

Vesper Propers, June 24, 2018
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
The Nativity of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John

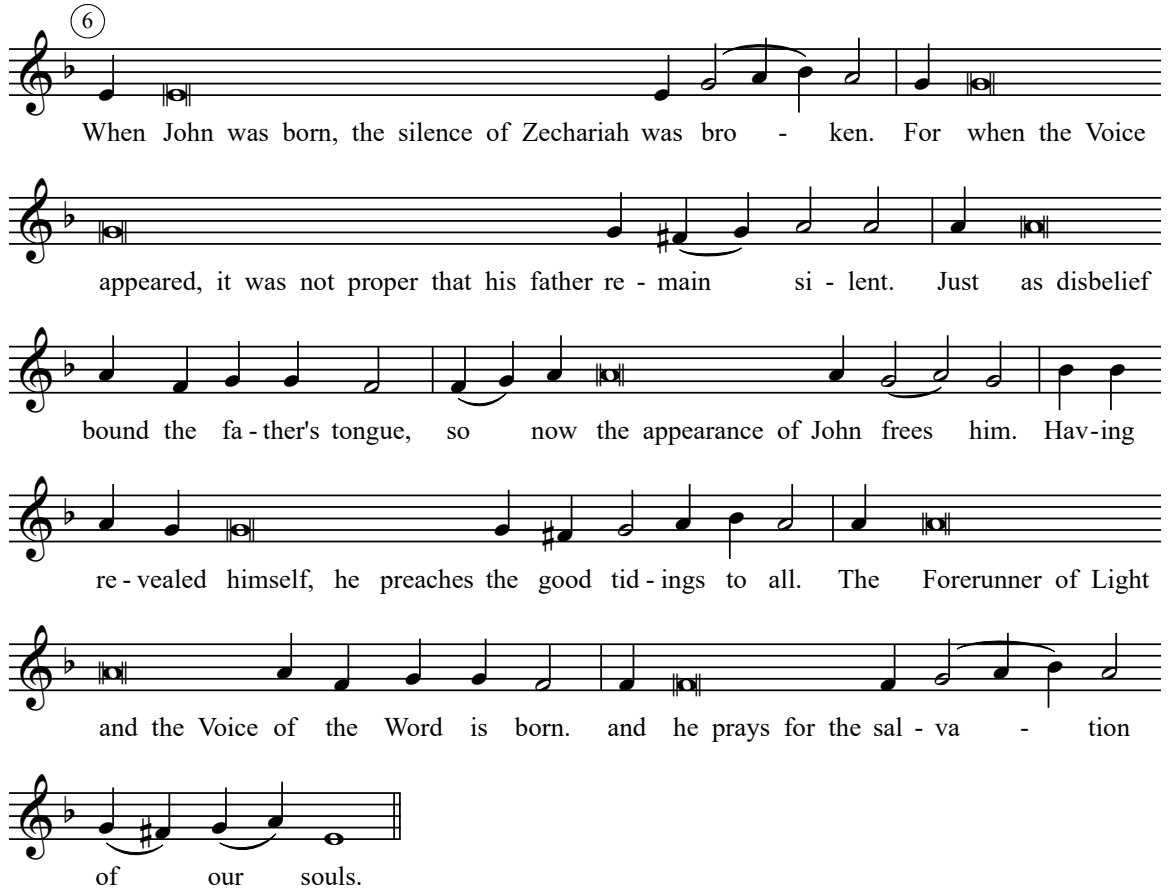
Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006

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

Cantor: (Tone 4) 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 John the Baptist - Tone 4 samohlasen

⑥



When John was born, the silence of Zechariah was bro - ken. For when the Voice
appeared, it was not proper that his father re - main si - lent. Just as disbelief
bound the fa - ther's tongue, so now the appearance of John frees him. Hav - ing
re - vealed himself, he preaches the good tid - ings to all. The Forerunner of Light
and the Voice of the Word is born. and he prays for the sal - va - tion
of our souls.

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.

5

To - day the Voice of the Word frees his fa - ther's voice which was lost through
 dis - be - lief, and he reveals the Church's bless - ed pos - te - ri - ty, by loos - ing
 his mother's bond of bar - ren - ness. The Lamp pre - ced - ing the Light ap - pears;
 the Star proclaims the coming of the Sun of Jus - tice who is the res - to - ra - tion
 of all and the sal - va - tion of our souls.

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

4

When the time ap - proached for the Word of God to be born of a vir - gin,
 a messenger came forth from a bar - ren womb. He is the great - est born of
 wo - man and the great - est of the proph - ets. Be - hold, the beginning of God's



actions is beyond our un - der - stand - ing. You were be - got - ten e - ter - nal - ly,



and con - ceived, O Lord, with - out seed. You work wonders for our sal - va - tion.



Al - might - y Lord, glo - ry to you.

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



To - day the great Fore - run - ner ap - pears, born from the barren womb of E - li - za - beth.



He is a prophet greater than all proph - ets; there is no oth - er like him, nor has there



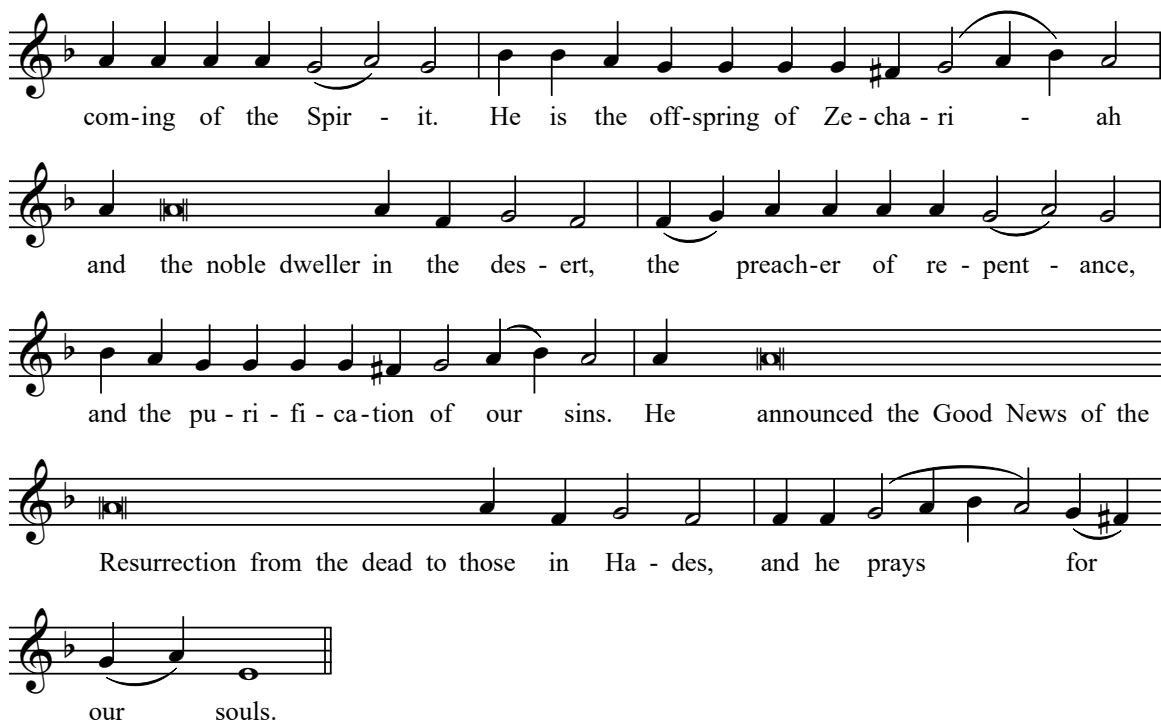
ev - er been. For the most won - derful Light followed the Lamp of the Fore - run - ner;



the Word fol - lowed the Voice, and the Bride - groom followed the bride - groom's friend.

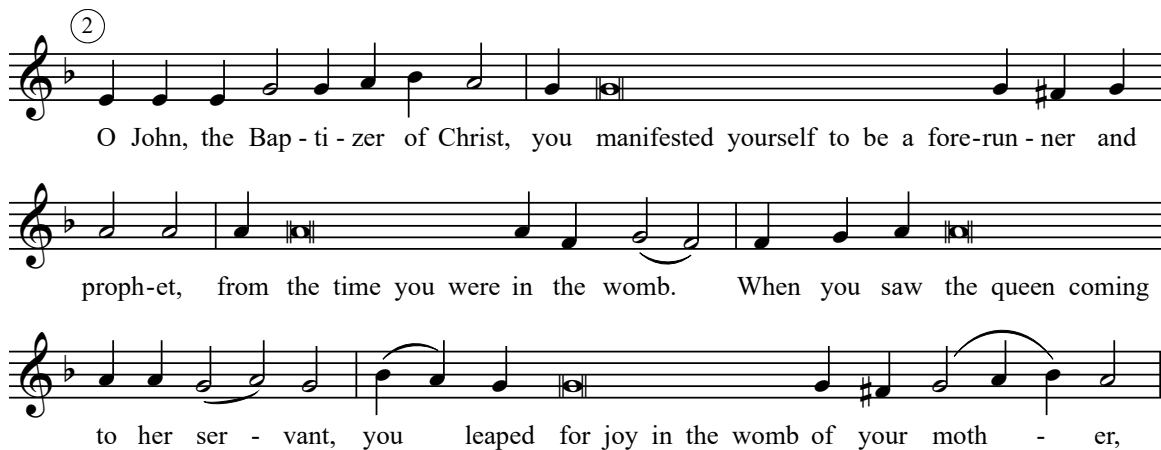


He pre - pares a special peo - ple for the Lord cleans - ing them with wa - ter un - til the



com-ing of the Spir - it. He is the off-spring of Ze - cha - ri - ah
 and the noble dweller in the des - ert, the preach-er of re - pent - ance,
 and the pu - ri - fi - ca - tion of our sins. He announced the Good News of the
 Resurrection from the dead to those in Ha - des, and he prays for
 our souls.

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



O John, the Bap - ti - zer of Christ, you manifested yourself to be a fore-run - ner and
 proph-et, from the time you were in the womb. When you saw the queen coming
 to her ser - vant, you leaped for joy in the womb of your moth - er,



you, the one conceived of a bar-ren wom-an, ac - cord-ing to the promise made to the



elder, Ze-cha - ri - ah. You knew she was bearing the E - ter - nal One



who was from the Father with-out a moth-er. Now implore God to have mer - cy



on our souls.

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



Ze - chariah did not believe the an - gel's word, who told that Elizabeth would conceive



and bear a son. In - stead he replied, "How can she give birth, for we are both



ad-vanced in years?" He was made si - lent by your decree because of his dis - be - lief.



To-day he sees the prom-ised birth and his si - lence is ended to give way to joy.



O what a glo - ri - ous mar - vel! He shouts aloud, "Blessed is the Lord, the



God of Is - ra-el!" for he has turned to his people and brought them sal - va - tion.



He grants great mer - cy to the world.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon of the Baptist - Tone 6



To - day, like a shin-ing star, the Lamp prepares the way for the coming of the Word



of God. To-day Ze - cha - ri - ah speaks clear - ly, which ends the silence



imposed by the an - gel; for it was not right that the fa - ther of the Voice



should re - main in si - lence, once John was born from a bar - ren womb.



With great bold-ness he comes to an-nounce the great news of sal - va - tion for all



of the world.

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

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week (Tone 4, page 64).

Readings: Genesis 17: 15-17, 19; 18:11-14; 28: 1-2, 4-8 (EOT 318-319)
Judges 13: 2-8, 13-14, 17-18, 21
Isaiah 40: 1-3, 9; 41:17-18; 45: 8; 48-20-21; 54: 1

Hymns of the Litija

Tone 1 Bolhar



O moun-tains, give forth your sweet-ness; O hills, skip a - bout



like lambs; for to-day the Lord's fore-run-ner, de-sir-ing to a-bide with us,



is born of E - liz - a - beth. At his birth, he loosed his fa - ther's



si - lence. There-fore, let us cry out to him: O bap-tiz - er of Christ,




im - plore him to save our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 5) Glory...


Doxastikon

Tone 5 Bolhar

To-day E - liz - a - beth re - joi - ces as she gives birth to the end of the
proph-ets and the be - gin - ning of the a - pos - tles, the earth - ly
an - gel and the hea - ven - ly man, the voice of the Word, the
sol - dier and fore - run - ner of Christ, who leaped for joy be - fore-hand
be-cause of the prom - ised one and who preached be - fore the birth
of the Sun of Jus - tice. In his old age, Zech - a - ri - ah is a-mazed,
hav - ing cast a - side the mute-ness im - posed as a pun - ish - ment.
As the fa - ther of the Voice, he pro - phe - sies most splen - did - ly:
And you, O child, shall be called the proph - et of the Most High,



and you shall go be - fore him to pre - pare the way.



There - fore, O an - gel, proph - et, a - pos - tle and sol - dier,



fore - run - ner, bap - tiz er, preach - er of pen - ance, and guide,



as the voice of the light of the Word, pray un - ceas - ingly for us




who faith - ful - ly keep your mem - o - - ry.

Cantor: Now and ever...


Theotokion



O most pure Vir - gin, you are the tem - ple, the gate, the



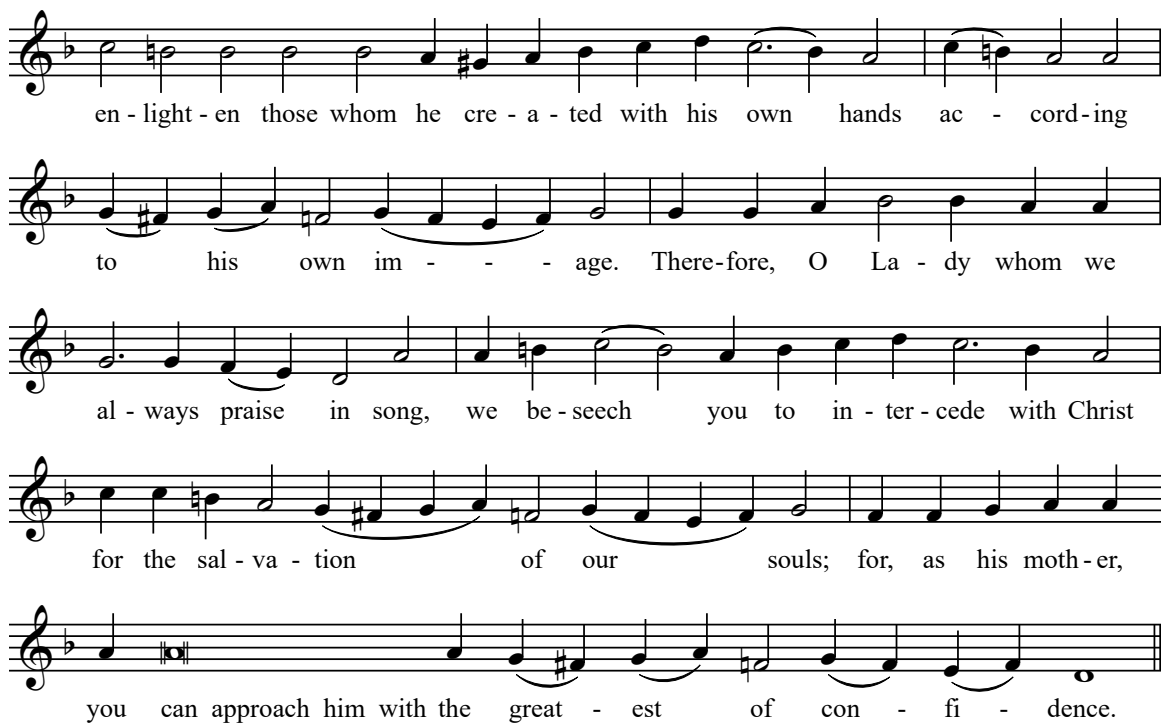
pal - ace, and the throne of the King. Christ, our re - deem - er



and Lord, ap - peared through you to those who slum - bered in dark - ness.



For he, as the Sun of Right - eous - ness, wished to



en - light - en those whom he cre - a - ted with his own hands ac - cord - ing
to his own im - - - age. There - fore, O La - dy whom we
al - ways praise in song, we be - seech you to in - ter - cede with Christ
for the sal - va - tion of our souls; for, as his moth - er,
you can approach him with the great - est of con - fi - dence.

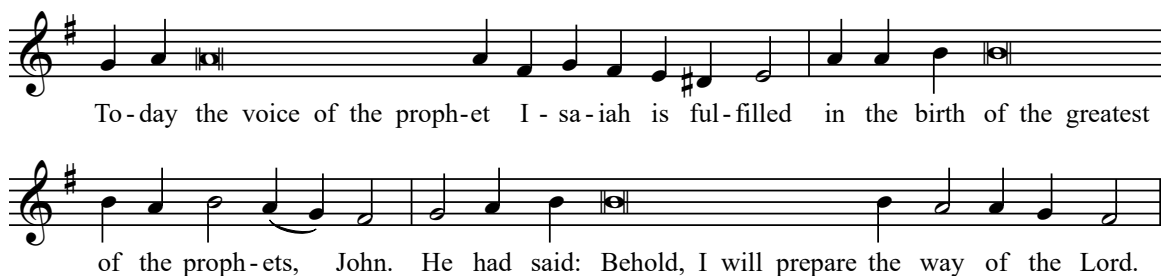
Litija Litany, page 116

Aposticha

Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, page 65), concluding with:

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory...

Doxastikon of John the Baptist - Tone 8 samohlasen



To - day the voice of the proph - et I - sa - iah is ful - filled in the birth of the greatest
of the proph - ets, John. He had said: Behold, I will prepare the way of the Lord.



He will be a soldier of the king-dom of hea - ven, run-ning be-fore the



path of our God. By na-ture, he was a man, yet in in the present life he



be-came an an - gel for he wel-comed moderation in com-plete pu - ri - ty.



He had a human nature but fled what was according to na - ture and strug-gled



be-yond the na - tu - ral. There-fore, let all the faithful imi-tate his vir - tues



and beg him to pray for our souls' sal - va - - - - tion.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion



E - liz - abeth said to the Vir-gin Ma - ry: How is it that the Mother of my



God has come to me? You bear the King, and I, a sol - dier. You bear



the Lawgiver, and I, a preach-er of the law. You bear the Word, and I, the voice

who announces the king - dom of hea - - - ven.

Troparia

“Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos,” page 119, sung twice, then:

Troparion of John the Baptist - Tone 4

Proph-et and fore-run-ner of the com-ing of Christ, al-though we honor you with

love, we can-not give you wor-thy praise. Through your glo-ri-ous and ho-ly birth,

your moth-er was freed from barrenness and your fa-ther from the loss of speech,

and the incarnation of the Son of God is pro-claimed to the world.

Blessing of Bread, page 119