

## Vesper Propers, December 3, 2006

**The holy prophet Zephaniah**, who in the days of Josiah, king of Judah, announced the destruction of the ungodly on the day of the wrath of the Lord and strengthened the host of poor and needy people in the hope of salvation.

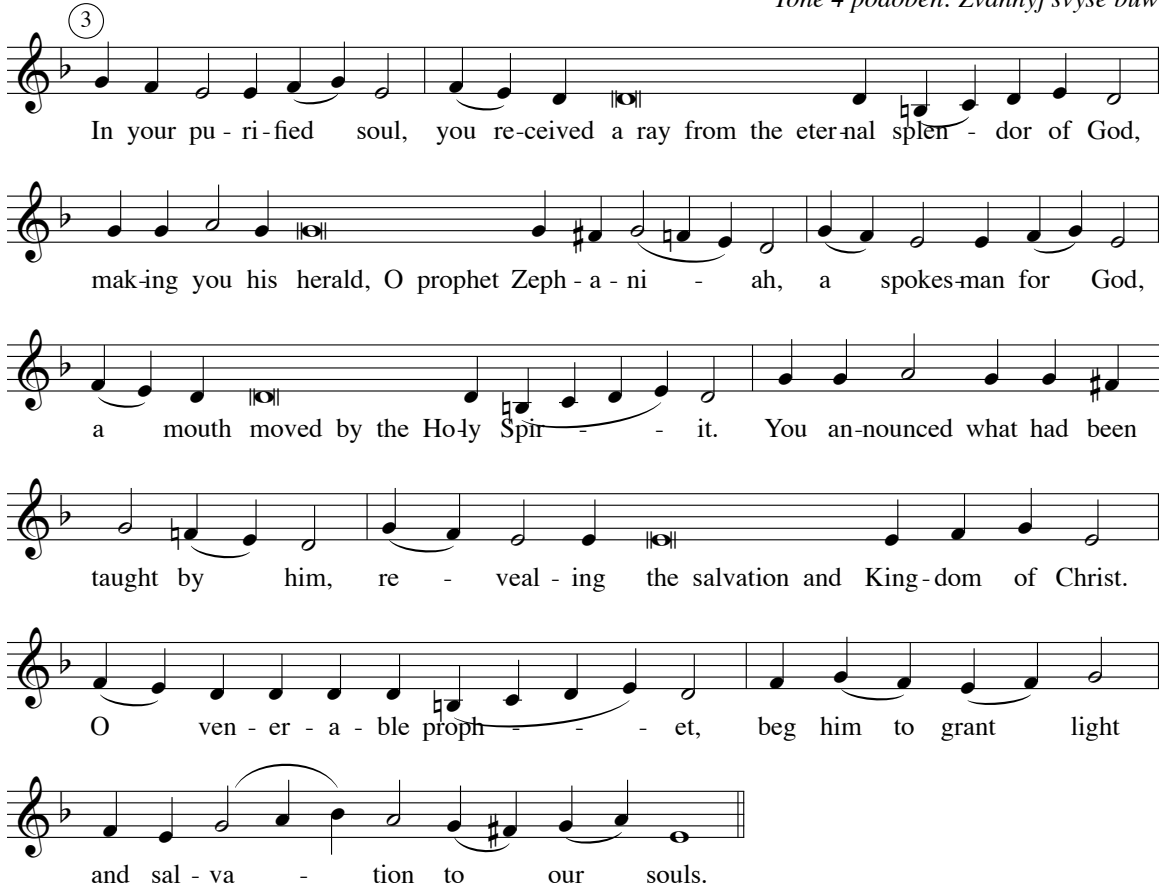
*Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2005*

*Lamplighting Psalms: Tone 1, stichera 10-4, beginning on page 24.*

**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.

*Tone 4 podoben: Zvannyj svyše buw*

③



In your pu - ri - fied soul, you re - ceived a ray from the eter - nal splen - dor of God,  
mak - ing you his herald, O prophet Zeph - a - ni - ah, a spokes - man for God,  
a mouth moved by the Ho - ly Spir - it. You an - nounced what had been  
taught by him, re - veal - ing the salvation and King - dom of Christ.  
O ven - er - a - ble proph - et, beg him to grant light  
and sal - va - tion to our souls.

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

②

Il - lu-mined by the vi-sion of God and pro-phet-ic con-tem-pla - tion,  
you were graced with bless-ed - ness and in-spired by the Lord, O prophet  
Zeph-a - ni - ah. Since you have boldness now with God, and com-pas - sion  
on us, pray for those who hon-or you with faith as a ho-ly proph - et of God,  
Ask that we be delivered from all dan-gers and that we may be saved.

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

③

Im - mor - tal One, you made your prophet Zepha-ni - ah a cloud, pour-ing out  
the wa-ter of e - ter - nal life. You filled him with the Spir - - - it  
e - qual to you, al-might-y Fa - ther and to your on - ly be-got - ten Son,

a light re-lect-ing your bril - liance. Thus he foretold the saving coming of  
 Christ our God and re-vealed sal - va - tion to all of us.

**Cantor:** (Tone 1) Glory...now and ever...

*Dogmatikon, Tone 1, page 30*

### Litija

*Tone 3 samohlasen*

The Fore - run-ner of the Word, still hid-den in his moth-er's womb,  
 start - ed speaking when the Word him - self came near, car-ried by his  
 moth-er in the flesh. Al - though his fa - ther's tongue was still tied  
 be - cause of his dis - be - lief, his son, the fu - ture Bap - tiz - er,  
 pro - fessed his faith in the Mes-si - ah by leap-ng in his moth-er's womb.

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

**Theotokion**

When your cousin E - lizabeth heard your voice, O all-pure Vir - gin,  
as the lovely sound of the turtle-dove an - nounc - ing the spring, her ba - by  
leapt up in her womb be - cause of the power of the Word you car-ried in  
your womb. We beg you, as we celebrate your holy visitation on our way to  
Christ - mas, ac-cept out hom-age, to - gether with John the baptizer and his  
par-ents, and beg our Lord and God that through you he save our souls.

*Litija Litany, page 116*  
*Aposticha, Tone 1, page 31*  
*Blessing of Bread, page 119*