

Communion Hymns:

For the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (Ps. 33:9; music on p. 43):
Taste and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And for the Baptist (Ps. 32:1):

Re-joyce 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!

Propers for the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Wednesday in the Third Week of the Great Fast
February 24, 2016

The first and second findings of the head of the Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John.

Tradition tells us that the first finding was by two monks, in the palace of Herod the King. They brought the relic to the city of Emmesia. The second finding was much later, during the reign of the emperor Marcianus.

Supplement for The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (2009). Page numbers refer to the people's book with complete music.

Antiphonal psalms for Wednesday, p. 8. Then the beginning of Psalm 140 is sung in Tone 4:

Psalm 140

Tone 4

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried
to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I call up - on you.
Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like in - cense
and the lifting up of my hands like an eve-ning sac - ri - fice. Hear
me, O Lord!

Followed by the recited verses of the Lamp-lighting Psalms, pp. 19-21.

Cantor: *(on 4)* *Tone 4 samohlasen*

Let the watch-man count on day-break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

Sticheron of Wednesday in the Third Week of the Great Fast - Tone 4 samohlasen

④

Like the prod-i-gal son, I squand-ered my fa-ther's wealth and I grew des-o-late.

Liv-ing in the land of the wick-ed, I im-itated the irrational beasts in my

fol-ly. I have stripped off ev-ry di-vine grace; and so I return, cry-ing

out to you: My com-pas-sionate and mer-ci-ful Fa-ther, I have sinned, O

God; wel-come me as a penitent and have mer-cy on me.

Cantor: *(on 3)* *Tone 5 samohlasen*

Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion, Is - ra - el

in - deed he will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

After the Prayer of Saint Ephrem the Syrian, there are readings in honor of the Baptist:

Prokeimenon of the Baptist - Tone 7 (Psalm 63:11,2)

The just man will re-joice in the Lord, re - joice in the Lord

and will put his trust in him.

Verse: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to you.

Apostolic reading: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 (EOT 95)

Alleluia of the Baptist - Tone 4 (Psalm 91:13,14):

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

Verse: The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

Verse: Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

Gospel reading: Matthew 11:2-15

Dogmatikon - in the same tone

Who would not extol you, most ho-ly Vir-gin? Who would not praise your giv-ing
 birth with-out pain? For the on-ly be-got-ten Son, who shines
 forth from the Fa-ther time-less-ly, has himself come forth from you, O pure one.
 He took flesh from you in a manner be-yond un-der-stand-ing: re-tain-ing
 di-vine na-ture but assuming human na-ture for our sake; not di-vid-ed
 in-to two per-sons but ex-ist-ing in two natures, distinct and un-con-fused.
 O honored and most blessed one, be-seech him to have mer-cy on our souls.

The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, "O Joyful Light," on page 22.

Prokeimena (p. 80) and readings (p. 24) for Wednesday in the third week of the Great Fast.

Stichera of the Baptist - Tone 5 samohlasen

Re-joyce, O sacred and light-bear-ing head, ven-er-a-ted by the an-gels,
 Of old it was cut off by a sword, but cut down the shame of iniquity with
 sharp re-proofs. It is a well-spring of miracles giving drink to the faith-ful.
 It pro-claims the saving com-ing of the Sav-ior, and saw the coming of the
 Spirit who dwelt in you who stand between the grace of the old and new
 cov-e-nants. En-treat Christ God to grant our souls great mer-cy.

Cantor: *(on 2)*

(on 2) Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo-ples!

The head of the Fore-run-ner which was once concealed in an earth-en ves-sel,
 has ap-peared, clearly given up from the bos-om of the earth and pour-ing forth

streams of heal-ing, for in the wa-ters he washed the head of him that e-ven
 now covers the chambers of the fir-ma-ment with wa-ters, and rains down divine
 forgiveness upon the hu-man race. There-fore, let us bless it as tru-ly most glo-ri-ous,
 and in its discovery let us keep a feast, en-treat-ing Christ to
 grant our souls great mer - - - cy.

(on 1)
Cantor: *(on 1)*
 Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith-ful for-ev - er.

①
 The head which proclaimed the Lamb of God has appeared in the flesh. With di-vine
 com-mands it declared the ways of sav-ing re-pent-ance to all. Of old it
 de-nounced the sin of Her-od, and there-fore was cut off from its bod-y

and en-dured con-ceal-ment for a time. Now it shines forth upon us like a
 ra-diant sun, cry-ing out: Repent and submit to Christ in compunc-tion of soul,
 for he grants the world great mer - - - cy.

Tone 6

Cantor:
 Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it.

Doxastikon of the Baptist - Tone 6 samohlasen

The di-vine-ly pre-served head, a treasury of di-vine gifts,
 has shone forth from the bosom of the earth, O Fore-run-ner. Glo-ri-ous
 proph-et, we receive it in faith and bow be-fore it, en-riched by you with most
 glo-ri-ous mir-a-cles and the for-give-ness of our sins, O Bap-tist of Christ.

Tone 6

Cantor:
 Now and ev-er and for-ev-er. A - men.