

Vesper Propers, December 13, 2020  
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.

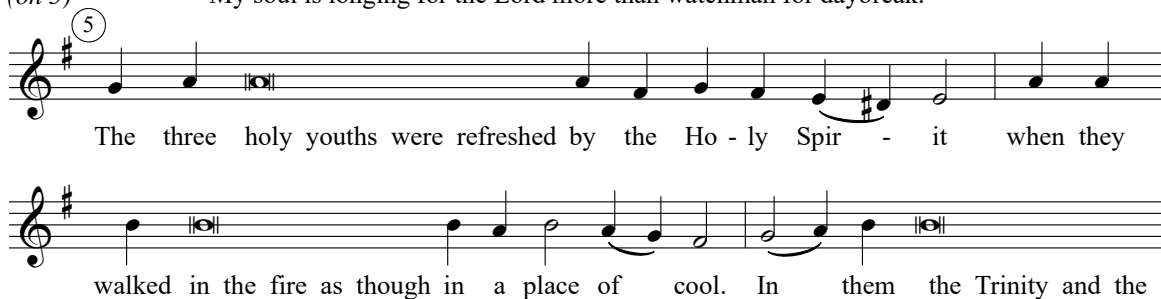
6



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

**Stichera of the holy martyrs - Tone 4 samohlasen**

④  
 The memory of your holy martyr Eu - stra - tius, O Lord, shines like the sun;  
 by the brilliance of his invin - ci - ble words, he e - clised the multitude of false gods.

As a house without foundations is brought down, so did he over-come them by  
 his faith and was joined by four other martyrs as his com-pan-ions. Through their  
 prayers, O Lov - er 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 dedication 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!

Eu - stratius, fighting the good fight for the King of Heav-en's hosts,



you handed yourself o - ver will - ing - ly to the tor - ments and ag - o - ny of death,



lead - ing with you a blessed escort of ho - ly mar - tyrs. In company with



them, you strug - gled and all re - ceived the crowns as vic - tors. O won - drous



mar - - - tyr, in - ter - cede for us.

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



Eu - stra - tius, wise in God; Aux - entius, with a no - ble heart; Eu - gene and



Mardarius, the illus - tri - ous mar - tyrs, vic - to - rious together 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



Spir - it.

**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, 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:** 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 rejoice 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:** (Tone 4) Now and ever...

**Troparion of the holy martyrs - Resurrection 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.