

Vesper Propers, February 24, 2019

SUNDAY OF MEAT-FARE

Commemoration of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as Judge

The first and second findings of the head of the Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John.

Tradition tells us that the first finding was by two monks, in the palace of Herod the King. They brought the relic to the city of Emmesia. The second finding was much later, during the reign of the emperor Marcianus (450-457).

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

Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 7, p. 92), stichera 10-8.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Let your ears be attentive
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

Stichera of Meatfare Sunday - Tone 6 samohlasen

⑦

When you shall come to render just judgement, O right-eous Judge, you shall sit up-on
your glo - rious throne. A riv - er of fire shall flow be-fore your judge - ment
seat; the powers of heaven will be there with you. Filled with fear, all humanity
will be judged ac - cord - ing to their deeds. At this hour, O Christ, spare us,
and be-cause of your great love, grant that the faith-ful who pray to you



may be giv - en a place with your cho-sen ones.

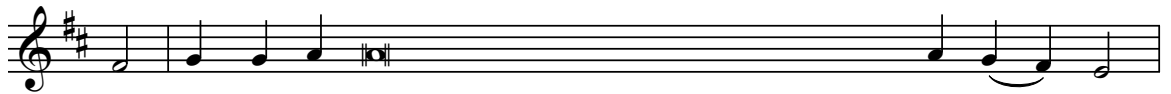
Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.



The books will be opened and the se - crets laid bare be - fore your awe-some



judge-ment seat; and the whole valley of tears will re-sound with a dread - ful



sigh, when it sees the sinners sent to eternal punishment by your just judge - ment,

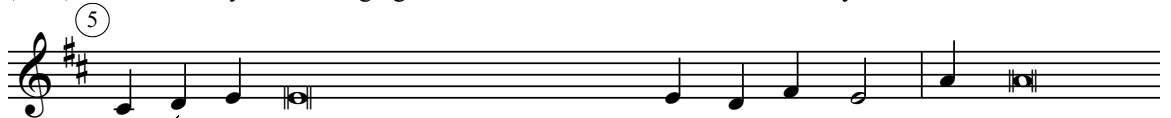


and hears them weep - ing hope - less - ly. O God of mercy, there - fore we



pray to you: Spare us who sing to you, O on - ly Good One.

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



The trum - pet shall sound and the tombs shall be o - pened; hu - manity shall



come forth tremb - ling. Those who have done good shall re - joice,

as they await the reward they shall re - ceive. Those who have done evil shall
 shriek in ter - ror, as they are sent to pun - ish - ment
 and sep - arated from the e - lect. In your goodness, spare us, O glo - rious Lord,
 and grant that we may en - joy a place with those who love you.

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

④
 I weep and la - ment when I think of the outer darkness and e - ter - nal fire
 to - geth - er with Hades, the worm that consumes, and the gnash - ing of teeth,
 the un - ceas - ing grief that falls upon those who have sinned with - out meas - ure,
 and those who have provoked you to an - ger, O God most good. A - las, among these
 sin - ners, I am first. But in your great mer - cy, O Judge, save me.

Cantor: (Tone 5) 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 Findings - Tone 5 samohlasen

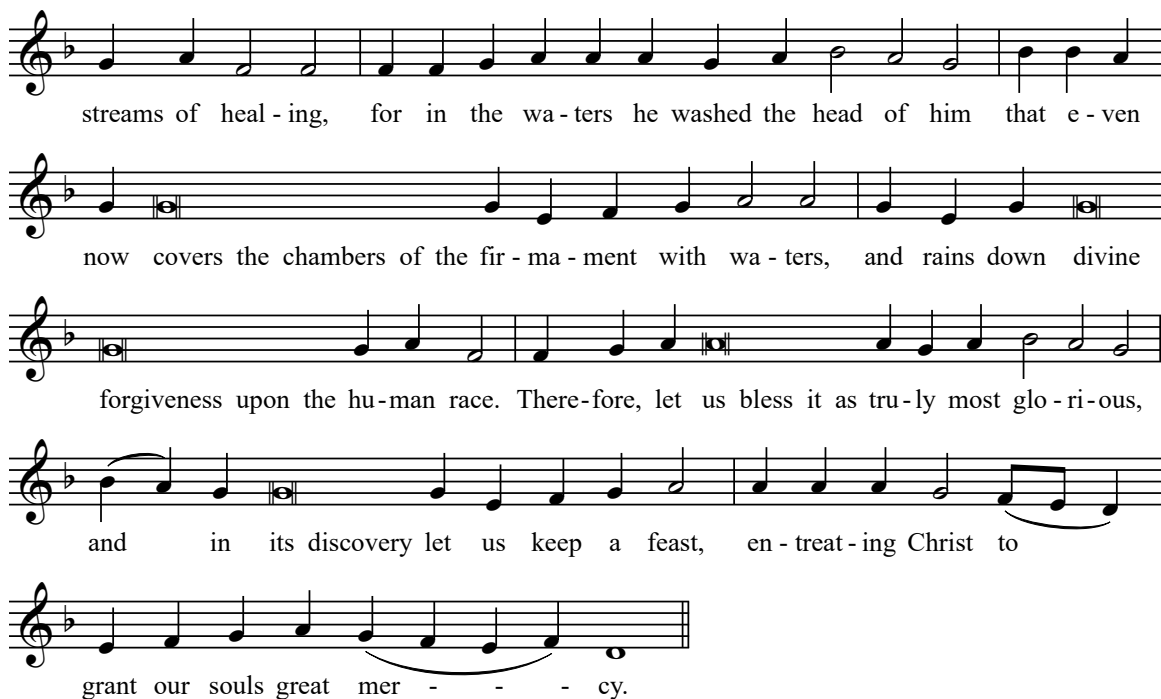
③

Re - joice, O sacred and light - bear - ing head, ven - er - a - ted by the an - gels,
Of old it was cut off by a sword, but cut down the shame of iniquity with
sharp re - proofs. It is a well - spring of miracles giving drink to the faith - ful.
It pro - claims the saving com - ing of the Sav - ior, and saw the coming of the
Spirit who dwelt in you who stand between the grace of the old and new
cov - e - nants. En - treat Christ God to grant our souls great mer - - - cy.

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

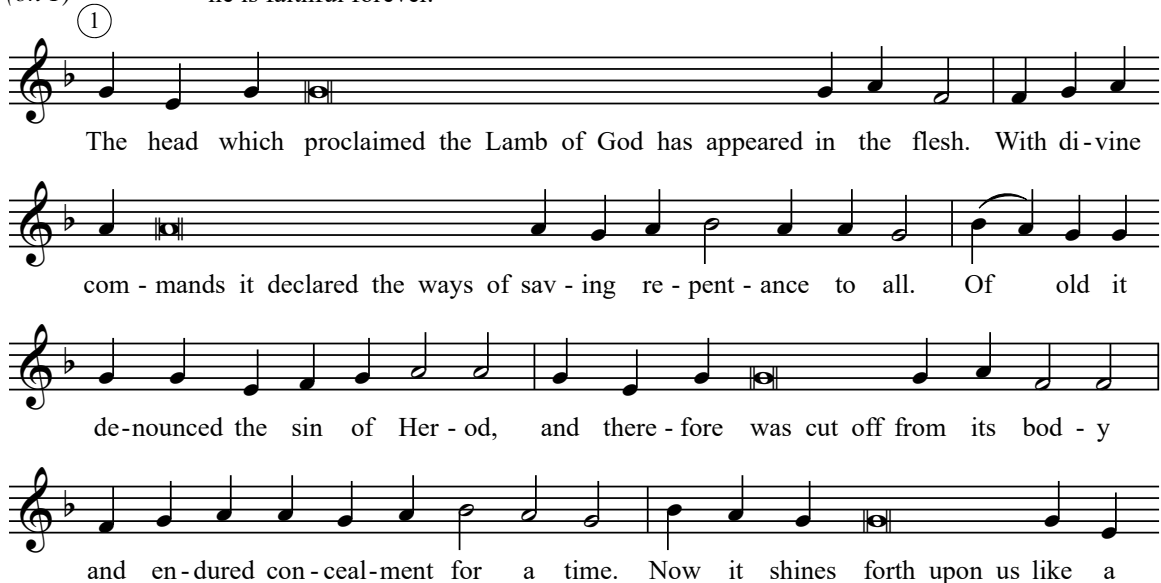
②

The head of the Fore - run - ner which was once concealed in an earth - en ves - sel,
has ap - peared, clearly given up from the bos - om of the earth and pour - ing forth



streams of heal - ing, for in the wa - ters he washed the head of him that e - ven
 now covers the chambers of the fir - ma - ment with wa - ters, and rains down divine
 forgiveness upon the hu - man race. There - fore, let us bless it as tru - ly most glo - ri - ous,
 and in its discovery let us keep a feast, en - treat - ing Christ to
 grant our souls great mer - - - cy.

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



The head which proclaimed the Lamb of God has appeared in the flesh. With di - vine
 com - mands it declared the ways of sav - ing re - pent - ance to all. Of old it
 de - nounced the sin of Her - od, and there - fore was cut off from its bod - y
 and en - dured con - ceal - ment for a time. Now it shines forth upon us like a

ra-diant sun, cry - ing out: Repent and submit to Christ in compunc-tion of soul,
 for he grants the world great mer - - - cy.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory...

Doxastikon of Meatfare Sunday - Tone 8 samohlasen

When the thrones are set up and the books are o - pened, and God will sit in
 judg - ment, what fear shall I feel in that mo - ment! When the an-gels
 shall tremble at his side and a riv-er of fire rise up, what shall we sin-ners
 then do? When we shall hear the blessed of his Father called to the kingdom of
 heav - en and the sin-ners to e-ter-nal pun - ish - ment, who will be a - ble
 to endure his dreadful con-dem-na - tion? But you, O Savior, hasten to convert
 me be-fore the end, and, O King of the ag - es, have mer-cy on me.

Cantor: (Tone 7) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the Week (Tone 7, p. 98).

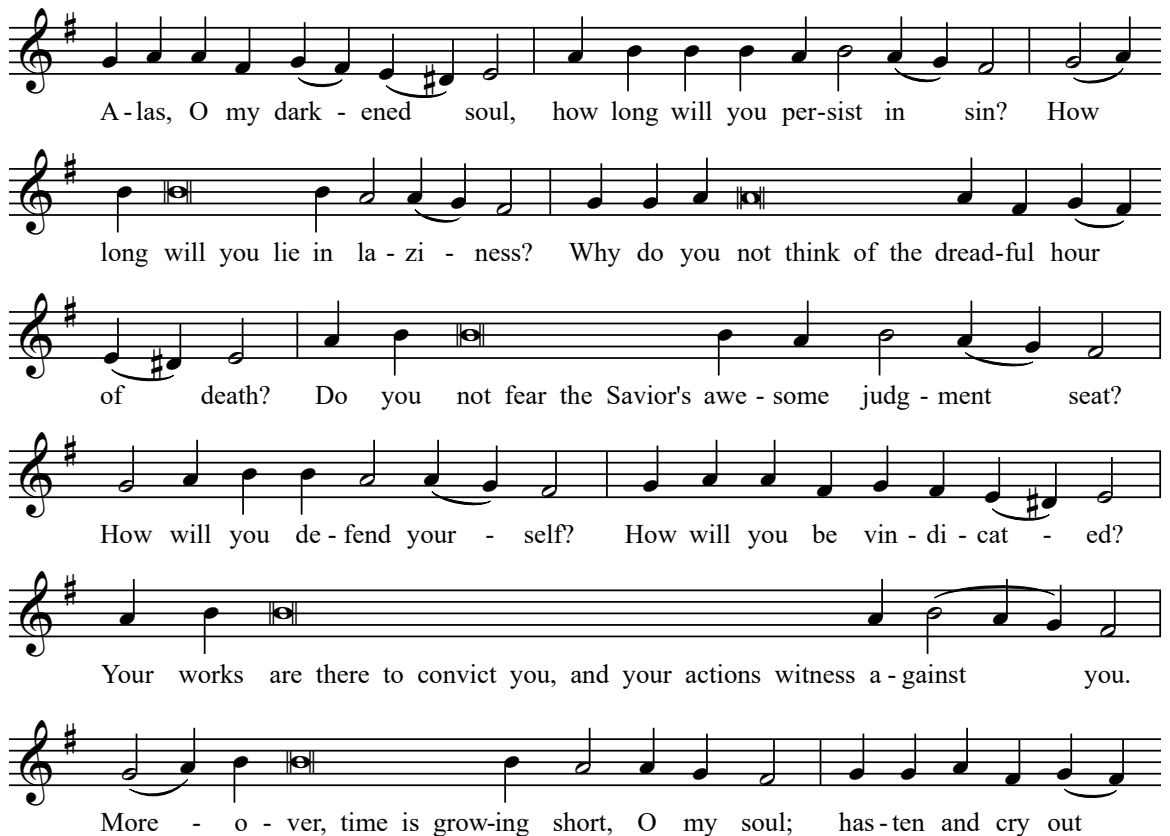
Readings: Isaiah 40:1-3, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1 (Composite IX)
Malachi 3:1; Mark 1:2; Malachi 3:1-3, 5-7, 12, 18, 17; Malachi 4:4-6 (Composite X)
Wisdom 4:7, 16-17, 19 - 5:7 (Composite III)

Aposticha

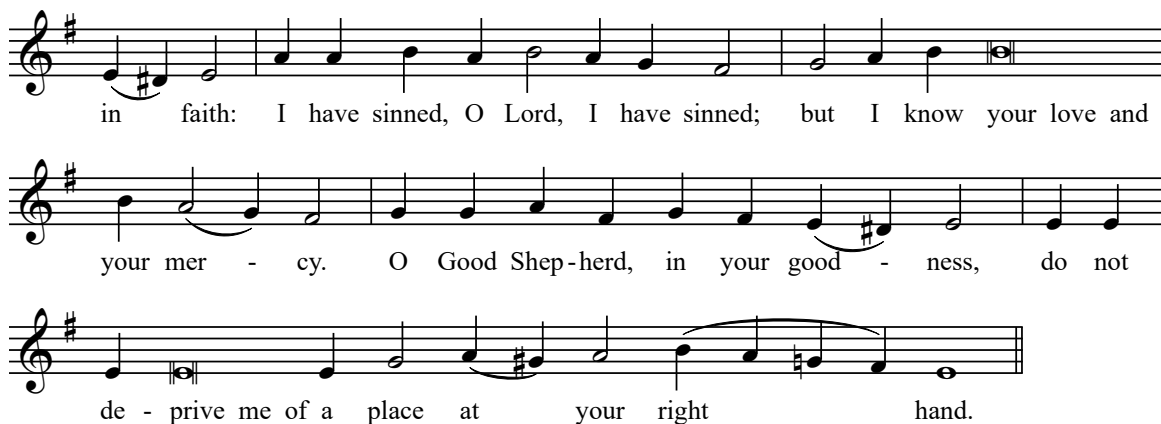
Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 7, p. 99), concluding with:

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory...

Aposticha Doxastikon of Meatfare Sunday - Tone 8



A-las, O my dark - ened soul, how long will you per-sist in sin? How
long will you lie in la - zi - ness? Why do you not think of the dread-ful hour
of death? Do you not fear the Savior's awe - some judg - ment seat?
How will you de - fend your - self? How will you be vin - di - cat - ed?
Your works are there to convict you, and your actions witness a - gainst you.
More - o - ver, time is grow-ing short, O my soul; has - ten and cry out



in faith: I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned; but I know your love and
 your mer - cy. O Good Shep-herd, in your good - ness, do not
 de - prive me of a place at your right hand.

Cantor: Now and ever...

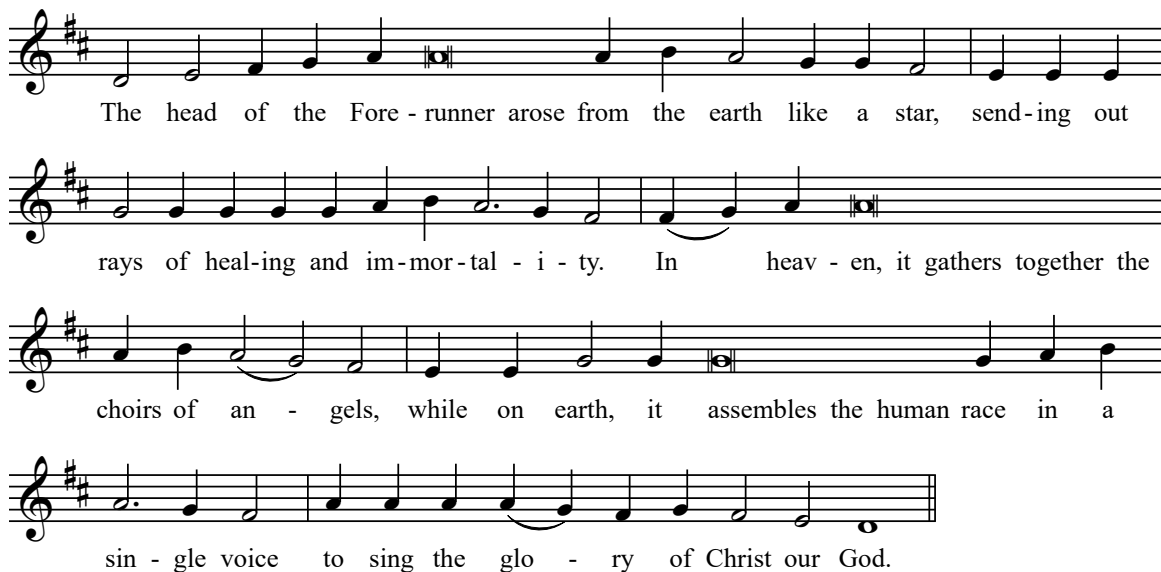
Aposticha theotokion in the same tone (Tone 8, page 110).

Troparia

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 7, p. 101).

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

Troparion of the Forerunner - Tone 4



The head of the Fore - runner arose from the earth like a star, send - ing out
 rays of heal - ing and im - mor - tal - i - ty. In heav - en, it gathers together the
 choirs of an - gels, while on earth, it assembles the human race in a
 sin - gle voice to sing the glo - ry of Christ our God.