

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of the  
First Sunday of the Great Fast  
February 26, 2023**


**Our venerable father and confessor Procopius the Decapolite**, who, at the time of emperor Leo III Isaurus [c.680-740] vigorously contended for the cult of holy Images. (741)

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers on Sunday Evening for the Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sunday) and the Sundays of the Great Fast.*

*Psalm 140 and Stichera of Forgiveness in the tone of the week (Tone 5, p. 39)  
Stichera of the first Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 62. Then:*

*Tone 4 samohlasen*

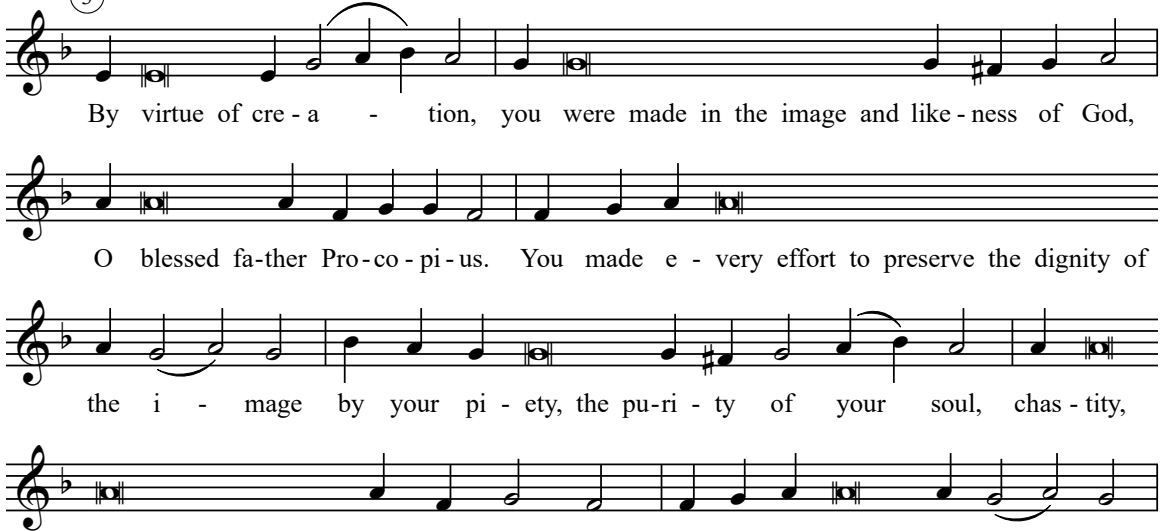
Cantor *(on 3)*



Be-cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion, Is-ra-el  
indeed he will re-deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

**Stichera of our venerable father Procopius the Decapolite** - *Tone 4 samohlasen*

③



By virtue of cre - a - tion, you were made in the image and like - ness of God,  
O blessed fa-ther Pro-co - pi - us. You made e - very effort to preserve the dignity of  
the i - mage by your pi - ety, the pu-ri - ty of your soul, chas - tity,  
temperance in restrain-ing the pas - sions, per - se - ver - ence in the true faith,



and the manner in which you ob-served the pre - cepts of Christ.



Cantor

Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!



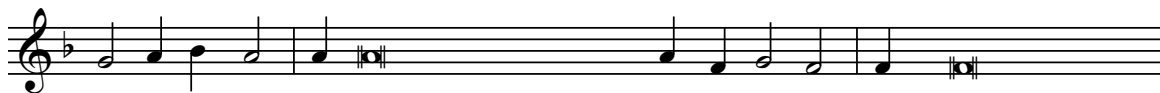
You joined the confes-sion of the faith to the asceticism which you had first set out



to prac-tice, O Pro-co - pi - us. In both, you were well-pleasing to the Cre - a - tor,



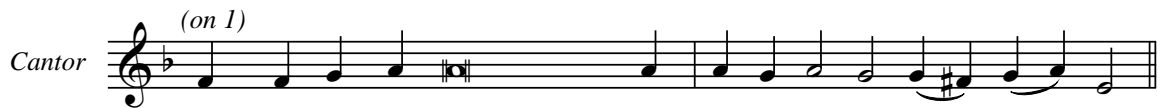
who seeks no - bil - ity of soul in all of us. You glo - rified the coming of our



God in the flesh by bowing down before his sac-red i - con, which represents him in



his hu - man con - di - - - tion.



Cantor

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith-ful for - ev - er.



O venerable father Pro - co - pi - us, by opposing the impious who rendered

the in-car-na-tion vain, you had to endure the tor-ture of scour-ging, all types of  
vile mistreatment, sufferings in chains and im - pris - on - ment. Nev - er - the-less,  
you af-firmed the truth and thus inherited the kingdom of Christ in ineffa-ble joy  
and e - ter - nal de-light.

*The faithful STAND.*

*Cantor*

Glo - ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir-it, now and  
ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

**Theotokion** - *in the same tone*

All - pure one, you contained the uncontain-a-ble God in your womb when he became  
one of us in his love for man-kind, tak - ing our nature from you and making it  
di - vine. Do not de - spite me now in my af - flic - tion, but take

pit - y on me and quick-ly de - liv - er me from all the mal - ice and harm  
of the E - vil One.

*The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, "O joyful light," on page 9.*

*Prokeimenon for the First Sunday of the Great Fast, page 10.*

*Aposticha of the First Sunday of the Great Fast, page 65.*