

**The Divine Liturgy  
of the Presanctified Gifts**

celebrated on Wednesday of the Sixth Week of the Great Fast  
April 5, 2006

**The passing of our holy father Methodius, teacher of the Slavs.** After the death of St. Cyril in Rome, Methodius returned to Moravia and labored there among the Slavs, preaching the Gospel and establishing the Christian faith there. (885)

*The reading from Genesis tells the story of Joseph, son of Jacob, meeting and reconciling with his eleven brothers. This long reading is seen as a type of Christ, given over to death but restored to life and reconciling all to Himself.*

*The reading from Proverbs compares and contrasts the wicked man with the one who trusts in the Lord.*

## The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140

Tone 5

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!

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth \*  
and set a seal on the door of *my* lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil, \*  
nor make excuses for sins I *commit*.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting. \*  
If a just man strikes or reproves me it *is* kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head. \*  
Let my prayer be ever against *their* malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock; \*  
then they understood that my words *were* kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground, \*  
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of *the* grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned; \*  
in you I take refuge; spare *my* soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe; \*  
keep me from the snares of those who *do* evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set \*  
while I pursue my way *un*harméd.

With all my voice I cry to the Lord, \*  
with all my voice I entreat *the* Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him; \*  
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints *within* me.

But you, O Lord, know my path. \*  
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *entrap* me.

Look on my right and see: \*  
there is no one who takes *my* part.

I have no means of escape, \*  
not one who cares for *my* soul.

I cry to you, O Lord. \*  
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."

Listen, then, to my cry \*  
for I am in the depths *of* distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me \*  
for they are stronger *than* I.

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.

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

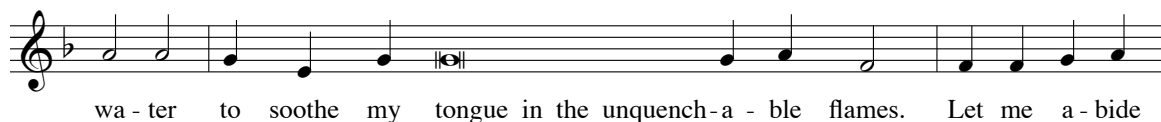
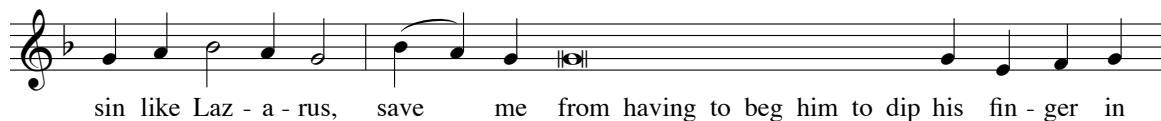
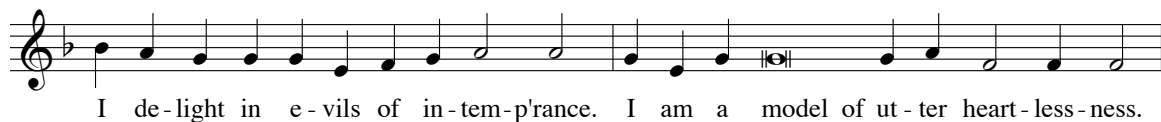
Let your ears be attentive \*  
to the voice of *my* pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand? \*  
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we *revere* you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word. \*  
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman *for* daybreak.

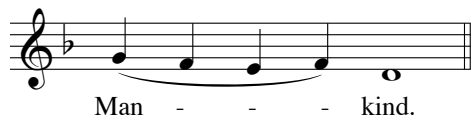
**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak  
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

*Tone 5*





in - stead in the bosom of the Pa-tri-arch A - braham, O Lov-er of

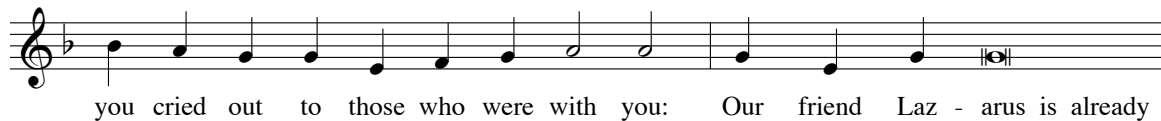


Man - - - kind.

**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.



As you walked in the flesh, O Je - sus, in the land be-yond the Jor - dan,



you cried out to those who were with you: Our friend Laz - arus is already



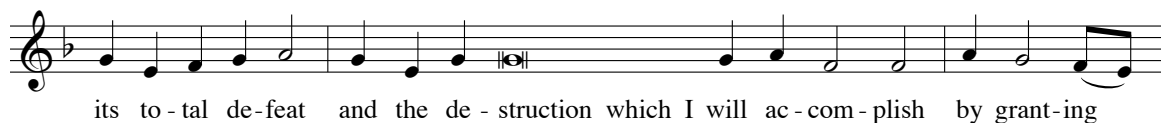
dead and buried in the grave. My friends, I re - joice, for you will learn



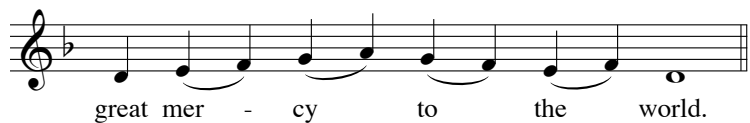
that I whom you see be - got - ten as man re - main in - divisibly God and



know all things. Come, let us go and give him life. Let death taste



its to - tal de-feat and the de - struction which I will ac - com - plish by grant-ing

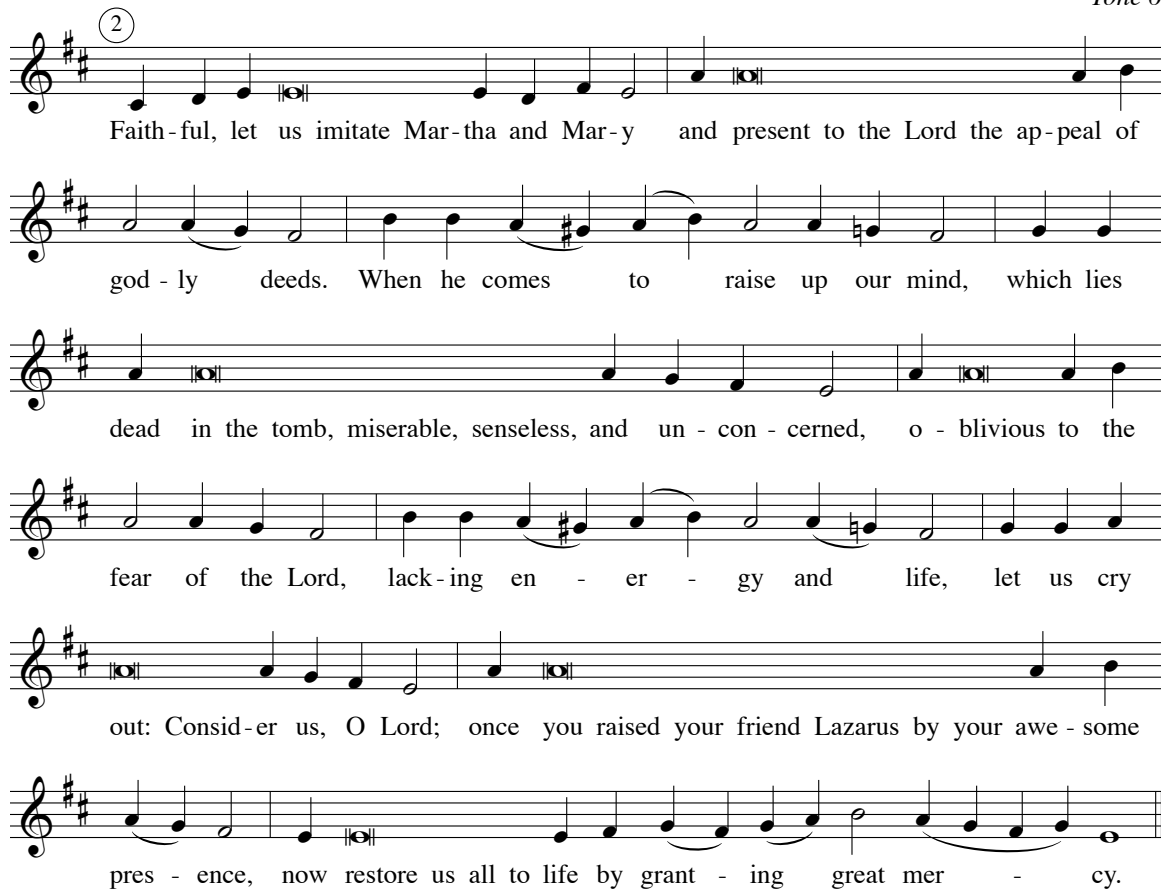


great mer - cy to the world.

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations,  
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

*Tone 6*

②

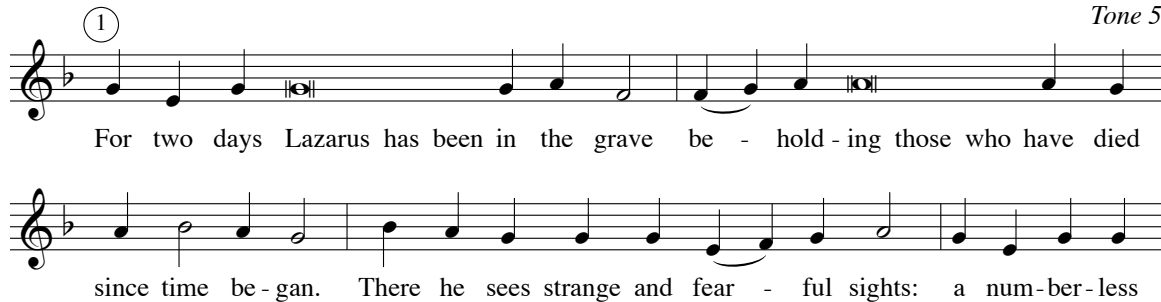


Faith-ful, let us imitate Mar-tha and Mar-y and present to the Lord the ap-pear of  
god - ly deeds. When he comes to raise up our mind, which lies  
dead in the tomb, miserable, senseless, and un - con - cerned, o - blivious to the  
fear of the Lord, lack - ing en - er - gy and life, let us cry  
out: Consid - er us, O Lord; once you raised your friend Lazarus by your awe - some  
pres - ence, now restore us all to life by grant - ing great mer - cy.


**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

*Tone 5*


①



For two days Lazarus has been in the grave be - hold - ing those who have died  
since time be - gan. There he sees strange and fear - ful sights: a num - ber - less




mul - titude held in Ha - des' chains. There - fore, his rel - atives weep bit - ter - ly



be - fore his grave. But Christ came to give life to his friend




so that all might proclaim with one voice: Bless - ed are you, O Sav - ior;




have mer - cy on us.

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


**Doxastikon of Methodius - Tone 8**




Come, O feast - lovers, let us rejoice and ex - ult with ho - ly hymns the fall - ing asleep



of the bish - op Me - tho - di - us, the en - light - ener of Moravia, the equal - to - the - apostles



of the Slav peo - ples. Be - hold, he reject - ed the pleas - ures of the world,



and took the apostolate of the cross on his shoul - ders, to - geth - er



with his brother, enlightening the Slav na - tions. Af - ter his fall - ing asleep, he

received from God the re-ward of right-eous-ness, and prays with-out ceas - ing  
 that our souls be delivered from all trou - bles and dan - - - gers.

### The Hymn of the Evening

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

O Joy - ful Light of the ho - ly glo - ry of the Fa - ther Im - mor - tal,  
 the hea - ven - ly, ho - ly, bles - sed One, O Je - sus Christ: Now that we have  
 reached the set - ting of the sun, and see the eve - ning light, we sing to God,  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. It is fit - ting at all times to raise  
 a song of praise in meas - ured mel - o - dy to you, O Son of God, the  
 Giv - er of Life. There-fore, the un - i - verse sings your glo - ry.

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Celebrant:** Peace ✠ be to all!

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon 1 - Tone 4** (Psalm 114: 9, 1)

I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord, in the land of  
the liv - - ing.

*Verse:* I love the Lord, for he has heard the cry of my appeal.

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Lector:** A Reading from the Book of Genesis

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Lector:** [Genesis 43:26-30; 45:1-16]

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon 2 - Tone 4** (Psalm 115: 5, 1)

My vows to the Lord I will ful - fill be - fore all  
his peo - - - ple.

*Verse:* I trusted, even when I said: I am sorely afflicted.

*The faithful kneel.*

## The Blessing With Light

**Deacon:** Give the command!

**Celebrant:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

*The faithful give no response to these words. All make three prostrations in silence.  
The faithful are seated. The lector, without introduction, begins:*

**Lector:** A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Lector:** [Proverbs 21: 23 - 22: 4]

**Celebrant:** Peace ❖ be to you, reader.