


*The service continues on page 20*



# BRIDEGROOM MATINS
## The Morning Service for the First Three Days of Holy and Great Week




Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
March 2026

# Foreword

On the days following His entry to Jerusalem, Christ spoke to His disciples in particular about the signs that will precede the Last Day (Matthew 24 and 25); and so this forms the theme of the first part of Holy Week...The eschatological challenge of the first three days of Holy Week is summed up in the Troparion and the Exapostilarion [i.e., the Hymn of Light], both of which are repeated three times to a slow and solemn melody. The Troparion is based on the parable of the Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13); the Exapostilarion, on the parable of the man cast out from the feast because he had no wedding garment (Matthew 22:11-13). Here, presented in especially urgent terms, is the call that we have heard on many occasions in Lent: the End is near at hand; be watchful; repent while there is still time.

Each of the three days has its own particular theme:

(1) On **Monday** we commemorate the Patriarch Joseph, whose innocent sufferings (Genesis 37:39-40) prefigure the Passion of Christ. Also we commemorate the barren fig tree cursed by our Lord (Matthew 21:18-20)--a symbol of the judgment that will befall those who show no fruits of repentance.

(2) On **Tuesday**, the liturgical texts refer chiefly to the parable of the Ten Virgins, which forms the general theme of the three days. They refer also to the parable of the Talents which comes immediately after it (Matthew 25:14-30). Both these are interpreted as parables of judgement.

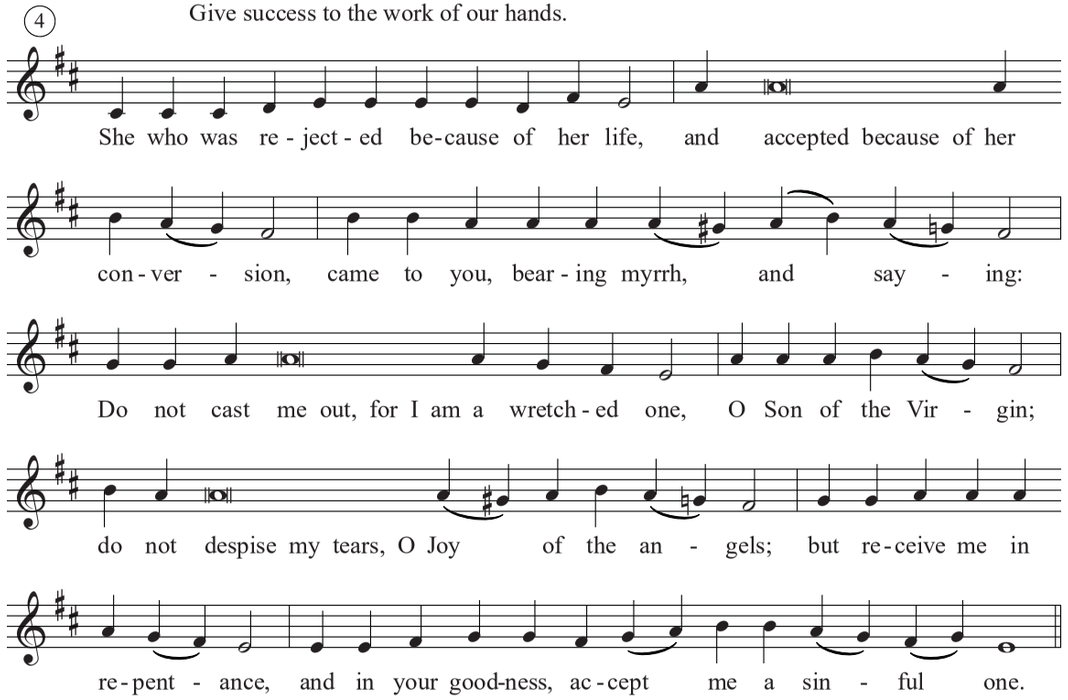
(3) On **Wednesday** we commemorate the woman that was a sinner, who anointed Christ's feet as He sat in the house of Simon. In the hymnography of the day, the account in Matthew 26:6-13 is combined with that in Luke 7:36-50 (cf. also John 12: 1-8). A second theme is the agreement made by Judas with the Jewish authorities; the repentance of the sinful harlot is contrasted with the tragic fall of the chosen disciple. The Triodion makes it clear that Judas perished, not simply because he betrayed his Master, but because, having fallen into the sin of betrayal, he then refused to believe in the possibility of forgiveness...If we deplore the actions of Judas, we do so not with vindictive self-righteousness but conscious always of our own guilt: "Deliver our souls, O Lord, from the condemnation that was his."

The Bridegroom Services are rich in the ancient znammenyj chants of our church. The samopodoben melodies for the Bridegroom Troparion and the Hymn of Light are transcribed from the *Tserkovnoje Prostopinije* of Bokshaj and Malinic. The podobens for the Sessional Hymns and Kontakia are transcribed from Galician sources (Polotniuk and Fedoriw). The canon irmosi are transcribed by Jeffrey Mierzejewski from Theodore Ratsin's *Prostopinije* (1925).

Like the other publications of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute, this setting of the service of Bridegroom Matins is UNOFFICIAL and subject to change or revision by the Cantor Institute, the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission, or the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church *sui juris* of Pittsburgh. We hope that it provides spiritual benefit to all who use it.

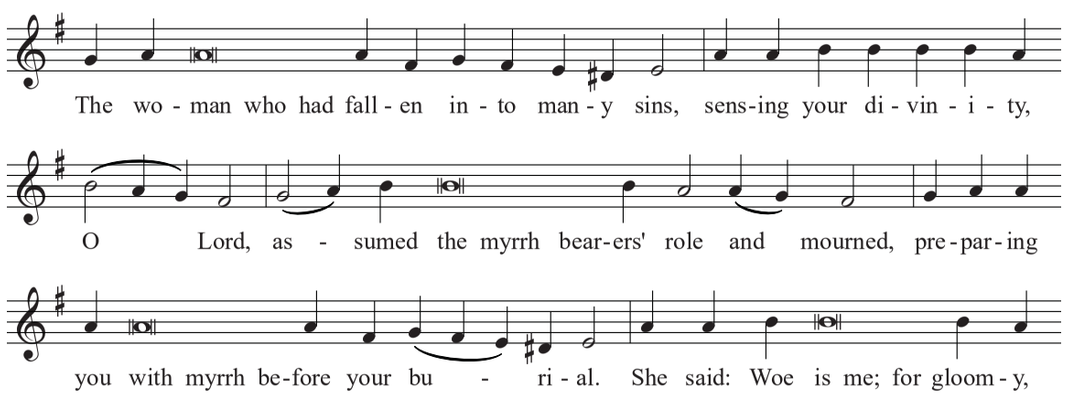
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**Cantor:** Let the brightness of the Lord be upon us;
give success to the work of our hands!
Give success to the work of our hands.




**Cantor:** *(Tone 8)* Glory…now and ever…

**Doxastikon** *Tone 8 samohlasen*






**Cantor:** Give us joy to balance our affliction
for the years when we knew misfortune.
Show forth your work to your servants,
let your glory shine on their children.






## Bridegroom Matins

*The celebrant, vested in dark epitrachilion, makes a full incensation of the Church. The deacon precedes him with the candle. After the incensation, the celebrant stands before the holy doors, holding the censer. The deacon stands to his right and says:*

**Deacon:** In the name of the Lord, Father, give the blessing.

*While making the sign of the cross with the censer, the celebrant says:*

**Celebrant:** Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, always, now and ever and forever.

**Response:** 


*Three times, each time with a bow:*




*Twice:*




*The lector, holding a candle and standing in the middle of the church, reads Psalm 3. During this psalm, the celebrant says the Prayers of Light of Matins in front of the holy doors. The deacon returns to the altar.*

**Psalm 3** How many are my foes, O Lord!
How many are rising up against me!

How many are saying about me:
“There is no help for him in God.”

But you, Lord, are a shield about me,
my glory, who lift up my head.

I cry aloud to the Lord.
He answers from his holy mountain.

I lie down to rest, and I sleep.
I wake, for the Lord upholds me.

I will not fear even thousands of people
who are ranged on every side against me.

Arise, O Lord; save me, my God,
you who strike my foes on the mouth,
you who break the teeth of the wicked!

O Lord of salvation,
bless your people!

I lie down to rest, and I sleep.
I wake, for the Lord upholds me.

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

*And then with a bow each time:*

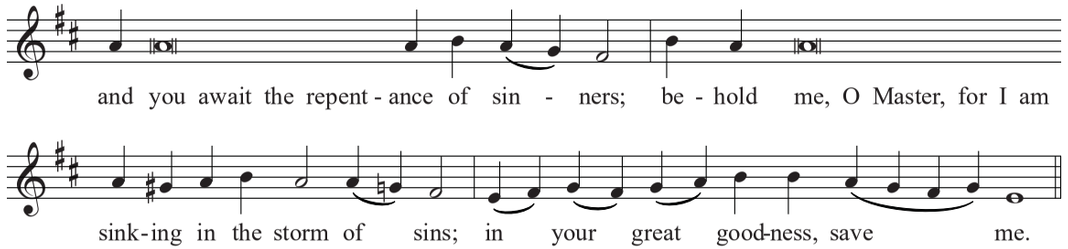
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! *(twice)*

*The third time, all sing with melody:*




*The deacon comes to the ambon to say the Litany of Peace. He and the celebrant bow to each other, and the celebrant returns to the altar. If there is no deacon, the celebrant says this litany before the holy doors, remaining outside the altar.*

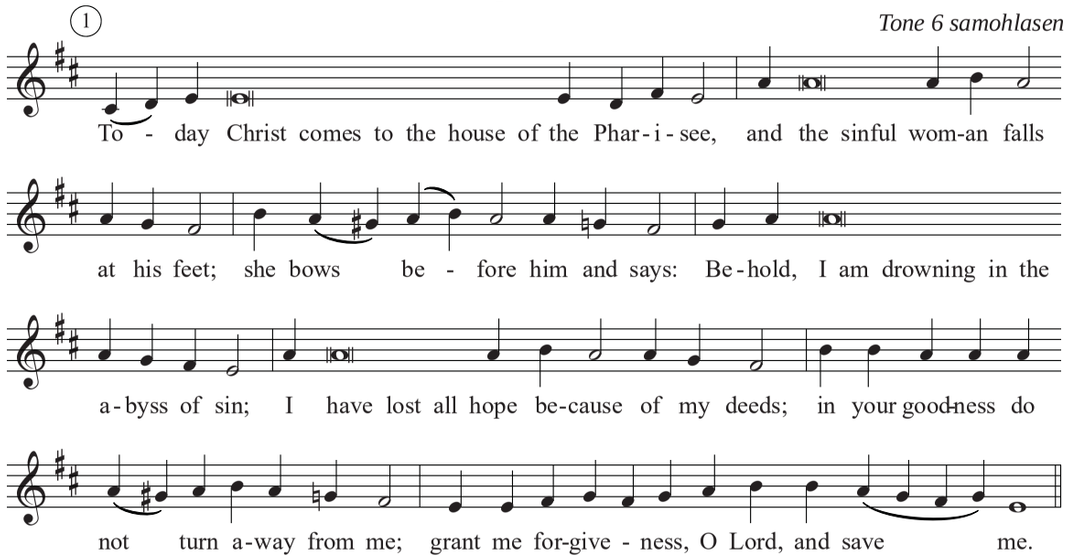




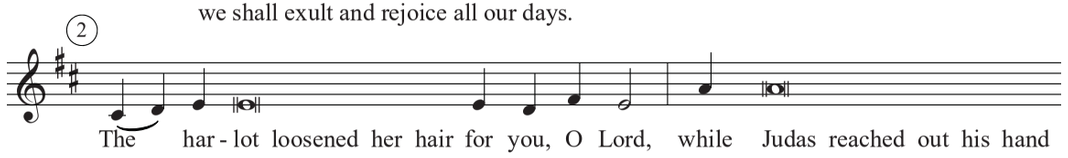

*The service continues on page 16.*

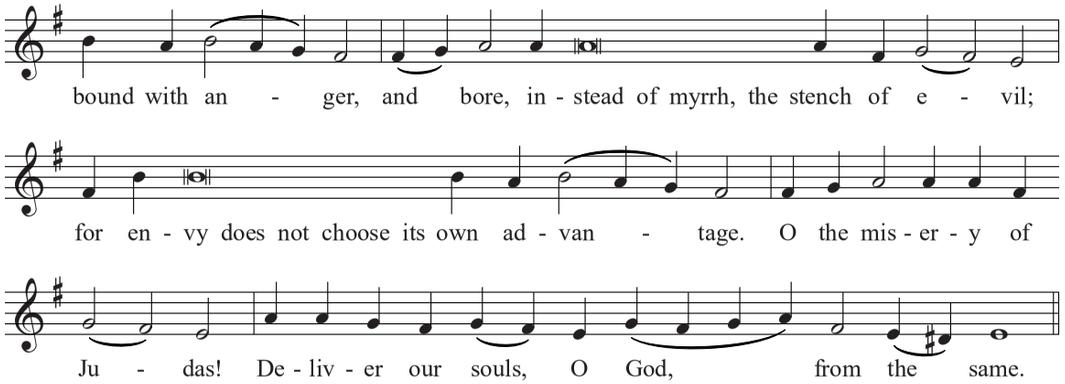
## Aposticha

*Tone 6 samohlasen*



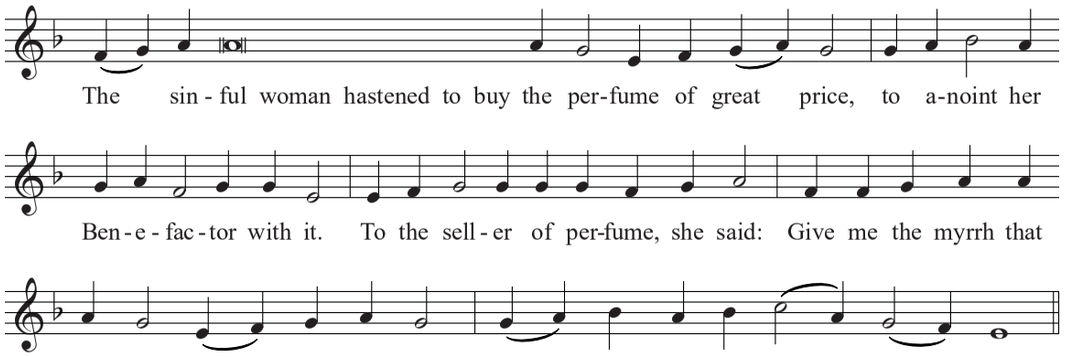

**Cantor:** In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.



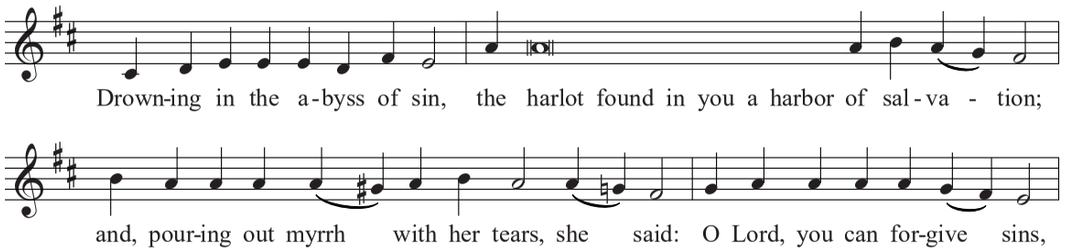



**Cantor:** *(Tone 2)* Glory…

**Doxastikon** *Tone 2 samohlasen*




**Cantor:** *(Tone 6)* Now and ever… *Tone 6 samohlasen*






## Litany of Peace

**Deacon:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** For our holy father, *(Name),* pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For our most reverend Metropolitan *(Name),* for our God-loving Bishop *(Name),* for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For this city, for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the captive, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

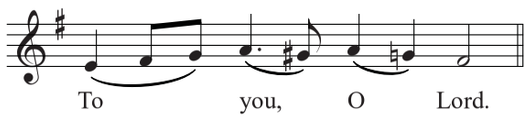
**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**Response:**

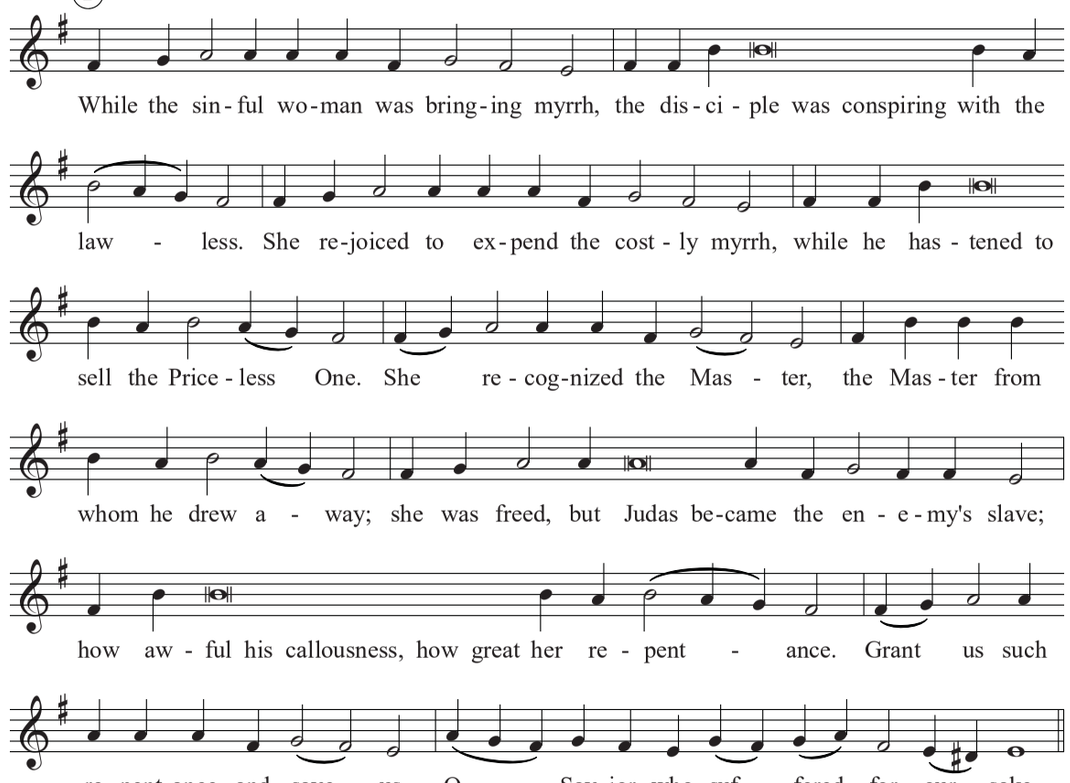



**Celebrant:** We thank you, Lord our God, for you have raised us from our beds, and have put into our mouth a word of praise that we may worship and call upon your holy name. By your mercy which you always bestow upon our lives, we pray: now send forth your help to those who stand before the presence of your holy glory and await your rich mercy; grant that they may always serve you with fear and love, praising your inexpressible goodness.

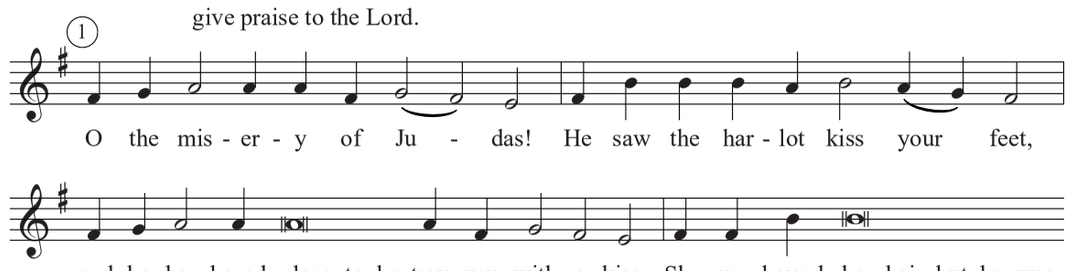
For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship, now and ever and forever.



**Cantor:** *(on 2)* Praise him with timbrel and dance,
praise him with strings and pipes.



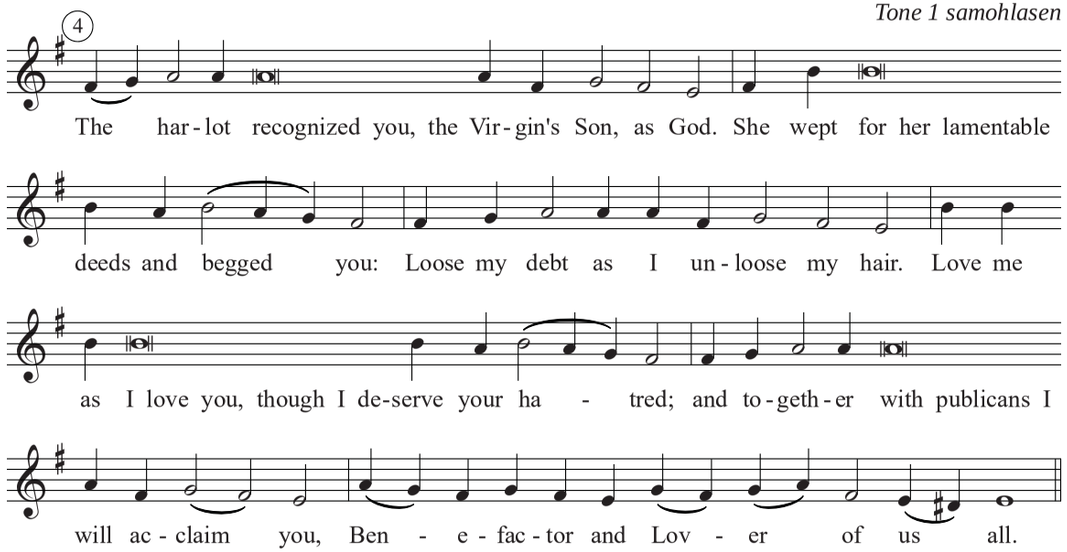

**Cantor:** *(on 1)* O praise him with resounding cymbals,
praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Let everything that lives and that breathes
give praise to the Lord.



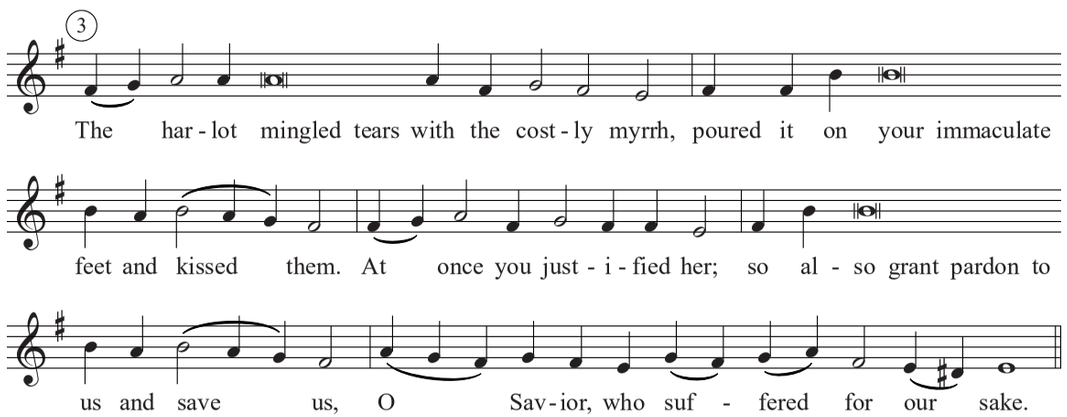
## Stichera at the Praises

**Cantor:** *(Tone 1)* Praise him for his powerful deeds,
*(on 4)* praise his surpassing greatness.

*Tone 1 samohlasen*




**Cantor:** O praise him with sound of trumpet;
*(on 3)* praise him with lute and harp.






**Response:**




## Alleluia and Troparion

*"Alleluia" is sung in the tone of the Troparion that follows it. The deacon remains at the ambon and chants the verses. If there is no deacon, the celebrant remains at the holy doors and chants the verses.*

**Deacon, then All:** *Tone 8 podoben: Se ženich hrjadet*



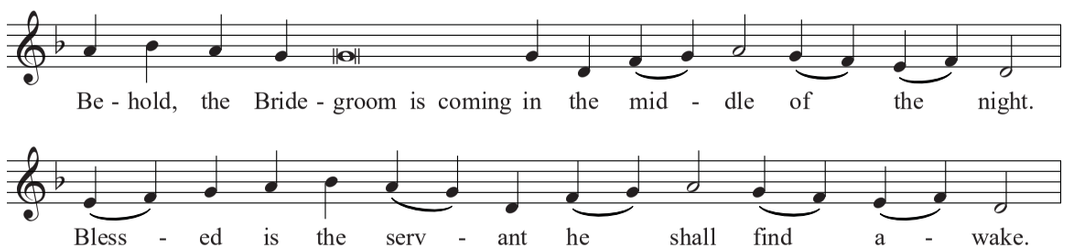

*Verse:* At night my soul yearns for you, O God,
for your commandments are a light upon the earth.. *Repeat Alleluia.*

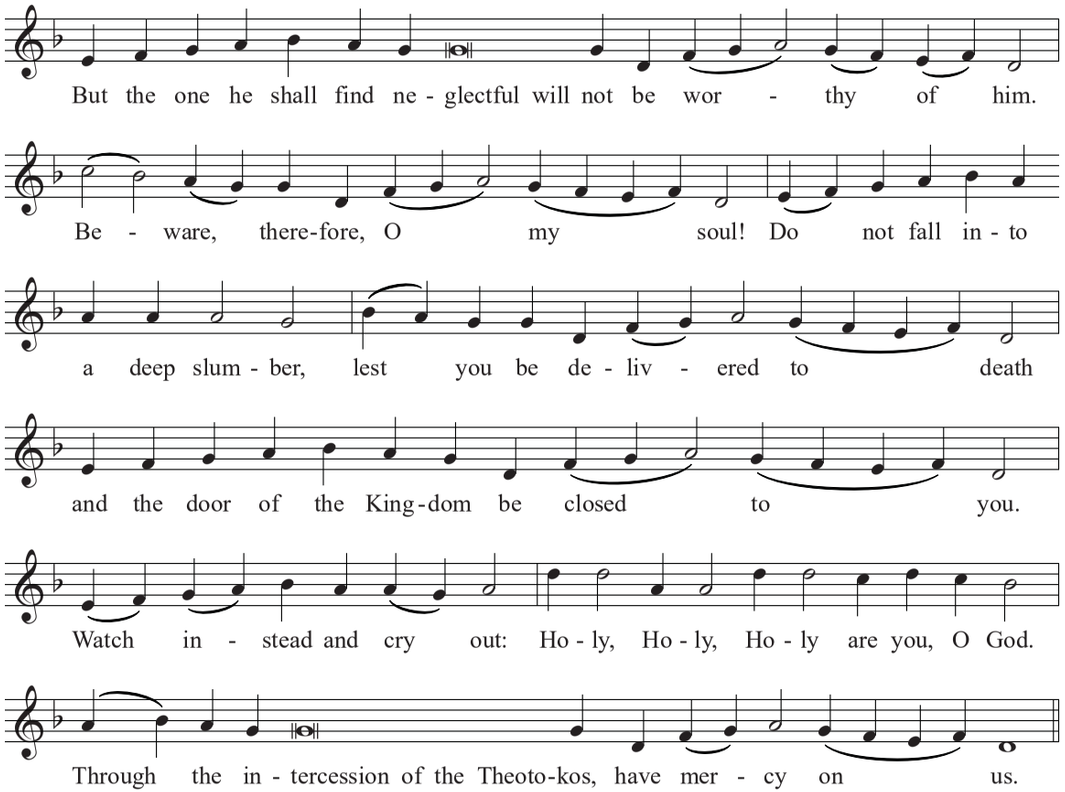
*Verse:* Learn justice, inhabitants of the world. *Repeat Alleluia.*

*Verse:* Jealousy will seize an untaught people. *Repeat Alleluia.*

*Verse:* Bring evils upon them, O Lord,
bring evils upon them, the glorious ones of the earth. *Repeat Alleluia.*

**Troparion -** *Tone 8 podoben: Se ženich hrjadet*






**Cantor:** Glory…

*All repeat "Behold, the Bridegroom is coming…"*

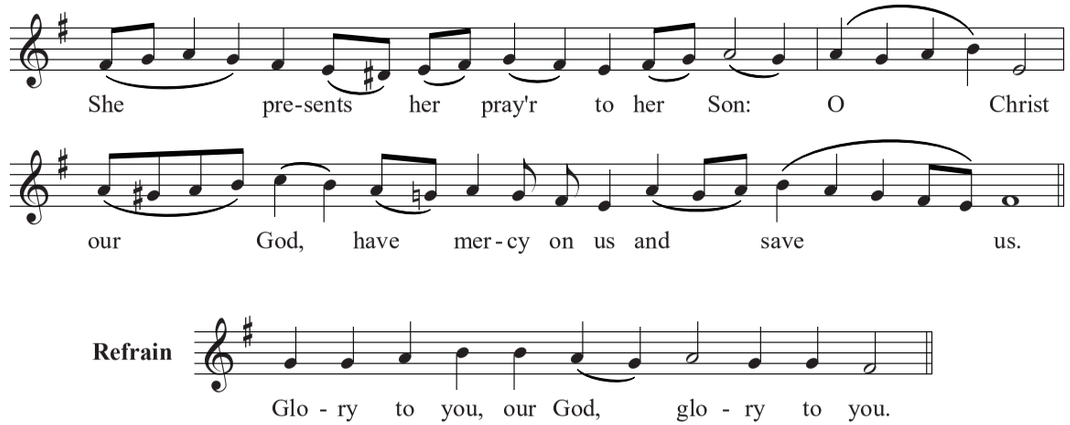
**Cantor:** Now and ever…

*All repeat "Behold, the Bridegroom is coming…"*

*The sessional hymns of the day are now sung.*

*Monday, page 26*
*Tuesday, page 40*
*Wednesday, page 52*



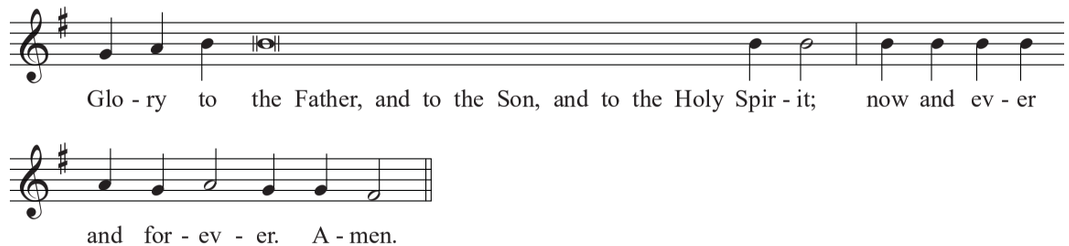



**Refrain**




Full of jealousy, the wretched Judas reckons the price of the ointment worthy of God, of this precious vessel offered for sin, and from whom forgiveness flows forth; he makes a business of grace and divine love. O Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. *Refrain*

Going out to find the leaders of the godless ones, Judas asks: What will you give me, if I will hand Christ over to you, the One whom you seek. He traded your friendship for money; O Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

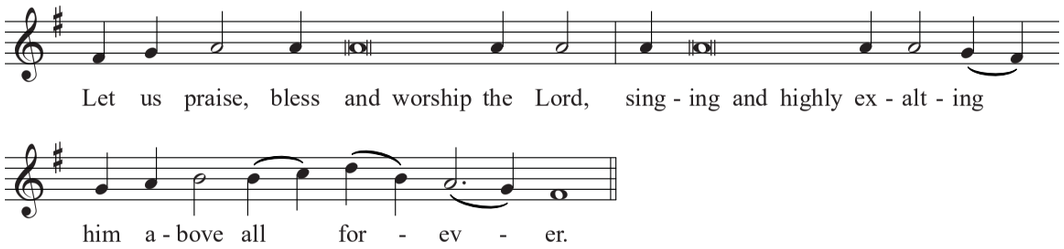



Blinded by his love of money, he lost all sense of mercy; the traitor forgets that the entire universe is not worth the loss of his soul, as you have taught. Therefore he goes out in desperation and hangs himself. O Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

*Katavasia: Repeat Irmos from above.*

*The service continues with the Small Litany on page 12.*

The mystery of forgiveness is fulfilled for the woman who was converted by the mercy of the Savior; she was bathed in the fountain of her tears, and she was no longer ashamed, but cried out in joy: Bless the Lord, all you his works, and exalt him above all forever.




*Katavasia: Repeat Irmos from above.*

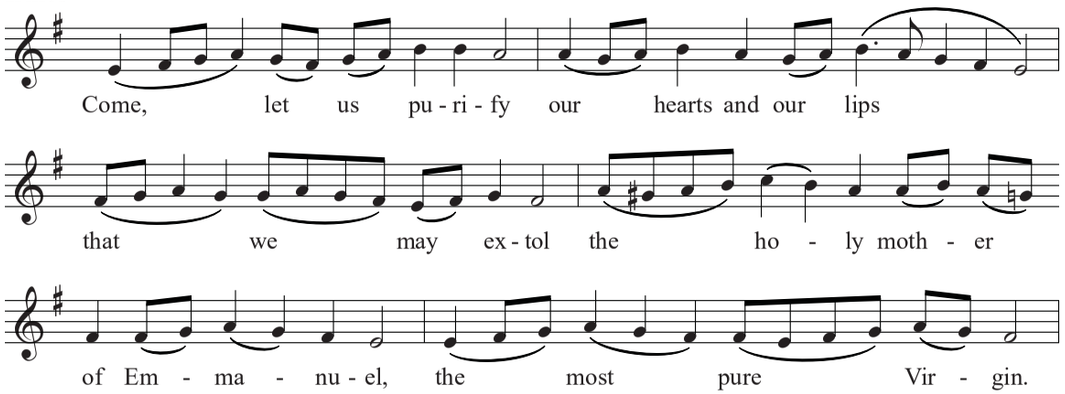
*At the end of the Eighth Ode, the celebrant (or deacon) comes with the censer before the icon of the Theotokos on the icon screen. Incensing her icon, he intones:*

**Deacon:** Let us greatly extol the Theotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns.

*Then he incenses the whole church as usual, beginning with the holy table.*

*The Canticle of the Theotokos is **not** sung.*

**Ode 9**
**Irmos**






**Deacon** That we be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel,
let us pray to the Lord God.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the holy Gospel.

**Celebrant:** Peace be to all!

**Response:**




**Celebrant:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to *(Name).*

**Response:**



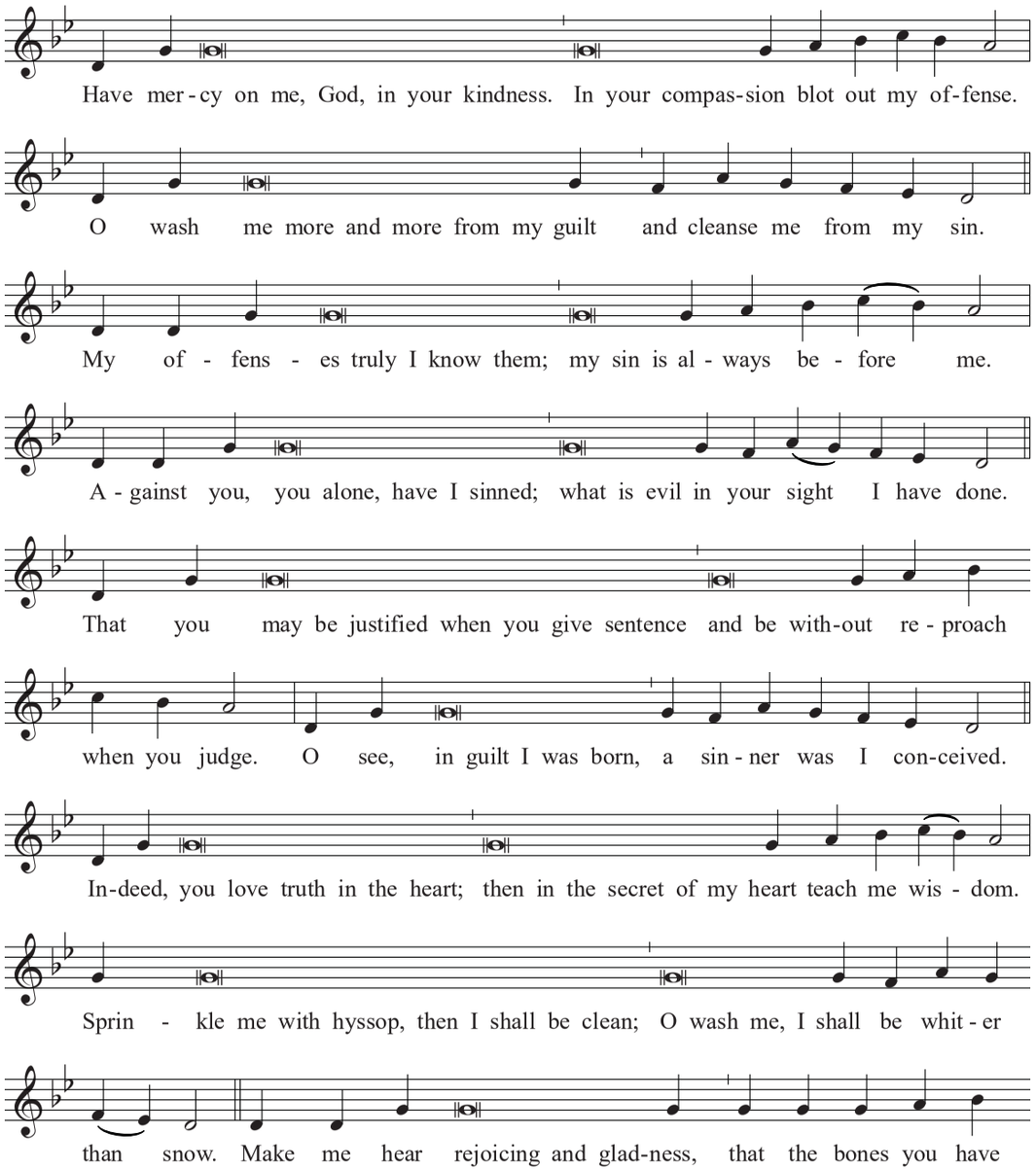

**Gospel:** *(Monday)* Matthew 21:18-43
*(Tuesday)* Matthew 22:15-23, 29
*(Wednesday)* John 12:17-50

**Response:**

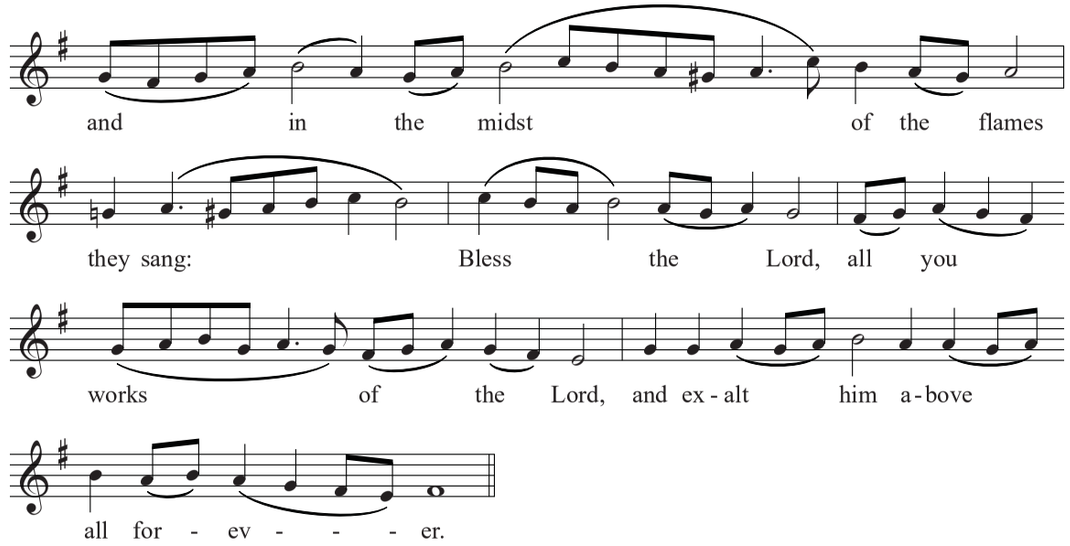



*After reading the Gospel, the celebrant closes the holy gospel, kisses it, and takes it to the center of the church to set upon the tetrapod. The holy gospel remains on the tetrapod until the Lesser Doxology.*

## Psalm 50






**Refrain**

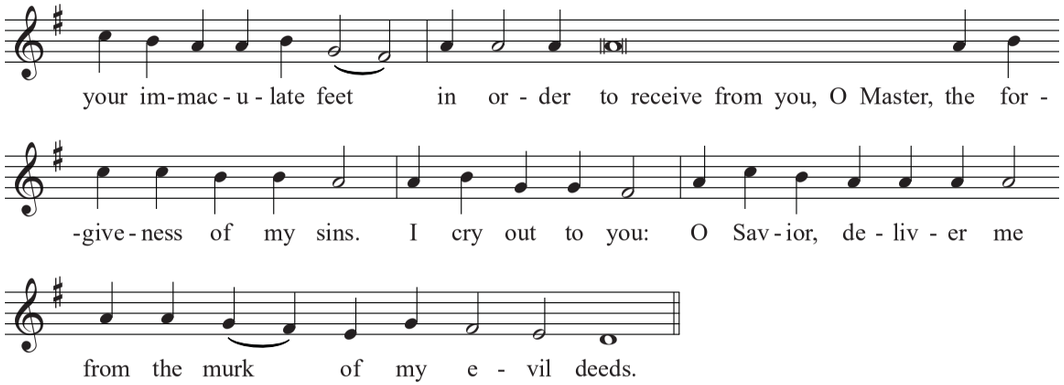



The woman poured out the precious perfume over the head of her Master and her God; and with her impure hands, she grasped your most pure feet, O Christ, and sang: Bless the Lord, all you his works, and exalt him above all forever.




Bathing the feet of the Creator with her tears, the sinful woman dried them with her hair; through this, she received the forgiveness of all the sins of her life, and she sang: Bless the Lord, all you his works, and exalt him above all forever.

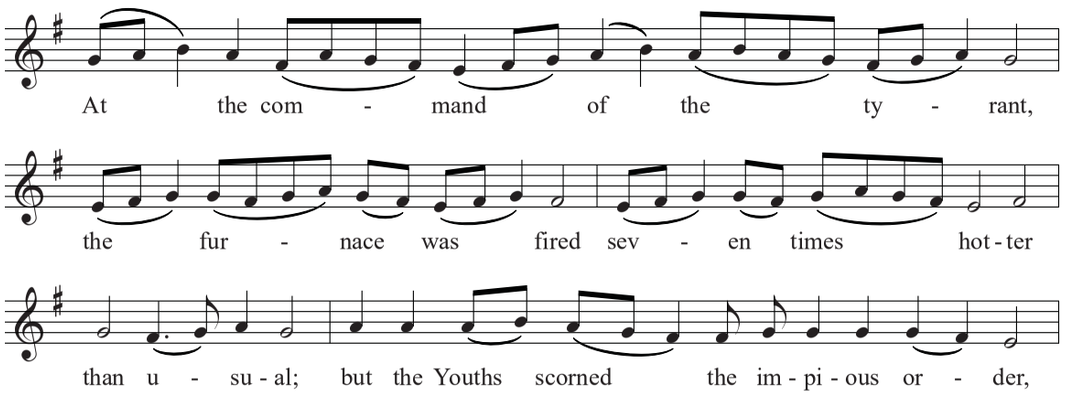





**Ikos** The woman, who was once lost, now suddenly appears to be virtuous; hating her sinful deeds and the pleasures of the flesh, she thinks about shame and judgment, and the punishment that awaits the corrupt. I tremble, for I am the first among sinners; in my madness, I continue in my sinful ways; but the sinful woman also trembles and hastens to her Redeemer, crying out to him:

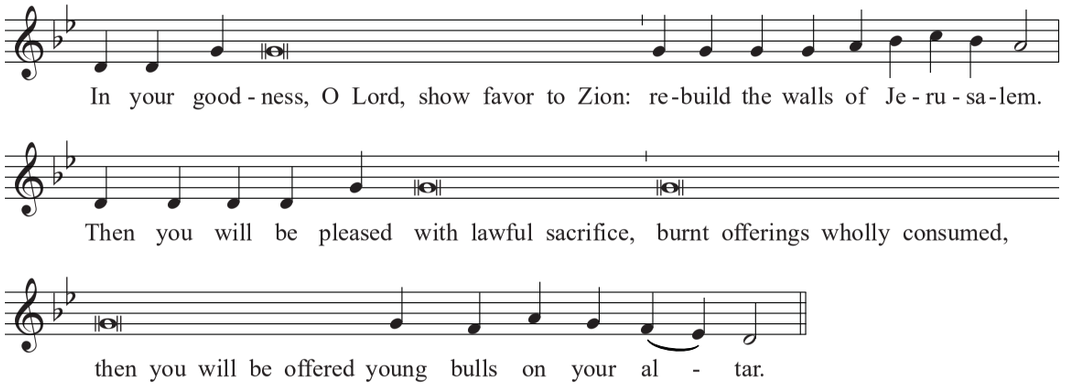



**Ode 8**
**Irmos** *Tone 2*








*Then the deacon, standing before the icon of our Lord, says:*

**Deacon:** Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance. Watch over your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the strength of true Christians and send down upon us your abundant mercies. Through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary; by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable and heavenly angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyrs Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo, Paul, bishop of Prešov; and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of all other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints; we beseech you, all-merciful Lord, hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.

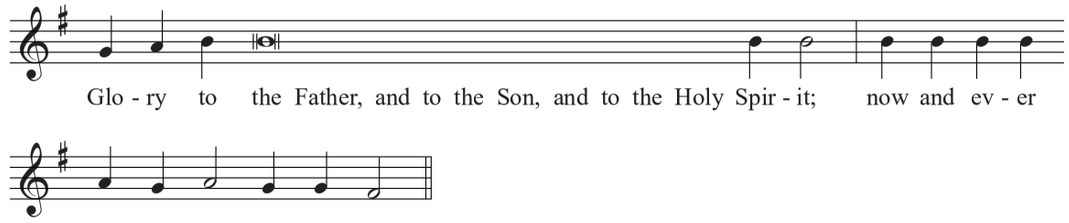





**Refrain**



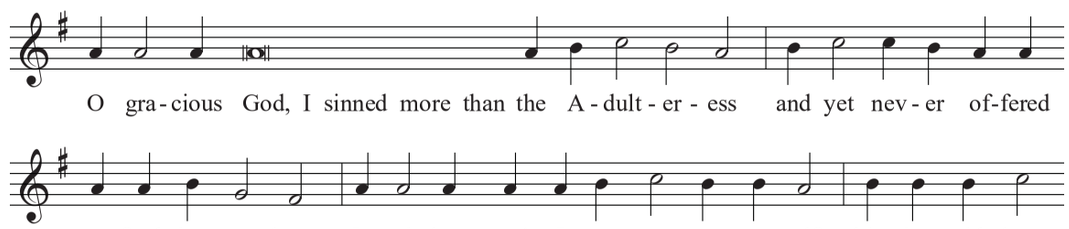

The assembly of the impious ones gathers in vain to deceitfully condemn you, the Redeemer whom we praise, O Christ; you are our God; no one is holy as you, O Lord.




In their revolt against God, the evil council of the impious ones seeks to find a way to do away with you as an intruder, O Christ, the only just One, to whom we sing: You are our God; no one is holy as you, O Lord.

*Katavasia: Repeat Irmos from above.*

**Kontakion** *Tone 4 podoben: Voznesiisja*

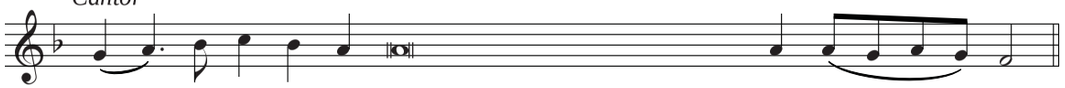








*Cantor*







*All repeat "With her sighs…"*

*The service continues on page 7.*

## Canon

**Ode 3**

**Irmos** *Tone 2*



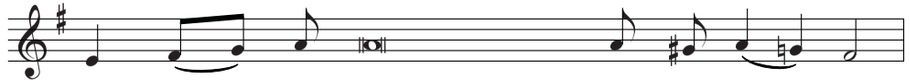


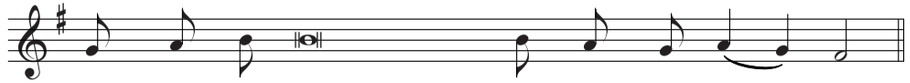







**Response:**




*(sung twice)*

**Celebrant:** Lord our God, you have given us forgiveness through repentance, and as a model of knowledge and confession of sins, you have revealed the repentance of the prophet David that led to pardon. Now, O Master, to us who have fallen into so many and so great sins: have mercy in your kindness, and in your compassion blot out our offenses, for against you have we sinned, O Lord, who alone know the hidden depths of our hearts, and who alone have the power to forgive sins. A pure heart you have created for us; a steadfast spirit you have put within us; and you have made known to us the joy of your salvation. Do not cast us away from your presence, but in your goodness and love for all, grant that we may offer a sacrifice of righteousness and oblation on your holy altars until our last breath. Through the mercies, kindness, and love of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

**Response:**




*The celebrant and deacon enter the altar.*

*The Canon for the day is now sung.*

*Monday, page 29* *Tuesday, page 42* *Wednesday, page 54*

*At the end of the Eighth Ode, the celebrant (or deacon) comes with the censer before the icon of the Theotokos on the icon screen. Incensing her icon, he intones:*

**Deacon:** Let us greatly extol the Theotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns!

*Then he incenses the whole church as usual, beginning with the holy table.*

*The Canticle of the Theotokos is **not** sung. The Canon continues with the Ninth Ode*

*Monday, page 32* *Tuesday, page 45* *Wednesday, page 58*

*At the end of the Ninth Ode, the deacon says the Small Litany at the ambon.*
*If there is no deacon, the celebrant says this litany before the holy doors.*

## Small Litany

**Deacon:** Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:**



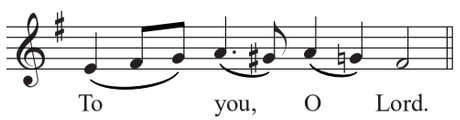

**Deacon:** Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

**Response:**




**Celebrant:** God, our God, you have placed all intellectual and spiritual powers under your will. We pray and entreat you, accept the hymn of glory which we offer to you according to our ability together with all your creatures. Give us in return the riches of your goodness, for before you all beings in the heavens or on earth and under the earth bend their knees, and everything that lives and that breathes sings of your incomprehensible glory, for you are the one true and most-merciful God.

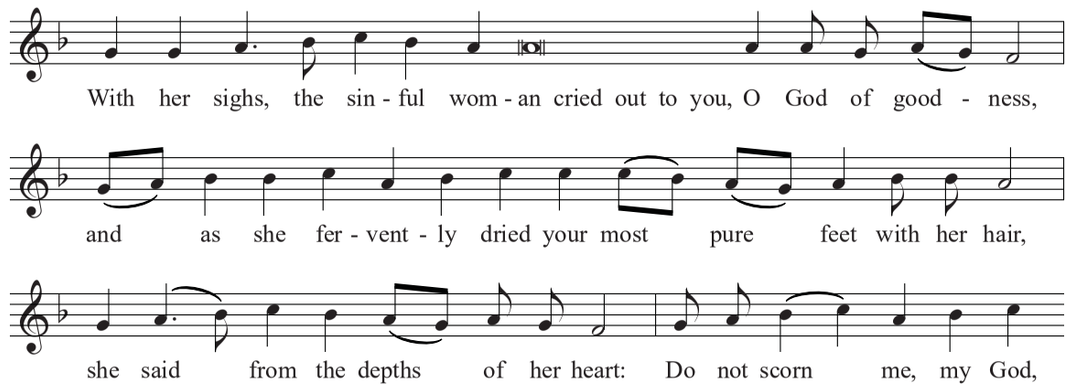
For all the heavenly powers praise you, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.





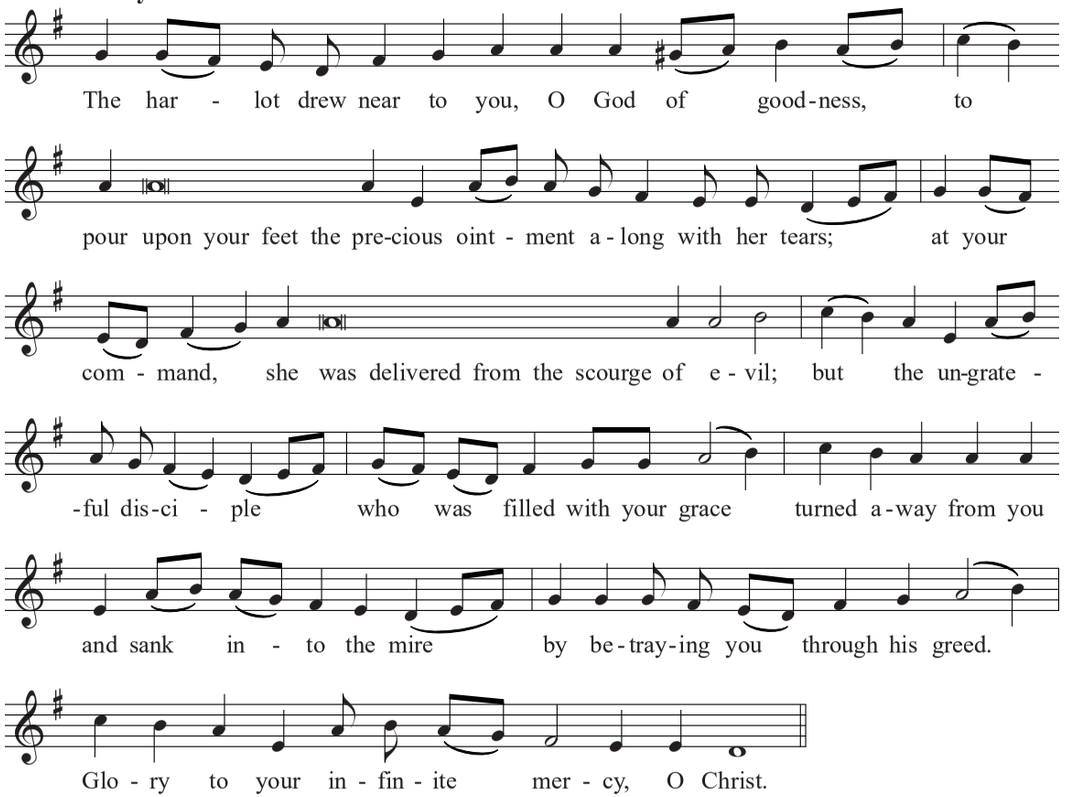

*All repeat "Driven by his love of money…"*

**Sessional Hymn 3** *Tone 1 podoben: Hrob tvoj*



## Matins Propers for Holy and Great Wednesday

**Sessional Hymn 1** *Tone 3 podoben: Krasot'i*




**Cantor:** *(recto tono)* Glory…now and ever…

*All repeat "The harlot drew near to you…"*

**Sessional Hymn 2** *Tone 4 podoben: Udivisja Josif*



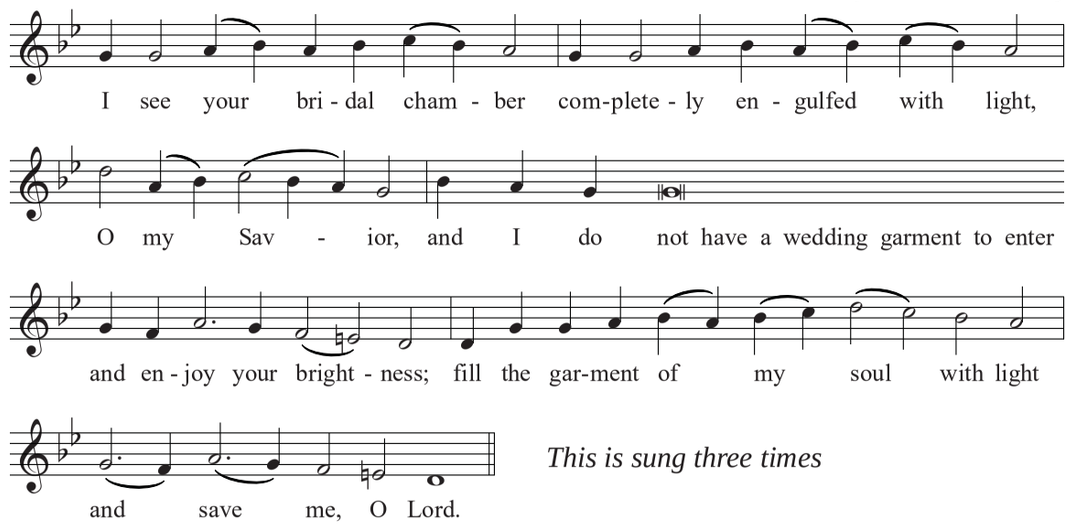



**Response:**




## Hymn of Light

*Tone 3 podoben: Čertoh tvoj*




*This is sung three times*

## The Psalms of Praise

**Psalm 148**




Praise him, all his angels.
Praise him, all ***his*** hosts.

Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, shin***ing*** stars.

Praise him, highest heavens
and the waters above ***the*** heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord.
He spoke and they were made; he commanded: they were ***cre***ated.

He fixed them for ever,
gave a law which shall not pass ***a***way.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
sea creatures and ***all*** oceans,

fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy winds that obey ***his*** word;

all mountains and hills,
all fruit trees ***and*** cedars,

beasts, wild and tame,
reptiles and birds on ***the*** wing;

all earth's kings and peoples,
earth's princes ***and*** rulers,

young men and maidens,
old men together ***with*** children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord
for he alone is ***ex***alted.

The splendor of his name
reaches beyond heaven ***and*** earth.

He exalts the strength of his people.
He is the praise of all ***his*** saints,

of the sons of Israel,
of the people to whom he ***comes*** close.

**Psalm 149**

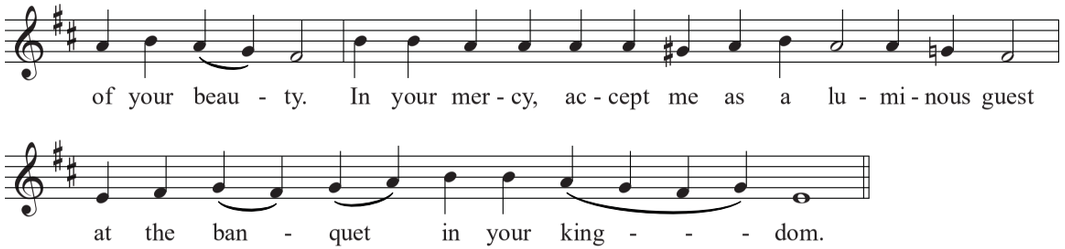
Sing to the Lord a new song of praise
in the assembly of ***the*** faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,
let Zion's sons exult in ***their*** king.






*The service continues on page 20*




**Cantor:** *(Tone 7)* Glory…now and ever…

**Doxastikon -** *Tone 7 samohlasen*






Let them praise his name with dancing
and make music with timbrel ***and*** harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.
He crowns the poor with ***sal***vation.

Let the faithful rejoice in glory,
shout for joy, and take ***their*** rest.

Let the praise of God be on their lips
and a two-edged sword in ***their*** hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations
and punishment on all ***the*** peoples;

to bind their kings in chains
and their nobles in fetters ***of*** iron;

to carry out the sentence pre-ordained:
this honor is for all ***his*** faithful.

**Psalm 150**

Praise God in his holy place,
praise him in his migh***ty*** heavens.

*For 4 stichera:*

Praise him for his powerful deeds,
praise his surpassing greatness.

*For 3 stichera:*

O praise him with sound of trumpet,
praise him with lute and harp.

*For 2 stichera:*

Praise him with timbrel and dance,
praise him with strings and pipes.

*For 1 sticheron:*

O praise him with resounding cymbals,
praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Let everything that lives and that breathes
give praise to the Lord.

*The Stichera for the day are found on the following pages:*
*Monday, page 34* *Tuesday, page 46* *Wednesday, page 60*

*The celebrant stands before the holy doors and says:*

**Celebrant:** To you is due glory, O Lord our God, and we give glory to you,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Glory to you who show us the light!

## The Lesser Doxology




We praise you, we bless you, ***we*** worship you, we glorify you,
we thank you for your ***great*** glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, Father Almighty;
Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Ho***ly*** Spirit.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy ***on*** us.

You take away the sins of the world, hear our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy ***on*** us.

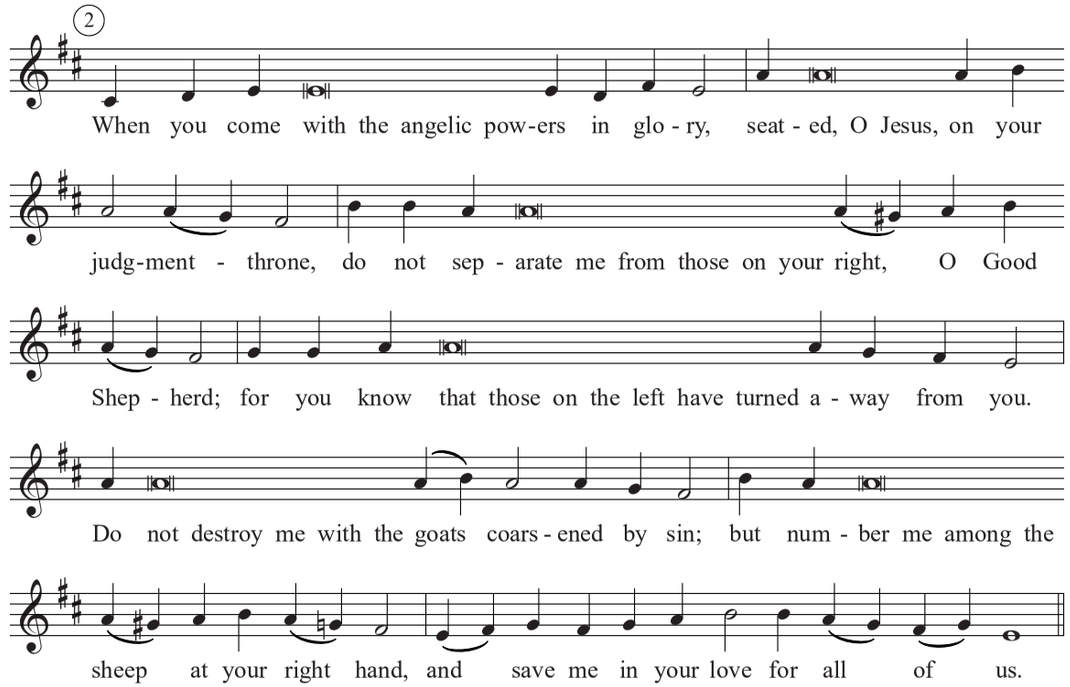
For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord, Jesus Christ,
to the glory of God the Father, ***A***men.

I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name ***for***ever.

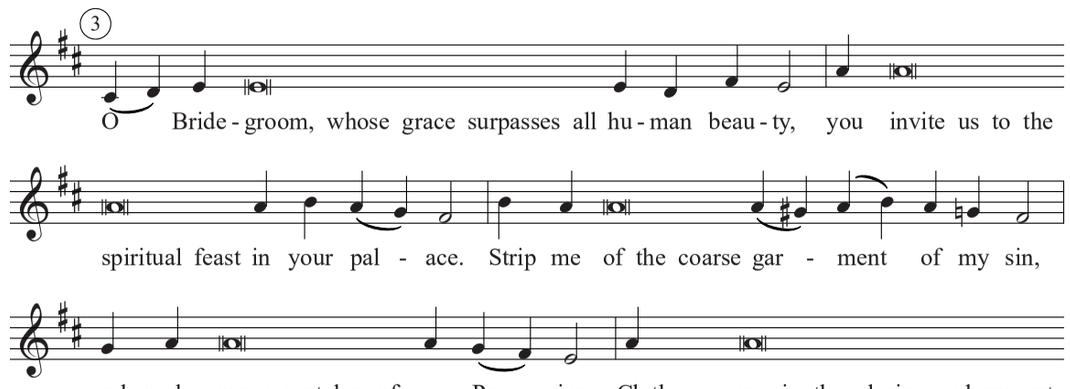
O Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to ***the*** next.

I said: Lord, have mercy on me,
heal my soul for I have sinned ***a***gainst you.






**Cantor:** Let the brightness of the Lord be upon us;
give success to the work of our hands!
Give success to the work of our hands.



## Aposticha

*Tone 6 samohlasen*




**Cantor:** In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Give us joy to balance our affliction
for the years when we knew misfortune.
Show forth your work to your servants,
let your glory shine on their children.



O Lord, I have fled to you for refuge.
Teach me to do your will, for you, O Lord, are ***my*** God.

In you is the source of life and in your light we see light,
Extend your mercy to those ***who*** know you.

Make us worthy, O Lord,
to be kept sin less ***this*** morning.

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers,
and praiseworthy and glorious is your name forever. ***A***men.

May your mercy, O Lord, be upon us
who have placed our hope ***in*** you.

Blessed are you, O Lord;
teach me your ***com***mandments. *(reverence)*

Blessed are you, O Master;
make me understand your ***com***mandments. *(reverence)*

Blessed are you, O Holy One;
enlighten me with your ***com***mandments. *(reverence)*

O Lord, your mercy is forever;
despise not the work of ***your*** hands.

To you is due praise, to you is due a hymn;
to you is glor***y*** due.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

*The deacon says the following litany at the ambon. If there is no deacon, the celebrant says this litany at the holy doors.*

**Deacon:** Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God,
by your grace.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** That this whole day be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin,
let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** For an angel of peace, a faithful guide and guardian of our souls
and bodies, let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses,
let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:** Grant this, O Lord. (3)

**Deacon:** For what is good and beneficial to our souls and for peace in the world,
let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:** Grant this, O Lord (4)

**Deacon:** That we may spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance,
let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:** Grant this, O Lord. (3)












**Cantor:** 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. *Repeat "My slothful soul has been asleep…"*

**Cantor:** *(Tone 4)* Glory…now and ever…

**Doxastikon -** *Tone 4 samohlasen*







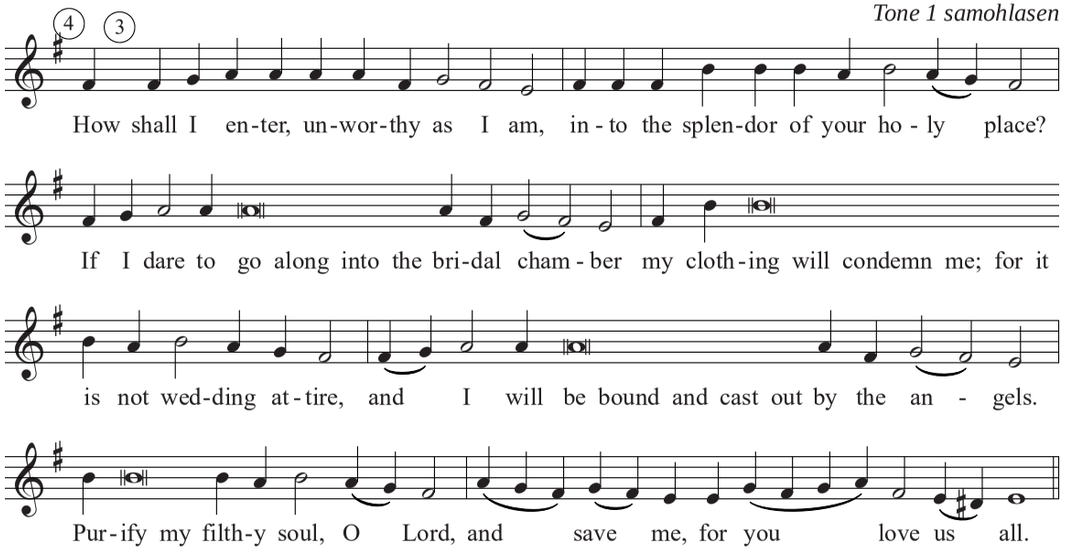



*The service continues on page 16.*

**Stichera at the Praises**

**Cantor:** *(Tone 1)* Praise him for his powerful deeds,
*(on 4)* praise his surpassing greatness.

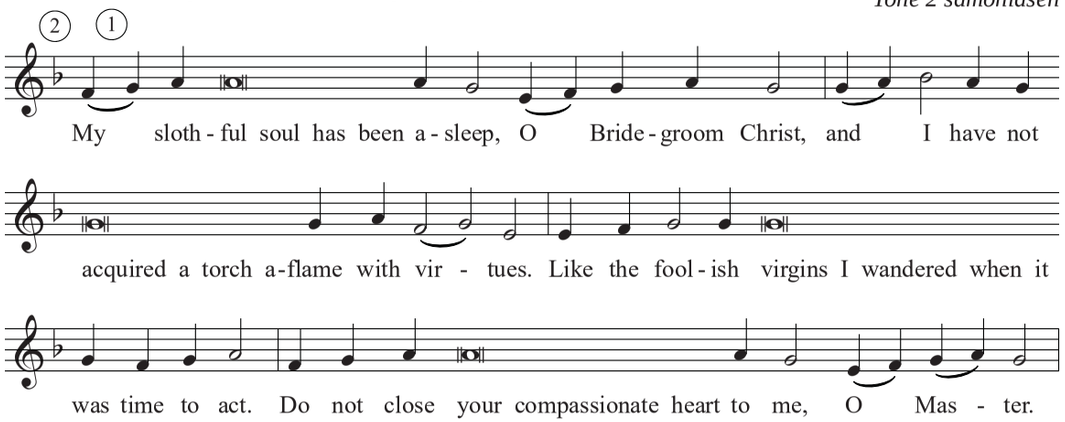
*Tone 1 samohlasen*




**Cantor:** O praise him with sound of trumpet;
*(on 3)* praise him with lute and harp. *Repeat "How shall I enter…"*

**Cantor:** *(Tone 2)* Praise him with timbrel and dance,
*(on 2)* praise him with strings and pipes.

*Tone 2 samohlasen*



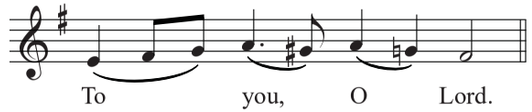



**Deacon:** For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life,
and for a good account before the fearsome judgement-seat of Christ,
let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:** Grant this, O Lord. (4)

**Deacon:** Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**Response:**




*The celebrant, standing before the holy doors, says:*

**Celebrant:** We praise you, we sing to you, we bless you, and we thank you, God of our Fathers, for you have banished the dark of night and shown us once again the light of day. We beseech you, forgive our sins and accept our prayer in your great tenderness of heart because we take refuge in you, the merciful and all-powerful God. Shine in our hearts your true Sun of Justice. Enlighten our minds and guard all our senses, so that walking blamelessly in the path of your commandments as in daylight, we may reach eternal life, for in you is the source of life. Make us worthy to enjoy the unapproachable light. For you are our God and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

**Response:**




**Prayer over Bowed Heads**

**Celebrant:** Peace be to all!

**Response:**



**Deacon:** Bow your heads to the Lord.

**Response:**




**Celebrant:** Holy Lord, you dwell on high and look upon the lowly, and with your all-seeing eye you watch over all creation. To you we bend our neck in spirit and body and we implore you, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling place and bless us all. If we have sinned, voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive us as a good and loving God, giving us earthly and heavenly gifts. For you have mercy and save us, O our God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

**Response:**




*The celebrant and deacon enter the altar.*

*The apostichera for the day are now sung.*

*Monday, page 37* *Tuesday, page 48* *Wesdnesday, page 63*

*Then, the faithful chant to the usual psalm tone:*

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praises to your name, O ***Most*** High,
to proclaim your mercy in the morning
and your faithfulness throughout ***the*** night.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal,
have mercy ***on*** us. *(3 times)*

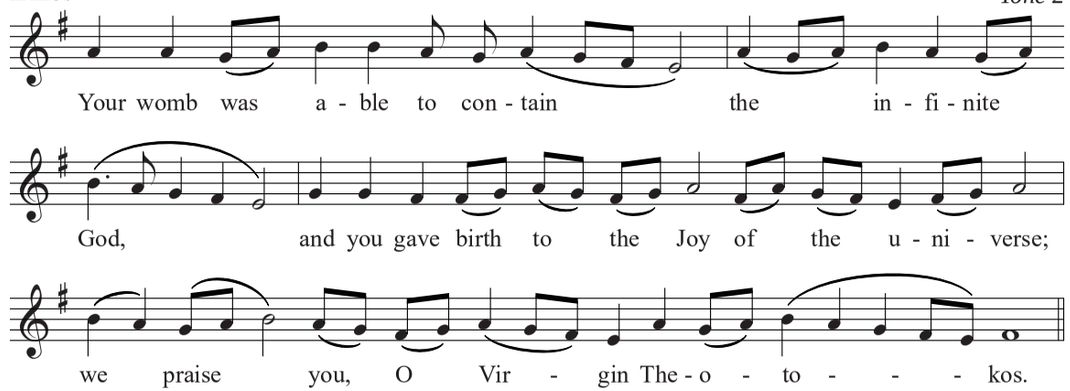
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spïrit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.



*Then he incenses the whole church as usual, beginning with the holy table.*

*The Canticle of the Theotokos is **not** sung.*

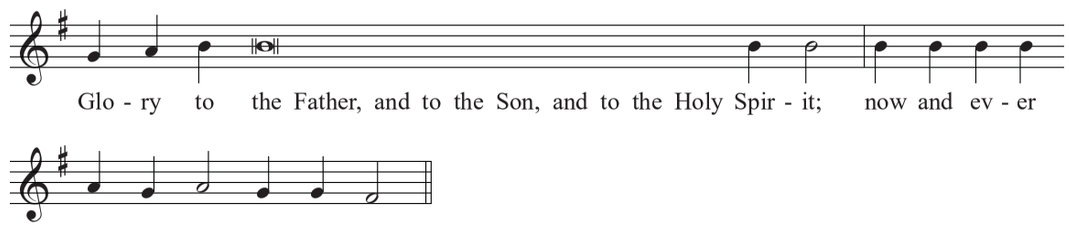
**Ode 9**
**Irmos** *Tone 2*




**Refrain**




You said to your disciples, O God most good: Be vigilant, for you do not know the time of the coming of the Lord.




At your awesome and second coming, O Master, place me at your right side with your sheep, and do not consider the multitude of my sins.

*Katavasia: Repeat Irmos from above.*

*The service continues with the Small Litany on page 12.*

**Refrain**




Let us cast slothfulness far away from us; let us carry our bright lamps and go to meet Christ, the immortal Spouse whom we praise: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.




May our souls be abundantly filled with the oil of charity, so that we do not have to go and buy it, instead of welcoming the Bridegroom and singing: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.




Since God has given you equal grace and strength, multiply your talent with the help of Christ, to whom we sing: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.







*Katavasia: Repeat Irmos from above.*

*At the end of the Eighth Ode, the celebrant (or deacon) comes with the censer before the icon of the Theotokos on the icon screen. Incensing her icon, he intones:*

**Deacon:** Let us greatly extol the Theotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns.



Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our transgressions,
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for ***your*** name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, ***have*** mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho***ly*** Spïrit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us ***from*** evil.

**Celebrant:** For thine is the kingdom and the power and glory,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

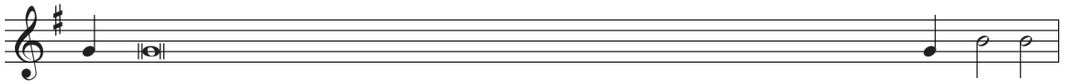
**Response:**

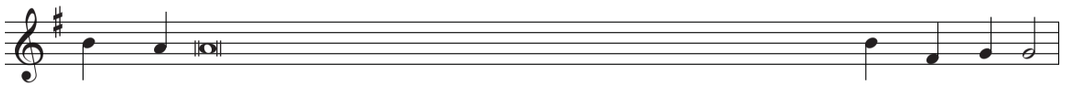



## Dismissal

**All:** As we stand in the temple of your glory,
we consider ourselves standing ***in*** heaven.

O Theotokos, heavenly gate,
open to us the doors of ***your*** mercy.




*(sung four times)*

*After the last time:*




**Celebrant:** Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

**Response:**




**Celebrant:** King of heaven, support our civil authorities, confirm the faith, calm the nations, give peace to the world and safeguard this city (*or* this holy monastery). Grant those who have gone before us a dwelling place among the righteous, and accept us in repentance and confession and have mercy on us, for you are good and love us all.

**Response:**




**All:**












**Ikos** O my poor soul, why are you listless and concerned with vain cares? Why do you think about those things which only pass away? Behold, the final hour is here, and we must separate ourselves from the things of this life. Wake up while there is still time, and cry to the Lord: I have sinned against you; do not uproot me as the sterile fig tree. In your mercy, spare me, O Lord, and behold my fear.




**Ode 8**

**Irmos** *Tone 2*

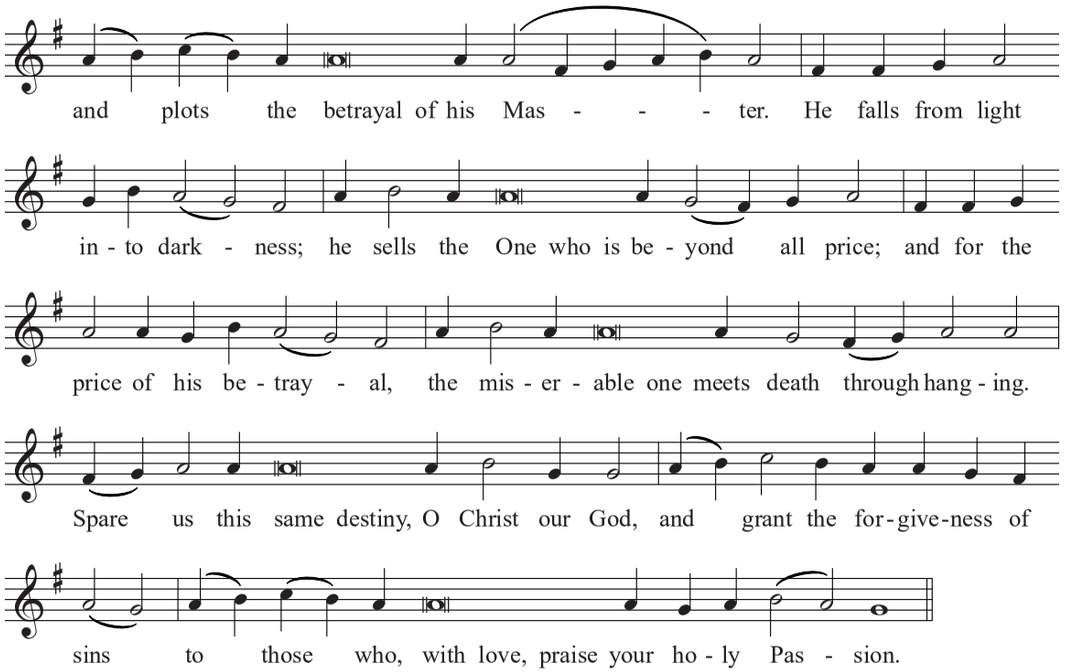










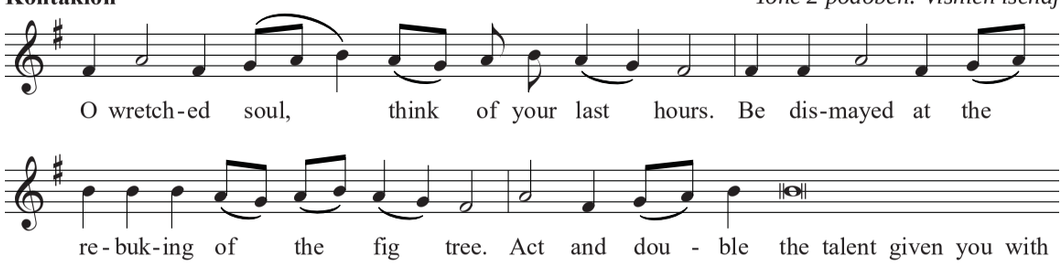

**Cantor:** *(recto tono)* Glory…now and ever…

*All repeat "Impelled by his burning love of money…"*

*The service continues on page 7.*

## Canon

**Kontakion** *Tone 2 podoben: Visnich ischaj*






Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spïrit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

More honorable than the Cherubim,
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim,
who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word,
you, truly the Theotokos, we mag***ni***fy.

In the name of the Lord,
Father, give the blessing.

**Celebrant:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers,
O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

**Response:**




## Prayer of St. Ephrem

**All:** Lord and Master of my life,
spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair,
lust for power, and idle chatter. *(Prostration)*

Instead, bestow on me, your servant,
the spirit of integrity, humility,
patience, and love. *(Prostration)*

Yes, O Lord and King,
let me see my own sins
and not judge my brothers and sisters;
for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen. *(Prostration)*

*Then, with a simple bow, the following is repeated four times:*
O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
O God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.
O Lord, forgive me, for I have sinned without number.

*Once more, the Prayer of St. Ephrem is recited, without the usual prostrations.*
*One prostration is made at the conclusion of the prayer.*

**Celebrant:** Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope; glory to you!

**Response:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spïrit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Give ***the*** blessing.

**Celebrant:** *Monday:*
May Christ our true God, who went voluntarily to his Passion for our salvation, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly, incorporeal powers; through the prayers of holy *(patron of the church)*, and of holy *(the saint of the day*), and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

*Tuesday:*
May Christ our true God, who went voluntarily to his Passion for our salvation, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and Baptist John; of holy *(patron of the church)*, and of holy *(the saint of the day*), and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

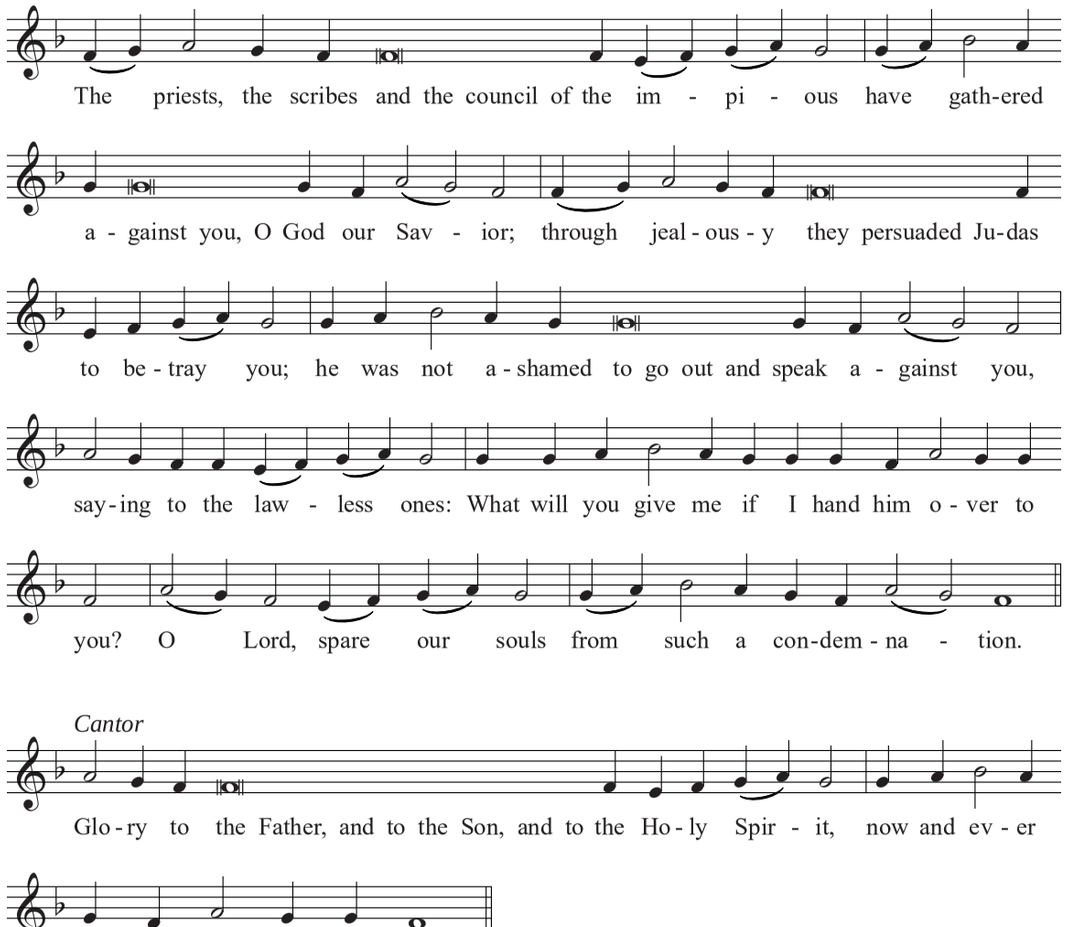
*Wednesday:*
May Christ our true God, who went voluntarily to his Passion for our salvation, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; through the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the prayers of holy *(patron of the church)*, and of holy *(the saint of the day*), and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

**Response:**






**Sessional Hymn 2** *Tone 4 podoben: Udivisja Josif*




*All repeat "The priests, the scribes…"*

**Sessional Hymn 3** *Tone 8 podoben: Premudrostyj*



## Matins Propers for Holy and Great Tuesday

**Sessional Hymn 1**

*Tone 4 podoben: Voznesiisja*

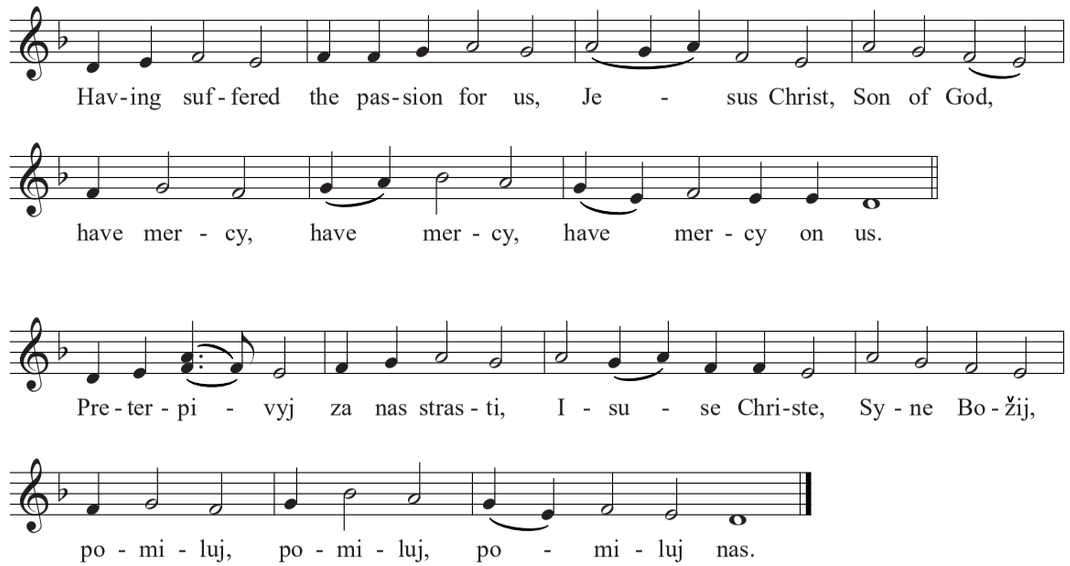



*All repeat "O faithful…"*



*If desired, the following paraliturgical hymn may be sung at the conclusion of the service.*

## Having suffered (Preterpivyj)



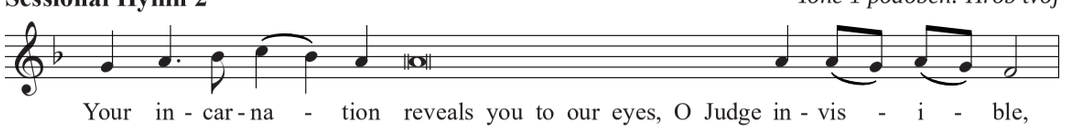
## Matins Propers for Holy and Great Monday

**Sessional Hymn 1** *Tone 1 podoben: Hrob tvoj*



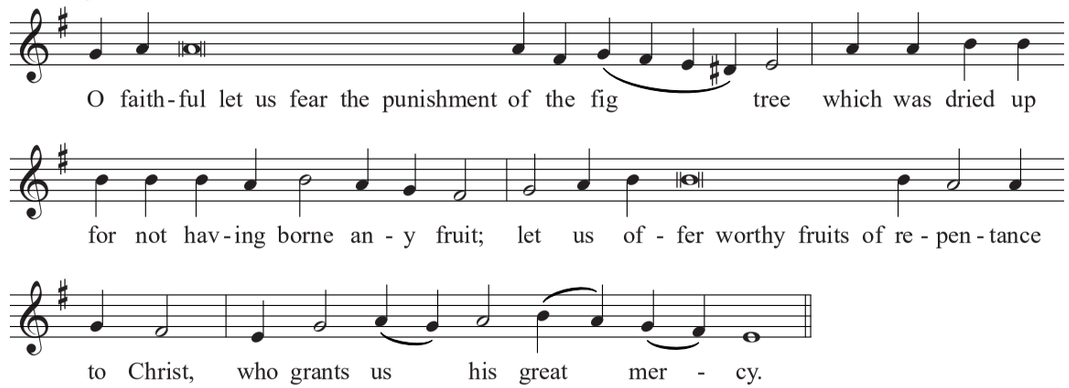

*All repeat "Today the holy Passion…"*

**Sessional Hymn 2** *Tone 1 podoben: Hrob tvoj*



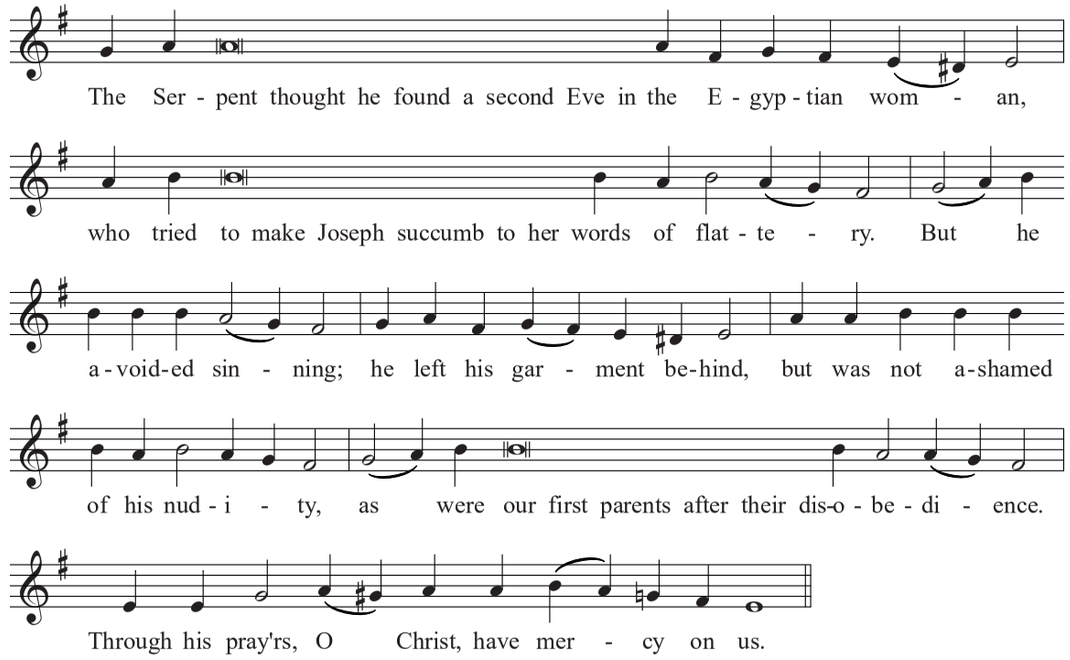



③ *Tone 8 samohlasen*




**Cantor:** Glory…now and ever…

**Doxastikon -** *in the same tone*




*The service continues on page 20*



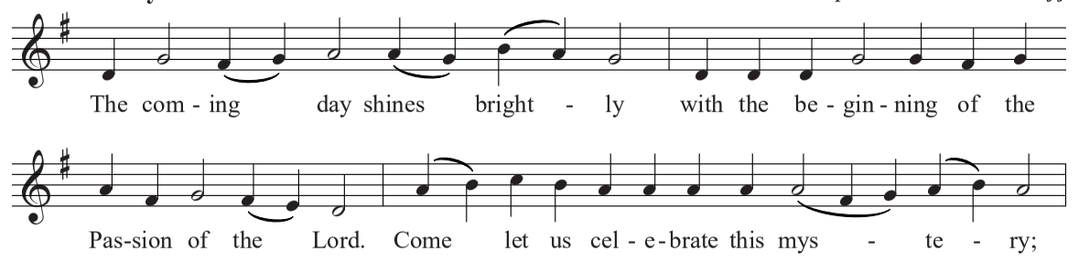

**Cantor:** *(Tone 8)* Let the brightness of the Lord be upon us;
give success to the work of our hands!
Give success to the work of our hands.

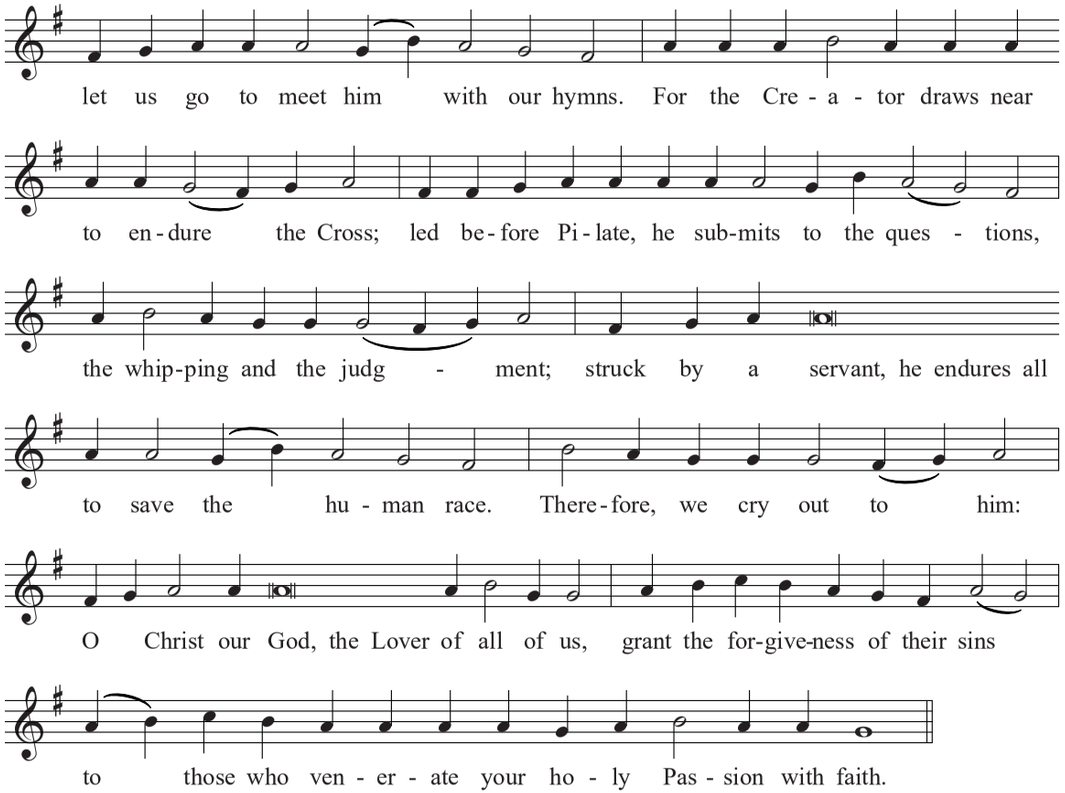





*All repeat "Your incarnation…"*

**Sessional Hymn 3** *Tone 8 podoben: Premudrostyj*






**Cantor:** *(recto tono)* Glory…now and ever…

*All repeat "The coming day shines brightly…"*

*The service continues on page 7.*



## Aposticha

*Tone 5 samohlasen*




**Cantor:** In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Give us joy to balance our affliction
for the years when we knew misfortune.
Show forth your work to your servants,
let your glory shine on their children.



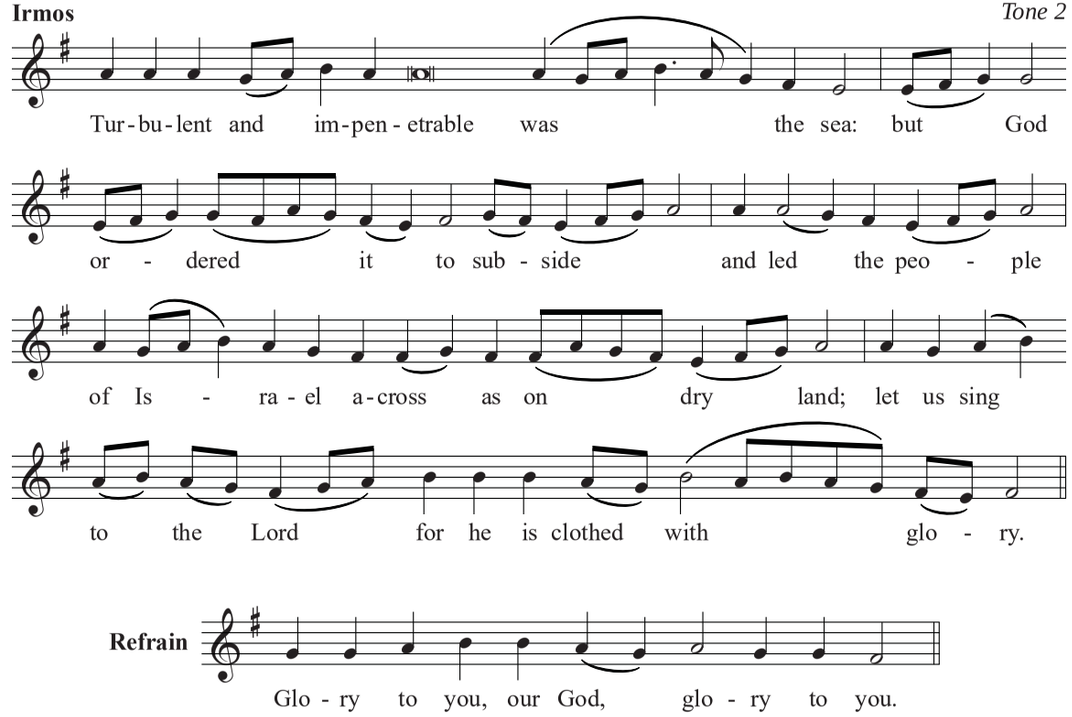

*The service continues on page 16.*



## Canon

**Ode 1**

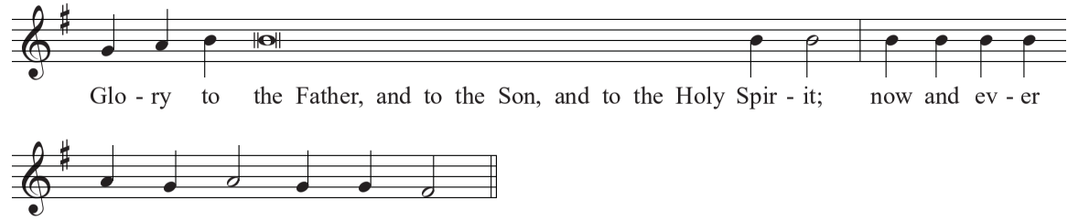
**Irmos** *Tone 2*




**Refrain**



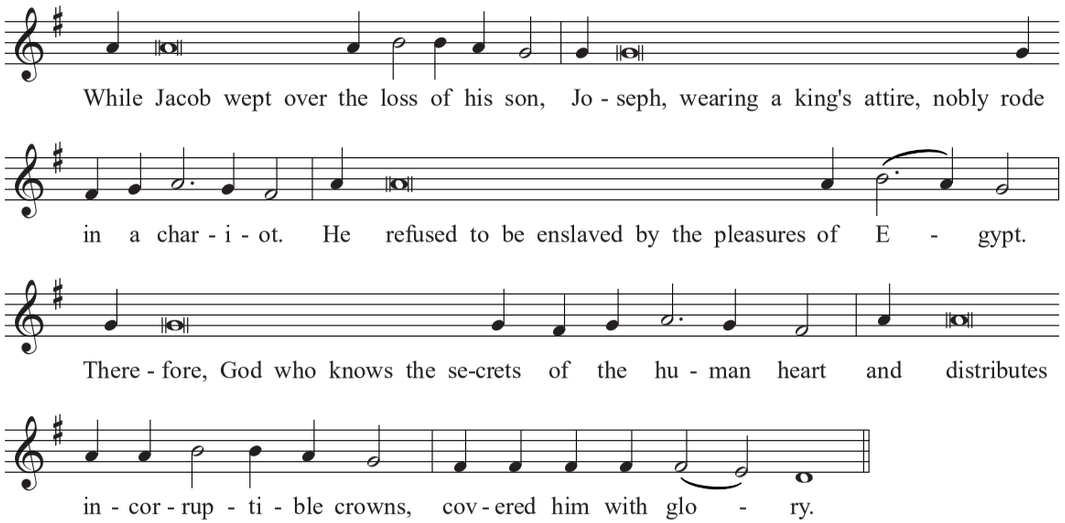

In his ineffable condescension, the Word of God revealed to his disciples who he is: He is both divine and human, and he takes the form of a servant without clinging to his divinity; for he is clothed with glory.



The Creator himself has come to serve the one whose very form he has taken; rich in his divinity, he gives his life as a ransom for the poor Adam, even though he is the God who is beyond suffering.

*Katavasia: Repeat Irmos from above.*

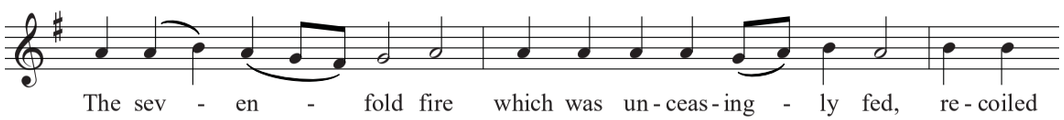
**Kontakion** *Tone 8 podoben: Jako nachatki*




**Ikos:** Let us mingle our tears with those of Jacob, sharing his compassion for the chaste Joseph, who is worthy to be remembered forever. Although he was enslaved in body, he was able to preserve his soul in complete freedom; for God crowns his servants




**Ode 8**
**Irmos** *Tone 2*





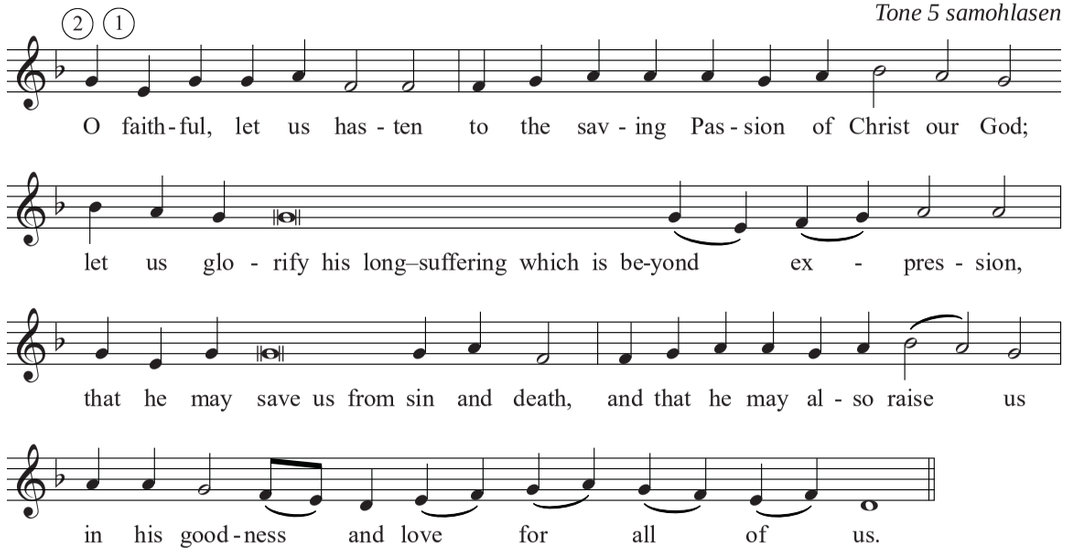




**Cantor:** O praise him with sound of trumpet;
*(on 3)* praise him with lute and harp. *Repeat "Going freely to his Passion…"*

**Cantor:** *(Tone 5)* Praise him with timbrel and dance,
*(on 2)* praise him with strings and pipes.

*Tone 5 samohlasen*




**Cantor:** 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. *Repeat "O faithful, let us hasten…"*

**Cantor:** Glory…now and ever…

**Doxastikon** - *in the same tone*



## Stichera at the Praises

**Cantor:** *(Tone 1)* Praise him for his powerful deeds,
*(on 4)* praise his surpassing greatness.

*Tone 1 samohlasen*





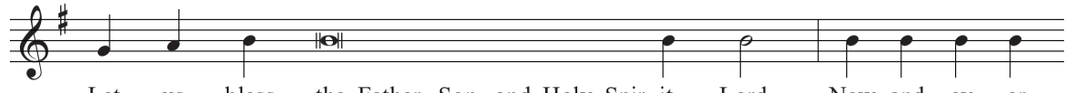




**Refrain**

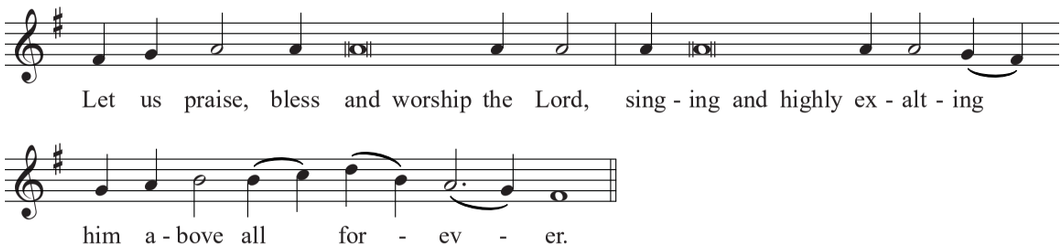



While going to his Passion, the Lord said to those whom he loved: Everyone will know that you are my disciples if you keep my commandments; be at peace among yourselves and with all others; be humble in your thoughts and you shall be exalted; praise your Lord and exalt him above all forever.






Among you, power must be just the opposite as it is with the Gentiles; I do not leave you a legacy of vanity as do the tyrants. If any among you wish to be first, they must show themselves to be the last of all; praise your Lord and exalt him above all forever.




*Katavasia: Repeat Irmos from above.*

*At the end of the Eighth Ode, the celebrant (or deacon) comes with the censer before the icon of the Theotokos on the icon screen. Incensing her icon, he intones:*

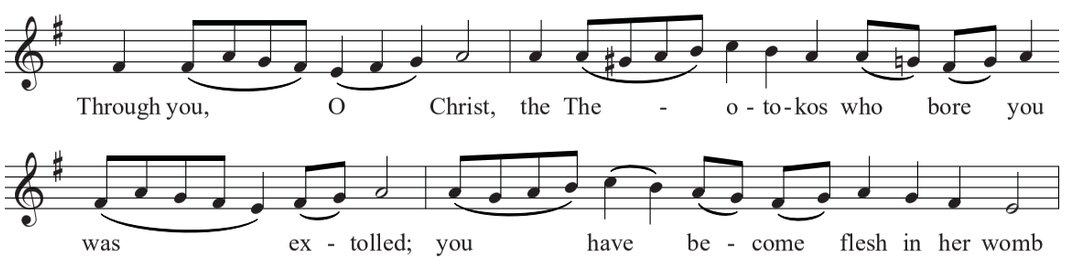
**Deacon:** Let us greatly extol theTheotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns.

*Then he incenses the whole church as usual, beginning with the holy table.*

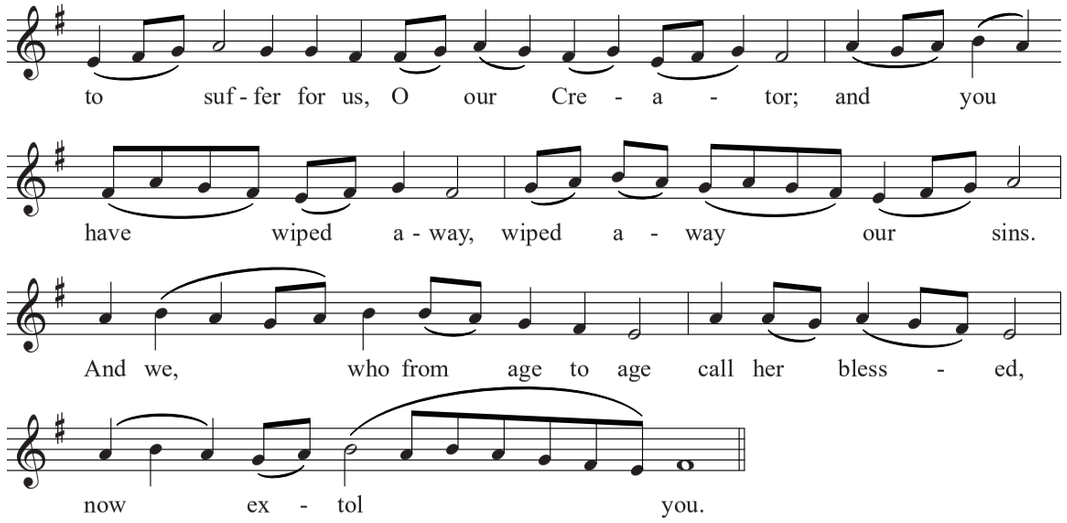
*The Canticle of the Theotokos is **not** sung.*

**Ode 9**
**Irmos**

*Tone 2*



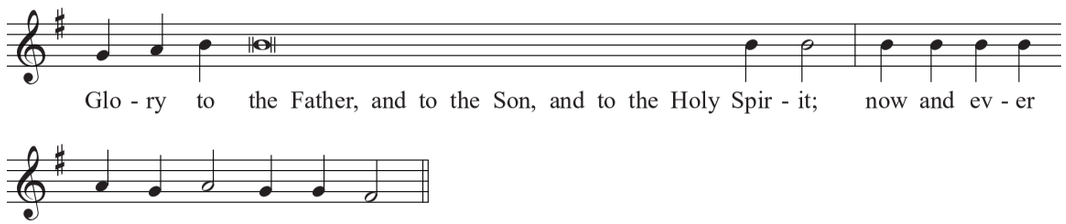



**Refrain**




You said to your apostles, O Lord and Wisdom of the universe: Turn away from the defilement of the passions, that you may receive the perfect knowledge of the kingdom of God; in this you shall be glorified, and you shall shine brighter than the sun.




You said to your disciples, O Lord: Take your example from me; do not have haughty thoughts, but follow the path of humility; the cup from which I shall drink, you shall drink, that you may be glorified with me in the kingdom of heaven.

*Katavasia: Repeat Irmos from above.*

*The service continues with the Small Litany on page 12.*