

Vesper Propers, December 12, 2010
Sunday of the Forefathers

The Theotokos of Guadalupe, who first appeared on Dec. 9, 1591 in Mexico to St. Juan Diego, bestowing on him an icon “not made with human hands,” requesting that a church be built in her honor on that mountain. Her shrine there is one of the most celebrated places of pilgrimage in the Americas. Pope John Paul II named her the Patroness of the Americas.

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006
Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 58), 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

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 - u late 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.

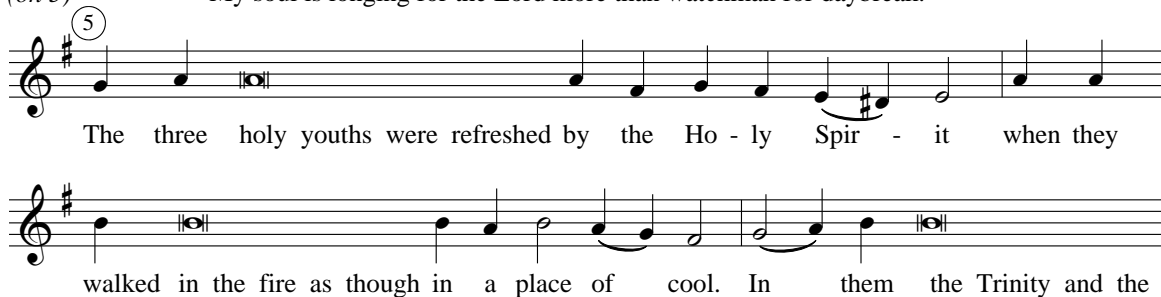
6



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



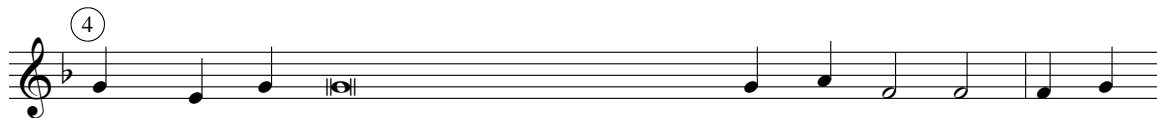
from e - ter - nal fire and make us worthy of your heav - en - ly



King - - - dom.

Cantor: (Tone 5) Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

Stichera of the Theotokos - Tone 5 samohlasen



Come, O faith - ful, let us rise early with humble Juan Di - e - go, and seek



Wis - dom where she is to be found.. She does not lie buried with the earth's gold



and sil - ver, nor deep be - neath the waves of the sea. But she



sits at the gates of our hearts, as on the hill of Te - pe - yac, say - ing:



“Praise the Lord of Hea - ven Who gives life to All!”

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



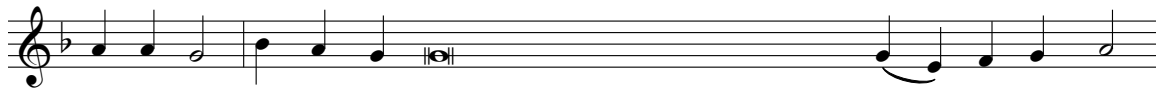
Where do you go at first light, O humble Juan Di - e - go? Do you seek the Tem-ple



of the Mys-te-ries? Do you look for the one Solomon sought from his youth?



Do you de - sire to take Her for your Bride? Go no fur - ther than your own

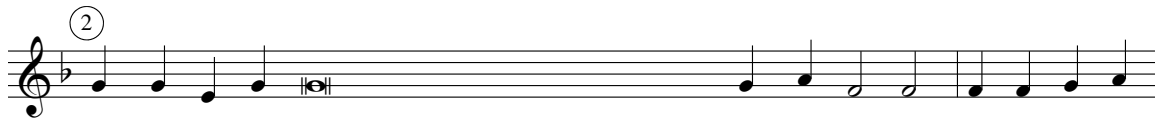


bar-ren hill and be - hold Paradise bowed down in the Maiden's form, as she cries:



“Praise the Lord of Hea - ven Who gives life to All!”

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



“Am I a - ris - ing from my sleep?” asked humble Juan Di - e - go, “Do I be-hold



what prophets and kings looked for but did not see? Do I stand in the earthly



paradise of which my par - ents dreamed? Have I en - tered the courts of Hea - ven?



Before me I see, treading the gras-ses of my own land, the one who is upborne by

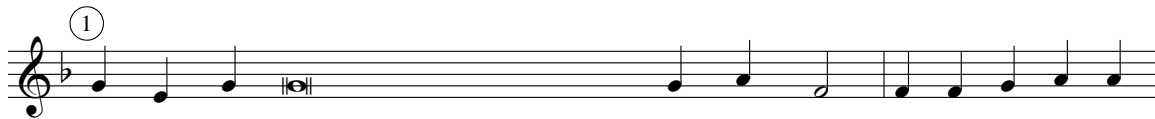


an - gels in her train; She says to me: “Praise the Lord of Hea - ven



Who gives life to All!”

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



A - mid the Mexican mesquite, the Rose of Sha - ron buds; on a bare hill-top,



the Li-ly of the Val - ley blooms. Streng-then our weak hands, O La - dy,

make firm our fee - ble knees, for our God has come to grant us great
mer - cy.

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 4) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week (Tone 4, page 64).

Readings: Genesis 28: 10 - 17 (EOT 304-305)

Ezekiel 43: 27 through 44: 4

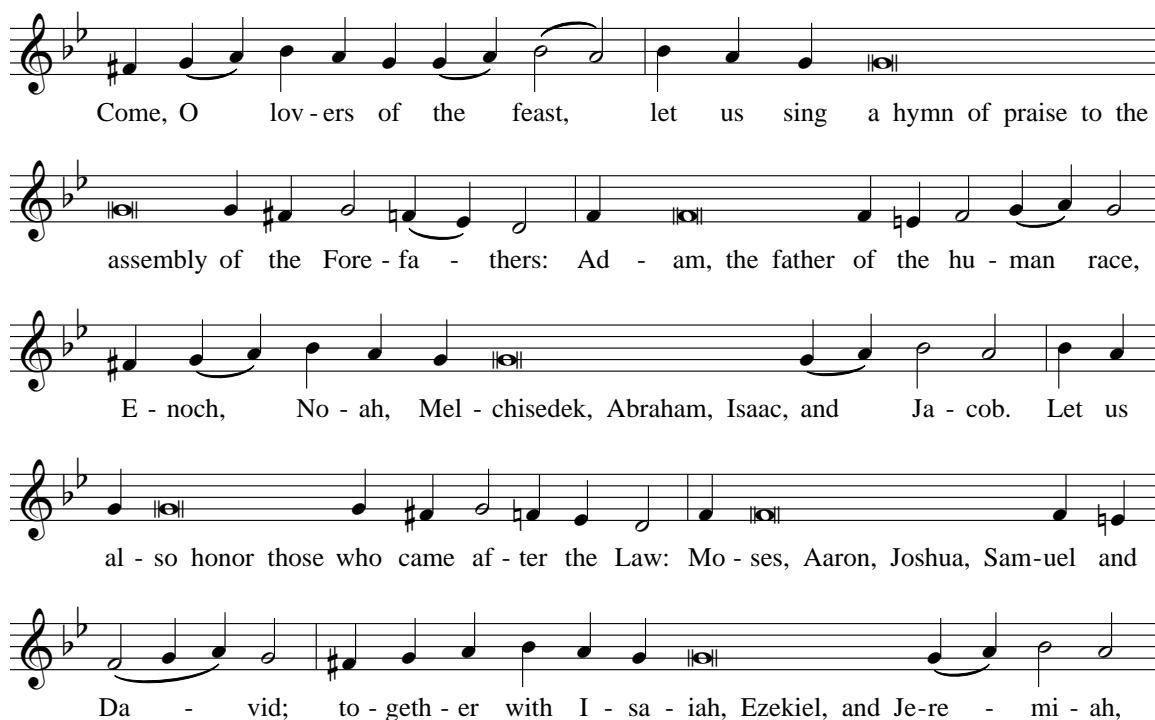
Proverbs 9: 1 - 11

Aposticha

Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 65), 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, Ezekiel, 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: (Tone 8) Now and ever...

Aposticha doxastikon of the Theotokos - Tone 8 samohlasen

“Lis-ten, my most be - lov - ed chil - dren; the things that afflict you are
 noth - ing! For I have given birth to the Conqueror of Ha - des, the Lord
 who re-moves the sting of Death. Let not your fa - ces be a - bashed
 nor your hearts be dis-turbed. Am I not here, I who am your Mo - ther?
 Are you not un - der my shadow and pro-tec - tion? Am I not the source of your joy?

Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the cross-ing of my arms? Do you need
 a - ny - thing more? Then return to the Lord and He will make all things new!"

Troparia

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the week (Tone 4, p. 68).

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Troparion of the Theotokos of Guadalupe - Tone 4

When you ap - peared in the New World, O The - o - to - kos, you fixed your
 im - age on Juan Diego's rose-lad-en til - ma. All the poor, hungry, and oppressed
 seek you, Lady of Gua - da - lu - pe. We gaze up - on your miraculous i - con
 and find hope, cry - ing out to your Son con - cealed in your womb:
 Hear our plea for jus - tice, O most mer - ci - ful Lord.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Now and ever...

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 - 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.