

After reading the three (3) Psalms beginning with "Blessed is the man . . .," sing "Lord, I have cried unto thee . . ." in Tone 6, as on page 72 of the Byzantine Vespers Project by Kazan. Then account for six Verses and the Idiomela for the Feast, as on pages 81-87 of this book.

Then sing "Glory to the Father . . .," and repeat the first Idiomelon, as on page 81 of this book, followed by "Both now . . ." and the Theotokion, "Who shall not magnify thee . . .," as on pages 83-84 of the Byzantine Vespers Project.

Following "Gladsome Light" and the Daily Prokeimenon, read the following Old Testament Passages for the feast:

- 1) *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1 (Composite)*
- 2) *3:1-3, 5-7, 12, 18; 4:4-6 (Composite)*
- 3) *Wisdom of Solomon 4:7, 16, 17, 19-20; 5:1-7 (Composite)*

Then continue with the litanies, and the Aposticha of the Feast, as on pages 88-90 of this book. Then sing "Glory to the Father . . ." and "Both now and ever . . .," each with their respective stichera, as on pages 91-92 of this book.

Following St. Simeon's Prayer and the Trisagion Prayers, sing the Troparion of the Feast twice, as on page 93 of this book, followed by the Theotokion in Tone 2, as on page 164 of the Byzantine Vespers Project.

On "God the Lord hath appeared unto us . . .," sing the Troparion of the Feast, "The memory of the righteous is in praise . . .," as on page 93 of this book, and its Theotokion, "Exceeding glorious . . .," as on page 13 of the Byzantine Matins Project by Kazan. This is followed by reading the Kathismata, as on pages 597-598 in The Divine Prayers and Services by Nassar.

After the Anabathmoi "From my youth . . .," as on page 63 of the Byzantine Matins Project, sing the Prokeimenon of the Feast, as on page 94 of this book. Following Psalm 50, sing "Glory" and "Through the intercessions of the Forerunner . . .," as on page 94 of this book, and the usual "Both now" and "Through the intercessions of the Theotokos . . .". Following "Have mercy on me . . .," sing "O John the Baptizer . . .," as on page 88 of this book.

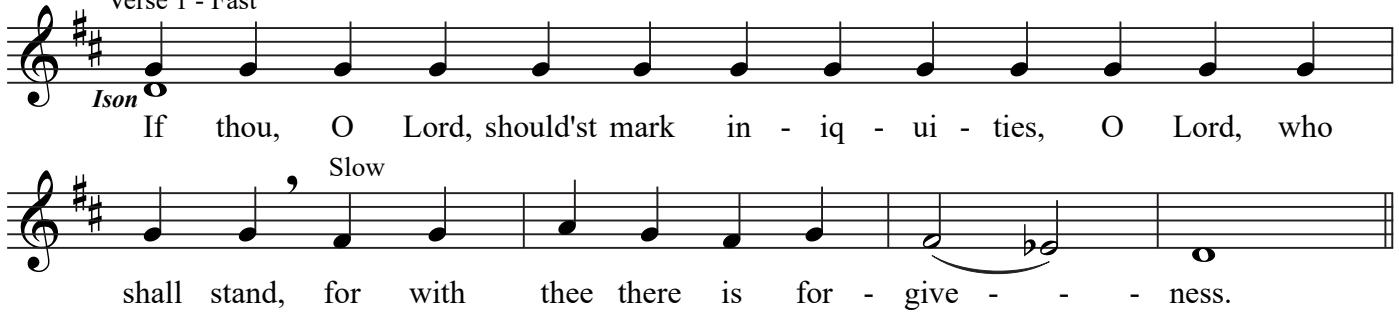
Sing the Katabasiae of the Cross, Odes 1-8, as on pages 65-69 in the September Menaion by Kazan, then "More honorable . . .," and the 9th Ode of the Cross, as on page 70 for September.

Now sing the Exaposteilaria, as on pages 94-95 of this book, followed by the Praises, as on pages 96-99 of this book. Then sing the "Glory" and "Both now" in Tone 6, as on pages 100-101.

Conclude with the Great Doxology in Tone 6, as on page 225 in the Byzantine Matins Project, followed by the Troparion of the Feast, as on page 93 of this book.

Verse 1 - Fast

Ison



Slow

Idiomelon 1



As for us, we bless____ the Bap - - tiz - er,

hon - or - ing him as is meet, for he is the great - est
born of wom - - - an.

Verse 2 - Fast

Be - cause of thy name have I wait - ed for thee O Lord, my
soul hath wait - ed up - on thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

After completing Verse 2, repeat Idiomelon 1, "As the birthday . . . , then sing Verse 3 and continue.

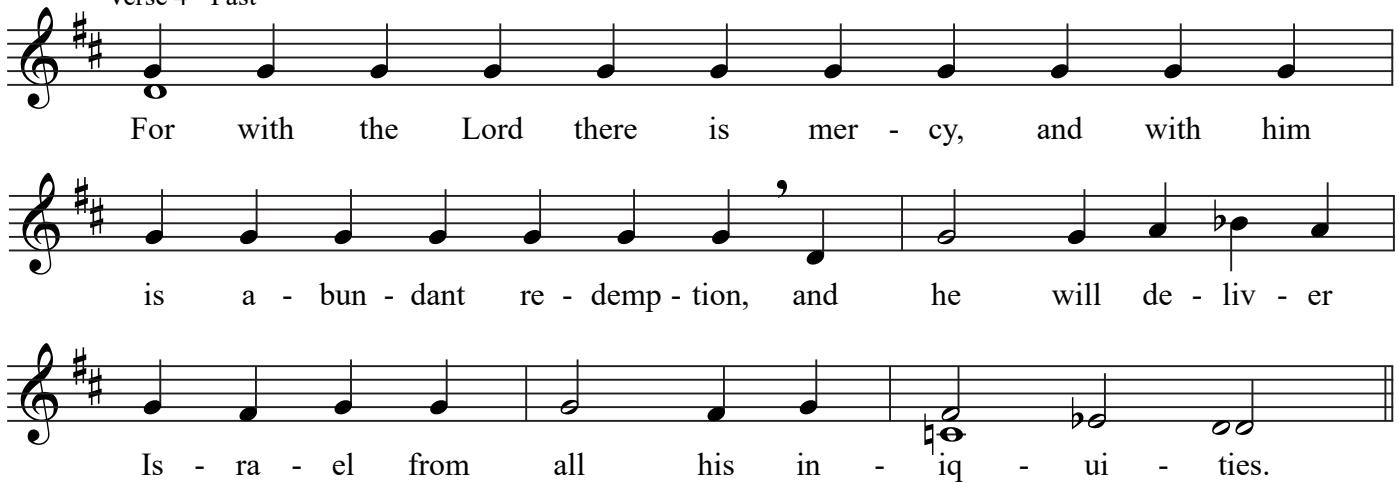
Verse 3 - Fast

From the morn - ing watch un - til night, from the morn - ing watch, let
Slow
Is - ra - el trust in the Lord.

Idiomelon 2

Ver - i - ly, the dis - ci - ple of the all - - ē - vil
Sa - tan did dance and re - move thy
head, O Fore - run - ner, as a hire.

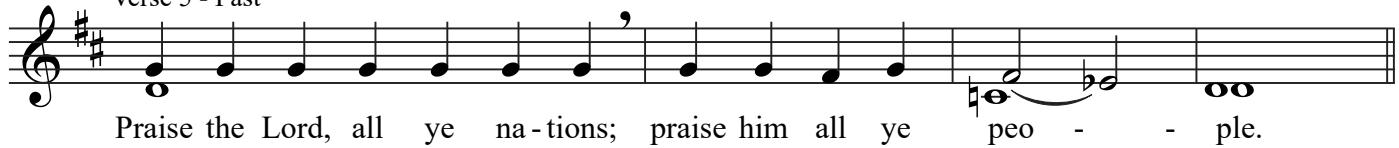
Verse 4 - Fast



For with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is a abundant redemption, and he will deliver Is - ra - el from all his in - iq - ui - ties.

After completing Verse 4, sing Idiomelon 2, "Verily, the disciples . . .," then sing Verse 5 and continue.

Verse 5 - Fast



Praise the Lord, all ye na-tions; praise him all ye peo - - - ple.

Idiomelon 3



It was not wor - thy of thee, O Her - od, to con-demn to death, be - cause of a sa - tan - ic pas - - sion, him who re - proached thee for thine a - adul - ter - y, and the fol - ly of thy fem - i - nine pro - pen - si - ty. Nay, it was not wor - thy of thee to

err _____ and de - liv - - er his all - - hon - oured

head to a trans - gress-ing wom - - an for the sake of a vow

made to a danc - - - - er. Woe _____ to

thee, how didst thou dare ac - com - plish such mur - - der!

And how was it that this a - dul - ter - ous danc - - er was

not con - sumed by fire in the midst of the ban - - quet as she

car - - ried the head on a charg - - - - er?

As for us, let us bless____ the Bap - - tiz - - er,

hon - - - or - ing him____ as is meet; for

he is the great - - est born of____ wom - - - en.

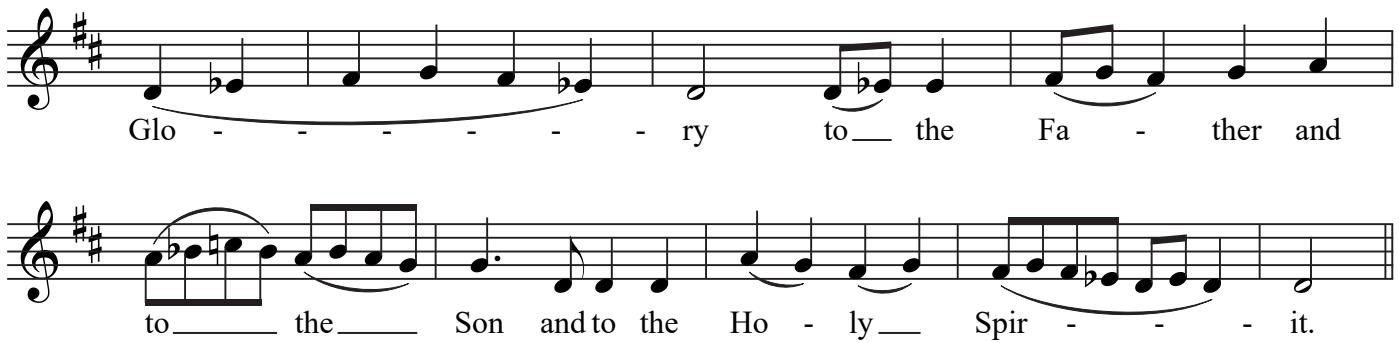
Verse 6 - Fast

Slow

For his mer - cy is great t'ward us and the truth_ of the Lord en - dur - eth for - ev - - - er.

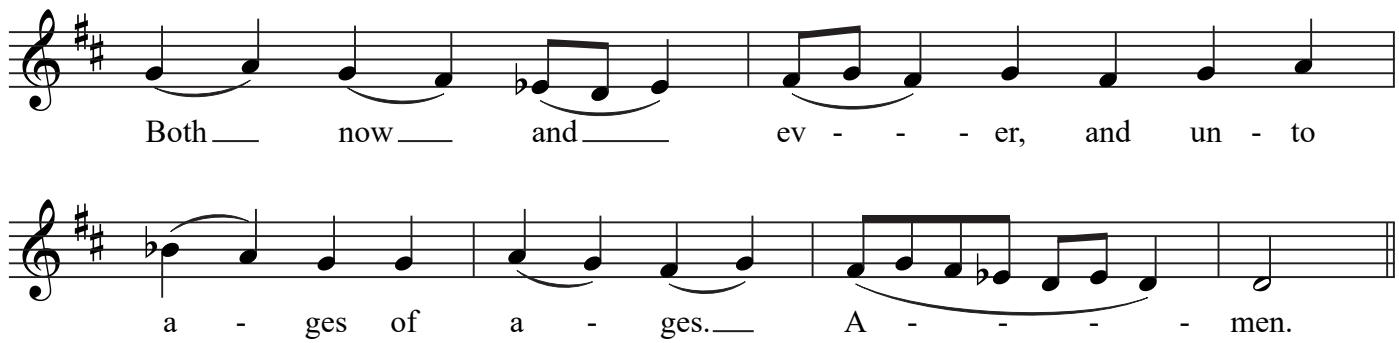
Idiomelon 4

Yea, a - gain He - ro - di - as hath lost_ her_ self - con - trol;
a - gain____ she is per - turbed! What de-ceiv-ing dance, and
what in - tox - i - ca - tion with cun - - - ning!
For the Fore - run - ner's head was cut off, and
Her - od is troub - - - led. Where - fore, O Lord,
by the in - ter - ces - sions of thy____ Fore - run - ner, grant
peace _____ to our_____ souls.



Glo - - - - ry to the Fa - - ther and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - - - it.

After singing the "Glory . . ." in Tone 6, sing the first Idiomelon of this Vesper Service, "As the birthday of the impudent Herod . . ." on page 81 of this book. Then sing the "Both now" as below.



Both now and ev - - - er, and un - to
a - ges of a - ges. A - - - men.

Now sing the Theotokion "Who shall not magnify thee, most holy Virgin . . ." in Tone 6, as on pages 83-84 of the Byzantine Vespers Project by Kazan.
Following Gladsome Light and the Daily Prokeimenon, read the following Old Testament Passages for the feast:

- 1) Isaiah 40:1-5, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1 (Composite)
- 2) 3:1-3, 5-7, 12, 18; 4:4-6 (Composite)
- 3) Wisdom of Solomon 4:7, 16, 17, 19-20; 5:1-7 (Composite)

Then continue with the usual litanies and the following Aposticha.

Aposticha - Tone 2

O John the Bap - tiz - er and preach-er of re - pent - ence,
thou didst sanc - ti - fy the earth when thy head was
cut off; for thou didst make plain to be - liev - ers the
law of God, a - bol - ish - ing dis - o - be - di - ence
to the law. Where - fore, since thou
stand - est by the throne of Christ, the heav'n - ly
King, be - seech him to have
mer - - cy on our souls.

Stichos

The just shall flour - ish like the palm tree.

O most ho - ly John, thy ____ head was cut off for the law ____ of the Lord; for in blame - less priv - i - lege thou ____ didst re - proach the ē in - fi - del king when he ____ dis - o - beyed the law. Where-fore, do the hosts of an - gels won - der at thee, and the ranks of A - pos - tles and Mar - tyrs praise ____ thee. And we, ____ too, ____ hon - or thy ____ year - - ly me - mo - ri - al, O most ____ no - ble one, glo - ri - fy - ing the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty which hath crowned ____ thee, O bless - ed ____ Fore - run - ner.

Stichos

The just shall re - joice in ____ the Lord.

Ver - i - ly, the Proph - et of Proph - ets, he who be - came
great - er than the Proph - ets, san - ti - fied from his moth - er's
womb for the serv - ice of the Lord, to - day had his head
cut - off by an ē - - - vil king. And the
maid - en who danced in - so - lent - ly, he re - buked
o - pen - ly, be - fore his be - head - ing and af - ter it, thus
sham - ing the pro - ces - sion of sin.
Where-fore, we shout, O John the Bap - tiz - er,
hav - ing ac - quired fa - vor, be - seech -
cease - less - ly for our souls.

Glory - Tone 8 - Slow

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Thou didst rebuke kings, O Forerunner of the

Savior, that they might not act contrary to the law. But the frolicking of an iniquitous woman

won over Her od to cut off thy head.

Therefor, is thy name praised from the place of rising to the place of

setting of the sun. And since thou hast

favor with the Lord, be - seech him cease - less - ly

for the salvation of our souls.

Both now and ev - er, and un - to a - ges of a - ges. A - men.

O Groom - less Vir - gin, who didst con - ceive God in an in - ex - pli - - - ca - ble man - ner,

ac - cept the pe - ti - tions of thy ser - vant, O all blame-less Moth - er of the high - God, giv - - ing to them all pu - ri - fi - ca - tion from guilt, as thou re - ceiv - est our pe - ti - tions, im - plore the sal - va - tion of us all.

*Continue with St. Simeon's Prayer and the Trisagion Prayers,
and then sing the Troparion of the Feast twice, as on the following page.*

The mem - o - ry of the right - eous is in praise. And
thee, Fore - run - - - ner, the tes - ti - mo - ny of the
Lord suf - fic - eth; for in truth thou hast been re - vealed as
no - - - bler than all the Proph - - - ets, for
hav - ing been con - sid - ered wor - thy to bap - tize in the run - ning
wa - - - ters him who was preached. There - fore, thou didst
strive for the truth hap - pi - ly. Thou didst pro - claim -
God to those in Ha - - des, ap - pear - ing in the
bod - y, the Lift - er up of the sin of the world, who
grant - eth us the Great Mer - - - - - cy.

*Now sing the Theotokion in Tone 2, "Exceeding glorious . . . ,"
as on page 164 of the Byzantine Vespers Project.*

Pre-cious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saint.

Verse

What shall I ren-der un - to the Lord for all that He hath ren-dered un - to me?

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saint.

Following Psalm 50, sing "Glory to the Father . . ." in Tone 2, as usual, and the following.

Through the in - ter - ces - sions of the Fore - run - ner, O thou who art
mer - ci - ful, blot out all the mul - ti - tude of our trans-gres - sions.

Continue with the usual "Both now" for the Theotokos; then "Have mercy on me . . ." and the Idiomelon "O John the Baptizer . . ." in Tone 6, as on page 88 of this book.

The Katabasiae are for the Cross, as on pages 65-69 in the September Menaion by Kazan, followed by "More honorable . . ." and the 9th Ode of the Cross, as on page 70 in September. Then sing the following Exaposteilaria.

Special melody: *While Thy disciples looked on Thee* - Tone 2

Let us crown with songs of praise the Fore - run - ner, known to be
great-er than the Proph - ets, and be-come fore - most of thē A - pos - - tles; for
his head was cut off will - ing - ly for the true law,

which is the law, of the Lord _____ God.

Special melody: *Thou Who as God adornest* - Tone 3

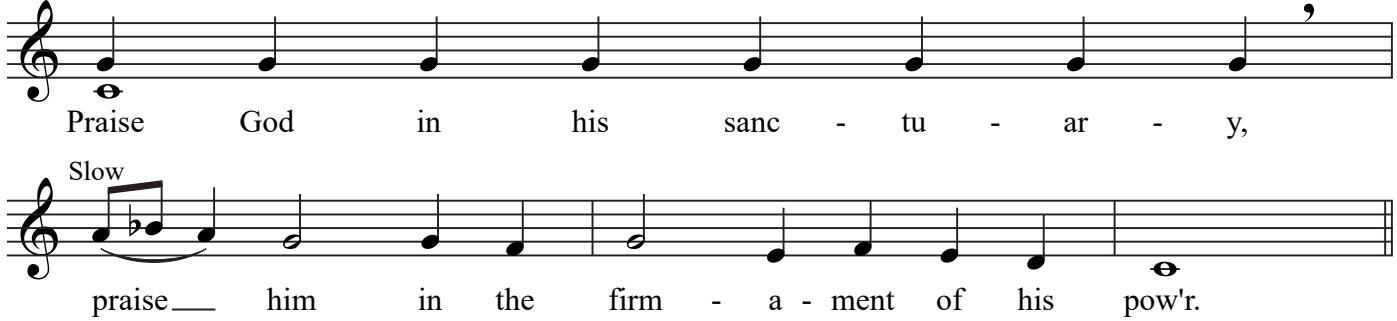
The adulterous Herod _____ cut thy head off deceit - ful - ly, O Bap - tiz - er of the Lord _____ and sower of pu - ri - ty; for he could not cut _____ com - plete - ly the re - proach____ of thy _____ tongue.

Same melody - Tone 3

O thou un - de - filed Maid, _____ by whose di - vine _____ birth - giv - ing thou_ hast re - moved the curse from_ the world, _____ save_ thy fold which be - seech - eth thee_ in faith, and de - liv - er it by thine in - ter - ces - - sions _____ from sun - dry dan - - gers.

First sing "Let everything that hath breath . . ." in Tone 8, as on page 159 of the Byzantine Matins Project by Kazan, and then the following Verses and Prosomia.

Verse 1 - Fast



Praise God in his sanc - tu - ar - y,
praise him in the firm - a - ment of his pow'r.

Special melody: *O strange wonder*
Prosomion 1



How strange a won - der! The no - ble head
of the Fore - run - ner, re - respect - ed of
an - gels and re - proach - ing the law - trans - gress - ing tongue, a
danc - ing, a - dul - ter - ous maid did car - ry and
of - - fer - to her im - mor - al and
all - de - filed - moth - er. Ah! - for thy sur -
- pass - - - ing for - bear - ance, O - Christ,

Lov - er of man - kind, through it save - our souls; for
thou a - lone art com - pas - - - sion - ate.

Verse 2 - Fast

Slow

Praise him for his might - y acts, praise him ac -
- cord - ing to his ex - cel - lent great - ness.

After Verse 2, repeat Prosomion 1, "How strange a wonder!"

Then sing Verse 3, as below, and continue with Prosomion 2.

Verse 3 - Fast

Praise him with the sound of the trum - pet,
praise him with the psal - ter - y and harp.

Prosomion 2

Ah! for the se - duc - tion of Her - od, who, dis - grac - ing
God by his dis - o - be - di - ence of the
law, pre - tend - ed de - ceit - ful - ly and

cun - ning - ly to keep his oath, add - ing mur - der
to a - adul - ter - y, and af - fect - ing (and pre - tend - ing) a frown.
Ah! for thy sur - pass - ing com - pas - sion, O
Mas - ter, Christ our Lord. Through it de - liv - er our
souls for thou a - lone art com - pas - sion - ate.

Verse 3 - Fast

Slow

Praise him with the tim - brel and dance, praise him with stringed
in - stru - ments and or - - - gans.

Prosomion 3

What an a - ston - - ish - ing thing, sur - pass - ing the
mind, that the seal of the Proph - ets and the earth - ly
an - - gel was of - fered as a prize

for an im - mor - - al dance. And the tongue

con - stant - ly speak - ing of God pre - ceed - eth

and is sent to preach Christ to those who are in ha - des.

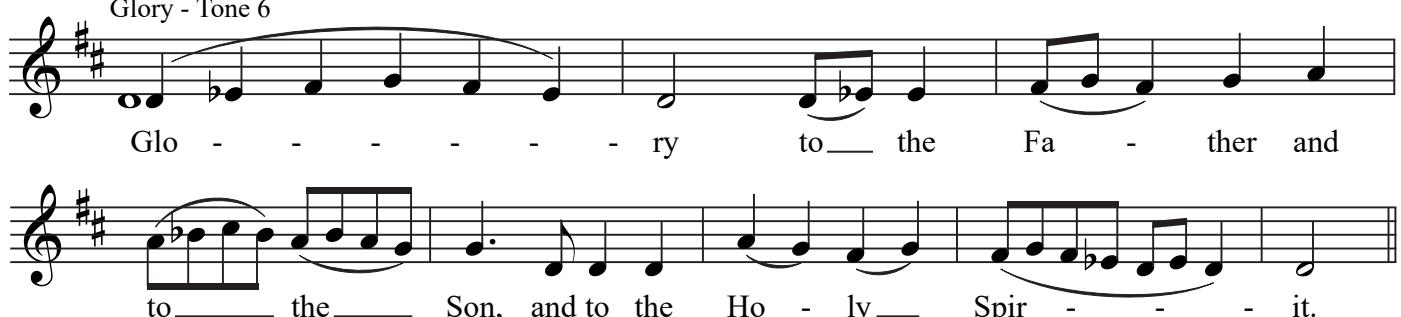
Ah! for thy sur - pass - ing prov - i - dence,

Christ Mas - ter. Through it save__ and pro - tect__ our

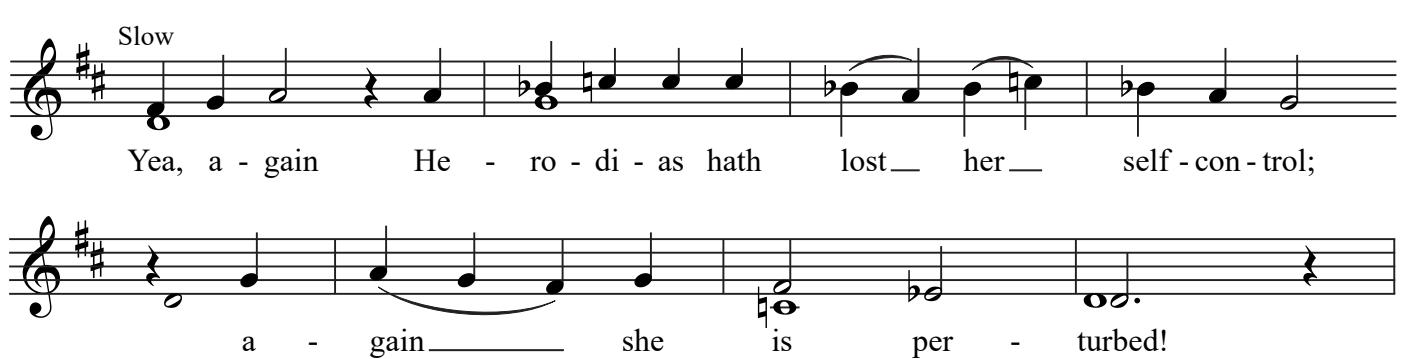
souls, (O Sav - ior and pro - tec - tor,)__ for

thou a - lone art com - pas - - sion - ate.

Glory - Tone 6



Slow



What de - ceiv - ing dance, and what in - tox - i - ca - tion with cun - - - - ning! For the Fore - run - ner's head was cut off, and Her - od is troub - - - led.



Both Now - Tone 6

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages.
Amen.

Thou art the true vine, O Theotokos
bear - ing the Fruit of life. Thee do we im - plore.
Where - fore, O La - dy, in - ter - cede __

thou to - geth - er with the A - pos - tles and with all the saints,
for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

Continue with the Great Doxology in Tone 6, as on page 225 in the Byzantine Matins Project, followed by the Troparion of the Feast, as on page 93 of this book.