

## Vesper Propers, September 1

**The Beginning of the Church Year (“Indiction”).** The First Ecumenical Council (325) decreed that the Church’s year should begin on September 1. The lunar month corresponding to September on the Jewish calendar was the beginning of the civil year (cf Exodus 12:2); it was at this time that our Lord Jesus went into the synagogue at Nazareth and read the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...to proclaim ‘the acceptable year of the Lord.’” (Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4: 16-21).

**Our venerable father Simeon the Stylite and his mother.** Simeon lived near Antioch in Syria. He was a monk, who lived for many years standing atop a column (in Greek, a *stylus*), hence he received the nickname "Stylite." His life and admirable conversation were remarkable. (459)

**Day of Supplication for the Environment.** Patriarch Demetrios I made September 1 a day of special prayer and supplication for the environment.

**Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God of Miasena.**

**The holy martyr Acithalas,** who suffered in Persia. (380)

**The forty holy women martyred with their instructor, Ammon the deacon,** during the time of the emperor Licinius at Heraclea in Thrace (313).

**The holy martyr Callista and her two brothers, Evodius and Hermogenes,** who were martyred in Nicomedia. (309)

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

*Psalm 140, Tone 1, page 24*

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

**Stichera of the Indiction**

*Tone 1 podoben: Nebesnych činov*

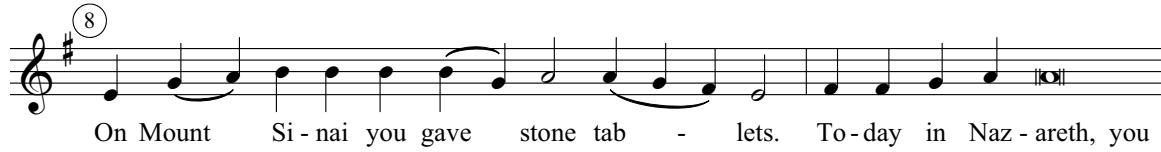
We pray to the Cre - a - tor to - day with the words giv - en us by Christ,  
who taught us to pray each day: Our Fa-ther, who are in heav - en,  
give us this day our dai - ly bread, and o - ver - look



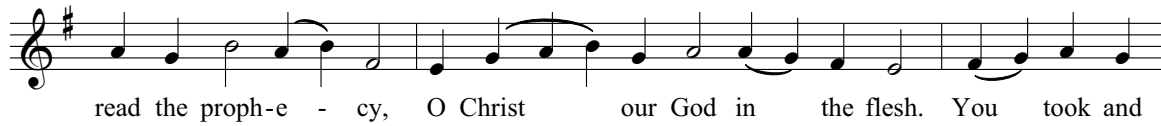
all our sins.

**Cantor:** Around me the just will assemble  
(on 9) because of your goodness to me. *All repeat "We pray to the Creator..."*

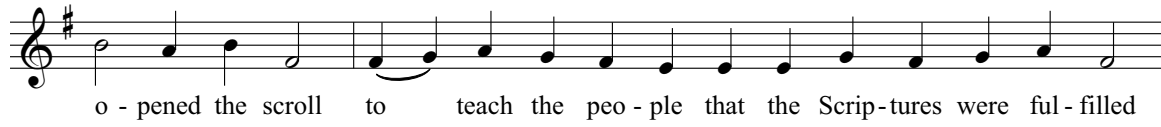
**Cantor:** Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**  
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!



On Mount Si-nai you gave stone tab - lets. To-day in Naz - areth, you



read the proph-e - cy, O Christ our God in the flesh. You took and



o - pened the scroll to teach the peo - ple that the Scrip-tures were ful - filled



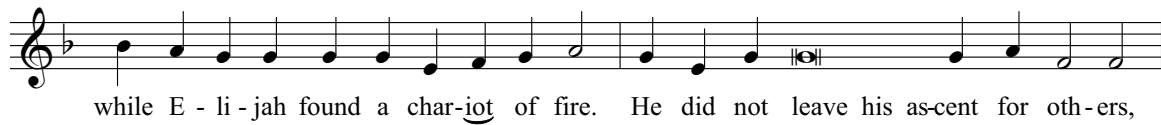
in your - self.

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

**Stichera of our Venerable Father Simeon the Stylite - Tone 5 samohlasen**



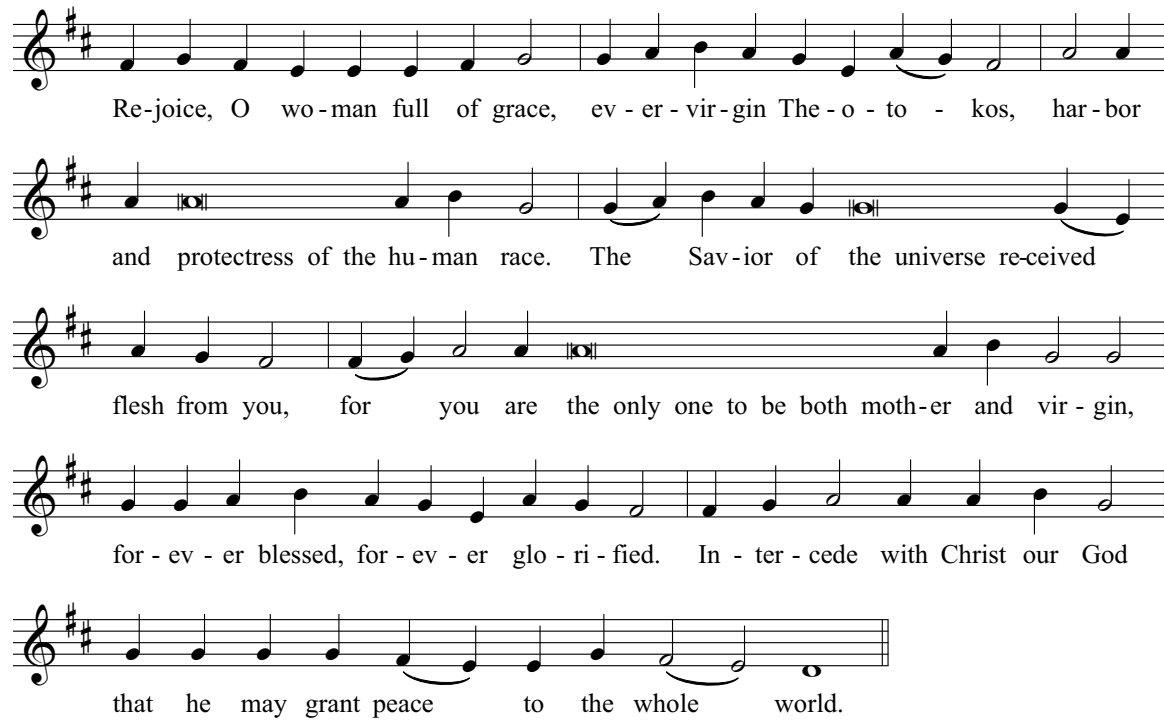
O ven - er - a - ble Fa-ther, you found a beautiful lad-der in - to heav - en,



while E - li - jah found a char-iot of fire. He did not leave his as-cent for oth-ers,

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

**Theotokion - Tone 7**

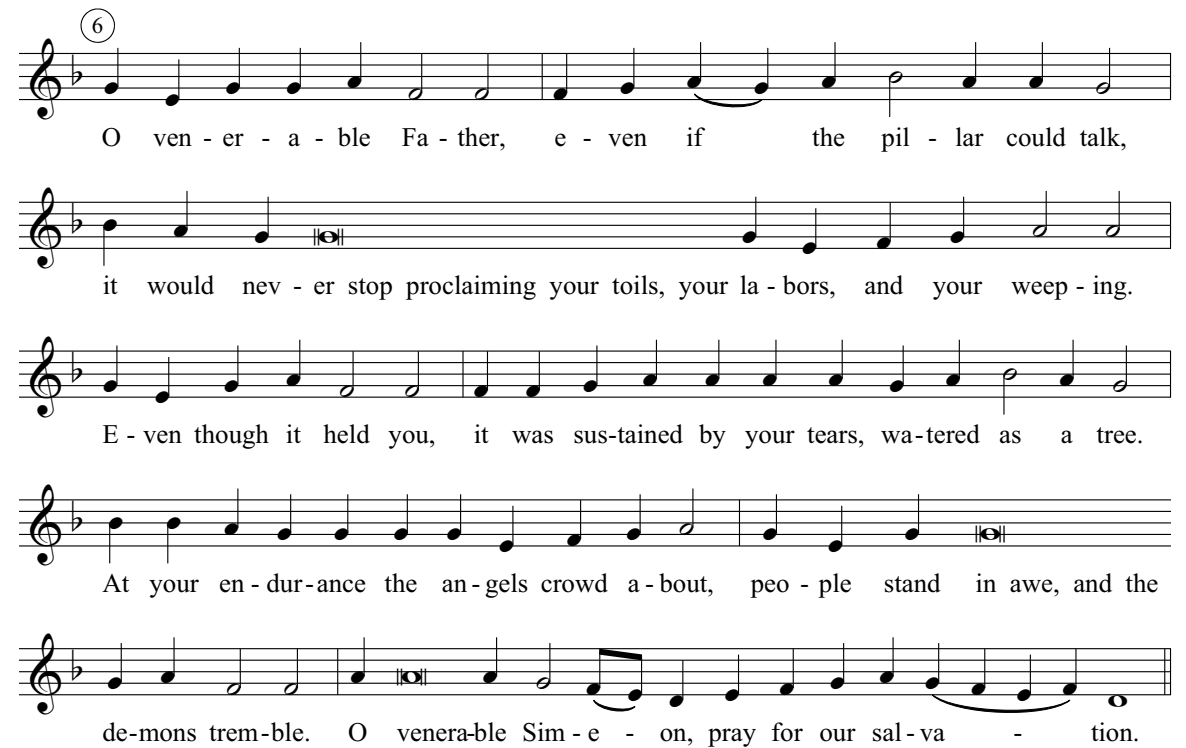


Re-joyce, O wo-man full of grace, ev - er - vir-gin The - o - to - kos, har - bor  
and protectress of the hu-man race. The Sav-ior of the universe re-ceived  
flesh from you, for you are the only one to be both moth-er and vir - gin,  
for - ev - er blessed, for - ev - er glo - ri - fied. In - ter - cede with Christ our God  
that he may grant peace to the whole world.



but af - ter death, however, you have left your pil - lar. O heav-enly man  
and earth - ly an - gel, ev - er - watch - ful beacon to the whole world,  
O venera-ble Sim - e - on, pray for our sal - va - - - tion.

**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 ven - er - a - ble Fa - ther, e - ven if the pil - lar could talk,  
it would nev - er stop proclaiming your toils, your la - bors, and your weep - ing.  
E - ven though it held you, it was sus-tained by your tears, wa-tered as a tree.  
At your en - dur-ance the an-gels crowd a - bout, peo - ple stand in awe, and the  
de-mons trem-ble. O venera-ble Sim - e - on, pray for our sal - va - - - tion.

**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.

5

O ven - er - a - ble Fa - ther, by the might of the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 you im - i - tat - ed your Mas - ter, as on a cross you ascend - ed the pil - lar.  
 The Lord erased the condemna - tion writ - ten a - gainst us, you de - stroyed the  
 rise of pas - sions. The Lord was a lamb, and you a vic - tim; the Lord  
 was on a cross, and you on a pil - lar. O vena - ble Sim - e - on, pray for  
 our sal - va - - - tion.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Let the watchman count on daybreak,  
 (on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

4

From the good root has come forth the most ex - cel - lent Sim - e - on; from his  
 in - fan - cy he was nourished more on grace than on milk. In his bod - y he dwelt  
 up - on the high place, but in his spir - it he was raised e - ven high - er to God.

times and sea - sons, bless this year with your boun - ty, pre - serve  
 our country in safety, and keep your peo - ple in peace, save us through the  
 pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos. (sung twice)

**Cantor:** (Tone 1) Glory...

**Troparion of Simeon the Stylite - Tone 1**

You be - came a col - umn of endurance and rivaled the forefathers, O ho - ly one,  
 be - com - ing like Job in your sufferings and like Jo - seph in your trials,  
 like the bod - i - less an - gels, though you lived in the flesh.  
 O Si - me - on, our ho - ly fath - er, in - ter - cede with Christ our God  
 that he may save our souls.

of us sinners as we pray for sal - va - tion. O Lov - er of us all,  
 grant your a - bundance to the earth with temperate and mild weath - er.  
 Fight with the faith - ful against all enemy attacks as you helped Da - vid;  
 for they have en - tered the tabernacle and defiled your most ho - ly place, O Sav - ior.  
 But grant vic - tory over them, O Christ our God, through the pray'rs of the  
 The - o - to - kos, for you are the victory and boast of Chris - tians  
 of the true faith.

**Troparia**

**Troparion of the Indiction - Tone 2**

O Lord, mak - er of the u - ni - verse, who a - lone has power o - ver

Through his vir - tues he edified his loft - y dwell - ing. He jour - neyed  
 in high places with the pow - ers of heav - en, and he be - came a dwelling place of Christ  
 our God, the Sav - ior of 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.

<sup>3</sup>  
 You shall be re - mem - bered for - ev - er, O ven - er - a - ble Fa - ther Sim - e - on;  
 you were pleas - ing to God In the kind - ness of your heart, O bless - ed one.  
 E - ven if you have passed from us, O good shep - herd, you did not leave us in  
 spir - it, but stand be - fore God in love, and have joined the an - gels in  
 heav - en. To - geth - er with them, plead for our sal - va - tion.

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

②

The tomb of your relics, O bless-ed Fa - ther, is a foun-tain of  
 heal - ing, and your ho - ly soul rightly rejoices with the an - gels.  
 O ven - erable Father, as you have confidence be - fore the Lord  
 and have joined the an - gels, plead with him for our sal - va - tion.

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

①

O God-bear-ing Fa - ther, you loved the high-est know - ledge  
 and lived out - side the world above vis - i - ble things. You be-came an untarn-ished  
 mir - ror of God, and ev - er u - nit - ed to the Light,  
 you kept on re-ceiv-ing light, with clear-er insight attain-ing bless-ed per-fec - tion.  
 O wise Sim - e - on, pray for our souls.

Bless the be-gin-ning of the year by your good - ness, and through the pray'rs of  
 the Theotokos, over-throw all her - e - sy; for you are good and the Lov-er of us all.

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Glory...

**Doxastikon of Simeon - Tone 5 samohlasen**

O ven-er - a - ble Fa-ther, you found a beautiful lad-der in - to heav - en,  
 while E - li - jah found a char-iot of fire. He did not leave his as-cent for oth-ers,  
 but af - ter death, however, you have left your pil - lar. O heav-enly man  
 and earth - ly an - gel, ev - er - watch - ful beacon to the whole world,  
 O venera-ble Sim - e - on, pray for our sal - va - - - tion.

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

**Theotokion of the Indiction - Tone 5**

O King, you are eternal and re-main for - ev - er. Re - ceive the petitions

op - er - a - tion, by your in - fin - ite power you made your home in our world.  
 Be - yond understanding and with-out chang - ing your di - vin - i - ty,  
 You were born of a vir - gin moth - er; You came to seek your cre - a - tion  
 whom you had a-dorned with beau - ty; and you set the times and circumstances  
 for our sal - va - tion. There-fore, we shout to you: O Good Mas - ter,  
 glo - ry to you!

*Cantor*

You crown the year with your good - ness.  
 In wis-dom you cre - at - ed all things, O Word of the Father be-fore  
 all ag - es; by your al - might - y word you ar-ranged all cre - a - tion.

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

**Doxastikon of Simeon - Tone 6**

Di-vine grace hovered over your relics, O ho - ly Sim - e - on. We will hasten  
 towards the sweet fragrance of your mir-a-cles, draw-ing from them the heal - ing of  
 ill-ness-es. O venerable Father, plead with Christ our God for our souls.

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

**Theotokion of the Indiction - Tone 6**

O e - ter - nal Word and Son, to - gether with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 Cre - a - tor and Maker of all things vis-i - ble and in - vis - i - ble,  
 bless the be - gin - ning of the year, keep in peace all the faith - ful,  
 through the pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos and all your saints.

**Readings:** Isaiah 61:1 - 9  
 Leviticus 26: 3 - 24  
 Wisdom 4: 7 - 15

# Aposticha

*Tone 1*

①

We have come to the be-gin-ning of the year, gath-er-ing to hon-or these saints:  
Cal - lis - ta and her brothers, Evod and Her-mo - ge - nes; Sim - e - on, e - qual  
to the an - gels, and Josh - u - a, the son of Nun; the sev - en  
child - ren of Eph - e - sus, and the for - ty ho - ly wo - men.  
O lov - ers of feasts, sharing in their re-mem - brance, with in - sis - tence we cry out:  
O Lord, bless the works of your hands, and make us wor - thy to pass this year  
in spir - it - u - al prog - ress.

*Cantor*

To you our praise is due in Zi - on, O God.

②

O Christ our God, you created all things in your wis - dom, and brought  
them from nothingness in - to be - ing. Now bless the be-gin-ning of the year  
and keep our cit - y free from harm; and in your mer - cy grant peace and happiness to  
all the faith - ful, grant - ing to the world great mer - cy through the  
pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos.

*Cantor*

*Tone 2*

We are filled with the bless - ings of your house.

*Tone 2 samohlasen*

③

You are won - derful, O God, and won - drous are your deeds. Your ways  
are un - search - a - ble; you are the wis - dom of God, perfect per - son and pow - er.  
For though with - out be - gin - ning, and e - qual in eternity and