wisdom 3:1-9 (EOT 315-316)
- 3) Wisdom 5:15-6:3 (EOT 303-304)

Aposticha

The aposticha are from the Menaion:

(Tone 6)

Aposticheron:

Having steeped your sacred vestments in blood, * O holy and glorious Paul, *
 resplendent in your Martyrdom * you entered the Holy of Holies, * and now adorned

with sanctity, * enjoy participation in a communion purer than that of the Angels; * wherefore we honor you and lovingly celebrate your most sacred feast, ** O Paul worthy of blessedness.

Cantor: The righteous man shall flourish like a palm-tree; like a cedar in Lebanon he will be multiplied.

Aposticheron:

Bound with irons O holy one, * and adorned with your precious wounds like precious ornaments * you treaded without faltering the path which leads to the heavenly city, * O most wise Paul, * and entering therein as a true vanquisher, invincible Martyr and most sacred minister, * you now sing with the Angels the divine Trisagion: * Holy, Holy, Holy art You, ** O Consubstantial Trinity.

Cantor: They that are planted in the house of the Lord, in the courts of our God they will blossom forth.

Aposticheron:

O Hieromartyr Paul, * by your sacred deeds you have acquired for the Church her preservation, * establishing her unshaken and unassailable by mighty wolves, * wherefore she rightly proclaims your virtues and magnifies your sufferings, ** which you lawfully endured for Christ's sake, O blessed one.

Cantor (Tone 4):



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - - - it.

O blessed and most holy one, * sprinkled with the blood of Martyrdom * you have entered the heavenly tabernacle, * and standing before the Trinity, now richly adorned * and radiating with the radiance proceeding from God, * wherefore we celebrate your radiant memory, O Paul, ** enlightening the senses of our souls.

Cantor (Tone 4):



Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

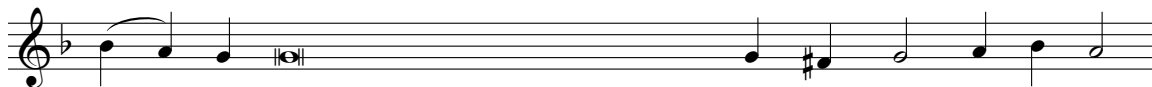
Theotokion



O most pure Vir - - - gin, hear the peti-tions of your ser - vants. Re - move



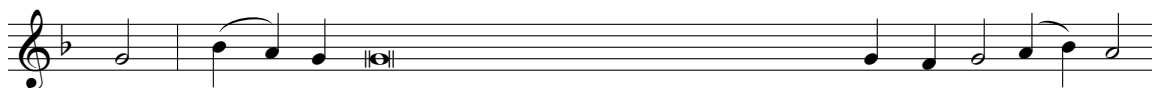
the bur - dens which op - press us and de - liv - er us from our sor - rows,



for you are the only firm and constant sup - port on whom we re - ly.



O Theotokos, nev - er per - mit us who call upon you to be o ver - whelmed by our



cares. Make speed to fulfill the supplications of all who, in faith, cry out to you:



Re - joice, O Lady, help - er of all of us, the joy, the refuge, and the



sal - va - - - tion of our souls.

Continue with the Prayer of the Holy Prophet Simeon (p. 19).

Troparion & Theotokion

Troparion of blessed Paul Gojdich - Tone 4



From your youth you loved Christ, the e - ter - nal Word. You de - sired to



serve him quietly and in sim - pli - ci - ty of heart, but the right hand of the

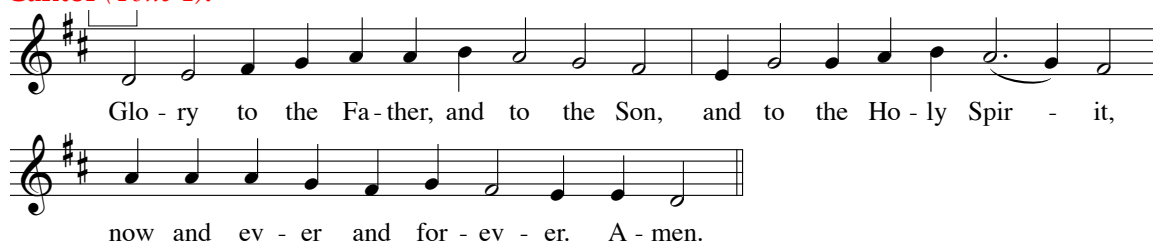


Most High chose you for the bish - op's throne, and made you a steadfast shep - herd



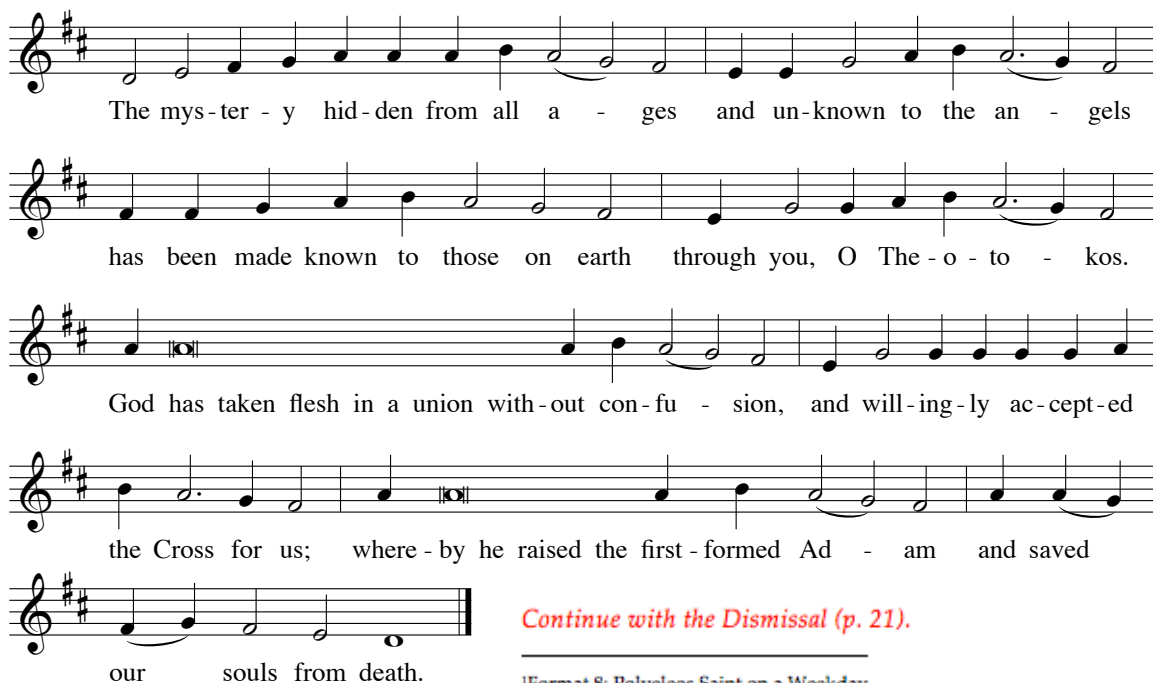
of his peo - ple. For the sake of faith and the u-nit - y of the Church,
 you of - fered yourself to God as a per - fect sac - ri - fice. O Fa - ther and
 priest-mar - tyr Paul, pray to Christ our God for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

Cantor (Tone 4):



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Festal Theotokion



The mys - ter - y hid - den from all a - ges and un - known to the an - gels
 has been made known to those on earth through you, O The - o - to - kos.
 God has taken flesh in a union with - out con - fu - sion, and will - ing - ly ac - cept - ed
 the Cross for us; where - by he raised the first - formed Ad - am and saved
 our souls from death.

Continue with the Dismissal (p. 21).

¹Format 8: Polyeleos Saint on a Weekday