August 6th
Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ
Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 4
Special melody: *Thou who wast called from on high*
Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) Before Thy venerable Cross and willing Passion,

Taking the divine disciples whom Thou hadst preferred,

O Master, Thou wentest up with them into Mount Tabor,

Wishing to show them Thy glory openly.

And as they all looked on Thee transfigured wonderfully

And shining forth brighter than the sun, they cast themselves down,

Being amazed at Thy might and sovereignty;

And they cried out: Thou art the Timeless Light

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and the Father's Fulgence, though Thou, O Christ,
of Thine own will, without change,
art made manifest now in the flesh.

2) O Thou Who art God the Word before the ages,
Who, as with a garment, coverest Thyself with light,
Thou wast transfigured before Thy three elect disciples,
as Thou, O Word, shonest brighter than the sun.

Moses and Elias stood on either side of Thee,
making it plain that Thou art the Lord both of the living.
and of the dead; and they greatly glorified Thy tender mercy, Thine ineffable dispensation for us, and Thy very great condescension, whereby Thou hast saved all the world once lost in sins.

3) Thou Who wast born of a virgin cloud aforetime and becamest flesh and didst ascend Mount Tabor's height, Thou wast transfigured thereon, O Lord, and didst encompass Thyself about with a brilliant cloud of light.

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Then as Thy disciples stood with Thee, there came a voice of Thy Begetter, proclaiming Thee His own beloved Son, truly of one essence and one throne with Him.

And Peter, awe-struck, cried aloud to Thee:

It is good to be here, O most merciful Benefactor and Savior,

and in wonder knew not what he said.