

Propers for the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Thursday in the Third Week of the Great Fast
March 9, 2023

The forty holy martyrs of Sebaste in Armenia. They were comrades, not in blood, but in faith and obedience to the will of their heavenly Father. At the time of the emperor Licinius, after binding and savage tortures, they were ordered to pass the night naked at the coldest time of winter in a swamp in the open air. They consummated their martyrdom by the breaking of their legs at crucifixion. (320)

Supplement for The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (2009). Page numbers refer to the people's book with complete music.

Antiphonal psalms for Monday, p. 15. Then the beginning of Psalm 140 is sung in Tone 1:

Psalm 140 - Tone 1 samohlasen

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O
Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I
call up - on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r
as - cend to you like in - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands like an
eve - ning sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

Followed by the recited verses of the Lamp-lighting Psalms, pp. 19-21.

Tone 1

Cantor (on 4)

Let the watch-man count on day - break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

Sticheron of Thursday in the Fourth Week of the Great Fast - *Tone 1 samohlasen*

Tone 1

④

As we com-plete the third week of this ho - ly fast, O Christ and Word of God,
 en - a - ble us to contemplate the wood of your life-giv-ing Cross, to bow before it,
 sing worthily, and to glo - ri - fy your power, to ex - alt your Pas - sion, and in
 all purity, to see your holy and glorious Re-sur-rec - tion, the mys-ti-cal Pass-o-ver
 by which Adam is re - turned to Pa - ra - dise.

Tone 1

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 the Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste - *Tone 1 samohlasen*

③

The choir of the Forty pass - es through the flames; the di - vine - ly cho - sen

as-sembly shines with the ra-diance of their sa-cred suf-fer-ings, mak-ing the Fast

re - splen - dent by sanc - ti - fy - ing and en - light - en - ing our souls.

Tone 2

Cantor:

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

②

O Christ our God, the Mar - tyrs con - sid-ered the lake to be as par - a-dise,

and win-ter as the heat of day. Thoughts of the ty-rant's threats did not fright-en them.

Brave - ly they did not fear the in - crease of tor - tures,

for they ac-quired the Cross as a weap-on, and with it they van-quished the foe in might,

for which they re - ceived crowns of grace.

Cantor:

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

①
Who does not re - mem - ber in hymns the choir of For - ty Mar - tyr?

They bold - ly went into the wa - ters of the lake. Held fast by the ice,

they sang to the Lord: Re - ceive us in the rivers, O Lov - er of us all!

We have borne the burden of the winter and the bitter - ness of the cold:

our feet are dyed in our own blood! O God, lead us to your e - ter - nal man - sions

to be warmed in the bos - om of the Pa - tri - arch A - bra - ham.

Cantor:
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it,

now and ever and for - ev - er. A - men.

Dogmatikon - *Tone 2 samohlasen*

The shad - ow of the Law passed a - way when grace ar - rived; for, like

the bush which burned but was not con-sumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a
vir - gin you re-mained. In - stead of a pil - lar of fire, the Sun
of Jus - tice dawned; in - stead of Mo - ses, Christ, the sal - va - tion of our souls.

The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, "O Joyful Light," on page 22.

For Thursday in the third week of the Great Fast:

Prokeimenon I - Tone 86 (Psalm 55: 2a, 2b)

Have mer-cy on me, O God, for men op - press me, for
men op - press me.

Verse: My foes crush me all day long.

Reading: Genesis 7:11-8:4

Prokeimenon II - Tone 7 (Psalm 56: 2a, 2b)

Have mer - cy on me, O God, have mer - cy, for in you
my soul, for in you my soul has ta - ken re - - - fuge.

Verse: In the shadow of your wings I take refuge.

Reading: Proverbs 10:1-22

After the Prayer of Saint Ephrem the Syrian, there are readings in honor of the Forty Martyrs.

Prokeimenon for the Forty Holy Martyrs - Tone 5 (Psalm 11:8,2)



You, O Lord, will keep us and pre - serve us for - ev - - er,
for - ev - - er from this gen - er - a - - - - tion.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the righteous have vanished.

Epistle: Hebrews 12:1-10 (*Epistle book, p. 233*)

Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 64:1-2,10)



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - - - - ia!

Verse: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; sing praise to his name, give to him glorious praise.

Verse: For you, O God, have tested us, you have tried us as silver is tried.


Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Communion Hymns:

For the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (Ps. 33:9; music on p. 43):

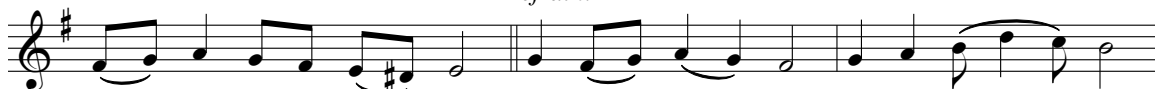
Taste and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And for the Forty Martyrs (Ps. 32:1):



Re - jice in the Lord, you right - - - ous ones; praise from

Refrain:



the up-right is fit - ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - - - le - lu - ia!