

Matins Propers
First Sunday of the Great Fast

*Supplement for **The Order of Matins: Sundays and Feasts**, 2006*

The Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the week is sung twice. Then:

Troparion of the First Sunday of the Great Fast - Tone 2

We bow be - fore your sa - cred im - age, O gra - cious Lord, and beg for - giveness for
our of - fens - es, O Christ our God; for you, of your own good will, ascended
the cross in your hu - man na - ture to de - liv - er from the enemy's
bondage those whom you cre - a - ted. There - fore, we grate - ful - ly cry
out to you: By your com - ing to save the world, O Sav - ior,
you have filled all with joy.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory... now and ever...

Festal theotokion in the same tone (Tone 2, p. 100).

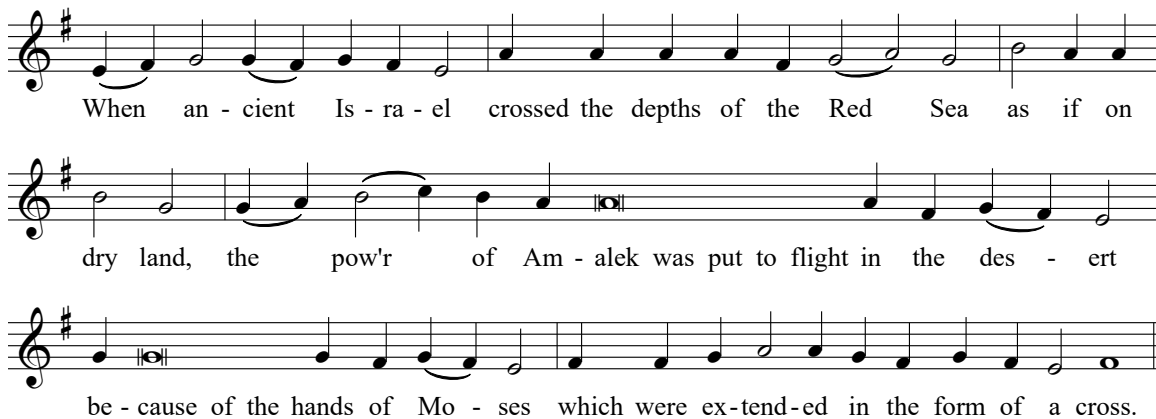
The service continues as usual for Sunday. After Psalm 50, the penitential stichera are sung (p. 317).

Canon

Ode 1

Irmos

Tone 4 samopodoben



When an - cient Is - ra - el crossed the depths of the Red Sea as if on
dry land, the pow'r of Am - alek was put to flight in the des - ert
be - cause of the hands of Mo - ses which were ex - tend - ed in the form of a cross.

Refrain



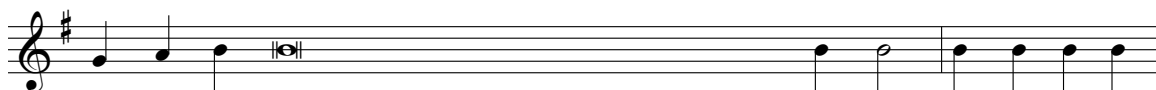
Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Let us exult with joy, O faithful, and let us sing on this day: How wonderful are your works, O Christ, and how great is your power, O Lord; for you have established harmony among us. *Refrain*

Come, let us celebrate this day with joy and divine fervor. Heaven and earth rejoice; the choirs of angels and the multitudes on earth sing with festive melodies. *Refrain*

Come, O faithful, let us clap our hands at this great sight! The divided members of Christ have found their unity. Let us praise the Lord who grants us peace. *Refrain*

Today the Church is given the reward of its victory by the order and divinely inspired decision of the gracious emperors, Michael and Theodora.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

The sword of heresy has vanished, and we feel a holy joy, when, in faith, O most pure Virgin, we see your temple completely adorned with the holy icons.

Katavasia *Repeat Irmos from above.*

Ode 3

Irmos



Your Church, O Christ, re - joic - es in you and cries out:



O Lord, you are my strength, my sup - port, and my ref - uge.



Refrain

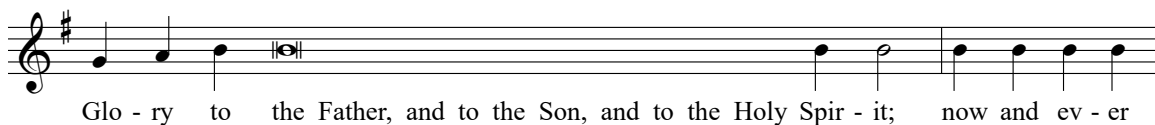
Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

The impious heretics no longer raise their heads on high, for the power of God has exalted the true faith. *Refrain*

Today, as in days of old, let the clouds pour forth on us the life-giving dew for the renewal of the faith! *Refrain*

Let the mystical trumpet of the apostles of Christ joyfully ring out for the restoration of the holy icons! *Refrain*

Let us praise Christ, who has given us a devout and holy Empress, together with her son who is crowned by God.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

We, the faithful, praise you in your temple, O most pure Virgin; make your light shine upon us.

Katavasia *Repeat Irmos from above.*

Sessional Hymn - *Tone 1 podoben: Lik anheliskij*



De - picting your divine image on the i-cons, O Christ, we praise your luminous Nativity



and your strik-ing mir - a - cles, to - gether with your voluntary cru-ci - fix - ion;



the demons are driv-en back and ter - ri-fied while the im - pi-ous wail with



tears.

Cantor: Glory...



The icons of the prophets, apostles, and mar - tyrs, the sacred images of all the

saints, a - dorn the heavenly Je - ru - sa - lem which shines with the spir - it - ual
beau - ty of the Bride - groom and the spot - less Vir - gin.

Cantor: Now and ever...

O Virgin, be the rampart and strong pro - tec - tion of those who venerate your
ho - ly i - con with love. They proclaim you as truly the The - o - to - kos,
and in faith bow down be - fore you.

Ode 4

Irmos

Tone 4

See - ing you hang - ing up - on the cross, O Sun of Jus - tice,
the Church cried out to you: Glo - ry to your pow - er, O Lord!

Refrain

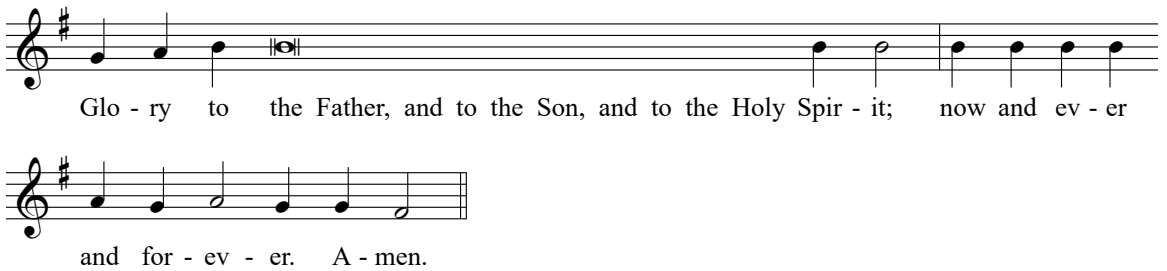
Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

By the visitation of the Paraclete, sanctify the Temple which is consecrated to you; and by the coming of the Spirit, dispel error and heresy, O most merciful Word of God. *Refrain*

You have saved the people who belong to you from the violence of the ungodly; grant that they may now sing to you in the zeal of their devotion: Glory to your power, O Lord. *Refrain*

In the holy portrayal of the icons of Christ and the Theotokos, we see the heavenly dwelling-places brilliantly represented; and we exult with a holy joy. *Refrain*

The crowned Empress, who loved and cherished the true kingdom of Christ, once again portrayed the icons of Christ and of the saints.



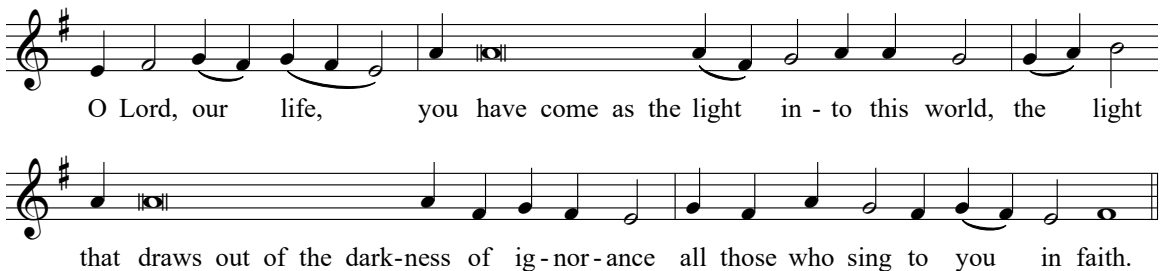
Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er
and for - ev - er. A - men.

Having given birth in the flesh to the Word of God, O full of grace, you have appeared as the sanctuary worthy of him. We also make your temple resplendent with a new brightness.

Katavasia: *Repeat Irmos from above.*

Ode 5

Irmos



O Lord, our life, you have come as the light in - to this world, the light
that draws out of the dark-ness of ig-nor-ance all those who sing to you in faith.

Refrain 

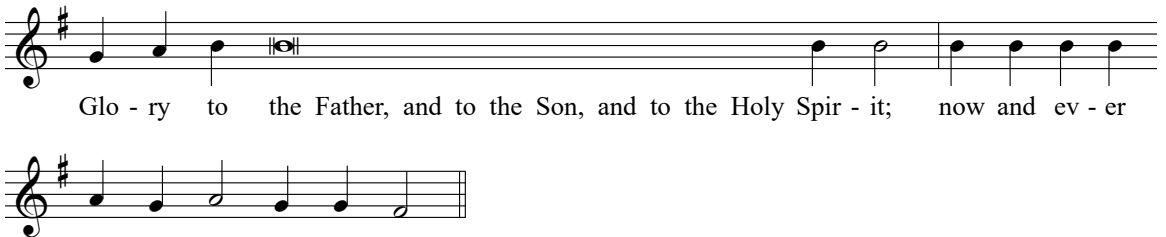
Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

O Lord, strengthen your Church so that, in the face of the tempest of heresies, it may remain unshakable forever. *Refrain*

The joy and the divine protection that the faithful receive from on high have made the whole earth resplendent. *Refrain*

O only Lord of goodness and source of every good, O Christ, raise the head of Christians of the true faith who venerate your holy image. *Refrain*

The unsetting light of our faith is risen over us by divine inspiration and by the ordinance of the faithful emperors.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er
and for - ev - er. A - men.

Renew the former majesty for us, O most pure Theotokos, and by your grace sanctify your dwelling place.

Katavasia *Repeat Irmos from above.*

Ode 6
Irmos



Your Church cries out to you in full voice, O Lord: I of - fer
you my sacri - fice of praise. In your com - pas - sion you have pu - ri - fied it

from the blood of de - mons by the blood that flows from your side.

Refrain Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

The image of the Lord is depicted, honored, and faithfully adorned; the Church once again takes courage and piously glorifies the Savior. *Refrain*

Sadness and the darkness of heresy now cease for the Church of Christ; she is clothed in the garment of joy and is surrounded by divine grace and brightness. *Refrain*

The people of the true faith have again found the glory of their former brightness, thanks to the Empress Theodora and the pious ruler Michael.

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er

and for - ev - er. A - men.

He who formerly ordered the Ark of the Covenant to be set up, now makes his dwelling in you as a spiritual ark; the only Lord, who is filled with glory, now glorifies your holy temple, O Virgin.

Katavasia: *Repeat Irmos from above.*

Kontakion - Tone 8

O The - o - to - kos, the indescribable Word of the Fa - ther be - came describable



when he took flesh from you. our soiled im - age was restored to its or - i - gi - nal form,



com - min - gled with di - vine beau - ty. This is the very salva - tion we pro - fess,



de - pict - ing it in word and deed.

Ikos:

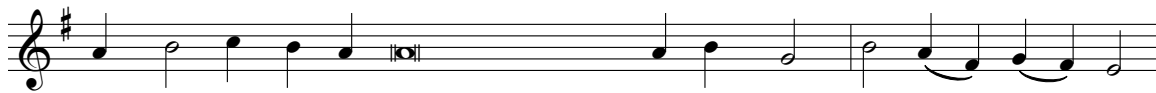
The mystery of our salvation was announced in times of old by the divinely inspired prophets. They foretold this illumination for us who have come to these last days. Through this we come to the knowledge of God, one God and Lord, glorified in three Persons, the only one whom we serve. Having one faith and one baptism, we have been clothed with Christ. May we, who believe in salvation, clothe ourselves in the same image both in word and deed.

Ode 7

Irmos



In the fur - nace of the Per - sians, the chil - dren of Abra - ham were set on fire



more by their de - vo - tion than by the heat of the flames, and they cried out:



Bless - ed are you, O Lord, in the tem - ple of your glo - ry.

Refrain

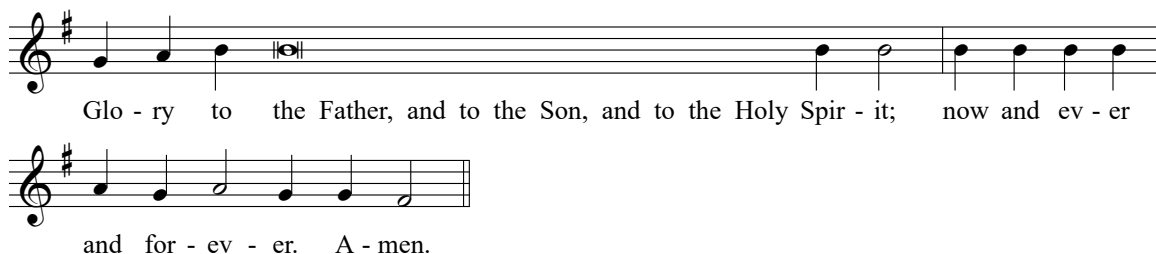


Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

The armies of angels in heaven rejoice festively together with the Church, as they sing with devotion: Blessed are you, O Lord, in the temple of your glory! *Refrain*

The Church of the firstborn now rejoices as they see the people of God singing with one heart: Blessed are you, O Lord, in the temple of your glory! *Refrain*

Delivered from the darkness of heresy by the decision of the Empress Theodora, we cry out: Blessed are you, O Lord, in the temple of your glory!



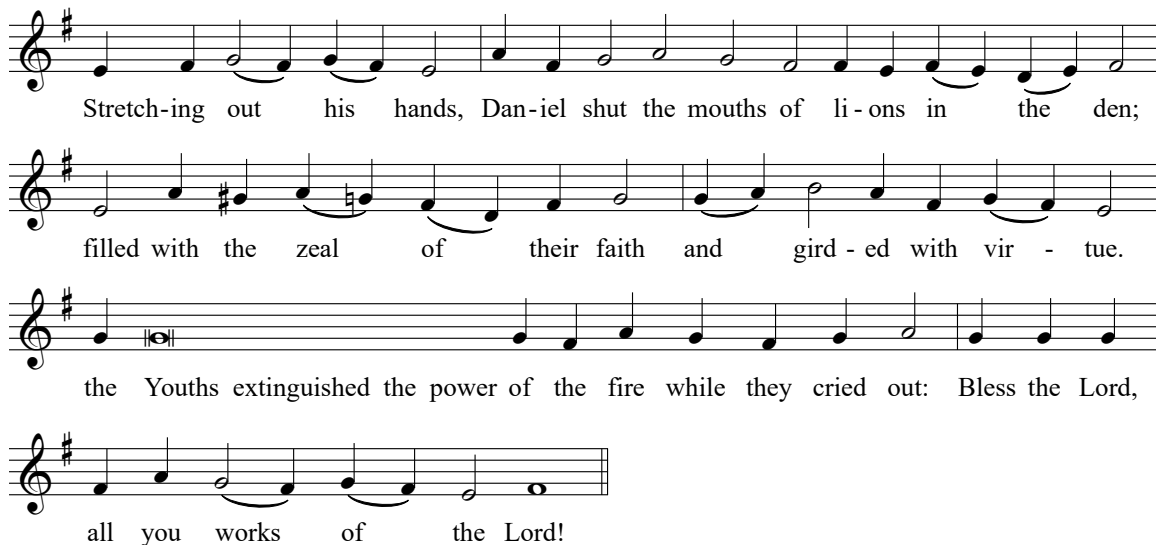
Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er
and for - ev - er. A - men.

You are raised above the heavenly choirs, O all-holy Mother of the Creator;
and we sing out in joy: Blessed are you among all women, O most pure Virgin.

Katavasia *Repeat Irmos from above.*

Ode 8

Irmos



Stretch-ing out his hands, Dan-iel shut the mouths of li-ons in the den;
filled with the zeal of their faith and gird-ed with vir-tue.
the Youths extinguished the power of the fire while they cried out: Bless the Lord,
all you works of the Lord!

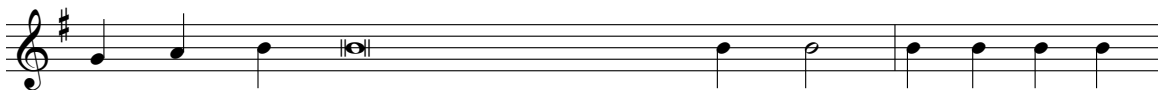
Refrain 

Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Following the tradition of our holy Fathers, we paint the images of Christ and all the saints, and with our lips, our heart and spirit, we venerate these icons as we cry out: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord. *Refrain*

The honor and veneration of the icon truly pass over to the prototype, following the teaching of the holy theologians; and in faith we sing to Christ: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord. *Refrain*

Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, the pious Empress truly cherished the splendor and beauty of the Church of Christ; and with the faithful, she blessed Jesus, who is God in human form.



Let us bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spir-it, Lord. Now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

Illumined by the rays of spiritual brightness, O Theotokos, your holy temple overshadows us with the cloud of the Spirit and sanctifies the faithful who sing with one voice: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.



Let us praise, bless, and worship the Lord, sing-ing and highly exalting him a-bove all



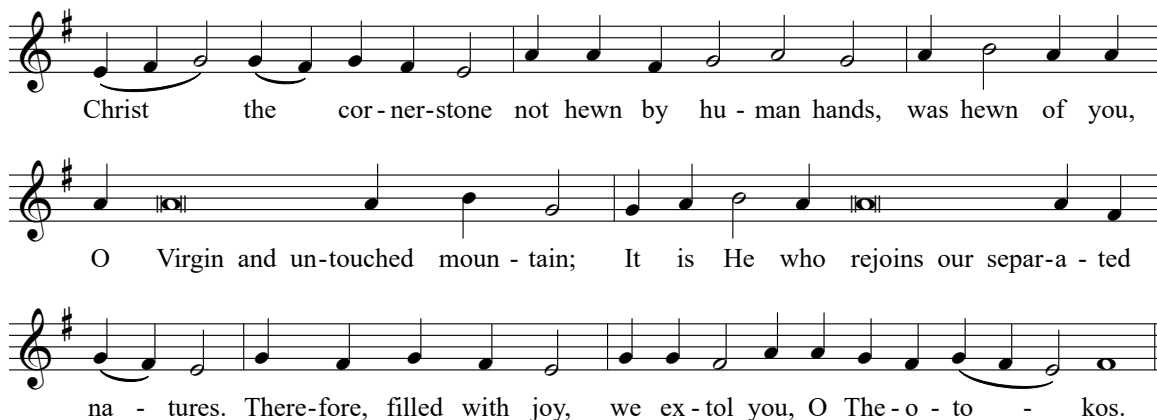
for - ev - - - er.

Katavasia *Repeat Irmos from above.*

The Canticle of the Theotokos is sung (p. 34).

Ode 9

Irmos



Christ the cor-ner-stone not hewn by hu-man hands, was hewn of you,
O Virgin and un-touched moun-tain; It is He who rejoins our separ-a-ted
na-tures. There-fore, filled with joy, we ex-tol you, O The-o-to - kos.

Refrain

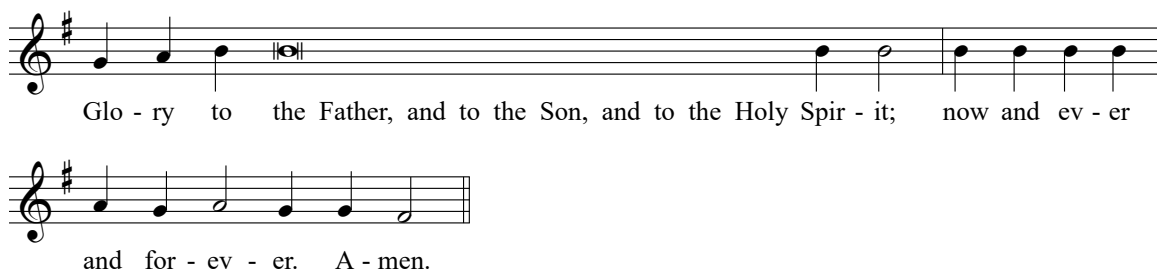


Glo-ry to you, our God, glo-ry to you.

Contemplating the Church once again adorned with the holy icons, in faith we hasten to sing out joyfully: We extol you, O thrice-holy Lord. *Refrain*

Possessing your precious Cross and the venerable icons of the saints as a high honor, the Church extols you with a joyful heart, O Lord. *Refrain*

Let our Church shine with your divine glory, O merciful Lord; surround it with angelic protection as with a rampart, and put an end to the arrogance of the pagans.



Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir-it; now and ev-er
and for-ev-er. A-men.

The condemnation of the first mother is wiped out, O holy Mother of God, for you have given birth in an ineffable manner to the Master of the universe, whose image we now venerate in his icon.

Katavasia *Repeat Irmos from above.*

Hymns of Light

“Holy is the Lord our God” is sung in the Tone of the Week, and the Sunday Resurrection Gospel is read. Then continue with the Hymns of Light from the Triodion:

Let us exult in joy and clap our hands, and in joy, let us sing: How wonderful are your works, O Christ! Who can tell of your power, O Lord? For you gather your Church in peace and harmony.

Glory...now and ever...

The sword of heresy has disappeared and its memory has forever vanished; and when we see your temple, O Theotokos, adorned with the grace of the venerated icons, we are filled with joy and delight.

Psalms of Praise (148, 149, 150)

The Psalms of Praise are sung in the Tone of the Week, with the first five stichera of the Resurrection.

Then we continue with the following stichera from the Triodion:

Cantor: (Tone 4) O praise him with resounding cymbals,
 (on 1) praise him with clashing of cymbals.
 Let everything that lives and that breathes
 give praise to the Lord.

Tone 4 podoben: Dal jesi znamenie

①

The Church now re-joic-es in you, O Lord and Lov-er of us all, its Spouse and
 Cre-a - tor; for you have saved it from the deceit of idols by your di - vine
 will and u - nit - ed it to you by your pre - cious blood. Your Church ac - cepts the
 restoration of the ho - ly i - cons and prais-es and glo-ri - fies your name.

Cantor: I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;
 (on A) I will recount all your wonders.

Ⓐ

Ex - posing your bodily image for ven - e - ra - tion, O Lord, we proclaim the great
 mystery of your work of sal - va - tion. O Christ and Lov - er of us all,
 you have been shown to our eyes, not mere - ly as an appearance as the Manichaeans
 false-ly be-lieve, but in the real-i - ty of the flesh, whose na - ture brings us



to your love.

Cantor: I shall rejoice in you and be glad,
(on B) and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.



To-day is a day of joy and glad-ness, for the truth shines bright-ly.



The Church of Christ is re-splen-dent with the bril-liance of the holy icons



that have been re-stored, and peace reigns a-mong the faith-ful.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Arise, then, Lord, lift up your hand!
O God, do not forget the poor!

Tone 6 samohlasen



Mo-ses re-ceived the Law while fast-ing; E-lijah, by fasting, closed the heav-ens;




and the three ho-ly chil-dren of A-bra-ham were vic-to-ri-ous over the




evil tyrant through their ab-stin-ence. By fasting, grant that we may partake in your



Re-sur-rec-tion, as we sing aloud, O God and Sav-ior:



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal, have



mer - cy on us.

Cantor: Glory...

Repeat the previous sticheron: "Moses receive the Law while fasting..."

Cantor: *(Tone 2)* Now and ever...

The service continues with the Sunday theokion in Tone 2, "You are truly most blessed..." (p. 40).