

Vesper Propers, August 29, 2010
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

THE BEHEADING OF THE HOLY PROPHET, FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST JOHN

Because John had denounced Herod Antipas for putting away his own wife and marrying the wife of his brother Philip, Herod imprisoned John. At a feast in honor of Herod's birthday, his stepdaughter Salome danced for him. Herod promised her anything; her mother Herodias told her to ask for the head of John on a platter. This martyrdom is commemorated on this day because a church was dedicated on this day to the Forerunner's beheading by the emperor Constantine and his mother Helena.

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

Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 69), stichera 10-7.

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.

Stichera of the Beheading - Tone 6 samohlasen

⑥ ⑤

While the birth-day of the shameless Herod was be-ing ob-served, the oath made to
the lustful dan-cer was ful - filled; the head of the Fore - run-ner was cut off
and of - fered to those at ta - ble. What a loath-some ban - quet, filled with
wick-edness and hor - ri - ble mur - der. As for us, let us worthily venerate
and bless the Bap-tiz - er, for he is the great - est man born of wo - man.

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 "While the birthday of the shameless Herod..."

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

4 3

Aft - er danc - ing, the disciple of the all - e - vil Sa - tan re - quested your head as
her payment, O Fore - run - er. What a blood - y ban - quet!
Would that you had not made that vow, O sinful Herod, off - spring of a lie.
Since you did make it, would that you had not car - ried it out, for it
would have been better to have gone back on your oath and re - ceived life,
than re - main - ing true to your oath to have cut off the head
of the Fore - run - ner. As for us, let us worthily venerate and bless the
Bap - tiz - er, for he is the great - est man born of wo - man.

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

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

②

O Her-od, it was not appro-pri-ate for you, be - cause of a satanic passion,
to con-demn to death the one who reproached you for your a - dul - ter - y
and the fol - ly of your lust for wo - men. It was not prop-er for you to err
and to de - liv - er his all-honored head to a sin - ful wo - man for the
sake of a vow made to a dan - cer. Woe to you for daring such mur - der!
How was it that this a-dul - t'rous dan - cer was not consumed by fire
in the midst of the ban - quet, as she carried the head on a plat - ter?
As for us, let us worthily venerate and bless the Bap - tiz - er,

for he is the great - est man born of wo - man.

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

A - gain Herodias has lost her self - con - trol; she is a - gain dis - turbed.

What a cun-ning and de-ceiv-ing dance, and what mind-less drunk-en-ness!

The Forerunner's head is cut off and Her-od is troub - led. There-fore, O Lord, by

the inter-ces-sions of your Fore-run - ner, grant peace

to our souls.

Cantor: Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

While the birth-day of the shameless Herod was be-ing ob-served, the oath made to

the lustful dan-cer was ful - filled; the head of the Fore - run-ner was cut off

and of - fered to those at ta - ble. What a loath - some ban - quet, filled with
 wick - edness and hor - ri - ble mur - der. As for us, let us worthily venerate
 and bless the Bap - tiz - er, for he is the great - est man born of wo - man.

Cantor: (Tone 5) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week (Tone 5, page 76).

Readings: Composite IX (see *Festal Menaion, Appendix A*)
 Composite X
 Composite III

Litija

Tone 1 Bolhar

①
 What shall we call you, O Proph - et? An an - gel, an a - pos - tle,
 or mar - tyr? An an - gel, be - cause you lived as a bod - i - less be - ing;
 an a - pos - tle, be - cause you taught the na - tions; a mar - tyr, be - cause

you were be-head - ed for Christ. En-treat him to have mer - cy
on our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 5) Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon - Tone 5 Bolhar

When Her - od wished to free him - self from the re-buke of his sin - ful deeds,
he de - liv - ered your head un - just - ly, O Fore-run - ner, to a
trans-gress - ing wo - man. Nor did this wretch-ed one re - al - ize that
of - fer - ing it on a plat - ter was a con-dem - na - tion for him.
There-fore, since you are a prac - tic - al teach - er of pur - i - ty
and a sav - ing guide to re-pent - - - ance, O Bap - tiz - er,
im-plore Christ to de - liv - er us from the shame of our pas - sions.

The service continues with the Litany of the Litija, p. 116.

Aposticha

Sunday aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 77), concluding with:

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory... now and ever...

Aposticha Doxastikon of the Beheading - Tone 8

You re-buked kings, O Forerunner of the Sav - ior, that they might not act
con - tra - ry to the law. But the fro - l - icking of a sin - ful wo - man
won o - ver Her - od to be - head you. There - fore, your name is praised
from the place of the rising to the place of the set - ting of the sun. And since you have
fa - vor with the Lord, be - seech him unceasing - ly for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Aposticha theotokion of Saturday evening in the same tone (Tone 8, p. 110).

Troparia

Troparion of the Resurrection, in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 80).

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Troparion of the Beheading - Tone 2

The mem - o - ry of the righteous is cel - e - brat - ed with praise, but for you,
O Forerunner, the Lord's tes - ti - mo - ny is e - nough. You were shown to be more
honora - ble than the proph - ets since you were deemed worthy to baptize in
the waters the Lord you had pro - claimed. There - fore, you fought for the truth
and with joy proclaimed the good news to those in Ha - des, that God
has ap - peared in the flesh to take a - way the sins of the world and to
grant us great mer - cy.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Festal theotokion in the same tone (Tone 2, p. 47).

If litija was celebrated: conclude with the Blessing of Bread, p. 119.