Byzantine Mode 6
Special Melody: Ere the morning star
Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

October 11th-17th
The Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council
Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

1) Patriarch Germanos the New assembled

the accounts of all of the Seven Councils convened by the Fathers at diverse times and compiled them

into a single rule and canon,

setting them all in order. He thus confirmed their doctrines gathering them in one written record.

He established them as fellow shepherds over us the flock and as most vigilant suppliants before the Lord, that we may be saved.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, Rev. 1, 9/20/18, CAH
2) The Law’s letter bound the sons of the Hebrews to observe the seventh day with due reverence, and keeping that worship, they persisted in the shadow.

And when ye gathered in the Seven Councils, O sacred Fathers, bade thus by God, Who finished all His works in a span of six days and thereafter also blessed the seventh, ye made the seventh yet more hallowed and venerable when ye decreed the bounds of the Faith.

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To all men ye clearly bequeathed the teaching that the Holy Trinity is the Cause of the world's generation, as His works plainly declared Him; for, being mystically inspired, ye called three and four great Councils, proving the champions of Orthodoxy, O thrice-blessed Fathers, and ye showed that the God of Three Persons is our Creator Who hath made the four elements and fashioned all of the universe.
4) It would have sufficed Prophet Elisaeus to bend down but once that he thus might quicken and breathe life again in the dead son of her that served him; rather, he knelt down seven times, and seven times bowed upon him. Thus, in his forevision, he prophesied of your seven gatherings, in the which ye breathed your quick'ning word on the death of God the Word, and put to death Arius and his profane fellow laborers.
5) Christ the Savior's garment, which had been sundered,

rent apart by dogs shameless in their barking,

ye wisely have mend-ed, O ye venerable Fathers,

in no wise bearing to behold the nakedness of your Master, as Shem and Japheth hid their father's nakedness once aforetime.

Thus ye shamed that slayer of his father,

the wretched Arius, the name-sake of frenziedness,

and those of like mind and thought with him.
6) Each and ev'-ry Eutyches and Sabel-lius,

and Apollinari-us and Nesto-rius,

Diocorus, law-less Macedonius, and Severus,

all who were shown forth to be griev-ous

wolves in sheep's cloth-ing hid-den, ye as true shep-herds

drove far off from the flock of Christ the Savor,

when ye stripped them na-ked of their sheep-skins

and nobly over-came those thrice-wretch-ed her-e-tics;

where-fore we right-ful-ly call you blest.