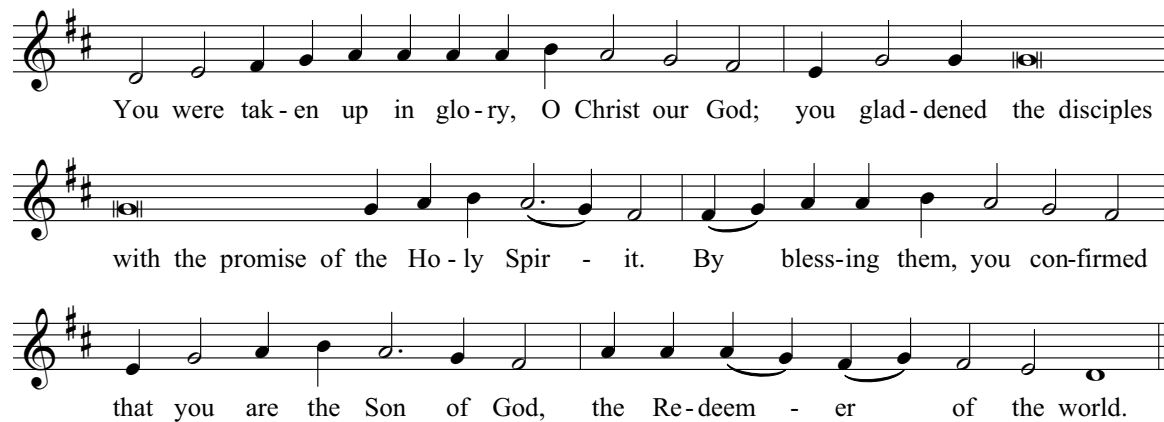


Troperia

Troparion of the Ascension - Tone 4 (sung three times)



You were tak-en up in glo-ry, O Christ our God; you glad-dened the disciples
with the promise of the Ho-ly Spir - it. By bless-ing them, you con-firmed
that you are the Son of God, the Re-deem - er of the world.

The service continues with the Blessing of Bread, found on page 119 in the Appendix.

Vesper Propers

Ascension of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ

All page numbers refer to The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2006.

"Glory to you, our God..." and "Heavenly King..." are omitted.

The First Kathisma is not sung.

"O Lord, I have cried" is sung in Tone 6, p. 82.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Bring my soul out of this prison
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.

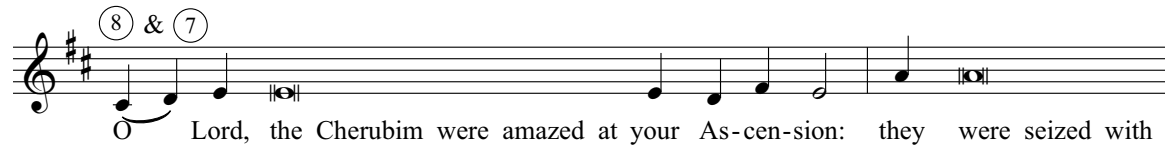


The Lord ascended in - to heav-en to send the Com-fort-er in - to this world.
The heav-ens prepared his throne and clouds were his lad - der; the an-gels
mar-velled at the sight of a human being more exalt-ed than them-selves. To-day, the
Fa - ther receives again in his bos - om the One who was in him from all
e - ter-ni - ty, and the Ho - ly Spirit gives a command to all the an - gels:
Lift up your lin-tels, O you gates! O you na-tions of the earth, clap your hands,
for Christ as-cends to the place where he had been from all e - ter-ni - ty.

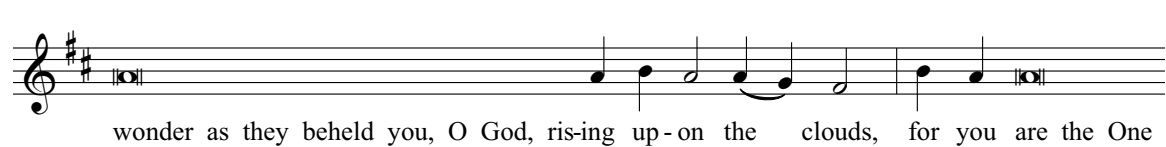
Cantor: Around me the just will assemble
(on 9) because of your goodness to me. Repeat "The Lord ascended..."

Cantor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!


⑧ & ⑦




O Lord, the Cherubim were amazed at your As-cen-sion: they were seized with



wonder as they beheld you, O God, ris-ing up-on the clouds, for you are the One



who is seat - ed a - bove the clouds. We sing a hymn of praise to you:

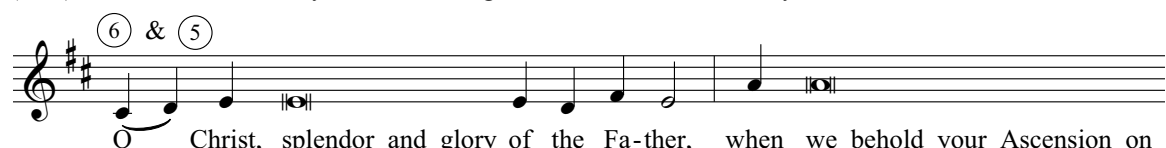


Glo - ry to you for your ten - der mer - cy.

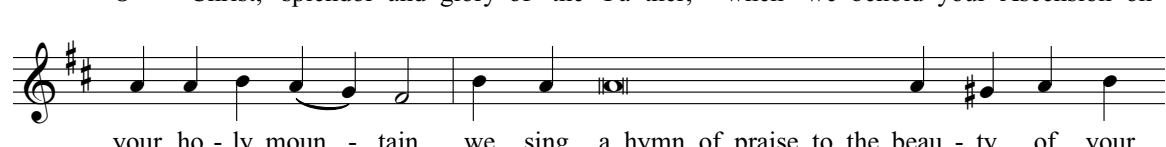
Cantor: Let your ears be attentive
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading. Repeat "O Lord, the Cherubim..."

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.

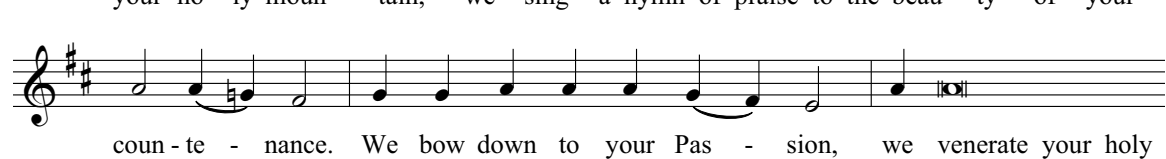
⑥ & ⑤



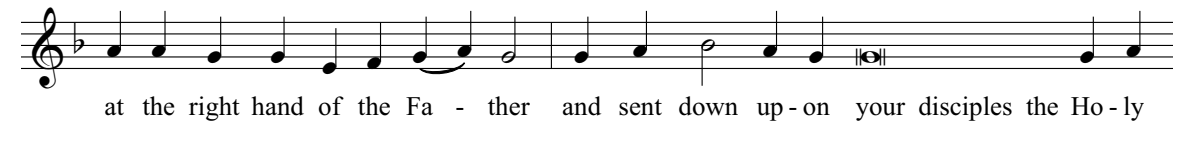
O Christ, splendor and glory of the Fa-ther, when we behold your Ascension on




your ho - ly moun - tain, we sing a hymn of praise to the beau - ty of your



coun - te - nance. We bow down to your Pas - sion, we venerate your holy



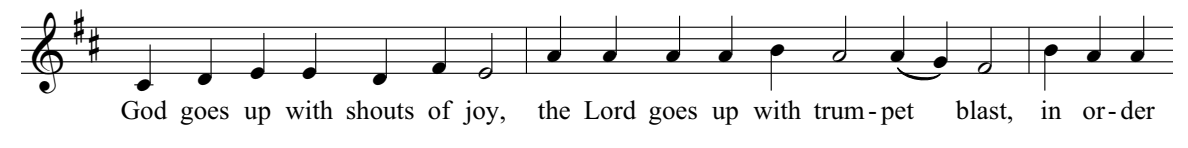
at the right hand of the Fa - ther and sent down up-on your disciples the Ho - ly



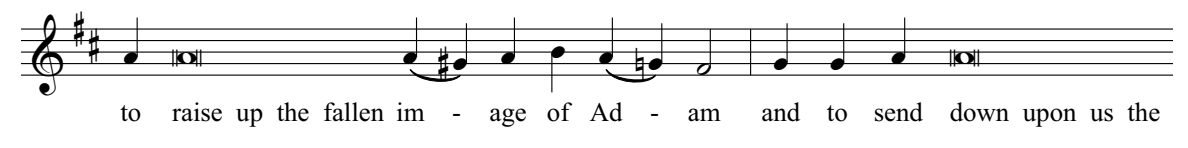
Spir - it who en - light - ens, strength-ens and saves our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...now and ever...

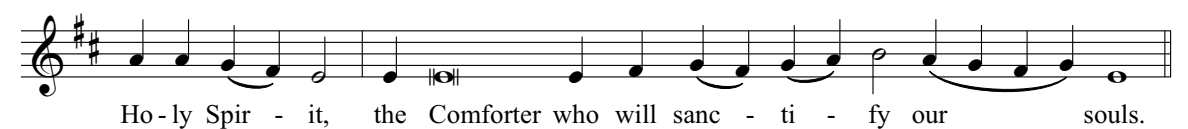
Doxastikon - Tone 6



God goes up with shouts of joy, the Lord goes up with trum-pet blast, in or-der

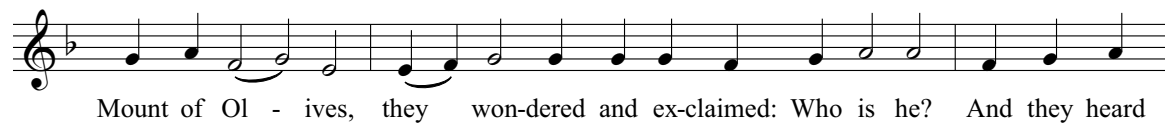


to raise up the fallen im - age of Ad - am and to send down upon us the



Ho - ly Spir - it, the Comforter who will sanc - ti - fy our souls.

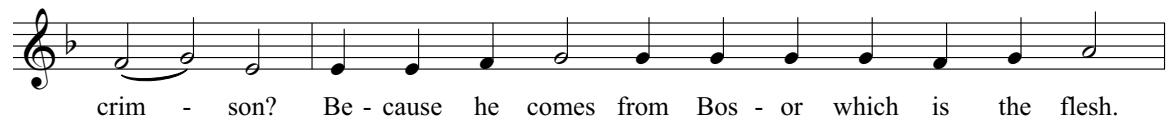
The service continues on page 19 of the Vesper book.



Mount of Ol - ives, they won-dered and ex-claimed: Who is he? And they heard



the reply: He is indeed the King of Glo - ry. And why are his clothes



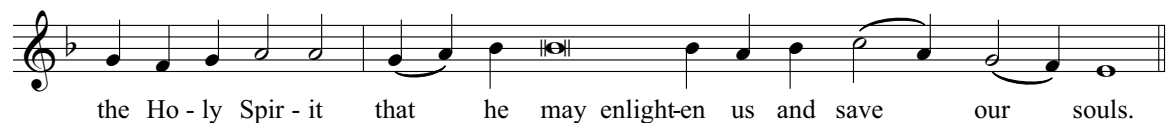
crim - son? Be - cause he comes from Bos - or which is the flesh.



As for you, O Christ, since you are God, you are en-throned

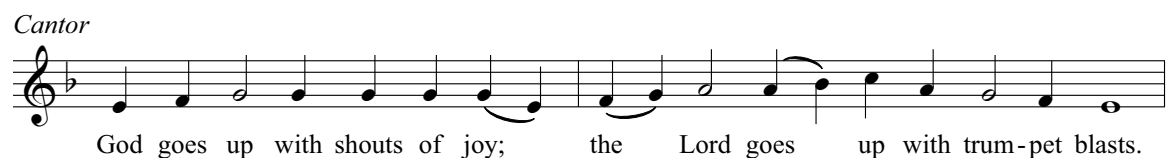


at the right hand of God the Fa - ther; and you sent down up - on us



the Ho - ly Spir - it that he may enlight-en us and save our souls.

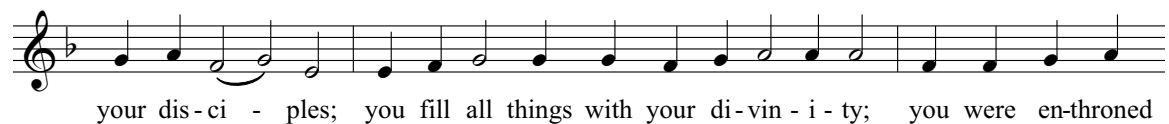
Cantor



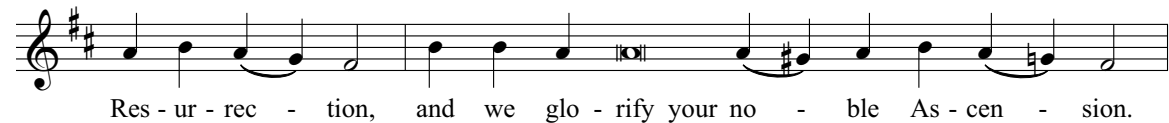
God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trum-pet blasts.



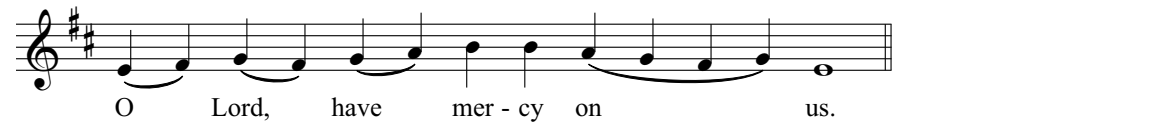
O Christ, you as-cend-ed in glo - ry on the Mount of Ol - ives in the presence of



your dis-ci - ples; you fill all things with your di-vin - i - ty; you were en-throned



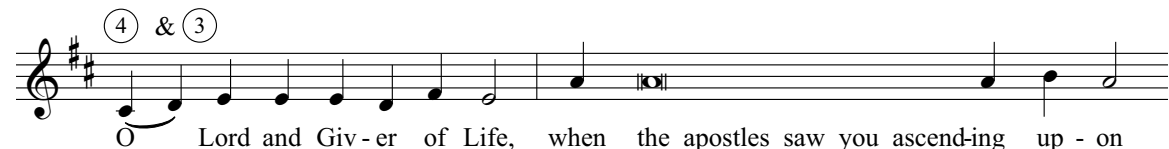
Res - ur - rec - tion, and we glo - rify your no - ble As - cen - sion.



O Lord, have mer - cy on us.

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. *Repeat "O Christ..."*

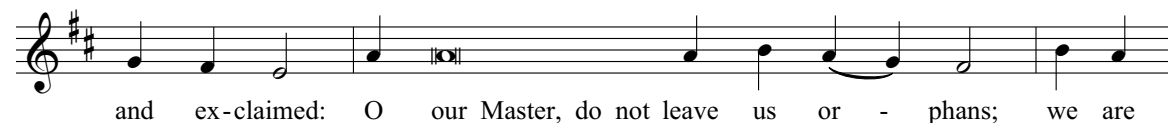
Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.



O Lord and Giv - er of Life, when the apostles saw you ascend-ing up - on



the clouds, a great sad-ness o - ver-came them; they shed burn - ing tears



and ex-claimed: O our Master, do not leave us or - phans; we are



your servants whom you loved so ten-der - ly. Since you are most wonderful,



send down upon us your all-ho-ly Spir - it to en-light - en our souls, as you



prom - ised.

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

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

② & ①

Aft - er ful - fil - ling the mystery of the plan of sal - va - tion, O Lord, you took
your apostles and went up with them to the Mount of Ol - ives, and there you passed
be - yond the fir - ma - ment of heav - en. You hum - bled yourself and were clothed
in our hu - man - i - ty, and now you return from that place you did not leave.
Send down your all - ho - ly Spir - it to en - light - en our souls.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever. Repeat "After fulfilling the mystery..."

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

Doxastikon Tone 6

O lov - ing Je - sus, while you lived on earth, you were God inseparable
from the Fa - ther, and yet you truly shared our hu - man - i - ty.

We glo - ri - fy your in - fi - nite mer - cy o - ver - flow - ing up - on us.

The Litany of the Litija is found on page 116 in the Appendix.

Aposticha

① Tone 2

O our God, you were born in a manner of your own choos - ing; you appeared
and suf - fered in the flesh as you willed; you crushed death through
your Resurrection and ascend - ed in - to glo - ry, and you sent down the di - vine
Spir - it up - on us. There - fore we sing a hymn of praise and glorify your
di - vin - - - i - ty.

Cantor

All peo - ples, clap your hands; cry to God with shouts of joy!
②
O Christ, when the Pow - ers of heav - en be - held your As - cen - sion from the

Cantor

Tone 4 Bolhar

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Doxastikon - Tone 4 Bolhar

O Lord most mer - ci - ful, aft - er ful - fil - ling the mys - t'ry hid - den
 from all e - ter - ni - ty, you, the Cre - a - tor and Mas - ter of all, went up to the
 Mount of Ol - ives with your dis - ci - ples and your Moth - er. For the one
 who, at the sight of your Pas - sion, had suf - fered more than all
 oth - ers in her moth - er - ly heart, had more than an - y - one else
 the right to share the joy that fills us as we
 are wit - nes - sing your as - cen - sion in to heav - en.

As - cend - ing in glory today from the Mount of Ol - ives, through your great love
 you lifted up our fall - en na - ture and en - throned it with the
 Fa - ther on high. There - fore, the bodiless powers were amazed and filled with awe
 at see - ing your great love for all. To - geth - er with them,
 we who live on earth are glo - rifying your conde - scen - sion to us
 and your ascen - sion a - way from us. Now we im - plore you, say - ing:
 Through your Ascension you have filled your apostles and your moth - er
 with a joy that surpasses ev - 'ry oth - er joy, and through their
 in - ter - ces - sion make us wor - thy of the joy of your e - lect,
 for you are rich in mer - - - cy.

The service continues on page 12.

The Prokeimenon for Wednesday is found on page 115.

Readings: Isaiah 2: 2 - 3 (EOT pp. 300-301)
Isaiah 62: 10 - 12 and 63: 1 - 9
Zechariah 14: 1, 4, 8 - 11

Litija

Tone 1 Bolhar

①

By go - ing up a - gain in - to heav - en from which you had de - scend - ed,
you did not leave us or - phans, O Lord. Show to all your peo - ple the works
of your pow - er, that your Spir - it may come down up - on us and bring
peace to the world, O Lord and Lov - er of us all.

②

You as - cend - ed, O Christ, to your e - ter - nal Fa - ther
e - ven though you were not re - moved from his bos - om;

and the Pow - ers could not con - tain their praise of the Tri - ni - ty.
E - ven aft - er the In - car - na - tion they re - cog - nized you
as the on - ly Son of the Fa - ther. In the a - bun - dant of your good - ness,
have mer - cy on us!

③

Your an - gels, O Lord, said to the a - pos - tles: Men of Gal - i - lee, why
do you stand here look - - ing in - to the sky? Christ our God,
who by leav - ing you as - cend - ed in - to heav - en,
will come a - gain in the man - ner by which you have seen hm leave.
There - fore, serve him in jus - tice and ho - li - ness.