

Vesper propers, October 22, 2023
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

The holy bishop Abercius, equal to the apostles and wonderworker, at Hieropolis in Phrygia, a disciple of Christ the good Shepherd, of whom it is said that he made a journey through different areas and nourished the faith with a mystical food. He preached throughout Syria and Mesopotamia, and went to the Lord in great old age at the end of the second century. (2nd century)

The holy seven children of Ephesus. During the persecution of the emperor Decius, seven young soldiers refused to sacrifice to idols. Tradition says that their names were: Maximilian, Iamblichus, Martinian, John, Dionysius, Exacustodianus, and Antoninus. They concealed themselves in a cave outside of Ephesus, and the emperor had them sealed into the cave to kill them. In the reign of the Christian emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), there arose a dispute about the veracity of the Christian teaching on the resurrection of the dead. The youths awoke, testified to the true teaching, and one week later died. (250 and 454) (*Also remembered on August 4.*)

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2006

Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 58), stichera 10-7.

Cantor: (Tone 2) 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 holy bishop Abercius - Tone 2 samohlasen

With the light of your divine teachings, O fa - ther A - ber - cius, you brought
an end to the night of the man - y false gods. You rose like the dawn,
mak - ing chil - dren of the day of those who once dwelt in dark - ness, as you worked great



mir - a - cles a - mong them. Thus, in faith, we celebrate your sacred mem-'ry as a



feast, and we all sing to geth - er a hymn in your hon - or.

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.



In the same ves-sel, O A - ber - cius, you mir - ac - u - lous - ly joined oil, wine, and



an - oth - er sub - stance, so that they could all be served from it,



al though by divine grace they were kept separate with - out be - ing mixed.



By your pray'r, you cause a spring of warm wa - ter to flow that heals



the sicknesses of those who draw near to you in faith, call - ing you bless - ed, O

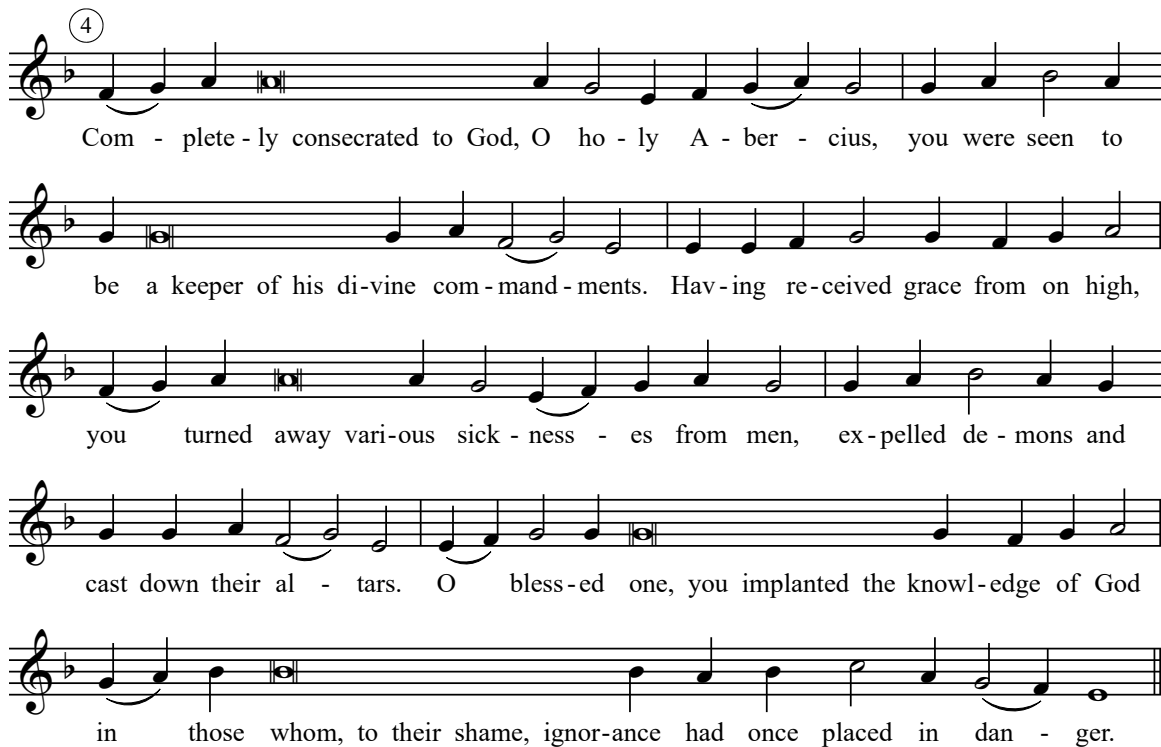


ho - ly A - ber - cius.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak

(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

④

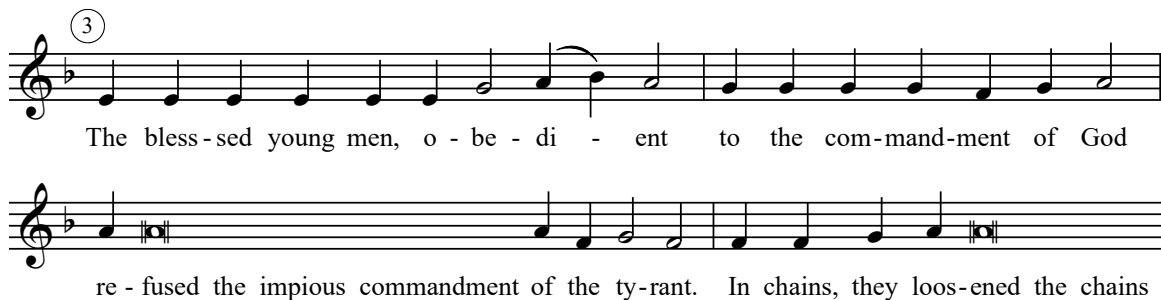


Com - plete - ly consecrated to God, O ho - ly A - ber - cius, you were seen to
 be a keeper of his di-vine com-mand-ments. Hav-ing re-ceived grace from on high,
 you turned away vari-ous sick - ness - es from men, ex-pelled de - mons and
 cast down their al - tars. O bless-ed one, you implanted the knowl-edge of God
 in those whom, to their shame, ignor-ance had once placed in dan - ger.

Cantor: (Tone 4) 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 holy seven children of Ephesus - Tone 4 samohlasen

③



The bless-sed young men, o - be - di - ent to the com-mand-ment of God
 re - fused the impious commandment of the ty-rant. In chains, they loos-ened the chains



of er - ror. Re-nounc ing the hon - ors of this world, they obtained the



honor which made them fa - mous and won for them the joys of the King - dom

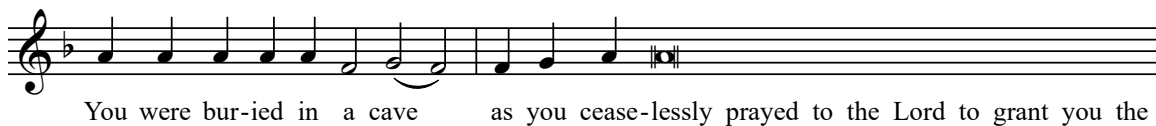


on high.

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



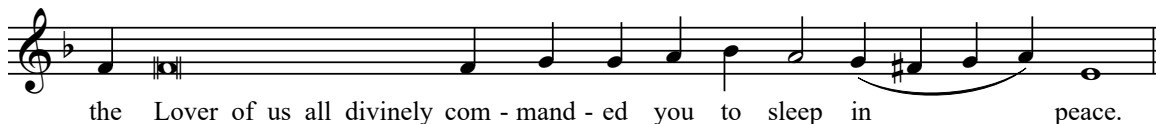
②
You coura - ge - ous - ly giir - ded your-selves for the strug-gles of mar - tyr-dom.



You were bur-ied in a cave as you cease-lessly prayed to the Lord to grant you the



strength to per - se - vere. But for reas - ons known on - ly to him - self,



the Lover of us all divinely com - mand - ed you to sleep in peace.

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



①
Come all, and let us ear - nest - ly hymn the wit-ness - es of pi - e - ty,

the divinely assembled regiment and the blessed choir, the invincible company
of martyrs and the beautiful triumph of the Church of God., the indivisible
assembly and the unvanquished army, the unshakable foundation
of piety.

Cantor: (Tone 3) Glory...

Doxastikon of the holy bishop Abercius- Tone 3 samohlasen

Venerable hierarch and blessed father, servant of Christ and
wonderworker, Abercius, you shone with a prophetic life
and were adorned with the charisms of the Apostles. Now you ceaselessly celebrate
the Savior in heaven; entreat him, together with the angels,



that our souls be saved from all the dan - gers that theat - en them.

Cantor: (Tone 4) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 64)

Sunday aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 65).

Troparia in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 68).