Vespers Propers on the Evening of the
First Sunday of the Great Fast
March 6, 2022

The holy martyrs and bishops of Cherson: Basil, Eugene, Agathadorus, Elpidius, Aetherius, Capito, and Ephrem, who preached in the Crimea and gave their lives for the Faith. (4th century)

Supplement for The Order of Vespers on Sunday Evening for the Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sunday) and the Sundays of the Great Fast.

Psalm 140 and Stichera of Forgiveness in the tone of the week (Tone 8, p. 52)

Stichera of the first Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 62. Then:

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of the holy martyrs and bishops of Cherson - Tone 4 samohlasen

Invisible martyrs, far-famed hierarchs, lights of the universe,

unshakable pillars of the Church of God, supports of the faith and instructors for believers, you swept away all errors, O Fathers of heavenly thoughts,

guiding our souls toward the light as companions of the angels
and champions of the Trinity.

Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

What divine praises can we address to the blessed and illustrious Ephrem, the wise Basil, the sublime Capiton, Agathadore, and Epiphanius, as well as the far-famed Euthrius and Eugene? For their lives were venerable and they struggled in order to dwell in the heavenly kingdom.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

Putting to death all carnal cares by his struggles, Basil was able to call the dead back to life. Capiton, the thrice-holy pastor, exulted in the midst of the flames
without being consumed. By their prayers, O Lover of us all, grant pardon and great mercy.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Theotokion - in the same tone

Take away the defilement of my passionate heart, O all-glorious Theotokos.

Cleanse all the wounds and defilement which come from sin, O pure Lady.

Stop the wavering of my mind, that I, your wretched and unprofitable servant, may exalt your pow'r and great assistance.

Prokeimenon for the First Sunday, page 10

Aposticha of the First Sunday, page 65