

VESPERS PROPER FOR MARCH 15TH, 2021

from the Menaion

FOURTH SUNDAY EVENING OF THE GREAT FAST

¹**The holy martyr Agapius and his companions.** The holy martyrs Timolaus, Dionysius, Pausis, Romulus, Alexander, and another Alexander at Caesarea in Palestine, who were led with bound hands to Urbanus the prefect in the persecution of Diocletian the emperor and confessed that they were Christians. A few days later, with their companions Agapius and another Dionysius, they were beheaded and earned the crowns of eternal life. (303)

Psalm 140 (*Tone 8*) – (p.8)

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! Let my

pray'r ascend to you like in - - - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands

like an eve - ning sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

Continue with Psalm 140: "O Lord, set a guard before my mouth..." (p.8).

Stichera at the Lamplighting Psalms – (p.9)

4 stichera in the tone of the week from the Triodion:

Cantor - (Tone 8):



Bring my soul out of this pris-on and then I shall praise your name.

Sticheron



Un - ceas - ingly the angels sing to you, O King and Mas - ter. I fall before you



like the Publi-can and cry out: O God, cleanse me and have mer - cy on me!

Cantor:



A - round me the just will assem-ble be-cause of your good-ness to me.

Sticheron



You are im - mor - tal, O my soul! Do not be overcome by the waves of life,



but rise up and, to your Benefac-tor, cry out: O God cleanse me and have



mer - cy on me!

Cantor:



Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!

Sticheron

8

Give me the gift of tears, O Lord, as once you gave them to the sin - ful
wo - man, and let me pour them o - ver your feet, for they have
turned me away from the path of er - ror. I will of - fer you a sweet-smell - ing
oint - ment, the con - ver - sion of my heart and the puri-ty of my life,
so that I too may hear your gen - tle voice: Go in peace, for your faith has
saved you.

Cantor:

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my plead - - ing.

Sticheron

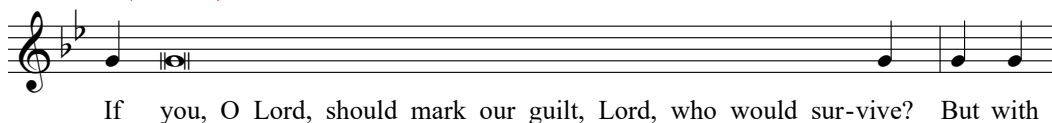
7

When I look at my man - y e - vil deeds, and when I think of the fear - some
judg - ment, I am seized with fright and take re - fuge in you; O Lord

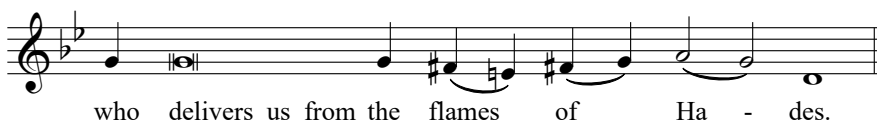
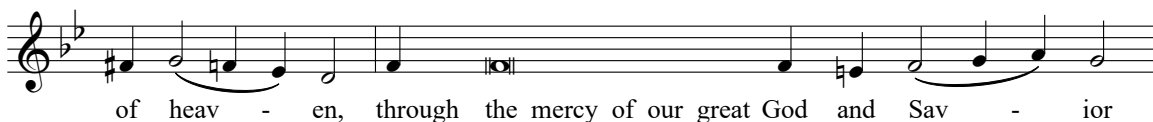


3 stichera for the Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast from the Triodion:

Cantor – (Tone 3):



Sticheron



Cantor:



Sticheron

(5)

Hav-ing passed the mid-point of this Fast, let us man-ifest the beginning of
con-ver - sion, so that at the end of a ho - ly life, we may find the
happiness that does not pass a - way.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for Sticheron (5). It consists of three staves of music in G minor (one flat). The first staff begins with a circled '5'. The melody is written in a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'Hav-ing passed the mid-point of this Fast, let us man-ifest the beginning of'. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics: 'con-ver - sion, so that at the end of a ho - ly life, we may find the'. The third staff concludes the piece with the lyrics: 'happiness that does not pass a - way.' The notation includes various note values, rests, and bar lines.

Cantor – (Tone 7):

Let the watchman count on daybreak and Is-ra - el on the Lord.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the Cantor (Tone 7). It consists of a single staff of music in D major (two sharps). The melody is written in a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'Let the watchman count on daybreak and Is-ra - el on the Lord.' The notation includes various note values, rests, and bar lines.

Sticheron

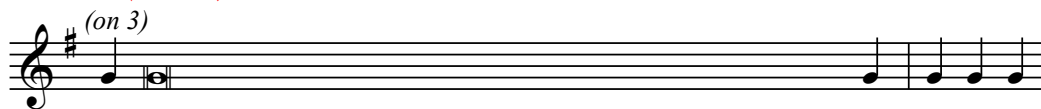
(4)

Hav - ing passed half the distance of this ho - ly Fast, let us has - ten to its
com-ple - tion in joy; let us a - noint our souls with oil for the strug - gle,
that we may be worthy to venerate the holy Passion of Christ our God
and to con - tem-plate his glo - rious Re - sur - rec - tion.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for Sticheron (4). It consists of four staves of music in D major (two sharps). The first staff begins with a circled '4'. The melody is written in a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'Hav - ing passed half the distance of this ho - ly Fast, let us has - ten to its'. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics: 'com-ple - tion in joy; let us a - noint our souls with oil for the strug - gle,'. The third staff continues: 'that we may be worthy to venerate the holy Passion of Christ our God'. The fourth staff concludes the piece with the lyrics: 'and to con - tem-plate his glo - rious Re - sur - rec - tion.' The notation includes various note values, rests, and bar lines.

3 stichera for the holy martyr Agapius and his companions from the Menaion:

Cantor - (Tone 8):



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.

Sticheron



Hav-ing strug-gled for Christ, O mar - tyrs, you were not moved at all by



the torments of the per-se-cu - tors who in-flict-ed a violent death up-on you.



But with eag-er zeal and ho-ly con-vic - tion, all sev - en of you marched



in - to the com - bat. Put - ting on the crown of vic - tors,



you were for-e-ver num-bered a-mong the just. With them, we continual-ly



glo - ri - fy you and call you blest.

Cantor:



Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!

Sticheron

(2)

O mar-tyred ath-lete A - ga - pi - us, seek - ing the Sum - mit of all desires
and the Source of all good, you has-tened to drink from the cup of mar-tyr - dom,
as you called upon the name of the liv - ing God. What de - ter - mination and
what cou-age you dis - played! By them you attained your merit-ed glo - ry
and splen - - - dor.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for a Sticheron, marked with a circled '2'. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is written on a single treble clef staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Cantor:

(on 1)

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith - ful for - ev - er.

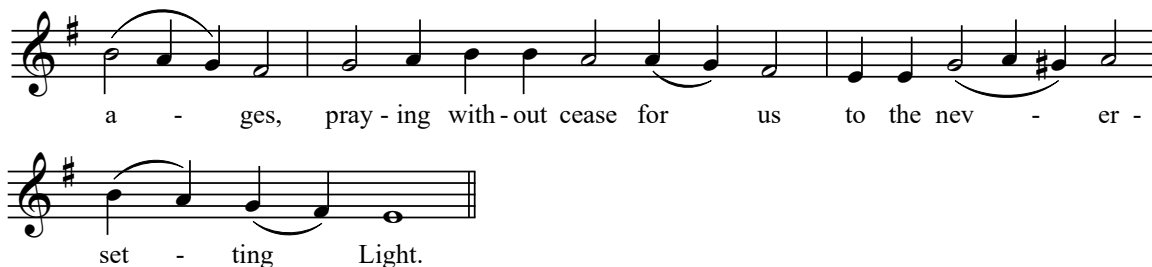
Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the Cantor's part, marked with '(on 1)'. It consists of a single staff of music in G major. The melody is written on a single treble clef staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Sticheron

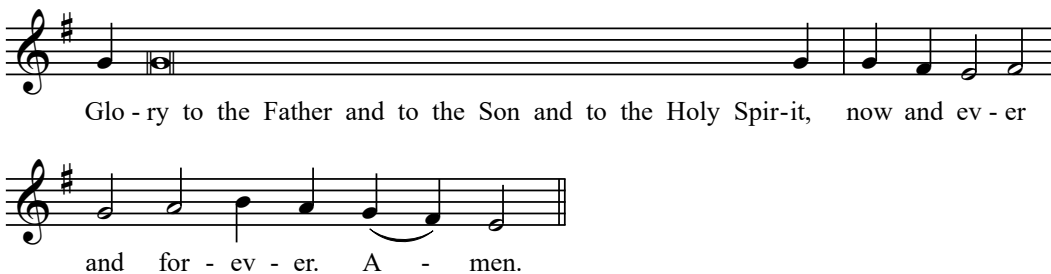
(1)

O praise-wor-thy mar - tyrs, you vol - untarily handed yourselves over for
im - mo - la - tion. You sanc - ti - fied the earth by your blood;
you gave light to the heavens as you passed to them. You dwell there now for all

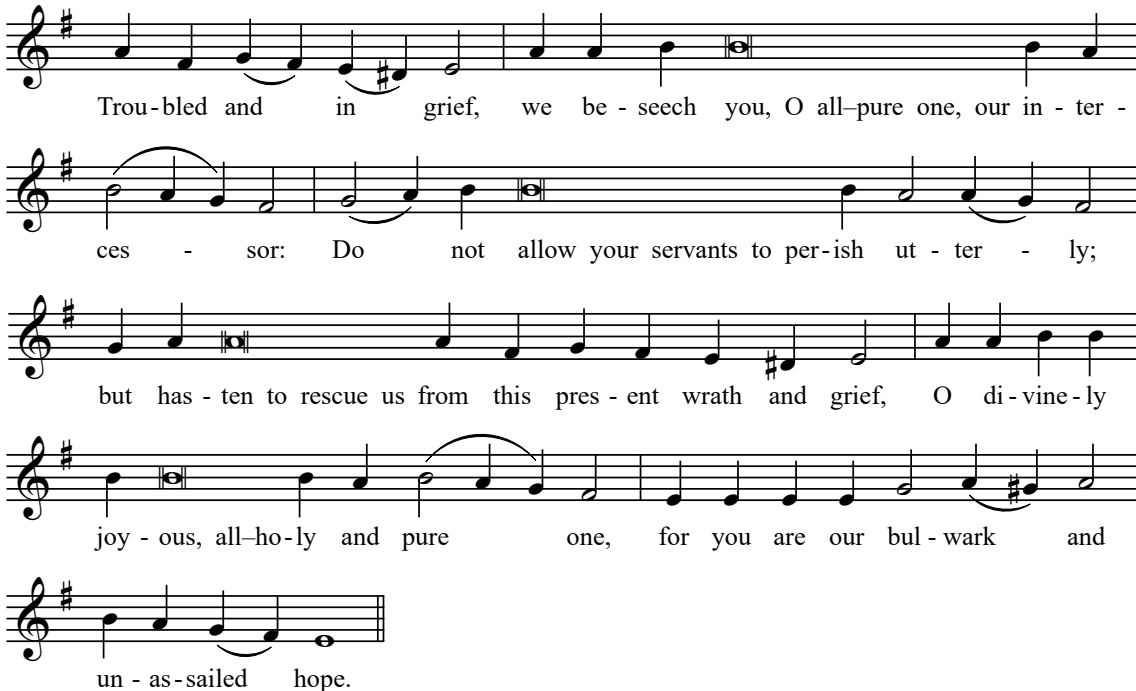
Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for a Sticheron, marked with a circled '1'. It consists of three staves of music in G major. The melody is written on a single treble clef staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.



Cantor:



Theotokion



*Continue with "Wisdom..." and the Hymn of the Evening (p. 12)
The Prokeimenon for the Fourth Sunday (p. 13).*

Aposticha – (p.18)

The aposticha are from the Triodion:

(Tone 7)

Aposticheron:

Tone 7 samohlasen

①

The One who plant - ed the vineyard and called the work - ers is the Sav - ior
whom we shall soon be - hold; come, let us re - ceive the recompense of our labors
in this Fast, for the Mas - ter remunerates generous - ly from his heart;
e - ven though we have labored for on - ly a short time, we shall re - ceive
great mer - cy for our souls.

Cantor – (Tone 6):

①

To you have I lifted up my eyes, you who dwell in the heavens; my eyes, like the
eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. Like the eyes of a servant on the hands of her
mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God till he show us his mer - cy.

Aposticheron:

Tone 6 samohlasen

(2)

Ad-am fell into the hands of rob-bers of thought; his spirit was betrayed and his soul was cov-ered with wounds; and he lay na-ked and with-out help.

It was not the priest from be-fore the Law, nor the levite, who came af-ter the Law, but it was you, O Lord my God, who cared for him. You came, not from Samaria but from the Vir-gin Mar-y! O Sav-ior of our souls, glo-ry to you!

Cantor:

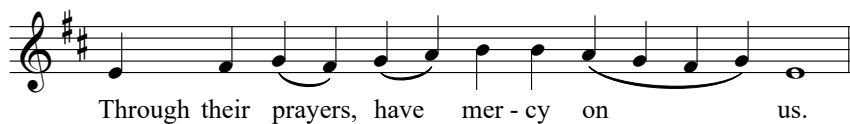
(2)

Have mer-cy on us, Lord, have mercy. We are filled with contempt. Indeed all too full is our soul with the scorn of the rich, with the proud man's dis-dain.

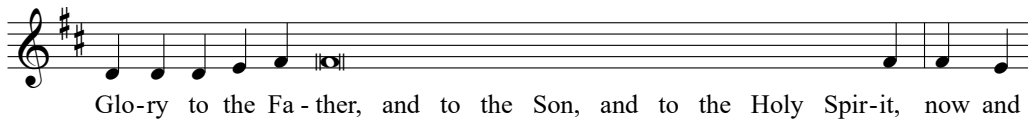
Aposticheron:

(3)

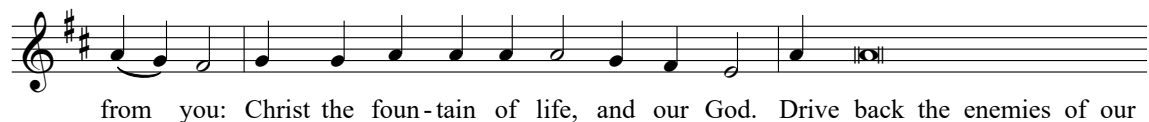
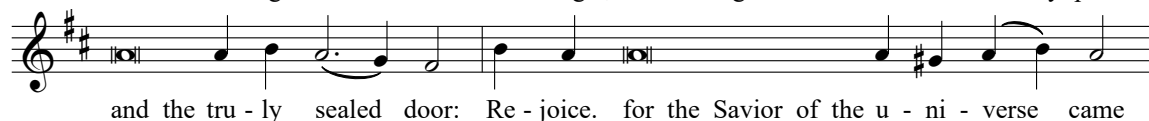
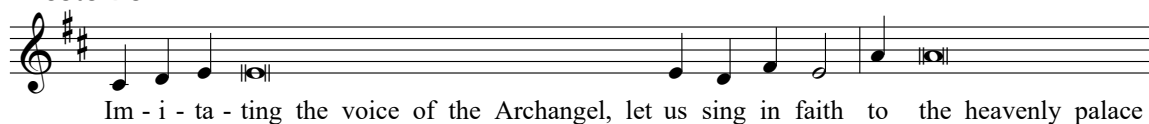
Your mar-tyrs did not de-ny you, O Lord, nor did they stray from your com-mands.



Cantor:



Theotokion



Continue with the Prayer of the Holy Prophet Simeon (p. 18).