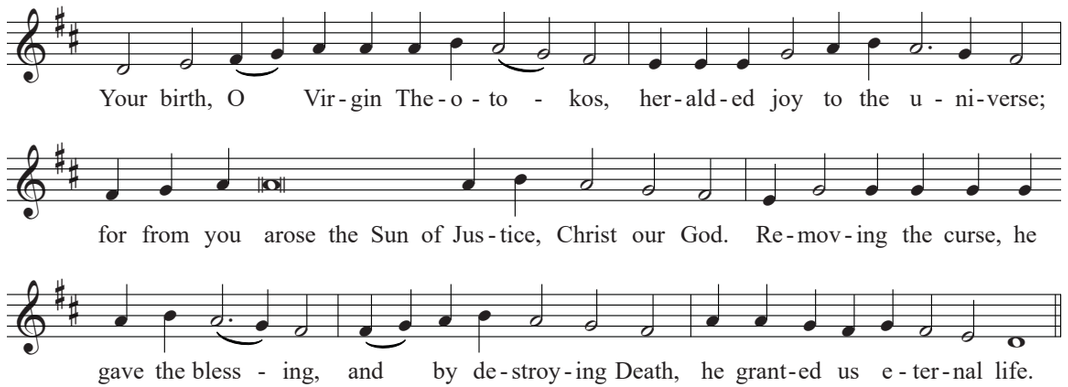
Matins Propers, September 8
Nativity of the Theotokos

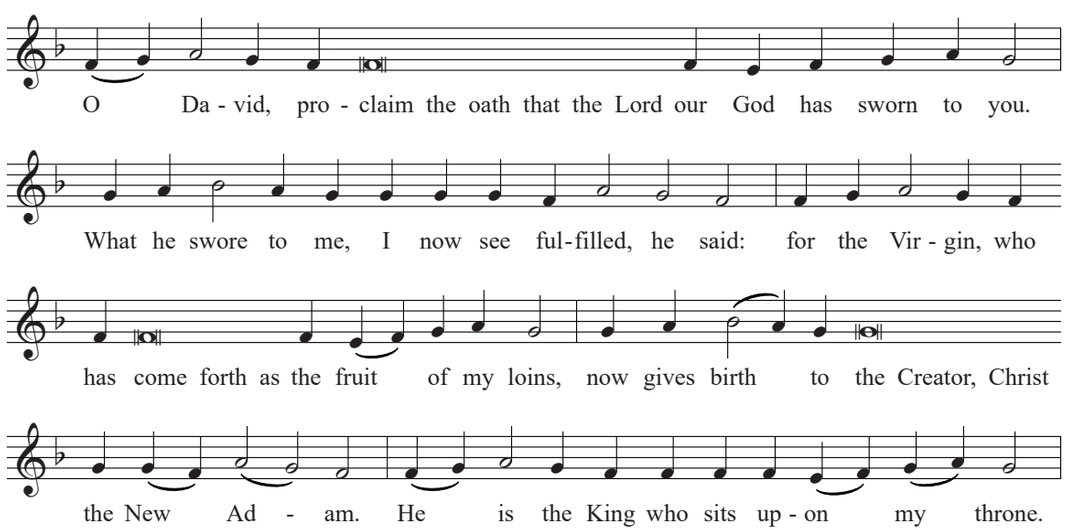
All page references are to ***The Order of Matins: Sundays and Feasts,*** *2006*
"The Lord is God" is sung in Tone 4, page 162

Troparion - *Tone 4*

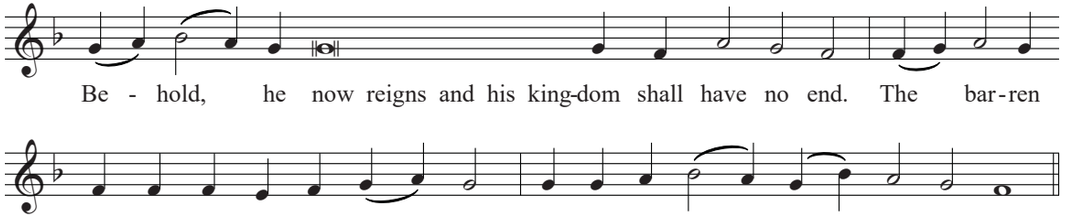


This troparion is sung three times; "Glory... now and ever..." *is sung to the same melody before the third tiime.*

Sessional Hymn 1 - *Tone 4 podoben: Udivisja Josif*

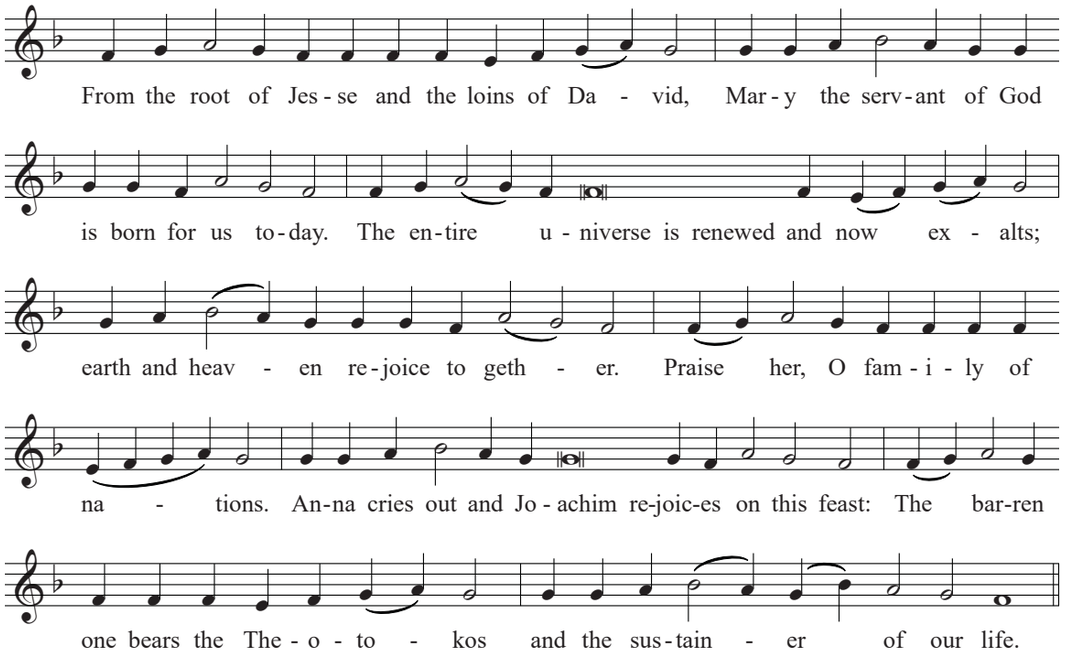


Revised 5/25/26



Cantor: Glory…now and ever… *Repeat "O David, proclaim the oath…"*

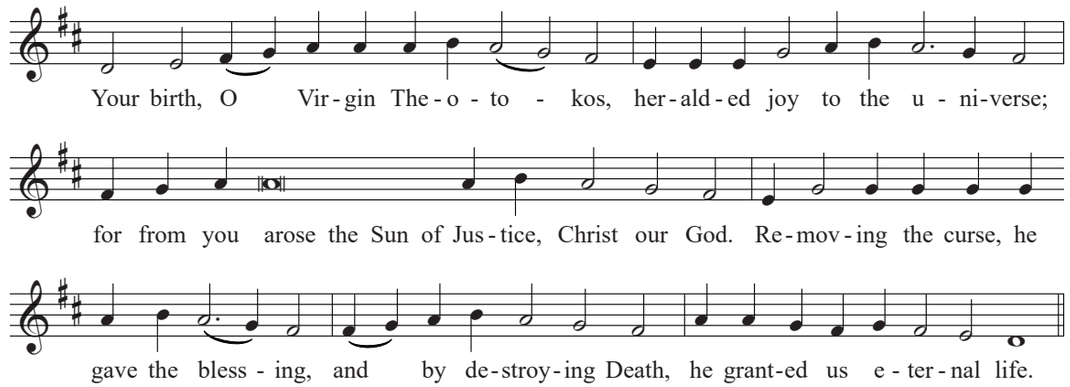
Sessional Hymn 2 - *Tone 4 podoben: Udivisja Josif*
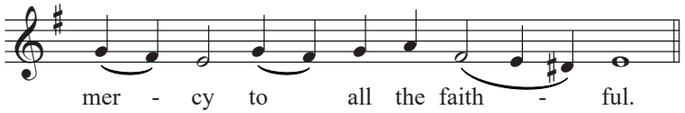


Cantor: Glory…now and ever… *Repeat "From the root of Jesse…"*

The service continues with the Polyeleos, found on page 16.

Troparion of the Nativity of the Theotokos - *Tone 4*

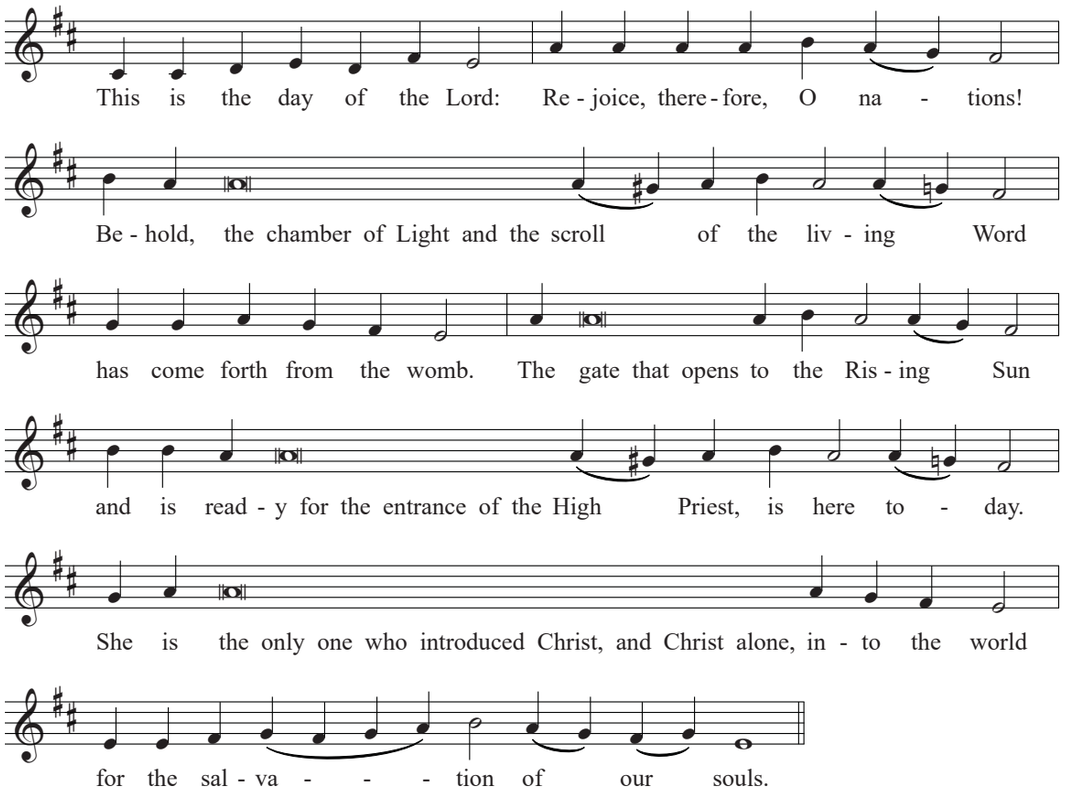


The service continues on page 45.



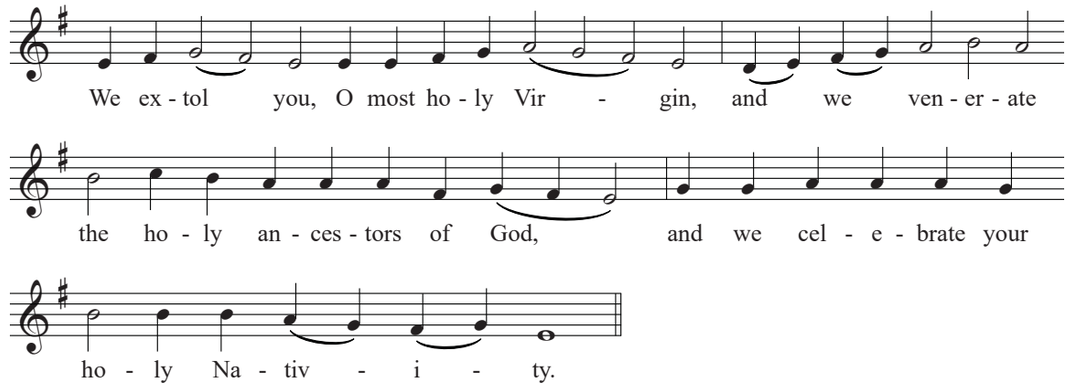
Cantor: Glory…now and ever…

Doxastikon - *Tone 6 samohlasen*



The service continues with the Great Doxology, page 41. After the Great Doxology, the Troparion of the Feast is sung.

Exaltation - *Ps. 131:1, 86:3, 131:13, 45:4, 44:18, 88:53*



This exaltation is repeated after each of the following verses (chanted by the reader or cantor), and also after the "Glory... now and ever" and the Allelulia.

Verse: Lord, remember David * and all his humility. *Refrain*
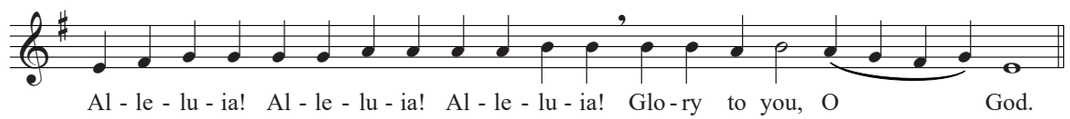
Verse: Of you are told glorious things, * O City of God. *Refrain*

Verse: For the Lord has chosen Zion; * he prefers her for his dwelling. *Refrain*
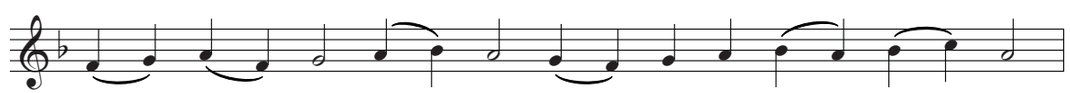
Verse: The Lord has sanctified * his dwelling place. *Refrain*

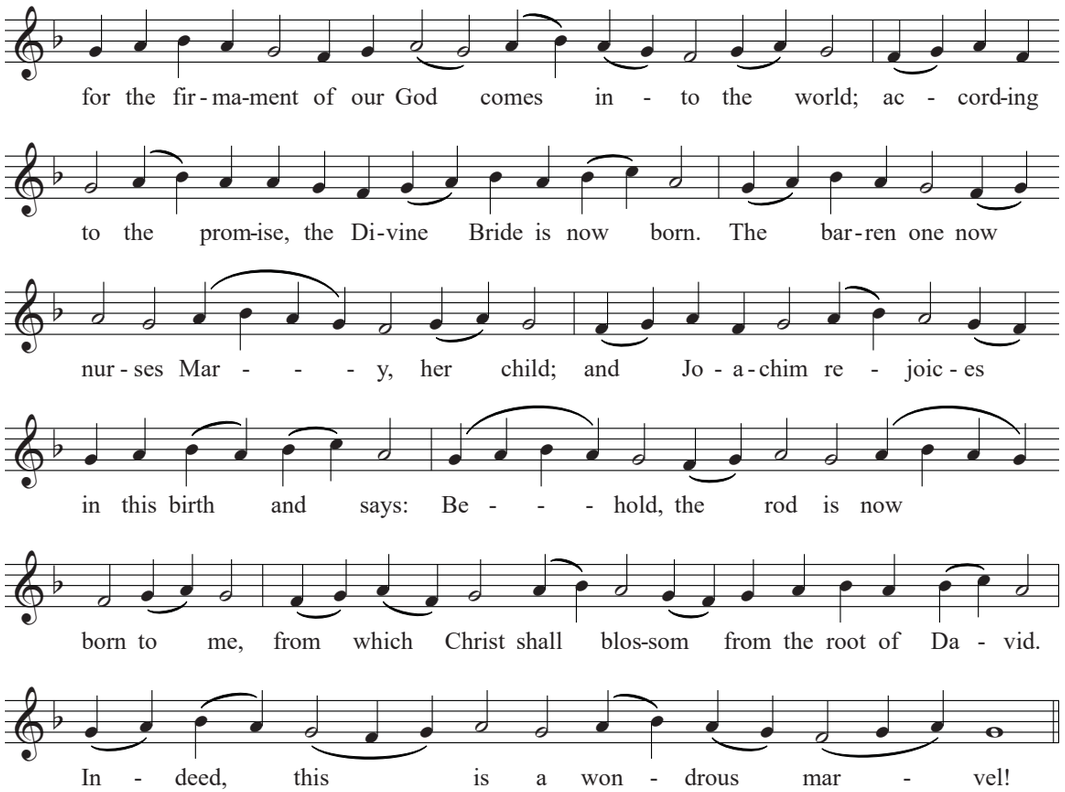
Verse: I shall make your name remembered * in all generations. *Refrain*

Verse: Glory…now and ever… *Refrain*



Sessional Hymn 3 - *Tone 8 podoben: Povelinnoje Tajno*
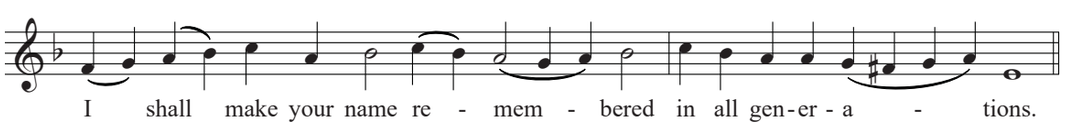




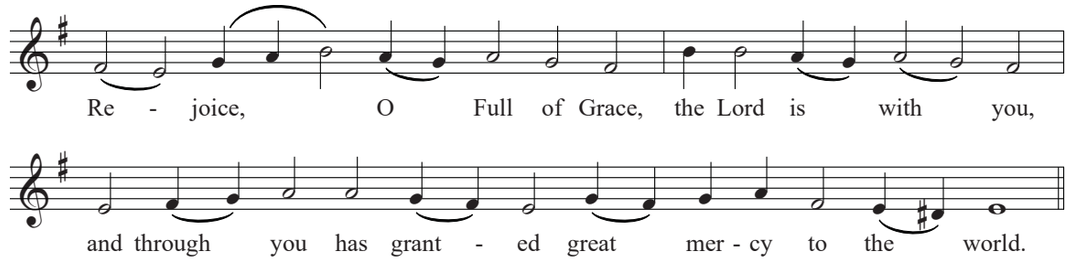
Cantor: Glory…now and ever… *Repeat "Let heaven rejoice and let the earth exult…"*

The Festal Gradual Hymn is found on page 312.
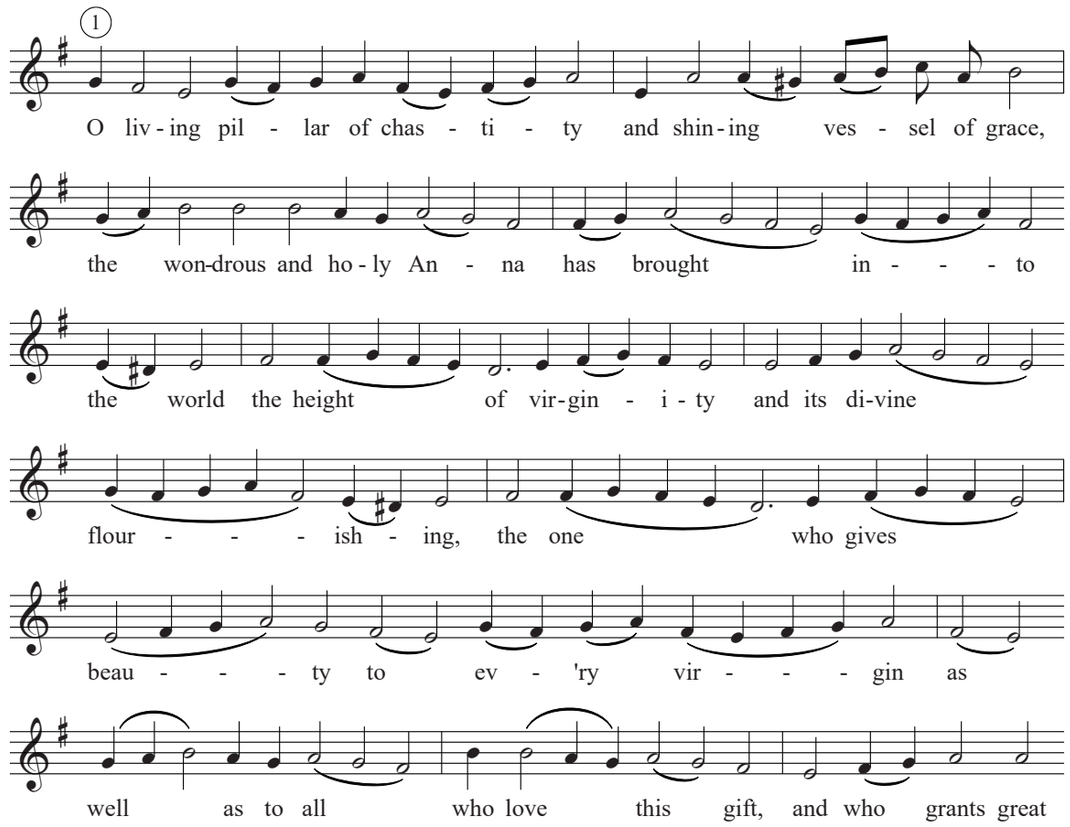
Prokeimenon - *Tone 4* (Ps. 44:18,1)

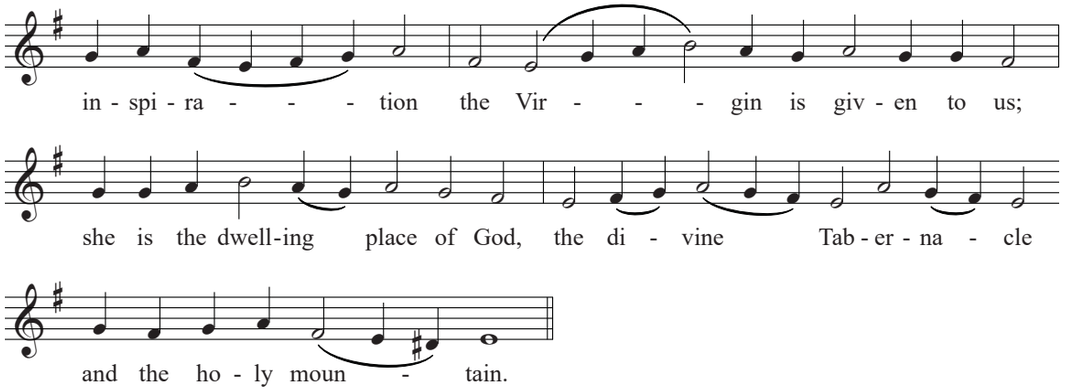


Verse: My heart overflows with noble words. * To the king I must speak the song I have made.



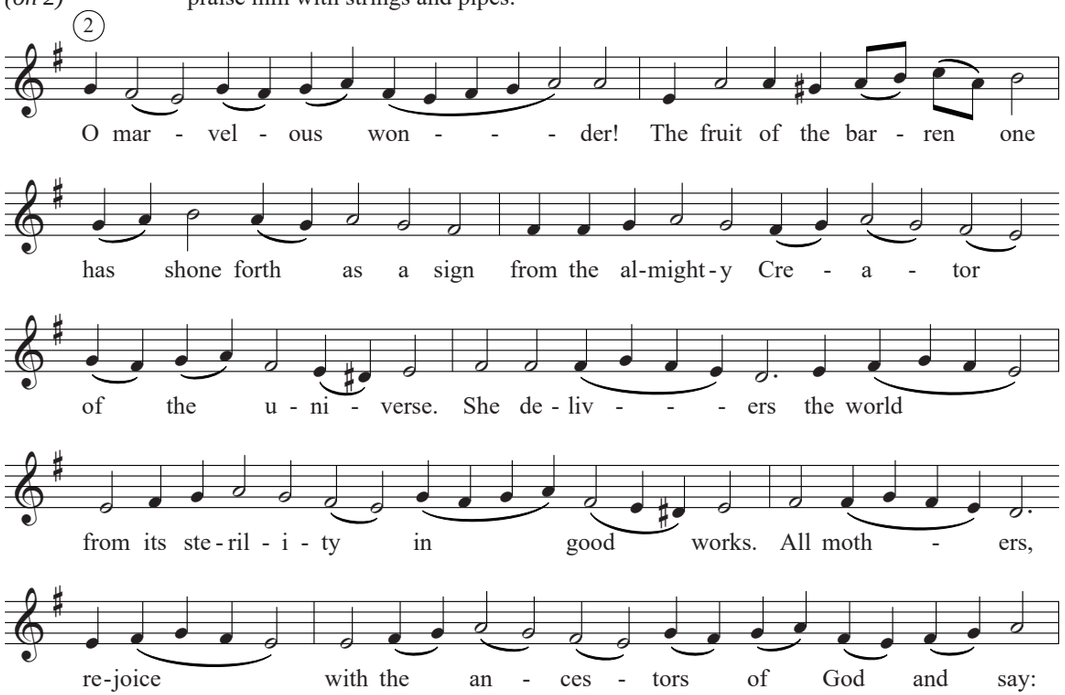
Cantor: O praise him with resounding cymbals,
(on 1) praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Let everything that lives and that breathes
give praise to the Lord.





Cantor: O praise him with sound of trumpet
(on 3) praise him with lute and harp. *Repeat "O marvelous wonder! The Source of life…"*

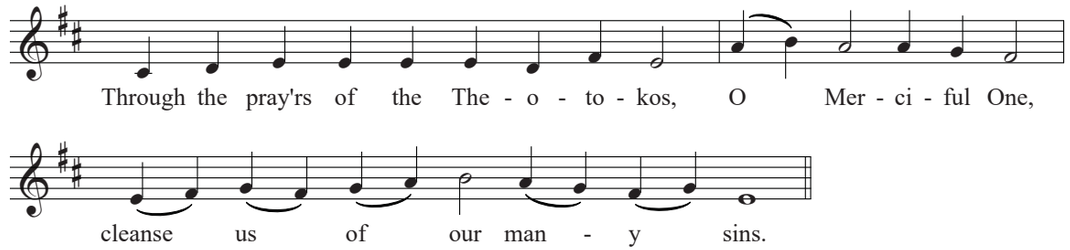
Cantor: Praise him with timbrel and dance,
(on 2) praise him with strings and pipes.



"Let everything that lives" is sung in Tone 4, found on page 171. The service continues on page 24.

Stichera after Psalm 50

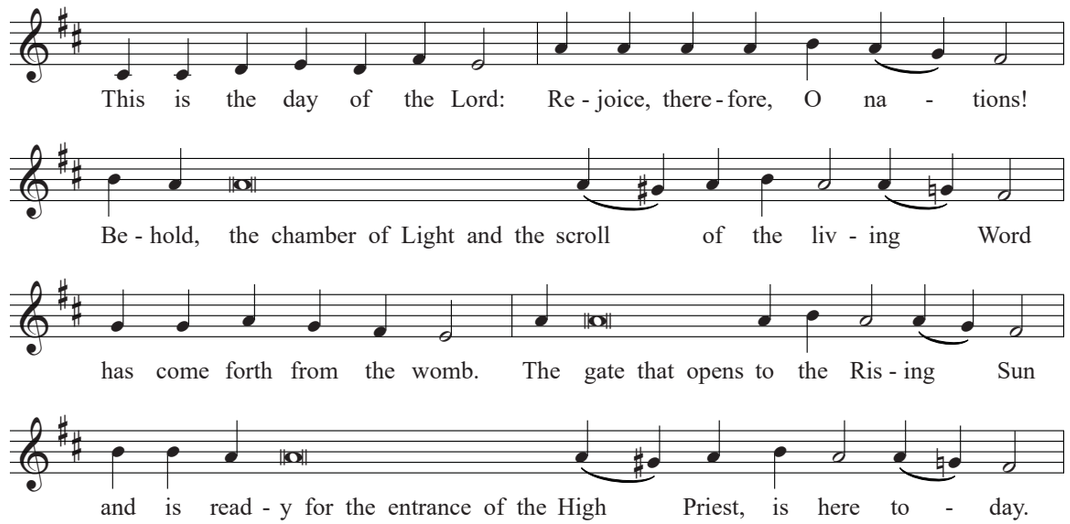
Cantor: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
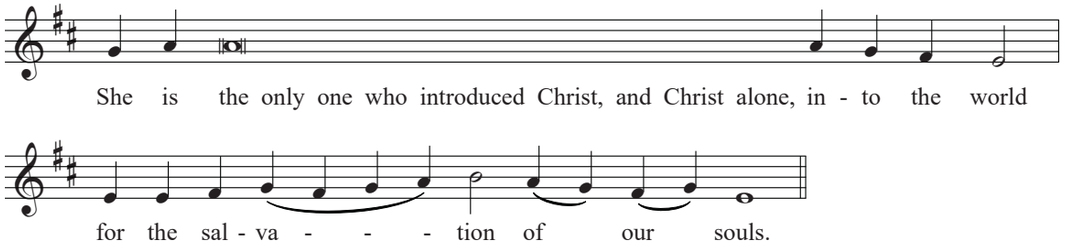


Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen. *Repeat "Through the prayers…"*

Cantor: Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offense.

Tone 6 samohlasen





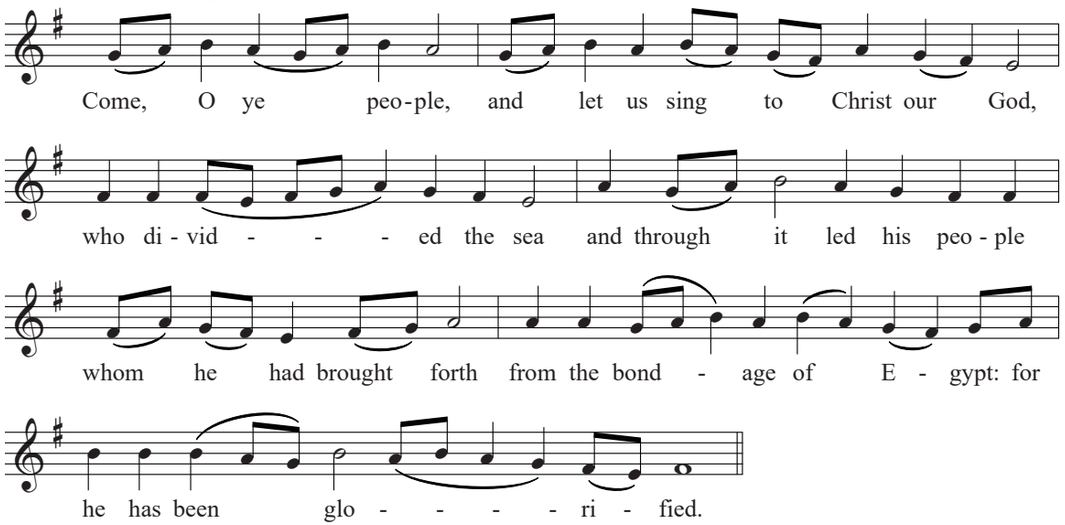
The service continues on page 29

Canon
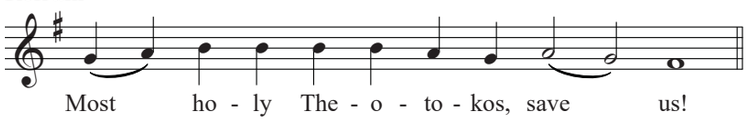
with Katavasiai of the Holy Cross

Ode 1

Irmos - *Tone 2 samopodoben*



Refrain



Let all creation dance for joy, and let David also rejoice. From his seed has come forth the One who gave birth to a flower, the Lord and Deliverer of all. *Refrain*

Hymn of Light

Today all the ends of the earth rejoice on the feast of your nativity, O all-holy and spouseless Bride and Virgin Mary; for you have taken away the shame and reproach of those who gave you birth. You have overcome their sterility, the cause of their pains, and you have removed the curse of our first mother. *(twice)*

Glory…now and ever…

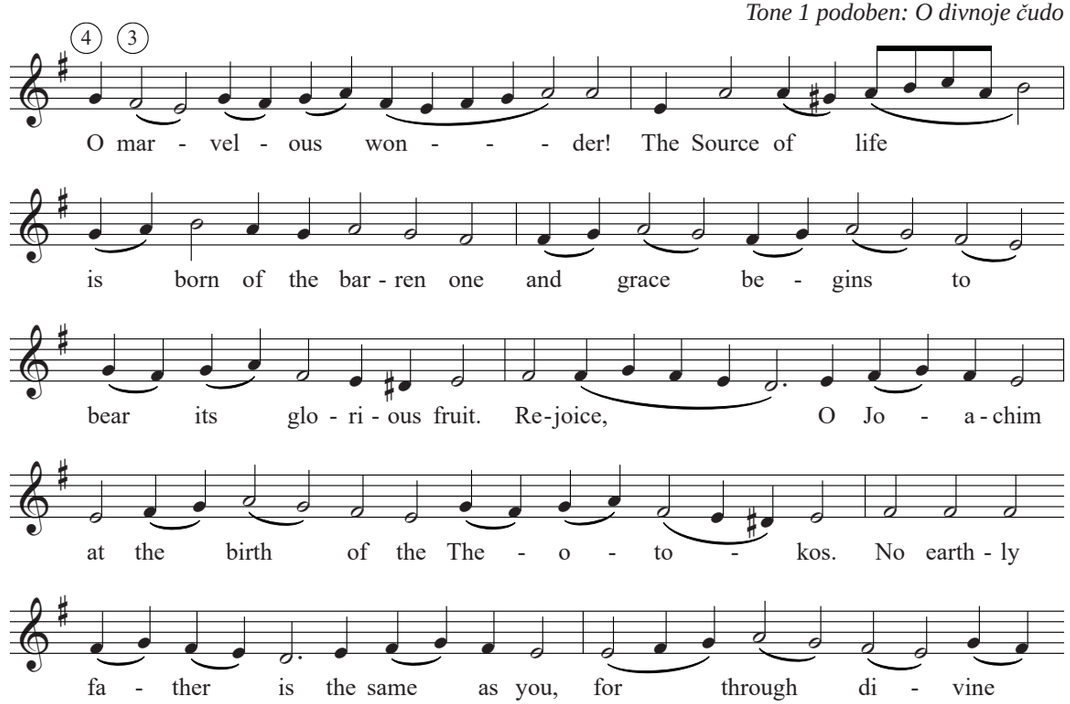
Adam and Eve, be clothed with a new glory; O Prophets, together with the company of the divine Apostles, sing and rejoice with all the just ones. For the joy of all angels and people, the Mother of our God, is born of the just Joachim and Anna on this festive day.

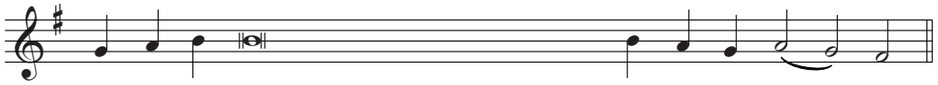
Stichera at the Praises

The Psalms of Praise are sung in Tone 1, beginning on page 92.
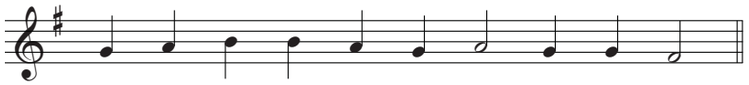
Cantor: Praise him for his powerful deeds,
(on 4) praise his surpassing greatness.

Tone 1 podoben: O divnoje čudo



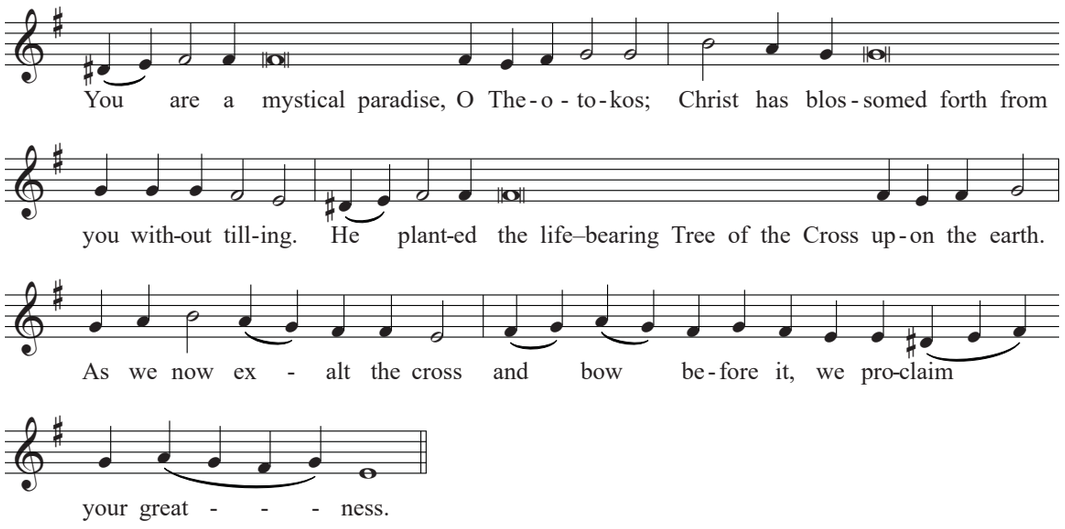


It is unheard of that the unjust would glorify the eternal Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the uncreated and sovereign Power who created the world by a mighty act.



O Virgin Mother, you bore within your womb Christ the King, one of the Trinity whom all creation praises and before whom all the heavenly hosts bow down. O all-holy Lady, beseech him to save our souls.

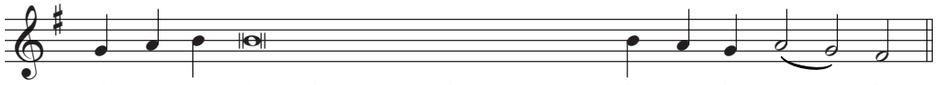
Katavasia - *Tone 6 simple setting*
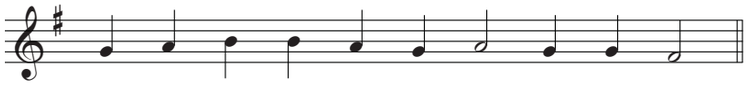


The Small Litany is found on page 36.

The Holy of Holies was brought as an infant to the holy temple where she was cared for by the hands of an angel. Let us all joyfully celebrate her nativity today. *Refrain*

The barren and sterile Anna did not appear so before God, for she was predestined from the ages to become the mother of the pure Virgin who would give birth to the Creator in the form of a servant.

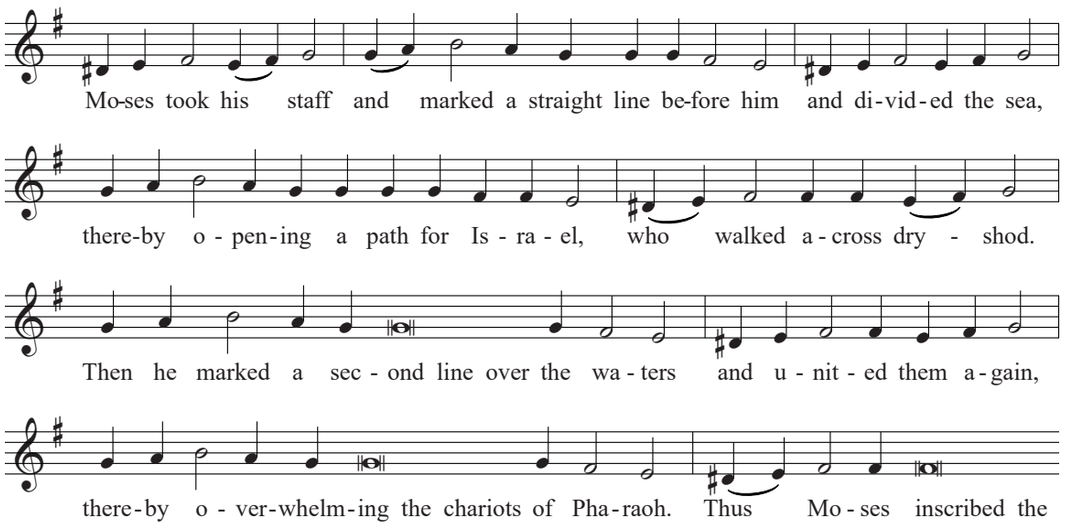


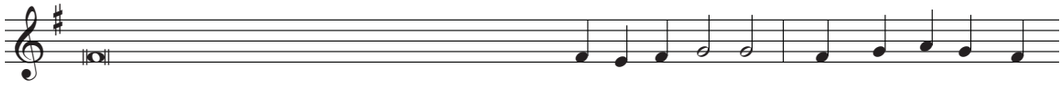
I glorify and sing praises to the Holy Trinity, coeternal yet one in essence, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
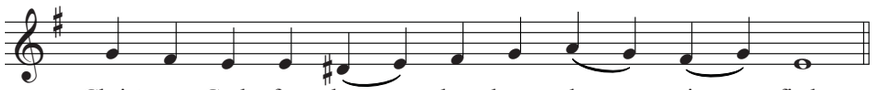


Who has ever seen a child born without a father nourished by his mother's milk? Or who has ever seen a virgin mother? O most pure Theotokos, you have truly fulfilled both these mysteries in an incomprehensible manner.

Katavasia - *Tone 6 simple setting*
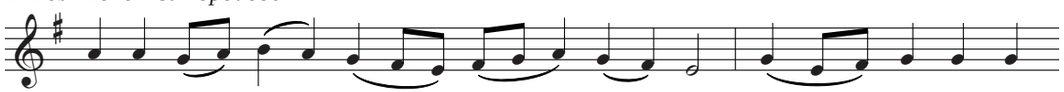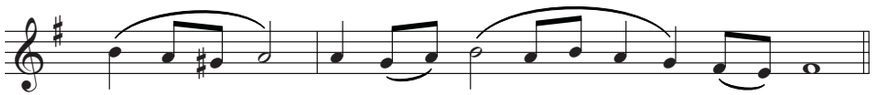






Ode 3
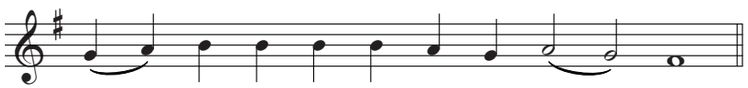
Irmos - *Tone 2 samopodoben*
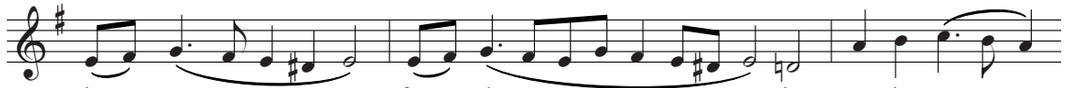






Refrain
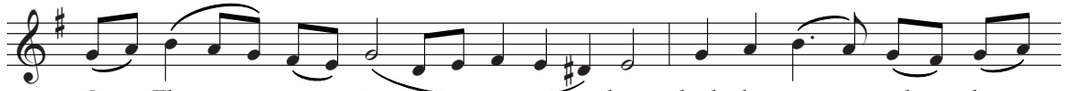


The fruit of virginity came forth from your blessed womb, O holy Anna. She is the one who, without seed, gave birth to Jesus, the Nourishment and Deliverer of all creation. *Refrain*
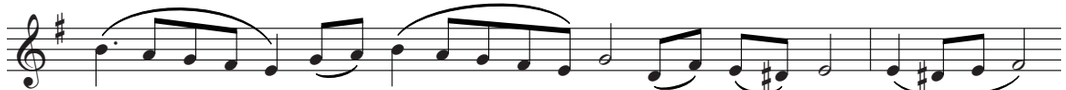
All creation calls you blessed, O ever-Virgin. We celebrate your birth today from Anna; you are the spotless branch of the root of Jesse who gave birth to the flower, Christ. *Refrain*
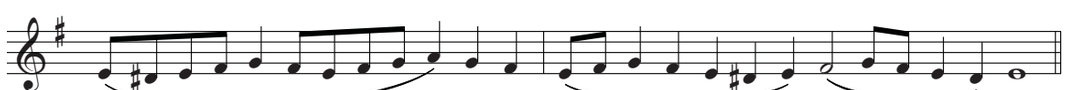
All people are filled with joy on this day, O undefiled Theotokos, for your Son has placed you above all creation. We extol your birth from Anna.











All repeat "Extol…"

We join all the nations of the earth to unceasingly praise you, O Theotokos; for you inherited, according to the promise, a birth worthy of your purity. You were given to the sterile one as a divine gift.

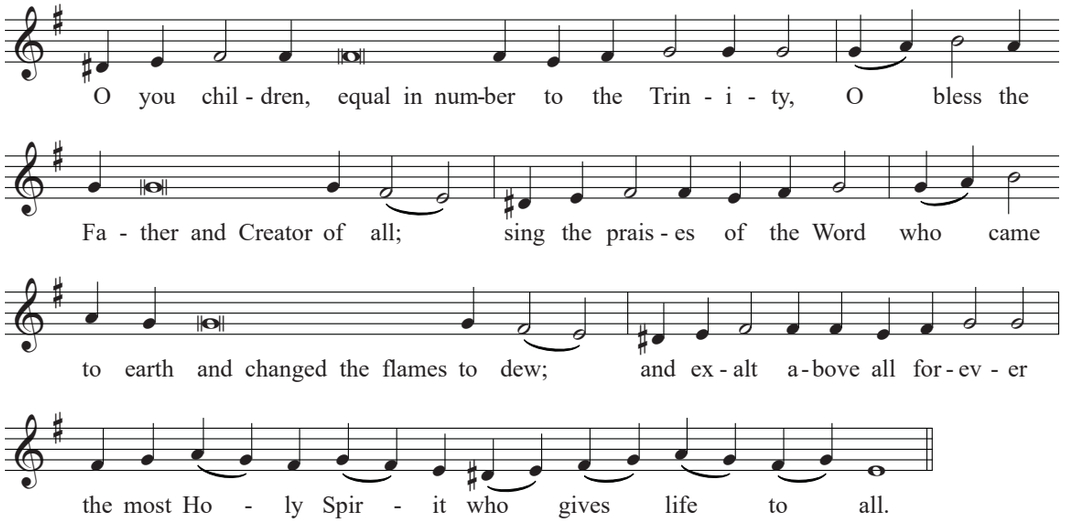
All repeat "Extol…"

Today the prophecy is fulfilled: I will raise up the fallen tabernacle of the holy David. These words prefigured you, O most pure One. Through you, human nature has been refashioned in the body of our God.

All repeat "Extol…"

O Theotokos, we glorify the Lord who gave you as a fruit to the barren Anna; we venerate your swaddling clothes. The almighty God, who can do whatever he pleases, miraculously opened the barren womb of Anna.

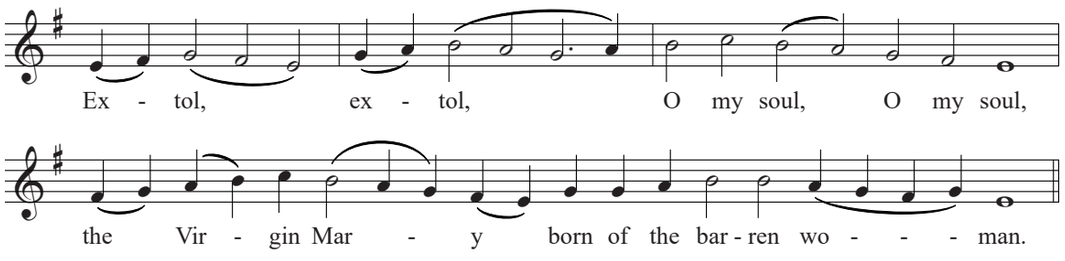
Katavasia - *Tone 6 simple setting*
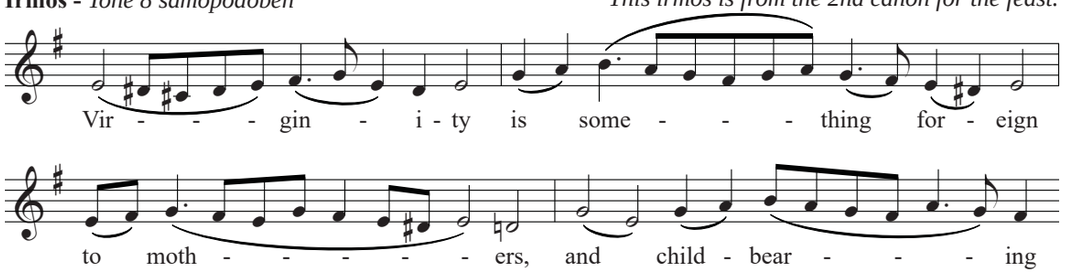


The Canticle of the Theotokos is not sung.

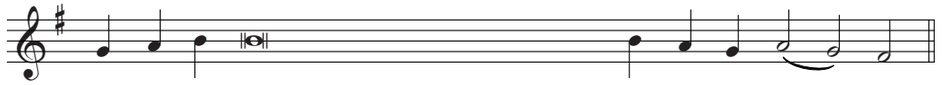
Ode 9

Exaltation
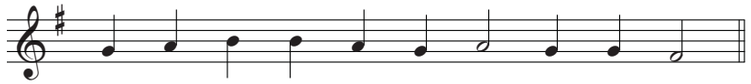


Irmos - *Tone 8 samopodoben* *This irmos is from the 2nd canon for the feast.*



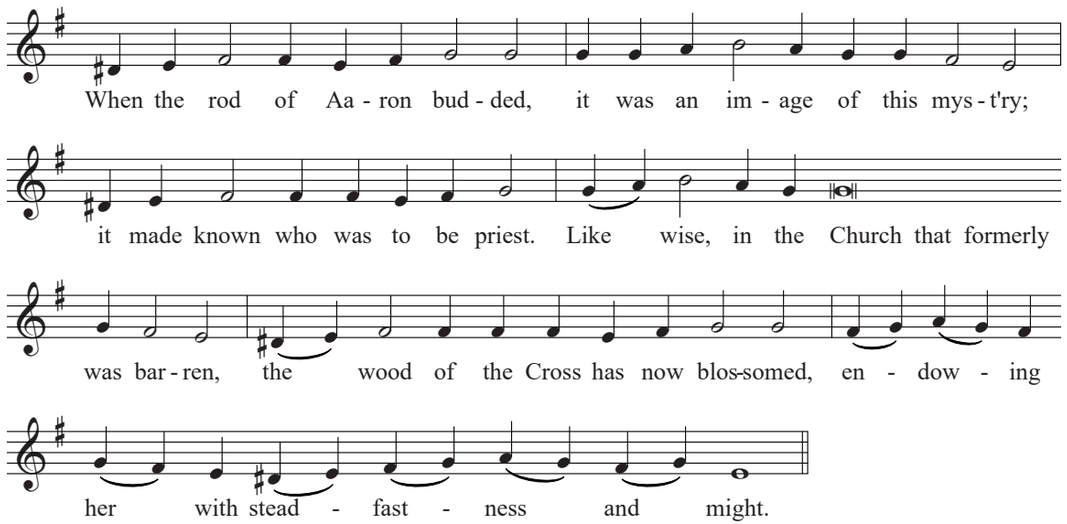


We worship the unbegotten Father, we sing hymns to the begotten Son, and we venerate the coeternal Spirit; for the Trinity is one and undivided.



O undefiled Theotokos, you have borne the Light-giver and the Source of Life for all. You are manifested as the Treasure of our life and the Gateway of the Light which no one can approach.

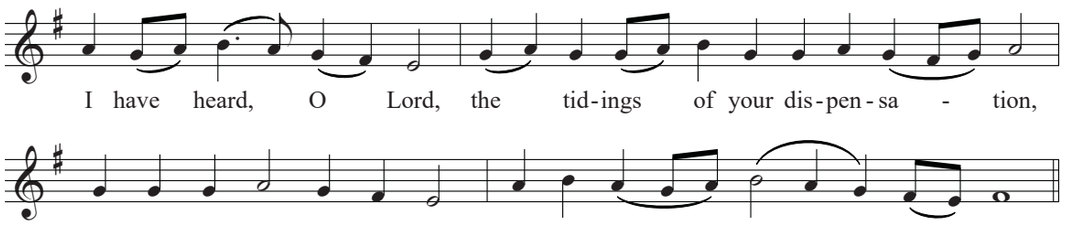
Katavasia - *Tone 6 simple setting*



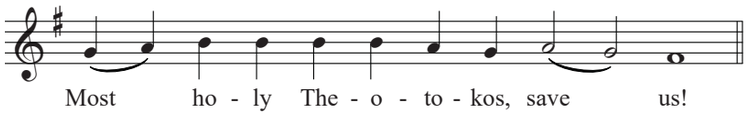
The Small Litany is found on page 32

Ode 4

Irmos - *Tone 2 samopodoben*



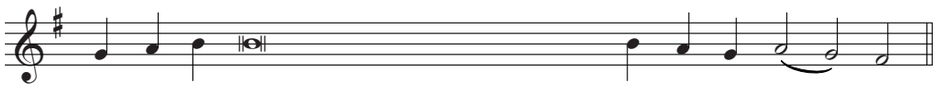
Refrain
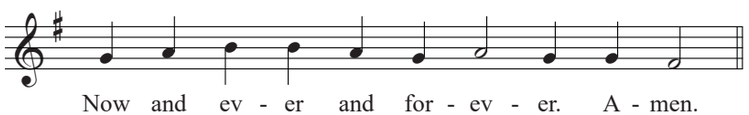


With psalms and hymns let all the faithful sing the praises of the all-holy birth of the Theotokos. In faith we worship the God of Truth, who promised to give David the fruit of his loins. *Refrain*

O Lord, you opened the womb of Sarah and gave her Isaac as fruit in her old age. Today, O Savior, you have likewise blessed the God-fearing Anna with fruit from her womb; it is your own all-pure Mother. *Refrain*

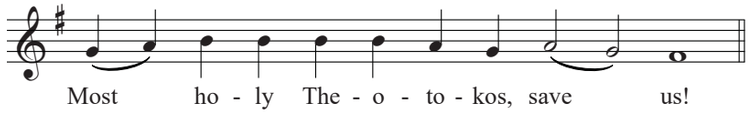
All peoples of the earth rejoice with you today, O holy Anna, for you have given birth to the Mother of our Redeemer. She is the one who gave birth to our Strength; she blossomed forth Christ as a flower from the root of Jesse.



I glorify you, O eternal Trinity, one in essence, and with my earthly tongue I cry aloud as the Cherubim: Holy, holy, holy is he, who remains the one eternal God forever.
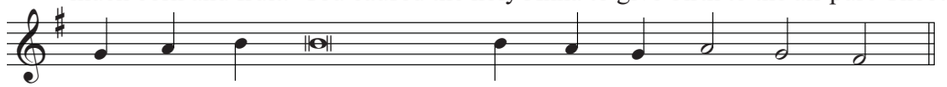


Refrain
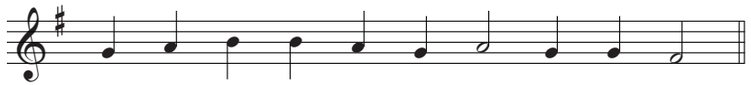


O holy God, you worked wonders in the barren womb of Anna by giving her a child. You are the Son of the Virgin from whom you have taken flesh, the ever-pure Virgin and Theotokos. *Refrain*

O merciful Lord, you have loosed the unbreakable bonds of childlessness; you have given the barren woman a fertile offspring and a glorious fruit. You chose that offspring to be your Mother according to the flesh when you came to dwell among us. *Refrain*

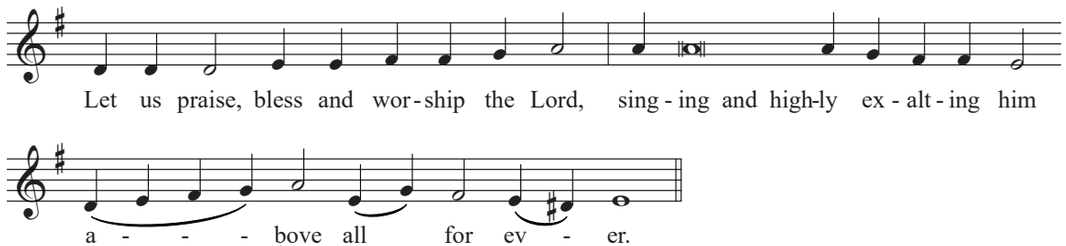
Through your power, you have made the barren earth fertile. As gardener of our thoughts and of our souls, you turned the once parched land into a fruitful field, yielding much corn and fruit. You caused the holy Anna to give birth to the all-pure Theotokos.
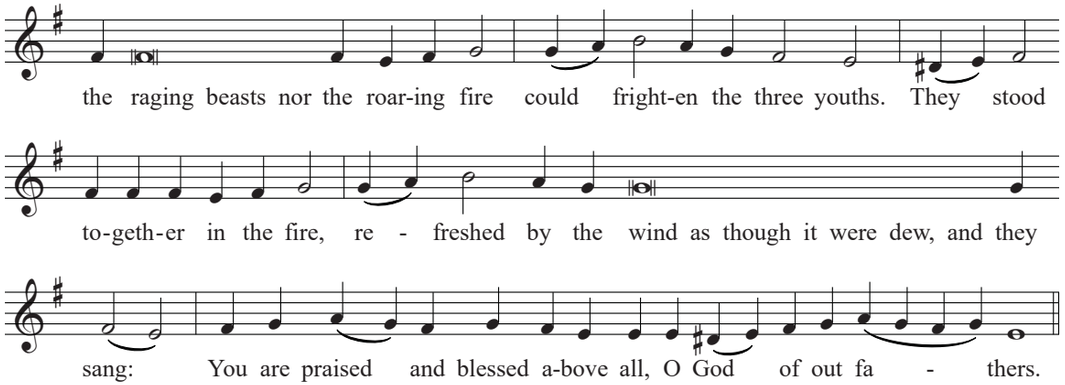


We bless the undivided eternal Trinity while the hosts of angels sing your praises and bow down before you. The heavens, the earth, and the depths of the earth worship you in awe; fire serves you, and all creation obeys you in fear, O Holy Trinity.
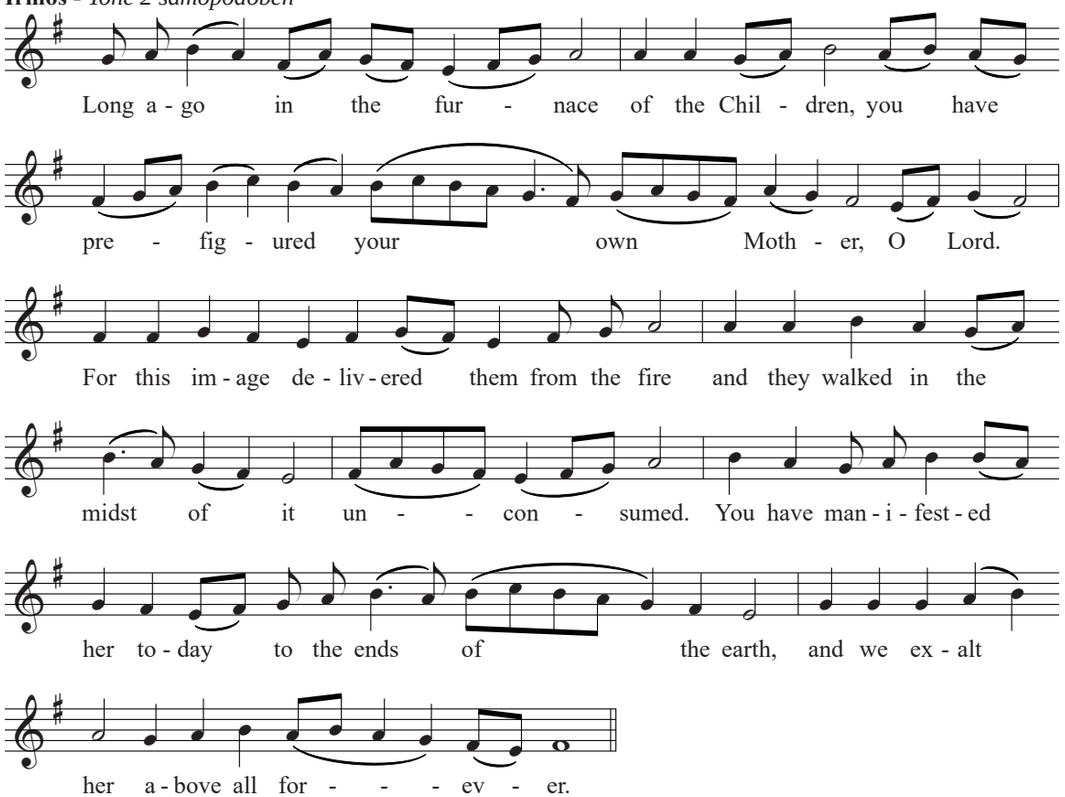


What a glorious marvel! God has become the Son of a woman who knew not wedlock. She bore, without seed, the Child who is God. What a strange mystery, that the Virgin conceives! The birth is beyond expression. Indeed, all these things are incomprehensible.





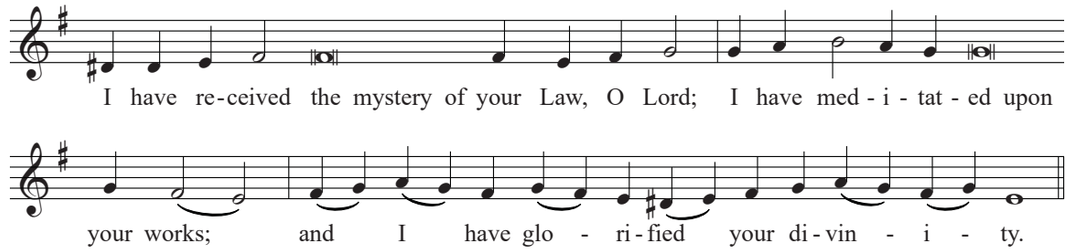
Ode 8

Irmos - *Tone 2 samopodoben*



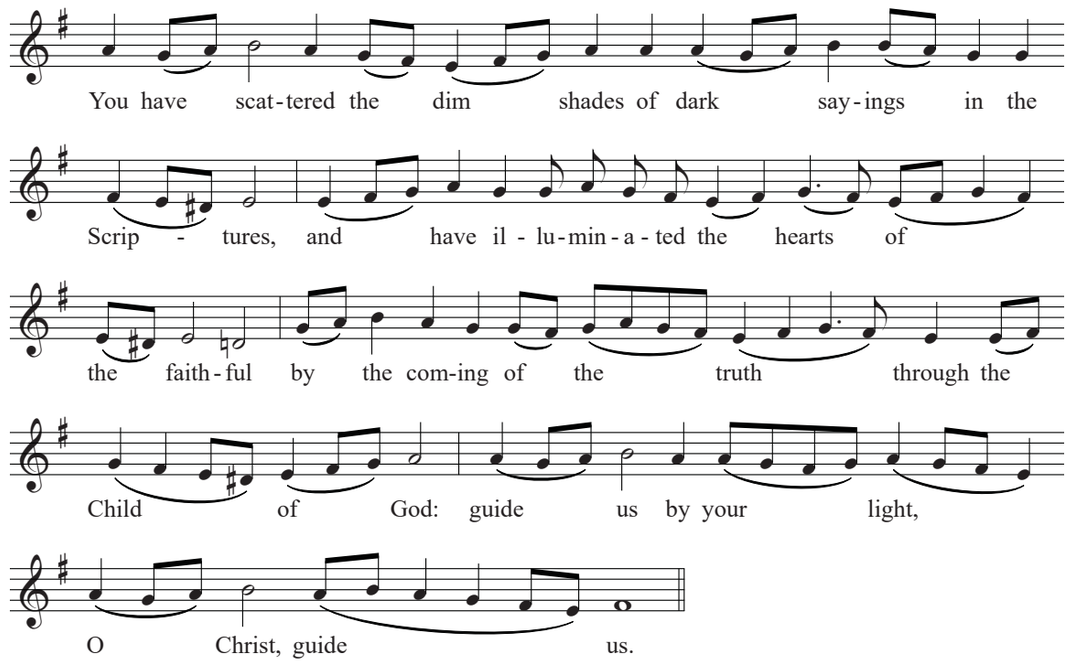
The prophecies of those inspired by God are now fulfilled in your birth, O immaculate One. In faith the prophets called you Tabernacle and Gate, spiritual Mountain, the unconsumed Bush, and the Rod of Aaron which blossomed from the root of David.

Katavasia - *Tone 6 simple setting*
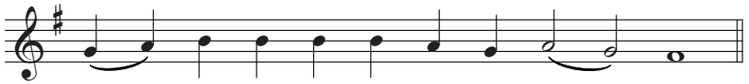


Ode 5

Irmos - *Tone 2 samopodoben*



Refrain
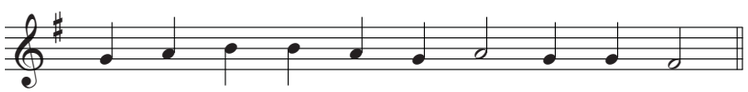


O ever-Virgin, your conception was ineffable; your birth was all-holy; O unwedded Bride, your child-bearing was beyond our understanding, for the God of all became flesh in you. *Refrain*

Let the angels in heaven rejoice today; let the children of Adam dance and sing; for this day is born the One who gave birth to Christ, the only deliverer of Adam. *Refrain*

At your nativity today, O undefiled Maiden, Eve is loosed from her condemnation. Adam is also freed from the ancient curse, and he sings: Through you we have been delivered from corruption.
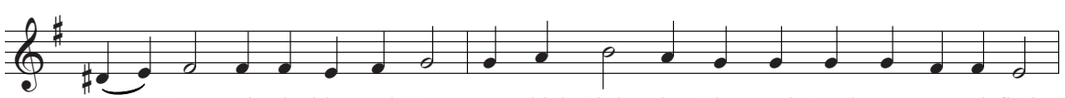


O undivided Trinity, without beginning, uncreated, coeternal, one in nature, we worship you and proclaim to all that you are one essence in three Persons.
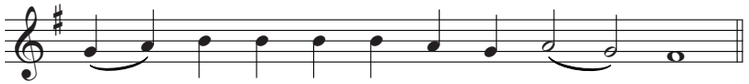


You have remained a virgin before and after childbirth, O Lady; your womb has become a holy table. Like a bridegroom coming forth from his chamber, Christ the Sun has come forth from you.

Katavasia - *Tone 6 simple setting*



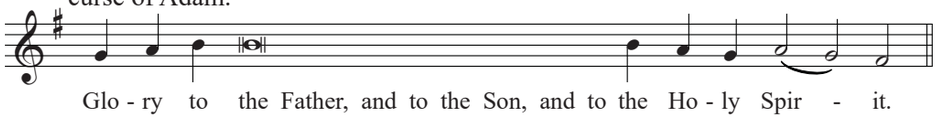
Refrain
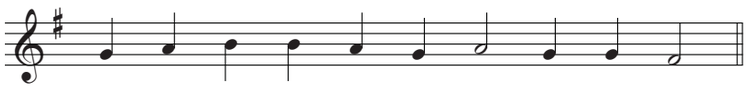


O most pure One, we celebrate and honor with faith your holy nativity according to the promise. By Christ's appearance though you, we have been delivered from the ancient curse of Adam. *Refrain*

Today Anna rejoices and cries aloud in praise: Although I was barren, I have given birth to the Theotokos through whom Eve has been loosed from her condemnation. *Refrain*

Adam is set free and Eve dances for joy. Together they sing to you in spirit, O Theotokos: By Christ's appearance through you, we have been delivered from the ancient curse of Adam.

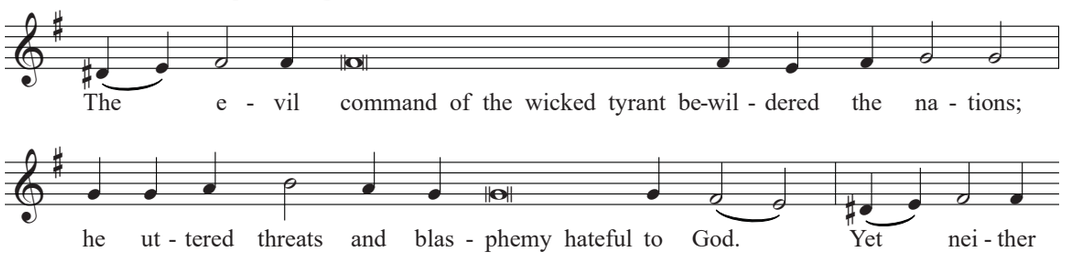


Let us praise the Most Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in the unity of the Godhead, undivided, coeternal, and one in essence.



O Mary, you have renewed our nature through your giving birth to God and still remaining a virgin. You have delivered Eve from the ancestral curse, O pure Theotokos.
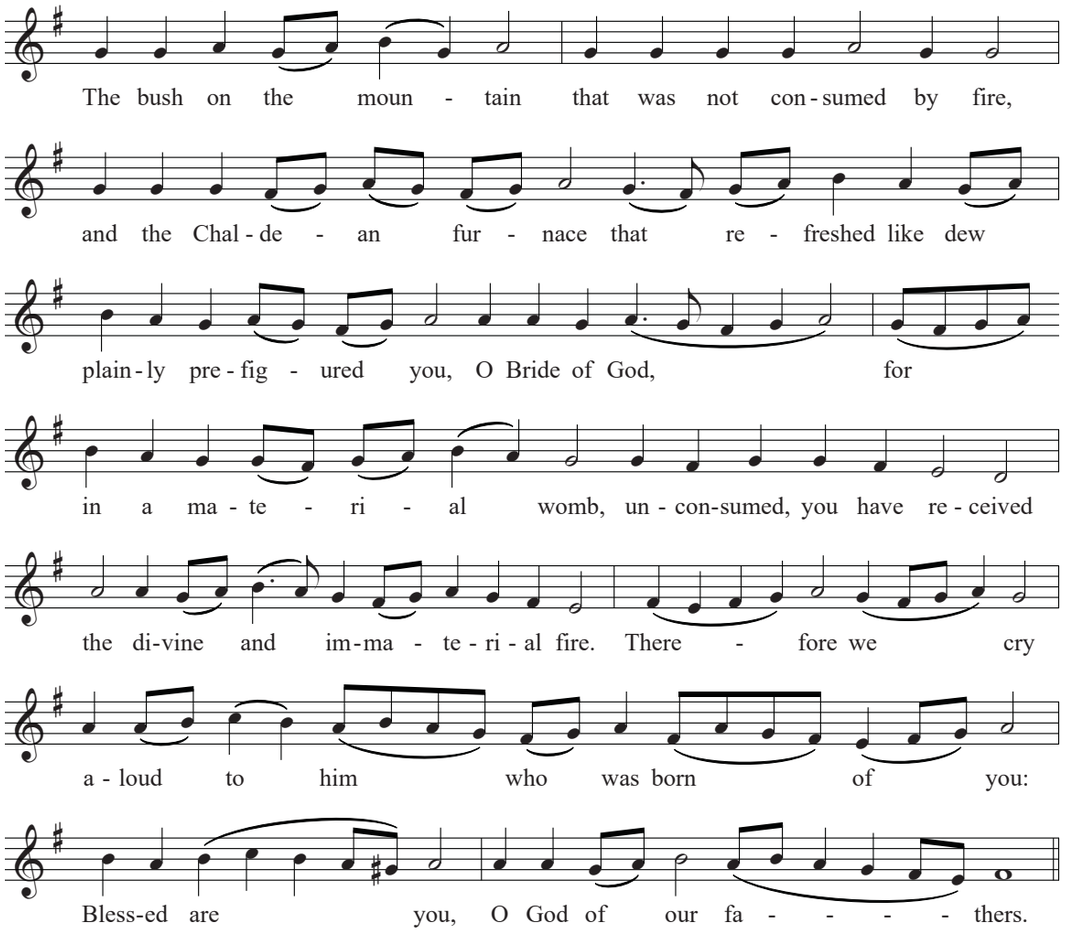
Katavasia - *Tone 6 simple setting*

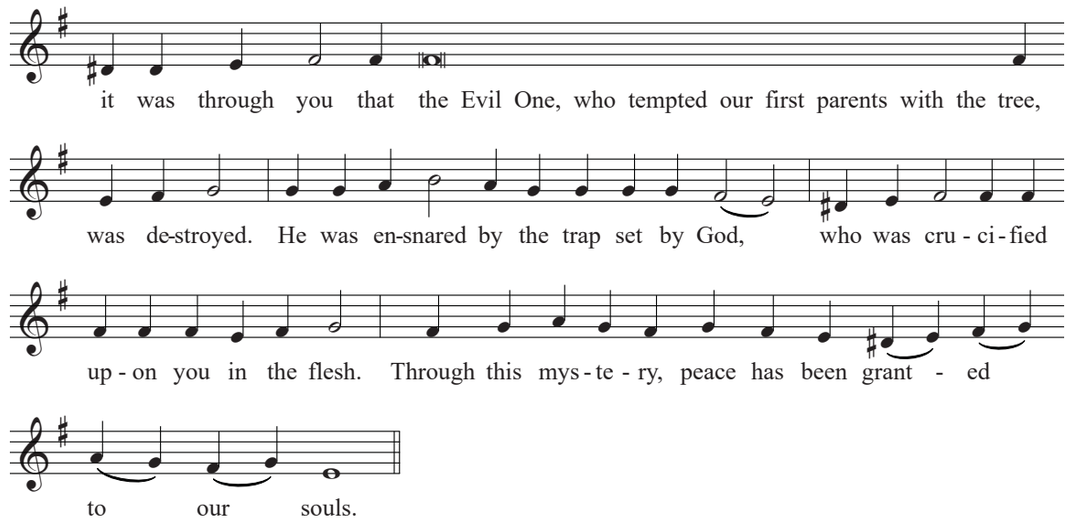


Ikos Joachim and Anna beseeched the Lord to remove their childlessness. He heard their prayers, and the just couple gave birth to the one who brought Life to the world. Joachim offered his prayer in the mountain while Anna accepted her reproach in the garden. With joy, the barren Anna gave birth to the Theotokos who sustains our life.

Ode 7

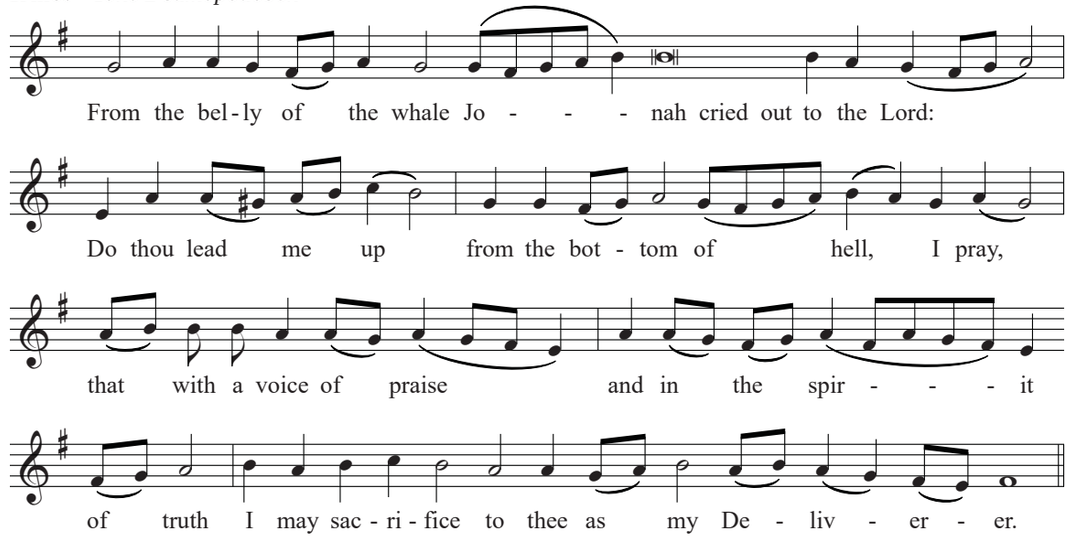
Irmos - *Tone 2 samopodoben*
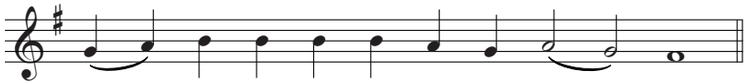




Ode 6

Irmos - *Tone 2 samopodoben*



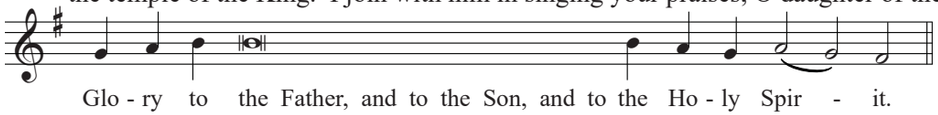
Refrain
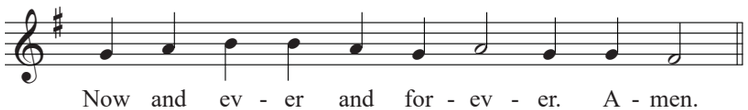


The angelic powers and all the holy ones dance for joy as we sing the praises of your holy birth and venerate your conception without seed, O ever-Virgin and Bride of God. *Refrain*

O undefiled One, your righteous parents brought you, the Holy of Holies, as an offering to the Lord in the temple where you were brought up in holiness and prepared to become his Mother. *Refrain*

Of old David sang to you: Virgins shall be brought after you; they shall be brought into the temple of the King. I join with him in singing your praises, O daughter of the King.

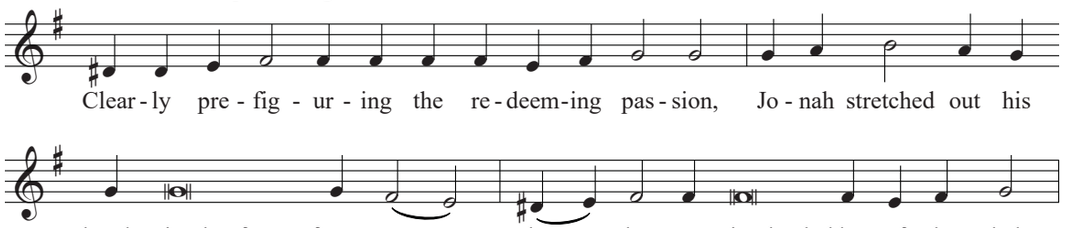


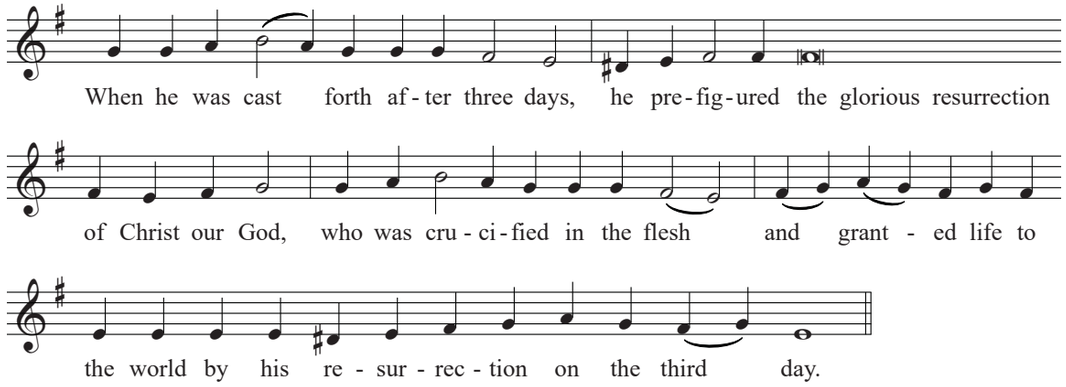
The mystery of the Trinity is praised and glorified in you, O Mary ever-pure, for you so pleased the Father that he sent the Son to dwell in you by the overshadowing of the Spirit that made you Theotokos.



You are a golden censer, for by the power of the Holy Spirit, the Fire who is the Word made your womb his tabernacle, and he became man through you, O pure Theotokos.

Katavasia - *Tone 6 simple setting*





The Small Litany is found on page 33

Kontakion - *Tone 4*

