

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

A

The just man will be re-mem-bered for-ev-er; e-vil news he
 will not fear, e-vil news he will not fear. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
 Al-le-lu-ia!

Divine Liturgy, August 29

THE BEHEADING OF THE HOLY PROPHET, FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST JOHN

Because John had denounced Herod Antipas for putting away his own wife and marrying the wife of his brother Philip, Herod imprisoned John. At a feast in honor of Herod's birthday, his stepdaughter Salome danced for him. Herod promised her anything; her mother Herodias told her to ask for the head of John on a platter. This martyrdom is commemorated on this day because a church was dedicated on this day to the Forerunner's beheading by the emperor

Hymn

melody: Pod tvoj pokrov / We Hasten to Your Patronage

1. To-day in Your fore-run-ner's praise Your church will raise its voice;
 2. While in the midst of na-tal feast, King Her-od -at the sight
 3. Caught 'twixt two e-vils, Her-od chose To keep his crav-en vow;

And once a-gain we tell the tale Of awe-some, lov-ing choice:
 Of danc-ing, schem-ing Sa-lo-me- Gave prom-ise to de-light.
 He had the Bap-tist mur-dered then; And John, though voice-less now,

How John the Bap-tist, speak-ing truth, To Her-od gave of-fense;
 And she, in ans-wer to his oath, Spurred on by moth-er's spite,
 Still calls us each to pen-ance from His place in heav-en's rest,

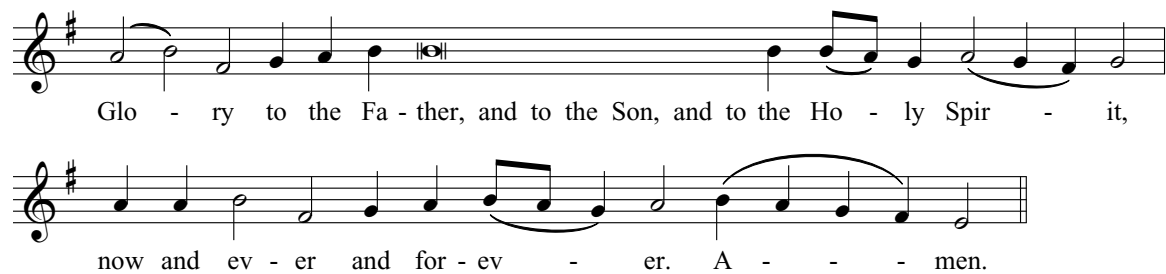
And thus was shut in pris-on cell With-out a sure de-fense.
 Asked for the sev-ered head of John As boon that fate-ful night.
 Where he sings songs of glo-ry to The Trin-i-ty most blest.

Troparion - Tone 2



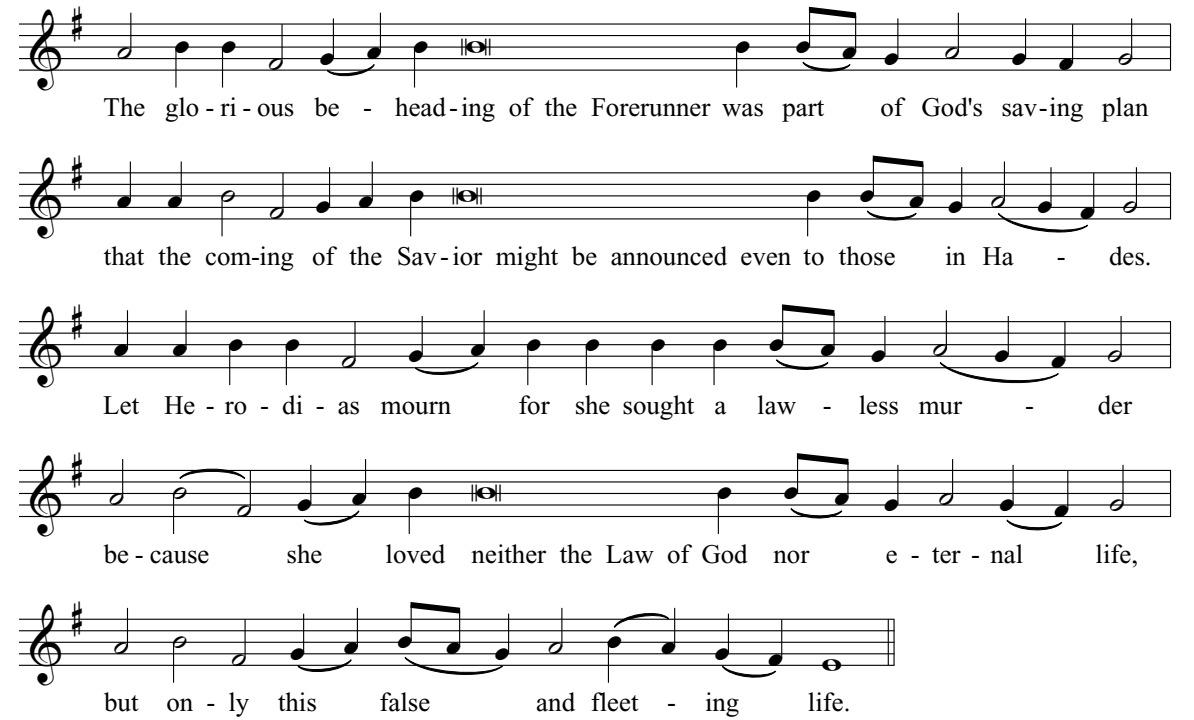
The mem - o - ry of the righteous is cel - e - brat-ed with praise, but for you,
 O Forerunner, the Lord's tes - ti - mo - ny is e - nough. You were shown to be more
 honora-ble than the proph - ets since you were deemed worthy to baptize in
 the waters the Lord you had pro-claimed. There-fore, you fought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



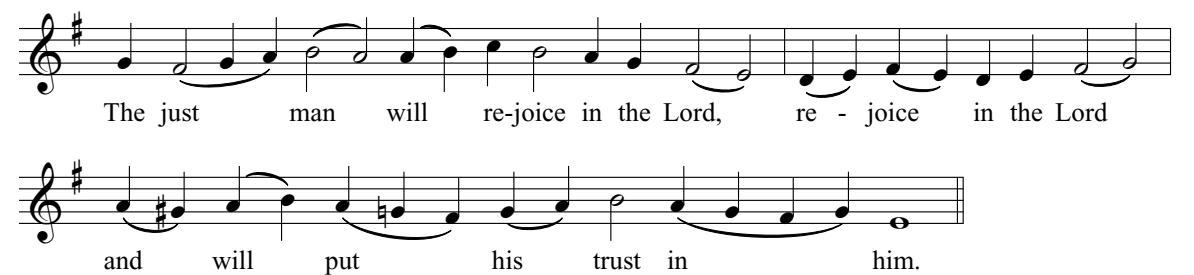
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - - - men.

Kontakion - Tone 5



The glo - ri - ous be - head-ing of the Forerunner was part of God's sav-ing plan
 that the com-ing of the Sav-ior might be announced even to those in Ha - des.
 Let He - ro - di - as mourn for she sought a law - less mur - der
 be - cause she loved neither the Law of God nor e - ter - nal life,
 but on - ly this false and fleet - ing life.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 63:11,2)



The just man will re-joyce in the Lord, re - joyce in the Lord
 and will put his trust in him.

Verse: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to you.

Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 91:13,14):



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - - - ia!

Verse: The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

Verse: Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.