Vesper Propers, October 26

The holy and great martyr Demetrius. Born in Salonica of devout parents, he was a much-longed-for only child. Because of his he received an excellent education. Like his father, Demetrius became a soldier in the Roman army. The emperor Maximian appointed him to persecute the Christians in Salonica, but Demetrius confessed his faith and preached Christ. He was cruelly martyred for his witness to the Lord. Since earliest times, he has been regarded as a wonderworker and powerful intercessor. (305)

Commemoration of the great and fearful earthquake in Constantinople, 740. In the time of the emperor Leo the Armenian, there was a terrifying and long-lasting earthquake in Constantinople. The people felt that it was punishment for their sins, and entreated the most holy Mother of God and St. Demetrius to intercede for them.

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

"O Lord, I have cried" is sung in Tone 2, p. 36.

Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise your name.

Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness to me.

Cantor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Psalm 129

Lord, hear my voice!

Tone 2 samohlasen

O glorious martyr Demetrius, like a bright star you glisten forever for your fatherland, because you always protect it from destruction at the hands of enemies, and you deliver it from every strife and menace. Therefore,

O blessed one, your people annually observe your memory and celebrate with joy,
and with faith and love they extol the Lord who glorified you.

Cantor: Let your ears be attentive
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading. (Repeat "O glorious martyr...")

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.

O Demetrius, martyr and sufferer of the Passion of Christ,
your miracles shine upon the world like the sun.

Therefore, all of us are filled with joy as we remember them and in faith we fittingly celebrate. Since you have favor with the Lord,

pray that he may save your servants from corruption.

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.

Your side was pierced by a spear for the sake of the Savior whose side
had been pierced on the cross. By your wounds you lovingly resembled him, O martyr. You showed to all that you were an unconquerable witness.

Thereby, your torturer was also wounded and made helpless when he was the instrument of the test of your faith, O Demetrius, great sufferer for Christ.

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.

**Tone 8 samohlasen**

O, what a great marvel! There is joy in heaven and on earth, for this day glistens in the remembrance of the martyr Demetrius. He is crowned by the praises of angels and by the hymns of all. O, how he suffered and how well he struggled! Through him the Evil One fell
and was conquered for Christ.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (Repeat "O, what a great marvel...")

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

O, what a great marvel! It is the most radiant of wonders.

It is more brilliant than the sun. Demetrius shines upon the ends of the earth at all times. He is filled with the radiance of the Light that never grows dim and beautified by the Light which never sets.

By his rays, the clouds of foreign foes have been dispersed, illnesses have been cast out, and demons conquered.

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

O, what a great marvel! Having been slain for the sake of Christ, O...
thrice-blessed Demetrius, you have always manifested yourself to be a two-edged sword, humbling the exaltations of the enemies and bringing to naught the intrigues of the demons. Let us cry out to him: O Demetrius, protect us at all times, for in faith and love we venerate you.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

Today we are summoned by the universal feast of the martyr. Come, therefore, O lovers of feasts, let us celebrate his memory in splendor and say:

Rejoice, for you overcame the snares of the enemy by the might given to you by the one God. Rejoice, for you suffered wounds by the thrusts of a sword,
and thus spiritually depicted for us the blessed pas-sion of Christ. O Demetrius,

O inspiration of mar-tyrs, im-plore him that we be delivered from visible and

in-vis-i-ble en-e mies, and that our souls may be saved.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in the same tone (Tone 6, p. 87).

Readings: Isaiah 43: 9-14
Wisdom 3: 1-9
Wisdom 4: 7-15

Litija

Tone 2 Bolhar

O wise mar-tyr De-me-tri-us, Christ our God has placed your

spotless spirit in the a-bode on high, for you were a de-fend-er

of the Trin-i-ty. And un-break-a-ble as a dia-mond,

you cou-ra-geous-ly suf-fered mar-tyr-dom in the a-re-na. Your ho-ly
side was pierced, O all-precious one, for the salvation of the whole world. You received the power of healing, and you freely grant healings to all. We, therefore, fittingly celebrate your dormition today, and we glorify you as you glorified the Lord.

Litany of the Litija, p. 116

Apostich

Tone 2 samohlasen

The ground is quaking in fear of your anger. The hills and mountains are trembling, O Lord. But look upon us with compassion. Do not shower your wrath upon us, but show mercy to the work of your hands.

Free us from the terrifying menace of the earthquake, since you are gracious
and the Lover of us all.

Having created the earth, you look upon it and it quakes.

You are awe-some, O Lord, and who can bear your just anger? Or who will implore you? Who will restrain you, O Gracious One, in behalf of the sinful people who are without hope? The heav'nly ranks, the Angels and Principalities, the Powers, Thrones, Dominions, and Seraphim are crying out to you in our behalf: Holy, holy, holy are you, O Lord!

Because of your merciful compassion, do not reject the work of your hands, O Gracious One, but save the city which is in danger.
You shook the ground and you made it quake.

The Nin- evites heard the threat about their destruction by an earthquake because of their sins. The rising up of Jonah from the whale was a sign of intercession. He pleaded for them to repent. Just as you accepted in generosity the lamentation of your people with their children and animals, for the sake of your rising on the third day, also be merciful and spare us who have been chastised.

Cantor:  (Tone 8) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 8

Your sublime and spotless soul, O ever-commemorated Demetrius,
has the heavenly Jerusalem as an abode. Its walls were painted by the most
pure hands of the invisible God. This beautiful church on earth also contains your precious body which had suffered so much. It is a treasury of miracles that cannot be stolen away, and it is a medicine for illnesses whenever we hasten to draw upon its healing pow'r.

O all-praiseworthy one, protect from threatening destruction the city which exalts you, for you have found favor before Christ who glorifies you.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Aposticha theotokion in the same tone (Tone 8, p. 110).
O martyr, the world has seen you as a defender of those imperiled and a conqueror of the nations. In cutting down the arrogance of Leo, you bolstered Nestor by your courage. O holy Demetrius, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory... now and ever...

"Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos," p. 119, followed by the Blessing of Bread.