

which the as - sem - blies of the saints have re - ceived Be - fore the end show  
me as cleansed by re - pent - ance and out - pour - ing of tears.

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

*Prokeimenon for the Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, p.10.*

*Aposticha of the Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 85.*

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of the  
Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast  
March 26, 2023**

**Our venerable mother Matrona of Thessalonica in Macedonia, martyr.** She was a handmaid of a certain Jewish woman. When she secretly worshipped Christ, she was caught by her mistress and struck with many blows. She was finally beaten to the point of death with cudgels. While confessing Christ, she returned her spirit incorrupt to God. (c.350)

**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 1, p. 22)  
Stichera of the Fifth Sunday of the Fast, p. 82. 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 mother Matrona - Tone 4 samohlasen**

<sup>3</sup>  
You op-posed the cour - age of your no - ble con-vic-tions to the grumblings  
of the people and their cru - el bold - ness, for you con - templated in advance the  
com - ing goods, when joy would remain for-ev - er with - out change.

You found endless happiness when you passed from earth to the heavenly banquet,

O glo - rious mar - - - tyr.

*Cantor* *(on 2)*

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

②

You were allowed to con - tem - plate the royal splendor, the delightful beau-ty of your

Bride-groom, a - dorned with the jewels of the wounds of your strug - gles. You were

wor - thy to approach the Source of all good, re - ceiv-ing im-mor-tal re-nown

as the fruit of di-vine hap - pi - ness in the fu - ture life.

*Cantor* *(on 1)*

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

①

Nei - ther the yoke which you car-ried as a slave, nor your fem-in-ine na-ture,

nor hun-ger nor scourg-ing could keep you from imitating the steadfastness of the

mar - tyrs, O glo-rious Ma - tro - na. Ra - ther you generously en-dured

your tor-ments. There-fore, you have found the heavenly dwelling of the Bride - groom

and the crown of graces which adorns you in the pres-ence of the Cre-at - or.

*The faithful STAND.*

*Cantor*

Glo - ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir-it, now and

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

De - liver my soul from con-dem - na - tion and griev-ous trans-gres-sions,

O all-holy Bride of God, and by your sup-plications set me free from death.

Grant that on the day of test - ing, I receive the jus-ti - fi - ca - tion