

The Order of Matins

*for the Beheading of the Holy Prophet,
Forerunner, and Baptist John*

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THE BEHEADING OF THE HOLY PROPHET, FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST JOHN

Because John had denounced Herod Antipas for putting away his own wife and marrying the wife of his brother Philip, Herod imprisoned John. At a feast in honor of Herod's birthday, his stepdaughter Salome danced for him. Herod promised her anything; her mother Herodias told her to ask for the head of John on a platter. This martyrdom is commemorated on this day because a church was dedicated on this day to the Forerunner's beheading by the emperor Constantine and his mother Helena.

STAND

Priest: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, always, now and ever and forever.



Response: A - men.

Each time with a bow:

Glory to God in the highest

And to people on earth peace and good will (3 times)

O Lord, You shall open my lips,

And my mouth will declare your praise. (2 times)

HEXAPSALMOS

PSALM 3

Lector: How many are my foes, O Lord!

How many are rising up against me!

How many are saying about me:

"There is no help for him in God."

But you, Lord, are a shield about me,
my glory, who lift up my head.

I cry aloud to the Lord.
He answers from his holy mountain.

I lie down to rest and I sleep.
I wake, for the Lord upholds me.

I will not fear even thousands of people
who are ranged on every side against me.

Arise, Lord; save me, my God,
you who strike all my foes on the mouth,
you who break the teeth of the wicked!

O Lord of salvation,
bless your people!

and again:

I lie down to rest and I sleep.
I wake, for the Lord upholds me.

PSALM 37

O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger;
do not punish me, Lord, in your rage.

Your arrows have sunk deep in me;
your hand has come down upon me.

Through your anger all my body is sick:
through my sin, there is no health in my limbs.

My guilt towers higher than my head;
it is a weight too heavy to bear.

My wounds are foul and festering,
the result of my own folly.

I am bowed and brought to my knees.
I go mourning all the day long.

All my frame burns with fever;
all my body is sick.

Spent and utterly crushed,
I cry aloud in anguish of heart.

O Lord, you know all my longing:
my groans are not hidden from you.

My heart throbs, my strength is spent;
the very light has gone from my eyes.

My friends avoid me like a leper;
those closest to me stand afar off.

Those who plot against my life lay snares;
those who seek my ruin speak of harm,
planning treachery all the day long.

But I am like the deaf who cannot hear,
like the dumb unable to speak.

I am like a man who hears nothing
in whose mouth is no defense.

I count on you, O Lord;
it is you, Lord God, who will answer.

I pray: "Do not let them mock me,
those who triumph if my foot should slip."

For I am on the point of falling
and my pain is always before me.

I confess that I am guilty
and my sin fills me with dismay.

My wanton enemies are numberless
and my lying foes are many.

They repay me evil for good
and attack me for seeking what is right.

O Lord, do not forsake me!
My God, do not stay afar off!

Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my God, my Savior!

and again:

O Lord, do not forsake me!
My God, do not stay afar off!

Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my God, my Savior!

PSALM 62

O God, you are my God, for you I long
For you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life,
In your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
My mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night

for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;
Your right hand holds me fast.

Those who seek to destroy my life
shall go down to the depths of the earth.

They shall be put into the power of the sword
and left as the prey of the jackals.

But the king shall rejoice in God;
(all that swear by him shall be blessed,)
for the mouth of liars shall be silenced.

and again:

On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

STAND

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
now and ever and forever. Amen.

Each time with a bow:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! (*twice*)

The third time, all sing:



SIT

LITANY OF PEACE

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Response: 1. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.



Response: 2. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our holy father, (Name), pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our most reverend metropolitan, (Name), for our God-loving bishop, (Name), for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this city, [or: For this holy monastery], for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: **Lord, have mercy. (2)**

Deacon: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: **Lord, have mercy. (1)**

Deacon: For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the captive and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: **Lord, have mercy. (2)**

Deacon: That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: **Lord, have mercy. (1)**

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

Response: **Lord, have mercy. (2)**

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.



Response: To you, O Lord.

Priest: We thank you, Lord, our God, for you have wakened us from our sleep, and have filled our lips with praise that we might worship you and call upon your holy name. We beg of your compassion that you have always shown towards us, hear us now and send help to those who stand before your holy glory, awaiting your abundant mercy. O Lord, grant that those who serve you in fear and love may praise your ineffable goodness.

For to you is due all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Sprit, now and ever and forever.



Response: A - men.

STAND

THE LORD IS GOD – (*Tone 2*)

Deacon: The Lord is God and has revealed himself to us; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



The Lord is God and has re - vealed him - self to us; bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord.

verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his love endures forever.

verse: They encircled me, compassed me about; in the Lord's name I crushed them.

verse: I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

verse: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

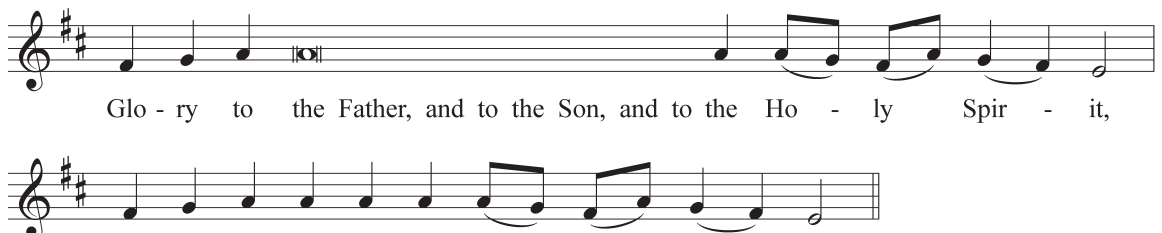
Troparion - Tone 2:



The mem - o - ry of the righteous is cel - e - brat-ed with praise, but for you,
O Forerunner, the Lord's tes - ti - mo - ny is e-nough. You were shown to be more
honora-ble than the proph - ets since you were deemed worthy to baptize in
the waters the Lord you had pro-claimed. There-fore, you fought for the truth
and with joy proclaimed the good news to those in Ha - des, that God
has ap - peared in the flesh to take a - way the sins of the world and to
grant us great mer - cy.

The musical notation is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven lines of music. The first line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The third line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The fourth line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The fifth line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The sixth line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The seventh line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

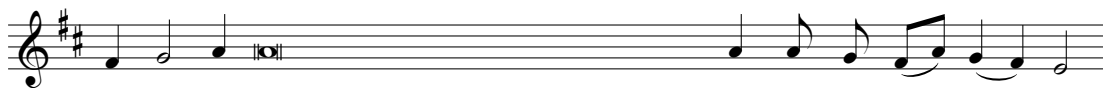
Cantor - (Tone 2)



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

The musical notation is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two lines of music. The first line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second line ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Theotokion



O The - o - tokos, the mysteries surrounding you are ex - ceed - ing - ly glo - rious,



and be - yond the pow - er of un - der - stand - ing. For you re - tained



the seal of pur - i - ty, and your vir - ginity re - mained in - vi - o - late;



yet you are ac - knowl - edged, with - out doubt, to be the Mother who gave birth



to the true God. We beg you, therefore, to en - treat him to save our souls.

POLYELEOS



1. Praise the name of the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise him, serv - ants of the Lord,



serv - ants of the Lord.

Refrain 1



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



2. Who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God,



the house of our God. **Refrain 1**



3. Lord, your name stands for-ev - - - er, un-for-got - ten from age to age,



from age to age. **Refrain 1**



4. From Zi - on may the Lord be blessed, he who dwells in Je - ru - sa - lem,



in Je - ru - sa - lem. **Refrain 1**



5. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Refrain 2



Al - le - lu - ia! For his love en-dures for-ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



6. who fixed the earth firm - ly on the seas,

Refrain 2



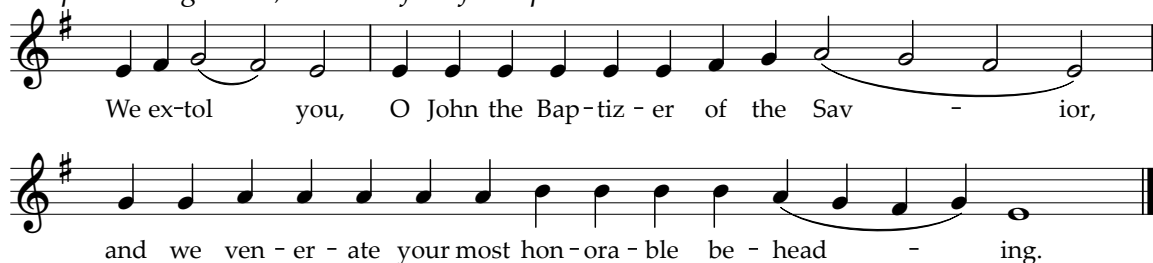
Refrain 2



Refrain 2

EXALTATION

The priest sings once, then the faithful repeat:



The exaltation is repeated after each verse:

Verse: I have not hidden your justice in my heart but declared your faithful help.

Verse: I have not hidden your love and your truth from the great assembly.

Verse: Then my tongue shall speak of your justice, all day long of your praise.

Verse: Glory...now and ever...

Three times:



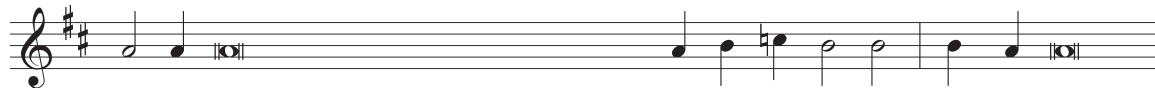
SIT

Sessional Hymn – Tone 8 Kontakion

O faithful, let us honor the memory * of the Prophet, Martyr, and Baptizer of the Savior, * for he is an angel in the flesh. * He rebuked Herod for his unjust union and condemned him. * And now because of a dance and an oath, his venerable

head is cut off. * He descends into Hades to announce * the good news of the resurrection from the dead, ** and he unceasingly prays for the salvation of our souls.

Cantor – (*Tone 8 Kontakion*)



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



for - ev - er. A - men.

Sessional Hymn – *Tone 8 Kontakion*

The Word of the Father will come down to earth, * and the shining angel says to the Theotokos: * Rejoice, O blessed One, since you are the One who guarded the bridal chamber. * You received the conception of the eternal God and Lord, ** so that as God He might save the world from error.

STAND

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace + be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon - *Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):*



Pre-cious in the eyes, in the eyes of the Lord is the death



of his faith-ful, is the death of his faith - - ful.

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

PREPARATION FOR THE GOSPEL

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.



Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

Priest: For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response: A - - - men.

Deacon: Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord!



Let ev - 'ry - thing that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord,



give praise to the Lord.

Verse: Praise God in his holy place;
praise him in his mighty heavens.

Deacon: That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, our God.

Response:

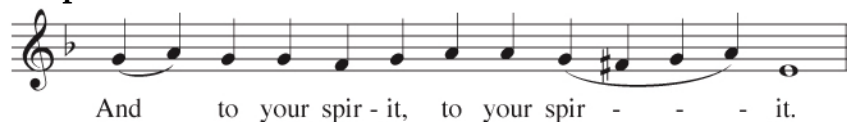


Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer - - cy.

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all!

Response:



Priest: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to the holy apostle and evangelist (*Name*).

Response:



After the Gospel, the faithful respond:

Response:



The faithful come forward to venerate the Gospel Book and Icon on the tetrapod.

PSALM 50

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my *offense*.

O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from *my* sin.

My offenses truly I know them;
my sin is always *before* me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I *have* done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence
and be without reproach when *you* judge,

O see, in guilt I was born,
a sinner was I *con*ceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;
then in the secret of my heart teach *me* wisdom.

O purify me, then I shall be clean;
O wash me, I shall be whiter *than* snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,
that the bones you have crushed *may* thrill.

From my sins turn away your face
and blot out all *my* guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God;
put a steadfast spirit *within* me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your *holy* spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervor *sustain* me,

that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return *to* you.

O rescue me, God, my helper,
and my tongue shall ring out *your* goodness.

O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare *your* praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,
burnt offering from me you would *refuse*,

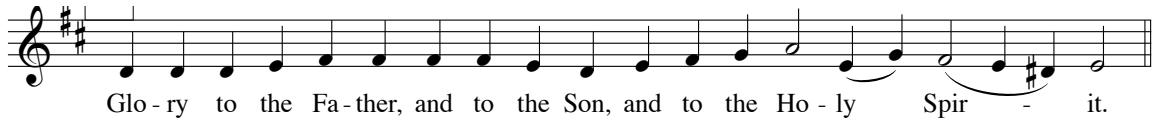
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit,
a humbled, contrite heart you will *not* spurn.

In your goodness, show favor to Zion:
rebuild the walls of *Jerusalem*.

Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice,
burnt offerings wholly consumed
then you will be offered your bulls on *your* altar.

STICHERA AT PSALM 50

Cantor: (Tone 6)



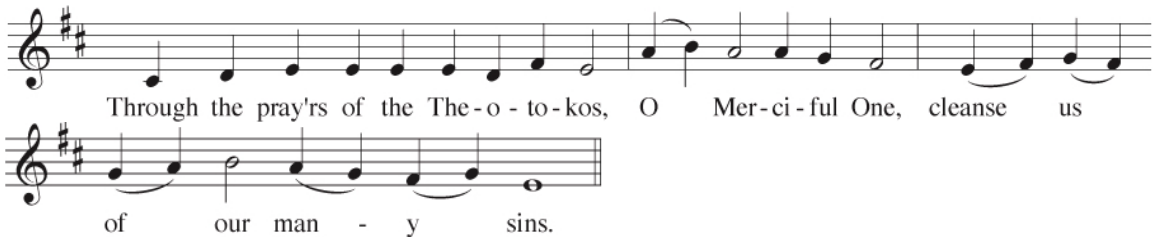
Sticheron:

Through the prayers of your holy Forerunner, * O Merciful One, ** cleanse us of our many sins.

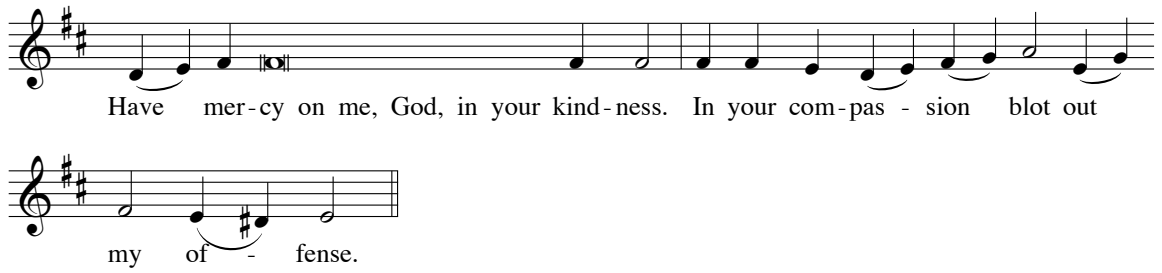
Cantor: (Tone 6)



Sticheron:



Cantor: (*Tone 6*)



Sticheron:

O John the Baptizer and preacher of repentance, * you sanctified the earth when you were beheaded. * You made plain to believers the law of God, * abolishing disobedience to the law. * Therefore, since you stand by the throne of Christ the heavenly King, ** beseech Him to have mercy on our souls.

Deacon:

Let us pray to the Lord.



Response:

Priest:

O Lord our God, you have given us forgiveness through repentance, and as a model of knowledge and confession of sins, you have revealed to us the repentance of the prophet David that led to pardon. Master, have mercy on us who have fallen into so many and so great sins. Have mercy in your kindness, and in your compassion blot out our offenses, for against you have we sinned, O Lord, who know the hidden depths of our hearts, and who alone have the power to forgive sins. A pure heart you have created for us; you have sustained us with a spirit of fervor and have given us the joy of your help.

Do not cast us away from your presence, but in your goodness and love for all, grant that we may offer a sacrifice of righteousness and oblation on your holy altar until our last breath.

Through the mercies and goodness and love of your only begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response:

SIT

CANON

Ode 1

Irmos: *Tone 6*

By your powerful right hand, O Lord, * You delivered the people of Israel from slavery; ** as You rescued them, so also save us.

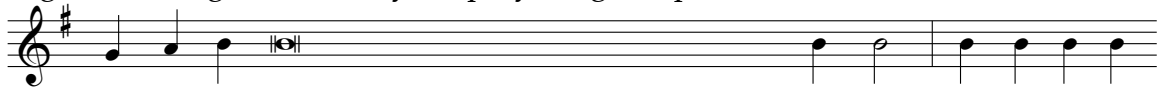
Refrain:

Holy and great John, Forerunner of the Lord, pray to God for us!

Together, let us all praise John the Forerunner, the friend of Christ; for the testimony that the Lord rendered to him places him above all creatures. *Refrain*

Together, let us all praise John, the inhabitant of the desert, the companion of the bodiless angels, and the pride of the new people of God. *Refrain*

Honoring the memory of the Forerunner, let us form a choir together with the angels and sing to Christ: By his prayers, grant peace to the world.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

At all times pray to the God who was ineffably born of you, O holy Mother, that He may deliver his servants from all evil.

Katavasia*Tone 6 simple*

Mo-ses took his staff and marked a straight line be-fore him and di-vid-ed the sea,
there-by o - pen-ing a path for Is - ra - el, who walked a - cross dry - shod.
Then he marked a sec - ond line over the wa - ters and u - ni - ted them a - gain,
there-by o - ver-whelm-ing the chariots of Pha-raoh. Thus Mo - ses inscribed the
invincible weapon of the Cross up - on the wa - ters. There - fore, let us praise
Christ our God, for he has been glo - ri - fied.

Kontakion - Tone 5:

The glo - ri - ous be - head-ing of the Forerunner was part of God's sav-ing plan
that the com-ing of the Sav-ior might be announced even to those in Ha - des.
Let He - ro - di - as mourn for she sought a law - less mur - der



Ikos: The birthday of Herod was marked by a display of godlessness: in the midst of the dinner guests, the head of the Faster was brought on a platter. Grief was now coupled with joy, bitter lamentation was mixed with laughter; for the daughter appeared before all, carrying the head of the Baptist on a platter. Because of a whim, sadness came over all the guests of the king. No one found joy, not even Herod about whom it was said: He was sad. But was his sadness sincere or only a show, merely a sadness which passes quickly away?

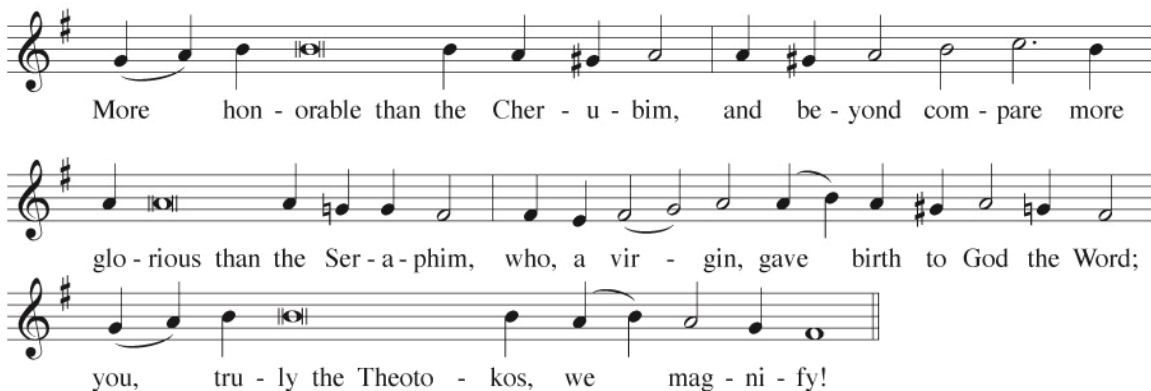
STAND

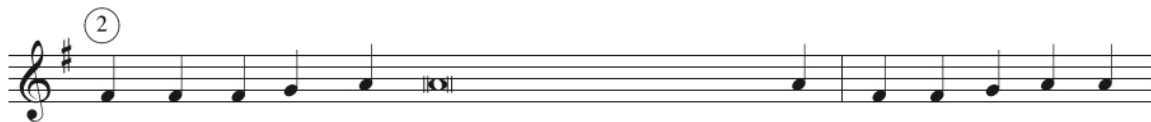
CANTICLE OF THE THEOTOKOS

Deacon: Let us greatly extol the Theotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns!



Refrain

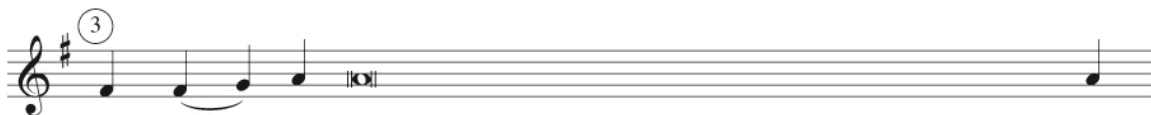




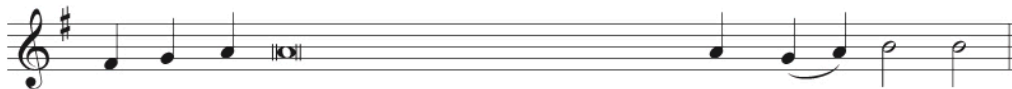
Be - cause he has looked upon the humility of his serv - ant, from this day for - ward



all generations shall call me bless - ed *Refrain*



Be - cause he who is mighty has done great things to me, and holy is his name,



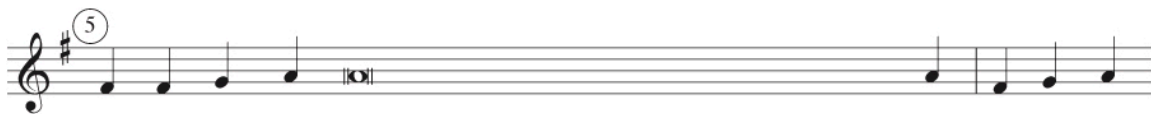
and his love is from generation to generation to those who fear him. *Refrain*



He has shown might in his arm; he has scat - tered the proud in the con - ceit of



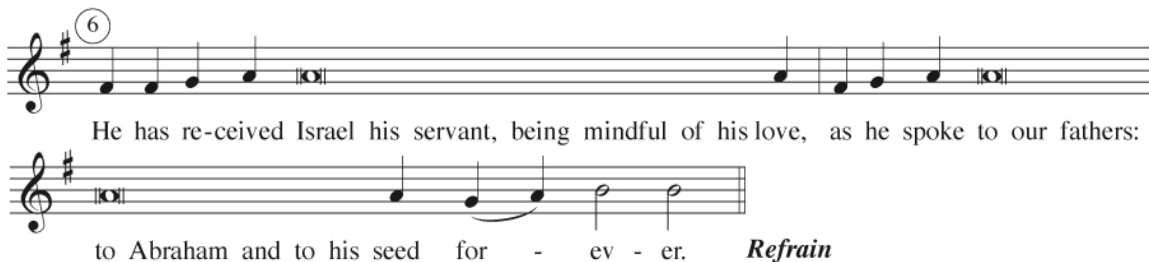
their heart. *Refrain*



He has put down the mighty from their seat and exalted the hum - ble; he has filled



the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent a - way emp - ty. *Refrain*



Ode 9

Irmos: (*Tone 6*)

Heaven was struck with amazement, * and the earth shook with fear as our God appeared in the flesh. * Your womb has become more spacious than the heavens, * O Mother of God. * Therefore, the leaders of the heavenly hosts ** commend both angels and people to extol you.

Refrain:

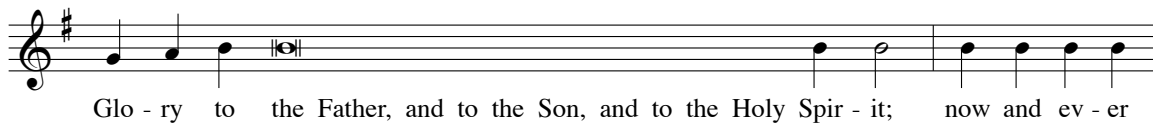
Holy and great John, Forerunner of the Lord, pray to God for us!

Prophet born of a prophet, and Baptizer of the Lord, you were the voice crying in the desert: Repent! You reproached Herod for his immoral and godless actions. You also hasten to proclaim the Kingdom of God to those held captive in Hades

Refrain

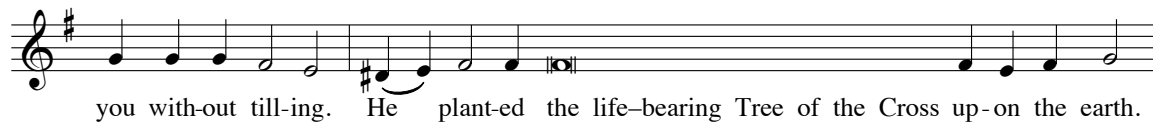
Urged on by her mother, the shameless daughter asked that the holy head of the Baptist be cut off. Thus Herod ordred that the head be brought to him on a platter; he then offered as a gift the head of the one who never ceased to accuse him of his folly. **Refrain**

O Forerunner, as a prophet, batpist, and martyr, as the voice of the Word, his messenger and light, you are the greatest of the prophets according to the testimony of God. Pray that the Lord preserve from every trial and mistfortune those who lovingly celebrate your light-bearing memory.



O Virgin, you have appeared as the Mother of God, for in a marvelous manner, you gave flesh to the all-good Word whom the Father bore in his bosom before all ages. He is the Good One, and even though He is clothed in our flesh, we recognize Him as the Transcendent One.

Katavasia



SIT

SMALL LITANY

Deacon: Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.



Response:

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.



Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.



Response: To you, O Lord.

Priest: O God, our God, who have placed all spiritual and intellectual powers under your will, we pray and beg you: accept these hymns of praise which we offer to you according to our ability together with all your creatures. Give us in exchange the riches of your goodness, for before you all beings in the heavens, or on earth and under the earth bend their knees, and everything that lives or that breathes gives praise to your glory beyond reach, for you are the one true God, full of mercy. For all the heavenly powers praise you, and we give glory to you: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response: A - - - men.

STAND

HYMN OF LIGHT

With songs of praise, let us crown the Forerunner who is known to be greater than the prophets, and he became the foremost of the apostles. His head was cut off for the sake of the law of the Lord.

Glory...

The adulterous Herod cut off your head, O Baptizer of the Lord and sower of purity, for he could not completely cut off the reproach of your tongue.
Now and ever...

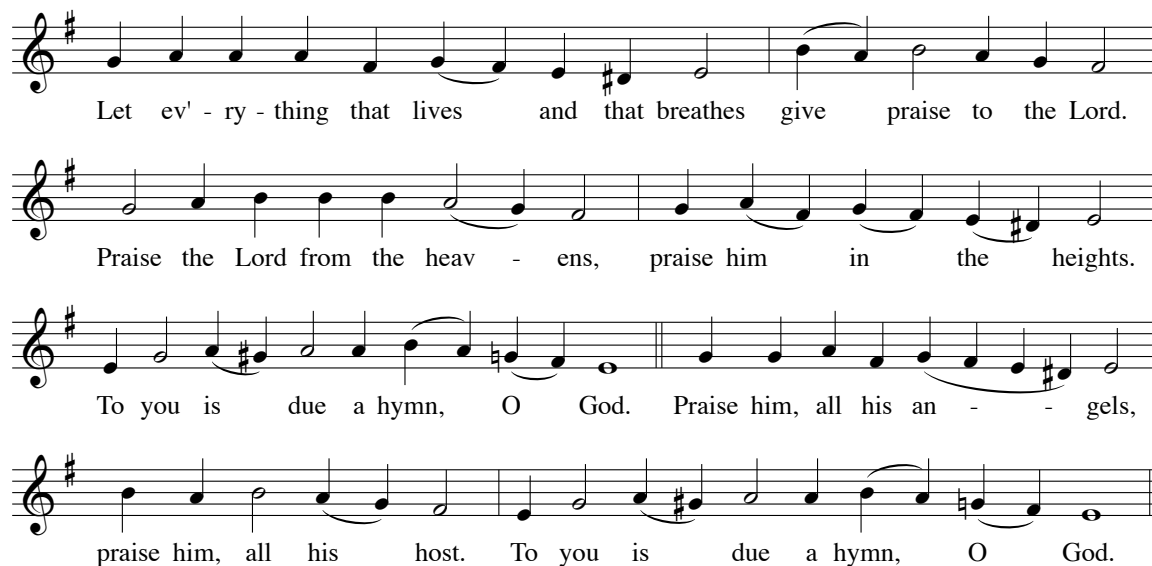
O undefiled Maiden, by your divine birthgiving you have removed the curse from the world. Save us who faithfully beseech you, and through your intercession deliver us from all dangers.

SIT

THE PSALMS OF PRAISE

(Tone 8)

Psalm 148



Let ev' - ry - thing that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the heav - ens, praise him in the heights.

To you is due a hymn, O God. Praise him, all his an - - gels,

praise him, all his host. To you is due a hymn, O God.

Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, shining stars.

Praise him, highest heavens
and the waters above *the* heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
He commanded; they *were* made.

He fixed them forever,
gave a law which shall not pass *away*.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
sea creatures and *all* oceans,

fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy winds that obey *his* word;

all mountains and hills,
all fruit trees *and* cedars,

beasts, wild and tame,
reptiles and birds on *the* wing;

all earth's kings and peoples,
earth's princes *and* rulers.

young men and maidens,
old men together *with* children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord
for he alone is *exalted*.

The splendor of his name
reaches beyond heaven *and* earth.

He exalts the strength of his people,
he is the praise of all *his* saints,

of the children of Israel,
of the people to whom he *comes* close.

PSALM 149

Sing a new song to the Lord,
his praise in the assembly of *the* faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,
let Zion's sons exult in *their* king.

Let them praise his name with dancing
and make music with timbrel *and* harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.
He crowns the poor with *sal*vation.

Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,
shout for joy and take *their* rest.

Let the praise of God be on their lips
and a two-edged sword in *their* hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations
and punishment on all *the* peoples;

to bind their kings in chains
and their nobles in fetters *of* iron.

to carry out the sentence pre-ordained:
this honor is for all *his* faithful.

Praise God in his holy place,
praise him in his mighty heavens.

Praise him for his powerful deeds,
praise his surpassing greatness.

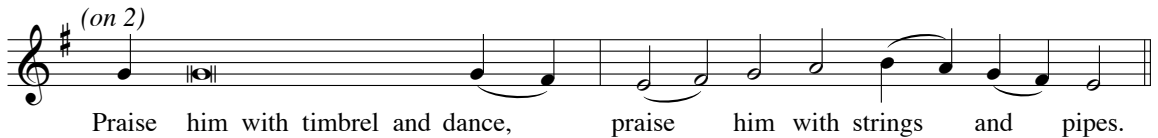
Cantor: (*Tone 8*)



Sticheron:

O what a wondrous mystery! * The holy head which the angels surround with honor * was carried by a sinful and wicked daughter. ** She brought to her adulterous mother the tongue that had denounced her.

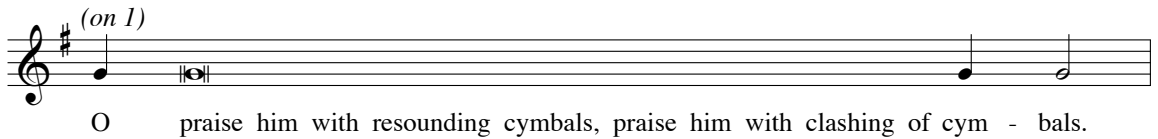
Cantor:



Sticheron:

O how the heart of Herod is hardened! * He scorns God by disobeying the law, * yet he pretends to keep his oath. * Not content with adultery, he now becomes a murderer; * and yet he pretends to appear sad. * By your surpassing compassion, O Christ our God, ** save our souls, for You alone are compassionate.

Cantor:



Sticheron:

O wonder beyond all understanding! * The seal of the prophets and the earthly angel * was offered as a prize for an immoral dance. * The tongue constantly speaking of God * is send beforehand to preach Christ to those who are in Hades. * By your surpassing providence, O Christ our God, ** save our souls, for You alone are compassionate.

STAND

Cantor (*Tone 6*):



Doxasticheron:

Again Herodias has lost her self-control; * again she is disturbed. * What a cunning and deceiving dance, * and what mindless drunkenness! * The Forerunner's head is cut off and Herod is troubled. * Therefore, O Lord, by the intercessions of your Forerunner, ** grant peace to our souls.

Cantor (*Tone 6*):

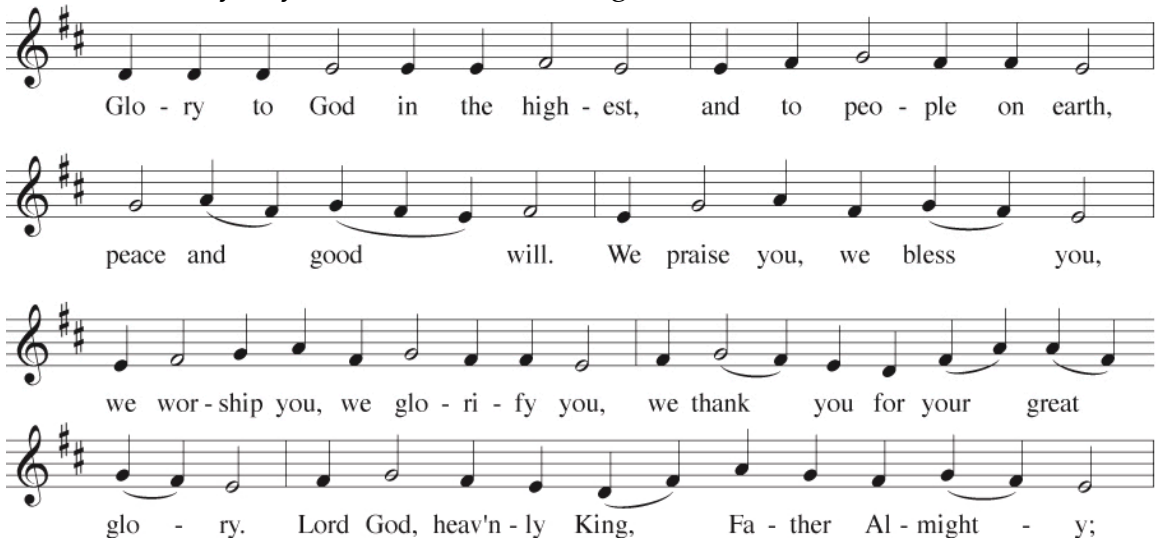


Theotokion:

O Theotokos, you are the true vine laden with the Fruit of Life; * wherefore, we implore you, O Lady, * to intercede together with the apostles and all the saints ** that we may obtain mercy for our souls.

THE GREAT DOXOLOGY

Priest: Glory to you who show us the light!



Lord, on - ly be - got - ten Son, Jesus Christ, and Ho - ly Spir - it. Lord God,
 Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sin of the world,
 have mer - cy on us. You take a - way the sins of the world, hear our pray'r.
 You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us.
 For you a - lone are ho - ly, you a - lone are Lord, Je - sus Christ,
 to the glory of God the Fa - ther. A - men. I will bless you day aft - er
 day, and praise your name for - ev - er. Make us wor - thy, O Lord,
 to be kept sin - less this morn - ing. Bless - ed are you, O Lord,
 the God of our fa - thers, and praise - wor - thy and glorious is your name for - ev - er.



A - men. May your mer-cy, O Lord, be up-on us who have placed our

reverence



hope in you. Bless-ed are you, O Lord; teach me your com-mand - ments.

reverence



Bless-ed are you, O Mas-ter; make me understand your com-mand - ments.

reverence



Bless-ed are you, O Ho-ly One; enlighten me with your com-mand - ments.



O Lord, you have been our re - fuge from one gen-er - a - tion to the next.



I said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul for I have sinned a- gainst you.



O Lord, I have fled to you for re - fuge. Teach me to do your will, for



you, O Lord, are my God. In you is the source of life and in your



light we see light. Ex-tend your mer - cy to those who know you.

Three times, each with a bow:



Ho-ly God, Ho-ly and Might-y, Ho-ly and Im-mor-tal have mer-cy on us.



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.



Ho-ly and Im-mor-tal have mer-cy on us. Ho-ly God, Ho-ly and Might-y,



Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal have mer - cy on us.

TROPARION & THEOTOKION

Troparion - Tone 2:



The mem - o - ry of the righteous is cel - e - brat-ed with praise, but for you,



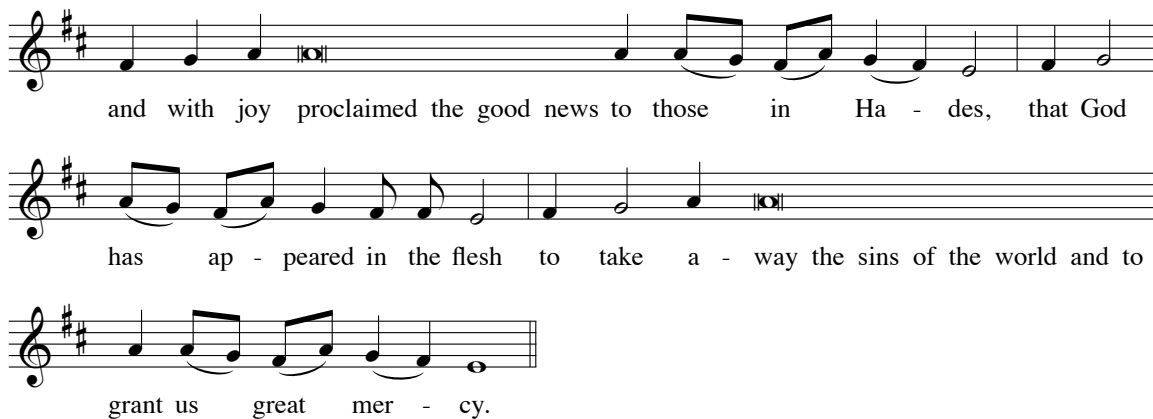
O Forerunner, the Lord's tes - ti - mo - ny is e - nough. You were shown to be more



honora-ble than the proph - ets since you were deemed worthy to baptize in



the waters the Lord you had pro-claimed. There-fore, you fought for the truth



and with joy proclaimed the good news to those in Ha - des, that God
has ap - peared in the flesh to take a - way the sins of the world and to
grant us great mer - cy.

LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us complete our morning prayer the Lord



Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.



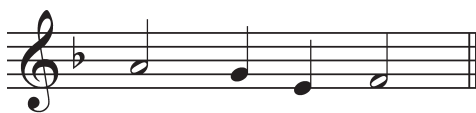
Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: That this whole day be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us beseech the Lord.



Response: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us beseech the Lord.



Response: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the Lord.



Response: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For what is good and beneficial to our souls and for peace in the world, let us beseech the Lord.



Response: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: That we may spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance, let us beseech the Lord.



Response: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ, let us beseech the Lord.



Response: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.



Response: To you, O Lord.

Priest: We sing to you, we praise you, we bless you, and we thank you, God of our Fathers, for you have banished the dark of night and shown us once again the light of the day. We beseech you, forgive our sins and accept our prayer in your great tenderness of heart because we take refuge in you, the merciful and all-powerful God. Shine in our hearts your true Sun of Justice. Enlighten our minds and guard all our senses, so that walking blamelessly in the path of your commandments as in daylight, we may reach eternal life, for in you is the source of life. Make us worthy to enjoy the unapproachable light. For you are our God and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response: A - men.

PRAYER OVER BOWED HEADS

Priest:

Peace be to all!



Response:

And to your spi - rit.

Deacon:

Bow your heads to the Lord!



Response:

To you, O Lord.

Priest:

Holy Lord, you dwell on high and look upon the lowly, and with your all seeing eye watch over all creation. To you we bend our necks in spirit and body and we implore you, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling place and bless us. If we have sinned voluntarily or involuntarily forgive us as a good and loving God who gives us earthly and heavenly gifts.

For yours are mercy and salvation, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you, with your eternal Father and your life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response:

A - men.

DISMISSAL

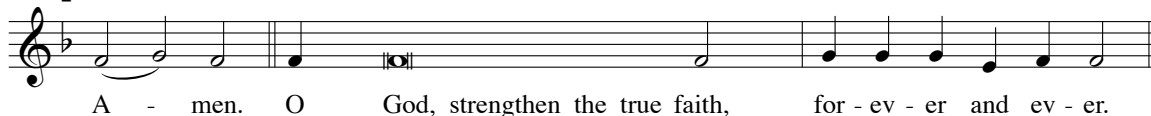
Deacon: Wisdom!



Response: Give the bless-ing.

Priest: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

Response:



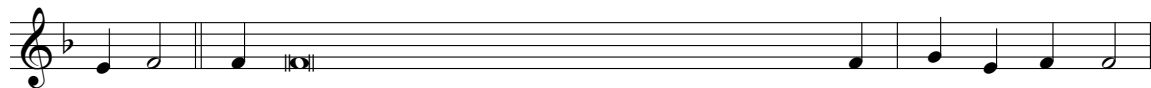
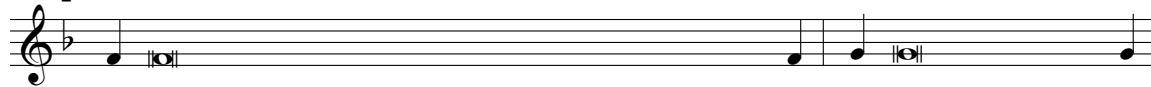
Priest: O most holy Theotokos, save us!

Response:



Priest: Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope; glory to you!

Response:



Priest:

May Christ our true God have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; and of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist of the Lord, John, whose beheading we commemorate today; and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

