

Vesper Propers, December 13, 2009  
Sunday of the Forefathers

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

Supplement for *The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006*

*Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 3, p. 48), stichera 10-8.*

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

**Stichera of the Forefathers - Tone 8 samohlasen**

⑦



To-day we commemo-rate the an-ces-tors of Christ. Sing with fer-vor  
a hymn of praise to Christ the Sav-ior who ex-alt-ed them among all  
na-tions. He is the Lord who does won-drous deeds, be-cause he is  
pow-er-ful and might-y. From them he brought forth a roy-al scep-ter,  
the im-mac-ulate maiden of God and vir-gin Ma-ry. From her, Christ our God  
came forth to give life and e-ter-nal sal-va-tion to all.

**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.

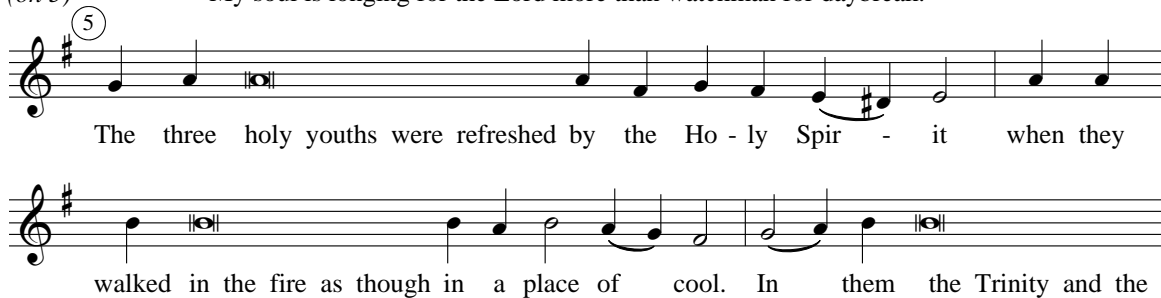
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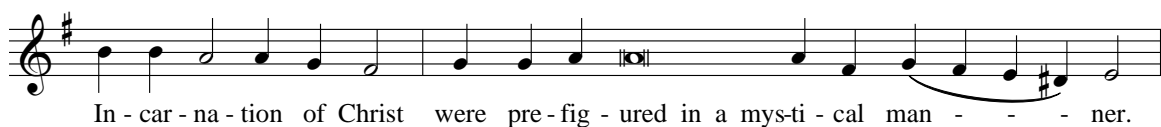
O Lord and Mas - ter, you res - cued the three ho - ly youths from the fire.  
 You saved Dan - iel from the li - ons' mouths; you blessed A - braham, Isaac your  
 serv - ant, and Ja - cob his son. You willed to be like one of us by  
 choos - ing to be born from them in or - der that you might save our Fore - fa - thers  
 who had fall - en. By your cross and resurrection you tore a - part the bonds  
 of death. You raised up all those who for ages had been a - mong the dead,  
 and who bow to you, O Christ, the e - ter - nal King.

**Cantor:** My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word.  
 (on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

5



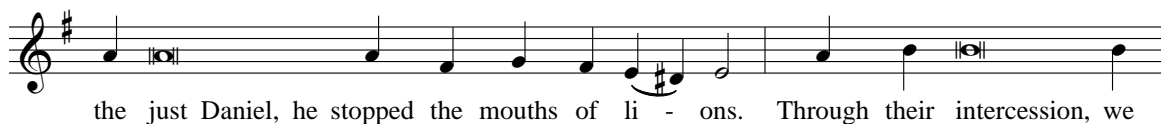
The three holy youths were refreshed by the Ho - ly Spir - it when they  
 walked in the fire as though in a place of cool. In them the Trinity and the



In - car - na - tion of Christ were pre - fig - ured in a mys - ti - cal man - - - ner.



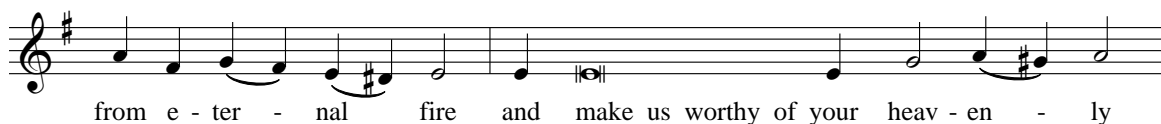
By their wis - dom and strength they o - ver - came the pow - er of fire. As for



the just Daniel, he stopped the mouths of li - ons. Through their intercession, we



be - seech you: O Sav ior and Lov - er of us all, pro - tect us



from e - ter - nal fire and make us worthy of your heav - en - ly



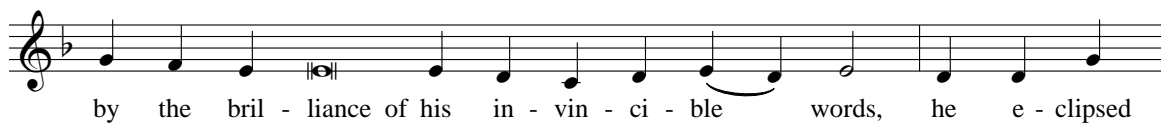
King - - - dom.

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

**Stichera of the holy martyrs - Tone 4 podoben: Dal jesi znamenie**



The mem - o - ry of your holy mar - tyr Eu - stra - tius, O Lord, shines like the sun;



by the bril - liance of his in - vin - ci - ble words, he e - clipsed



the multi-tude of false gods. As a house without foundations is brought down,



so did he o - ver-come them by his faith and was joined by four other martyrs as

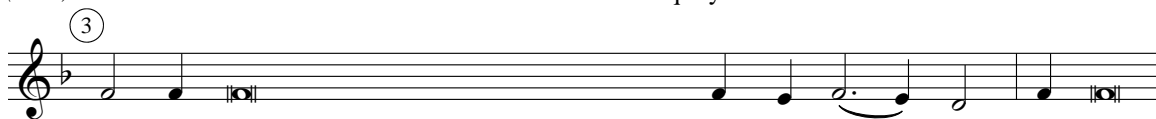


his com-pan - ions. Through their prayers, O Lover of us all, grant us the re-mis-sion



of our sins.

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



By their words, the sufferings of their lives and their pri - va - tions, the holy



martyrs showed You their unshakable de - di - ca - tion e - ven to the end:



O - res-tes and Mar-da - ri - us joined the wise Eustratius, Auxen-tius and Eu-gene,



in their glo-ri-ous strug - gle. Through their prayers, O Lord, save our souls.

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

*Tone 4 podobn: Jako dobl'a*

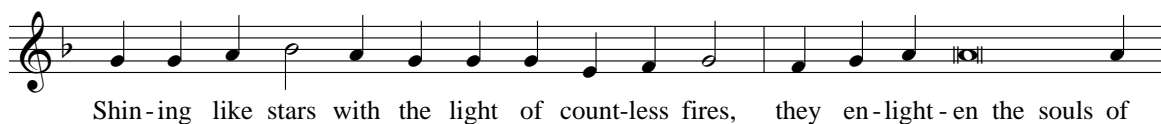
②

Eu - stra - ti - us, fight - ing the good fight for the King of Heav - en's hosts,  
you han - ded your - self o - ver will - ing - ly to the tor - ments and ag - o - ny  
of death, lead - ing with you a blessed es - cort of ho - ly mar - tyr - s.  
In com - pa - ny with them, you strug - gled and all re - ceived the crowns as  
vic - tors. O wond - rous mar - tyr, in - ter - cede for us.

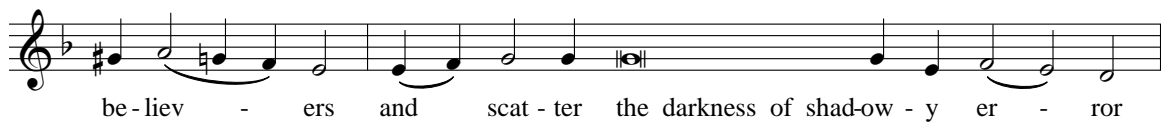
**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

①

Eu - stra - tius, wise in God; Au - xen - tius, with a no - ble heart;  
Eu - gene and Mar - da - ri - us, the il - lus - trious mar - tyr - s, vic - torious to - ge - ther with  
O - res - tes, have all put the En - e - my to flight.



Shin-ing like stars with the light of count-less fires, they en-light-en the souls of



be-liev - ers and scat - ter the darkness of shad-ow - y er - ror



by the ra-diance of the Ho - ly Spi - rit.

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

**Doxastikon of the Forefathers - Tone 6 samohlasen**



O be-liev - ers, let us give praise to - day to all the Fathers who lived be - fore



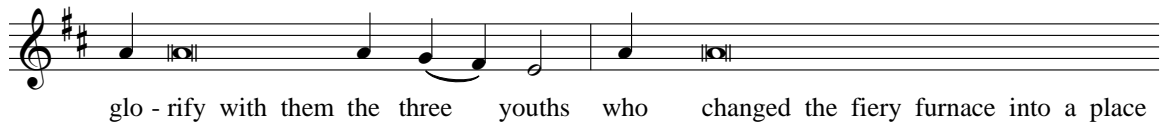
the Law: A - bra - ham who was be - loved by God; I - saac,



who was born according to the Prom - ise; Ja - cob and the Twelve Pa - tri - archs;



the ver - y meek David and the fa - vored proph - et Dan - iel. Let us al - so



glo - rify with them the three youths who changed the fiery furnace into a place

of re-fresh-ing dew. Let us beg forgiveness of our sins from Christ our God,  
 who is glo - ri - fied in his saints.

**Cantor:** (Tone 3) Now and ever...

*Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week (Tone 3, page 53).*

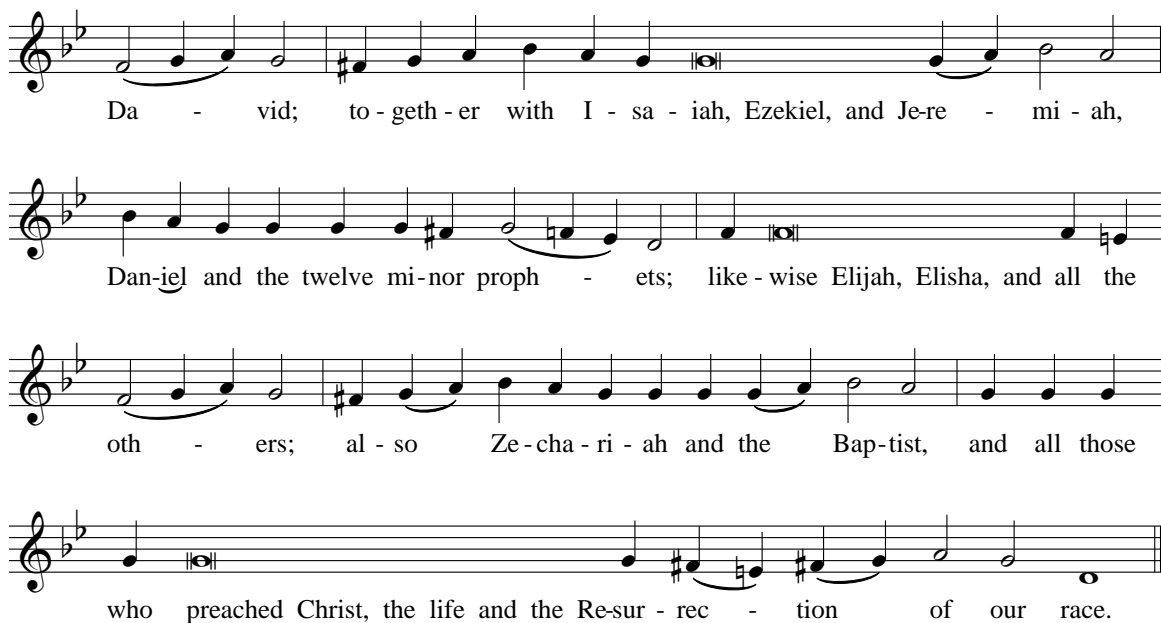
### Aposticha

*Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 3, p. 54), concluding with*

**Cantor:** (Tone 3) Glory...

**Aposticha doxastikon of the Forefathers - Tone 3 samohlasen**

Come, O lov-ers of the feast, let us sing a hymn of praise to the  
 assembly of the Fore - fa - thers: Ad - am, the father of the hu-man race,  
 E - noch, No - ah, Mel - chisedek, Abraham, Isaac, and Ja - cob. Let us  
 al - so honor those who came af - ter the Law: Mo - ses, Aaron, Joshua, Sam-uel and



Da - vid; to - geth - er with I - sa - iah, Eze - kiel, and Je - re - mi - ah,  
 Dan - iel and the twelve mi - nor proph - ets; like - wise Elijah, Elisha, and all the  
 oth - ers; al - so Ze - cha - ri - ah and the Bap - tist, and all those  
 who preached Christ, the life and the Re - sur - rec - tion of our race.

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

*Aposticha theotokion in the same tone (Tone 3, p. 55).*

## Troparia

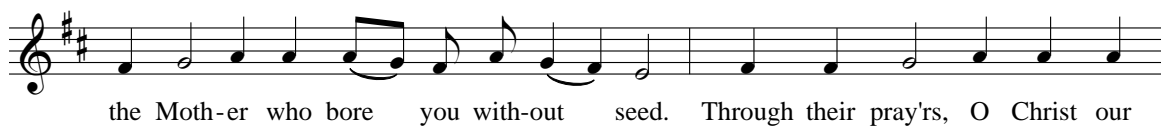
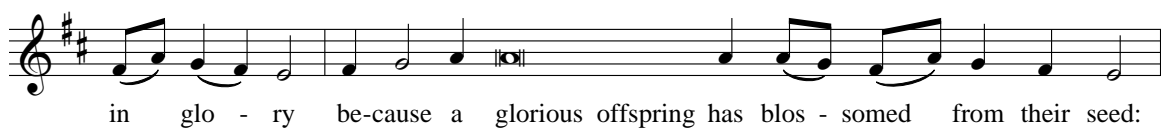
*Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the week (Tone 3, p. 57).*

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

**Troparion of the Forefathers - Resurrection 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-joyce



**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Now and ever...

**Troparion of the holy martyrs - Resurrection Tone 4**

