

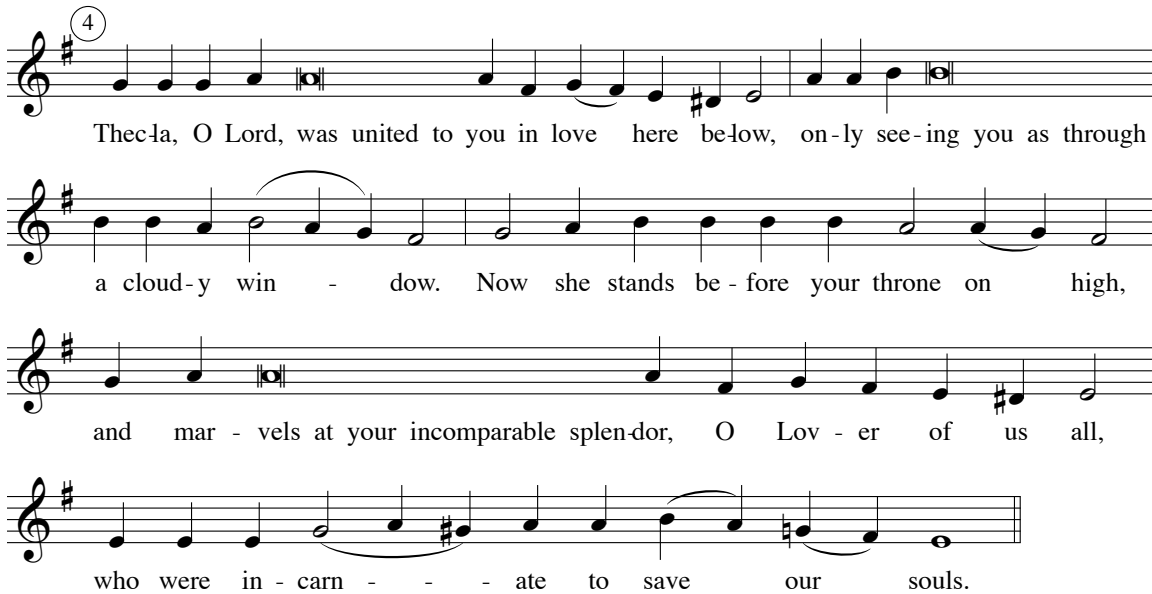
## Vesper Propers, September 14, 2006

**The holy martyr, first among women, and equal to the apostles, Thecla,** who was converted to the faith by the preaching of the Apostle Paul, when he came to Iconium with Barnabas. Thecla became a follower of the apostle Paul, and went with him to Antioch. She settled in a solitary place near Seleucia, and was martyred by local physicians who were jealous over her gifts of healing. (51)

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

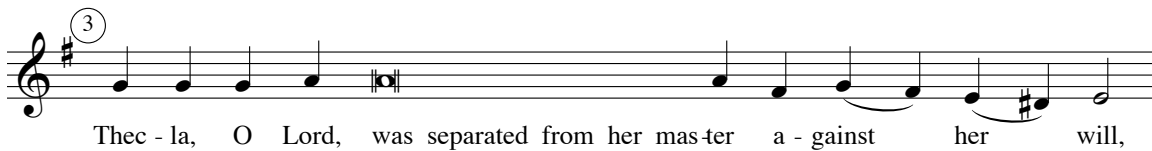
*Lamplighting Psalms: Tone 7, stichera 10-5, beginning on page 92.*

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

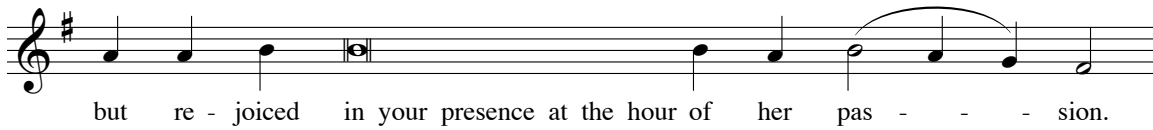


Thec-la, O Lord, was united to you in love here be-low, on-ly see-ing you as through  
a cloud-y win - dow. Now she stands be - fore your throne on high,  
and mar - vels at your incomparable splen-dor, O Lov - er of us all,  
who were in - carn - - - ate to save our souls.

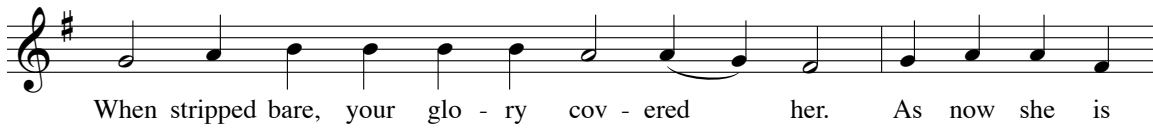
**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.



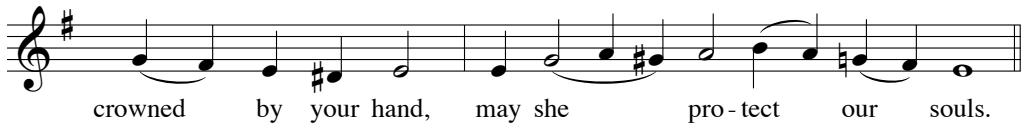
Thec - la, O Lord, was separated from her mas-ter a - gainst her will,



but re - joiced in your presence at the hour of her pas - - - sion.

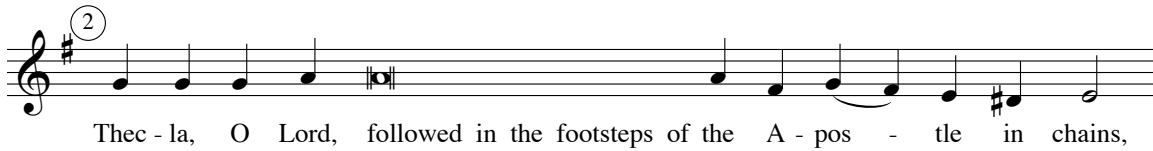


When stripped bare, your glo - ry cov - ered her. As now she is

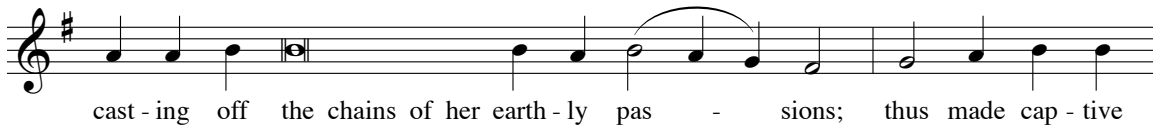


crowned by your hand, may she pro - tect our souls.

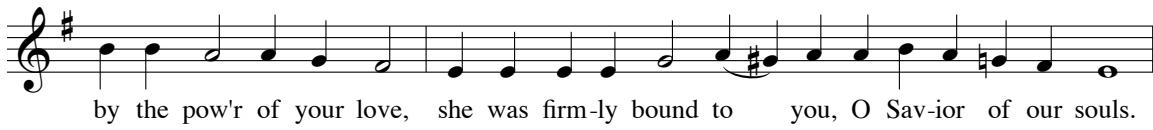
**Cantor:** Praise the Lord all you nations; **Psalm 116**  
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples.



Thec - la, O Lord, followed in the footsteps of the A - pos - tle in chains,



cast - ing off the chains of her earth - ly pas - sions; thus made cap - tive

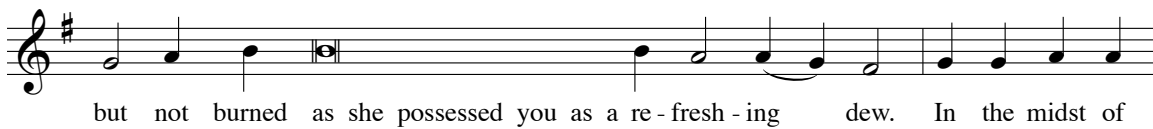


by the pow'r of your love, she was firm - ly bound to you, O Sav - ior of our souls.

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



O Lord, your spot - less pro - to - mar - tyr was de - liv - ered o - ver to the fire,



but not burned as she possessed you as a re - fresh - ing dew. In the midst of

wild beasts, she re-mained safe pro-TECT-ed as she was by your hand,  
O Sav - ior of our souls.

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 6**

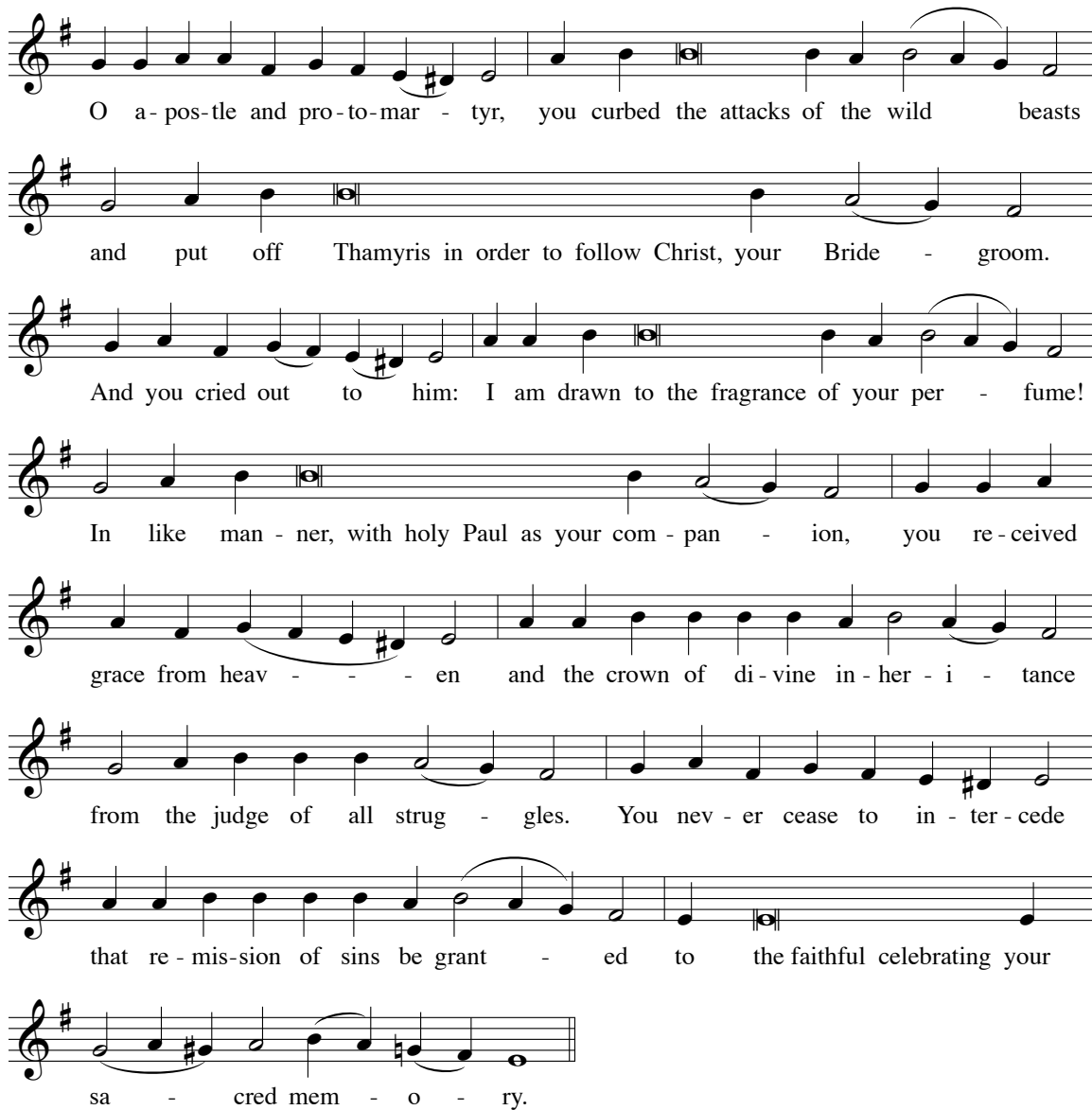
As an ath-lete in your strug-gles you overcame the enemy, O bless-ed Thec - la;  
in mar-tyr-dom, you de - stroyed his schemes. You fled far from Tha-my - ris  
in order to be espoused to Christ, your true Love. You were the com-pan-ion of  
Paul and im-itated Ste-phen in his trial. As the first woman to bear wit-ness to Christ,  
you have bold - ness be - fore him; save our souls from all dan - ger,  
as in faith we fes-tive - ly cel - e - brate your sa - cred mem - o - ry.

**Cantor:** (Tone 7) Now and ever...

*Aposticha, Tone 7, page 99*

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 8**



O a-pos-tle and pro-to-mar - tyr, you curbed the attacks of the wild beasts  
and put off Thamyris in order to follow Christ, your Bride - groom.  
And you cried out to him: I am drawn to the fragrance of your per - fume!  
In like man - ner, with holy Paul as your com - pan - ion, you re - ceived  
grace from heav - - - en and the crown of di - vine in - her - i - tance  
from the judge of all strug - gles. You nev - er cease to in - ter - cede  
that re - mis-sion of sins be grant - ed to the faithful celebrating your  
sa - cred mem - o - ry.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

*Aposticha Theotokion, Tone 8, page 110*