

**Vespers Propers on the Afternoon of
The Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast
March 30, 2009**

Our venerable father John Climacus, author of “The Ladder” was born in Palestine. At the age of sixteen, he entered a monastery on Mount Sinai, where (in his later years) he wrote “The Ladder of Perfection.” (649)

*All page references are to **The Order of Vespers on Sunday Afternoons in the Great Fast***

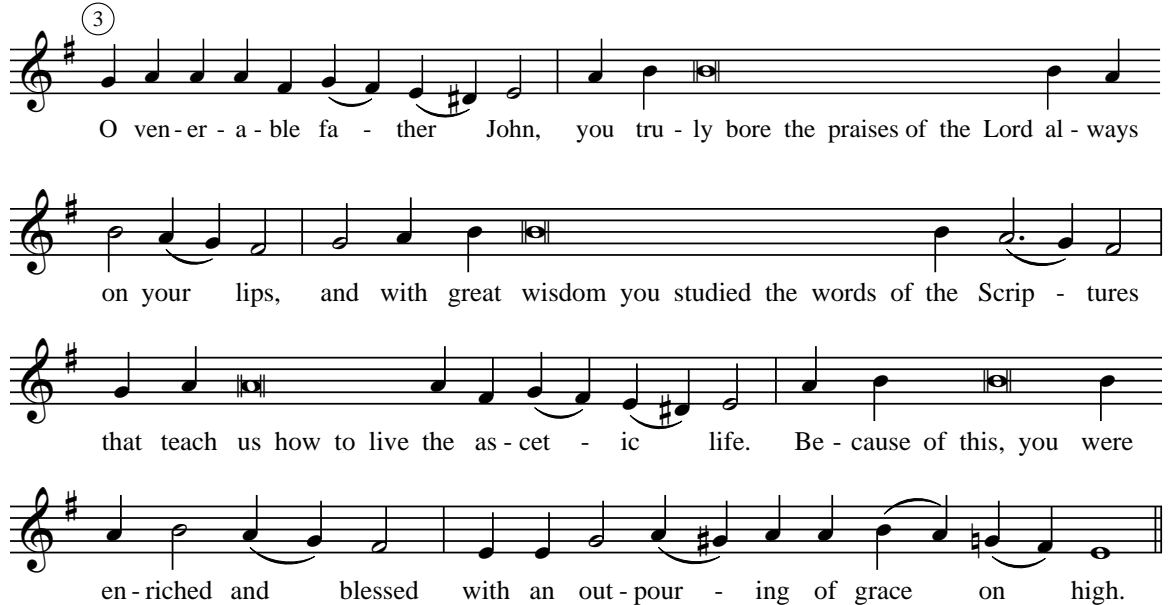
Psalm 140 and Stichera of Forgiveness in the tone of the week (Tone 5, p. 40)

Stichera of the Fifth Sunday of the Fast, p. 77

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 our venerable Father John Climacus - Tone 8 samohlasen

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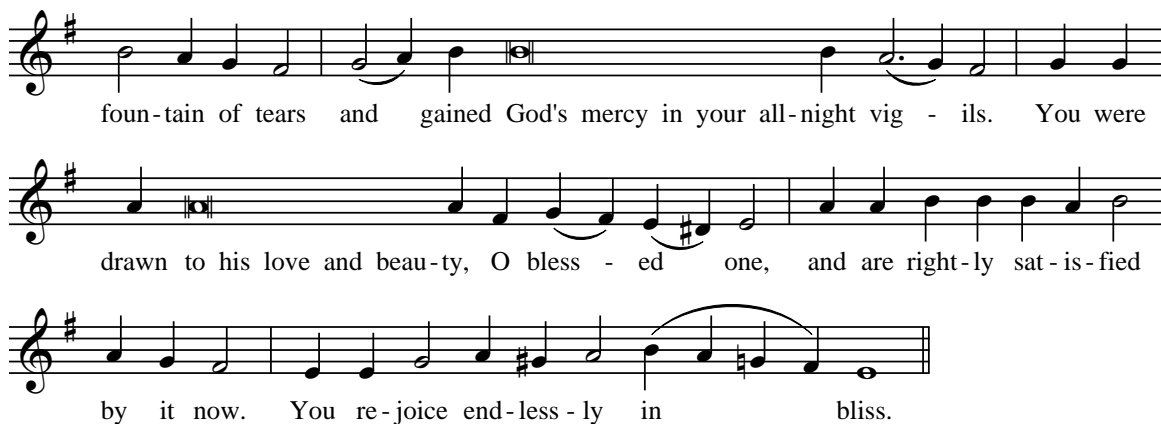
O ven-er - a - ble fa - ther John, you tru - ly bore the praises of the Lord al - ways
on your lips, and with great wisdom you studied the words of the Scrip - tures
that teach us how to live the as - cet - ic life. Be - cause of this, you were
en - riched and blessed with an out - pour - ing of grace on high.

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

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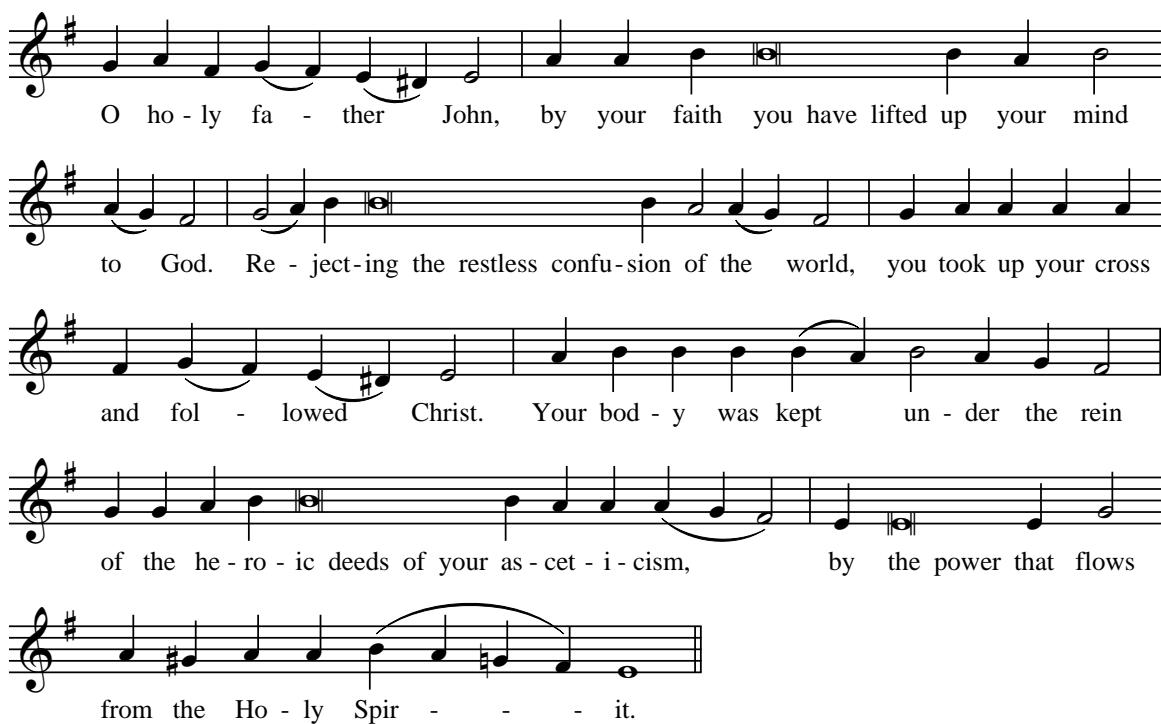


O most glo - ri - ous fa - ther John, you cleansed your soul with a



foun-tain of tears and gained God's mercy in your all-night vig - ils. You were
 drawn to his love and beau-ty, O bless - ed one, and are right-ly sat-is-fied
 by it now. You re-joice end-less - ly in bliss.

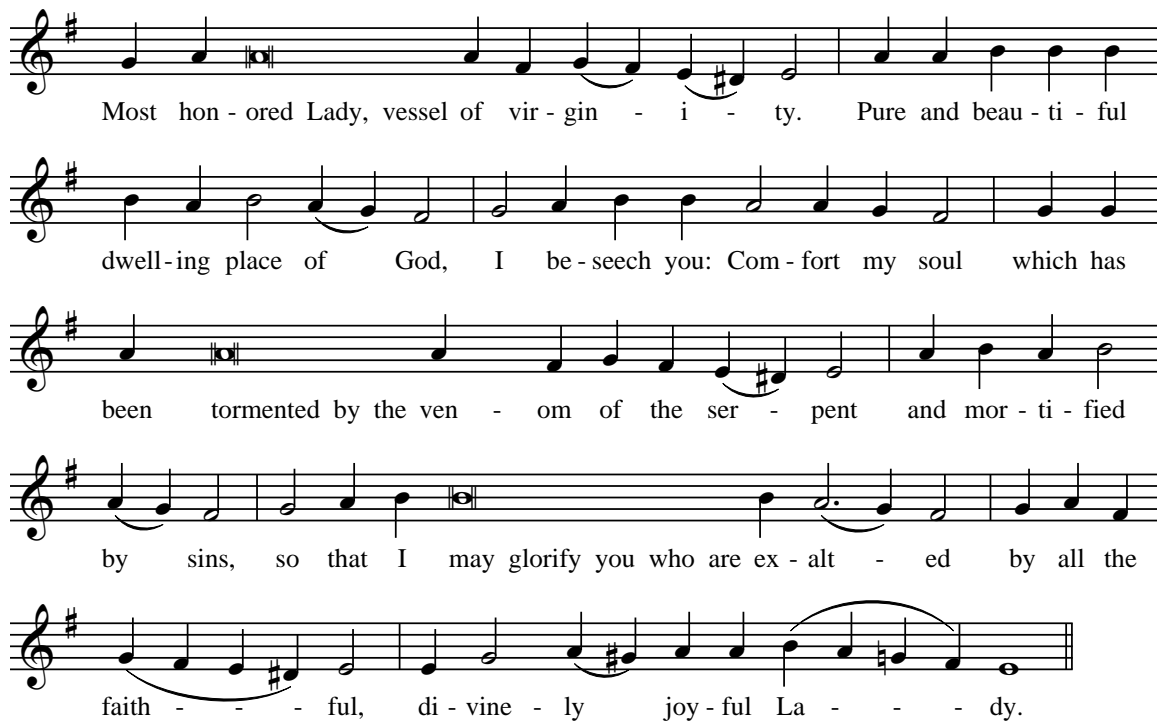
Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on I) he is faithful forever.



O ho - ly fa - ther John, by your faith you have lifted up your mind
 to God. Re - ject-ing the restless confu-sion of the world, you took up your cross
 and fol - lowed Christ. Your bod - y was kept un - der the rein
 of the he - ro - ic deeds of your as - cet - i - cism, by the power that flows
 from the Ho - ly Spir - - - it.

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

Theotokion



Most hon - ored Lady, vessel of vir - gin - i - ty. Pure and beau - ti - ful
dwell - ing place of God, I be - seech you: Com - fort my soul which has
been tormented by the ven - om of the ser - pent and mor - ti - fied
by sins, so that I may glorify you who are ex - alt - ed by all the
faith - - - ful, di - vine - ly joy - ful La - - - dy.

The service continues on page 9.

Prokeimenon for the Fifth Sunday, p.10

Aposticha of the Fifth Sunday, p. 79