

Vesper Propers, September 7, 2008
Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross
Prefestive Day of the Nativity of the Mother of God

The holy martyr Sozon, at Pompeiopolis in Cilicia. He was a shepherd of Lycaonia who taught his family and friends the law of God. Sozon destroyed an idol, and was tortured and then burned for his Christian faith. (304)

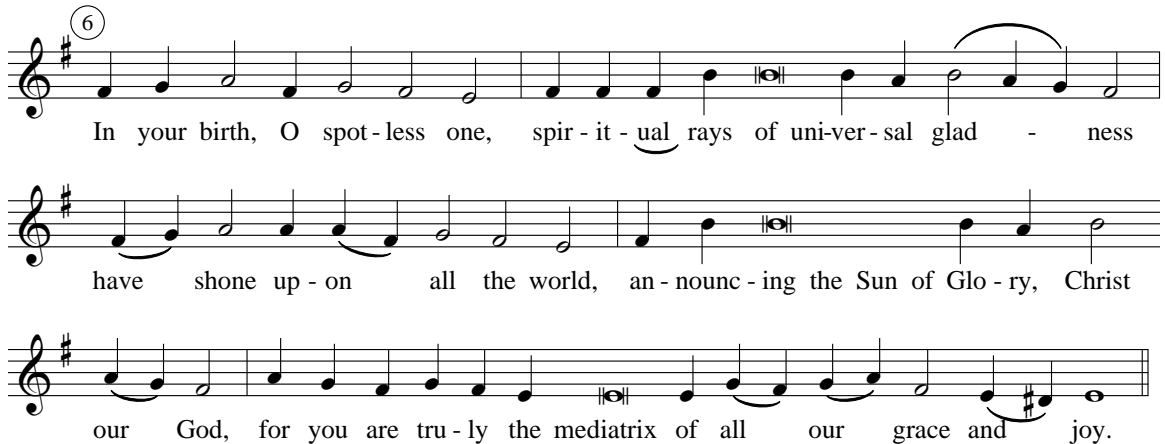
Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006

Tone of the Week: Tone 8 (begins on page 102), stichera 10-7

Cantor: (Tone 1) 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 the prefeast - Tone 1 samohlasen

6



In your birth, O spot-less one, spir - it - ual rays of uni-ver - sal glad - ness
have shone up - on all the world, an - nounc - ing the Sun of Glo - ry, Christ
our God, for you are tru - ly the mediatrix of all our grace and joy.

Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

5



O spot-less Vir - gin, to - day the glory of your Fore - feast

an - nounc-es to all peo-ple in ad-vance the ben - e - fits of your fa - vor;

now you ob - tain joy for them, and a share in the de-lights of God;

for you, the cause of our joy, have come.

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

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The pure The - o - to - kos, the Vir - gin whom he chose as his

dwel - ling, the glo - ry of the proph - ets, the daugh - ter of

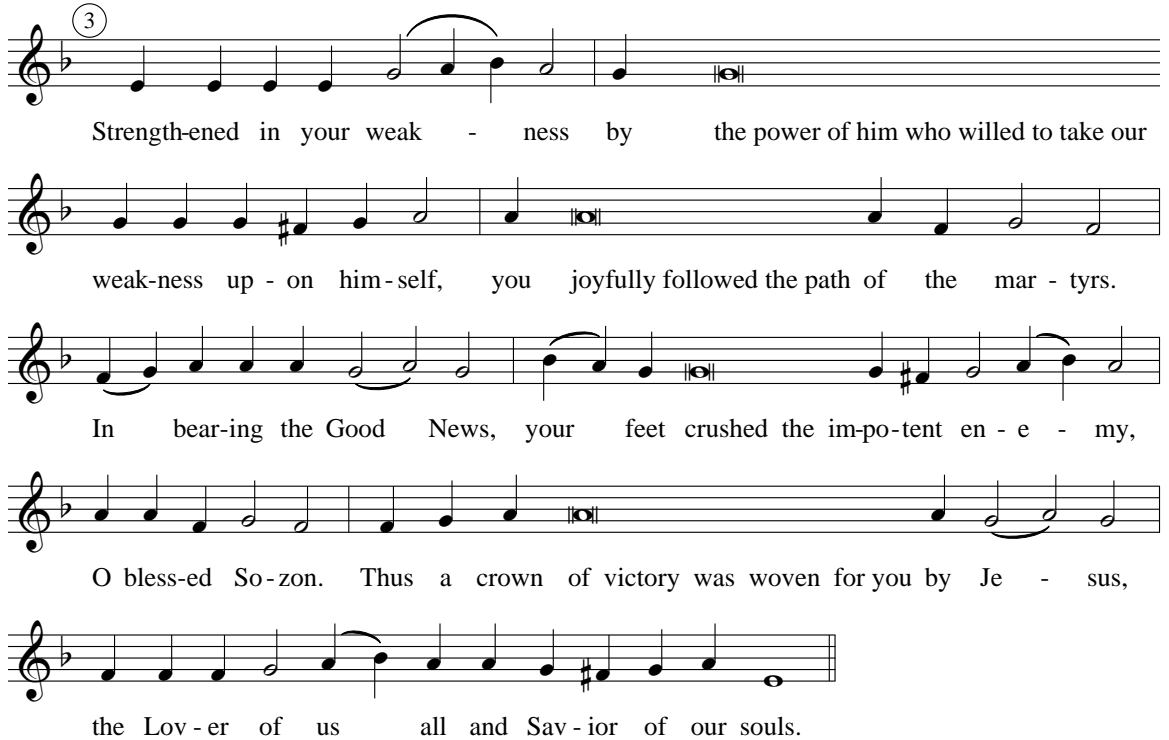
Da - vid, is born in a chaste man - ner to - day from Jo - a - chim and

An - na. By her birth, she turns aside the curse transmitted to us by

A - dam.

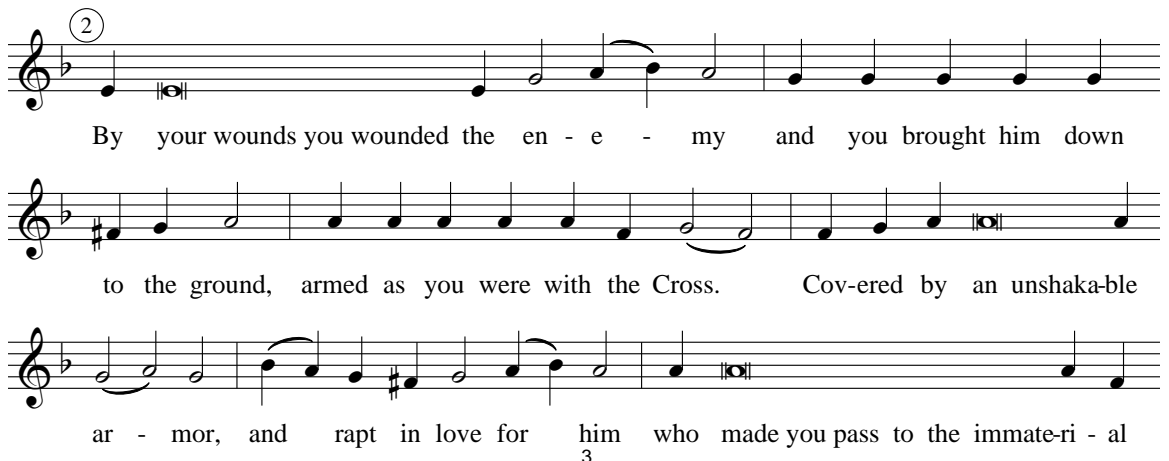
Cantor: (Tone 4) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of the martyr Sozon - Tone 4 samohlasen



Strength-ened in your weak - ness by the power of him who willed to take our
weak-ness up - on him-self, you joyfully followed the path of the mar - tyrs.
In bear-ing the Good News, your feet crushed the im-po-tent en - e - my,
O bless-ed So-zon. Thus a crown of victory was woven for you by Je - sus,
the Lov - er of us all and Sav - ior of our souls.

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



By your wounds you wounded the en - e - my and you brought him down
to the ground, armed as you were with the Cross. Cov-ered by an unshaka-ble
ar - mor, and rapt in love for him who made you pass to the immate-ri - al



king-dom, you were an invinci-ble mar - tyr, like a man already be-long - ing



to heav - en.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

(on 1)



Vic - torious mar-tyr So - - - zon, im - itating the Sav - ior and Lord



who endured his voluntary Pas-sion for you, you will-ingly handed yourself over to



tor - ture. but - cher - ing, and unspeak-a - ble tor - ments. As a reward



he granted you the gifts of heav - en and made you a fountain



of heal - ing for those who love you.

Cantor: Glory...

Theotokion of the prefeast - Tone 4 samohlasen



To - gether with the mul - ti - tude of the an - gels in heav-en, O all-holy,



spot-less Vir - gin, all hu - man - ity on earth calls your Nativi-ty bless - ed;



for you be-came the Mother of the Cre - a - tor of All, Christ our God.



Im-plore him cease-lessly, we beg, on our be-half. Af - ter God, we place all our



hope in you, O divine, un-wed-ded Mo-ther, all wor - thy of our praise.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the Week (Tone 8, p. 107)

Aposticha

Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 8, page 108), concluding with:

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

Aposticha theotokion of the postfeast - Tone 4 samohlasen



U - ni-ver-sal joy! the fruit of the just has risen for us from Joa-chim and An-na.



It is the Vir - gin, all-wor-thy of our hymns, who through her deep pu - ri - ty



be-came God's liv-ing tem-ple and a-lone is recognized in truth to be his spot-less



Mo - ther. By her pray'rs, O Christ our God, send peace to the world



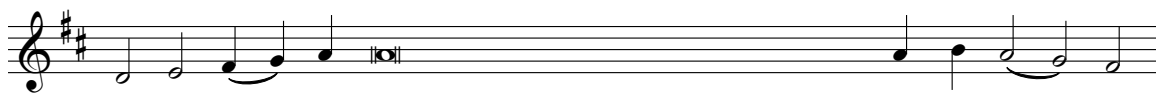
and great mer - - cy to our souls.

Troparia

Troparion of the Resurrection in the tone of the week (Tone 8, page 111).

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

Troparion of the Prefeast - Tone 4



To-day is born to us, from the root of Jesse and the loins of Da - vid,



Mar - y, the god - ly child. There-fore, all creation rejoy-ces and is re-newed.



Heav-en and earth re-joyce to-geth - er. You fam-ilies of na-tions sing her praise.



Jo - a - chim is elated and Anna cries out in cel-e-bra - tion: The bar-ren woman



gives birth to the The - o - to - kos and the Sus-tain - er of our Life.