

Vesper Propers, Sunday of the Fathers December 17, 2005

18 The holy martyr Sebastian and his companions. Born in Italy and brought up in the city of Milan, he intended to be a soldier. The emperor Diocletian made him captain of the imperial guard. During this time, Sebastian professed the Faith and was a great help to those persecuted for it. After many of his converts were martyred, the emperor called Sebastian and rebuked him for his betrayal, and he replied, "I always pray to my Christ for your health and for the peace of the Roman Empire." The emperor ordered him stripped and shot with arrows. Since this did not kill him, he was beaten to death with staves. (287)

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

Tone of the Week: Tone 6 (begins on page 82), stichera 10 -5

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

Stichera of the Fathers - Tone 6 podoben: Vsju otloživše

④ ③

To the ends of the earth, the Fore-fathers' memo-ry has been re-vealed,
tru-ly filled with light and shin-ing with the dawn of grace. For Christ,
the sun shining with light from a-bove, from a - far leads the company of stars to
shine down on him, and the birth of the God-man is re-vealed to be in
Beth - le - hem. In faith, therefore, let us all ap - plaud his birth,

and cel - e - brate the praise of the Fore - feast.

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

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

All the an-ces-tors of God are robed with the glory of di-vine com-mu - nion,

and Ad-am re-joic - es to-day as the foun - da - tion and confirmation of the

wise fore - fa - thers. A - bel leaps for joy, and E-noch danc - es,

and Seth celebrates, and Noah in the midst of them. More - o - ver Abraham

the all-praised sings to-geth-er with the Pa - tri-archs, and now Melchidesek

from above sees the birth without a fa - ther. For this reas-on, even as we keep

the memory of Christ's fore - fa - thers, we pray that our souls be saved.

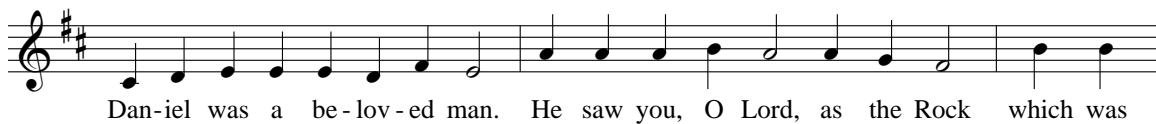
Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.



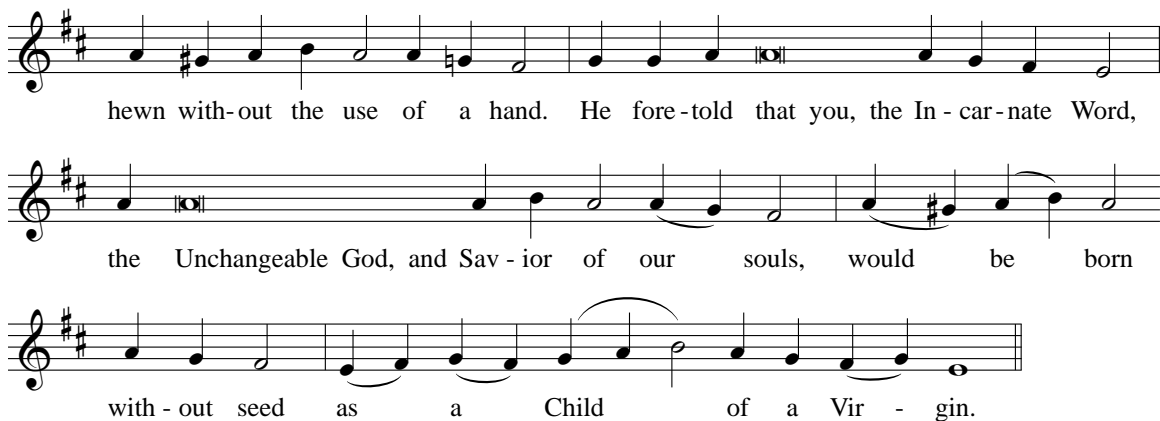
The company of the Three Ho-ly Youths, wise in God, is ra-diant with joy,
and pro-claims the birth of Christ on earth: In-deed, the Lord, de-scen-ding like the
pure dew pre - served in honor her who bore Him, kept her pure,
and enriched her with di-vine gifts. At this, Dan-iel, the man pleas-ing to God,
es - pe - cially rejoices with glad - ness, for he re - vealed in prophesy
the stone from an un-clo-ven mount. Now he ap-proach - es Christ with bold-ness
to pray for our souls.

Cantor: Glory...

Doxastikon of the Holy Fathers - Tone 6



Dan-iel was a be-lov-ed man. He saw you, O Lord, as the Rock which was



hewn with-out the use of a hand. He fore-told that you, the In-car-nate Word,
 the Unchangeable God, and Sav-ior of our souls, would be born
 with-out seed as a Child of a Vir-gin.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Dogmatikon, Tone 6, p 87

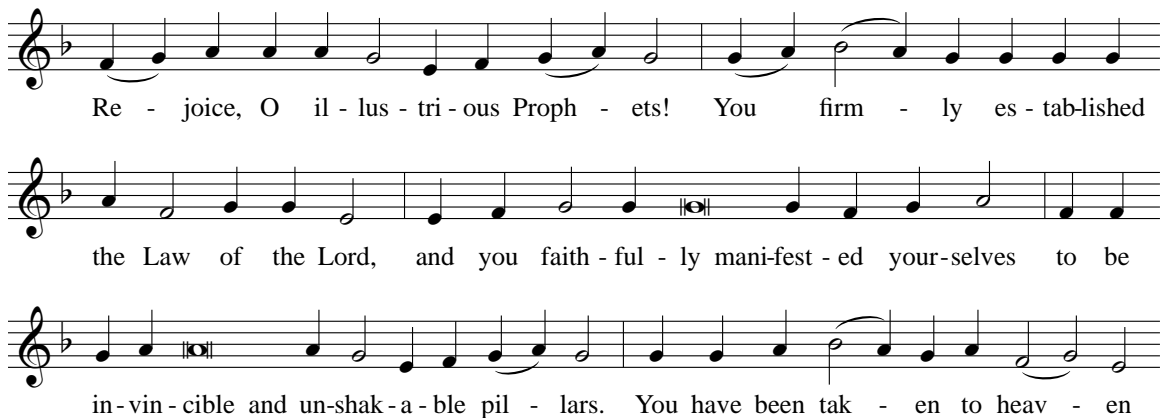
The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, p. 12

- Readings:**
- 1) Genesis 14: 14 - 20
 - 2) Deuteronomy 1: 8 - 11 and 15 - 17
 - 3) Deuteronomy 10: 14 - 21

Apostichera, Tone 6, p 88

Cantor: Glory...

Aposticha Doxastikon of the Holy Fathers - Tone 2



Re-joice, O il-lus-tri-ous Proph-ets! You firm-ly es-tab-lished
 the Law of the Lord, and you faith-ful-ly mani-fest-ed your-selves to be
 in-vin-cible and un-shak-a-ble pil-lars. You have been tak-en to heav-en

and have shown your-selves to be mediators of the new Law of Christ. Im - plore him
to give peace to the world and to save our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Aposticha Theotokion, Tone 2, p 45

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

Troparion, Tone 6, p 91

Glory...

Troparion of the Fathers - Tone 2

Great are the ac-com - plish - ments of faith: the three ho - ly youths rejoiced in
the streams of fire as if in re-fresh - ing wa - ters; and Dan - iel the prophet
shep-herd - ed li - ons like sheep. Through their pray'rs, O
Christ our God, save our souls.

Now and ever...

Theotokion, Tone 2, p 47