

**Vesper Propers**  
**Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Council of Nicaea**  
**Seventh Paschal Sunday**

*All page numbers refer to **The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2006.***

*The First Kathisma is sung.*

*Lamplighting Psalms: Tone 6, stichera 10-8, p. 82.*

**Cantor:**        *(Tone 6)* Let your ears be attentive  
*(on 7)*               to the voice of my pleading.

**Stichera of Ascension - Tone 6**

(7)

The Lord ascended in - to heav-en to send the Comfort-er in - to this world.

The heav-ens prepared his throne and clouds were his lad - der; the an - gels

mar - velled at the sight of a human being more exalt-ed than them - selves. To-day,

the the Father receives again in his bos - om the One who was in him from all

e - ter - ni - ty, and the Ho - ly Spirit gives a command to all the an - gels:

Lift up your lin-tels, O you gates! O you na-tions of the earth, clap your hands,

for Christ as-cends to the place where he had been from all e - ter - ni - ty.

**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 Lord, the Cherubim were amazed at your As-cen-sion: they were seized with wonder as they beheld you, O God, ris-ing up - on the clouds, for you are the One who is seat - ed a - bove the clouds. We sing a hymn of praise to you: Glo - ry to you for your ten - der mer - cy.

**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

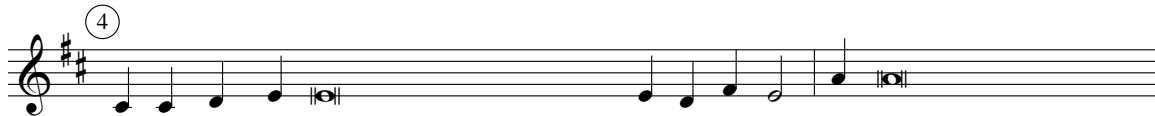
O Christ, splendor and glory of the Fa-ther, when we behold your Ascension on your ho - ly moun - tain, we sing a hymn of praise to the beau - ty of your coun - te - nance. We bow down to your Pas - sion, we venerate your holy Res - ur - rec - tion, and we glo - rify your no - ble As - cen - sion.



O Lord, have mer - cy on us.

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak  
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

**Stichera of the Sunday of the Council Fathers - Tone 6**



Be-fore the morn-ing star you were begotten of the Fa-ther; be - fore the ages you were



conceived with-out a moth - er, e - ven though Arius believed you to be cre-a - ted,



and not God. He shame - lessly confused the Creator with his crea - tures,



thus deserving e-ter-nal pun-ish-ment. Yet the Coun-cil of Nicaea pro-claimed you



as the Son of God who is en-throned with the Fa-ther and the Spir - it.

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



Who has sev - ered your gar-ment, O Sav - ior? It was Arius who divid-ed the



Trin - i - ty who is e - qual in glory and e - ter - nal maj - es - ty.

For he denied that you are one of the most ho-ly Trin - i - ty. He taught the  
 trans-gres-sing Nes-to - ri - us to say that the Vir-gin is not the Moth-er of God;  
 but the Coun - cil of Nicaea proclaimed you as the Son of God  
 who is en-throned with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.

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

De - clar - ing that the light could not be seen, A - rius fell into the pit of the  
 im - pi - ous ones; his bod - y was torn a-part by the jus - tice of God,  
 and he gave up his soul in a viol-ent man - ner. He was another Judas by his  
 thoughts and deeds. But the Coun - cil of Nicaea pro claimed you as the  
 Son of God who is en-throned with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.

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

①

The fool - ish A - rius divided the unity of the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty in - to  
three different and un - e - qual sub - stan - ces. But the God - bearing Fathers came  
to - geth - er in coun - cil. Burn - ing with the zeal of Elias the Tish - bite  
and with the sword of the Ho - ly Spir - it, they cut down these shame - ful  
blas - phem - ies; for they were di - rect - ed by the Ho - ly Spir - - - it.

**Cantor:** Glory ...

**Doxastikon of the Fathers of the Council of Nicaea - Tone 6**

Let us hon - or today those mystical trumpets of the Spir - it, name - ly the God -  
- man - tled Fa - thers, who, speak - ing of di - vine things,  
sang in the midst of the Church a hymn in u - ni - son, teach - ing that the

Trin - i - ty is one, not dif - fering in sub - stance or God - head,  
 re - fut - ing Arius and defending the true faith. They al - ways in - ter - cede  
 with the Lord to grant great mer - cy to our souls.

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

*Dogmatikon, Tone 6, p. 87.*

*The service continues on page 12 of the Vesper book.*

**Readings:** Genesis 14: 14 - 20 (EOT p. 301)  
 Deuteronomy 1: 8 - 11; 15 - 17  
 Deuteronomy 10: 14 - 21

*Aposticha of the Resurrection, Tone 6, p. 88.*

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Glory...

**Doxastikon of the Fathers of the Council of Nicaea - Tone 4**

O believers, let us come to-gether to-day to celebrate in faith and true wor-ship  
 the remembrance of the God-in-spired Fa - thers who had come together from  
 through-out the world in the splen-did city of Ni-cae - a. They rejected

the doctrine of the im-pi - ous A - ri - us and ban - ished him from the

u - ni - ver - sal Church by a de-cree of the Coun - cil. They instructed all

to profess openly the Son of God, that he is con - substantial and co-eternal with

the Father before e - ter - ni - ty, and they clear-ly wrote this in the Sym-bol of

Faith There - fore, following their di-vine doc - trine, let us wor - ship the Son

in true faith, to - geth - er with the Father and the Ho - ly Spir - it,

the Trinity, con-sub - stan - tial in one God - - - head.

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

**Theotokion of Ascension - Tone 4**

O Lord most mer - ci - ful, af - ter fulfilling the mystery hidden from all

e - ter - ni - ty, you, the Creator and Mas-ter of all, went up to the Mount

of Ol - ives with your dis - ci - ples and your Moth - er. For the one who,  
at the sight of your Pas - sion, had suf - fered more than anyone else in her  
moth - er - ly heart, had more than anyone else the right to share the joy that  
fills us as we witness your ascending in - to heav - en. We  
glo - rify your infin - ite mer - cy o - ver - flow - ing up - on us.

*The service continues on page 19.*

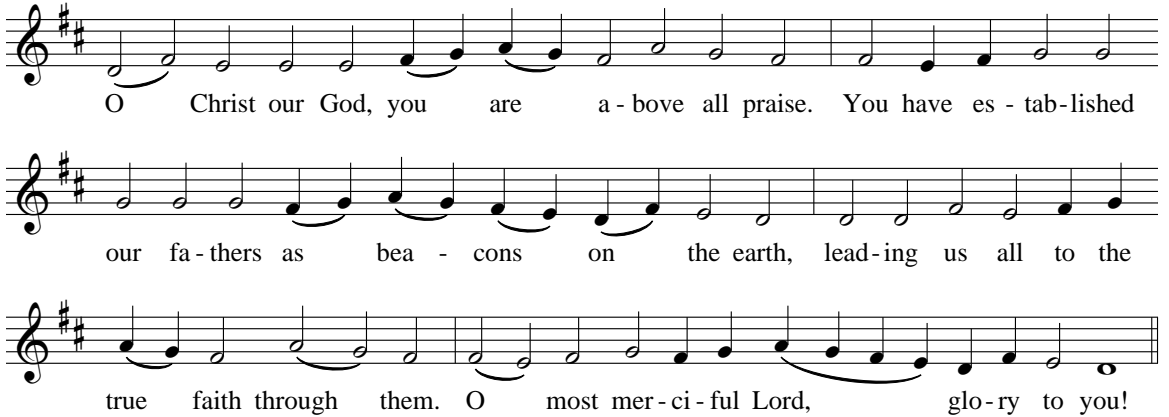


## Troparia

*Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 6, p. 91.*

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

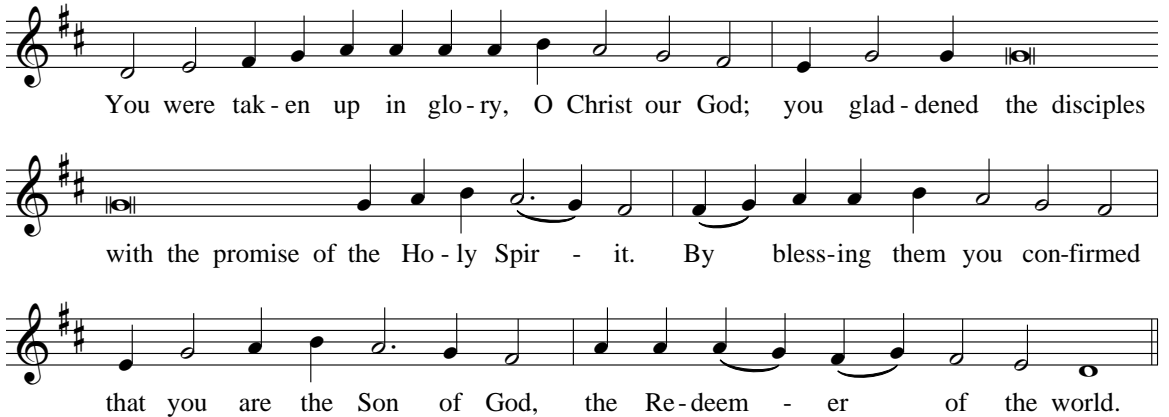
**Troparion of the Council Fathers - Tone 8**



O Christ our God, you are a - bove all praise. You have es - tab - lished  
our fa - thers as bea - cons on the earth, lead - ing us all to the  
true faith through them. O most mer - ci - ful Lord, glo - ry to you!

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

**Troparion of Ascension - Tone 4**



You were tak - en up in glo - ry, O Christ our God; you glad - dened the disciples  
with the promise of the Ho - ly Spir - it. By bless - ing them you con - firmed  
that you are the Son of God, the Re - deem - er of the world.

*The service continues on page 21.*