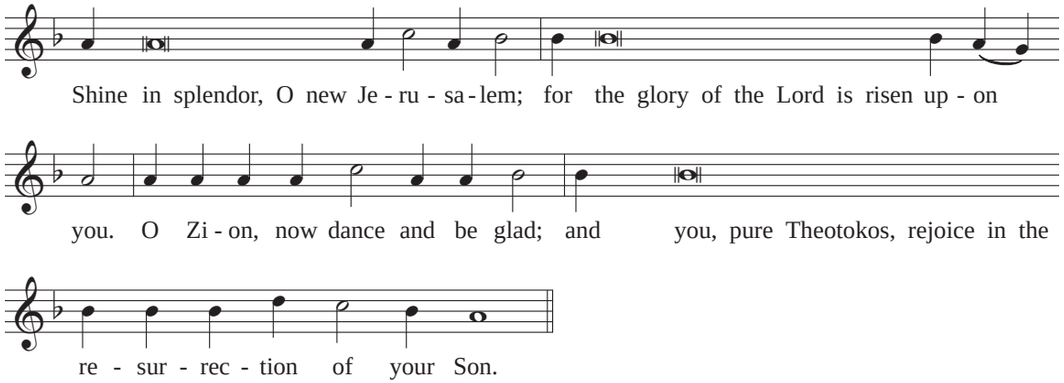
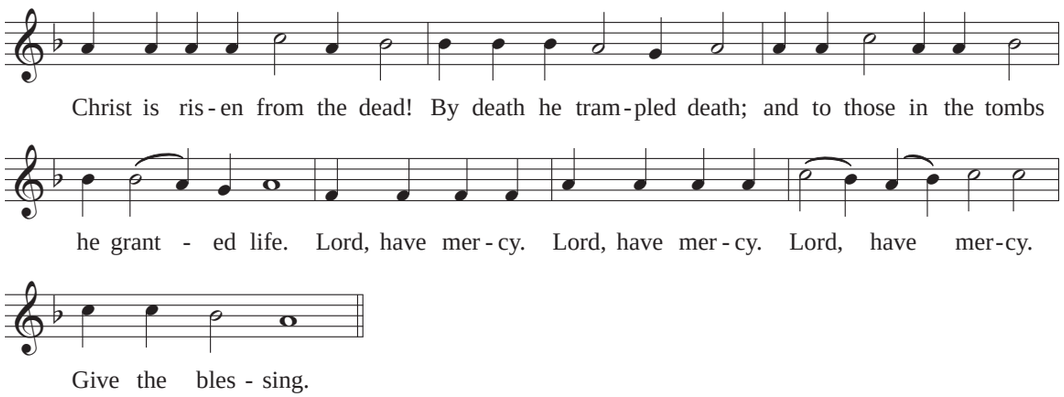
Response:
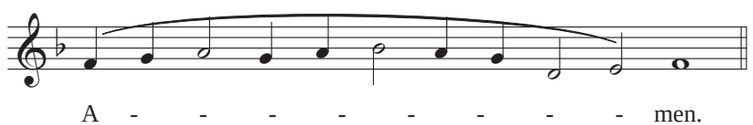


Priest: Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope; glory to you!

Response:



Priest: May Christ our true God, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; through the prayers of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostle, protomartyr and archdeacon Stephen, [of the holy *saint of the day*], and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all..
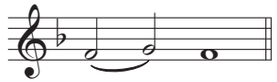
Response:
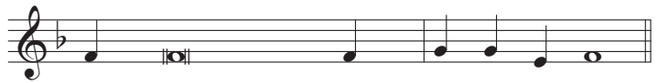


Moleben to the Holy Apostle, Protomartyr, and Archdeacon Stephen

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and forever.

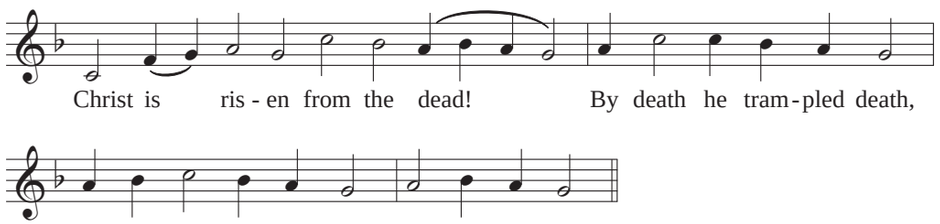
Response:





Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
everywhere present and filling all things,
Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life,
come and dwell within us,
cleanse us of all stain,
and save our souls, O gra***cious*** One.

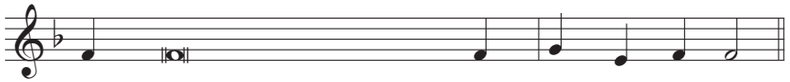
During the Paschal season, omit "Glory to you" and "Heavenly King" and sing three times:



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 Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

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.
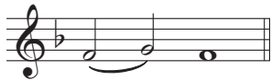


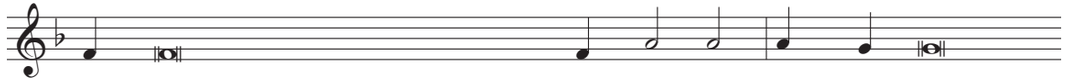
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.
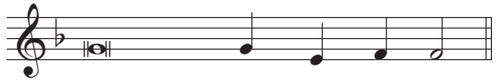
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us ***from*** evil.

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

Response:





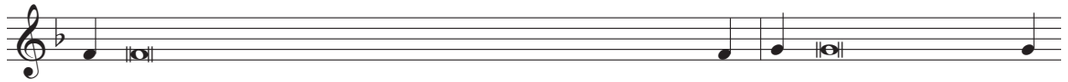


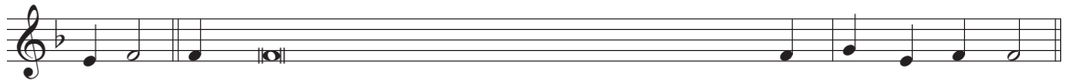
(sung twice)

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

Priest: Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope; glory to you!
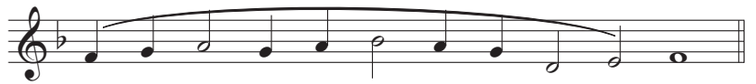
Response:





Priest: May Christ our true God, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; through the prayers of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostle, protomartyr and archdeacon Stephen, [of the holy *saint of the day*], and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all..
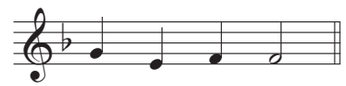
Response:



Paschal Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!

Response:



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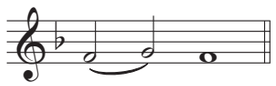
Response:



Priest: O most holy Theotokos, save us!

Priest: Give us the grace of timely aids to repentance, and by the intercession and assistance of your most holy mother, on that fearful and just day, that we may not stand before him in our sins, but in his compassionate love and mercy, and that he may say to our soul: I am your salvation forever and ever.

Response:
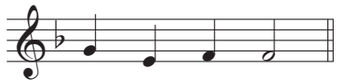


Dismissal

(In Paschal time, see page 25)

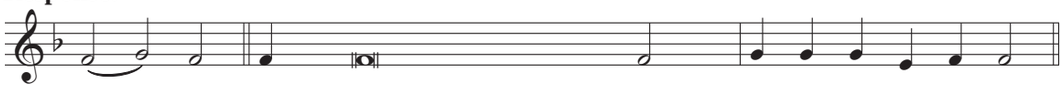
Deacon: Wisdom!

Response:



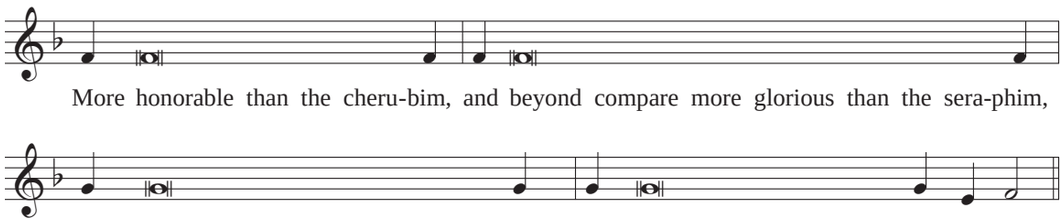
Priest: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

Response:
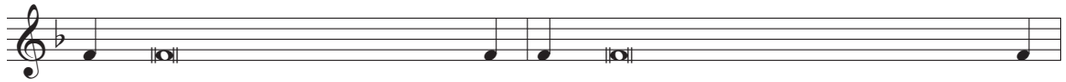


Priest: O most holy Theotokos, save us!

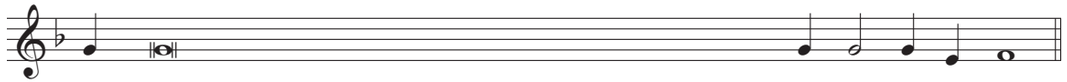
Response:



Call to Worship

Each time with a reverence:





Psalm 142

O Lord, listen to my prayer: turn your ear to my appeal.
You are faithful, you are just; ***give*** answer.

Do not call your servant to judgment
for no one is just in ***your*** sight.

The enemy pursues my soul;
he has crushed my life to ***the*** ground;

he has made me dwell in darkness
like the dead, long ***for***gotten.

Therefore my spirit fails;
my heart is numb ***with***in me.

I remember the days that are past:
I ponder all ***your*** works.

I muse on what your hand has wrought
and to you I stretch out my hands.
Like a parched land my soul thirsts ***for*** you.

Lord, make haste and answer;
for my spirit fails ***with***in me.

Do not hide your face
lest I become like those in ***the*** grave.

In the morning let me know your love
for I put my trust ***in*** you.

Make me know the way I should walk:
to you I lift up ***my*** soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies;
I have fled to you ***for*** refuge.

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

Let your good spirit guide me
in ways that are level ***and*** smooth.

For your name's sake, Lord, save my life;
in your justice save my soul from ***dis***tress.
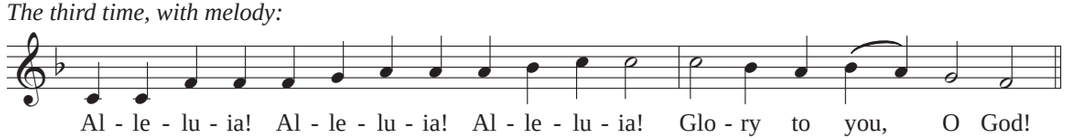
In your love make an end of my foes;
destroy all those who oppress me
for I am your servant, ***O*** Lord.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.
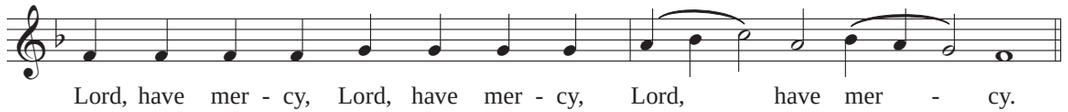
Three times, each with a reverence:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, ***O*** God!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, ***O*** God!

The third time, with melody:
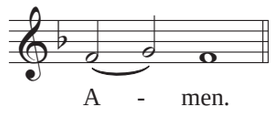


Response:
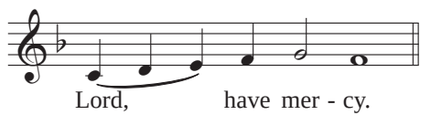


Priest: For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

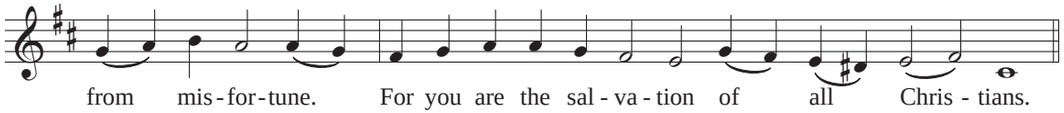


Deacon: Bowing our heads in humility. let us pray.

Response:



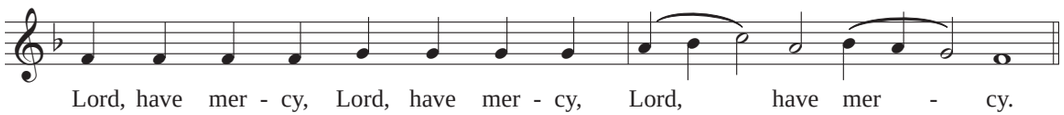
Priest: Holy Apostle Stephen, you shone forth as the first deacon and the first martyr. You were full of faith and strength in teaching and great works. No one was able to oppose what you said in wisdom and spirit, for your face shone like that of an angel. Therefore, you were full of the Holy Spirit, and saw the heavens open , and the divine glory of the Son of Man, our Lord Jesus Christ standing at the right hand of God the Father. Then, out of cruelty and murderous intent, those standing by took up stones to kill him, as he knelt and cried out in a loud voice, “Father, do not hold this sin against them,” and thus you joyfully gave up your spirit to your Lord Jesus. Therefore, because of your prayers and intercession for them, we too pray to you, bending the knees of our soul and heart: raise your hands before the Lord, and, by the intercession and protection of his most holy virgin mother, bring the whole human race to her Son, and always pray for us, who are troubled by sins and laziness.



Litany of Fervent Supplication
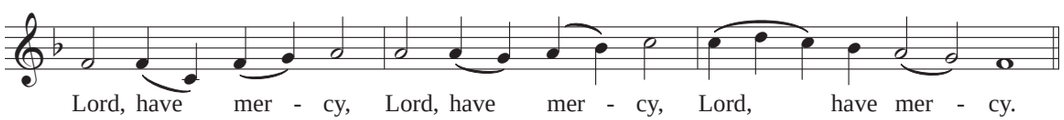
Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response:
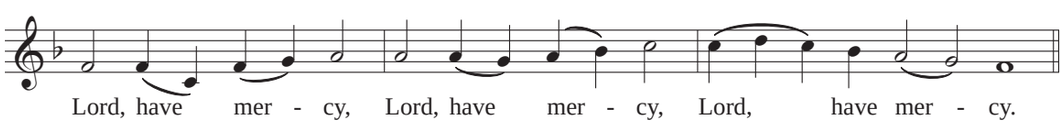


Deacon: Again we pray for our holy father, *(Name)*, pope of Rome, and for our most reverend metropolitan, *(Name)*, for the God-loving bishop, *(Name)*, for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Response:



Deacon: Again we pray for our government and for all in the service of our country.

Response:



(Special petitions may be inserted here if desired.)

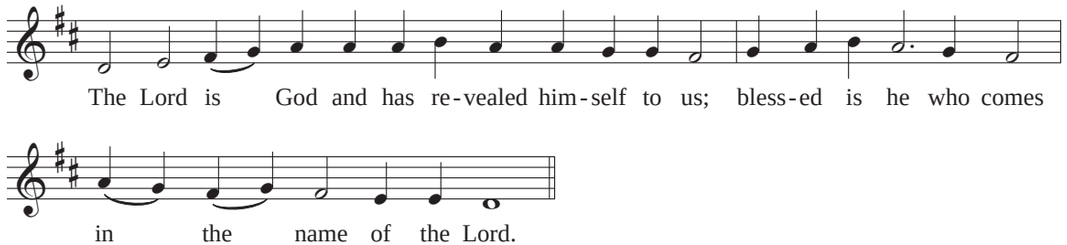
Deacon: Again we pray for the people here present who await your great and abundant mercy, for those who show us mercy, and for all Christians of the true faith.

The deacon chants on one tone:

Deacon: The Lord is God and has revealed himself to us;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Response:

Troparion Tone 4



The deacon remains at the ambon and chants the verses. If there is no deacon, the priest remains at the holy doors and chants the verses.

Deacon: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his love endures forever.

Response: *repeat "The Lord is God..."*

Deacon: They encircled me, compassed me about;
in the Lord's name I crushed them.

Response: *repeat "The Lord is God..."*

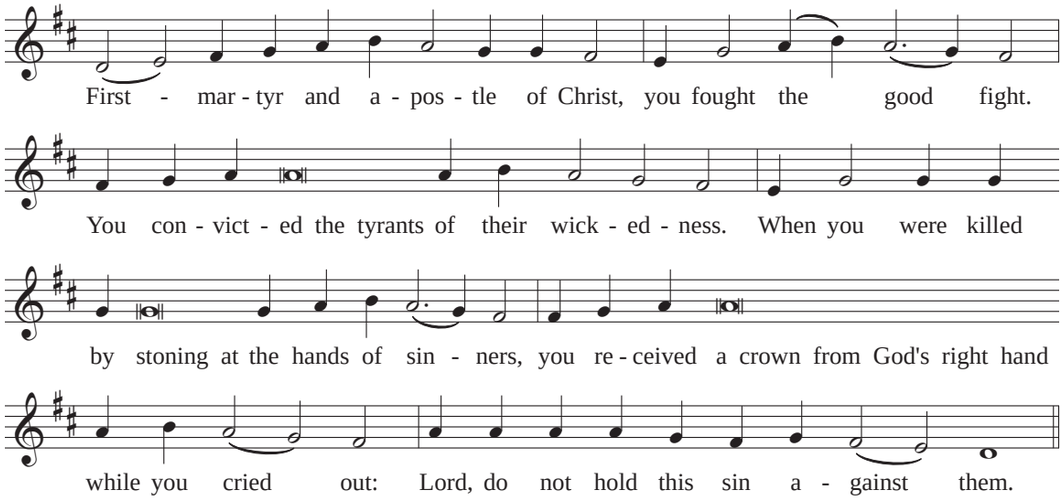
Deacon: I shall not die, I shall live
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

Response: *repeat "The Lord is God..."*

Deacon: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

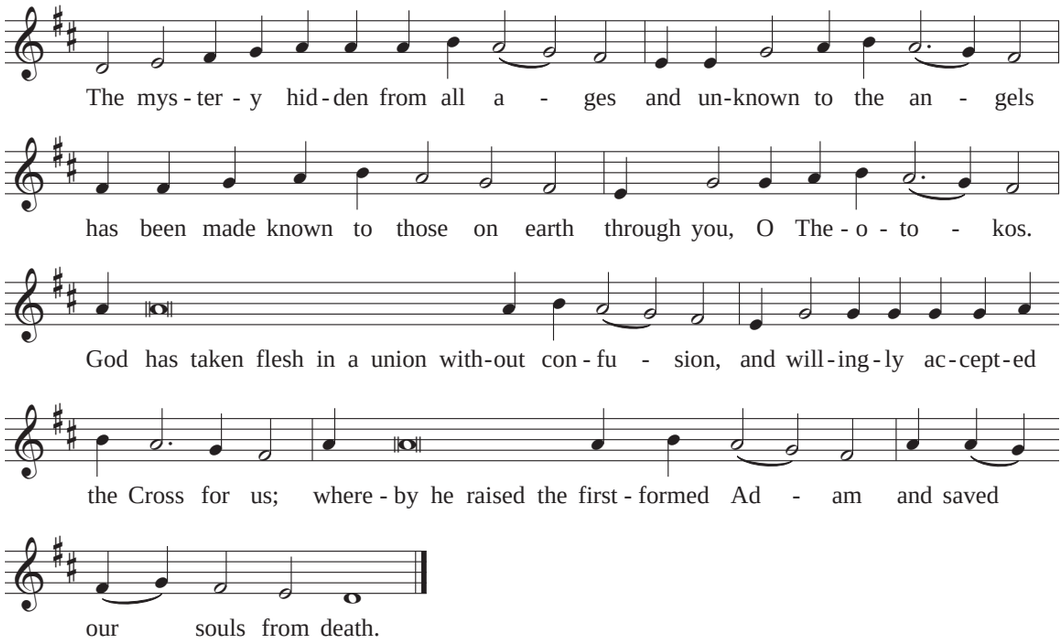
Response: *repeat "The Lord is God..."*

Troparion - *Tone 4*
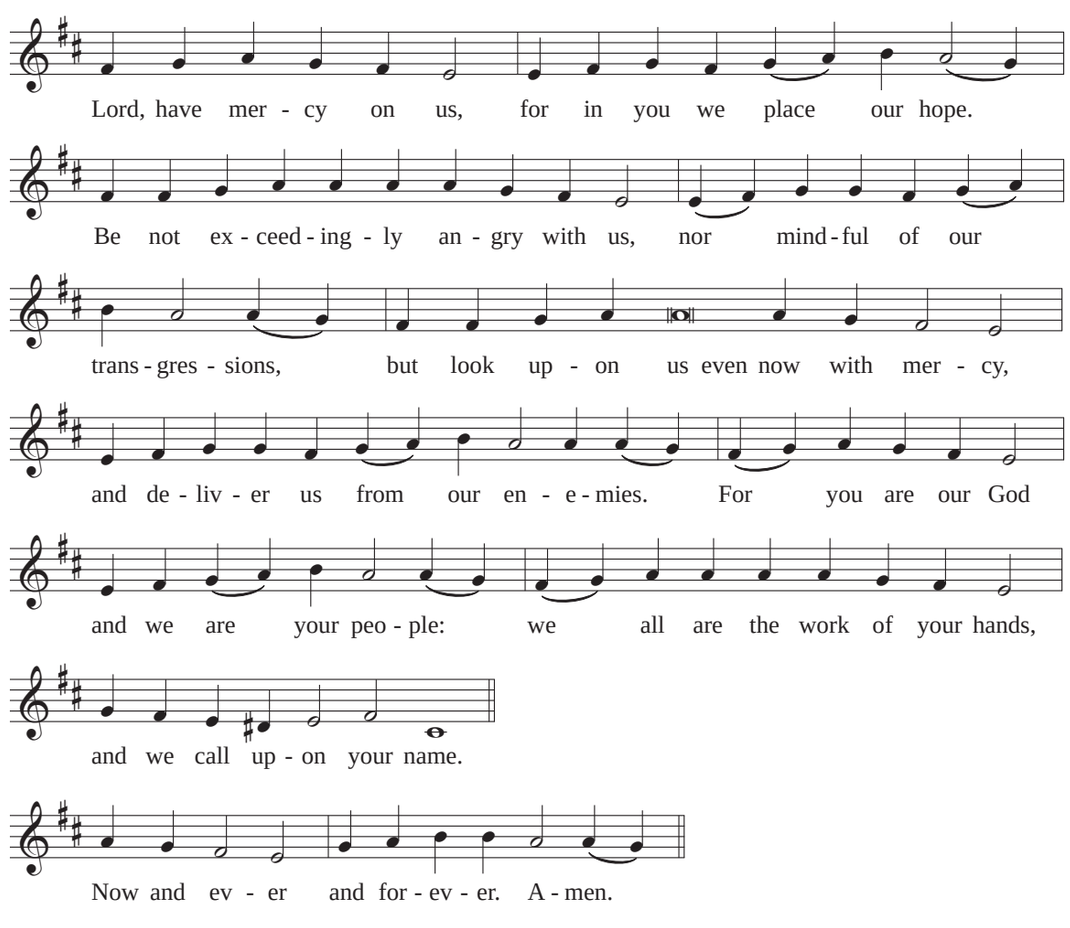


Cantor: Glory…now and ever…

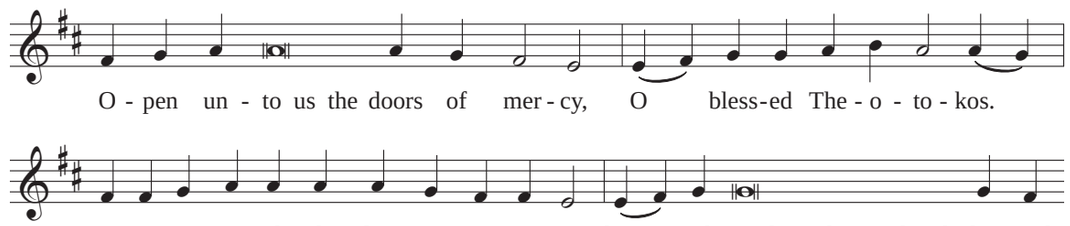
Festal Theotokion - *Tone 4*



Kontakion - *Tone 6 Troparion (adapt.):*



Theotokion - *Tone 6 Troparion (adapt.):*
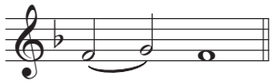


Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

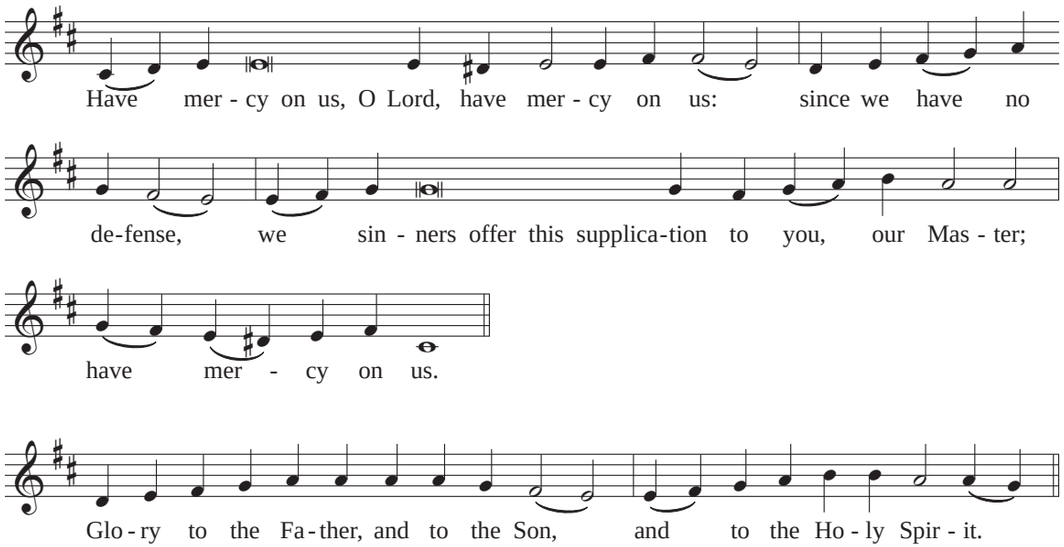
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us ***from*** evil.

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

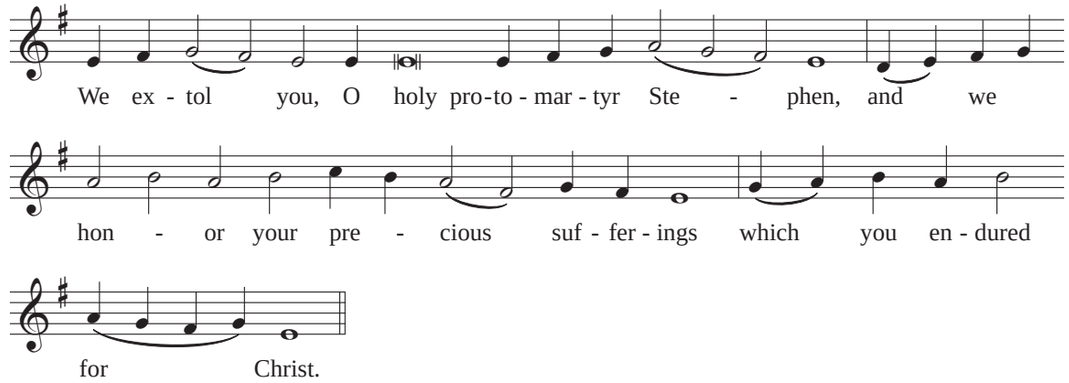
Response:



Troparion - *Tone 6 (adapt.):*



Exaltation



The deacon chants the following verses, and the faithful repeat the Exaltation after each verse.

Verse: God is for us a refuge and strength, a helper close at hand in times of distress.
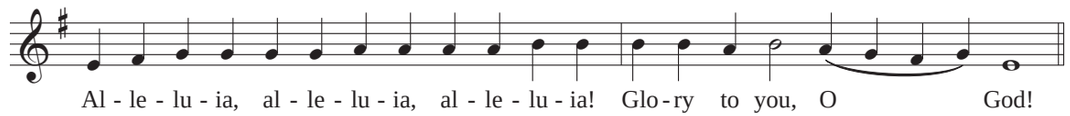
Verse: We went through fire and water, but then you brought us relief.

Verse: Many are the trials of the just one, but from them all the Lord will rescue him.

Verse: The just will rejoice in the Lord and fly to him for refuge. All the upright hearts will glory.

Verse: Glory…now and ever…

Then three times, each with a reverence:



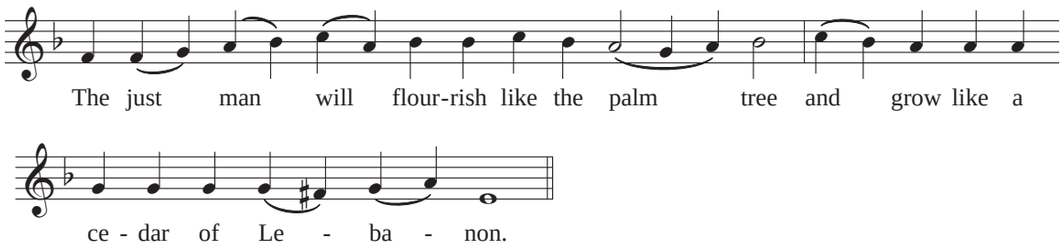
All repeat "We extol you…"

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon - *Tone 4*
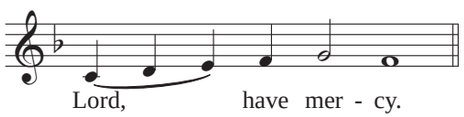


Deacon: Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.

All repeat the prokeimenon
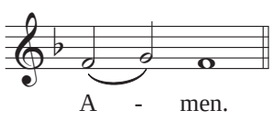
Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

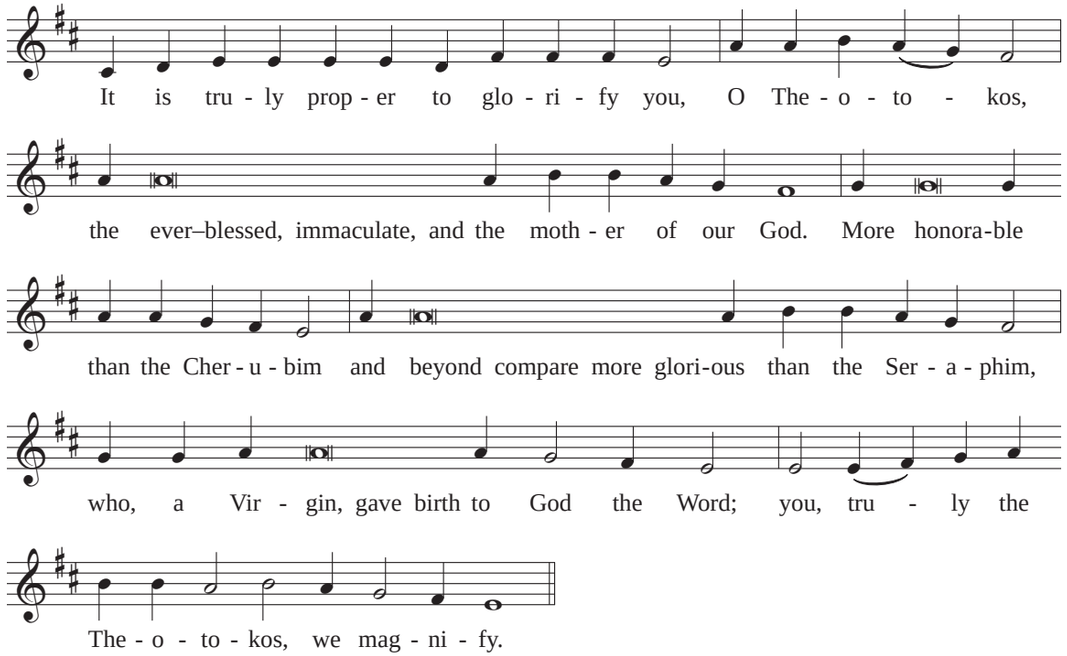


Priest: For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



Then we sing the Hymn to the Theotokos:



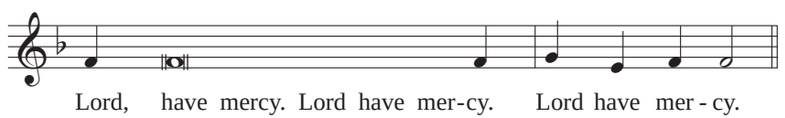
During the Paschal season, "Shine in splendor" is sung in place of "It is truly proper."

Trisagion Prayers

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 Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

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.



The lector chants the verses recitando:

O Stephen, you have surpassed all the degrees of praise, and with every word you carried away trophies of victory. For the human mind is incapable of weaving a crown of praise worthy of you. *Refrain*

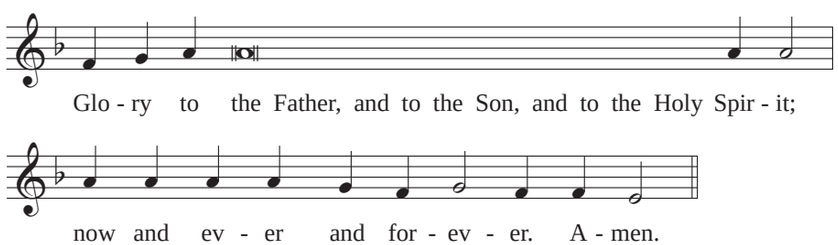
O, the blessed voice with which you held forth, O Stephen! Lay not this sin to the charge of my murderers, O Master Christ, you cried: But, as you are my God and Creator, receive my spirit as a sacrifice of most sweet scent. *Refrain*

You received recompense for your sufferings: a victor's wreath from the right hand of the Almighty, and now, O most blessed one, standing before the King of all, with glory and grace crown them that praise you. *Refrain*

O Stephen, you have surpassed all the degrees of praise, and with every word you carried away trophies of victory. For the human mind is incapable of weaving a crown of praise worthy of you. *Refrain*

O, the blessed voice with which you held forth, O Stephen! Lay not this sin to the charge of my murderers, O Master Christ, you cried: But, as you are my God and Creator, receive my spirit as a sacrifice of most sweet scent. *Refrain*

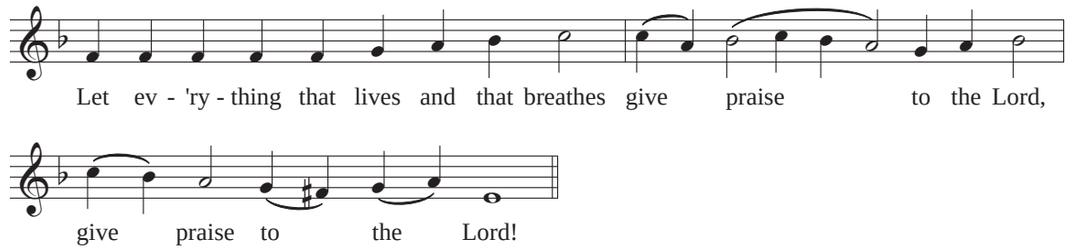
You received recompense for your sufferings: a victor's wreath from the right hand of the Almighty, and now, O most blessed one, standing before the King of all, with glory and grace crown them that praise you.



The timeless Son, begotten of the Father, has received from the Virgin a beginning of existence in time. Slain for his sake, Stephen, the imitator of Christ, has now inherited everlasting life from its origin.

Deacon: Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord!

Response: *Tropariom Tone 4*
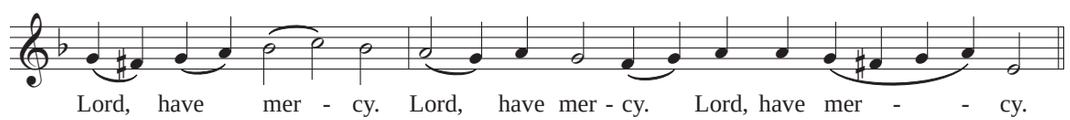


Deacon: Praise God in his holy place; praise him in his mighty heavens.

All repeat "Let everything that lives…"

Deacon: That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, our God.
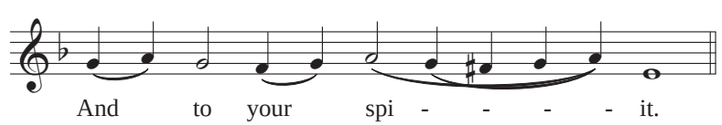
Response:



Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the holy Gospel.
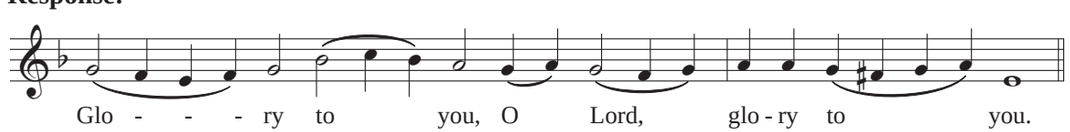
Priest: Peace be to all!

Response:



Priest: A reading of the holy Gospel according to Luke
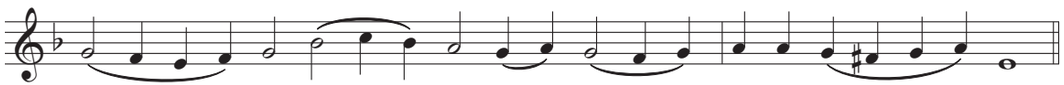
Response:



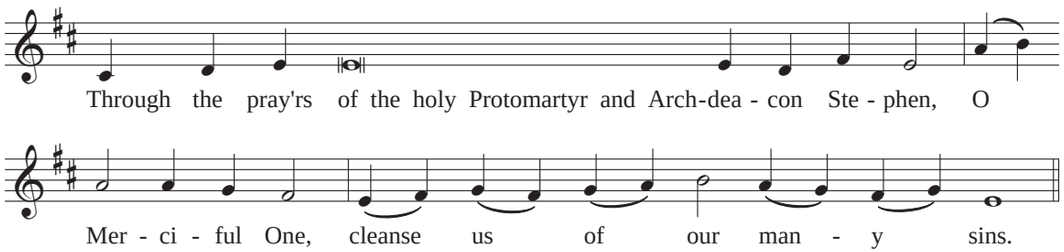
Deacon: Let us be attentive.

Priest: [Luke 12:2-12 - *Friday of the 24th Week after Pentecost*]

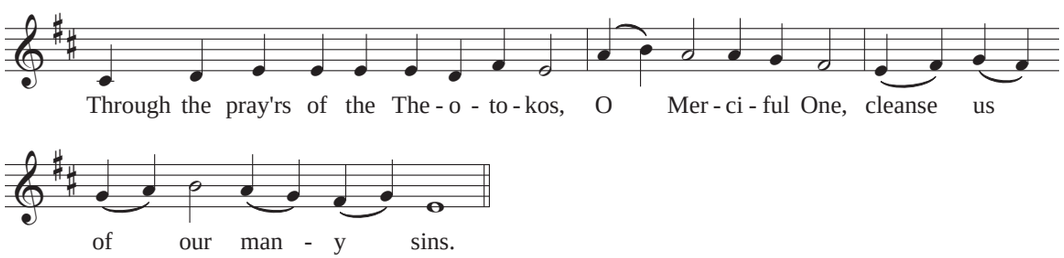
Response:



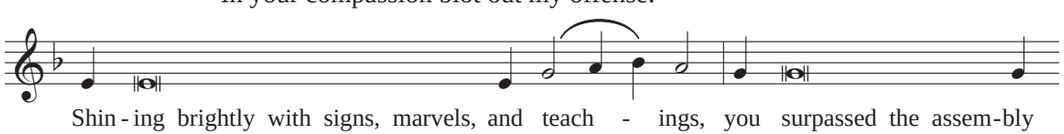
Cantor: *(Tone 6)* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

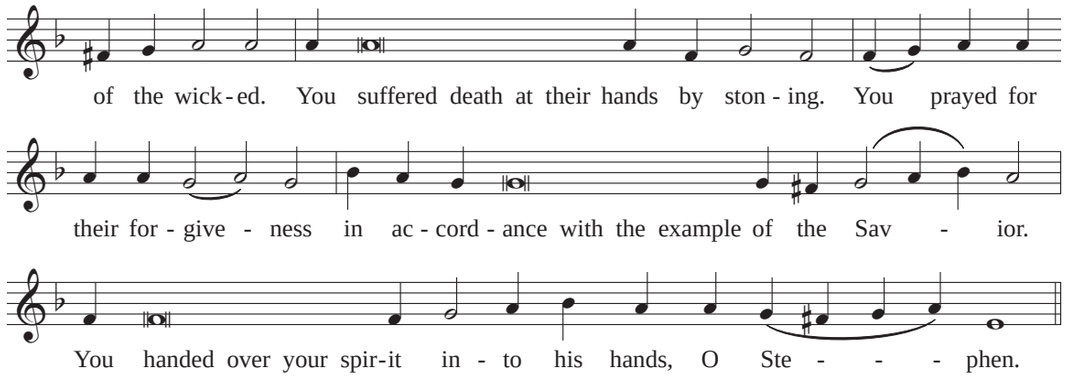


Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen.



Cantor: *(Tone 4)* Have mercy on me, O God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offense.





Ode 9 - Irmos

