

**Divine Liturgy Variables on the Fortieth Day after Pascha
Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

REFRAINS OF THE FIRST ANTIPHON

1. O clap your hands, all ye peoples; shout unto God with the voice of exultation.
2. For the Lord Most High is terrible; He is a great King over all the earth. He hath subdued the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet.

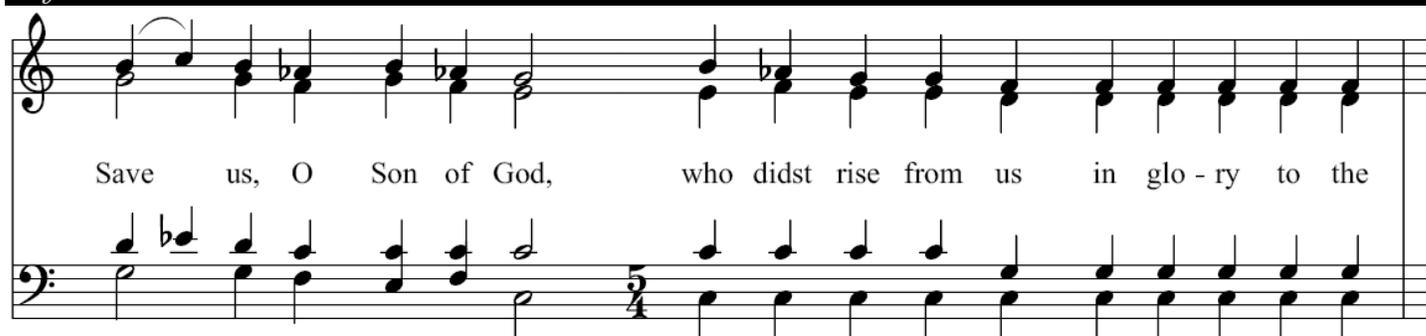
THE SECOND ANTIPHON (g – BGDB)

Ascension:

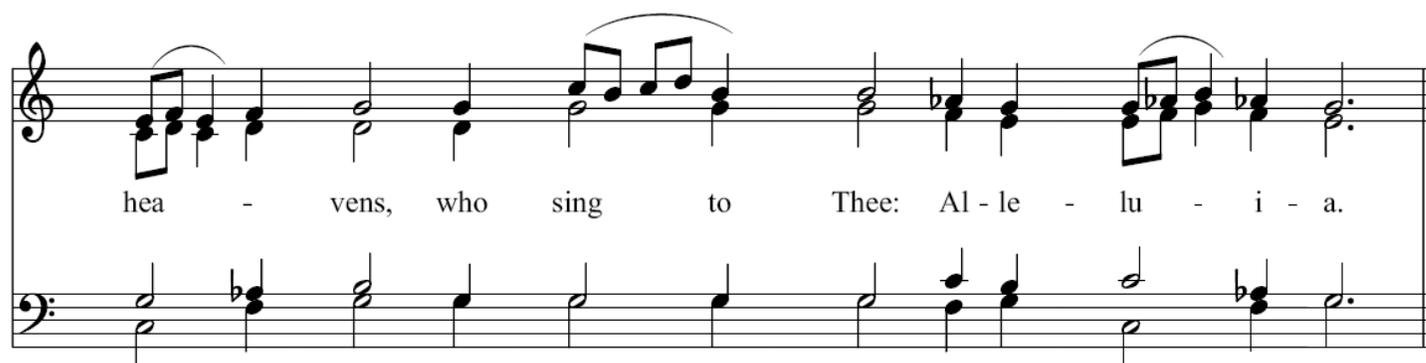
Reader: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in His holy mountain. The mountains of Sion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. *(Refrain)*

Reader: God is known in her towers when He cometh to help her. For lo, the kings of the earth were assembled; they came together. *(Refrain)*

Refrain:

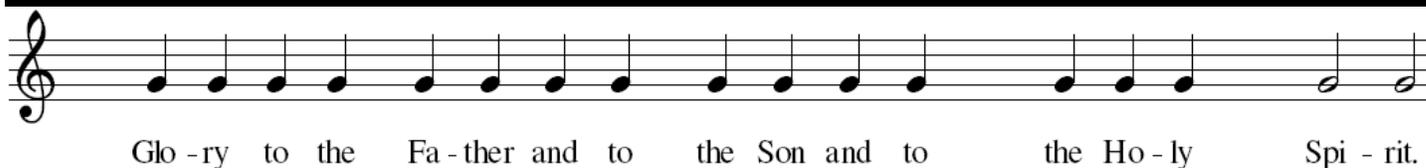


Save us, O Son of God, who didst rise from us in glo - ry to the



hea - vens, who sing to Thee: Al - le - lu - i - a.

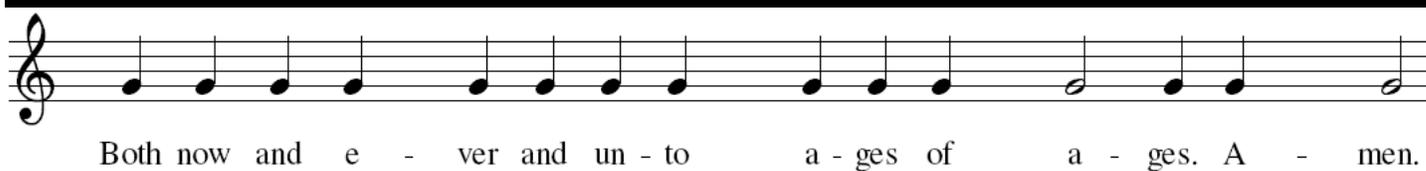
All:



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit.

All: *(Refrain)*

All:



Both now and e - ver and un - to a - ges of a - ges. A - men.

REFRAINS OF THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the earth. My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. I will incline mine ear to a parable; I will open my dark saying upon the harp.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ASCENSION IN TONE **FOUR**

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, having become confident of the blessing. Verily, Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world. (**cadence**)

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE FEAST

God hath asc - en - ded in ju - bi - la - tion, the Lord with the voice of the

tru - mpet. Save us, O Son of God, who didst rise from

us in glo - ry to the hea - vens, who sing to Thee: Al - le -

lu - i - a.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ASCENSION IN TONE **FOUR**

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, having become confident of the blessing. Verily, Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

DO NOT SING “WHEN THOU O LORD...”

KONTAKION OF THE ASCENSION IN TONE **SIX**

When Thou didst fulfill Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting the terrestrials with the celestials, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, inseparable in space, but constant without separation, and crying unto Thy beloved, I am with you, and no one shall be against you. (**cadence**)

THE EPISTLE

O God, be exalted above the heavens; and Thy glory above all the earth.

O God, my heart is ready.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (1:1-12)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the Apostles whom He had chosen. To them He presented Himself alive after His passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, “You heard from Me; for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” So when they had come together, they asked Him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.” And when He had said this, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, Who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (24:36-53)

At that time, after rising from the dead, Jesus Himself stood among His Disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." But they were startled and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; handle Me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, and He took it and ate before them. Then He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about Me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high." Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands He blessed them. While He blessed them, He parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

MEGALYNARION FOR THE FEAST IN TONE FIVE

In unison we believers do magnify thee, because thou didst give birth in time to the Word not bound by time; and in a manner transcending every mind and utterance, thou became the Theotokos. (*cadence*)

KOINONIKON FOR THE ASCENSION

God hath ascended in jubilation, the Lord with the voice of the trumpet. Alleluia.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN)
FOR THE ASCENSION IN TONE EIGHT

God is gone up in jubilation,

the Lord with the voice of the trumpet.

Reader:

1. O chant unto our God, chant ye; chant unto our King, chant ye.
2. For God is king of all the earth, O chant ye with understanding.
3. God is king over the nations, God sitteth upon His holy throne.

Instead of singing “We have seen the true light”, sing the Apolytikion of the Ascension:

APOLYTIKION OF THE ASCENSION IN TONE **FOUR**

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, having become confident of the blessing. Verily, Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world. (**cadence**)