

**Vesper Propers, January 3, 2021**  
**SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY**

**The holy prophet Malachi**, who after the return from the Babylonian Captivity announced the great day of the Lord and his coming to his temple, and that always and everywhere a pure offering should be made to his name.

**The holy martyr Gordius**, praised in the writings of St. Basil the Great, a centurion who suffered during the reign of the Emperor Diocletian. (304)


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

*Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, p. 82), stichera 10-7.*

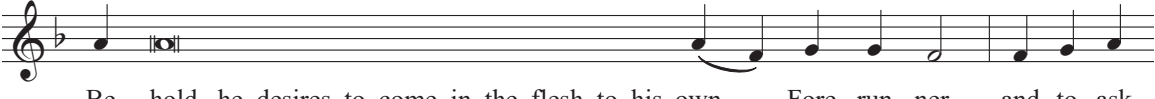
**Cantor:** (Tone 4) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?  
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

**Stichera of the Prefeast - Tone 4**

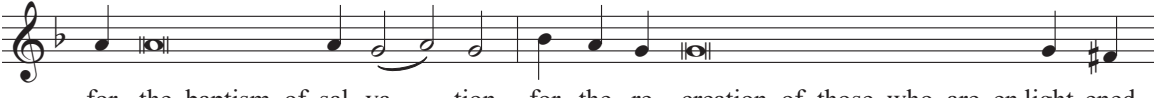
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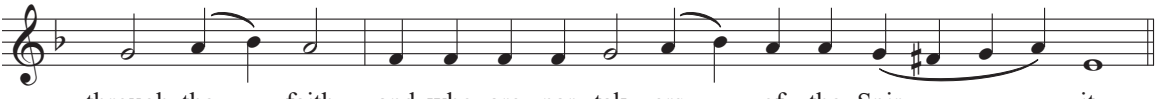
Let us piously sing the pre-fes-tive hymns of the honorable baptism of our God.



Be - hold, he desires to come in the flesh to his own Fore - run - ner, and to ask




for the baptism of sal - va - tion for the re - creation of those who are en-light-ened



through the faith and who are par - tak - ers of the Spir - - - it.

**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



Christ is revealed and God appears, as it is writ - ten; he comes to his serv-ant

to be bap-tized. O River Jordan, O land and sea, O hills and moun - tains,  
 be filled with hap - pi - ness; O hearts of the faith - - ful,  
 joy - fully cele-brate and re - ceive the great Light.

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

O all-pow - er - ful Lord, how will the streams of the riv - er re - ceive you?  
 As it is writ-ten, you are the riv - er and the stream of peace; how will you  
 en - ter the stream with-out a gar - ment? For you are the one who covers the  
 hea-vens with clouds; you are the One who stripped away the evil of the e - ne-my  
 and who clothed the hu-man race with im - mor - tal - i - ty.

## Troparia

*Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6), page 91.*

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

**Troparion of the Prefeast - Tone 4**

Zeb - u - lun, make read - y; Naphta-li, pre-pare your-self. O Riv - er Jor-dan,  
stand and leap for joy to re-ceive the Master coming to be bap - tized.  
O Ad-am, rejoice with the first moth-er, Eve, and do not hide yourselves as  
once you did in Par - a - dise. For, see - ing you naked, Christ has appeared to  
put on the first robe. He has appeared to re-new all cre - a - tion.

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) 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 holy prophet Malachi - Tone 8**

See - ing that the words of your tongue are now ful - ly re - al - ized, I ad - mire  
their truth and bless you, O Proph - et. You are tru - ly to be ad - mired;  
for you en - light - ened the world by your splen - drous voice, an - nouncing  
beforehand the redemp - tive com - ing of the Lord.

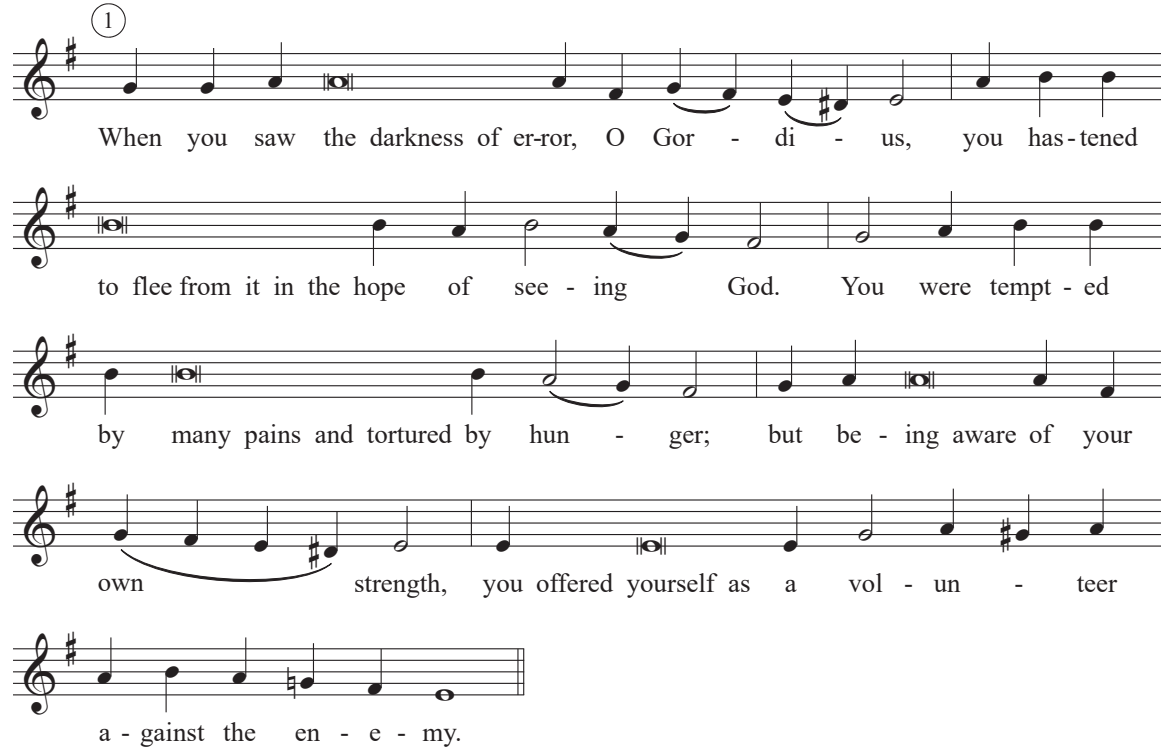
**Cantor:** Praise the Lord all the nations; **Psalm 116**  
(on 2) acclaim him all you people.

You lived on earth as if you were an an - - - gel. Like - wise, you  
were enriched with a name signify - ing an an - - - gel. You joined  
spir - itual goodness to physi - cal good - ness, O all - bless - ed Proph - et,  
Mal - a - chi.

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

**Stichera of the holy martyr Gordius - Tone 8**

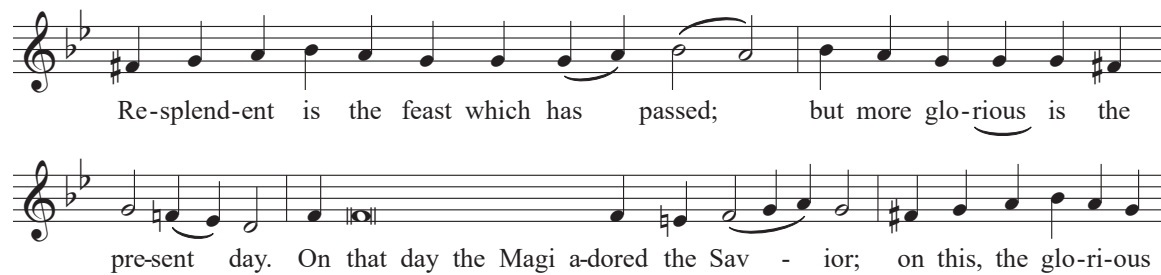
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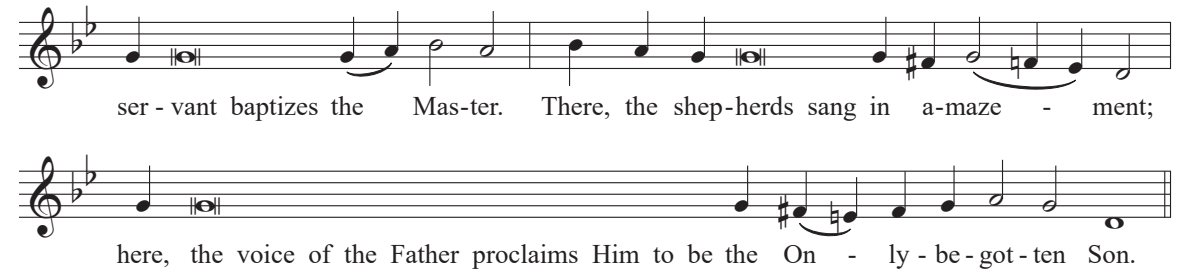
When you saw the darkness of er-ror, O Gor - di - us, you has-tened  
to flee from it in the hope of see - ing God. You were tempt - ed  
by many pains and tortured by hun - ger; but be - ing aware of your  
own strength, you offered yourself as a vol - un - teer  
a - gainst the en - e - my.

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

**Doxastikon of the Prefeast - Tone 3**



Re-splend-ent is the feast which has passed; but more glo-ri-ous is the  
pre-sent day. On that day the Magi a-dored the Sav - ior; on this, the glo-ri-ous



ser - vant baptizes the Mas-ter. There, the shep-herds sang in a-maze - ment;  
here, the voice of the Father proclaims Him to be the On - ly - be - got - ten Son.

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Now and ever...

*Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week (Tone 6, page 87).*

**Aposticha**

*Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, page 88), concluding with:*

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Glory... Now and ever...

**Aposticha Doxastikon of the Prefeast - Tone 6**



Christ the Truth is coming to the Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John,  
and the Bap - tiz - er says to him: I should be bap - tized by you, but you are  
com - ing to me. I do not dare to put straw to the fire.  
O Master, sancti-fy me by your di - vine The - o - pha - ny.