

**The Divine Liturgy  
of the Presanctified Gifts**

celebrated on  
Wednesday in the Fifth Week of the Great Fast  
March 5, 2008

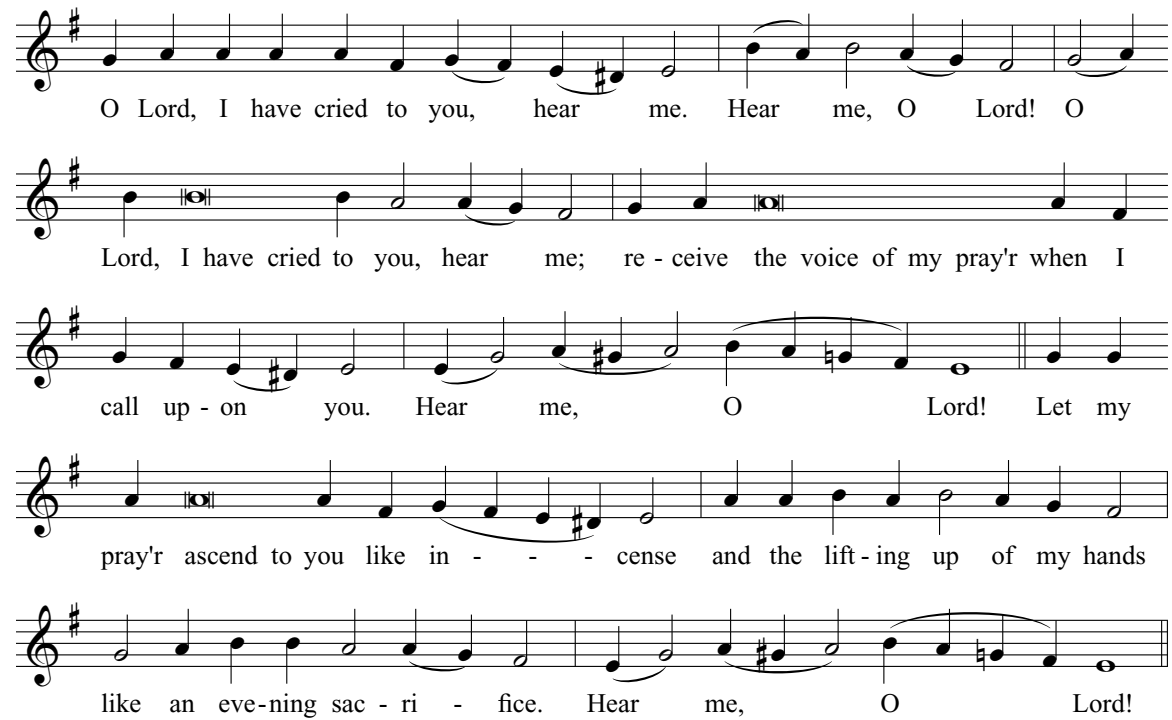
*The reading from Genesis tells of God's promise to Abram to make him the "father of many nations."*

*The reading from Proverbs uses the device of literary "compare and contrast" which can be summed up in this verse: "All the ways of a man may be pure in his own eyes, but it is the Lord who proves the spirit."*

## The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140

Tone 8



O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O  
Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I  
call up - on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my  
pray'r ascend to you like in - - - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands  
like an eve - ning sac - ri - - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth  
and set a seal on the door of *my* lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,  
nor make excuses for sins I *commit*.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.  
If a just man strikes or reproves me it *is* kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.  
Let my prayer be ever against *their* malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;  
then they understood that my words *were* kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,  
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of *the* grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;  
in you I take refuge; spare *my* soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;  
keep me from the snares of those who *do* evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set  
while I pursue my way *un*harmed.

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,  
with all my voice I entreat *the* Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;  
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints *within* me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.  
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *entrap* me.

Look on my right and see:  
there is no one who takes *my* part.

I have no means of escape,  
not one who cares for *my* soul.

I cry to you, O Lord.  
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."

Listen, then, to my cry  
for I am in the depths *of* distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me  
for they are stronger *than* I.

Bring my soul out of this prison  
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble  
because of your goodness *to* me.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear *my* voice!

Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of *my* pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand?  
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we *revere* you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman *for* daybreak.

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

Tone 8

I fell in with thiev-ing e - vil thoughts; they stripped my wretched mind and beat me  
ter - ri - bly. My soul is total-ly wound - ed, and I lay stripped of virtue  
on the road of life. A priest saw me suffering from in - cur - a - ble wounds  
but passed by with-out a se - cond glance. Next, a Le - vite came and saw, but  
he a - void - ed me, re - pulsed by the painful pol - lu - tion of my soul.  
But who chose to take flesh, O Christ our God, not from Samaria,

## The Blessing With Light

**Deacon:** Give the command!

**Celebrant:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

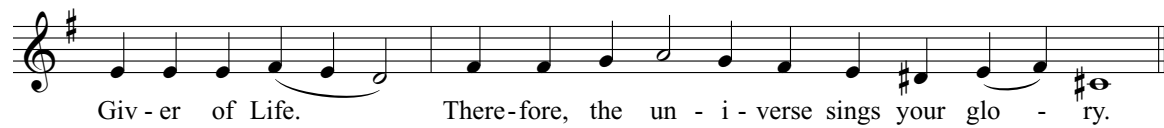
*The faithful give no response to these words. All make three prostrations in silence.  
The faithful are seated. The lector, without introduction, begins:*

**Lector:** A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Lector:** [Proverbs 15: 20 - 16: 9]

**Celebrant:** Peace ✠ be to you, reader.



Giv-er of Life. There-fore, the un - i - verse sings your glo - ry.

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Celebrant:** Peace ☩ be to all!

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon 1 - Tone 4** (Psalm 93: 1, 2)



O Lord, a - ven-ging Judge, a - ven-ging God, ap - pear.

*Verse:* Judge of the earth, arise, give the proud what they deserve.

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Lector:** A Reading from the Book of Genesis

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Lector:** [Genesis 17: 1 - 9]

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

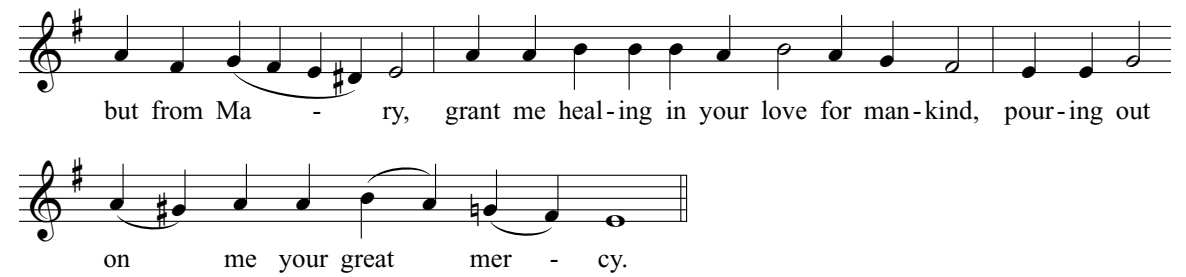
**Prokeimenon 2 - Tone 4** (Psalm 95: 1, 2)



Sing a new song to the Lord. Sing a new song to the Lord.

*Verse:* Sing to the Lord; bless his name.

*The faithful kneel.*



but from Ma - ry, grant me heal-ing in your love for man-kind, pour-ing out on me your great mer - cy.

**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*



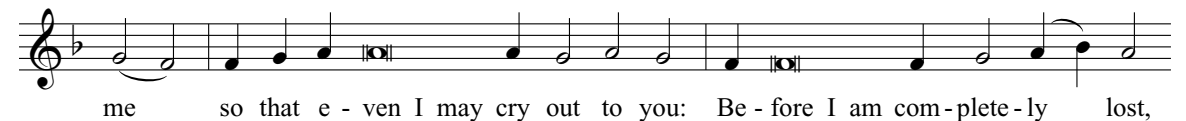
Like the fool-ish serv - ant I have hidden the talent en-trust - ed to me



and bur - ied it in the ground I have been con-demned as use - less,



I no long-er dare to en-treat you. But in your forbearance, take pit-y on



me so that e - ven I may cry out to you: Be - fore I am com-plete-ly lost,



save me, O Lord.

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



The harlot bathed your pure and pre-cious feet with her tears and called upon all

to ap-proach you to be absolved from the charges made a - gainst them.

O Sav - ior, grant me her faith that e-ven I may say: Be - fore I am

com-plete - ly lost, save me, O Lord.

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

①  
Out of envy the Prince of E - vil drove the first-crea-ted man from Par - a -dise;

but by saying: Re-mem-ber me, the thief on the cross re-gained Par - a -dise.

With faith and fear I also cry to you: Re - mem - ber me. Be - fore I am

com-plete - ly lost, save me, O Lord.

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

**Theotokion - Tone 4**

O humility be-yond words! O marvel of this won-drous birth! How can a virgin

car-ry in her arms her Cre-at - or and her God as a new-born babe? O

Ben - efactor, you took flesh from her. Be - fore I am com - plete - ly lost,

save me, O Lord.

### The Hymn of the Evening

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

O Joy - ful Light of the ho - ly glo - ry of the Fa - ther Im - mor - tal,

the hea - ven - ly, ho - ly, bles - sed One, O Je - sus Christ: Now that we have

reached the set - ting of the sun, and see the eve - ning light, we sing to God,

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. It is fit - ting at all times to raise

a song of praise in meas - ured mel - o - dy to you, O Son of God, the