

Vesper Propers, January 7
Synaxis of the Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist, John

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

Lamplighting Psalms Tone 2, p 36

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.

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.

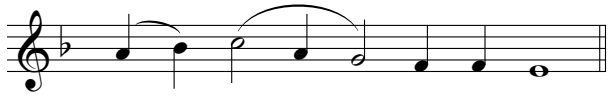
Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

Tone 2 samohlasen

⑥



When the Fore - runner saw the One who is our en - light - en - ment,
the One who has brought light to all, com - ing to be bap - tized,
his heart re - joiced and his hand trem - - - bled. He point - ed
him out to the peo - ple and said: This is the Sav - ior of Israel
who delivered us from cor - rup - tion. O Christ our God, O Sin-less



One, glo - - ry to you!

Cantor: My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.



O our Sav - ior, the army of an - gels trem - bled when they saw you



bap-tized by your serv - ant, and the Ho - ly Spirit bearing wit-ness and



de-scen-ding, and when they hear the voice of the Fa-ther speak - ing from



heav - en: "This One up - on whom the Fore-run - ner lays his hands



is my be - lov - ed Son in whom I am well - pleased. O Christ our



God, glo - - - ry to you!

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



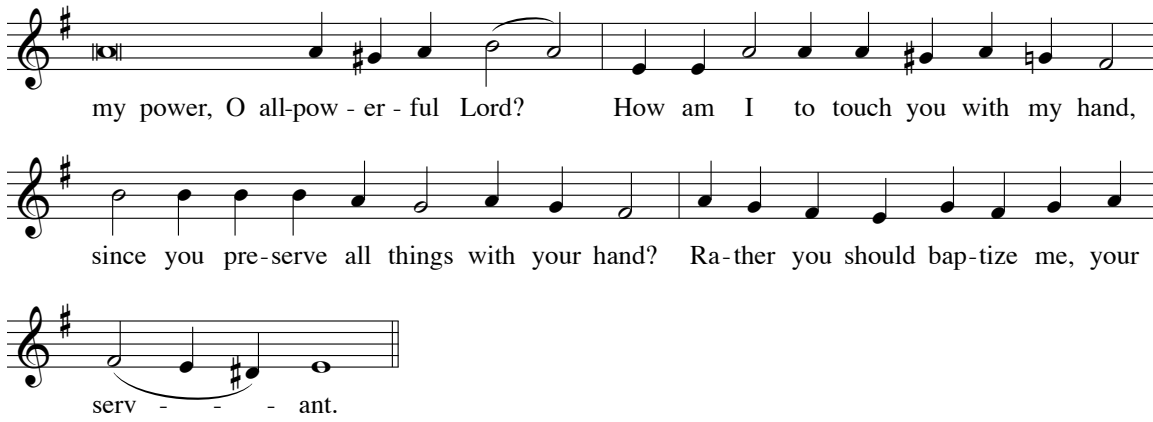
When the Jor - dan River re - ceived you, O Foun - tain - head, the

Com - fort - er descended in the form of a dove. Now be - hold the mar - vel:
 the One who bowed the heavens bows his head to the Fore - run - ner,
 and the one made of clay cries out to his Mak - er: "Why do you
 com - mand me to perform what is be - yond my pow - er? It is
 I who need to be bap - tized by you." O Christ our God, O
 Sin - less One, glo - - - ry to you!

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

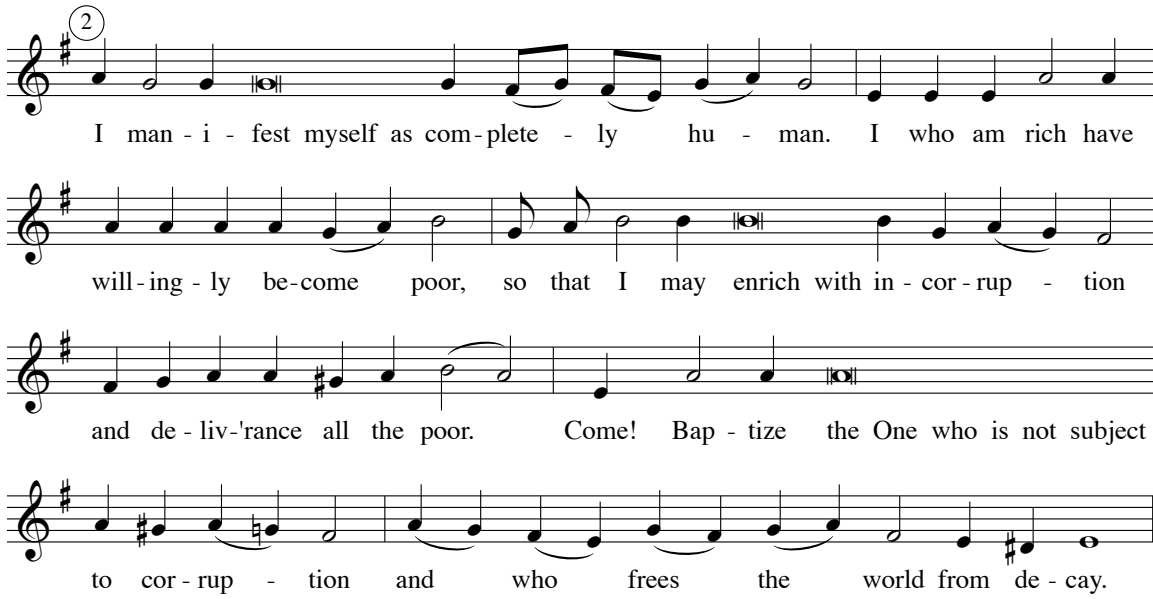
Stichera of the Synaxis - Tone 1 podobn: Prechvalnii mučenyicy

O Christ, the Fore - run-ner saw you com-ing to him and ask-ing for bap-ti-sm
 With trem-bling he cried out: Why do you command me to do that which is beyond



my power, O all-pow - er - ful Lord? How am I to touch you with my hand,
 since you pre-serve all things with your hand? Ra-ther you should bap-tize me, your
 serv - - - ant.

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**
 (on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!



I man - i - fest myself as com-plete - ly hu - man. I who am rich have
 will-ing - ly be-come poor, so that I may enrich with in - cor - rup - tion
 and de - liv-'rance all the poor. Come! Bap - tize the One who is not subject
 to cor - rup - tion and who frees the world from de - cay.

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



The Fore-run-ner said to the Cre - a - tor: For my part I am held back,

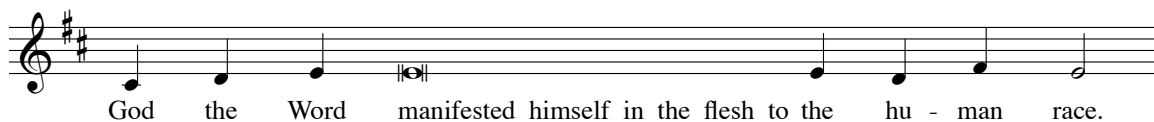
and I do not know where to flee. O gen - erous One, you are the riv-er
of de-light. How is it, therefore, that the streams of the river receive you
as you en-ter them? To all those who venerate your holy man-i - fes - ta - tion,
you pour out sal - va - tion, O Word!

Cantor: Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6

O Lu - minary in the flesh and Forerunner of the Sav - ior, O off-spring of the
bar-ren one, O friend, by leap-ing in the womb you a-dored the One who
is born of the Vir - gin; and you baptized him in the waters of the Jor - dan.
O proph - et, we pray to you: Im-plore him that we may es-cape the
fu - ture tor - - ments.

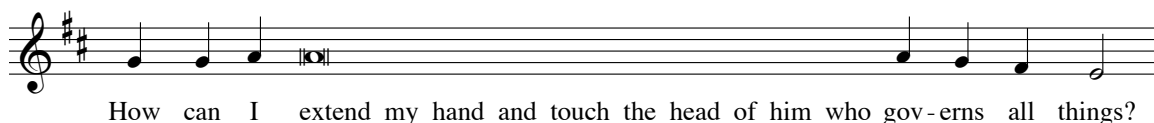
Cantor: Now and ever...



God the Word manifested himself in the flesh to the hu - man race.



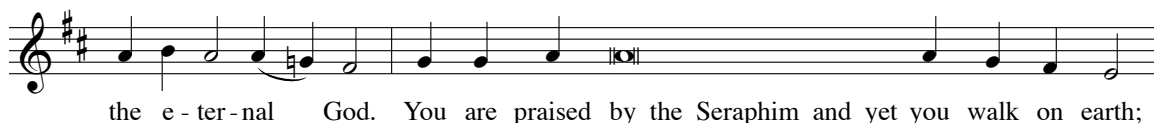
He stood in the Jordan to be bap - tized, and the Fore - run-ner said to him:



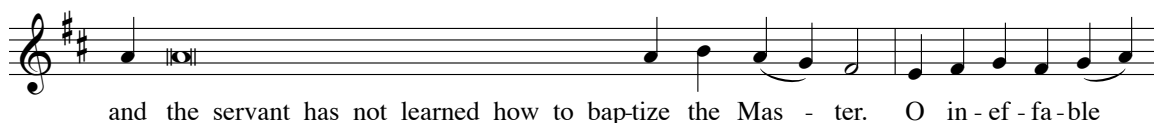
How can I extend my hand and touch the head of him who gov-erns all things?



E - ven though you were an infant born of Mar - y, I know that you are



the e - ter - nal God. You are praised by the Seraphim and yet you walk on earth;



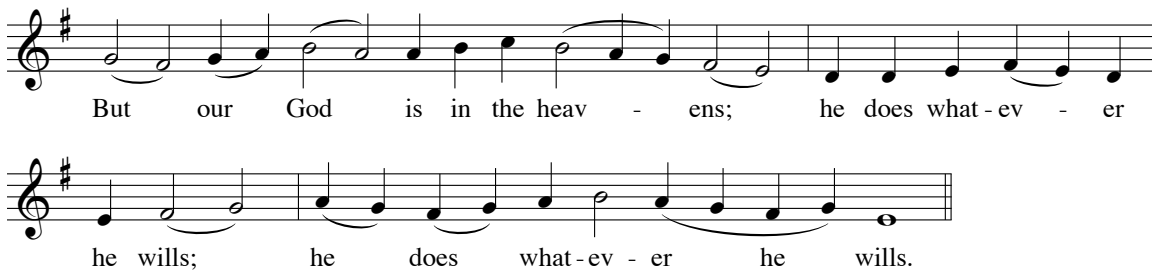
and the servant has not learned how to baptize the Mas - ter. O in - ef - fa - ble



Lord, glo - ry to you!

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

Great Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 113:11):



But our God is in the heav - ens; he does what - ev - er
he wills; he does what - ev - er he wills.

Verse: When Israel came forth from Egypt, Jacob's sons from an alien people,
Judah became the Lord's temple.

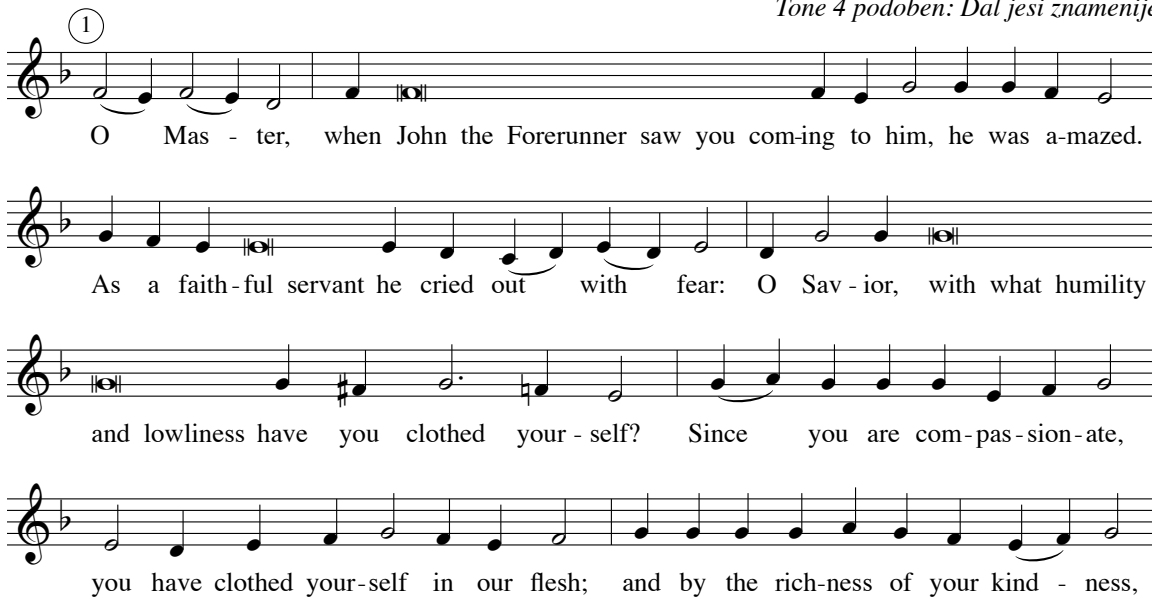
Verse: The sea fled at the sight;
the Jordan turned back on its course.

Verse: Why was it, sea, that you fled?
that you turned back, Jordan, on your course?

The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication, p. 13

Aposticha

Tone 4 podobn: Dal jesi znamenije



①
O Mas - ter, when John the Forerunner saw you com-ing to him, he was a-mazed.
As a faith-ful servant he cried out with fear: O Sav - ior, with what humility
and lowliness have you clothed your - self? Since you are com-pas-sion-ate,
you have clothed your-self in our flesh; and by the rich-ness of your kind - ness,



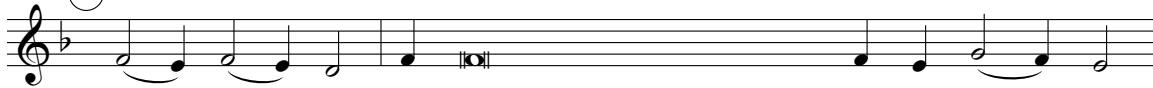
you have raised us up and we are glo - ri - fied.

Cantor



The sea fled at the sight; the Jor-dan turned back on its course.

②



Come to me; for on this day, I fulfill the mystery of sal - va - tion,



said the Sav - ior of the universe to the Fore - run - ner. Serve with fear



and do not be ter - ri-fied, be-cause I am renewing Adam who was crushed by sin.



Though I am un-de-filed by na - ture, I am bap-tized in the wa-ters of the Jor - dan.

Cantor



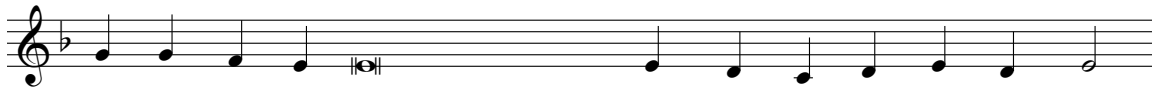
Why is it, O sea, that you fled, that you turned back, Jor-dan, on



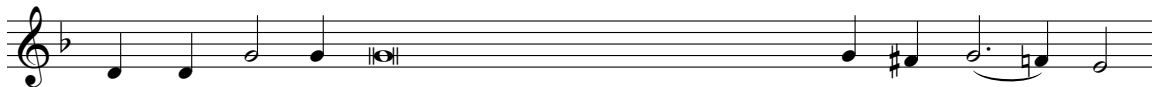
your course?



In re-sponse, John said: What creature can see the Sun be - ing cleansed,



or who can see stripped the One who clothes the heav - ens with the clouds;



who can see the Creator of springs and rivers coming in-to the wa - ters?



O Mas-ter, I mar - vel at your inef-fa - ble prov - i - dence.



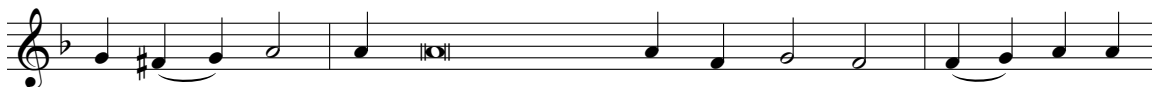
Do not bur - den your serv - ant with such awe - some com-mands.

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 4 samohlasen



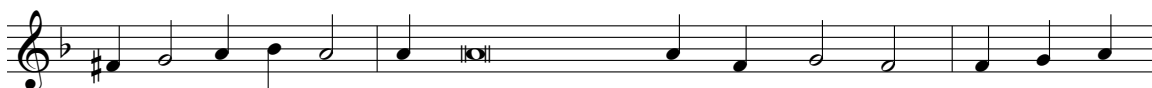
As a lover of the Holy Spirit, O Fore-run - ner, and as a swallow sweetly singing of



di - vine grace, you have made known to all peo - ple the plan of



sal - va - tion of their King. He glo - riously came forth from the Pure One for the



re - new - al of all. He takes away their en - cient sad - ness and re - forms


the hearts of those baptized in re - pent - ance that they may re - ceive
e - ter - nal life, O bless - ed Proph - et, in - spired by God.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Let us imitate the wise vir - gins; come, let us go to meet the Master who is
now pres - ent, for he approaches John as a Bride - groom. When the Jor - dan
saw him, it bowed down in fear and stopped; John spoke out, saying: I am unworthy
to touch your im - mor - tal head. The spirit descended in the form of a dove and
sanc - ti - fied the wa - ters, and a voice was heard from on high: This is my Son
who comes into the world to save all. O Lord, glo - ry to you!

Troparia

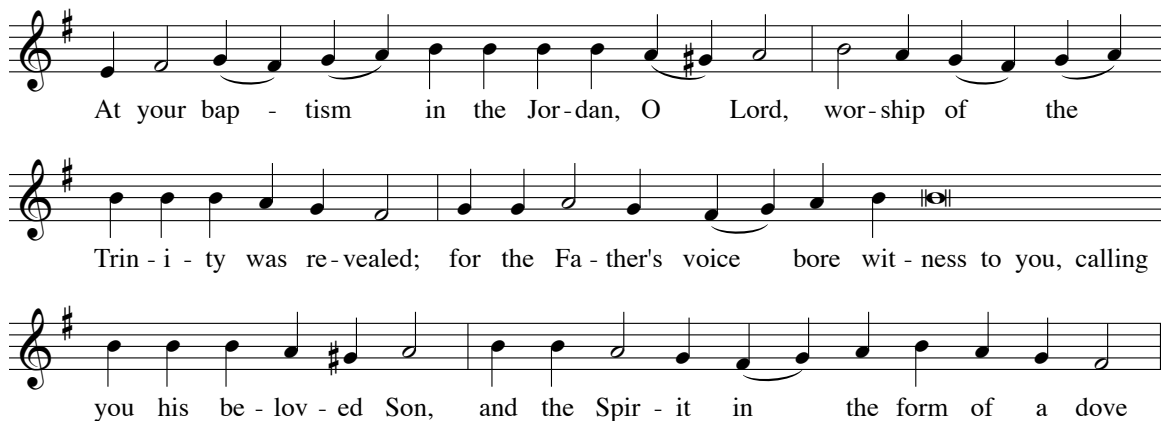
Troparion of the Synaxis - *Tone 2*




O proph-et, forerunner, and dwell-er in the des - ert, you heard the di-vine
voice of the Fa - ther, you were deemed wor-thy to bap - tize the Son and Lord,
and you were a witness of the Ho - ly Spir - it. Hav - ing pro-claimed the
bap-ti - sm of re - pent - ance, now ask for us the for-give - ness of sins,
that through your prayers we may receive the great mer - cy of Christ our God.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

Troparion of the Theophany - *Tone 1*



At your bap - tism in the Jor-dan, O Lord, wor-ship of the
Trin - i - ty was re-vealed; for the Fa - ther's voice bore wit - ness to you, calling
you his be - lov - ed Son, and the Spir - it in the form of a dove



con - firmed the truth of these words. O Christ God, you ap-peared and enlightened the



world. Glo - ry to you!

The service concludes with the Dismissal, p. 21.