

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of the  
First Sunday of the Great Fast  
February 26, 2012**

**Our venerable father and confessor Procopius the Decapolite**, who, at the time of emperor Leo III Isaurus [c.680-740] vigorously contended for the cult of holy Images. (741)

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers on Sunday Afternoons in the Great Fast.*

*Psalm 140 and Stichera of Forgiveness in the tone of the week (Tone 4, p. 36)  
Stichera of the first Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 61*

**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 Procopius the Decapolite - Tone 4 samohlasen**

③

By virtue of cre - a - tion, you were made in the image and like - ness of God,  
O blessed fa - ther Pro - co - pi - us. You made e - very effort to preserve the dignity of  
the i - mage by your pi - ety, the pu - ri - ty of your soul, chas - tity,  
temperance in restrain - ing the pas - sions, per - se - ver - ence in the true faith,  
and the manner in which you ob - served the pre - cepts of Christ.

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

②

You joined the confession of the faith to the asceticism which you had first set out to practice, O Pro-copius. In both, you were well-pleasing to the Creator, who seeks nobility of soul in all of us. You glorified the coming of our God in the flesh by bowing down before his sacred icon, which represents him in his human condition.

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

①

O venerable father Pro-copius, by opposing the impious who rendered the incarnation vain, you had to endure the torture of scourging, all types of vile mistreatment, sufferings in chains and imprisonment. Nevertheless,

you af-firmed the truth and thus inherited the kingdom of Christ in ineffa-ble joy  
and e - ter - nal de-light.

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

**Theotokion** - *Tone 4 samohlasen*

All - pure one, you contained the uncontain-a-ble God in your womb when he became  
one of us in his love for man - kind, tak - ing our nature from you and making it  
di - vine. Do not de - spise me now in my af - flic - tion, but take  
pit - y on me and quick-ly de - liv - er me from all the mal - ice and harm  
of the E - vil One.

*The service continues on page 9.*

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

*Aposticha of the First Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 63*