

**Vesper Propers, September 10**  
**Postfestive day of the Nativity of the Theotokos**

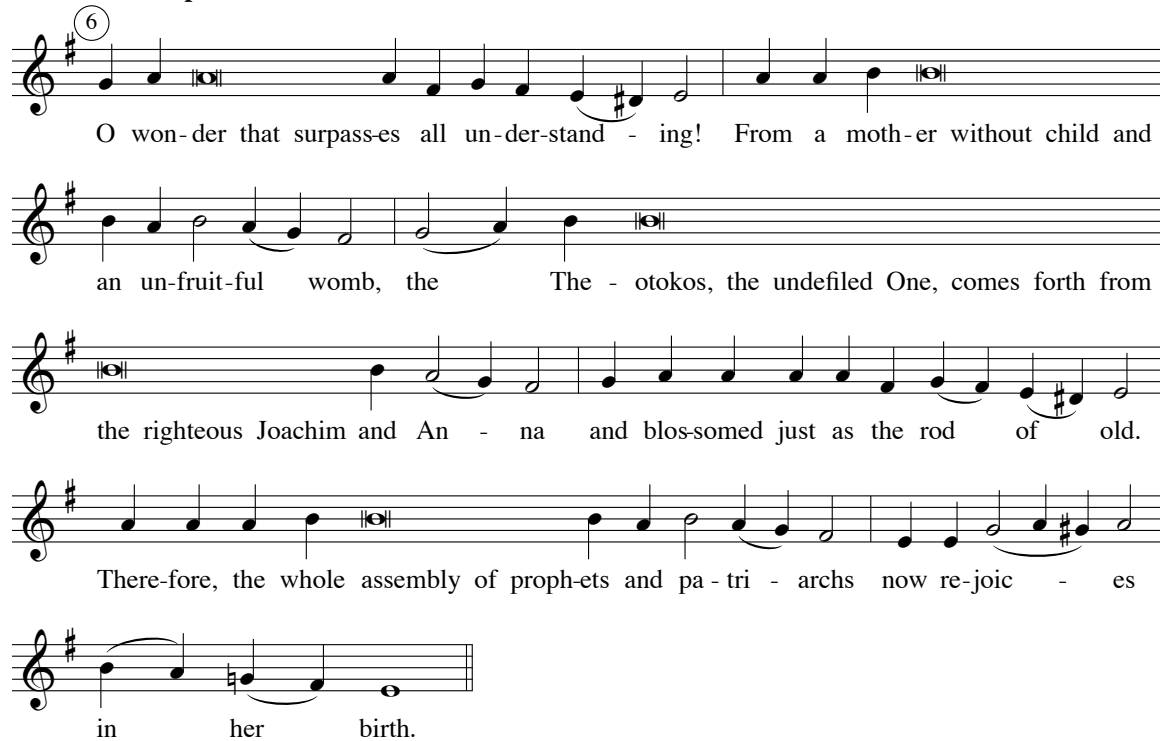
The holy martyrs Menodora, Mitrodora, and Nymphodora were sisters from somewhere in Bythinia. Brought up as Christians, they withdrew from the city into the desert to live for Christ alone, and gave themselves up to fasting, prayer, and work. They became famous as a source of healing illness, which brought them to the attention of the governor. He, astounded by their beauty, wanted to marry them off to noblemen, but they refused. He then put them to the torture to get them to renounce Christ. They died confessing the name of Jesus. (306)

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

*Lamplighting Psalms: Tone 5, stichera 10-7, beginning on page 69.*

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) 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.

**Stichera of the postfeast - Tone 8 samohlasen**



O won-der that surpass-es all un-der-stand - ing! From a moth-er without child and  
an un-fruit-ful womb, the The - otokos, the undefiled One, comes forth from  
the righteous Joachim and An - na and blos-somed just as the rod of old.  
There-fore, the whole assembly of proph-ets and pa - tri - archs now re-joic - es  
in her birth.

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

To-day David rejoices and Jes-se takes great de - light, Le - vi is exalted and  
Joachim rejoic-es in spir - it. The ste-ri - lity of Anna is loosed by your birth.  
O most pure Mary, you are full of grace; and all peo - ple, together with the  
as - sem - bly of an - gels, bless your di - vine womb.

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

Re-joyce, O assembly of the faith - ful! Re-joyce, O Tem-ple of the Lord!  
Re - joice, O unbetrothed Mother who gloriously ended the barrenness of An - na,  
and by your birth-giving came the remis-sion of sins for all! Re-joyce,  
O all-immaculate One, di-vine Tem - ple! Re - joice, O Tabernacle in which the

Cre - a - tor and Lord dwelled!

**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 martyrs - Tone 4 samohlasen**

③

O virgin martyrs, you have adorned yourselves with the crim - son of your blood;

you have united yourselves to Christ our God in an incorrup-ti - ble man - ner;

he pre-served your vir - gin - i - ty in the im - mo - rtal bri - dal cham - ber,

in the heaven-ly dwell - ing not made by hu - man hands.

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

②

In the power of the Spirit, O glo-rious ones, and with the youth of your bodies

and the maturi-ty of your thoughts, you conquered the Prince of Evil, the an - cient

ser-pent, and you showed his might as weak - ness. O tri - une conquerors,

Menodora, Mitrodora, and Nym-pho-do - ra, for this you re-ceived crowns of

vic - to - ry.

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

O most praiseworthy sufferers of the pas - sion, you en-dured ex-treme pain

but did not re-nounce Christ. You were cut into pieces and con-sumed by fire,

torn by spikes and hung on a cross. For all of this, the triune conquerors, Menodora,

Mitrodora, and Nym-pho-do - ra, have re-ceived crowns of vic - to - ry.

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Glory...now and ever...

*Doxastikon, Tone 5, page 76*

*Aposticha, Tone 5, page 77*

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...now and ever...

**Theotokion -Tone 2**

The cho-sen one of the King of all, the a-bode of God and divine dwelling of the



ev - er - ex - ist - ing One, comes forth to - day from the barren and glo - rious An - na.



It is through her that the shame-less Ha-des is crushed and the first Eve is



led in - to a faith - ful life. Let us wor - thi - ly cry out to her:



Bless-ed are you a-mong wo - men, and bless-ed is the fruit of your womb!

*Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 5, page 81*

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

**Troparion of the Nativity of the Theotokos - Tone 4**



Your birth, O Vir - gin The - o - to - kos, her - ald - ed joy to the u - ni - verse;



for from you arose the Sun of Jus - tice, Christ our God. Re - mov - ing the curse, he



gave the bles - sing, and by de - stroy - ing Death, he grant - ed us e - ter - nal life.