

**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.

Tone 6

⑩ & ⑨

The Lord ascended in - to heav - en to send the Comfort - 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:

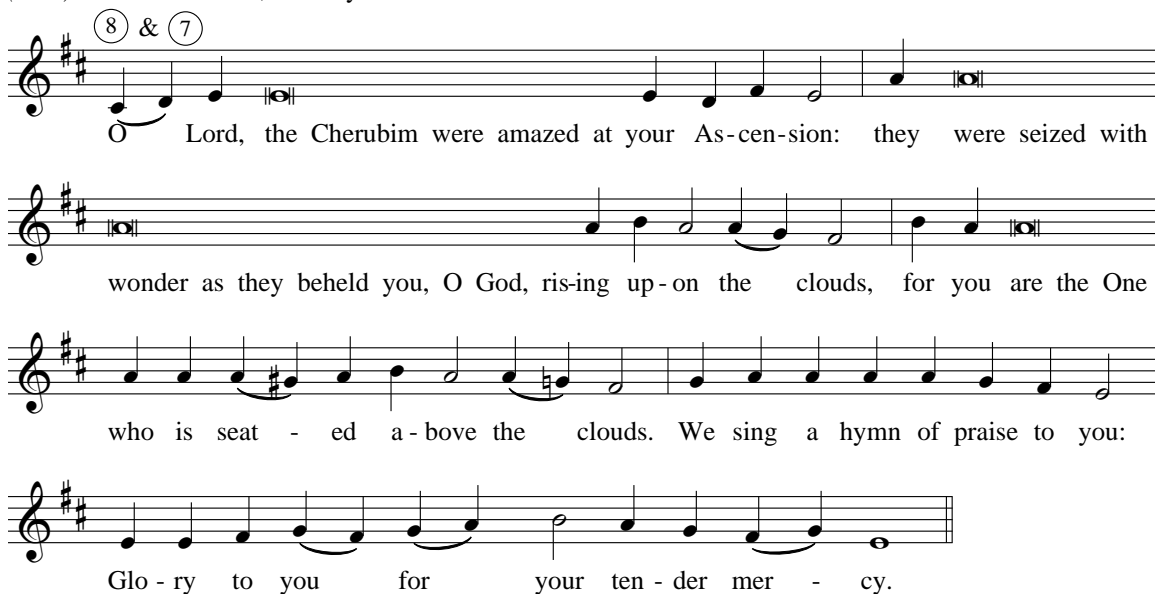
Lift up your lin - tels, O you gates! O you na - tions of the earth, clap your hands,

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

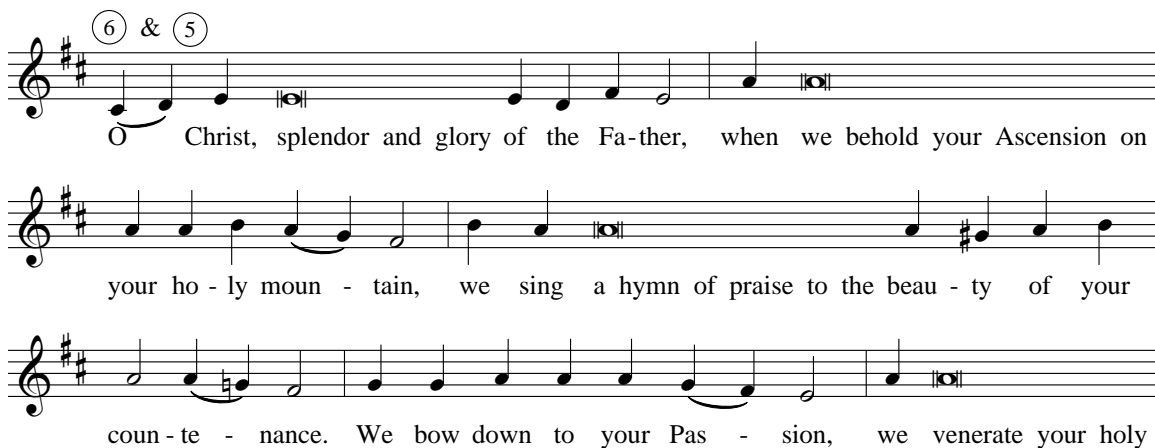


O Lord, the Cherubim were amazed at your As-cen-sion: they were seized with wonder as they beheld you, O God, ris-ing up-on the clouds, for you are the One who is seat - ed a - bove the clouds. We sing a hymn of praise to you: Glo - ry to you for your ten - der mer - cy.

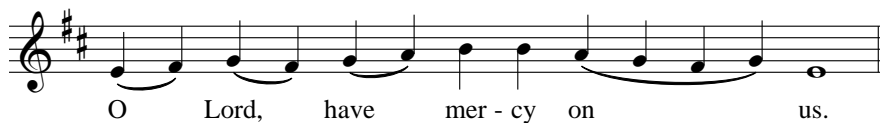
**Cantor:** Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading. *Repeat "O Lord, the Cherubim..."*

**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

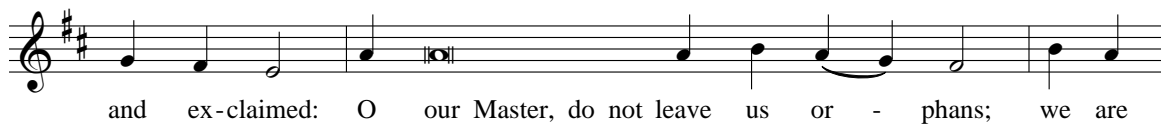


O Christ, splendor and glory of the Fa-ther, when we behold your Ascension on your ho - ly moun - tain, we sing a hymn of praise to the beau - ty of your coun - te - nance. We bow down to your Pas - sion, we venerate your holy



**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..."*

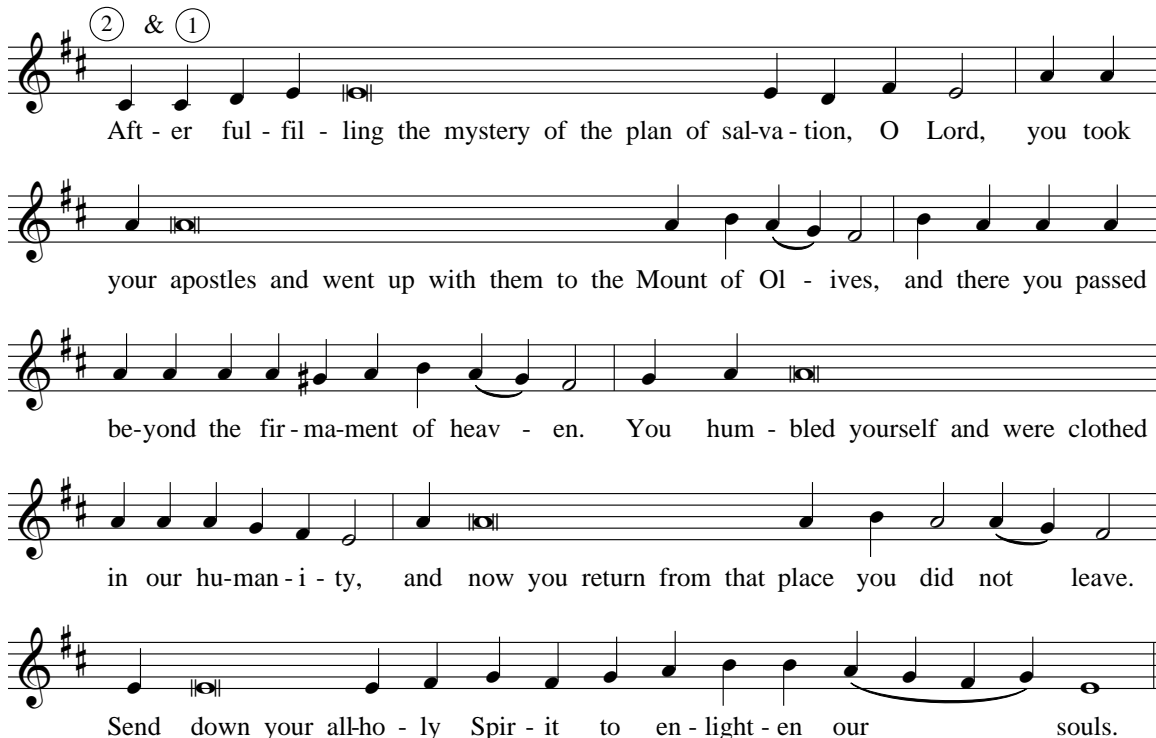
**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak  
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.



**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



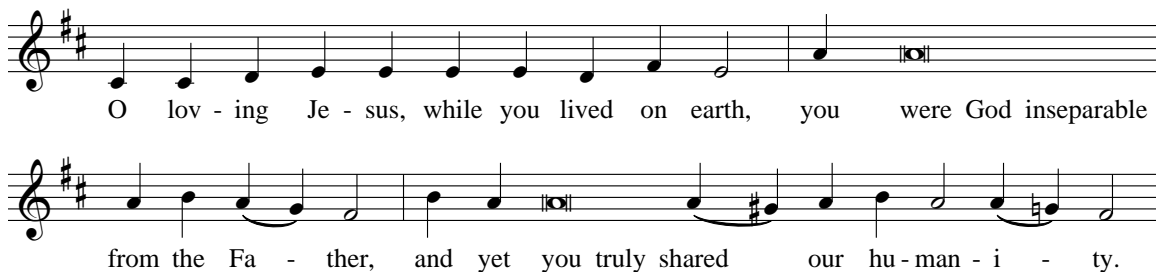
Aft - er ful - fil - ling the mystery of the plan of sal - va - tion, O Lord, you took  
your apostles and went up with them to the Mount of Ol - ives, and there you passed  
be - yond the fir - ma - ment of heav - en. You hum - bled yourself and were clothed  
in our hu - man - i - ty, and now you return 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..."*

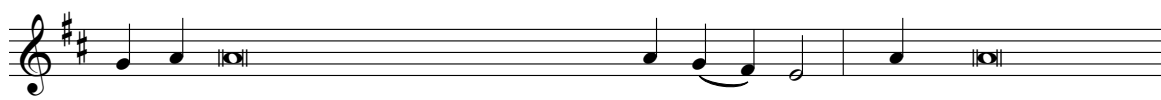
**Cantor:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
now and ever and forever. Amen.

**Doxastikon**

*Tone 6*



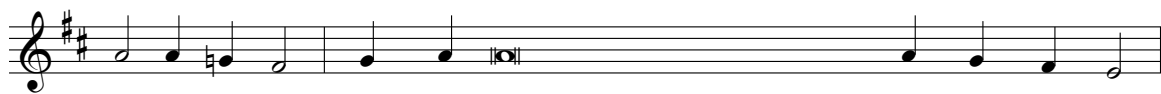
O lov - ing Je - sus, while you lived on earth, you were God inseparable  
from the Fa - ther, and yet you truly shared our hu - man - i - ty.



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



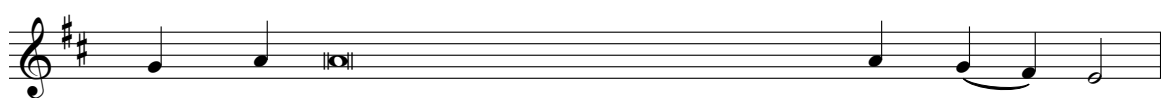
at see - ing your great love for all. To - geth - er with them,



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.*

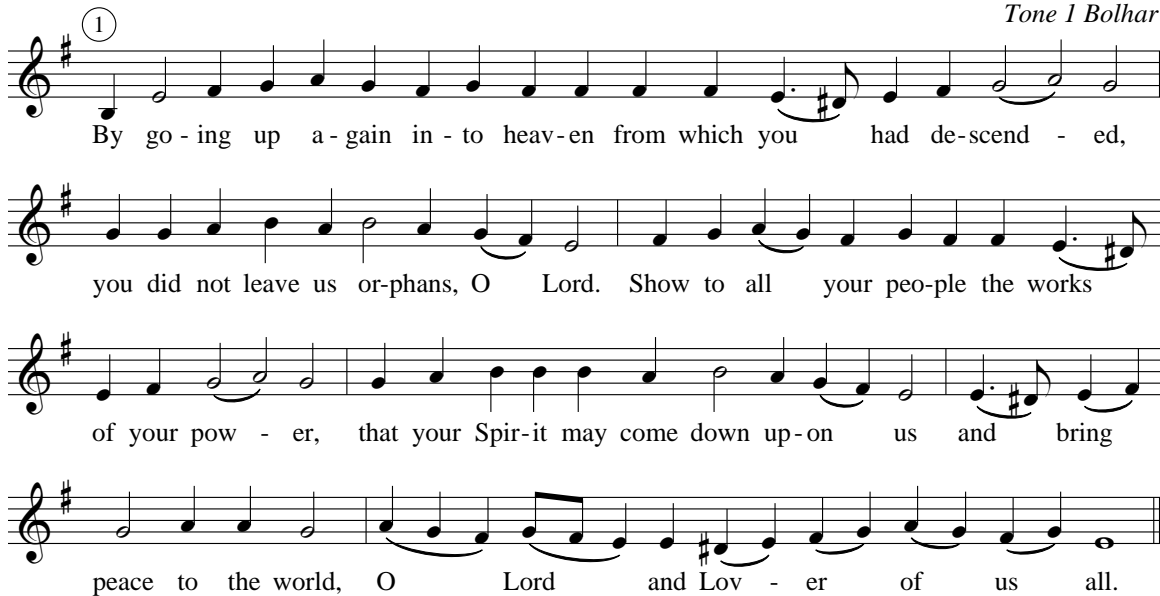
*The Prokeimenon for Wednesday is found on page 115.*

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

## Litija

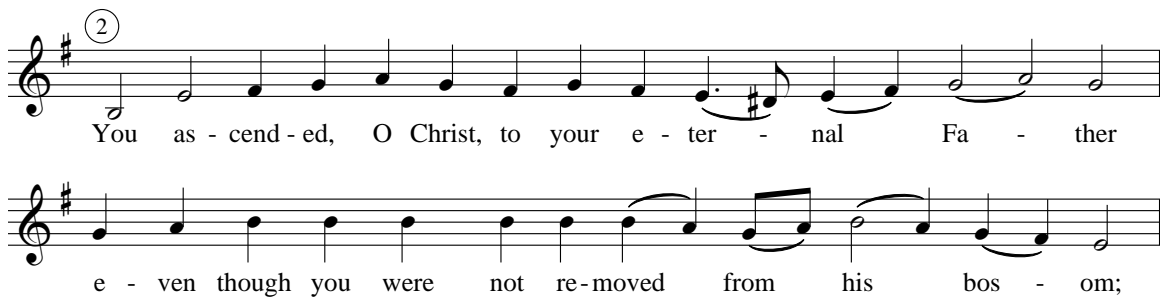
*Tone 1 Bolhar*

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.

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.



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

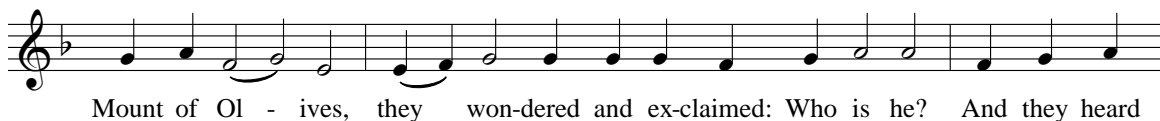
Tone 2

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



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



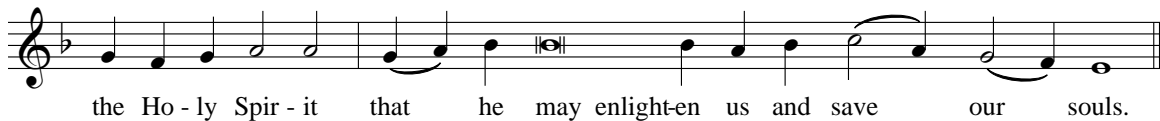
crim - son? Be - cause he comes from Bos - or which is the flesh.



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

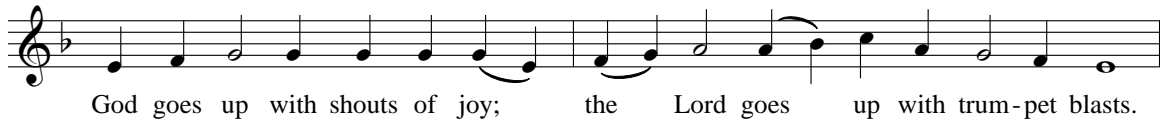


at the right hand of God the Fa - ther; and you sent down up - on us



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

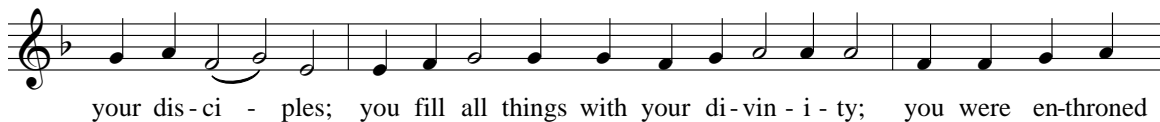
*Cantor*



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



③  
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

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...

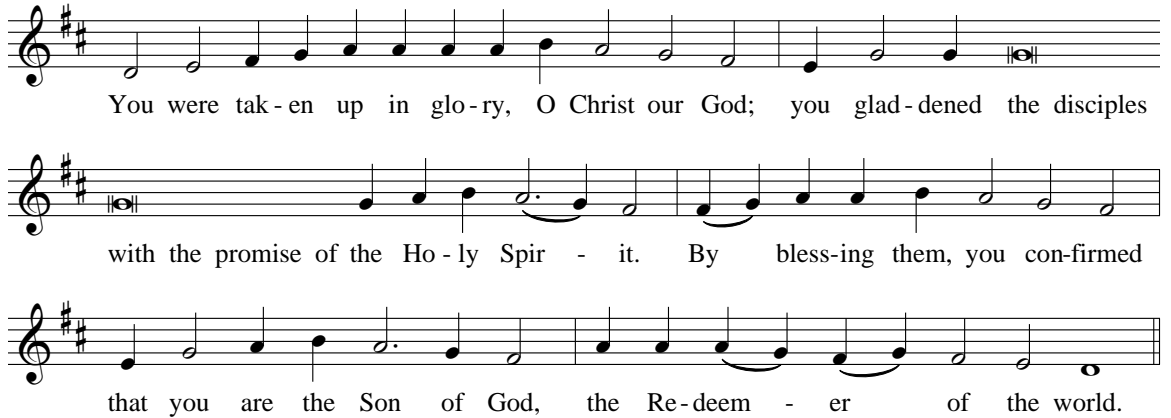
**Doxastikon - Tone 6**

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.*

## Troparia

### 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.*