

# PRELUDING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

LORD, I CALL — TONE 6

Musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: LORD, I CALL UPON THEE, HEAR ME. HEAR ME, O LORD. LORD, I CALL UPON

Musical notation for the second system. The lyrics are: THEE, HEAR ME. RE - CEIVE THE VOICE OF MY PRAYER; WHEN I CALL UP -

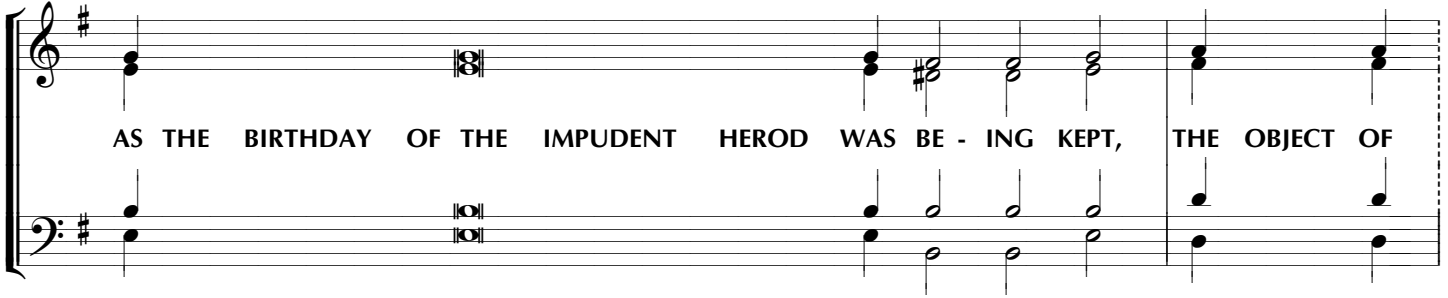
Musical notation for the third system. The lyrics are: ON THEE. HEAR ME, O LORD. LET MY PRAYER A - RISE, IN THY

Musical notation for the fourth system. The lyrics are: SIGHT AS IN - CENSE, AND LET THE LIFTING UP OF MY HANDS BE AN

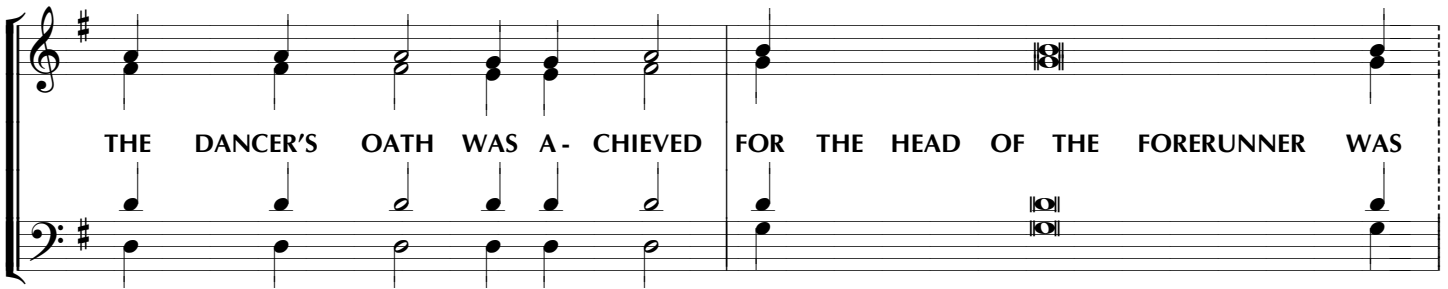
Musical notation for the fifth system. The lyrics are: EVE - NING SAC - RI - FICE. HEAR ME, O LORD.

8. Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice.  
7. Let Thy ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

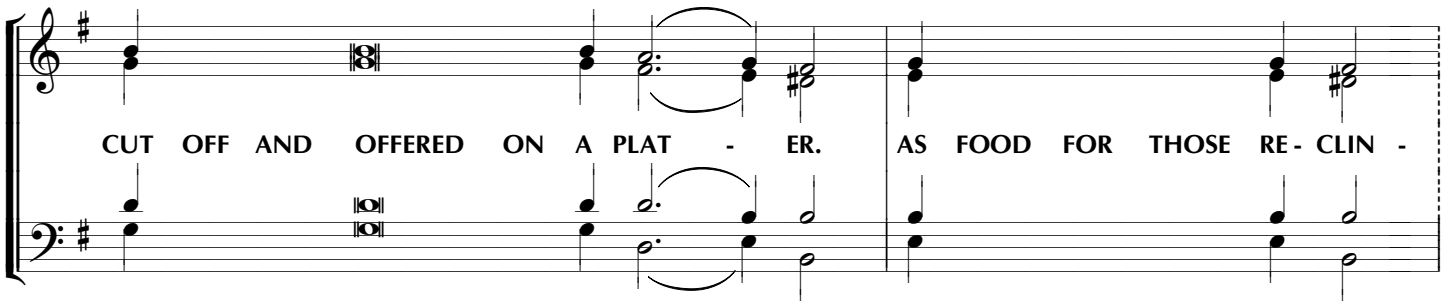
Verses 8 and 7



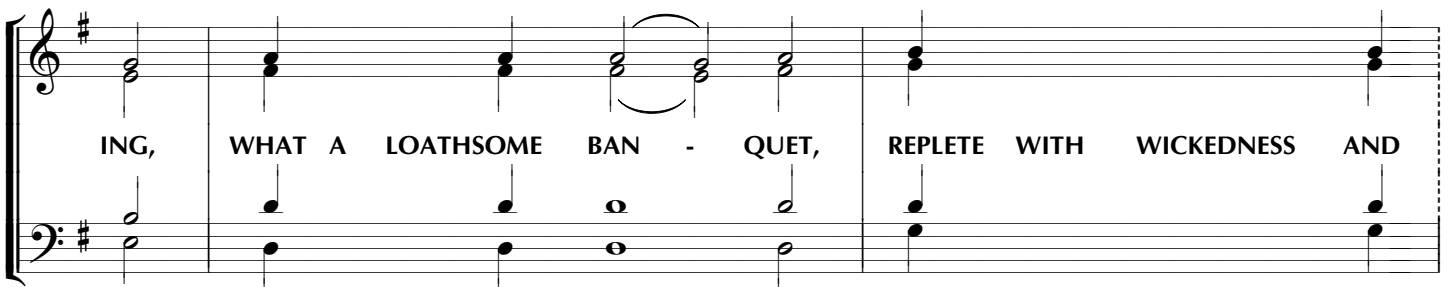
AS THE BIRTHDAY OF THE IMPUDENT HEROD WAS BE - ING KEPT, THE OBJECT OF




THE DANCER'S OATH WAS A - CHIEVED FOR THE HEAD OF THE FORERUNNER WAS



CUT OFF AND OFFERED ON A PLAT - ER. AS FOOD FOR THOSE RE - CLIN -



ING, WHAT A LOATHSOME BAN - QUET, REPLETE WITH WICKEDNESS AND



HOR - RI - BLE MUR - DER. AS FOR US, WE BLESS THE BAPTIZER HONORING HIM

AS IS MEET; FOR HE IS THE GREAT - EST BORN OF WO - MEN. *TWICE*

6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.  
 5. For Thy name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word, my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Verses 6 and 5

VERILY, THE DISCIPLE OF THE ALL - EVIL SATAN DID DANCE AND REMOVE YOUR

HEAD, O FORE - RUN - NER. WHAT A BLOODY BAN - QUET; AND WOULD THAT YOU HAD

NOT MADE THAT VOW, O WICK - ED HER - OD. BUT SINCE YOU MADE IT, IT

WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER THAT YOU HAD NOT CAR - RIED IT OUT, FOR IT WERE

BETTER TO HAVE FORE - SWORN YOURSELF AND RE - CEIVE LIFE THAN REMAINING

TRUE TO YOUR OATH TO HAVE CUT OFF THE HEAD OF THE FORE - RUN - NER. AS FOR

US, LET US BLESS THE BAPTIZER, HONOR - ING HIM AS IS MEET. FOR HE

IS THE GREAT - EST BORN OF WO - MEN. *TWICE*

- 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord.
- 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is redemption, and he will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Verses 4 and 3

IT WAS NOT WORTHY OF YOU, O HEROD, BECAUSE OF YOUR EVIL PAS - SION,

TO CONDEMN TO DEATH THE ONE WHO REPROACHED YOU FOR YOUR A-DUL - TER - Y.

IT WAS NOT WORTHY OF YOU TO ERR AND DELIVER HIS ALL HONORED HEAD TO A

TRANS - GRES - SING WO - MAN, FOR THE SAKE OF A VOW MADE TO A DAN - CER.

WOE TO YOU, HOW DID YOU DARE ACCOMPLISH SUCH MUR - DER. AND HOW WAS

IT THAT THIS ADULTEROUS DANCER WAS NOT CON - SUMED BY FIRE, AS SHE

CARRIED THE HEAD ON A PLATTER IN THE MIDST OF THE BAN - QUET. AS FOR US,

LET US BLESS THE BAPTIZER, HONOR - ING HIM AS IS MEET, FOR HE IS THE

GREAT - EST BORN OF WO - MEN. *TWICE*

2. Praise the Lord, all nations. Praise Him, all peoples.

1. For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Verses 2 and 1

AGAIN HERODIAS HAS LOST HER SELF - CON - TROL. A - GAIN SHE IS PER - TURBED.

WHAT DECEIVING DANCE AND WHAT INTOXICATION WITH CUN - ING. FOR THE

FORERUNNER'S HEAD WAS CUT OFF AND HEROD IS TROU - BLED. WHEREFORE, O LORD,

BY THE INTERCESSIONS OF THY FORE - RUN - NER, GRANT PEACE TO OUR SOULS. *TWICE*

Glory in the same tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Verses 8 and 7

AS THE BIRTHDAY OF THE IMPUDENT HEROD WAS BE - ING KEPT, THE OBJECT OF

THE DANCER'S OATH WAS A - CHIEVED FOR THE HEAD OF THE FORERUNNER WAS

CUT OFF AND OFFERED ON A PLAT - ER. AS FOOD FOR THOSE RE - CLIN -

ING, WHAT A LOATHSOME BAN - QUET, REPLETE WITH WICKEDNESS AND

HOR - RI - BLE MUR - DER. AS FOR US, WE BLESS THE BAPTIZER HONORING HIM

AS IS MEET; FOR HE IS THE GREAT - EST BORN OF WO - MEN.

Now and ever in the same tone: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

WHO WILL NOT BLESS YOU, O MOST HO - LY VIR - GIN? WHO WILL NOT SING OF YOUR

MOST PURE CHILD - BEAR - ING? THE ONLY - BEGOTTEN SON SHONE TIMELESSLY FROM



THE FA - THER. BUT FROM YOU HE WAS INEFFABLY IN - CAR - NATE. GOD BY

NATURE, YET MAN FOR OUR SAKE. NOT TWO PERSONS, BUT ONE, KNOWN IN TWO

NA - TURES. ENTREAT HIM, O PURE AND ALL - BLESSED LA - DY

TO HAVE MER - CY ON OUR SOULS.

O GLADSOME LIGHT  
 PROKIMENON OF THE DAY  
 THREE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

## **BEHEADING OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST**

### **The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah (Chs. 40, 41, 45, 48, 54)**

Thus saith the Lord: “Comfort, comfort My people,” says God. “Speak to the heart of Jerusalem, you Priests, comfort her, for her humiliation is increased, her iniquity is pardoned; for she has received from the Lord’s hand double for her sins. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight the paths of our God.’

“Go up to a high mountain, you who are proclaiming glad tidings to Zion, lift up your voice with strength, O herald of good tidings to Jerusalem. Lift it up, fear not! I the Lord God, I have heard the poor of Israel and will not forsake them. I will open rivers on the mountains, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the deserts pools of water, and the thirsty land springs of water. Let the heavens rejoice from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth bring forth, and let it sprout forth mercy and cause righteousness to shine forth also.”

“Declare this with a shout of joy, and let this be known, proclaim it to the end of the earth. Say, ‘The Lord had redeemed His servant Jacob!’ And if they thirst, he shall lead them through the desert, He shall bring forth water for them out of the rock. Rejoice, O barren one who did not bear; break forth *into singing* and cry aloud, you who have not been in travail! For more are the children of the desolate one than of her who has a husband.”

### **The Reading from the Prophecy of Malachi (Chs. 3,4)**

***Thus saith the Lord Almighty:*** “Behold, I send My messenger before Thy face, who shall prepare Thy way before thee, and the Lord whom you seek, shall come into His temple. But who can endure the day of His coming? For he is coming like the fire of a furnace and like the fuller’s herb; and he shall cleanse, refining and purifying, as it were, silver and gold. And he comes to you with judgment, and will be a swift witness against the evil ones and against adulterers, and against those who swear falsely by My name, against those who withhold the hireling’s wages, against those who oppress widows and beat orphans, against those who avoid judgment in favor of strangers, and against those who do not fear him,” saith the Lord Almighty.

“For I am the Lord your God, and I change not; and you, the sons of Jacob, have turned aside from the Law and have not kept it. Return to Me, therefore, and I will return to you,” says the Lord Almighty. “And all nations shall call you blessed, and they shall understand that I am the Lord, who distinguishes between the righteous and between the transgressors on that day, in which I shall act to spare those who love Me.”

“Know, therefore, and remember the Law of Moses, My servant, as I commanded you at Horeb, the statutes and ordinances for all Israel. And behold, I will send to you Elijah the Tishbite before the great and glorious day of the Lord comes, who shall turn the heart of a father to his son, and the heart of a man to his neighbor, lest I come quickly and smite the earth,” *saith the Lord Almighty, God, the Holy One of Israel.*

**The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (Chs. 4,5)**

The righteous man, though he die early, will be at rest. The righteous man who has died will judge the ungodly who are living. For they will see the end of the righteous, and will not understand what was said about him; for the Lord will cast down the ungodly speechless to the ground and shake them from the foundation; they shall become desolate to the end; they will be in sorrows, and their memory will perish. For they will come with fear at the thought of their sins, and their iniquities shall stand against them to convict them.

Then the righteous man will stand with great boldness before those who have afflicted him, and those who have made of no account his labors. Having seen it, they shall be troubled with much fear and they will be amazed at his most-glorious salvation. They will say within themselves in repentance, in anguish of spirit they will groan and say: “This was he whom he had sometimes in derision and a proverb of reproach—we fools! We accounted his life as madness, and his end to be without honor. How is he numbered among the sons of God? And why is his lot among the Saints?”

“Therefore, we have erred from the way of truth, and the light of righteousness did not illumine us, nor did the sun shine on us. We took our fill of the paths of lawlessness and destruction, and we walked impassible pathways, but the way of the Lord we have not known.”

# Litiya

## Tone 1 — Verse 1

WHAT SHALL WE CALL YOU PRO - PHET? ANGEL, APOSTLE, MAR - TYR:

AN - GEL, FOR YOU HAVE SPENT YOUR LIFE LIKE THOSE WHO HAVE NO BO - DY.

APOSTLE, FOR YOU HAVE TAUGHT THE NA - TIONS, AND MAR - TYR FOR

YOUR HEAD HAS BEEN CUT OFF FOR THE SAKE OF CHRIST. PRAY TO

HIM THEN THAT OUR SOULS MAY BE GRANTED GREAT MER - CY.

Verse 2

WE NOW CELEBRATE THE MEMORIAL OF THE BEHEADING OF THE FORE - RUN - NER:

AT THAT TIME YOU GUSHED FORTH BLOOD UPON THE PLAT - TER, AND

NOW YOU POUR FORTH HEALING TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

Verse 3

TO - DAY THE MO - THER OF MUR - DER ACTING WITH MORE WICKEDNESS

THAN HAS EV - ER BEEN SEEN, HAS ROUSED HER UTTERLY WANTON

DAUGH - TER TO EVIL AGAINST THE DIVINELY - CHOSEN AND GREATEST

OF ALL THE PRO - PHETS. FOR WHILE HATE - FUL HEROD WAS CELEBRATING

HIS UN - GOD - LY BIRTH - DAY, SHE CONTRIVED ACCORDING TO THE OATH HE

HAD GIVEN HER FOR HER DANC - ING, TO BEG FOR THE PRECIOUS HEAD OF

THE HER - ALD OF GOD, THAT GUSHED FORTH MIR - A - CLES.

AND HE, QUITE MAD, FUL - FILLED THE PRO - MISE AND GAVE HER THE SWORN

REWARD OF HER DANC - ING. BUT THE IN - I - TI - ATE OF THE COM - ING OF CHRIST

CEASED NOT AFTER DEATH TO REBUKE THEM FOR THEIR A - BOM -

IN - A - BLE UN - ION, BUT RE - PROVE THEM LOUD - LY SAY - ING:

IT DOES NOT BECOME YOU TO COMMIT ADULTERY WITH THE WIFE OF YOUR

BRO - THER PHIL - IP. WHAT BIRTH - DAY, KILLER OF PROPHETS AND FEAST

FULL OF BLOOD. LET US WITH RE - VER - ENT MINDS MAKING OUR - SELVES

WHITE AS SNOW, REJOICE ON THIS DAY AND KEEP THE FEAST. AND

LET US ASK THE FORERUNNER TO PROPITIATE THE TRIN - I - TY FOR US.

TO BE DELIVERED FROM THE DISGRACE OF THE PASSIONS AND TO SAVE OUR SOULS.



Glory in the 5th tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

HER - OD, INTENDING TO ESCAPE REPROACHES FOR HIS SIN - FUL DO - INGS,

GAVE YOUR HEAD, FORERUNNER, TO A LAW - LESS WO - MAN. FOR

THE WRETCH - ED MAN DID NOT KNOW THAT IN HAV - ING IT CARRIED

ROUND ON A PLATTER HE WAS RE - BUK - ING HIM - SELF. BUT AS A

TEACHER OF PURITY AND GUIDE TO REDEEMING RE - PENT - ANCE.

IN - TER - CEDE, O BAP - TIST WITH CHRIST FOR US TO BE DELIVERED

FROM THE DIS - GRACE OF THE PAS - IONS.

Now and ever in the same tone: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

IN THE RED SEA OF OLD, A TYPE OF THE VIRGIN BRIDE WAS FIG - URED.

THERE MO - SES DI - VI - DED THE WA - TERS; HERE GA - BRI - EL ASSISTED

IN THE MIR - A - CLE. THERE ISRAEL CROSSED THE SEA WITH - OUT GET - TING WET;

HERE THE VIRGIN GAVE BIRTH TO CHRIST WITH - OUT SEED. AF - TER IS -

RA - EL'S PASSAGE, THE SEA REMAINED IM - PASS - A - BLE. AFTER EMMANUEL'S

BIRTH, THE VIRGIN REMAINED A VIR - GIN. O EVER - EXISTING GOD WHO

AP - PEARED AS MAN, O LORD, HAVE MER - CY ON US.

Aposticha

JOHN THE BAPTIZER AND TEACHER OF RE - PENT - ANCE YOUR HEAD IS CUT

OFF AND THE WHOLE WORLD IS SANC - TI - FIED. YOU HAVE MADE GOD'S LAW

PLAIN TO THE FAITHFUL FORBIDDING DIS - O - BE - DI - ENCE. AS YOU STAND BEFORE

THE THRONE OF THE HEA - VEN - LY KING, ENTREAT HIM TO SAVE OUR SOULS.

**VERSE:** The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

O MOST HO - LY JOHN, YOU WERE BEHEADED FOR THE SAKE OF THE LAW.

FILLED WITH THE BOLD - NESS OF PUR - I - TY, YOU REBUKED THE EVIL KING

FOR HIS TRANS - GRES - SION. THE HOST OF AN - GELS MAR - VEL

AT YOUR STRENGTH; THE CHOIR OF APOSTLES AND MAR - TYRS PRAISE YOU.

WE ALSO HONOR YOUR ANNUAL MEM - O - RY GLO - RI - FY - ING THE HOLY

TRINITY WHO CROWNED YOU, O MOST BLESS - ED FORE - RUN - NER.

VERSE: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him.

YOU WERE GREATER THAN ALL THE PRO - PHETS, SANCTIFIED FROM YOUR

MOTHER'S WOMB TO THE LORD'S SER - VICE. TO - DAY YOUR BLOOD IS SHED

BY THE WICK - ED KING, BUT YOUR DEATH SHAMES THE SIN OF THE WAN - TON DAN -

CER. O BAPTIST JOHN, PRAY THAT OUR SOULS MAY BE SAVED.

Glory in the 8th tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

O FORE - RUN - NER OF THE SAV - IOR, YOU REBUKED THE EVIL OF

A PRINCE OF THIS WORLD, AND SO BECAUSE OF HIS LUST YOU WERE

BE - HEAD - ED. THEREFORE WE BLESS YOUR NAME FROM THE RISING

TO THE SET - TING OF THE SUN. SINCE YOU STAND WITH BOLD - NESS BE -

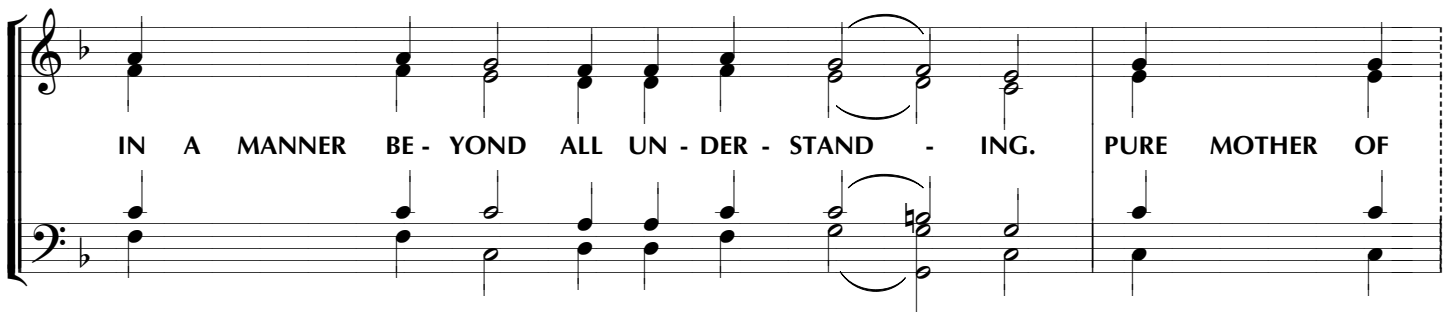
FORE THE LORD, TO - GET - HER WITH HIS MOTHER BEG HIM TO

SAVE OUR SOULS.

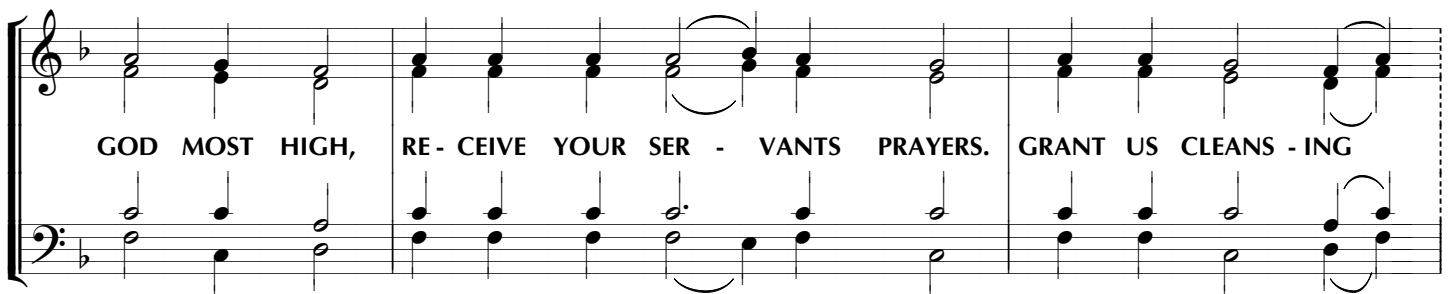
Now and ever in the same tone: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



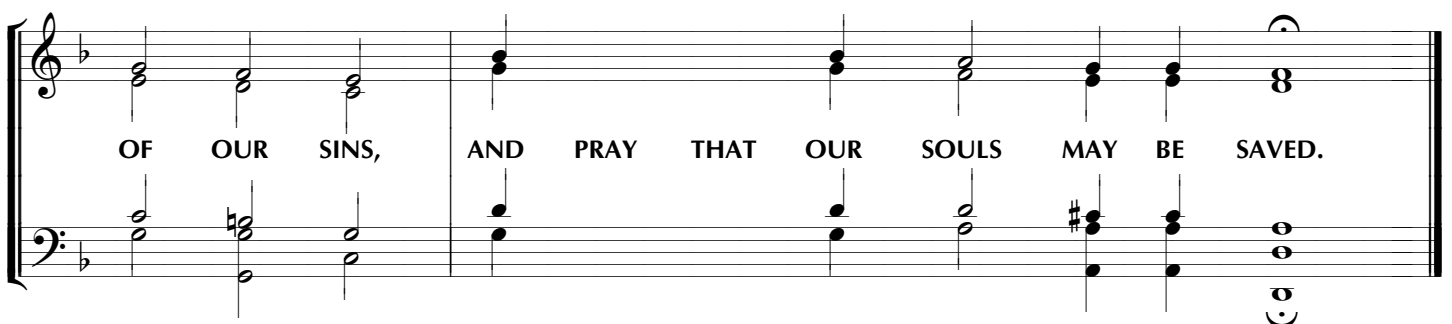
O UN - WED - DED VIR - GIN, YOU CON - CEIVED GOD IN THE FLESH



IN A MANNER BE - YOND ALL UN - DER - STAND - ING. PURE MOTHER OF



GOD MOST HIGH, RE - CEIVE YOUR SER - VANTS PRAYERS. GRANT US CLEANS - ING



OF OUR SINS, AND PRAY THAT OUR SOULS MAY BE SAVED.

St. Simeon's Prayer  
Trisagion



# BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

## Troparion

Tone 2

THE MEM - O - RY OF THE JUST IS CELEBRATED WITH HYMNS OF PRAISE,

BUT THE LORD'S TESTIMONY IS ENOUGH FOR YOU, O FORE - RUN - NER.

YOU WERE SHOWN IN TRUTH TO BE THE MOST HONORABLE OF THE PRO -

PHETS, FOR YOU WERE DEEMED WORTHY TO BAPTIZE IN THE STREAMS OF THE

JORDAN HIM WHOM THEY FORE - TOLD THERE - FORE, HAVING SUFFERED

FOR THE TRUTH WITH JOY, YOU PROCLAIMED TO THOSE IN HELL

GOD WHO AP - PEARED IN THE FLESH, WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD,

AND GRANTS US GREAT MER - CY.

# BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

## Kontakion

Tone 5



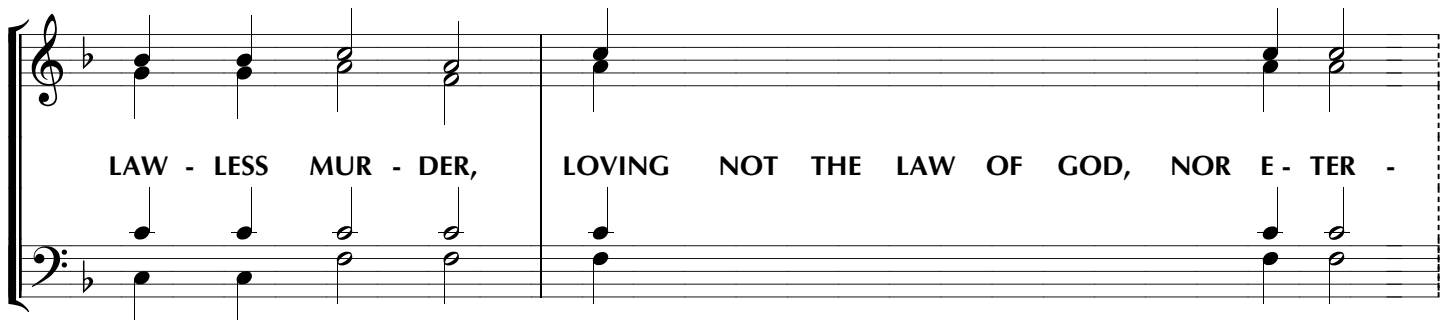
THE GLO - RIOUS BEHEADING OF THE FORE - RUN - NER BECAME AN ACT OF



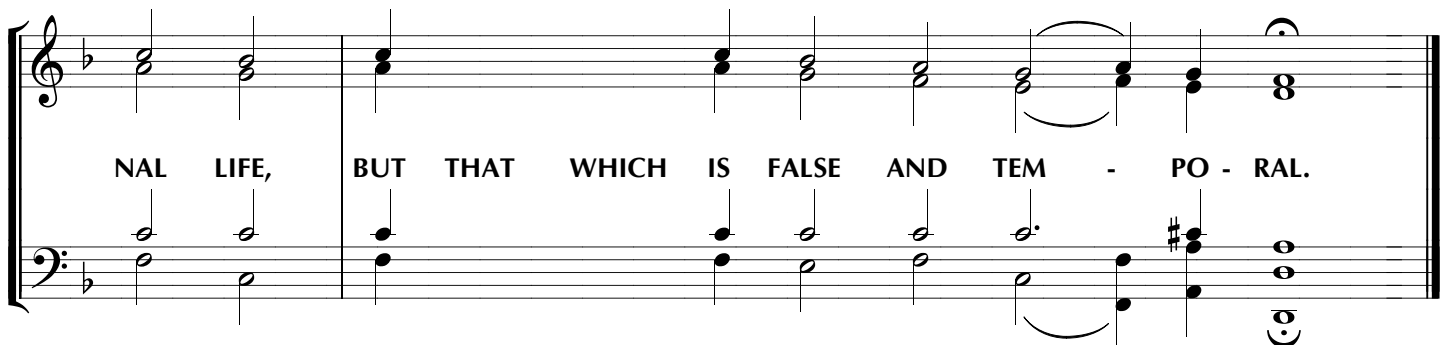
DIVINE DIS - PEN - SA - TION FOR HE PREACHED TO THOSE IN HELL THE COMING



OF THE SAV - IOR. LET HE - RO - DI - AS LAMENT, FOR SHE ENTREATED



LAW - LESS MUR - DER, LOVING NOT THE LAW OF GOD, NOR E - TER -



NAL LIFE, BUT THAT WHICH IS FALSE AND TEM - PO - RAL.

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

## Prokimenon

Tone 7

THE RIGHT - EOUS SHALL RE - JOICE IN THE LORD, AND SHALL HOPE IN HIM.

Verse: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to Thee: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

## Communion Hymn

THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL BE IN EVERLASTING RE - MEM - BRANCE; HE SHALL NOT

FEAR E - VIL TID - INGS. ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, AL - LE - LU - IA.

**EPISTLE READING**  
**BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**ACTS CHAPTER 13:25-32**

**Priest:** Let us attend. Peace be unto all.

**Reader:** And to your spirit.

**Priest:** Wisdom!

**Reader:** The Prokimenon in the 7<sup>th</sup> Tone:  
The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in him.

**VERSE:** Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer; preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

**Reader:** The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord.

**Priest:** Wisdom!

**Reader:** The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.

**Priest:** Let us attend.

**Reader:** In those days, as John was finishing his work, he said, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.’ “My brothers, you descendants of Abraham’s family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent. Because the residents of Jerusalem and their leaders did not recognize him or understand the words of the prophets that are read every Sabbath, they fulfilled those words by condemning him. Even though they found no cause for a sentence of death, they asked Pilate to have him killed. When they had carried out everything that was written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead; and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, and they are now his witnesses to the people. And we bring you the good news that what God promised to our ancestors.

**Alleluia Verses:**

1. The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, like the cedars of Lebanon he shall increase.
2. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.