

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of the  
Third Sunday of the Great Fast  
March 12, 2023**

**The translation of the relics of our holy father Nicephor, patriarch of Constantinople.** Nicephor died in exile on the island of Prochonis in the year 827. After the death of the last iconoclast emperor, the relics of the holy father were brought back to Constantinople, first to the church of Hagia Sophia and then finally to the Church of the Holy Apostles in the year 846.

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers on Sunday Evening for the Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sunday) and the Sundays of the Great Fast.*

*Psalm 140 and Stichera of Forgiveness in the tone of the week (Tone 7, p. 48)*

*Stichera of the Third Sunday of the Fast, p. 72. Then:*

*Tone 1 samohlasen*

Cantor:

Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion,  
Is - rael indeed he will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

**Stichera of our holy father Nicephor - Tone 1 samohlasen**

The streams of your wisdom, drawn from the spir - it - ual clouds, pour forth  
a fountain of true faith up - on the world. We, the faith - ful, draw - ing forth this  
sweet - ness, turn a - way from the outpour - ings of her - e - sy  
as from the bit - ter wa - ters of Mar - ah.

*Cantor:*

Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you  
 peo - - - ples!

②

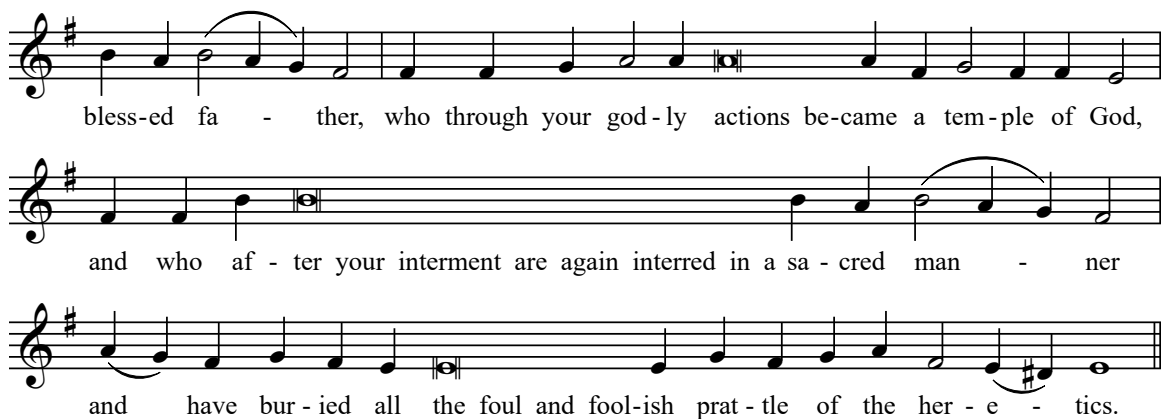
Ly - ing in the tomb, your most pure body did not in an - y way de - cay,  
 but was found to be whole, O most bless - ed Ni - ce - phor. Bear-ing it forth  
 with zeal, those nurtured by the true faith re - joiced, glo - rious - ly bless-ing you,  
 O di - vine - ly wise one.

*Cantor:*

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith - ful  
 for - ev - - - er.

①

The Church hon - ored with the name of the A - pos - tles re - ceived you, O most



bless-ed fa - ther, who through your god-ly ac-tions be-came a tem-ple of God,  
 and who af - ter your interment are again interred in a sa - cred man - ner  
 and have bur - ied all the foul and fool-ish prat - tle of the her - e - tics.


*The faithful STAND.*

*Cantor:*



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir-it,  
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - - - men.

**Theotokion** - *in the same tone*



Since you are the pure dwell-ing-place of God, pray with the an - gels that I may  
 complete the road of life in vir - tue, so that the eve-ning of death may not  
 ap-proach me un-pre-pared, nor send me into the blazing fire to be tor-ment - ed.

De - liv - er me from all of this, O Spot - less One.

The image shows a single line of musical notation on a five-line staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be common time. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The lyrics are: "De - liv - er me from all of this, O Spot - less One." The word "this," is followed by a comma, and "Spot - less" is followed by "One." The final note is a whole note.

*The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, "O joyful light," on page 9.*

*Prokeimenon for the Third Sunday of the Great Fast, p.10.*

*Aposticha of the Third Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 75.*