

Second Sunday before the Nativity

Sunday of the Forefathers

DECEMBER 11-17



1. Let us now praise fa - mous men, tell their stor - ies once a - gain.
2. Those were hon - ored in their age— priest and mon - arch, proph-et, sage—
3. These, the god - ly ones, we praise, who en - dured the dark - est days,



Rul - ing king - doms in their might, known for val - or in men's sight.
And have left be - hind a name, which their chil - dren e'er can claim.
Cov - en - ant - ed, Lord, with you, and whose grace has seen them through.



Those with coun - sel true and wise, those who saw with proph-et's eyes—
Oth - ers, though, have run this race, van - ished, leav - ing not a trace,
All our hymns of praise we bring for their stead - fast - ness, O King!



Those who wrote the psalms we sing; those who taught the sage and king.
As if they had nev - er been, they and chil - dren af - ter them.
From their seed, up - on this earth, you have tak - en hum - ble birth.



For their gifts and wit - ness, Lord, we sing praise with one ac - cord.

Text: J. Michael Thompson, based on Ecclesiasticus 44: 1-10, 13-14

Melody: Mendelssohn ("Hark! The herald angels sing")