

Vesper Propers, June 29, 2025
Third Sunday after Pentecost

THE HOLY PREEMINENT APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL

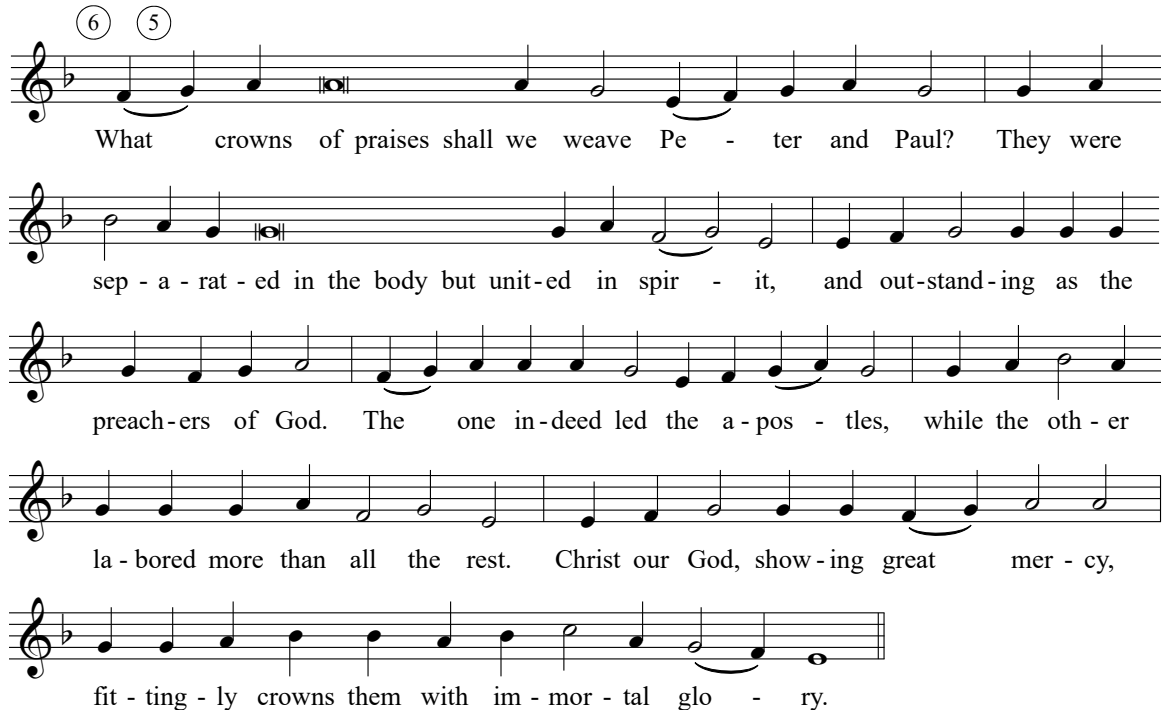
Simon, son of Jonah and brother of Andrew, was first among the disciples to confess that Jesus was the Christ, the son of the living God. It was by Jesus that he was called Peter. Paul, Apostle of the gentiles, preached Christ crucified to the Jews and the Greeks. Both announced the Gospel of Jesus Christ in faith and love in the city of Rome and died martyrs under the emperor Nero. The first, as the tradition goes, was nailed to a cross with his head downward and was buried in the Vatican next to the Triumphal Way. The other received his punishment from the sword and was interred at the Ostian Way. Their triumph, equal in honor and veneration, is celebrated by the whole world on this day.

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006

Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 2, p. 36), stichera 10-7.

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.

Stichera of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 2 samohlasen



What crowns of praises shall we weave Pe - ter and Paul? They were
sep - a - rat - ed in the body but unit - ed in spir - it, and out - stand - ing as the
preach - ers of God. The one in - deed led the a - pos - tles, while the oth - er
la - bored more than all the rest. Christ our God, show - ing great mer - cy,
fit - ting - ly crowns them with im - mor - tal glo - ry.

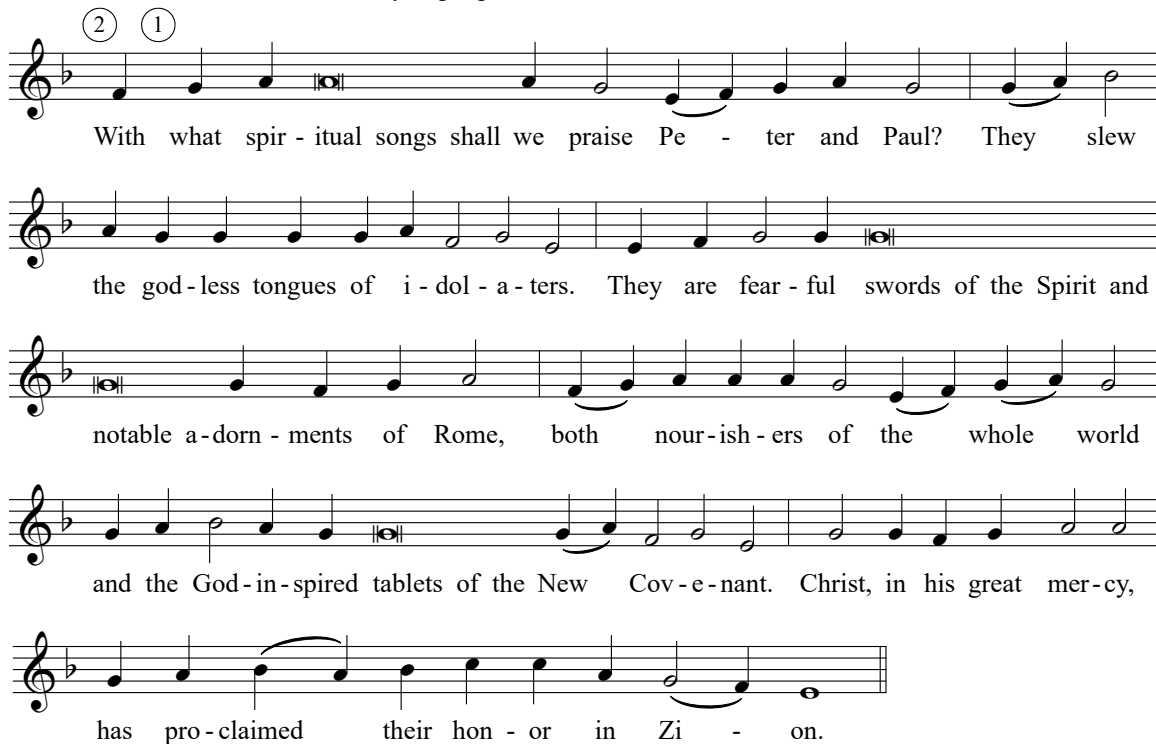
Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.
All repeat "What crowns of praise..."

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

With what beau - tiful hymns shall we praise Pe - ter and Paul? They are wings
of div - ine knowl - edge, spread - ing out to the far ends of the earth
and soar - ing a - loft to heav - en. They are two heads of the
Gos - pel of grace, two feet of the preach - ing of the truth, two
riv - ers of wisdom and two arms of the Cross, through which
the mer - ci - ful Christ casts down the pride of de - mons.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.
All repeat "With what beautiful hymns..."

Cantor: Praise the Lord all the nations; **Psalm 116**
(on 2) acclaim him all you people.

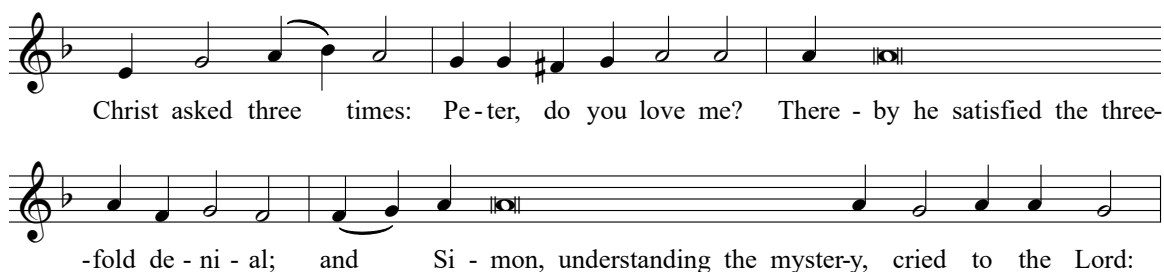


With what spir - itual songs shall we praise Pe - ter and Paul? They slew
the god-less tongues of i - dol - a - ters. They are fear - ful swords of the Spirit and
notable a-dorn - ments of Rome, both nour-ish - ers of the whole world
and the God-in-spired tablets of the New Cov-e-nant. Christ, in his great mer-cy,
has pro-claimed their hon - or in Zi - on.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever. *All repeat "With what spiritual songs..."*

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Doxastikon of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 4 samohlasen



Christ asked three times: Pe-ter, do you love me? There - by he satisfied the three-
-fold de - ni - al; and Si - mon, understanding the myster-y, cried to the Lord:

You know all things, you know that I love you. Af-ter this Christ said to him:
 Feed my sheep, feed my lambs; feed those sheep which I have fashioned with my
 own blood. There - fore, O blessed apos-tle of God, be-seech him to
 grant us great mer - cy.

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

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the Week (Tone 2, p. 42)

The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening (p. 12)

Prokeimenon of Saturday evening

Readings: I Peter 1: 3-9 (EOT 320-321)
 I Peter 1: 13-19
 I Peter 2: 11-24

Hymns of the Litija


Tone 2 Bolhar

①


Come to-day, as-sem - blies of the faith - ful, O choirs full of praise, O
beau-ti - ful gath - er - ing, O cho-sen crafts - men of grace,
we are crown-ing Pe - ter and Paul with wor - thy praise. They sowed the
Word in its full - ness; through them the grace of the Spirit was poured
out a - bun - dant - ly. And be - ing the vine of the true Vine - yard,
they di - vid - ed up for us a ripe cluster, mak-ing our hearts joy - - - ful.
Let us sing to them with clear ex-pres - sion, and with a clear con - science,
let us say: Re-joyce, O de-stroy - ers of the un - wise,




and the serv-ants of the Spir-it - u - al One. Re-joice, O intermedi - ar - ies




for good who ban-ish e - vil. Let us be - seech them to always pray the



Cre-a - tor and Teach - er to grant en-dur-ing peace to the world



and great mer - cy to our souls.




Let us praise as in - ter - ces - sors for the world, the teach - ers and



foun-da-tions of the Church of Christ, its true pil - lars and walls,



trum-pets of the di - vine teach - ings and suf - fer - ings of Christ, the prime




a - pos - tles Pe - ter and Paul. They tra - veled through-out the earth




as though with a cloud, sow - ing the faith, and plant-ed a



knowl - edge of God in all, re-veal - ing the Word of the Trin - i - ty.



O Pe - ter, rock of foundation, and Paul, O cho - sen ves - sel, you were



har - nessed to - geth - er to the will of Christ. You raised up all cre - a - tion




to a knowl - edge of Christ, the na - tions, the cit - ies, and the is - lands.



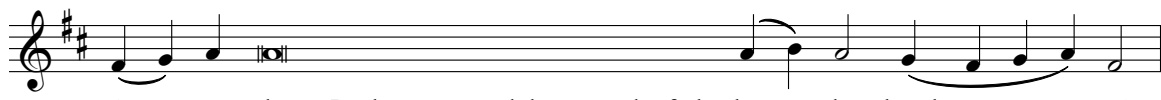
In - deed, you lift - ed up anew the He - brews in - to the Church, and now you



pray that our souls be saved.



O Pe - ter, the first of the glo - ri - ous a - pos - tles and rock of faith!



O won - drous Paul, orator and lampstand of the ho - ly church - - es!



Stand - ing be - fore the di - vine throne, pray to Christ



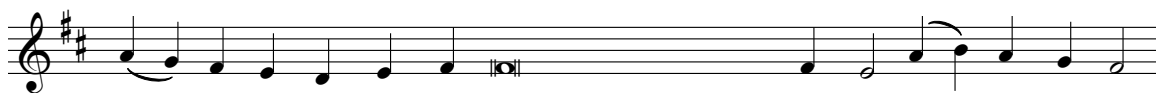
for us.



Paul, spoke-man of the Lord and foun - da - tion of doc - trine!



Once you were a persecutor of Je - sus the Sav - - - ior,



and then in-deed you were among the first of the a-pos-tles, O bless-ed one.



You saw the Inef-fa-ble One, O wise A-pos - tle. You were trans-port-ed



up to the third heav - en and you ex - claimed: Come with me and do not



be de-priv-ed of the good things.



O cit - i-zens of the heav-en-ly Je-ru-sa-lem, be-hold the rock of faith and the



orator of the Church of Christ, the two men of the Trini-ty and fish - ers

Tone 3 Samohlasen

of the world, to - day are de - part - ing from the earth. Suf - f'ring the
 Pas - sion, they as - cend to God, and they pray to him with con - fi - dence
 to save our souls.

Cantor: *(Tone 5) Glory...*

Doxastikon - Tone 5 Bolhar

The wis - dom of God and the Word who is co - eter - nal with the Fa - ther
 has tru - ly fore - told in the Gos - pel, O all - praise - wor - thy A - pos - tles,
 that you are the two most fruit - ful vines, for you bore in your branches
 the ripe and beau - ti - ful clus - ter from which we be - liev - ers are
 now nour - ished, and whose taste brings us both sweet - ness and de - light.

There-fore, O Pe - ter, rock of faith, and Paul, pride of the u - ni - verse,
 strength - en the flock that be - came yours through your teach - ings.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion - same tone

We bless, you, O The - o - to - kos and Vir - gin; and we faith - ful ones
 glo - ri - fy you al - ways. You are the in - ef - fa - ble cit - y,
 the might - y wall, the pow - er - - - ful me - di - a - - trix,
 and the ha - - - ven of our souls.

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

Aposticha

Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 2, page 43), concluding with:

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory....

Aposticha doxastikon of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 6 samohlasen

To - day a delightful feast has shone forth to the ends of the earth,
the all-solemn memorial of the most wise and first a-pos - tles, Pe - ter and Paul.
Let Rome, therefore, receive the glad tid - ings, re - joic - ing; and let us
feast on this solemn day, cry-ing out to them: Re - joice, O Peter, apostle and special
friend of the Teach-er, Christ our God. Re-joyce, O tru - ly be-lov-ed Paul,
the preach-er of the faith and teacher of the u - ni-verse. Be-cause of your privi-lege,
O ho - ly ones, be-seech Christ our God to save our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

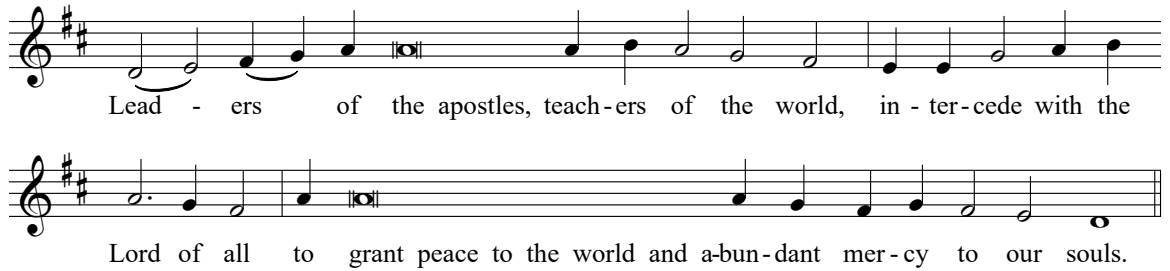
Aposticha theotokion in the same tone (Tone 6, page 90).

Troparia

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 2, p. 47), then:

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Troparion of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 4



Lead - ers of the apostles, teach-ers of the world, in - ter-cede with the
Lord of all to grant peace to the world and a-bun-dant mer-cy to our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Festal Theotokion in the same Tone (Tone 4, page 68).