

September 26th

Rest of St. John the Evangelist & Theologian

Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 8
Special melody: *O strange wonder*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih
from various sources



1) See - ing thē ex - cess of fer - vent love which thou didst
have ___ for thy Christ, O all - wise ___ and most
bless - ed John, thou wast loved more great - ly than
all thy fel - low dis - ci - ples ___ were by God the
Word, ___ Who be - hold - eth all that is
and with a just ___ meas - ure judg - eth all thē earth.
For ___ thou didst bright - ly shine both in mind and bod - y
with the beau - ty of pu - ri - ty and chas - ti -
- ty, O thou most blest ___ of ___ God.

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2) When thou didst re - cline up - on the breast of Wis - dom,
 thou drew - est forth the clear streams of thē -
 - ol - o - gy and didst wa - ter all the world,
 John, un - e - qualled in ex - cel - lence; and with the
 knowl - edge of God the Trin - i - ty,
 thou didst dry up the whole sea of god - less - ness,
 since thou wast ver - i - ly as a liv - ing cloud and
 pil - lar guid - ing all, show - ing us the way to
 the ce - les - tial her - i - tage.

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3) Come, let us ex - tol and mag - ni - fy with hymns and
spir - i - tual songs that fair bloom of vir -
- gin - i - ty, wis - dom's tune - ful in - stru - ment
and the Spir - it's most sa - cred shrine; the hal - lowed
vir - tues' well - pleas - ing dwell - ing place;
the bright and ven - 'ra - ble eye of all the Church;
that cho - sen mouth of grace which hath brought the light to
us; come let us laud John as the true ser - vant
of our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.

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4) O son of Thun - der, as thou didst preach the Gos - pel

tid - ings to men, thou didst shine joy up -

- on the world, glad - ness that no tongue can tell,

and the Well - spring of all good things; life ev - er -

- last - ing, the King - dom nev - er moved;

the pure de - light of the vi - sion of our God;

and rich - ly giv - en gifts of the grace of Christ, which

tru - ly pass the mind and the thought of mor - tals,

O in - spired E - van - gel - ist.