

**Vesper Propers, February 2, 2008**  
**THE MEETING OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**  
**WITH SIMEON AND ANNA**  
**Cheesefare Saturday**  
**Memory of All Holy Ascetics**

*All page references are to **The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006***

*The First Kathisma is sung (p.10)*  
*Lamplighting Psalms Tone 1 p. 24*

**Cantor:** (Tone 1) Bring my soul out of this prison  
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.

**Stichera of the Meeting - Tone 1 samohlasen**

O Sim - e - on. tell us whom you are joyfully carrying in-to the Tem - ple. To  
whom are you say - ing: Now you may dis - miss your ser - vant, O Lord,  
be - cause my eyes have seen my Sav - ior. He is the child born of the  
Vir - gin. He is the Word and God of God. O Lord, who for our sake was  
in - car - nate and saved the world, to you we bow down in wor - ship.

**Cantor:** Around me the just will assemble  
(on 9) because of your goodness to me. *All repeat "O Simeon, tell us..."*

**Cantor:** Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**  
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

O Simeon, now receive the One whom Moses the lawgiver had foreseen through the cloud on Sinai. He has become a child and submits himself to the Law. This is he who spoke through the Law and whom the prophets fore-told. O Lord, who for our sake was incarnate and saved the world, to you we bow down in worship.

**Cantor:** Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading. *All repeat "O Simeon, now receive..."*

**Cantor:** 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.

O faithful, come, let us welcome Christ and receive him with hymns of praise and glory. He is the salvation Simeon has seen.



He is the One whom Da-vid fore-told, and of whom the proph-ets have spo - ken.



O Lord, who for our sake was incarnate and in - spired the Law, to you we



bow down in wor - ship.

**Cantor:** My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.  
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord, more than watchman for daybreak.  
*All repeat "O faithful..."*

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Let the watchman count on daybreak  
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

**Stichera of the Holy Ascetics - Tone 8 samohlasen**



Come, all you faith - - ful, let us cel - ebrate the memory of our ho - ly



An - ces - tors: An - thon - y the Great, Euthymius the illustrious, and each and



ev - 'ry one. Let us re - count the story of their lives as a Par - a - dise



of de - light. In joy let us praise these trees plant - ed by our God,



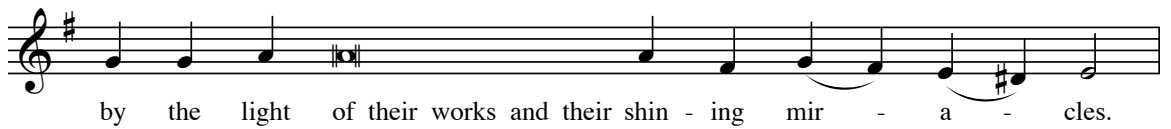
for they have borne the fruits of im - mor - tal life and have pre - sent - ed them to

Christ as food for our souls. O blessed and God-bearing Ancestors, pray for  
our sal - va - - - tion.

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

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

Re-joyce, O faith-ful E - - - gypt! Re-joyce, O ho - ly Lib - ya!  
Re - joyce, O chosen The - ba - id! Let ev - 'ry place and coun - try and  
ci - ty re-joyce who has nour - ished these citizens of the king - dom of  
heav - en, mak - ing them grow through fasting and la - bors,  
so that they may become perfect through the love of God. For our souls,  
they are lu - min - ous stars en - light - ening the ends of the u - ni - verse



by the light of their works and their shin - ing mir - a - cles.



O blessed and God-bearing Ances-tors, pray for our sal - va - - - tion.

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



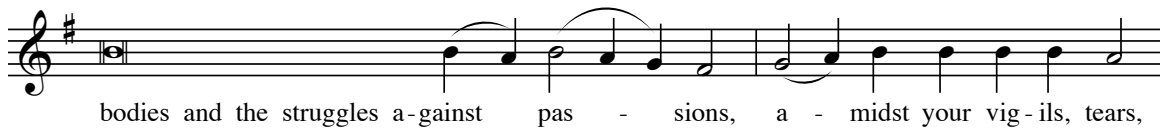
What mor - tal could speak of your won - drous lives, O most ho - ly



Fa - thers and Moth - ers? What tongue could tell of your spir - it - ual strife,



to - geth - er with your labors to grow in vir - tue, the mor - tification of your



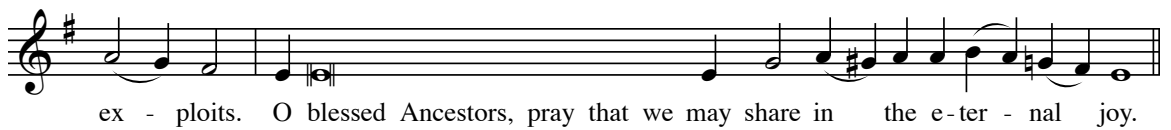
bodies and the struggles a - gainst pas - sions, a - midst your vig - ils, tears,



and pray'rs? You have tru - ly ap - peared as an - gels in this world and have



ut - terly destroyed the pow - er of de - mons by your mir - acles and bril - liant



ex - ploits. O blessed Ancestors, pray that we may share in the e - ter - nal joy.

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

**Doxastikon of the Holy Ascetics - Tone 6 samohlasen**



Pre - serv - ing intact the im - age and like - ness, and the mastery of the spirit o - ver  
pas - sions, you have be - come most like the im - age of God.  
You brave - ly overcame your na - ture, sub - mitting evil to good and flesh to  
spir - it. You have at - tained the sum - mit of mon - as - tic life;  
you are cit - izens of the des - ert, mas - ters of endurance and mod - els of vir - tue.  
And now in the heav - ens, O ho - ly ones, you no long - er see with mir - rors;  
ra - ther you see clearly the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty, with whom you now  
in - ter - cede for those who hon - or you with faith and love.

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

**Of the Meeting - Tone 6 samohlasen**

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of six staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, melodic style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "To-day the gates of heav-en swing o-pen, for the Word of the Father who has no be-gin - ning has re-ceived be - gin-ning in time with-out any loss to his di-vin - i - ty. As a child of forty days he is offered by a vir - gin Moth - er in the Tem-ple ac-cord - ing to the Law. The El - der Simeon receives him in his arms and cries out: Dis-miss me, O Master, for my eyes have seen your sal-va - tion; O Lord, who came in-to the world to save us, glo - ry to you!"

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him in his arms and cries out: Dis-miss me, O Master, for my eyes have seen your  
sal-va - tion; O Lord, who came in-to the world to save us, glo - ry to you!

*Prokeimenon of Friday evening, p. 115*


**Readings:** 1) Exodus 12: 51; 13: 1-3, 10-10, 14-16; 22: 29  
Leviticus 12: 1-4, 6-8  
Numbers 8: 17

2) Isaiah 6: 1-12

3) Isaiah 19: 1-5, 12, 16, 19-21

# Litija

*Tone 4 Bolhar*



To-day, the ho-ly Moth-er who is high-er than an-y tem-ple  
has her-self come in-to the Tem-ple to show the world the  
Cre-a-tor and Giv-er of the Law. Sim-e-on the El-der  
re-ceives him in his arms; he ven-er-ates him and cries a-loud:  
Now let your ser-vant de-part in peace,  
for I have seen you, the Sav-ior of our souls.

**Cantor:** Glory...

## **Doxastikon - Tone 5 Bolhar**



Search the Scrip-tures as Christ our God said in the Gos-pels; for in them  
we find him who was born and wrapped in swad-dling clothes,

the One laid in a man - ger and fed up - on milk, who re - ceived  
 cir - cum - ci - sion and was car - ried by Sim - e - on. Not in fan - cy, nor in  
 im - ag - in - a - tion, but in ve - ry truth has he ap - peared to the world.  
 Let us cry out to him: Glo - ry to you, O Pre - e - ter - nal God!

**Cantor** Now and ever...

**Theotokion**

He who is an - cient of days and young in the flesh is be - ing brought  
 to the Tem - ple by his vir - gin Moth - er. He ful - fills the prom - ise  
 of his own law. Sim - e - on re - ceives him and says: Now you  
 may dis - miss your ser - vant, ac - cord - ing to your word, in peace,  
 for my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, O Lord.

### Aposticha

*Tone 7 samohlasen*

①



A-dorn your brid-al cham-ber, O Zi-on, and wel-come Christ the King.




Wel-come Mar-y, the gate of heav-en, for she has appeared as a



che-ru-bic throne on which the King of Glo-ry is seat-ed. In-deed,



the Virgin has become a cloud of light, bear-ing in her arms the e-ter-nal



Son. Sim-e-on received him in his arms and pro-claimed to the people



that he is the Mas-ter, the Mas-ter of life and death, and the



Sav-ior of the world.

*Cantor*



Now you may dismiss your servant, O Lord, ac-cord-ing to your word, in peace.



The all-pure Moth-er carried in-to the Tem-ple the One who comes forth from



the Father in all e - ter - ni - ty and from the womb of a Vir-gin in time.



The Law-mak-er of Mount Sinai sub-mits to the Law and is pre - sent-ed



to the elderly and ho - ly one so that he may see the Prom-ised One.



When Sim-eon received him in his arms, he joy-ful-ly cried out:

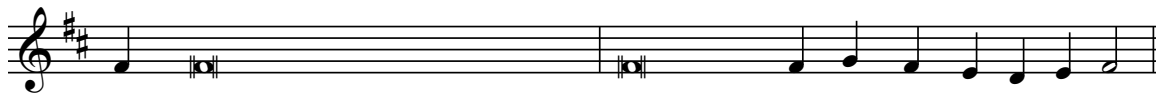


This is God, co-eternal with the Fa-ther, and the Sav - ior of



our souls.

*Cantor*



A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your peo-ple, Is - ra - el.



Mar-y, the Moth-er of God, carried in her arms the Lord who rides the



char-i - ot of the Cher-u-bim and is praised with the hymns of the Ser-a-phim.



He was in-car-nate of her with-out hu-man seed; he is the Law-giver who



fulfills the precepts of the Law. She hand-ed him over into the arms of



the aged priest. Hold-ing the Life in per-son, Sim-e-on asked



to be delivered of his pres-ent life, say-ing: Dis-miss me now, O Master, that I



may tell Ad-am how my eyes have seen the e-ter-nal God who was



made man without under-go-ing change, and who brought a-bout the



sal - va - tion of the world.

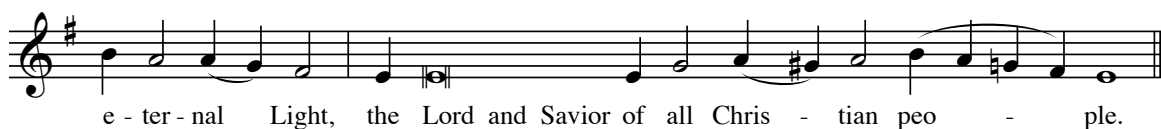
**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Glory...

**Doxastikon of the Encounter - Tone 8 samohlasen**



He who rides on the Cherubim and is praised by the Ser - a-phim is now be-ing

brought into the holy Tem-ple ac-cord-ing to the Law. He is sit-ting in the arms  
of an old man as though up-on a throne. From Jo-seph he receives God-pleasing  
gifts, a pair of tur-tle-doves, and from the newly-chosen people of the  
Gen-tiles, an un-de-filed Church. The two doves indicate that he is the head of  
the two Testaments, both Old and New. As for Sim-on, when he saw what had  
been re-vealed come to pass, he re-ceived the child and blessed the vir-gin  
Moth-er of God, point-ing out to her the sufferings that she would bear.  
He asked the Lord to be re-leased from life, say-ing: Now you may dismiss  
me, O Lord, as you have prom-ised; for my eyes have seen you, the



e - ter - nal Light, the Lord and Savior of all Chris - tian peo - ple.

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

**Of the Holy Ascetics - Tone 8 samohlasen**



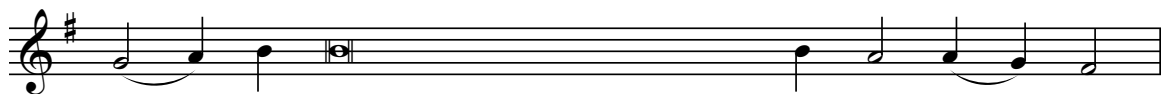
We hon - or all you monas - tics, you ho - ly ones; you are our spir - it - ual guides;



from you we have learned to walk on the nar - row path. Bless - ed are you,



for you have served Christ, break - ing the pow - er of the En - e - my;



you are the companions of the angels, the just and ho - ly ones.



To - gether with them, entreat the Lord to have mer - cy on our souls.

**Troparion of the Meeting - Tone 1 (sung twice)**



Re - joyce, The - o - to - kos, Vir - gin full of grace; for from you has shone forth



the Sun of Jus - tice, Christ our God, en - light - en - ing those who are in

dark - ness. Re-joyce al - so, you just el - der; you re-ceived in  
 your arms the liber-a - tor of our souls, who grants us res - ur - rec - tion.

**Troparion of Cheesehare Saturday - Tone 4**

God of our fa - thers, you always deal with us in your kind - ness. Take not  
 your mer-cy a-way from us; but through their pray'rs guide our life in peace.

*Blessing of Bread, p. 119*