The Divine Liturgy
of the Presanctified Gifts
celebrated on Great and Holy Monday

This week, the readings change. Up until now, we read from Genesis and Proverbs. Today we begin reading from Exodus and Job. Exodus is the story of the liberation of Israel from slavery to the Egyptians, and reading it prepares us for the understanding of Christ's "exodus/passover" to the Father. We learn anew that Jesus is the fulfillment of the whole history of salvation. Job, the long-suffering, isan Old Testament icon of Christ. Reading Job, we understand the great mystery of Christ's suffering, obedience, and sacrifice.

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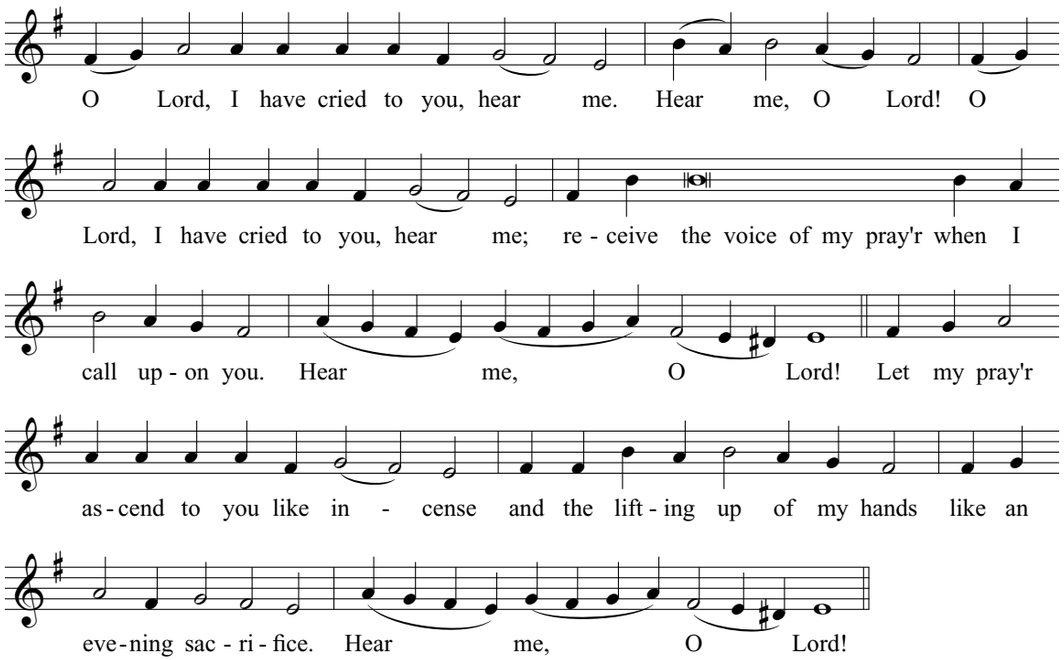
Today's reading from Exodus tells of the enslavement of the Children of Israel in the land of Egypt after the death of the patriarch Joseph. The Egyptians, in their fear of the numerous Hebrews, order the midwives to kill all Hebrew boy babies, but the midwives deceive the rulers.

The reading from the book of Job introduces the character of Job, the friend of God, and gives the plot outline of the "testing of Job" by Satan.

The Gospel is from the great eschatalogical discourse of Jesus, in which he tells us: "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140 *Tone 1*



O Lord, set a guard before my mouth
and set a seal on the door of ***my*** lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,
nor make excuses for sins I ***com***mit.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.
If a just man strikes or reproves me it ***is*** kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.
Let my prayer be ever against ***their*** malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;
then they understood that my words ***were*** kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of ***the*** grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;
in you I take refuge; spare ***my*** soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;
keep me from the snares of those who ***do*** evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
while I pursue my way ***un***harmed.

Psalm 141

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,
with all my voice I entreat ***the*** Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints ***with***in me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to ***en***trap me.

Look on my right and see:
there is no one who takes ***my*** part.

I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for ***my*** soul.

I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of ***the*** living."

Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths ***of*** distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger ***than*** I.

Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise ***your*** name.

Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness ***to*** me.

Psalm 128 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear ***my*** voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of ***my*** pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand?
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we ***re***vere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman ***for*** daybreak.

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

Tone 1



Deacon: Wisdom!

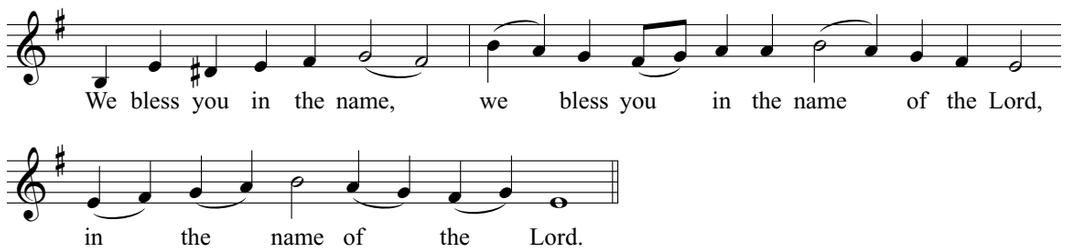
Lector: A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Exodus 1:1-20]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon 2 - *Tone 6* (Psalm 128: 8c, 1)



Verse: They have pressed me hard from my youth.

The faithful <u>kneel</u>.

The Blessing With Light

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words. All make three prostrations in silence. The faithful are <u>seated</u>. The lector, without introduction, begins:

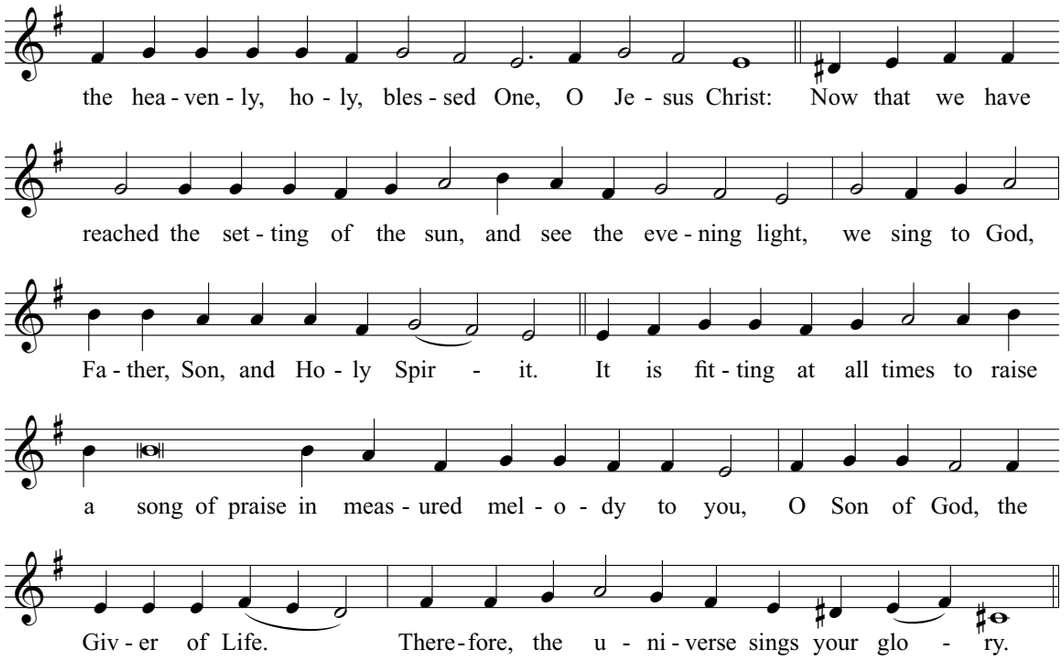
Lector: A reading from the Book of Job.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Job 1:1-12]

Celebrant: Peace ✣ be to you, reader.

Gospel: [Matthew 24:3-35]

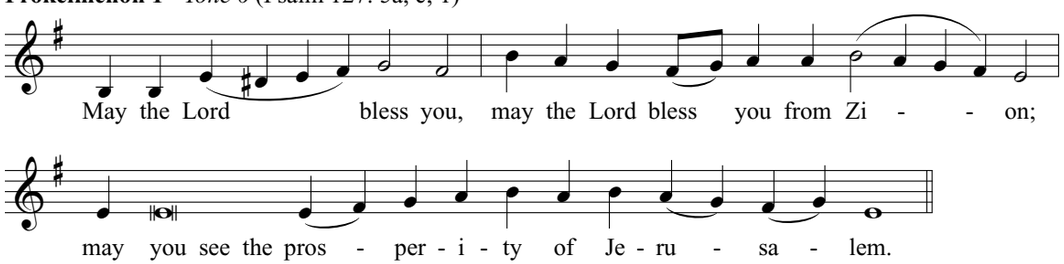


Deacon: Let us be attentive!

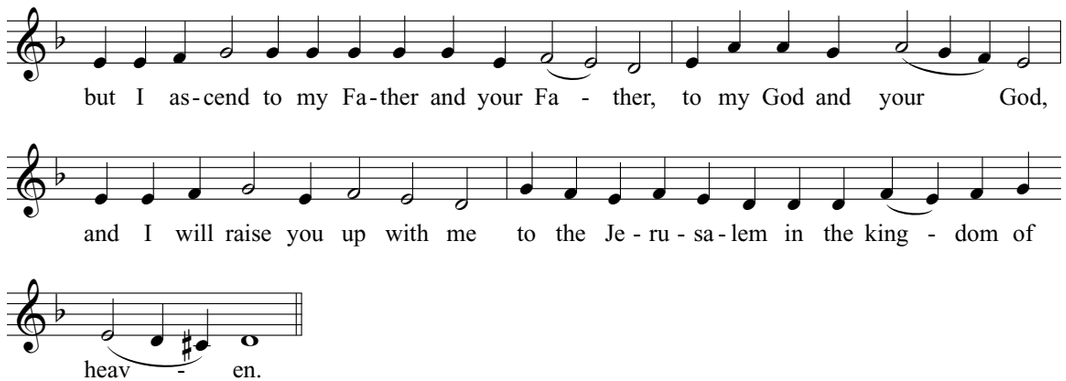
Celebrant: Peace ✣ be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon 1 - *Tone 6* (Psalm 127: 5a, c; 1)

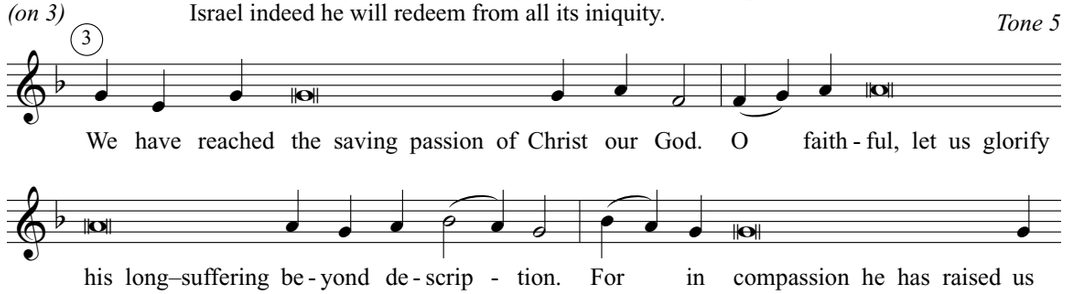


Verse: O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.



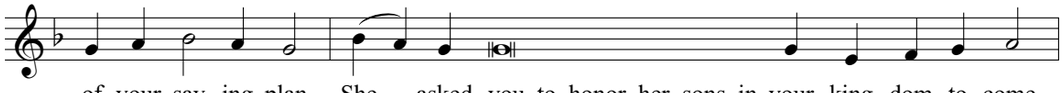
Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

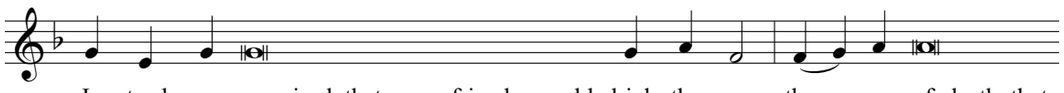
Tone 5

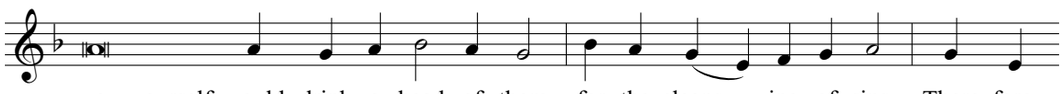


Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations,
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!



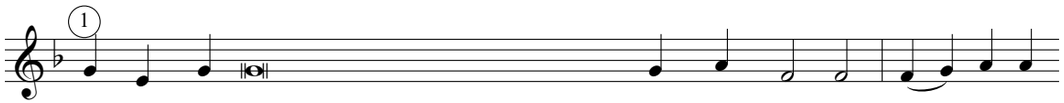








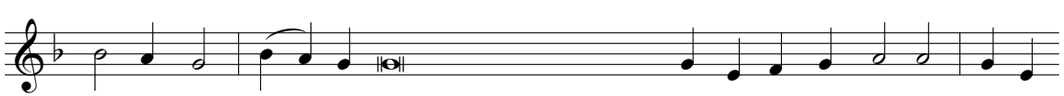
Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

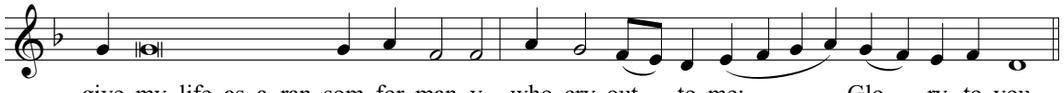






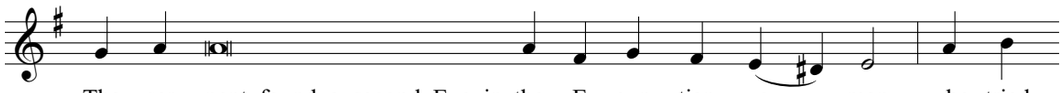






Cantor: Glory …now and ever…

Doxastikon *Tone 8*











The Hymn of the Evening

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

