

**Vesper Propers, November 20, 2011**  
**Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Prefestive Day of the Entrance of the Theotokos**

**Our venerable father Gregory the Decapolite** at Constantinople, monk. He first professed the monastic life and then the life of an anchorite. Then he made a journey and settled for a long while in Thessalonica. Finally he returned his soul to God at Constantinople where he fought vigorously in defense of the holy Images. (9th century)

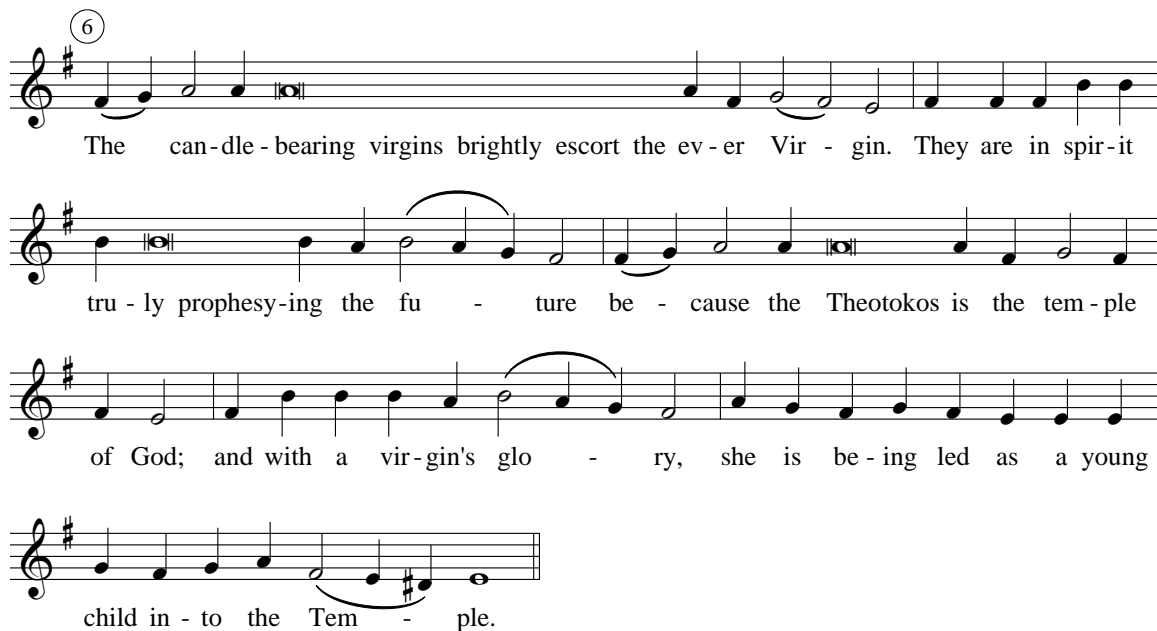
*Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006*

*Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, p. 82), stichera 10-7.*

**Cantor:** (Tone 1) 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 pre-feast - Tone 1 samohlasen**

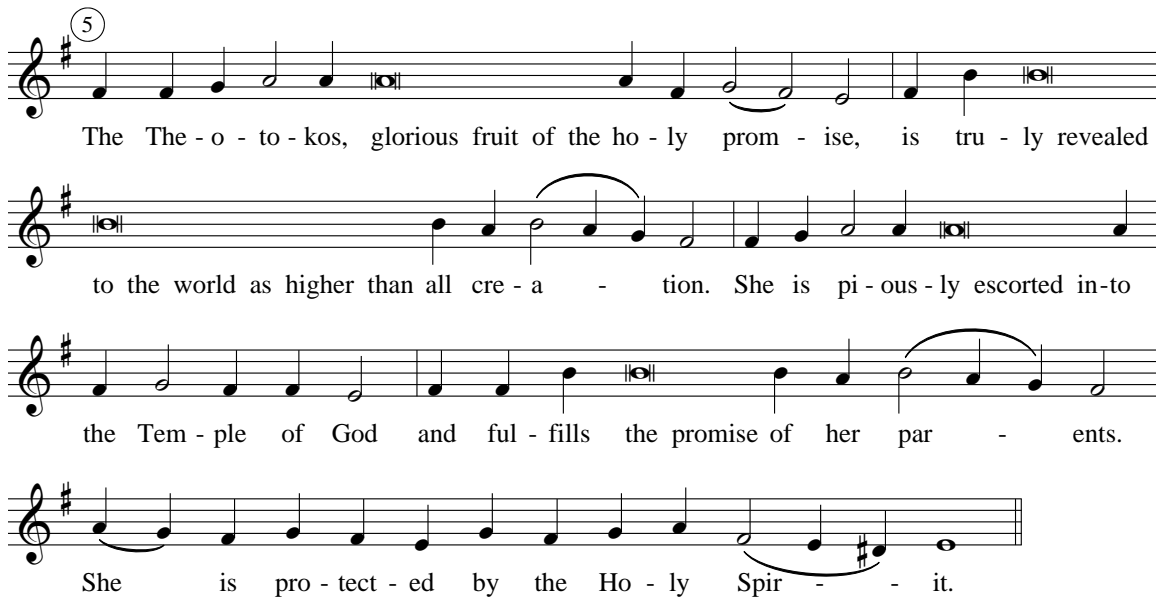
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The can-dle-bearing virgins brightly escort the ev-er Vir-gin. They are in spir-it  
tru-ly prophesy-ing the fu-ture be-cause the Theotokos is the tem-ple  
of God; and with a vir-gin's glo-ry, she is be-ing led as a young  
child in-to the Tem-ple.

**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.

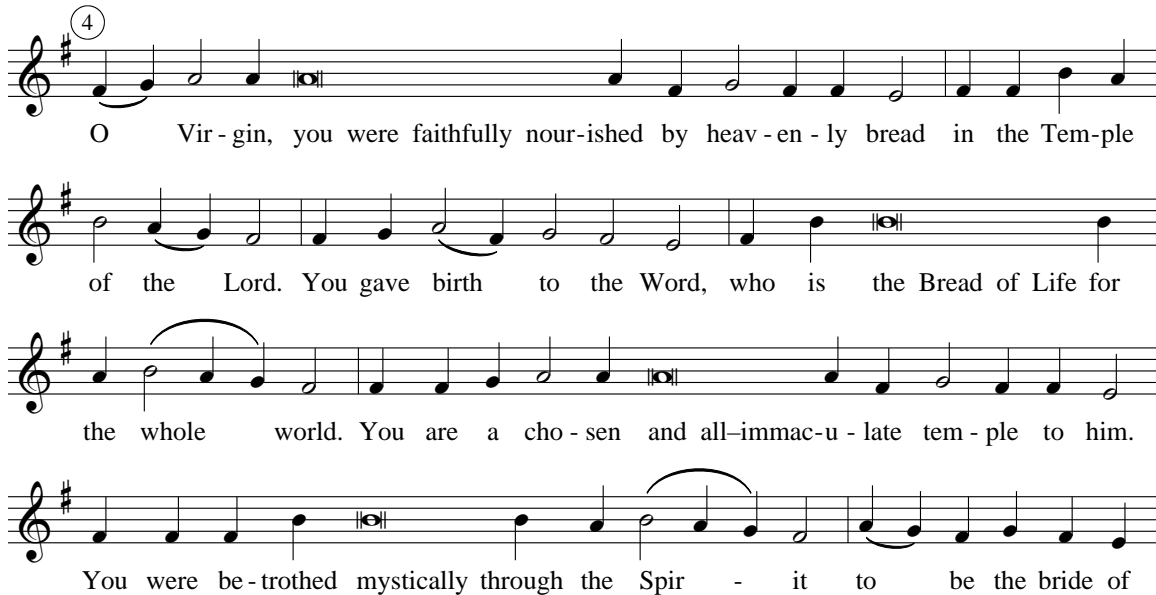
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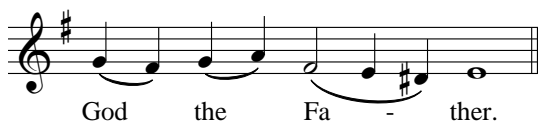
The The - o - to - kos, glorious fruit of the ho - ly prom - ise, is tru - ly revealed  
to the world as higher than all cre - a - tion. She is pi - ous - ly escorted in-to  
the Tem - ple of God and ful - fills the promise of her par - ents.  
She is pro - tect - ed by the Ho - ly Spir - it.

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

4



O Vir - gin, you were faithfully nour-ished by heav - en - ly bread in the Tem-ple  
of the Lord. You gave birth to the Word, who is the Bread of Life for  
the whole world. You are a cho - sen and all-immac-u - late tem - ple to him.  
You were be-trothed mystically through the Spir - it to be the bride of



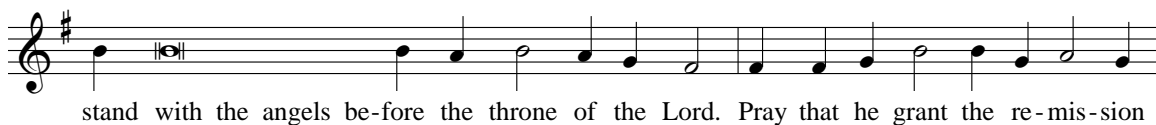
God the Fa - ther.

**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

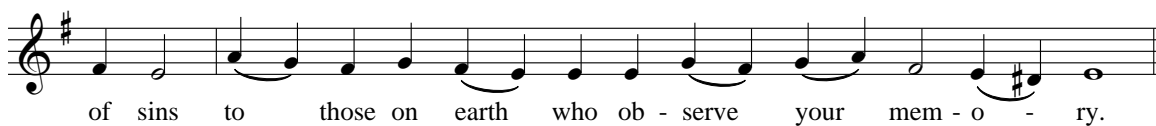
**Stichera of our venerable father Gregory the Decapolite - Tone 1 samohlasen**



Liv - ing joy - ful - ly in the heavenly a-bode, O Fa - ther, you al - ways



stand with the angels be-fore the throne of the Lord. Pray that he grant the re-mis-sion



of sins to those on earth who ob - serve your mem - o - ry.

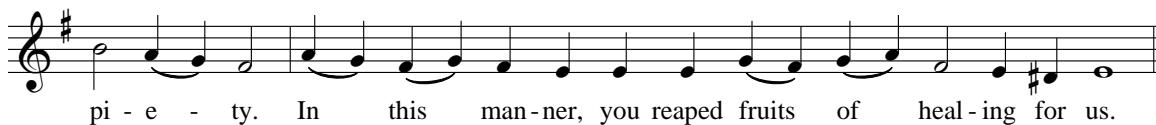
**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations,  
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!



Through pray'r and dis - ci - pline, O Fa - ther Greg - o - ry, you cut the thorns of



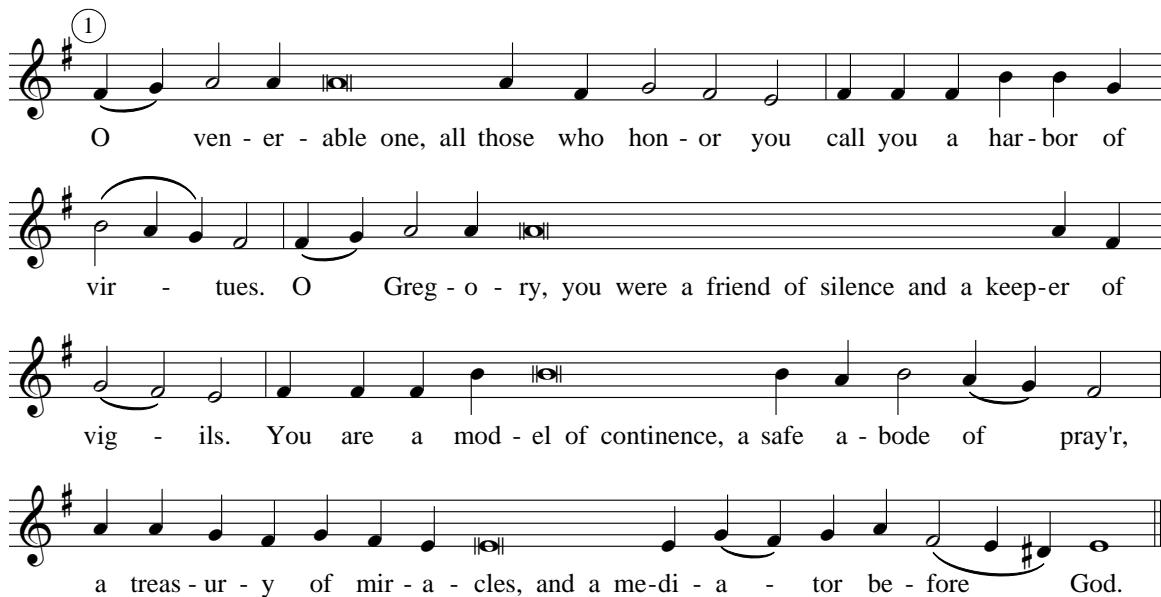
pas - sion. You turned up the spir - it - u - al ground and cast into it the seeds of



pi - e - ty. In this man - ner, you reaped fruits of heal - ing for us.

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

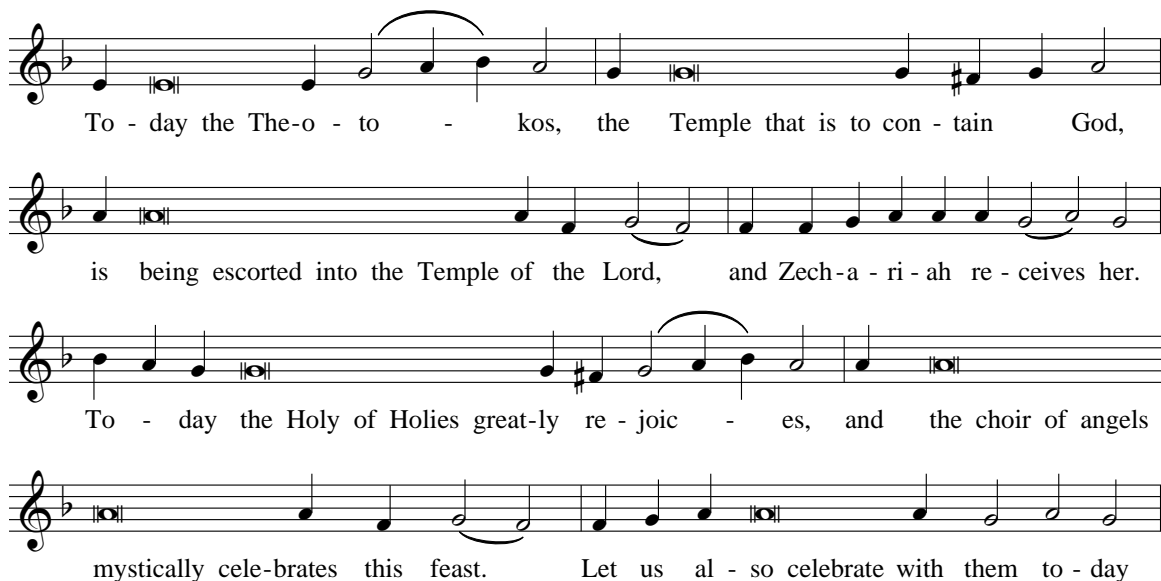
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O ven - er - able one, all those who hon - or you call you a har - bor of  
vir - tues. O Greg - o - ry, you were a friend of silence and a keep - er of  
vig - ils. You are a mod - el of continence, a safe a - bode of pray'r,  
a treas - ur - y of mir - a - cles, and a me - di - a - tor be - fore God.

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Glory...

**Doxastikon of the pre-feast - Tone 4**



To - day the The - o - to - kos, the Temple that is to con - tain God,  
is being escorted into the Temple of the Lord, and Zech - a - ri - ah re - ceives her.  
To - day the Holy of Holies great - ly re - joic - es, and the choir of angels  
mystically cele - brates this feast. Let us al - so celebrate with them to - day

and cry out with Ga - bri - el: Re - joice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you,  
and he grants us great mer - cy.

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Now and ever...

*Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week (Tone 6, page 87).*

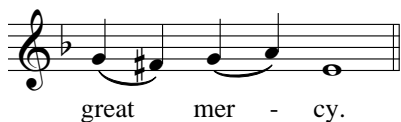
## Aposticha

*Sunday aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, p. 88), concluding with:*

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

**Aposticha doxastikon of the pre-feast - Tone 4 samohlasen**

Come all you peo - ple, and let us praise the only-im-mac - u - late One  
who was foretold by the proph - ets and is be - ing led into the Tem - ple.  
She was cho - sen from eternity to be the Moth - er; and in time she was  
revealed as the The - o - to - kos. O Lord, by her pray'rs, grant us peace and



great mer - cy.

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

## Troparia

*Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, p. 91), then:*

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

### Troparion of the pre-feast - Tone 4

To - day An - na prepares for us a joy that dis - pels all sad - ness for she has  
blos - somed and borne the on - ly Ev - er - Vir - gin. To - day she fulfills her  
vows with glad - ness and leads in - to the Tem - ple of the Lord  
the one who is the true tem - ple of God the Word and his pure Moth - er.

*The service continues with the dismissal on p. 21.*