Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council
(The Sunday after Ascension)
Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

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

1) Ere the morning star from the womb wast Thou born from the Father motherless ere the ages,

though Arius reckoned Thee not God, but a creation,
rashly and senselessly identifying Thee, the Creator,

with things created, storing up fuel for the eternal.

But the Council gathered in Nicaea

proclaimed that Thou, O Lord, art truly the Son of God,

one with the Father and the Spirit in rank.

2) O my Savior, who hath thus rent Thy raiment?

Thou didst say: It was Arius who sundered the Trinity's headship, which is one in rank and honor.

That Thou art One of the Most Holy Trinity he disputed; he taught Nestorius the godless not to say Theotokos.

But the Council gathered in Nicaea proCLAIMed that Thou, O Lord, art truly the Son of God, one with the Father and the Spirit in rank.
3) Keep-ing his eyes shut, that he might not see light,
off the cliff of sin A - ri - us fell head - long.
His bow - els were torn by a di - vine hook, that he give up
swiftly and vi - o - lent - ly both his soul and all of his substance,
hav - ing be - come in dis - po - si - tion and ways an - oth - er Judas.
But the Coun - cil gath - ered in Ni - cae - a
pro - claimed that Thou, O Lord, art tru - ly the Son of God,
one with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it in rank.
4) Mad and sense-less A-ri-us once di-vid-ed

the All-ho-ly Trin-i-ty’s one do-min-ion

and made thus three es-sence-s, dis-sim-i-lar and for-eign.

Hence, the God-bear-ing Fa-thers gath-ered to-geth-er in their fer-vor,

burn-ing with zeal like great E-li-as the Thes-bite, and they cut down

with the sword of the All-ho-ly Spir-it

the wretch that taught such shame-ful doc-trines of blas-phe-my,

as God the Spir-it re-vealed to them.