

## Vesper Propers, October 26

**The holy and great martyr Demetrius.** Born in Salonica of devout parents, he was a much-longed-for only child. Because of his he received an excellent education. Like his father, Demetrius became a soldier in the Roman army. The emperor Maximian appointed him to persecute the Christians in Salonica, but Demetrius confessed his faith and preached Christ. He was cruelly martyred for his witness to the Lord. Since earliest times, he has been regarded as a wonderworker and powerful intercessor. (305)

**Commemoration of the great and fearful earthquake in Constantinople, 740.** In the time of the emperor Leo the Armenian, there was a terrifying and long-lasting earthquake in Constantinople. The people felt that it was punishment for their sins, and entreated the most holy Mother of God and St. Demetrius to intercede for them.

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

*"O Lord, I have cried" is sung in Tone 2, p. 36.*

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 2 samohlasen*

O glo-ri-ous mar-tyr De-me-tri-us, like a bright star you glisten forever for  
your fa-ther-land, be-cause you al-ways protect it from destruction at the hands of  
en-e-mies, and you de-liv-er it from ev-'ry strife and men-ace. There-fore,  
O bless-ed one, your people annually observe your memo-ry and cel-e-brate with joy,

and with faith and love they extol the Lord who glo - ri - fied you.

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

**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.

⑥

O De - me - trius, martyr and sufferer of the Pas - sion of Christ,

your mir - a - cles shine up - on the world like the sun.

There - fore, all of us are filled with joy as we re - mem - ber them

and in faith we fit - ting - ly cel - e - brate. Since you have fa - vor with the Lord,

pray that he may save your serv - ants from cor - rup - - - tion.

**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.

⑤

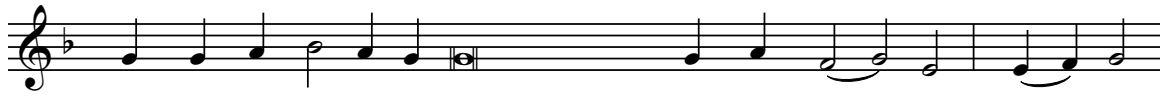
Your side was pierced by a spear for the sake of the Sav - ior whose side



had been pierced on the cross. By your wounds you lovingly resem-bled him, O



mar-tyr. You showed to all that you were an un - con - quera - ble wit - ness.



There - by, your tor - tur - er was also wounded and made help - less when he



was the instrument of the test of your faith, O De-me-tri-us, great suf-fer-er



for Christ.

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.

(on 4)

*Tone 8 samohlasen*



O, what a great mar - vel! There is joy in heav - en and on earth,



for this day glistens in the remembrance of the martyr De - me - tri - us. He is



crowned by the praises of angels and by the hymns of all. O, how he



suf - fered and how well he strug - gled! Through him the Evil One fell



and was con - quered for Christ.

**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, what a great marvel..."*)

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



O, what a great mar - vel! It is the most radi - ant of won - ders.



It is more bril - liant than the sun. De - me - trius shines upon the ends



of the earth at all times. He is filled with the radiance of the Light that



nev - er grows dim and beau - tified by the Light which nev - er sets.



By his rays, the clouds of for - eign foes have been dis - persed, ill - ness - es



have been cast out, and de - mons con - quered.

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



O, what a great mar - vel! Hav - ing been slain for the sake of Christ, O

thrice-bless-ed De-me-tri - us, you have al - ways manifested yourself to be a  
two - edged sword, hum - bling the exaltations of the en - e - mies  
and bring - ing to naught the intrigues of the de - mons. Let us cry out  
to him: O De-me-tri-us, pro-ect us at all times, for in faith and love  
we ven - er - ate you.

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen**

To - day we are summoned by the universal feast of the mar-tyr. Come, there-fore,  
O lov-ers of feasts, let us cel-ebrate his mem - o - ry in splen - dor and say:  
Re-joyce, for you overcame the snares of the en - e - my by the might given to you  
by the one God. Re-joyce, for you suffered wounds by the thrusts of a sword,



and thus spiritually depicted for us the blessed pas - sion of Christ. O Demetrius,



O inspira-tion of mar - tyrs, im - plore him that we be delivered from visible and



in - vis - i - ble en - e - mies, and that our souls may be saved.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

*Dogmatikon in the same tone (Tone 6, p. 87).*

**Readings:** Isaiah 43: 9-14  
Wisdom 3: 1-9  
Wisdom 4: 7-15

### Litija

*Tone 2 Bolhar*



O wise mar - tyr De-me - tri - us, Christ our God has placed your



spotless spirit in the a - bode on high, for you were a de - fend - er



of the Trin - i - ty. And un-break - a - ble as a dia - mond,



you cou - ra - geous - ly suf - fered mar - tyr - dom in the a - re - na. Your ho - ly

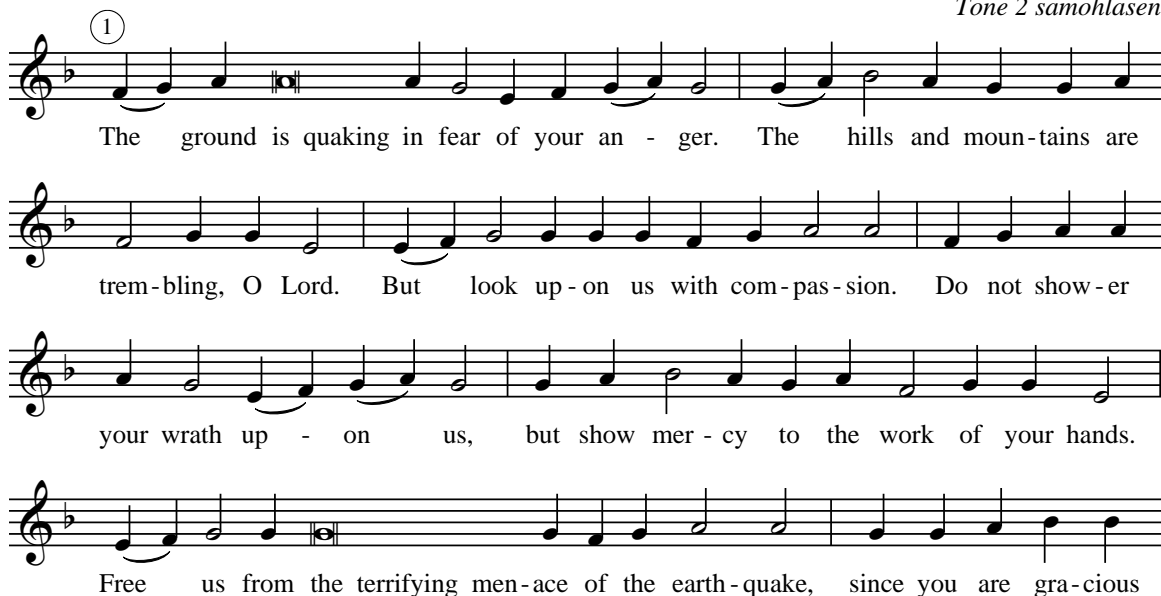


side was pierced, O all - pre - cious one, for the sal - va - tion of the  
 whole world. You re - ceived the pow - er of heal - ing, and you free - ly  
 grant heal - ings to all. We, there - fore, fit - ingly celebrate your  
 dor - mi - tion to - day, and we glo - ri - fy you as you glo - ri - fied the Lord.

*Litany of the Litija, p. 116*

### Aposticha

*Tone 2 samohlasen*



①  
 The ground is quaking in fear of your an - ger. The hills and moun - tains are  
 trem - bling, O Lord. But look up - on us with com - pas - sion. Do not show - er  
 your wrath up - on us, but show mer - cy to the work of your hands.  
 Free us from the terrifying men - ace of the earth - quake, since you are gra - cious



and the Lov - er of us all.

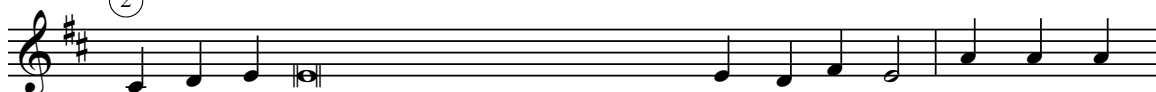
*Cantor*



Hav - ing cre - at - ed the earth, you look up - on it and it quakes.

②

*Tone 6 samohlasen*



You are awe - some, O Lord, and who can bear your just an - ger? Or who will



im - plore you? Who will re - strain you, O Gra - cious One, in be - half



of the sinful people who are with - out hope? The heav'nly ranks, the Angels and



Prin - ci - pal - i - ties, the Pow - ers, Thrones, Do - min - ions, and Ser - a - phim



are cry - ing out to you in our be - half: Ho - ly, holy, ho - ly are you, O Lord!



Be - cause of your mer - ci - ful com - pas - sion, do not reject the work of your



hands, O Gra - cious One, but save the cit - y which is in dan - ger.



*Cantor*

You shook the ground and you made it quake.

③

The Nin - evites heard the threat about their destruction by an earthquake be-cause

of their sins. The rising up of Jonah from the whale was a sign of in-ter-ces - sion.

He plead - ed for them to re-pent. Just as you accepted in gen-er - os - i - ty

the lamentation of your people with their chil-dren and an - i - mals, for the sake

of your rising on the third day, al - so be merci-ful and spare us

who have been chas-tised.

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 8**

Your sub-lime and spot - less soul, O ev - er-commemorat - ed De-me-tri - us,

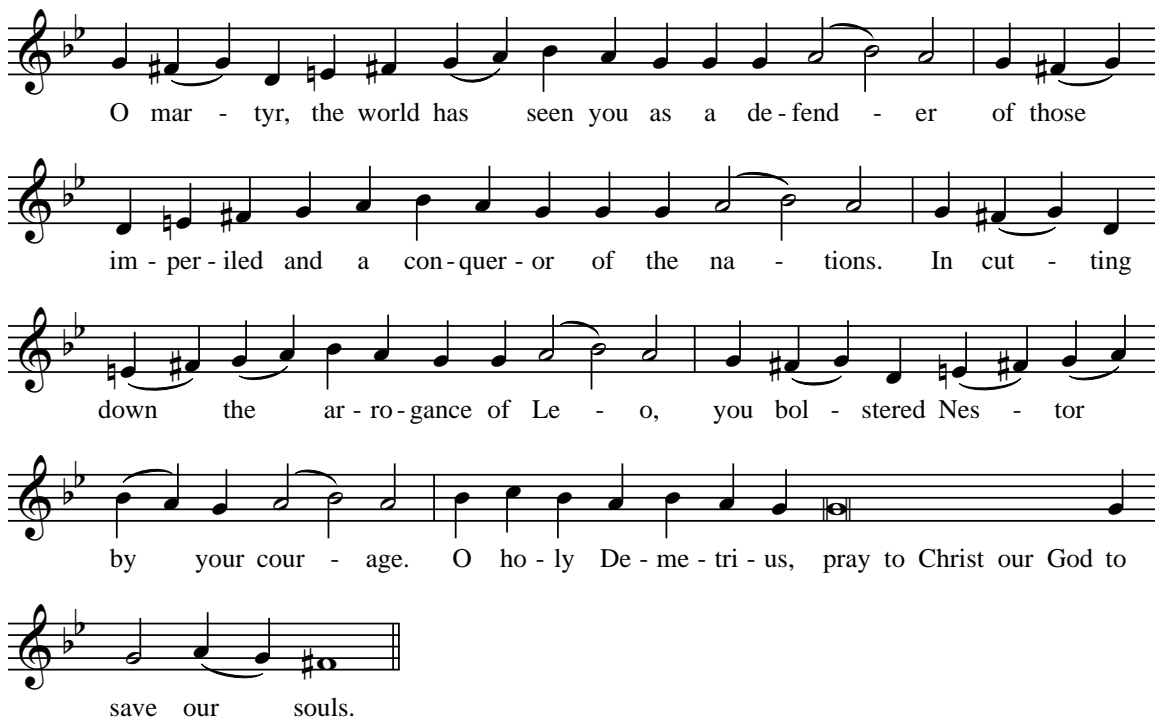
has the heav-enly Jerusalem as an a - bode. Its walls were painted by the most  
 pure hands of the in - vis - i - ble God. This beau - ti - ful church on earth  
 al - so con-tains your precious body which had suf-fered so much. It is a treasury  
 of miracles that can-not be sto - len a - way, and it is a medi-cine  
 for ill-ness - es when - ev - er we hasten to draw upon its heal - ing pow'r.  
 O all - praise - wor - thy one, pro - tect from threatening destruction the city  
 which ex - tols you, for you have found favor be - fore Christ who  
 glo - ri - fies you.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

*Aposticha theotokion in the same tone (Tone 8, p. 110).*

### Troparion - Tone 3

*Sung twice, once by the priest and once by the faithful*



O mar - tyr, the world has seen you as a de - fend - er of those  
im - per - iled and a con - quer - or of the na - tions. In cut - ting  
down the ar - ro - gance of Le - o, you bol - stered Nes - tor  
by your cour - age. O ho - ly De - me - tri - us, pray to Christ our God to  
save our souls.

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Glory... now and ever...

*"Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos," p. 119, followed by the Blessing of Bread.*