

**Vesper Propers, Sunday of the Forefathers  
December 11, 2005**

**Our venerable father Spiridon the Wonder-worker**, bishop of Tremithus on the island of Cyprus, a true shepherd of his sheep, whose marvelous deeds were celebrated by the mouths of all. The date of his death is December 12; his feast is transferred because of the feast of the Icon of the Mother of God of Guadalupe. (348)

**Our venerable father Daniel the Stylite**, priest of Constantinople who, after a life led in a monastery, undertook many labors. Transported by the manner and example of St. Simeon, he stood on a column, not subdued by force of cold or heat or wind, for thirty-three years and three months, until the time of his death. (489)

*Supplement for **The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2005***

*Tone of the Week: Tone 5 (begins on page 69), stichera 10 - 5*

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

**Stichera of the Forefathers - Tone 8**

④  
To - day we commemo-rate the an - ces - tors of Christ. Sing with fer - vor  
a hymn of praise to Christ the Sav - ior who ex - alt - ed them among all  
na - tions. He is the Lord who does won - drous deeds, be-cause he is  
pow-er - ful and might - y. From them he brought forth a roy-al scep - ter,  
the im-mac-ulate maiden of God and vir-gin Ma - ry. From her, Christ our God



came forth to give life and e - ter - nal sal - va - tion to all.

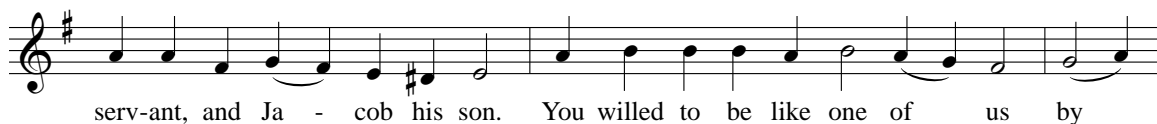
**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.



O Lord and Mas - ter, you res - cued the three ho - ly youths from the fire.



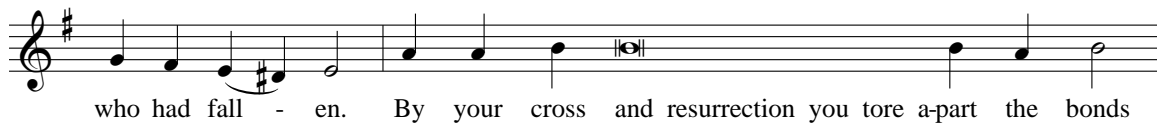
You saved Dan - iel from the li - ons' mouths; you blessed A - braham, Isaac your



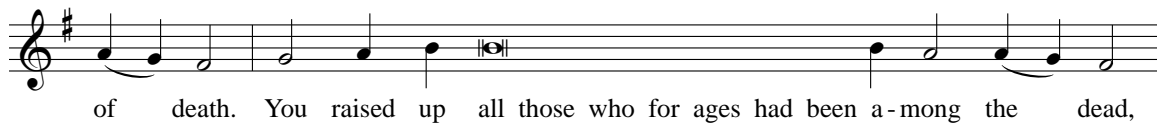
serv - ant, and Ja - cob his son. You willed to be like one of us by



choos - ing to be born from them in or - der that you might save our Fore - fa - thers



who had fall - en. By your cross and resurrection you tore a - part the bonds



of death. You raised up all those who for ages had been a - mong the dead,



and who bow to you, O Christ, the e - ter - nal King.

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

②

The three holy youths were refreshed by the Ho - ly Spir - it when they  
 walked in the fire as though in a place of cool. In them the Trinity and the  
 In - car - na - tion of Christ were pre - fig - ured in a mys - ti - cal man - - - ner.  
 By their wis - dom and strength they o - ver - came the pow - er of fire. As for  
 the just Daniel, he stopped the mouths of li - ons. Through their intercession, we  
 be - seech you: O Sav ior and Lov - er of us all, pro - tect us  
 from e - ter - nal fire and make us worthy of your heav - en - ly  
 King - - - dom.

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

①

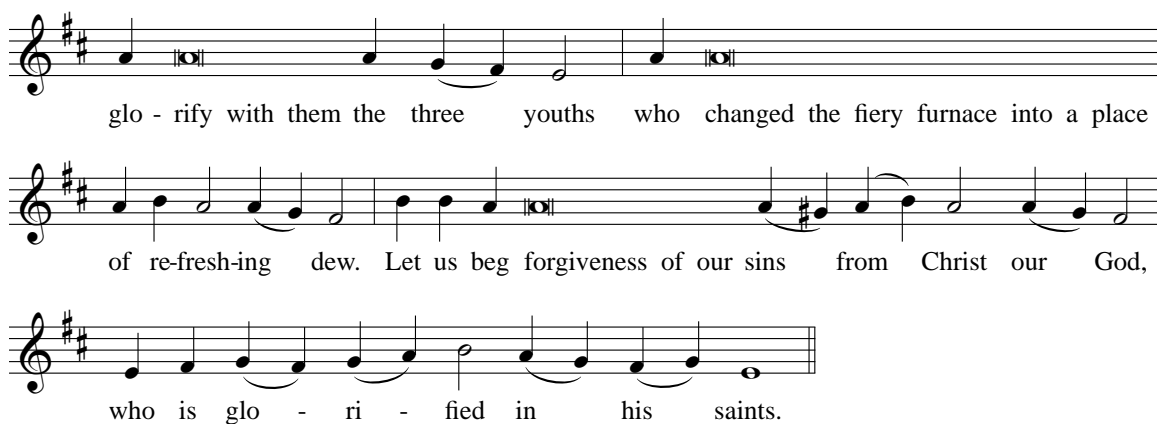
When the three holy youths stood in the flam - ng fur - nace as if cov - ered in dew,

they mys-tic'ly foreshadowed your coming from the Vir - gin, giv-ing light to us  
 with-out be - ing con-sumed. And Dan-iel, the just and won-drous proph - et  
 clear-ly saw in a vision your divine sec-ond com - ing. He said: I saw thrones set up  
 and the Judge seat - ed, and the riv - er of fire flowing in his pre - sence.  
 Through their in - ter-ces - sion, de-liv - er us from this fire, O Lord.

**Cantor:** Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 6**

O be-liev - ers, let us give praise to - day to all the Fathers who lived be - fore  
 the Law: A - bra - ham who was be - loved by God; I - saac,  
 who was born according to the Prom - ise; Ja - cob and the Twelve Pa - tri - archs;  
 the ver - y meek David and the fa - vored proph - et Dan - iel. Let us al - so



glo - rify with them the three youths who changed the fiery furnace into a place  
of re-fresh-ing dew. Let us beg forgiveness of our sins from Christ our God,  
who is glo - ri - fied in his saints.

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Now and ever...


*Dogmatikon, Tone 5, p. 76*

*The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, p.12.*

*Aposticha, Tone 5, p. 77*

**Cantor:** Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 3**



Come, O lov-ers of the feast, let us sing a hymn of praise to the  
assembly of the Fore - fa - thers: Ad - am, the father of the hu-man race,  
E - noch, No - ah, Mel - chisedek, Abraham, Isaac, and Ja - cob. Let us  
al - so honor those who came af - ter the Law: Mo - ses, Aaron, Joshua, Sam-uel and

Da - vid; to - geth - er with I - sa - iah, Eze - kiel, and Je - re - mi - ah,  
 Dan - iel and the twelve mi - nor proph - ets; like - wise Elijah, Elisha, and all the  
 oth - ers; al - so Ze - cha - ri - ah and the Bap - tist, and all those  
 who preached Christ, the life and the Re - sur - rec - tion of our race.

*Aposticha Theotokion, Tone 3, p. 55*

*The service continues with the Prayer of Simeon, p. 19.*

*Troparion, Tone 5, p 81*

*Glory...now and ever...*

**Troparion of the Forefathers - Tone 2**

By faith, you, O Christ, jus - ti - fied the fore - fa - thers. Through them  
 you betrothed yourself to a Church from all na - tions. The saints re - joice  
 in glo - ry be - cause a glorious offspring has blos - somed from their seed:

the Moth-er who bore you with-out seed. Through their pray'rs, O Christ our  
God, have mer - cy on us.

*Dismissal, p.21*