

Vespers Propers, December 4

The holy great martyr Barbara who, it is said, was a virgin and martyr of Nicomedia. (306)

Our venerable father John of Damascus, a priest celebrated for his holiness and learning, He strove diligently by his word and writings in favor of the veneration of Holy Images against the Emperor Leo III, the Isaurian. Having been made a monk in the monastery of St. Sabbas near Jerusalem, he composed sacred hymns and there reposed in the Lord. His body was buried on this day. (749)

*Supplement for **The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2005***

Tone of the Week: Tone 4 (begins on page 58), stichera 10 - 7

Cantor: (Tone 2) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

Stichera of the holy great martyr Barbara

Tone 2 podobn: Jehda ot dreva

When bless - ed Ju - li - a - na looked o - ver the fright-ful a - re - na,
and saw the glorious martyr Bar - ba - ra scourged by the whip, her bod - y
all cov - ered with var - ied wounds, she cried out with fer - vent tears:
O lov - ing God! O Word of God! make me wor - thy now to share the
lot of the faith - ful sheep.

Cantor: My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

5

Ho - ly Bar - ba - ra and Ju - li - a - na, u - nit - ed in their de - sire
to keep the faith, en - tered into com - bat with the En - e - my. They gained
vic - to - ry o - ver him, re - ceiv - ing glo - ry in the pres - ence of
Christ our God. Now they take a - way the scourge of ill - ness - es,
pro - vid - ing a swift heal - ing for all the faith - ful.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

4

As a wel - come death ap - proached you, O ven - er - a - ble mar - tyr Bar - ba - ra,
you were eag - er to com - plete your course with joy. The wick - ed hands of
your im - pi - ous fa - ther slew you, and you were pre - sent - ed like an

of - fering of first-fruits on the al - tar of God. Hence-forth, u - nit - ed
 to the choir of the tru-ly wise vir - gins, you con - tem-plate the splen-dor of
 Christ the Bride - groom.

Cantor (on 3)

Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed
 he will re-deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

Stichera of our venerable father John of Damascus

Tone 8 podoben: O preslavnoho cudese

In a won-drous way, O wise fa-ther John, you have bright-ened the Church of
 Christ with your songs, which speak of the things of God. You are another
 David, striking the harp of the Spir - it, at - trac-ting all to God with your
 sweet mu - sic.

Cantor (on 2)



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



O glo - ri - ous fa - ther John, you re - nounced the distract - ing noise of



the world and reached a deep calm in Christ. From con - tem - pla - tion and action,

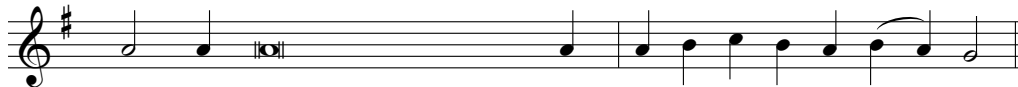


O ho - ly fa - ther, you gained tru - ly splen - did treas - ures which you be - stow



up - on the faith - ful by the bright splen - dor of your life.

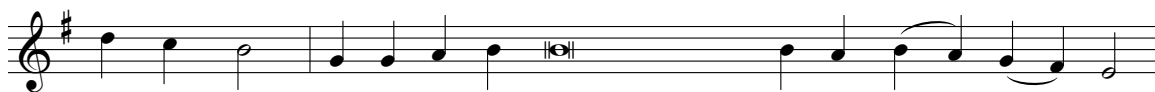
Cantor (on 1)



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



Come, O faith - ful, let us cel - e - brate the feast of our holy fa - ther John with



fer - vent hymns, for he re - flects to us the brilliance of the light of God.

O Lord, how great is your good-ness and kind - ness, re - flect-ed in your saints,
 though which we come to glo - ri - fy you.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6

Leav-ing your home-land, your family and your pos-ses-sions, you renounced the
 love of your pa - gan fa - ther, be - com - ing the bride of the God
 whom you loved. You found the pearl of great price, lik the mer-chant did of old.
 In - ter - cede with God that he might save our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 4) Now and ever...

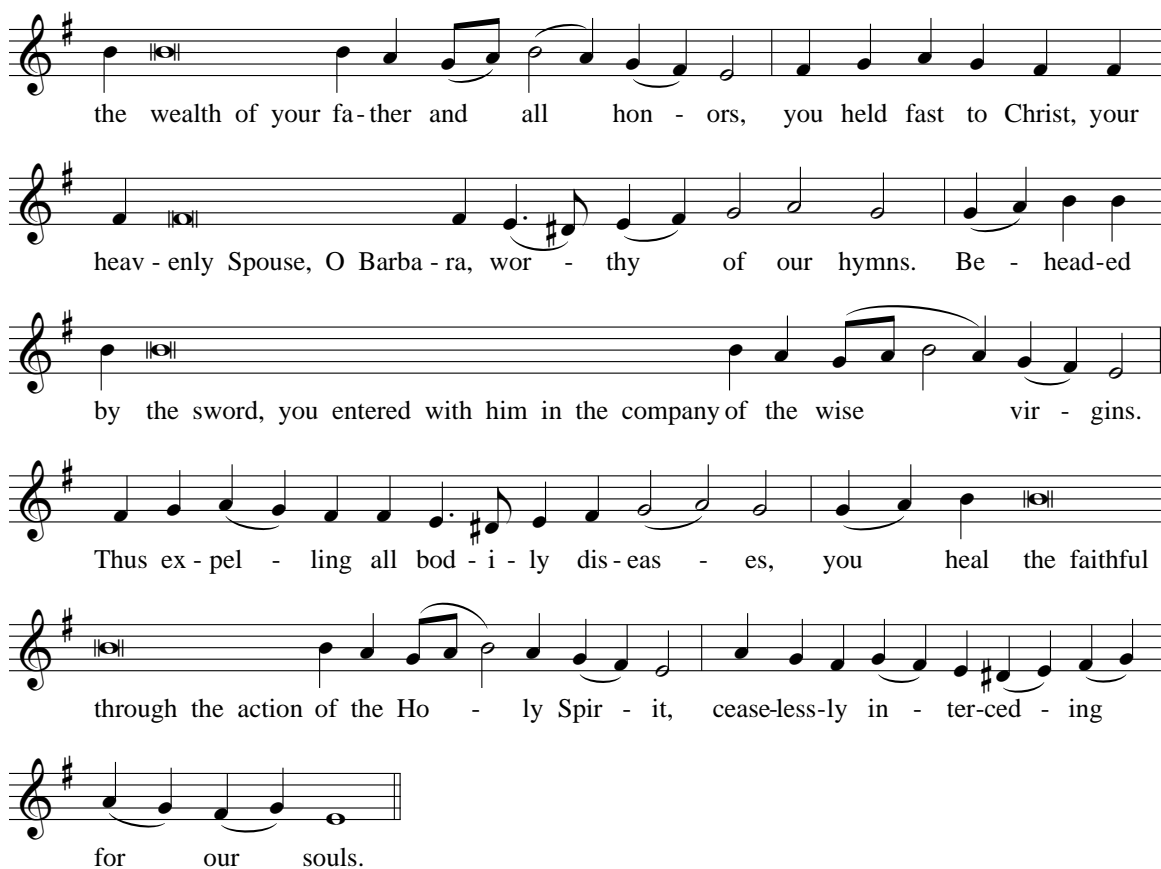
Dogmatikon, Tone 4, p. 64

The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, p.12.

Litija

Tone 1 Bolhar

Scorn-ing the en - joy - ment of earth - ly pleas - ures, re - nounc-ing



the wealth of your fa-ther and all hon - ors, you held fast to Christ, your
 heav - enly Spouse, O Barba - ra, wor - thy of our hymns. Be - head-ed
 by the sword, you entered with him in the company of the wise vir - gins.
 Thus ex - pel - ling all bod - i - ly dis - eas - es, you heal the faithful
 through the action of the Ho - ly Spir - it, cease-less-ly in - ter-ced - ing
 for our souls.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

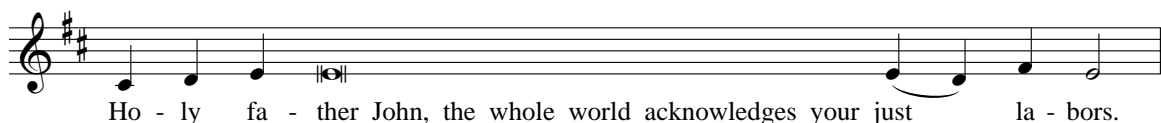
Theotokion, Tone 1, p. 33

Litija Litany p.116

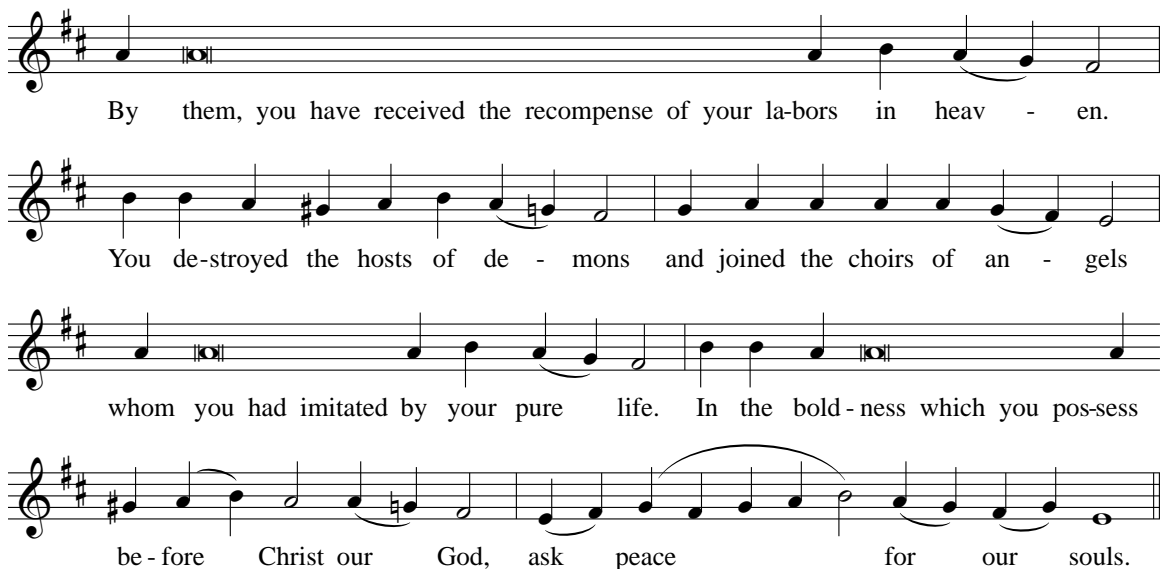
Aposticha, Tone 4, p. 65

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6



Ho - ly fa - ther John, the whole world acknowledges your just la - bors.



By them, you have received the recompense of your labors in heav - en.
 You de-stroyed the hosts of de - mons and joined the choirs of an - gels
 whom you had imitated by your pure life. In the bold-ness which you pos-sess
 be - fore Christ our God, ask peace for our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

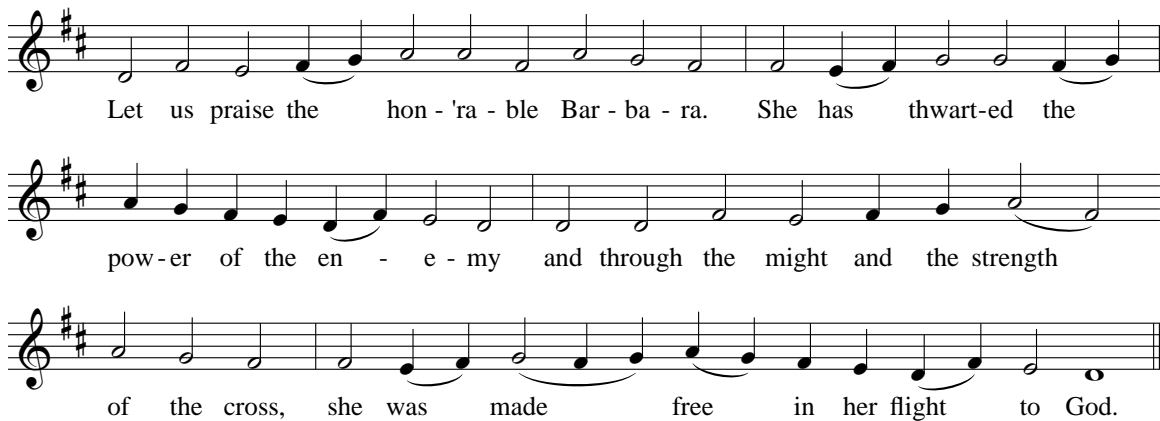
Aposticha Theotokion, Tone 6, p. 90

The service continues with the Prayer of Simeon, p. 19.

Troparia at the Blessing of Bread:

Rejoice, Virgin Theotokos..." (p. 119) is sung once by the priest, then all sing:

Troparion of Barbara - Tone 8



Let us praise the hon - 'ra - ble Bar - ba - ra. She has thwart-ed the
 pow-er of the en - e - my and through the might and the strength
 of the cross, she was made free in her flight to God.

Troparion of John of Damascus - Tone 8

Guide to Or - tho - dox - y, teach - er of pi - e - ty and ho - li - ness,
lu - mi - nar - y for the world, in - spired
a - dorn - ment of bish - ops, O wise John, harp of the
Spir - it, you en - light - ened all by your teach - ings;
in - ter - cede with Christ our God to save our souls.