

Vesper propers, October 22, 2023
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

The holy bishop Abercius, equal to the apostles and wonderworker, at Hieropolis in Phrygia, a disciple of Christ the good Shepherd, of whom it is said that he made a journey through different areas and nourished the faith with a mystical food. He preached throughout Syria and Mesopotamia, and went to the Lord in great old age at the end of the second century. (2nd century)

The holy seven children of Ephesus During the persecution of the emperor Decius, seven young soldiers refused to sacrifice to idols. Tradition says that their names were: Maximilian, Iamblichus, Martinian, John, Dionysius, Exacustodianus, and Antoninus. They concealed themselves in a cave outside of Ephesus, and the emperor had them sealed into the cave to kill them. In the reign of the Christian emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), there arose a dispute about the veracity of the Christian teaching on the resurrection of the dead. The youths awoke, testified to the true teaching, and one week later died. (250 and 454) (*Also remembered on August 4.*)

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

Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 58), stichera 10-7.

Cantor: (Tone 2) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
(on 3) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

Stichera of the holy bishop Abercius - Tone 2 podobn: Jehda ot dreva

⑥

With the light of your di-vine teach-ings, O fa-ther A-ber-cius,
you brought an end to the night of the man-y false gods. You rose
like the dawn mak-ing chil-dren of the day of those who once lay in dark-ness,



as you worked great mir-a-cles a - mong them. Thus, in faith, we celebrate your sacred



mem-o - ry as a feast, and we all sing to-geth-er a hymn in your hon - or.

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.



In the same ves - sel, O A - ber - cius, you miraculously joined oil, wine,



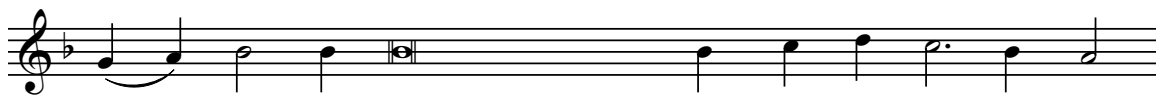
and an - oth - er sub-stance, so that they could all be served from it,



al - though by divine grace they were kept sep - a - rate with out be - ing mixed.



By your pray'r, you caused a stream of warm wa - ter to flow



that heals the sicknesses of those who draw near to you in faith,



call - ing you bless - ed, O ho - ly A - ber - cius.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak

(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

④

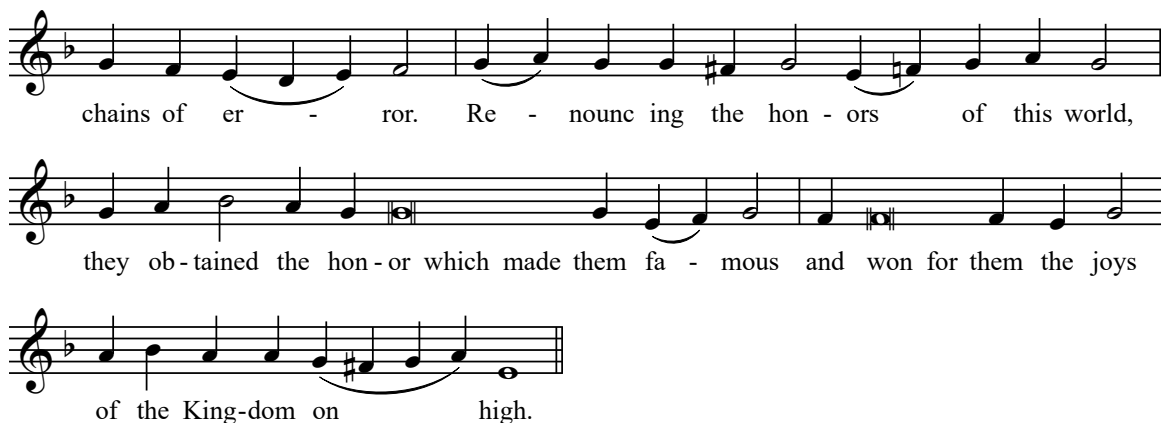
Com - plete - ly con - se - crat - ed to God O ho - ly A - ber - cius,
 you were seen to be a keeper of his di - vine com - mand - ments.
 Hav - ing re - ceived grace from on high, you turned a - way
 var - i - ous sick - nesses from men, expelled de - mons and cast down their al - tars.
 O bless - ed one, you im - plant - ed the knowl - edge of God
 in those whom, to their shame, ignor - ance had once placed in dan - ger.

Cantor: (Tone 4) 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 seven holy children of Ephesus - Tone 4 podobn: Jako dobl'a

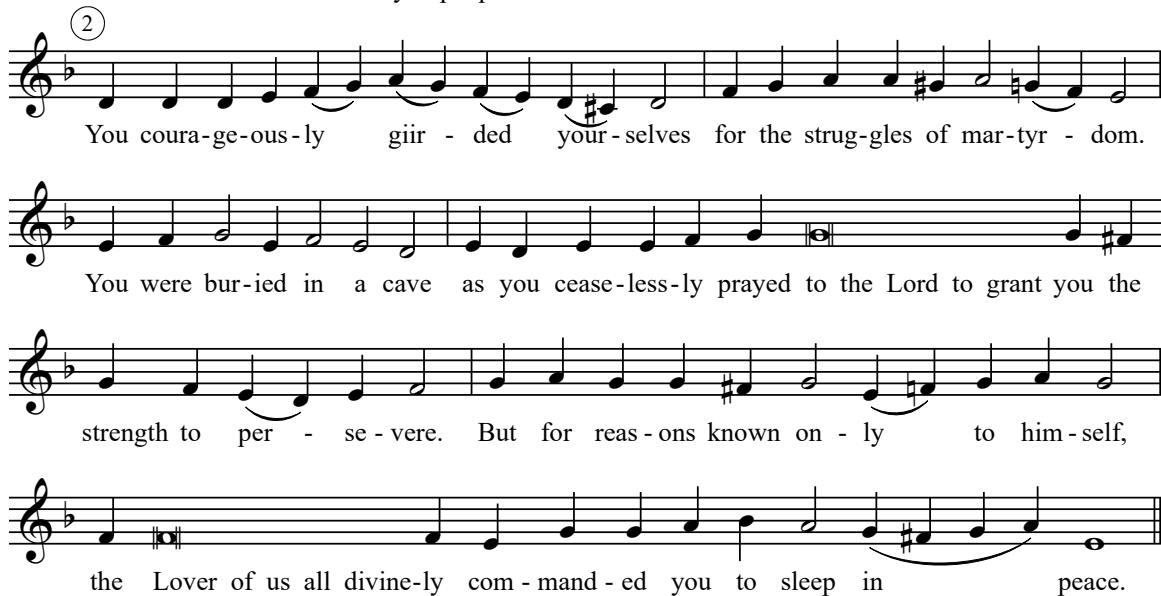
③

The bless - sed young men, o - be - di - ent to the com - mand - ments of God
 re - fused the impious commandment of the ty - rant. In chains, they loos - ened the



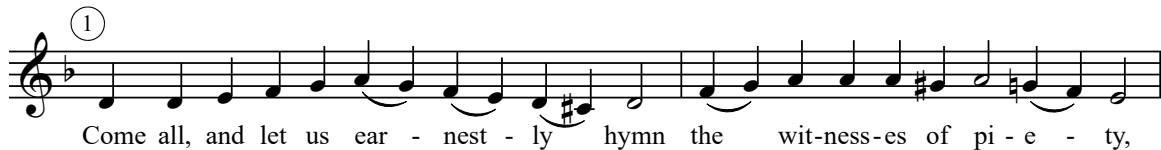
chains of er - ror. Re - nounc ing the hon - ors of this world,
 they ob - tained the hon - or which made them fa - mous and won for them the joys
 of the King - dom on high.

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**
 (on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!



②
 You coura - ge - ous - ly giir - ded your - selves for the strug - gles of mar - tyr - dom.
 You were bur - ied in a cave as you cease - less - ly prayed to the Lord to grant you the
 strength to per - se - vere. But for reas - ons known on - ly to him - self,
 the Lover of us all divine - ly com - mand - ed you to sleep in peace.

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



①
 Come all, and let us ear - nest - ly hymn the wit - ness - es of pi - e - ty,

the di-vine-ly assembled regiment and the bles-sed choir, the in-vinc-ible compa-ny
of mar-tyrs and the beautiful tri-umph of the Church of God., the in-div-is-i-ble
assembly and the un-van-quished ar-my, the unshaka-ble foun-da-tion
of pi-e-ty.

Cantor: (Tone 3) Glory...

Doxastikon of the holy bishop Abercius- Tone 3 samohlasen

Ven-'ra-ble hier-arch and bless-ed fa-ther, ser-vant of Christ and
won-der-work-er, A-bercius, you shone with a pro-phet-ic life
and were a-dorned with the charisms of the A-pos-tles. Now you cease-lessly celebrate
the Sav-ior in heav-en; en-treat him, together with the an-gels,



that our souls be saved from all the dan - gers that theat - en them.

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

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 64)

Sunday aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 65).

Troparia in the Tone of the Week (Tone 4, p. 68).