

Vesper Propers, December 19, 2021
SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY
Sunday of the Ancestors

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

Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 69), stichera 10-5.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

Stichera of the Ancestors - Tone 6 podobn: *Vsju otloživše*

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The com-mem-o - ra - tion of the Ho - ly Fa - thers is man - ifested to the
ends of the world. It is tru - ly full of splen - dor, and it glis - tens with the
rays of grace: for Christ the wondrous Sun has shone forth on high from a - far.
He forms the assembly of stars which glis - ten with him, and the
star reveals that the nativity of the God - man will be in Beth - le - hem.
There - fore, we pi - ous - ly and faith - ful - ly clap our hands and leap with joy at

this na - tiv - i - ty, and we give praise be - fore the 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 you nations, **Psalm 116**
 (on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

The Ho - ly Fa - thers are a - dorned by the glo - ry of the divine sharing of our
 na - ture. Ad - am re - joic - es this day, since he is the foun - da - tion and the
 strength of the wise Fore - fa - thers; A - bel leaps for joy as well. E - noch is glad;
 Seth and No - ah dance to - geth - er. The praise - worthy Abraham sings with
 the Pa - tri - archs. Mel - chi - se - dek now sees from on high the birth
 with - out a fa - ther.

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

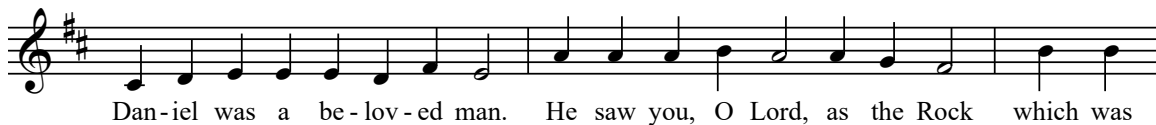
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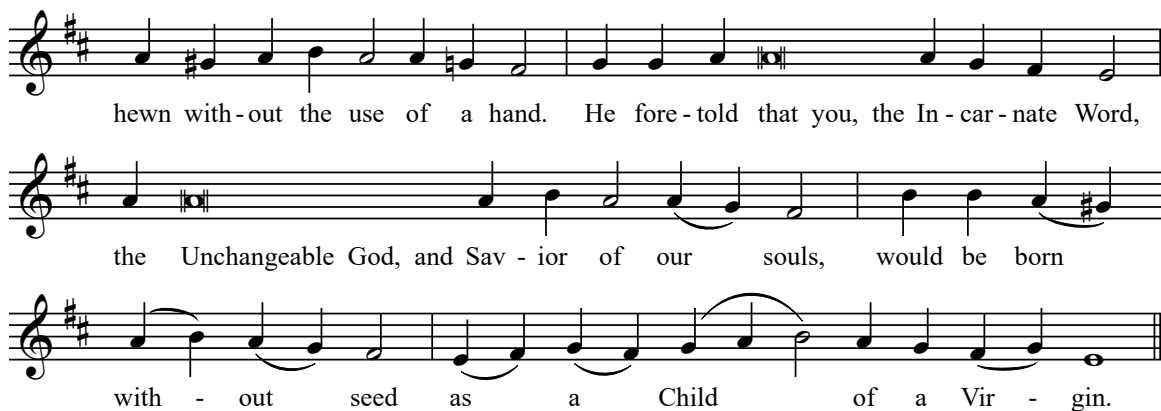
The faith-ful and God-wise youths are ra-diant with joy in the fur-nace.
They her-ald the nativity of Christ on earth. As the pre-cious dew which the
Lord sent down, he now preserves the Virgin with-out stain,
and en-rich-es her with sub-lime gifts. There-fore Dan-iel, in-spired by God,
is al-so hap-py and full of joy be-cause he had a clear vis-ion
of the un-hewn stone from the moun-tain. He now zeal-ous-ly
prays for our souls.

Cantor: Glory...

Doxastikon of the Ancestors - Tone 6 samohlasen



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: (Tone 5) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week (Tone 5, page 76).

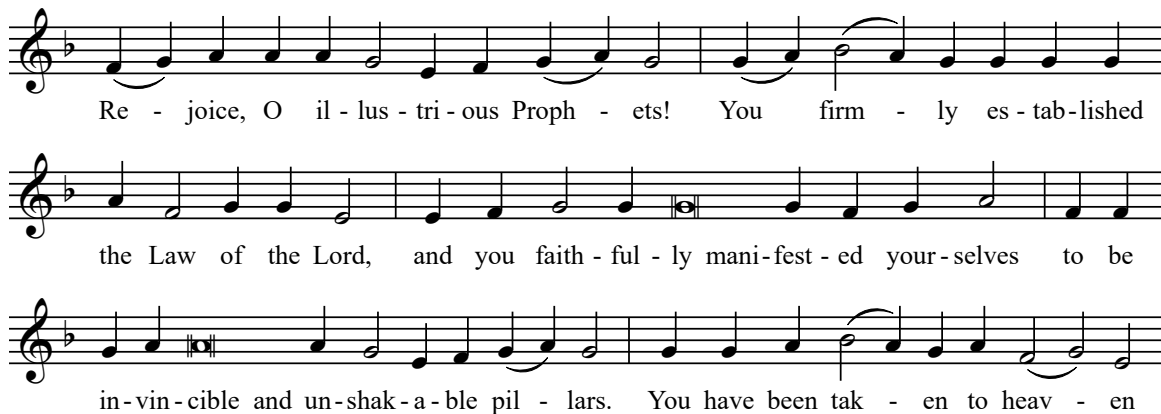
- Readings:** 1) Genesis 14:14-20 (EOT 301-302)
 2) Deuteronomy 1:8-11.15-17
 3) Deuteronomy 10:14-21

Aposticha

Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 77), concluding with:

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Aposticha doxastikon of the Ancestors - Tone 2 samohlasen



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 of the Ancestors - Tone 2 samohlasen

We now be-hold a new won - der great-er far than the won-ders of old.

For who has ever known a mother to bear a child without the help of man?

Who has known a mother to hold with - in her arms the Source of all

cre - a - tion? It was God's own will to be born in this man - ner; and you,

O most pure Vir - gin, car - ried him as an in - fant in your arms.

Be - cause of this, you can approach God with the bold-ness of a moth - er.

There - fore we venerate you and ask you to al - ways be - seech him to have
mer - cy on us and save our souls.

Troparia

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, page 80), then:

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Troparion of the Ancestors - 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.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion of the Ancestors - Tone 2

O The - o - tokos, the mysteries surrounding you are ex - ceed - ing - ly glo - rious,



and be-yond the pow - er of un - der - stand - ing. For you re - tained



the seal of pur - i - ty, and your vir - ginity re - mained in - vi - o - late;



yet you are ac - knowledged, with-out doubt, to be the Mother who gave birth



to the true God. We beg you, therefore, to en - treat him to save our souls.