

*The service continues on page 9.*

*Prokeimenon for the fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, p.10.*

*Aposticha of the fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 85.*

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of the  
Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast  
March 22, 2026**

**The holy venerable martyr Nicon and his students martyred with him** fled the persecutions in Palestine to a refuge in Sicily, where they were put to death under the emperor Decius. (250)

**Supplement for The Order of Vespers on 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 fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 82.*

*Tone 4 samohlasen*

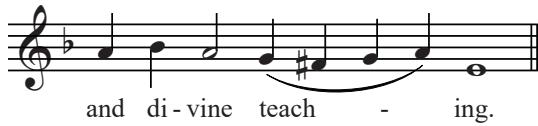
*Cantor:*

Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion,  
Is - rael indeed he will re-deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

**Stichera of the holy venerable-martyr Nicon and companions - Tone 4 samohlasen**

(3)

Hav-ing submitted the impetuous-ness of the flesh and the plea-sures of the bo - dy  
to the bridle of temperance through faith, O bles-sed Ni - con, you set out fully armed  
against the E - ne-my. You tri - umphed by the power of the Ho - ly Spi - rit.  
Then O vener-a - ble fa - ther, you be came the lead - er of monks fol - lowing your wise



and di-vine teach - ing.



Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!

(2)



Ri - sing in the East like the sun, O bles-sed fa - ther Ni - con, you filled



the whole world with the light of your mir - a - cles, lead - ing af - ter you the choir



of your companions like ra - diant stars. Hav-ing strug-gled to-ge-ther val - iant - ly,



you were given over to the sword, com - mending your spirits into the hands of the



al - might - y Lord.



Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith-ful for - ev - er.

(1)



Nei - ther hunger not dan - - ger, nor na - ked - ness nor beat - ings,



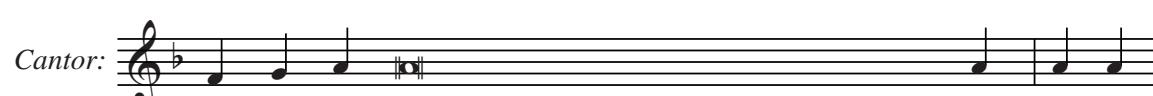
nor violent death could separate you from the love of Christ, O admir-a - ble mar - tyrs.



But, like lambs following their shepherd to the slaugh - ter, you came from the West,



bear - ing your crowns, to the nev-er end - ing rest in the King - dom of God.



Glo - ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir-it, now and



ev - er and for - ev - - er. A - men.

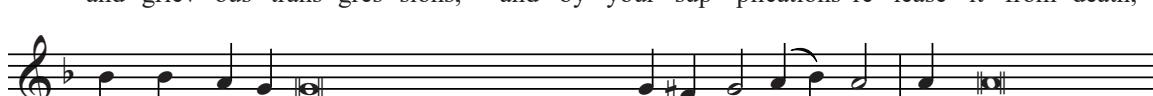
**Theotokion - in the same tone**



O all - ho - ly Bride of God, de - liver my lowly soul from con - dem - na - tion



and griev - ous trans - gres - sions, and by your sup - plications re - lease it from death,



and grant that I may receive the justification on the day of death which the councils of



the saints have re-ceived. Be-fore the end show me to be cleansed by re-pen-tence