

Vesper Propers, October 1

THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY. On October 1, 911, during the reign of emperor Leo the Wise, there was an all-night vigil in the Blachernae church of the Theotokos in Constantinople. Standing near the rear of the church was St. Andrew the Fool for Christ, and his disciple Epiphanius. At four o'clock in the morning, the Theotokos appeared above the people with a veil spread over her outstretched hands, as if to protect them. She was surrounded by angels and saints. Seeing this, Andrew asked his disciple, "Do you see the Queen and Lady of all is praying for the whole world?"

*Supplement for **The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2005***

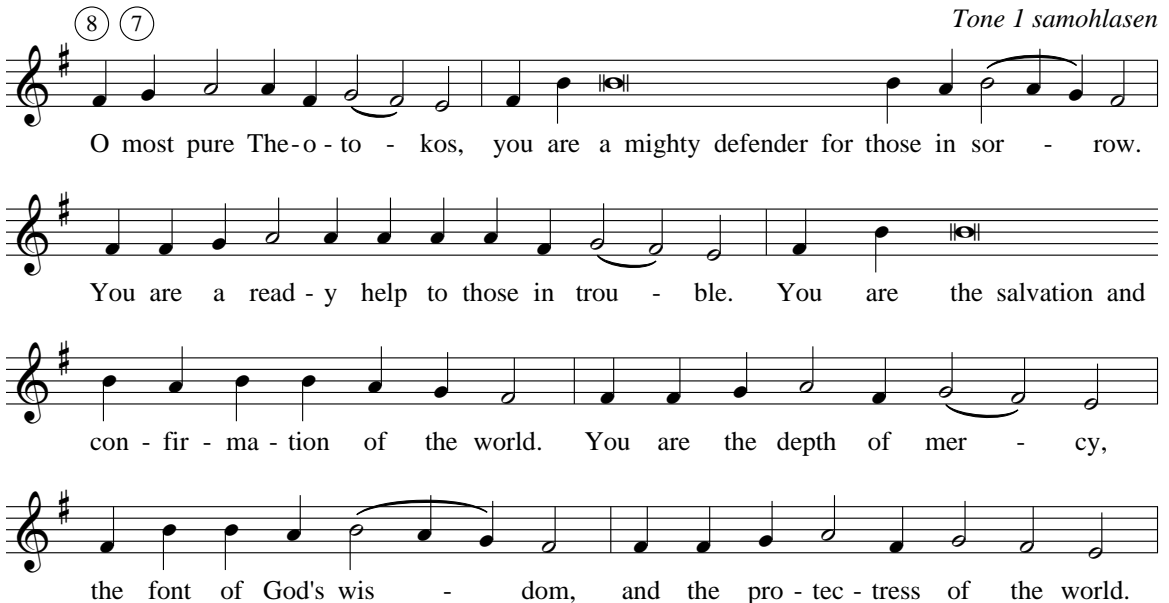
Lamplighting Psalms: Tone 1, beginning on page 24

Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness *to* me.

Cantor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

Tone 1 samohlasen

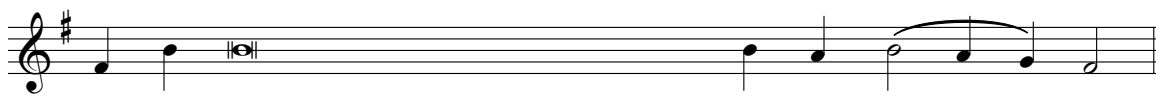


O most pure The-o - to - kos, you are a mighty defender for those in sor - row.

You are a read - y help to those in trou - ble. You are the salvation and

con - fir - ma - tion of the world. You are the depth of mer - cy,

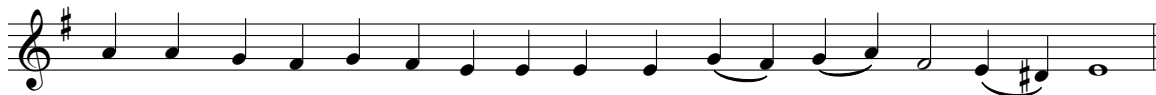
the font of God's wis - dom, and the pro - tec - tress of the world.



O faith - ful, let us sing and praise her glorious pro-tec - tion, say - - - ing:



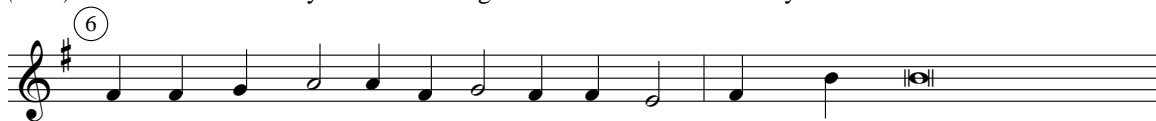
Re - joice, O wo - man full of grace, the Lord is with you!



the Lord, who be-cause of you be-stows great mer - cy on our souls.

Cantor: Let your ears be attentive
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading. (*Repeat "O most pure Theotokos..."*)

Cantor: 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.



The won-drous proph-et I - sai - ah fore-told: The moun - tain of the Lord will



be revealed in the last days, and the house of the Lord will be up-on the



moun - tain. O Queen and La - dy, we have seen this prophecy tru-ly ful-filled



in you, be-cause the mountain and hills have been a - dorned by the



man - y church-es named af - ter your feasts. There-fore, we joy - ful-ly sing out

to you: Re - joice, O wo-man full of grace, the Lord is with you!

the Lord, who be-cause of you be-stows great mer - cy on our souls.

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.

O awe-some beau - ty, you are the true prophetic fulfillment for all the
 faith - ful. You are the glo - ry of the apostles and the joy of the mar - tyrs,
 the pride of virgins and a wondrous protection for the whole world. O La-dy,
 with the mantle of your mer - cy, pro-tect our Church and all the people who sing
 out to you: Re - joice, O wo-man full of grace, the Lord is with you!

the Lord, who be-cause of you be-stows great mer - cy on our souls.

Cantor: *(Tone 4)* Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 4) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

④ ③

O The - o - to - kos, you cooperated with the in - vi - ta - tion
 off - ered by the Ho - ly Spir - it. You were like a para-dise plant - ed by God
 and the sight of the liv - ing Tree. We acknowledge you as having brought forth the
 Cre - a - tor of all, who feeds the faithful with the Bread of Life. We
 ask you to pray for us, with the Fore - run - ner. With your mantle, protect all
 peo - - ple from ev - 'ry dan - ger.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
 (on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (*Repeat "O Theotokos..."*)

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

②

Heav - en and earth are sanc - ti - fied. The Church is radiant and all the people
 are re - joi - cing. Be - hold, the The - o - to - kos, to - geth - er with the an - gel - ic hosts,

the Fore-runner, and the The - o - lo - gian, with the prophets and apostles
 has invis-i - bly en - tered. She prays to Christ in behalf of all Chris - tians,
 that he may have mercy on our city and all peo - ple, who glorify the
 feast of her Pro - tec - - - tion.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

(on 1) ①

O The - o - to - kos, you are the beau - ty of Ja - cob; You are the
 heav - en - ly lad - der by which Christ came down to earth. In - deed,
 those images signify your hon - or and glo - ry. The angels in heaven and
 all people on earth praise you, for you have given birth to the God of all.
 We hon - or you as you pray for the whole world and cov - er with your man - tle



all those who ob-serve your ho - ly feast.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon - Tone 8 samohlasen



All the lead-ers of the heav-en - ly ar - - mies form a spir - itual choir and



re-joyce with all of us when they see the faithful praising the Lady and Queen



of all. The spir - its of the just re-joyce al - so as they wit-ness



the vision of the Queen pray-ing with out-stretched arms. She asks for peace



in the world, pow - er and strength for our Church, and sal - va - tion

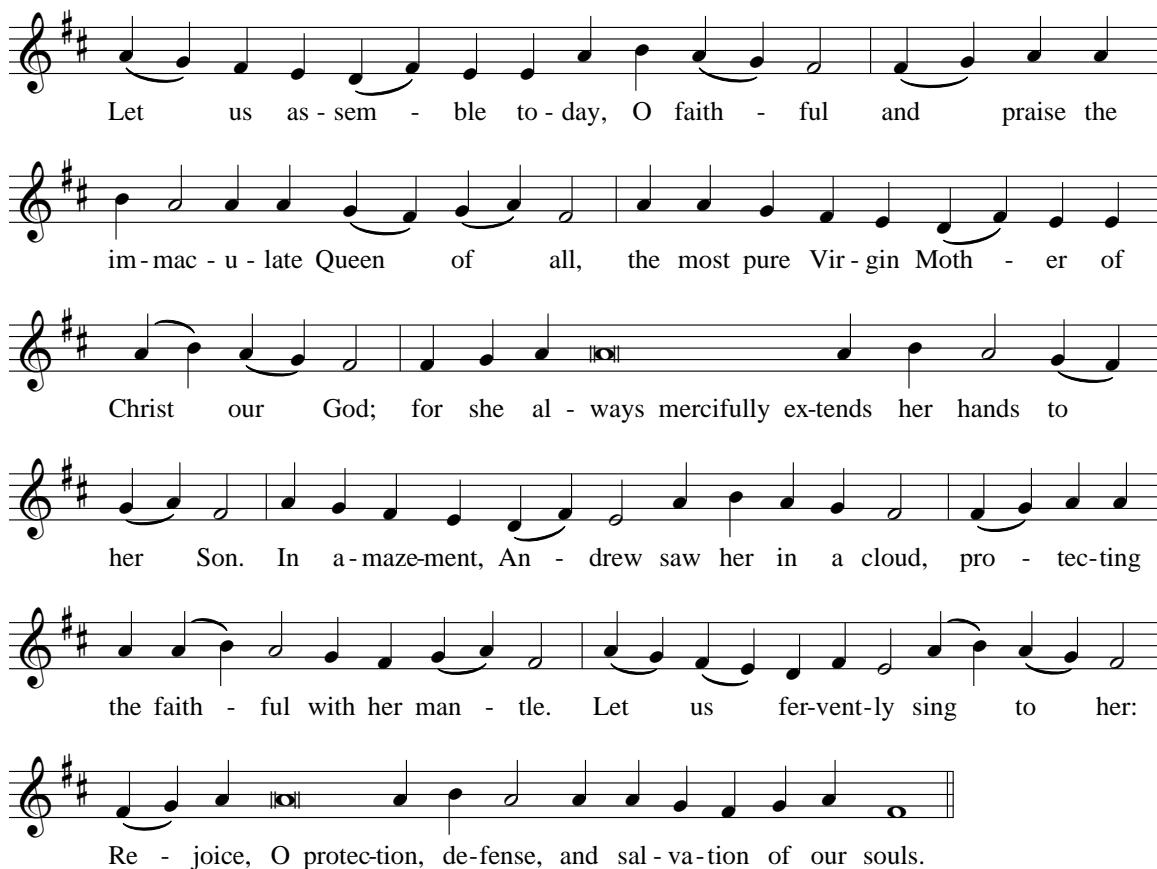


for our souls.

Readings: Genesis 28: 10 - 17
Ezekiel 43: 27 through 44: 4
Proverbs 9: 1 - 11

At the Litija

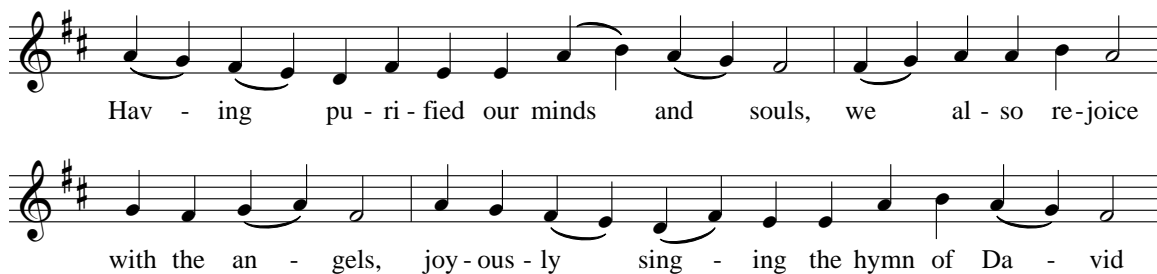
Tone 2 Bolhar



Let us as - sem - ble to - day, O faith - ful and praise the
im - mac - u - late Queen of all, the most pure Vir - gin Moth - er of
Christ our God; for she al - ways mercifully ex - tends her hands to
her Son. In a - maze - ment, An - drew saw her in a cloud, pro - tec - ting
the faith - ful with her man - tle. Let us fer - vent - ly sing to her:
Re - joi - ce, O protec - tion, de - fense, and sal - va - tion of our souls.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon - Tone 2 Bolhar



Hav - ing pu - ri - fied our minds and souls, we al - so re - joi - ce
with the an - gels, joy - ous - ly sing - ing the hymn of Da - vid



to the vir - gin bride of Christ our God, the King of all:
A - rise, O Lord, in the place of your dwell - ing,
you and the ark of your maj - es - ty. Be - cause you have a - dorned her
as a beau - ti - ful pal - ace, re - ceive her in - to your cit - y
that through her pray'rs, O Lord, and with your al - might - y pow'r,
she will or - der our lives and pro - tect our Church from its en - e - mies.

Litija Litany p.116

Aposticha



① *Tone 2 samohlasen*
You are high-er than all beings in heav-en or on earth, more glo-ri-ous than the
Cher-u-bim, and more hon-or - a - ble than all cre-a-tion; Christ has giv-en you as the

powerful protection of the Chris-tian peo - ple to pro-tect and save all sin-ners

who has-ten to you. There-fore, O La-dy, we sing hymns to you be-cause

you are the ref-uge of all peo - ple, and we glo-riously celebrate the honorable

feast of your Pro-tec - tion. We ask Christ to grant us great mer-cy to our souls.

Cantor *Tone 5*

Lis - ten, O daugh - ter, and see, and in - cline your ear.

Tone 5 samohlasen

O peo-ple, let us gloriously sing David's song to the young bride, to the Moth-er

of Christ our God and the King of all. O Mas-ter, the Queen stood at your

right hand, clothed in gold-en robes and adorned with ce-les-tial beau-ty. You have

af-firmed her, chosen from a-mong wo - men, and deigned to be born of her



because of your great mer-cy. You have giv - en her as a help to your peo-ple.



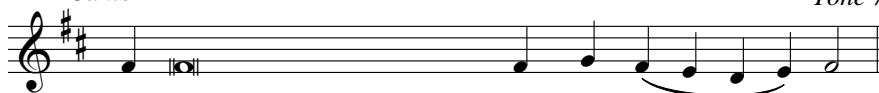
to build up and pro-tect your serv - ants from all mis - for - tunes, O



on - ly - bless - ed One.

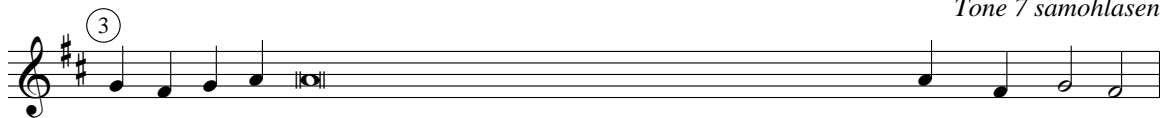
Cantor

Tone 7

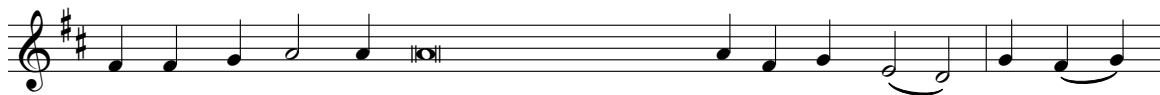


The rich among the people will seek your fa - - - vor.

Tone 7 samohlasen



O The-o - to - kos, you are a mountain greater and more glorious than Mount Si - nai.



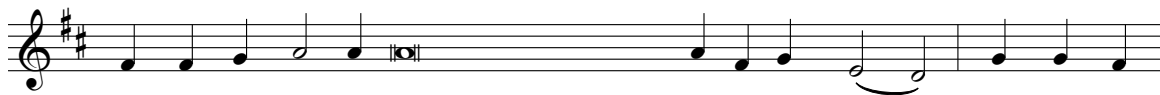
It could not bear God's glory coming down in im-a - ges and tents. It caught



fire and shook with thun-der and light-ning. You like-wise had the Divine Fire



in you. Through the will of him who holds all in the palm of his hand,



you bore the Word of God in your womb with-out be-ing burned. Since you have



a moth-er's confidence before him, O La-dy, help those who faith-ful - ly celebrate



your pre-cious feast. Do not for-get in your mer-cy to vis - it us, for



you have re-ceived a gift from God to build up and pro-ject the Chris - tian



flock of your serv - ants.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...now and ever...

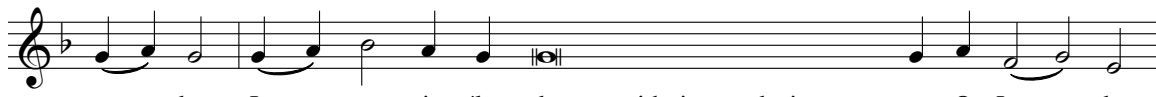
Doxastikon - Tone 2 samohlasen



O all-pure The - o - to - kos, the Church is clothed with your honorable



pro-tec - tion as with a most glo - ri - ous wreath. It ra-diant-ly re - joi - ces



to - day. It mys - tic - ly dances with joy and sings to you, O La - dy:



Re - joi - ce, hon - orable raiment and crown of God's glo - ry. Re - joi - ce,



u - nique perfection of glo-ry and e - ter - nal joy; re - joi - ce, ref - uge

of all who has-ten to you; re - joice, our salva-tion and de-liv - er-ance.

Troparion - Tone 4 (*sung three times*)

Pro-TECT-ed by your appear-ance, O Moth-er of God; to-day, we devout people

sol-EMN-ly cel - e-brate. Gaz-ing up - on your most pure i-con, we fer-vent-ly say:

Pro-TECT us with your ho - ly veil, and de - liv - er us from all e - vil,

im - ploring your Son, Christ our God, to save our souls.

Blessing of Bread, p. 119