

**Divine Liturgy, December 13, 2009**  
**SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY**  
**Sunday of the Forefathers**

The holy martyrs Eustratius, Auxentius, Eugene, Mardarius, and Orestes, who gave their lives for Christ in Armenia.

**Hymn**

*melody: Mendelssohn ("Hark! The herald angels sing")*



1. Let us now praise fa - mous men, tell their stor - ies once a - gain.  
2. Those were hon - ored in their age— priest and mon - arch, proph - et, sage—  
3. These, the god - ly ones, we praise, who en - dured the dark - est days,



Rul - ing king - doms in their might, known for val - or in men's sight.  
And have left be - hind a name, which their chil - dren e'er can claim.  
Cov - en - ant - ed, Lord, with You, and Whose grace has seen them through.



Those with coun - sel true and wise, those who saw with proph - et's eyes—  
Oth - ers, though, have run this race, van - ished, leav - ing not a trace,  
All our hymns of praise we bring for their stead - fast - ness, O King!



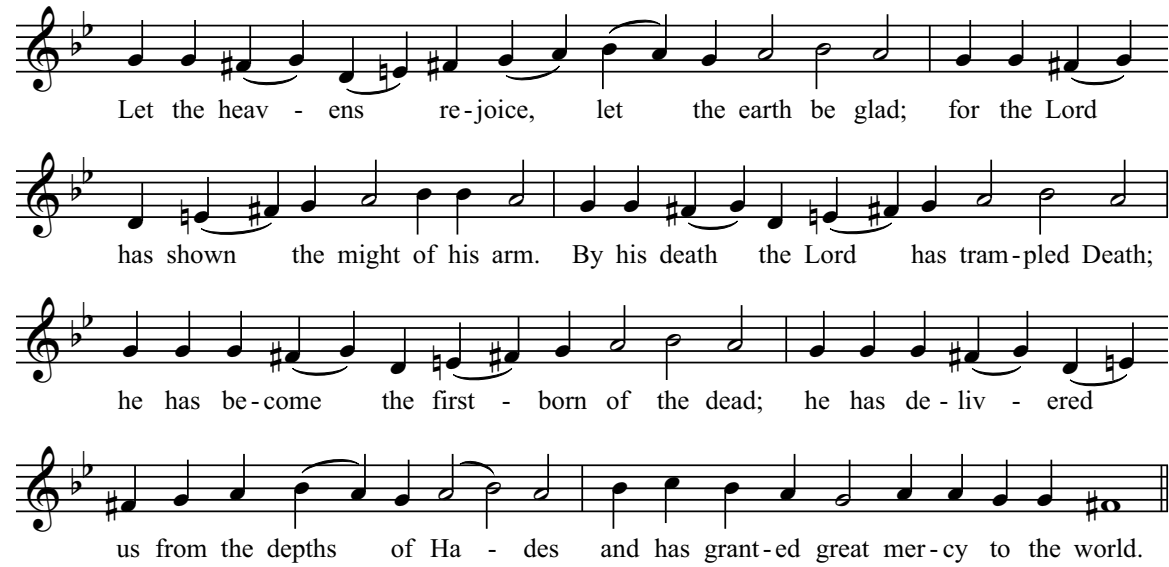
Those who wrote the psalms we sing; those who taught the sage and king.  
As if they had nev - er been, they and chil - dren af - ter them.  
From their seed, up - on this earth, You have tak - en hum - ble birth.



For their gifts and wit - ness, Lord, we sing praise with one ac - cord.

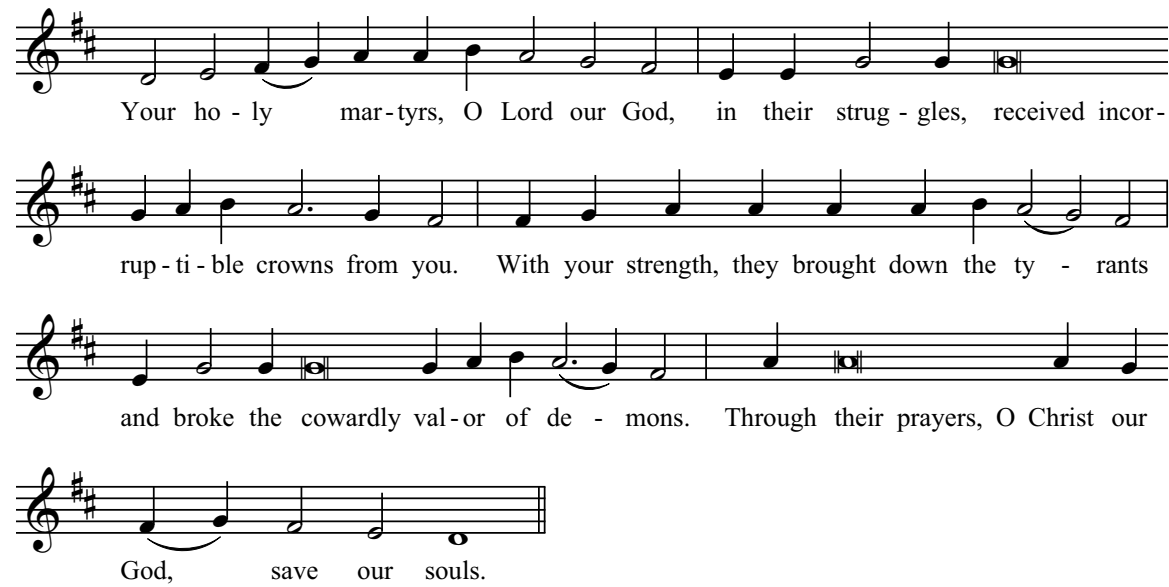
*Text based on Ecclesiasticus 44: 1-10, 13-14*

**Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 3**



Let the heav - ens re-joyce, let the earth be glad; for the Lord  
 has shown the might of his arm. By his death the Lord has tram-pled Death;  
 he has be-come the first - born of the dead; he has de - liv - ered  
 us from the depths of Ha - des and has grant-ed great mer-cy to the world.

**Troparion of the Martyrs - Tone 4**

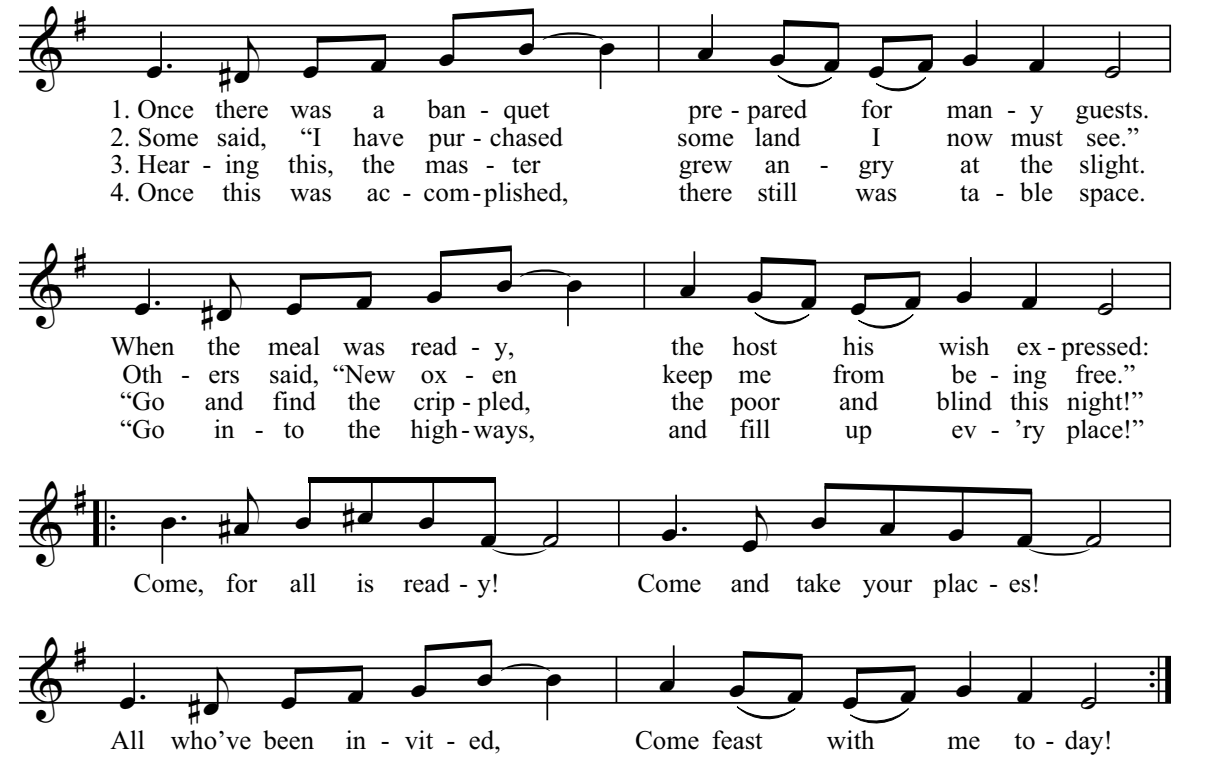


Your ho - ly mar-tyrs, O Lord our God, in their strug - gles, received incor-  
 rup-ti-ble crowns from you. With your strength, they brought down the ty - rants  
 and broke the cowardly val-or of de - mons. Through their prayers, O Christ our  
 God, save our souls.

*On this day, the Gospel of the 28th Sunday after Pentecost is sung:*

**Hymn**

*melody: Prizri, O Marije / Mary, look upon us*



1. Once there was a ban - quet pre - pared for man - y guests.  
 2. Some said, "I have pur - chased some land I now must see."  
 3. Hear - ing this, the mas - ter grew an - gry at the slight.  
 4. Once this was ac - com-plished, there still was ta - ble space.

When the meal was read - y, the host his wish ex - pressed:  
 Oth - ers said, "New ox - en keep me from be - ing free."  
 "Go and find the crip - pled, the poor and blind this night!"  
 "Go in - to the high-ways, and fill up ev - 'ry place!"

Come, for all is read - y! Come and take your plac - es!  
 All who've been in - vit - ed, Come feast with me to - day!

*Text based on Luke 14: 16-24*

*Tune: traditional Rusyn melody*

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.

**Communion Hymn for Sunday (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!

**Communion Hymn for the Forefathers (Psalm 32:1):**

Re - jice 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!

*The Communion Hymns for the martyrs is the same as that for the Forefathers (Psalm 32:1).*

**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**

You did not wor - ship a man-made im-age, O thrice - bless'd youths. You armed yourselves with uncreat-ed di - vin - i - ty. You were glo - ri - fied in the

trial by fire. With - stand - ing the flames, you stood and called out:  
Has - ten, O compassionate God, and hurry to help us in your mer - cy.  
For you can do what - ev - er you will.

**Prokeimenon of the Forefathers - Tone 4** (Daniel 3:26,27):

Bless-ed are you and praise-wor-thy, O Lord, the God of our Fa - thers,  
and glo - ri - ous for - ev - er is your name.

*Verse:* For you are just in all that you have done for us.

*And then immediately:*

**Prokeimenon of the Martyrs - Tone 4** (Psalm 15:3):

To all the saints in his land, the Lord has shown all the  
won - ders of his will.

**Alleluia of the Forefathers - Tone 4** (Psalm 98:6):

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

*Verse:* Moses and Aaron were among his priests;

Samuel was among those who called upon his name.

*Verse:* They called upon the Lord and he answered them.

*Additional verses for the martyrs:* (Psalm 33: 18,20):

*Verse:* When the righteous cried out, the Lord heard; and from all distress he saved them.

[*Verse:* Many are the troubles of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.]

**Cherubic Hymn**

*Melody: O kto, kto*

Let us, who mys-tic-'ly rep-re-sent the cher-u-bim, and sing the thrice-ho-ly  
hymn to the life-cre-at-ing, life-cre-at-ing Trin-i-ty,  
now set a-side all earth-ly cares.

*After the commemorations:*

A - men. That we may re-ceive the King of All, in - vis - i - bly  
es - cort - ed by an - gel - ic hosts. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!