

Vesper Propers, December 14, 2008  
Sunday of the Forefathers

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

Tone of the Week: Tone 6 (begins on page 82), stichera 10 - 5

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Let the watchman count on daybreak  
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

**Stichera of the Forefathers - Tone 8**



④  
To - day we commemo - rate the an - ces - tors of Christ. Sing with fer - vor  
a hymn of praise to Christ the Sav - ior who ex - alt - ed them among all  
na - tions. He is the Lord who does won - drous deeds, be - cause he is  
pow - er - ful and might - y. From them he brought forth a roy - al scep - ter,  
the im - mac - u late maiden of God and vir - gin Ma - ry. From her, Christ our God  
came forth to give life and e - ter - nal sal - va - tion to all.

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



③  
O Lord and Mas - ter, you res - cued the three ho - ly youths from the fire.



You saved Dan-iel from the li - ons' mouths; you blessed A - braham, Isaac your



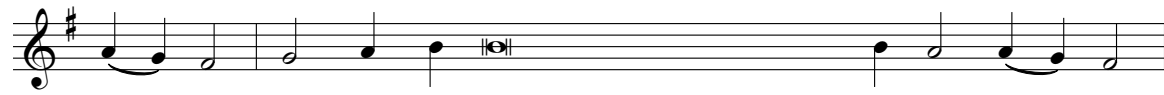
serv-ant, and Ja - cob his son. You willed to be like one of us by



choos-ing to be born from them in or - der that you might save our Fore-fa - thers



who had fall - en. By your cross and resurrection you tore a-part the bonds



of death. You raised up all those who for ages had been a-mong the dead,



and who bow to you, O Christ, the e - ter - nal King.

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



The three holy youths were refreshed by the Ho - ly Spir - it when they



walked in the fire as though in a place of cool. In them the Trinity and the



In - car - na - tion of Christ were pre - fig - ured in a mys - ti - cal man - - - ner.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

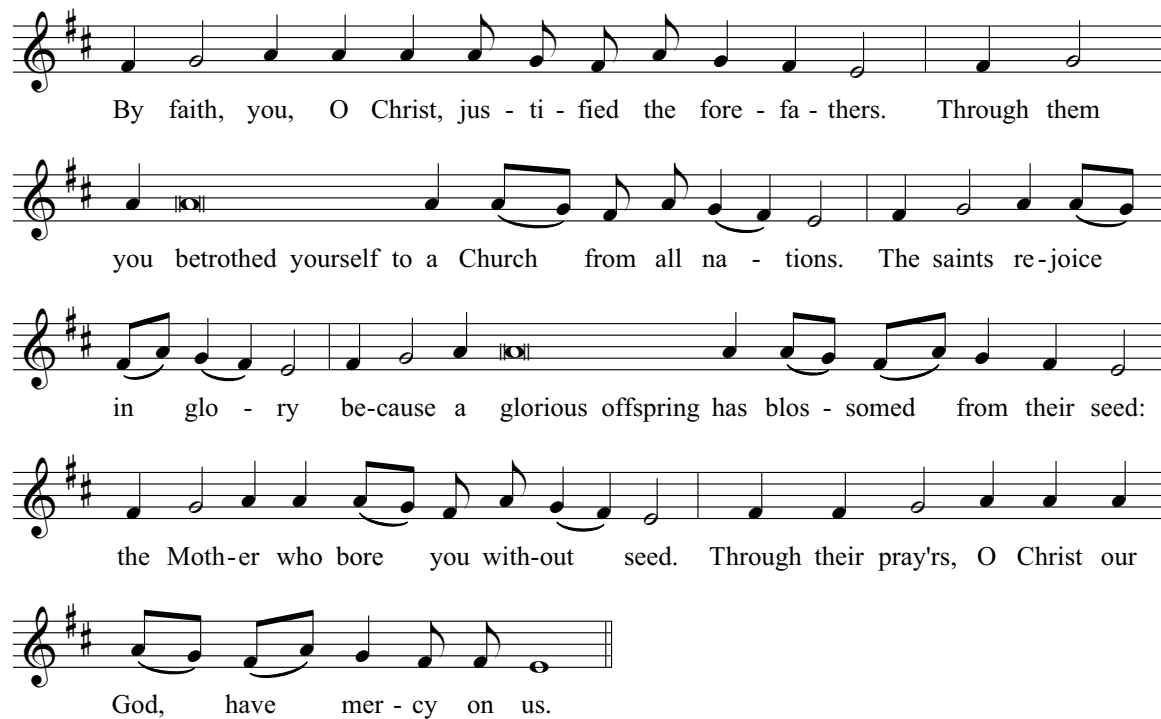
*Aposticha Theotokion in the same Tone (Tone 3, p. 55).*

### Troparia

*Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the week (Tone 6, p. 91).*

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

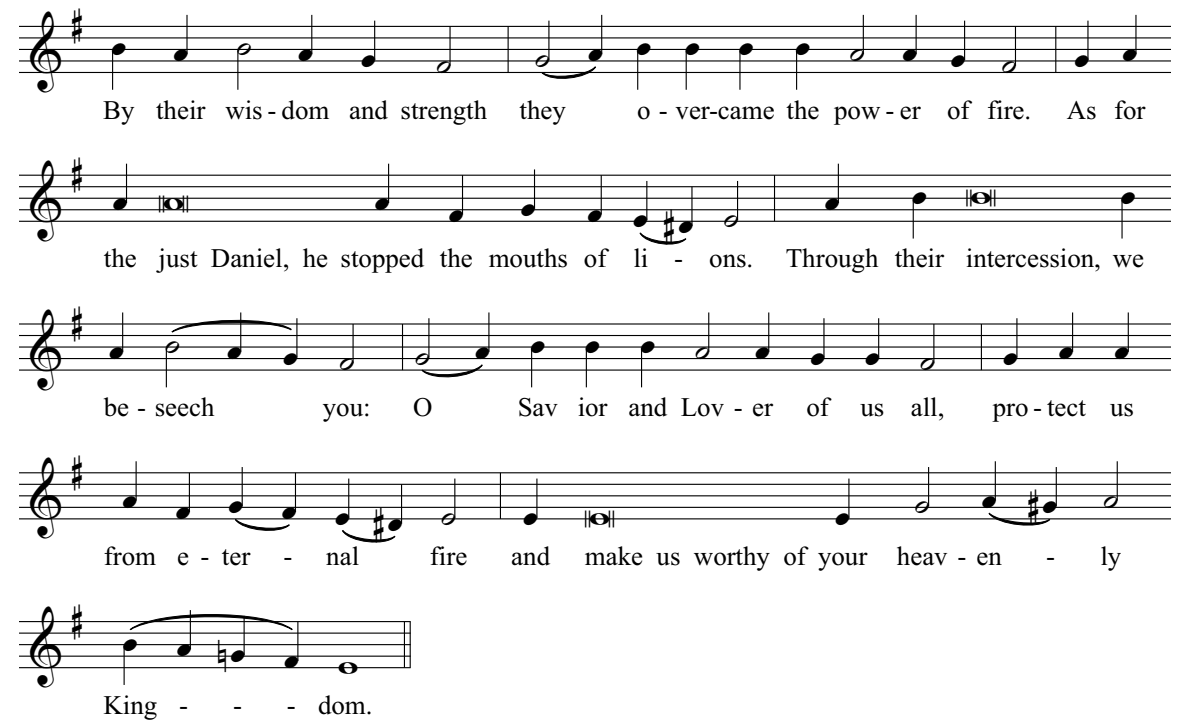
**Troparion of the Forefathers - Tone 2**



By faith, you, O Christ, jus - ti - fied the fore - fa - thers. Through them  
you betrothed yourself to a Church from all na - tions. The saints re-joice  
in glo - ry be-cause a glorious offspring has blos - somed from their seed:  
the Moth-er who bore you with-out seed. Through their pray'rs, O Christ our  
God, have mer - cy on us.

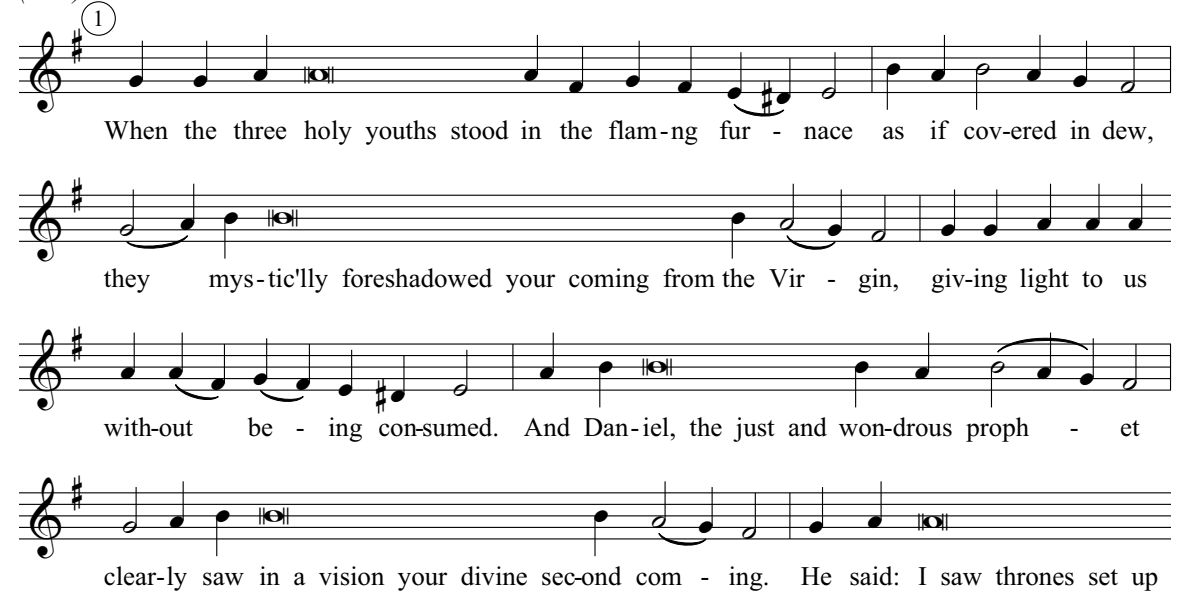
**Cantor:** Now and ever...

*Festal Theotokion in the same Tone (Tone 2, p. 47).*



By their wis - dom and strength they o - ver-came the pow - er of fire. As for  
the just Daniel, he stopped the mouths of li - ons. Through their intercession, we  
be - seech you: O Sav ior and Lov - er of us all, pro - tect us  
from e - ter - nal fire and make us worthy of your heav - en - ly  
King - - - dom.

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



When the three holy youths stood in the flam-ng fur - nace as if cov-ered in dew,  
they mys-tic'lly foreshadowed your coming from the Vir - gin, giv-ing light to us  
with-out be - ing con-sumed. And Dan-iel, the just and won-drous proph - et  
clear-ly saw in a vision your divine sec-ond com - ing. He said: I saw thrones set up

and the Judge seat - ed, and the riv - er of fire flowing in his pre - sence.

Through their in - ter - ces - sion, de - liv - er us from this fire, O Lord.

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 6**

O be - liev - ers, let us give praise to - day to all the Fathers who lived be - fore

the Law: A - bra - ham who was be - loved by God; I - saac,

who was born according to the Prom - ise; Ja - cob and the Twelve Pa - tri - archs;

the ver - y meek David and the fa - vored proph - et Dan - iel. Let us al - so

glo - rify with them the three youths who changed the fiery furnace into a place

of re - fresh - ing dew. Let us beg forgiveness of our sins from Christ our God,

who is glo - ri - fied in his saints.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

*Dogmatikon, Tone 6, p. 87*

*Aposticha, Tone 6, p. 88, concluding with:*

**Cantor:** (Tone 3) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 3**

Come, O lov - ers of the feast, let us sing a hymn of praise to the

assembly of the Fore - fa - thers: Ad - am, the father of the hu - man race,

E - noch, No - ah, Mel - chisedek, Abraham, Isaac, and Ja - cob. Let us

al - so honor those who came af - ter the Law: Mo - ses, Aaron, Joshua, Sam - uel and

Da - vid; to - geth - er with I - sa - iah, Ezekiel, and Je - re - mi - ah,

Dan - iel and the twelve mi - nor proph - ets; like - wise Elijah, Elisha, and all the

oth - ers; al - so Ze - cha - ri - ah and the Bap - tist, and all those

who preached Christ, the life and the Re - sur - rec - tion of our race.