

December 6: Stichera of the Praises

Reader: Glory, in the 5th Tone:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi - - - - rit.

Rejoicing, let us sound the trumpet of festal hymns, /
let us leap up and join chorus /
on this the God-bearing father's prayerful celebration. /
Let kings and princes come together, /
and let them praise him who by his dread appearance in a dream /
prevailed upon the emperor to release the three warriors who were unjustly imprisoned. /
O ye teachers and pastors of the good Shepherd, /
assembling, let us praise the pastor who showed forth love like His. /
And lauding the great hierarch, /
the physician of the infirm, the deliverer of those in misfortune, /
the helper of sinners, /
the treasure of the poor, the consoler of the sorrowful, /
the companion of those who travel, /
the helmsman of those at sea, /
who fervently anticipateth the needs of all in every place, /
let us say thus: O all-holy Nicholas, /
come forth and deliver us from these present tribulations, //
and save thy flock by thy supplications!

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Reader: Both now... in the same tone. (Tone 5)

Both now and ever, and unto the a - ges of a - - - - ges. A-men.

Let us sound the trumpet of hymns; /
for bowing down from on high, /
the Virgin Mother, the Queen of all, /
crowneth with blessings those who hymn her. /
Let kings and princes come together, and let them clap their hands in hymns /
before the Queen who gave birth to the King /
Who, in His love for mankind, hath been well-pleased
to loose those held fast by death from of old. /
Ye pastors and teachers, assembling, /
let us praise the all-pure Mother of the good Shepherd. /
And with divinely voiced hymns praising the golden lampstand, /
the Light-bearing cloud, the animate ark more spacious than the heavens, /
the fiery throne of the Master, /
the golden jar that held the Manna, /
the portal of the Word which is shut, the refuge of all Christians, /
let us say thus: O palace of the Word, /
vouchsafe the kingdom of heaven unto us, the lowly; //
for nought is impossible to thy mediation!

English translation by Isaac E. Lambertsen, ©1996, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol. IV,
St. John of Kronstadt Press. The complete service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org