

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY
Sunday of the Forefathers
December 11, 2005

Our venerable father Spiridon the Wonder-worker, bishop of Tremithus on the island of Cyprus, a true shepherd of his sheep, whose marvelous deeds were celebrated by the mouths of all. The date of his death is December 12; his feast is transferred because of the feast of the Icon of the Mother of God of Guadalupe. (348)

Our venerable father Daniel the Stylite, priest of Constantinople who, after a life led in a monastery, undertook many labors. Transported by the manner and example of St. Simeon, he stood on a column, not subdued by force of cold or heat or wind, for thirty-three years and three months, until the time of his death. (489)

Hymn for the Forefathers

Tune: Mendelssohn (Hark! the Herald Angels Sing)


Text is based on Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) 44: 1-15

Let us now praise famous men, tell their stories once again.
Ruling kingdoms in their might, known for valor in men's sight.
Those with counsel true and wise, those who saw with prophet's eyes—
Those who wrote the psalms we sing; those who taught the sage and king.
For their gifts and witness, Lord, we sing praise with one accord.

Those were honored in their age—priest and monarch, prophet, sage—
And have left behind a name, which their children e'er can claim.
Others, though, have run this race, vanished, leaving not a trace,
As if they had never been, they and children after them.
For their gifts and witness, Lord, we sing praise with one accord.


These, the godly ones, we praise, who endured the darkest days,
Covenanted, Lord, with You, and Whose grace has seen them through.
All our hymns of praise we bring for their steadfastness, O King!
From their seed, upon this earth, You have taken humble birth.
For their gifts and witness, Lord, we sing praise with one accord.

First Typical Psalm (Psalm 102: 1)



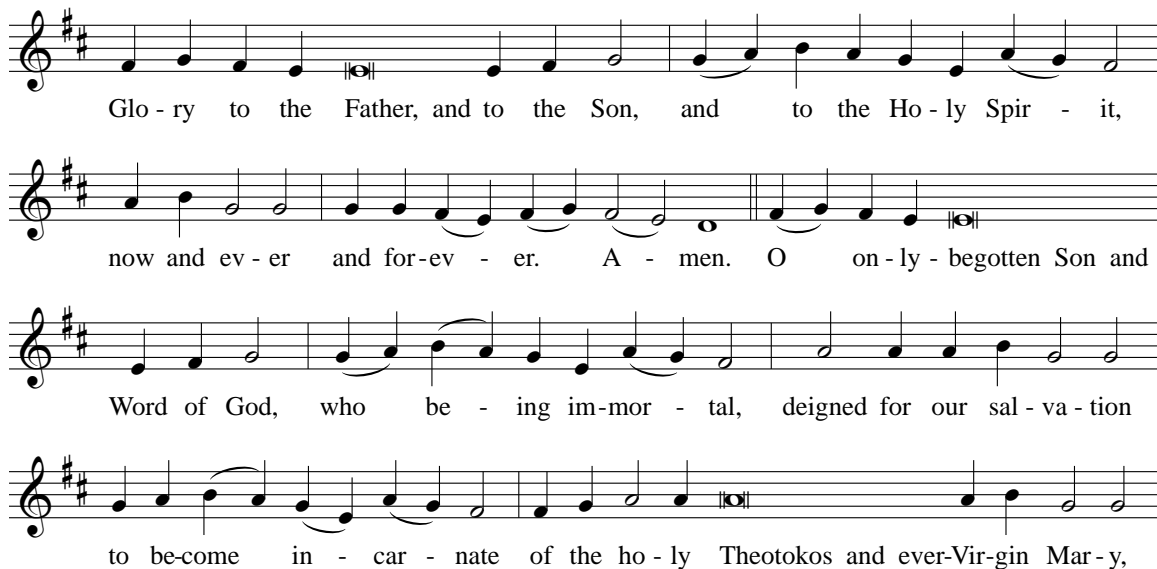
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all my be - ing, bless his
ho - ly name. Bless-ed are you, O Lord.

Second Typical Psalm (Psalm 145: 1, 2)



Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord,
praise the Lord all my life. I will make mu - sic to my God while I live.

Hymn of the Incarnation - Resurrection Tone 7



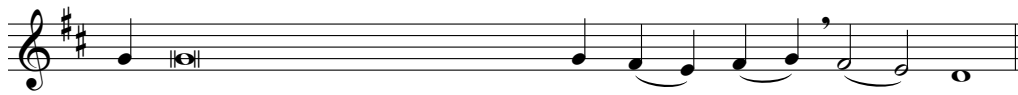
Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
now and ev - er and for-ev - er. A - men. O on - ly - begotten Son and
Word of God, who be - ing im - mor - tal, deigned for our sal - va - tion
to be - come in - car - nate of the ho - ly Theotokos and ever - Vir - gin Mar - y,



and be-came man with-out change; you were al - so crucified, O Christ our God,



and by death have tram-pled Death, be-ing One of the Ho-ly Trin - i - ty,



glo - rified with the Father and the Ho-ly Spir - it, save us.

Third Typical Psalm: The Beatitudes (*Matthew 5: 1-12*)

Kontakion Tone 8



Re - mem - ber us, O Lord, when you come in your king - dom.



Bless-ed are the poor in spir - it, for theirs is the king-dom of heav - en.



Bless-ed are they who mourn, for they will be com-fort-ed. Bless-ed are the meek,




for they will in - her - it the land. Bless - ed are they who hunger and thirst



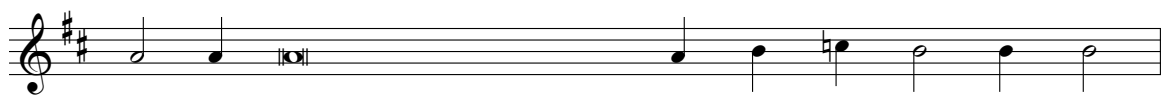
af - ter right-eous-ness, for they will be sat - is-fied. Bless-ed are the mer - ci - ful,



for they will be shown mer - cy. Bless-ed are the clean of heart, for they shall



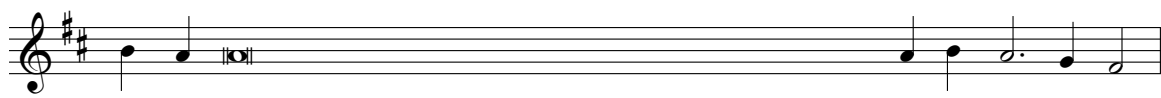
see God. Bless-ed are the peace-mak-ers, for they will be called chil-dren of God.



Bless - ed are they who are persecuted for the sake of right - eous - ness,



for theirs is the king-dom of heav - en. Bless-ed are you when they in-sult you



and per - secute you and utter every kind of evil against you false-ly be-cause of me.




Re - joice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heav - en.

Entrance Hymn




Come, let us wor - ship and bow be - fore Christ. O Son of God,



ris - en from the dead, save us who sing to you: Al - le - lu - ia!

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 5



O faith-ful, let us praise and a-dore the Word e - ter - nal with the Fa-ther



and the Spir - it, and born of the Vir-gin for our sal - va - tion.

For he chose to as-cend the cross in the flesh and to suf-fer death, and to
 raise the dead by his glo - ri - ous res - ur - rec - - - tion.

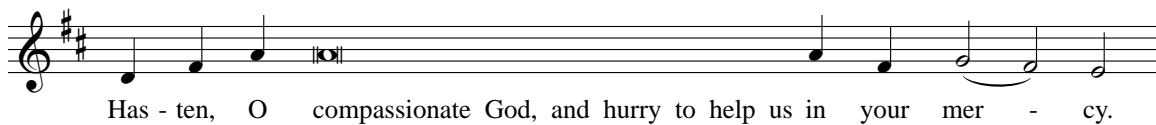
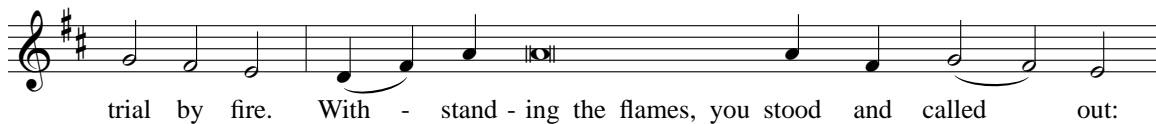
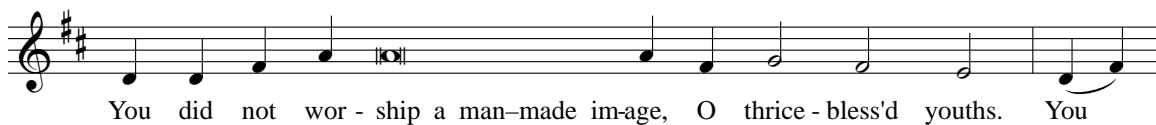
Troparion of the Forefathers - Tone 2

By faith, you, O Christ, jus - ti - fied the fore - fa - thers. Through them
 you betrothed yourself to a Church from all na - tions. The saints re-joice
 in glo - ry be-cause a glorious offspring has blos - somed from their seed:
 the Moth-er who bore you with-out seed. Through their pray'rs, O Christ our
 God, have mer - cy on us.

Cantor

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.

Kontakion of the Forefathers - Tone 6



Thrice-Holy Hymn





es - cort - ed by an - gel - ic hosts. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - - - le - lu - ia!

Anamnesis Acclamation



We praise you, we bless you, we thank you, thank you, O Lord,



and we pray to you, our God, and we pray to you, our God,



and we pray to you, our God.

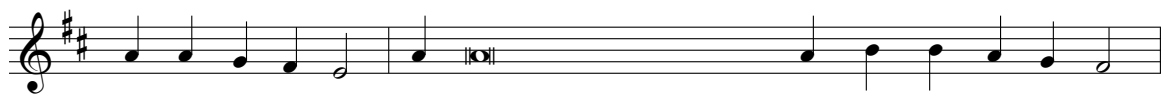
It is truly proper



It is tru - ly prop - er to glo - ri - fy you, O The - o - to - kos,



the ever-blessed, immaculate, and the moth - er of our God. More honora-ble



than the Cher - u - bim and beyond compare more glori - ous than the Ser - a - phim,

who, a Vir - gin, gave birth to God the Word; you, tru - ly the

The - o - to - kos, we mag - ni - fy.

Communion Hymn for Sundays (Psalm 148:1):

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

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

And for the Forefathers, the Communion Hymn is (Psalm 32:1):

Re - joice in the Lord you right-eous ones; praise from the up-right is fit-ting.

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