

**Vesper Propers, August 29, 2010**  
**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**THE BEHEADING OF THE HOLY PROPHET, FORERUNNER, AND BAPTIST JOHN**

Because John had denounced Herod Antipas for putting away his own wife and marrying the wife of his brother Philip, Herod imprisoned John. At a feast in honor of Herod's birthday, his stepdaughter Salome danced for him. Herod promised her anything; her mother Herodias told her to ask for the head of John on a platter. This martyrdom is commemorated on this day because a church was dedicated on this day to the Forerunner's beheading by the emperor Constantine and his mother Helena.

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

*Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 69), stichera 10-7.*

**Cantor:** 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 Beheading - Tone 6 samohlasen**

⑥ ⑤

While the birth-day of the shameless Herod was be-ing ob-served, the oath made to  
the lustful dan-cer was ful - filled; the head of the Fore - run-ner was cut off  
and of - fered to those at ta - ble. What a loath-some ban - quet, filled with  
wick-edness and hor - ri - ble mur - der. As for us, let us worthily venerate  
and bless the Bap-tiz - er, for he is the great - est man born of wo - man.

**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.  
. All repeat "While the birthday of the shameless Herod..."

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

4 3

Aft - er danc - ing, the disciple of the all - e - vil Sa - tan re - quested your head as  
her payment, O Fore - run - er. What a blood - y ban - quet!  
Would that you had not made that vow, O sinful Herod, off - spring of a lie.  
Since you did make it, would that you had not car - ried it out, for it  
would have been better to have gone back on your oath and re - ceived life,  
than re - main - ing true to your oath to have cut off the head  
of the Fore - run - ner. As for us, let us worthily venerate and bless the  
Bap - tiz - er, for he is the great - est man born of wo - man.

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

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

②

O Her-od, it was not appro-pri-ate for you, be - cause of a satanic passion,  
to con-demn to death the one who reproached you for your a - dul - ter - y  
and the fol - ly of your lust for wo - men. It was not prop-er for you to err  
and to de - liv - er his all-honored head to a sin - ful wo - man for the  
sake of a vow made to a dan - cer. Woe to you for daring such mur - der!  
How was it that this a-dul - t'rous dan - cer was not consumed by fire  
in the midst of the ban - quet, as she carried the head on a plat - ter?  
As for us, let us worthily venerate and bless the Bap - tiz - er,

for he is the great - est man born of wo - man.

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

A - gain Herodias has lost her self - con - trol; she is a - gain dis - turbed.

What a cun-ning and de-ceiv-ing dance, and what mind-less drunk-en-ness!

The Forerunner's head is cut off and Her-od is troub - led. There-fore, O Lord, by

the inter-ces-sions of your Fore-run - ner, grant peace

to our souls.

**Cantor:** Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen**

While the birth-day of the shameless Herod was be-ing ob-served, the oath made to

the lustful dan-cer was ful - filled; the head of the Fore - run-ner was cut off



and of - fered to those at ta - ble. What a loath - some ban - quet, filled with  
 wick - edness and hor - ri - ble mur - der. As for us, let us worthily venerate  
 and bless the Bap - tiz - er, for he is the great - est man born of wo - man.

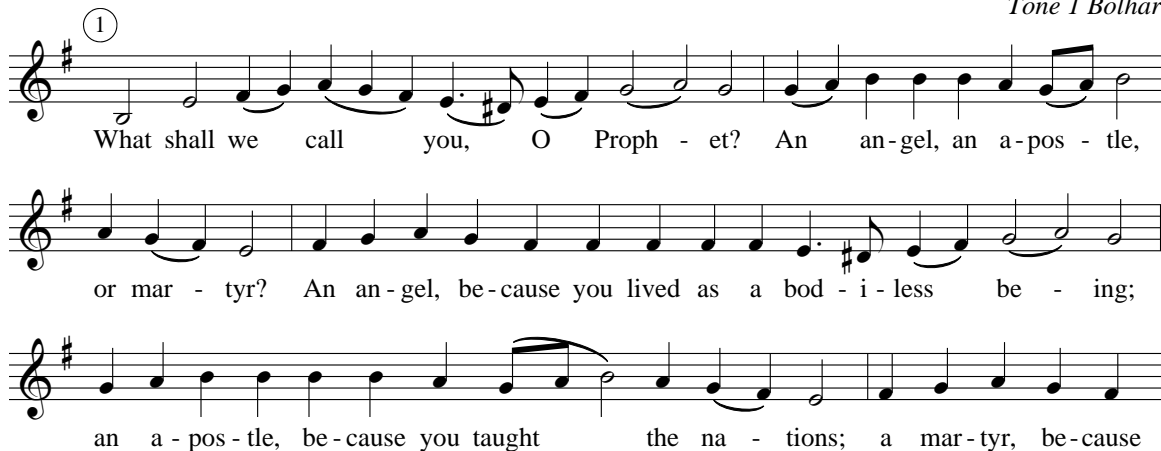
**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Now and ever...

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

**Readings:** Composite IX (see *Festal Menaion, Appendix A*)  
 Composite X  
 Composite III

### Litija

*Tone 1 Bolhar*



①  
 What shall we call you, O Proph - et? An an - gel, an a - pos - tle,  
 or mar - tyr? An an - gel, be - cause you lived as a bod - i - less be - ing;  
 an a - pos - tle, be - cause you taught the na - tions; a mar - tyr, be - cause

you were be-head - ed for Christ. En-treat him to have mer - cy  
on our souls.

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Glory...now and ever...

**Doxastikon - Tone 5 Bolhar**

When Her - od wished to free him - self from the re - buke of his sin - ful deeds,  
he de - liv - ered your head un - just - ly, O Fore - run - ner, to a  
trans - gress - ing wo - man. Nor did this wretch - ed one re - al - ize that  
of - fer - ing it on a plat - ter was a con - dem - na - tion for him.  
There - fore, since you are a prac - tic - al teach - er of pur - i - ty  
and a sav - ing guide to re - pent - - ance, O Bap - tiz - er,  
im - plo - re Christ to de - liv - er us from the shame of our pas - sions.

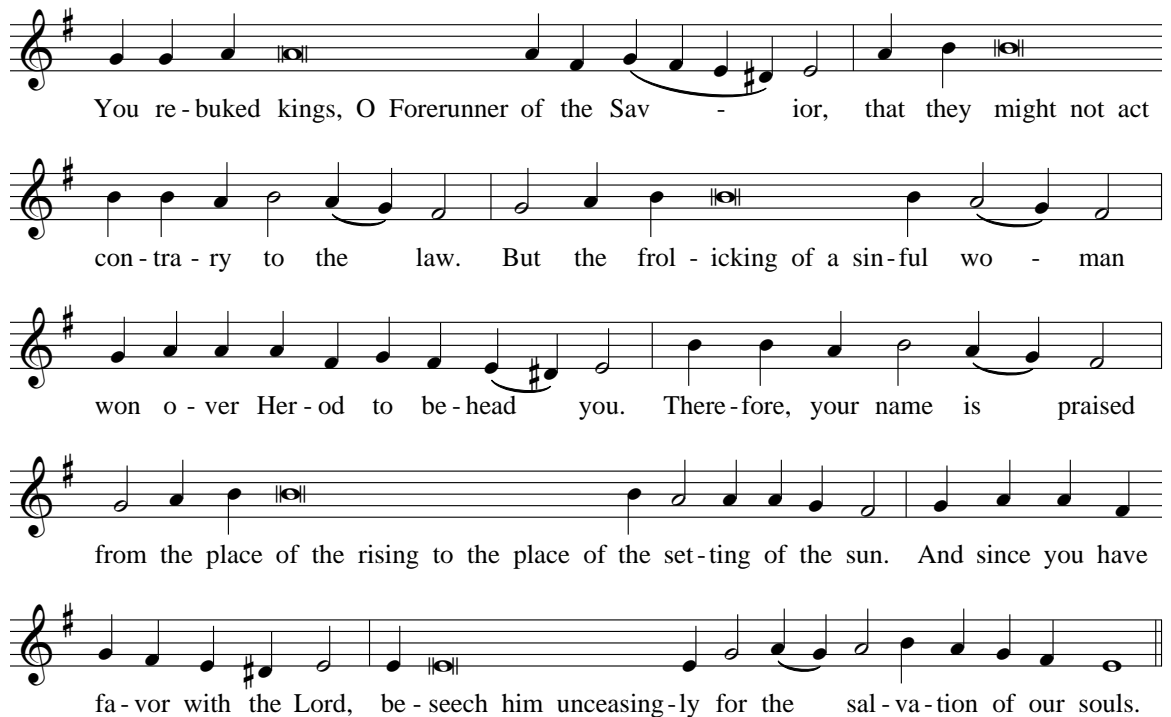
*The service continues with the Litany of the Litija, p. 116.*

## **Aposticha**

*Sunday aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 77), concluding with:*

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Glory... now and ever...

### **Aposticha Doxastikon of the Beheading - Tone 8**



You re-buked kings, O Forerunner of the Sav - ior, that they might not act  
con - tra - ry to the law. But the fro - l - icking of a sin - ful wo - man  
won o - ver Her - od to be - head you. There - fore, your name is praised  
from the place of the rising to the place of the set - ting of the sun. And since you have  
fa - vor with the Lord, be - seech him unceasing - ly for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

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

*Aposticha theotokion of Saturday evening in the same tone (Tone 8, p. 110).*

## Troparia

*Troparion of the Resurrection, in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 80).*

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

### Troparion of the Beheading - Tone 2

The mem - o - ry of the righteous is cel - e - brat - ed with praise, but for you,  
O Forerunner, the Lord's tes - ti - mo - ny is e - nough. You were shown to be more  
honora - ble than the proph - ets since you were deemed worthy to baptize in  
the waters the Lord you had pro - claimed. There - fore, you fought for the truth  
and with joy proclaimed the good news to those in Ha - des, that God  
has ap - peared in the flesh to take a - way the sins of the world and to  
grant us great mer - cy.

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

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

*If litija was celebrated: conclude with the Blessing of Bread, p. 119.*