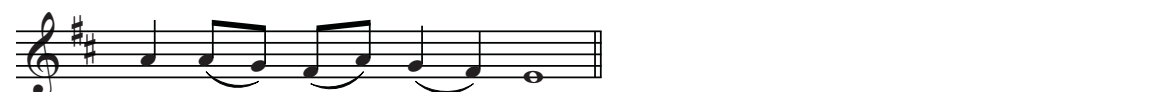


and with joy proclaimed the good news to those in Ha - des, that God



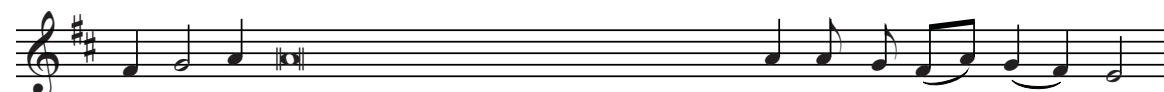
has ap - peared in the flesh to take a - way the sins of the world and to



grant us great mer - cy.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Festal theotokion - Tone 2



O The - o - tokos, the mysteries surrounding you are ex-ceed-ing-ly glo - rious,



and be-yond the pow - er of un - der - stand - ing. For you re-tained



the seal of pur - i - ty, and your vir - ginity re-mained in - vi - o - late;



yet you are ac-knowl - edged, with-out doubt, to be the Mother who gave birth



to the true God. We beg you, therefore, to en-treat him to save our souls.

Vesper Propers, August 30, 2026
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Post-festive Day of the Beheading

Our holy fathers Alexander, John, and Paul the Younger, patriarchs of Constantinople. Alexander took part in the First Ecumenical Council. (340) John the Faster governed the Church in the days of the wicked emperor Anastasius. (595) Paul IV governed the Church for five years and then took the Great Schema to repent for his early support of the Iconoclasts. (784)

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2005

Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 69), stichera 10-7.

Cantor: (Tone 4) 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.

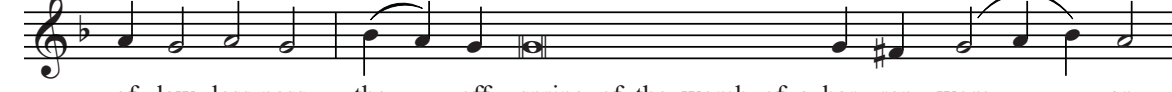
Stichera of the Post-feast - Tone 4 samohlasen



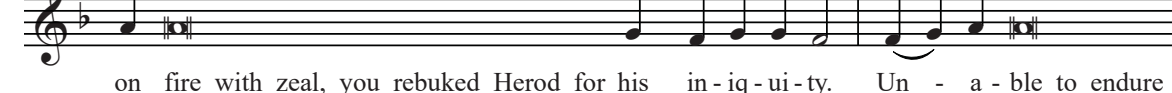
As you are the divine me-di - a - tor be-tween the old and the new



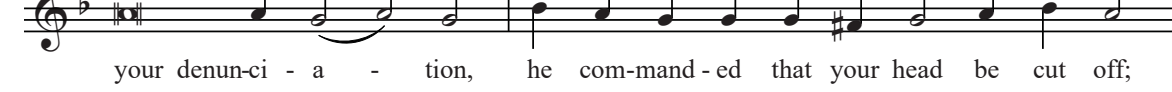
tes - ta-ments, the prophet and forerunner, and angel in the flesh, the de-nounc-er



of law-less-ness, the off - spring of the womb of a bar - ren wom - an,



on fire with zeal, you rebuked Herod for his in - iq - ui - ty. Un - a - ble to endure



your denun-ci - a - tion, he com-mand - ed that your head be cut off;

it was brought in on a platter like food of ab - sti - nence, d - vine de-light,
continually de - nounc - ing the a - dul - ter - er.

Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

In-cited by her e-vil moth - er, the iniquitous daughter asked for your most
glo - ri - ous head which is cherished by the an - gels; for she was un - a - ble
to endure your denun-ci - a - tion. There-fore, bear-ing it on a platter, and dancing
as she car-ried it, she turned the joy of those at the banquet into la-men-ta-tion.
Yet you con-tin - ually denounced the abomination of for-ni - ca - tion, O
bless-ed Proph - et. Pray to Christ that our souls be saved.

and the shad-ow of death the coming of Christ our God, the Orient from on high,
whose mer - cy is be - yond meas - - - ure.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Aposticha theotokion in the same tone (Tone 4, p. 68):

O most pure Virgin, * hear the petitions of your servants. * Remove the burdens which oppress us * and deliver us from our sorrows, * for you are the only firm and constant support on whom we rely. * O Theotokos, never permit us * who call upon you to be overwhelmed by our cares. * Make speed to fulfill the supplications of all who, in faith, cry out to you: * Rejoice, O Lady, helper of all of us, * the joy, the refuge, and the salvation of our souls.

Troparia

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, page 80).

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Troparion of the Beheading - Tone 2

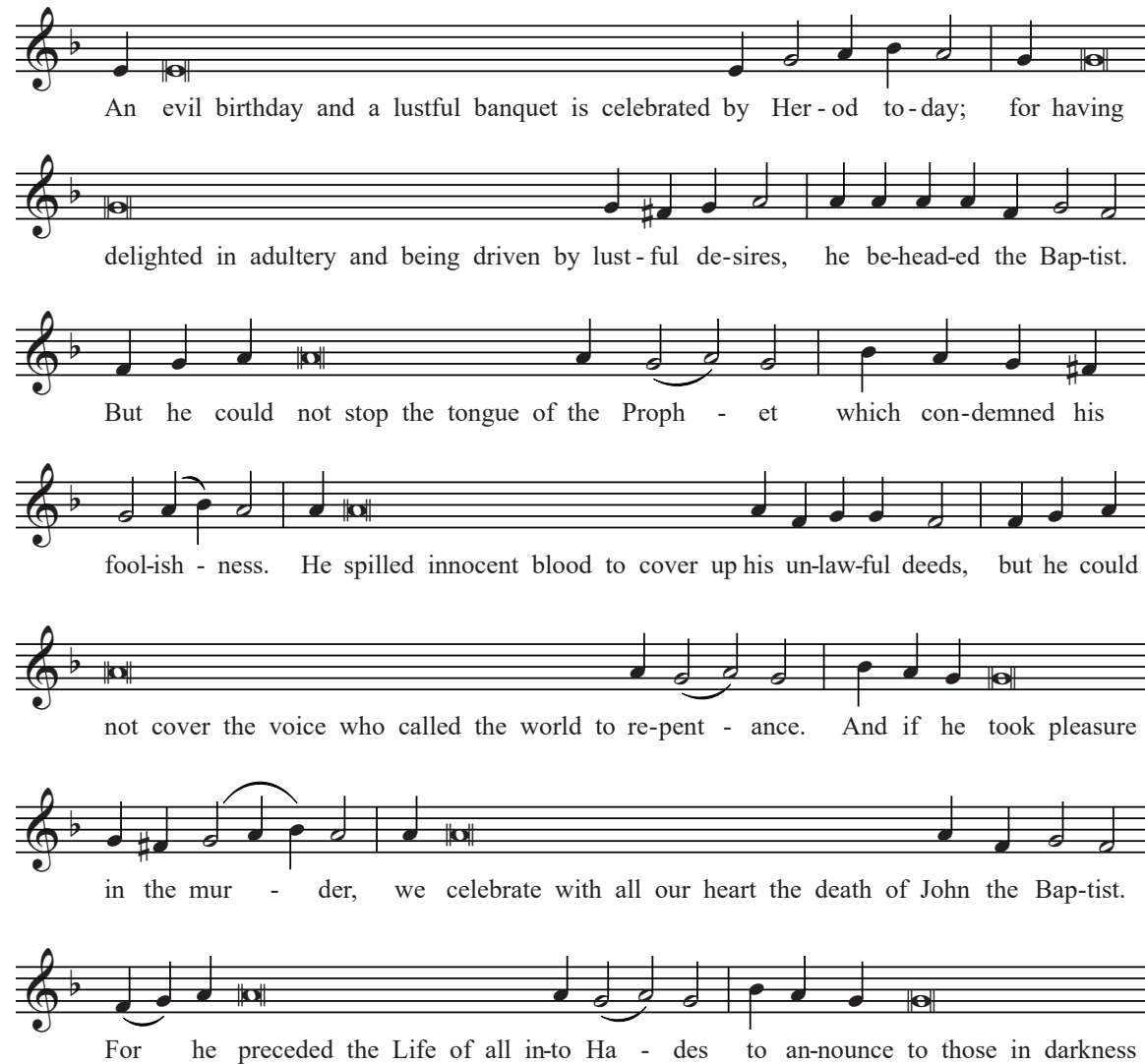
The mem - o - ry of the righteous is cel - e - brat-ed with praise, but for you,
O Forerunner, the Lord's tes-ti-mo-ny is e-nough. You were shown to be more
honora-ble than the proph - ets since you were deemed worthy to baptize in
the waters the Lord you had pro-claimed. There-fore, you fought for the truth,

Aposticha

Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, page 77), concluding with:

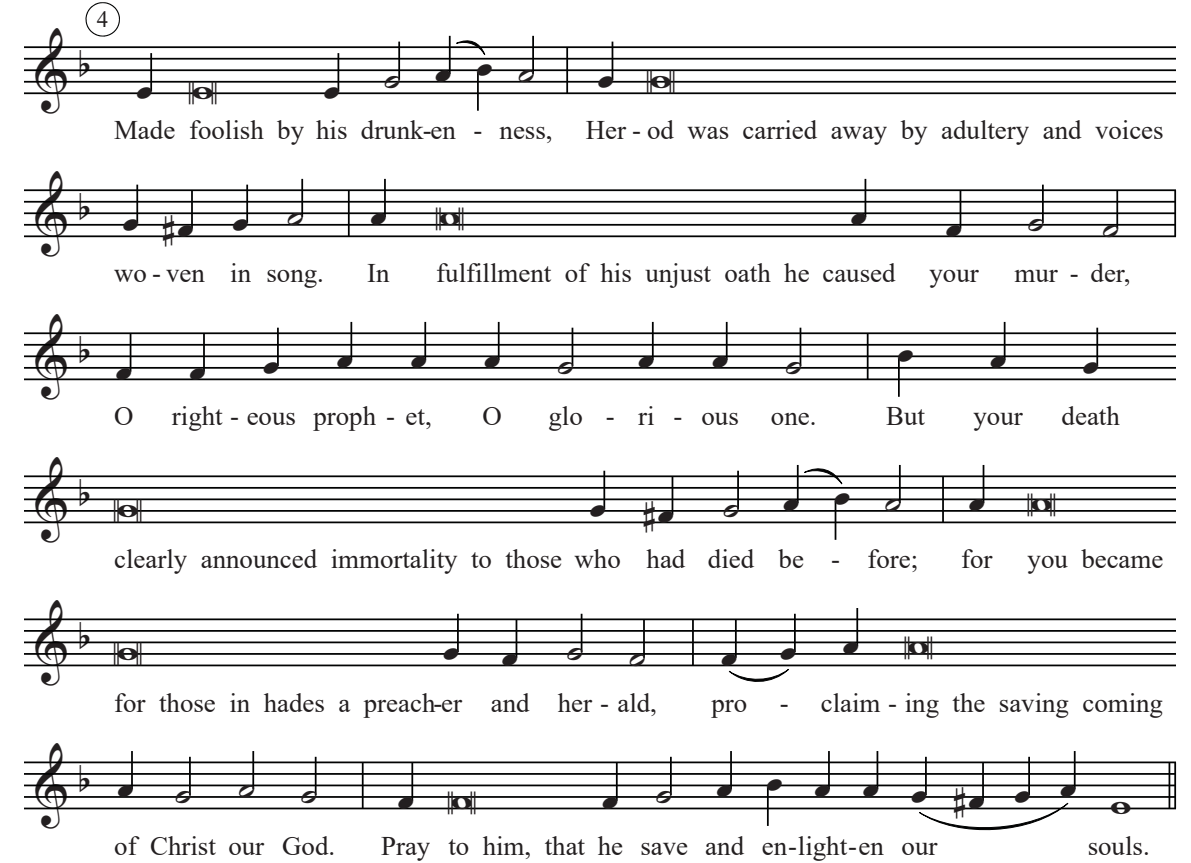
Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Aposticha doxastikon of the Dormition - Tone 4 samohlasen



An evil birthday and a lustful banquet is celebrated by Her - od to - day; for having
delighted in adultery and being driven by lust - ful de - sires, he be - head - ed the Bap - tist.
But he could not stop the tongue of the Proph - et which con - demned his
fool - ish - ness. He spilled innocent blood to cover up his un - law - ful deeds, but he could
not cover the voice who called the world to re - pent - ance. And if he took pleasure
in the mur - der, we celebrate with all our heart the death of John the Bap - tist.
For he preceded the Life of all in - to Ha - des to an - nounce to those in darkness

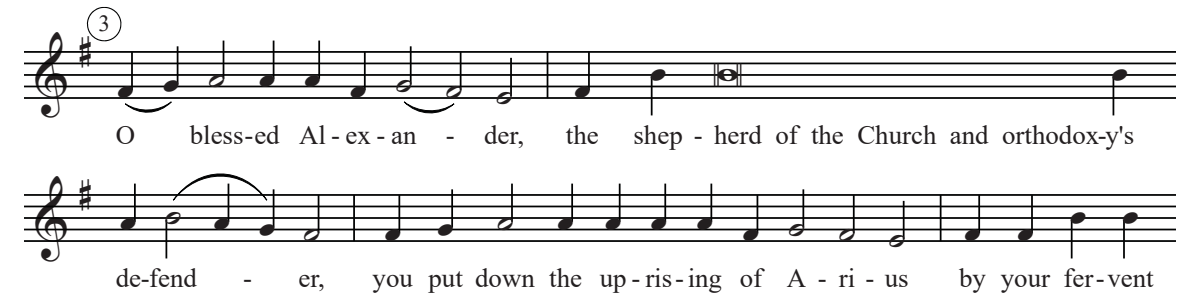
Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak,
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.



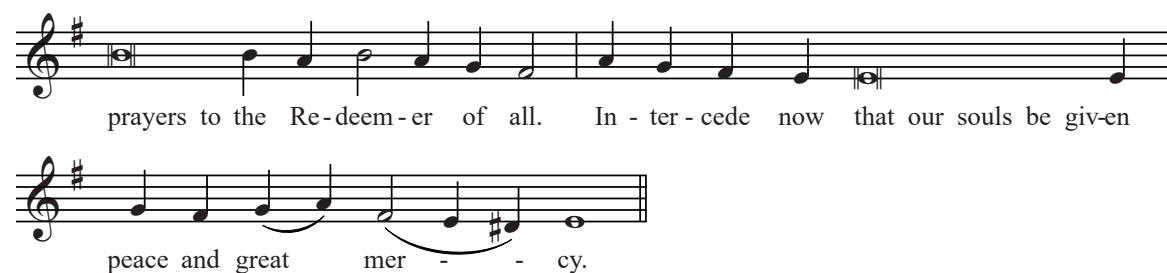
Made foolish by his drunk - en - ness, Her - od was carried away by adultery and voices
wo - ven in song. In fulfillment of his unjust oath he caused your mur - der,
O right - eous proph - et, O glo - ri - ous one. But your death
clearly announced immortality to those who had died be - fore; for you became
for those in hades a preach - er and her - ald, pro - claim - ing the saving coming
of Christ our God. Pray to him, that he save and en - light - en our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 1) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of the holy fathers John, Paul and Alexander - Tone 1 samohlasen



O bless - ed Al - ex - an - der, the shep - herd of the Church and orthodox - y's
de - fend - er, you put down the up - ris - ing of A - ri - us by your fer - vent



prayers to the Re-deem-er of all. In - ter - cede now that our souls be giv-en
peace and great mer - cy.

Cantor: Praise the Lord all the nations;
(on 2) acclaim him all you people.



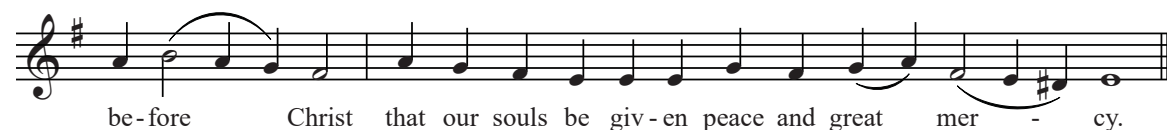
O ven - er - a - ble John, you re-nounced the cor-rup-tions of the flesh.



By your ab - sti - nence, the con-fes-sion of the Faith, your night-long vig - ils in

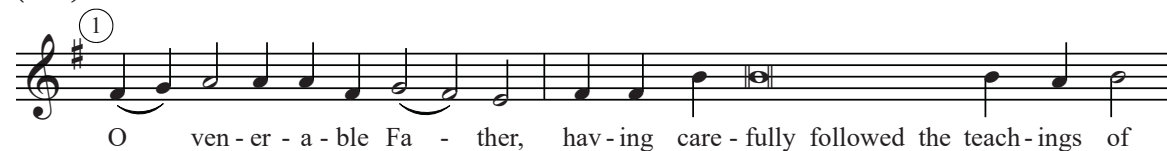


prayer, you be-came an earthly an-gel, a heav - en - ly man. In - ter - cede

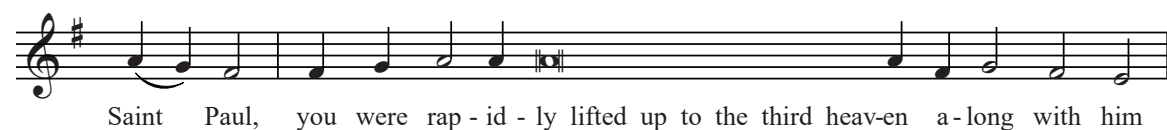


be-fore Christ that our souls be giv-en peace and great mer - cy.

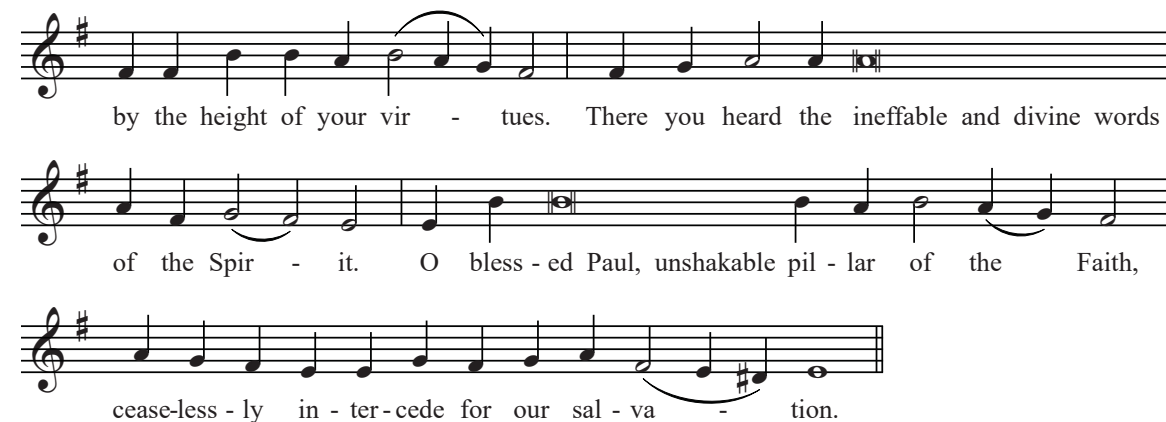
Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.



O ven - er - a - ble Fa - ther, hav - ing care - fully followed the teach - ings of



Saint Paul, you were rap - id - ly lifted up to the third heav-en a-long with him



by the height of your vir - tues. There you heard the ineffable and divine words
of the Spir - it. O bless - ed Paul, unshakable pil - lar of the Faith,
cease-less - ly in - ter - cede for our sal - va - tion.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

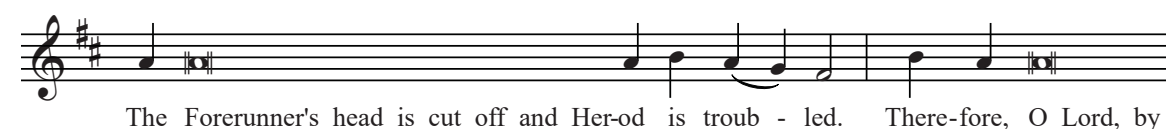
Doxastikon of the Beheading - Tone 6 samohlasen



A - gain Herodias has lost her self-con-trol; she is a - gain dis - turbed.



What a cun-ning and de-ceiv-ing dance, and what mind-less drunk-en-ness!



The Forerunner's head is cut off and Her-od is troub - led. There-fore, O Lord, by



the inter-ces-sions of your Fore-run - ner, grant peace



to our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 5) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, page 76)