Compline of the Nativity of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

If Compline will be followed immediately by Matins, the priest vests in bright epitrachilion and phelonion, opens the holy doors, and preceded by the deacon with a candle, incenses the whole church. Then the priest stands before the holy table, and the deacon at the ambon.

Deacon: In the name of the Lord, Father, give the blessing.

Priest: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, always, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

The priest removes his phelonion. The faithful continue with "Come, let us worship…" below.

THE BEGINNING PRAYERS

The priest, vested in dark epitrachilion, comes before the Royal Doors and says:

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

Glory to you, our God, | glory to you.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things, Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, | and save our souls, O gracious One.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, | have mercy on us. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; | Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as

we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, | but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

Come, let us worship our King and God. *(Bow)*
Come, let us worship Christ our King and God. *(Bow)*
| Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God. *(Bow)*

HEXAPSALMOS

The lector, holding a candle, chants these psalms simply on a single pitch:

Psalm 4:
When I call, answer me, O God of justice; from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!
O men, how long will your hearts be closed, will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

It is the Lord who grants favors to those whom he loves; the Lord hears me whenever I call him.
Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still. Make justice your sacrifice, and trust in the Lord.

"What can bring us happiness?" many say. Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.
You have put into my heart a greater joy than they have from abundance of corn and new wine.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 6:
Lord, do not reprove me in your anger; punish me not in your rage.
Have mercy on me, Lord, I have no strength; Lord, heal me, my body is racked; my soul is racked with pain.

But you, O Lord...how long? Return, Lord, rescue my soul.
Save me in your merciful love; for in death no one remembers you; from the grave, who can give you praise?

I am exhausted with my groaning; every night I drench my pillow with tears; I bedew my bed with weeping.
My eye wastes away with grief; I have grown old surrounded by my foes.

Leave me, all you who do evil; for the Lord has heard my weeping.
The Lord has heard my plea; The Lord will accept my prayer.

All my foes will retire in confusion, foiled and suddenly confounded.

Psalm 12:
How long, O Lord, will you forget me? How long will you hide your face?
How long must I bear grief in my soul, this sorrow in my heart day and night? How long shall my enemy prevail?

Look at me, answer me, Lord my God! Give light to my eyes lest I fall asleep in death,
lest my enemy say: "I have overcome him"; lest my foes rejoice to see my fall.

As for me, I trust in your merciful love. Let my heart rejoice in your saving help:
Let me sing to the Lord for his goodness to me, singing psalms to the name of the Lord, the Most High.

And again:
Look at me, answer me, Lord my God! Give light to my eyes lest I fall asleep in death,
lest my enemy say: "I have overcome him."

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! *(Three times, third time with melody)*

Psalm 24:
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. I trust you, let me not disappointed; do not let my enemies triumph.
Those who hope in you shall not be disappointed, but only those who wantonly break faith.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my savior.

In you I hope all day long because of your goodness, O Lord.
Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth. In your love remember me.
The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray,

He guides the humble in the right path, He teaches his way to the poor.
His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will.

Lord, for the sake of your name forgive my guilt, for it is great.
If anyone fears the Lord he will show him the path he should choose. His soul will live in happiness and his children shall possess the land.

The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant.
My eyes are always on the Lord; for he rescues my feet from the snare.

Turn to me and have mercy for I am lonely and poor.
Relieve the anguish of my heart and set me free from my distress.

See my affliction and my toil and take all my sins away.
See how many are my foes; how violent their hatred for me. Preserve my life and rescue me.

Do not disappoint me, you are my refuge. May innocence and uprightness protect me: for my hope is in you, O Lord.
Redeem Israel, O God, from all its distress.

Psalm 30:
In you, O Lord, I take refuge. Let me never be put to shame.
In your justice, set me free, hear me and speedily rescue me.

Be a rock of refuge for me, a mighty stronghold to save me,
for you are my rock, my stronghold. For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

Release me from the snares they have hidden for you are my refuge, Lord.
Into your hands I commend my spirit. It is you who will redeem me, Lord.

O God of truth, you detest those who worship false and empty gods.
As for me, I trust in the Lord: let me be glad and rejoice in your love.

You who have seen my affliction and taken heed of my soul's distress,
have not handed me over to the enemy, but set my feet at large.

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in distress.
Tears have wasted my eyes, my throat and my heart.

For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighs.
Affliction has broken down my strength and my bones waste away.

In the face of all my foes I am a reproach,
an object of scorn to my neighbors and of fear to my friends.

Those who see me in the street run far away from me.
I am like a dead man, forgotten, like a thing thrown away.

I have heard the slander of the crowd, fear is all around me,
as they plot together against me, as they plan to take my life.

But as for me, I trust in you, Lord; I say: "You are my God.
My life is in your hands, deliver me from the hands of those who hate me.

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your love.
Let me not be put to shame for I call you, let the wicked be shamed!

Let them be silenced in the grave, let lying lips be dumb,
that speak haughtily against the just with pride and contempt."

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you,
that you show to those who trust you in the sight of men.

You hide them in the shelter of your presence from the plotting of men;
you keep them safe within your tent from disputing tongues.

Blessed be the Lord who has shown me
the wonders of his love in a fortified city.

"I am far removed from your sight" I said in my alarm.
Yet you heard the voice of my plea when I cried for help.

Love the Lord, all you saints. He guards his faithful
but the Lord will repay to the full those who act with pride.

Be strong, let your heart take courage, all who hope in the Lord.

Psalm 90:
He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty
says to the Lord: "My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!"

It is he who will free you from the snare of the fowler who seeks to destroy you;
he will conceal you with his pinions and under his wings you will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day,
nor the plague that prowls in the darkness nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand fall at your right,
you, it will never approach; his faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eyes have only to look to see how the wicked are repaid,
you who have said: "Lord, my refuge!" and have made the Most High your dwelling.

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell.
For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon.

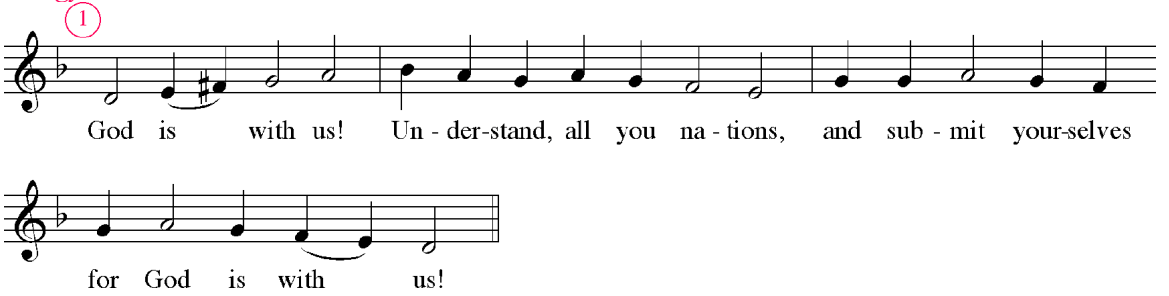
Since he clings to me in love, I will free him; protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: "I am with you," I will save him in distress and give him glory.

With length of days I will content him; I shall let him see my saving power.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! *(Three times, third time with melody)*

GOD IS WITH US

Clergy or Cantor:



All:



- Give ear all you distant lands, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- You mighty ones, submit yourselves, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- If you strengthen yourselves again, again you will be defeated, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- Form a plan, but the Lord will thwart it, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- Whatever word you speak will not stand even among yourselves, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- We will not fear what you fear nor shall we be dismayed, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- Hallow the Lord our God and He will be your fear, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- If you trust in Him, He will be your refuge, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- We will hope in Him and by Him will we be saved, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- Here am I with the children God has given me, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- Upon you who dwelt in the shadow of death a light has shone, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- For a child is born to us; a son is given to us, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- Upon His shoulder dominion rests, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- Of His peace there is no end, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- They call Him Angel of Great Counsel, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- Wonderful Counselor, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- Mighty God, Master, Prince of Peace, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

- Father of the age to come, for God is with us. *Refrain (1)*
- Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen, for God is with us. *Refrain (2)*

Clergy: God is with us! Understand, all you nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us!
All: God is with us! Understand, all you nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

Our human ears have never heard the songs of praise | offered you by bodiless beings, the cherubim;
nor the joyful and never-ceasing glory | tendered by the six-winged seraphim;

nor the thrice-holy hymns | of all the angelic hosts.
O Trinity undivided: | Being from forever!

Before all that is or was or will be: | Father, before all ages,
eternal with your only Son, | like you without beginning,

and your Holy Spirit of Life, | equal in honor!
All-holy Virgin, Theotokos, | and you, eyewitnesses and servants of the Word,

with all the choirs of prophets and martyrs, | who dwell in everlasting life!
Look at us, behold our wretchedness! | Never cease praying for us,

that, freed from all the snares of evil, | we, too, may sing loudly the angelic hymn:
Holy, holy, holy are you, thrice-holy Lord! | Have mercy on us, and save us, amen!

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, | Creator of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible;
and in one Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, the only-begotten, | born of the Father before all ages.

Light from light, true God from true God, | begotten, not-made,
one in essence with the Father; | through whom all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, | he came down from heaven
and was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, | and became man.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, | and suffered and was buried.
He rose on the third day | according to the scriptures.

He ascended into heaven | and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he is coming again in glory to judge the living and the dead, | and his kingdom will have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of Life, | who proceeds from the Father.
Together with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified; | he spoke through the prophets.

In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. | I profess one baptism for the remission of sins.
I expect the resurrection of the dead | and the life of the world to come. Amen.

All-holy Lady, Theotokos, | pray for us sinners!
Angels and archangels, and all you powers of heaven above, | pray for us sinners!

O holy John, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist of the Lord, | pray for us sinners!
All you apostles and martyrs and prophets, | pray for us sinners!

All you venerable and god-bearing fathers, bishops and teachers of the universal church, | pray for us sinners!
O holy *(Name/s of the patron/s of this church),* | **pray for us sinners!**

With the invincible, ineffable and divine power of the holy and life-giving cross, | O Lord, protect us always!
O God, cleanse us sinners! | O God, cleanse us sinners!

O God, cleanse us sinners | and have mercy on us!

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, | have mercy on us. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; | Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

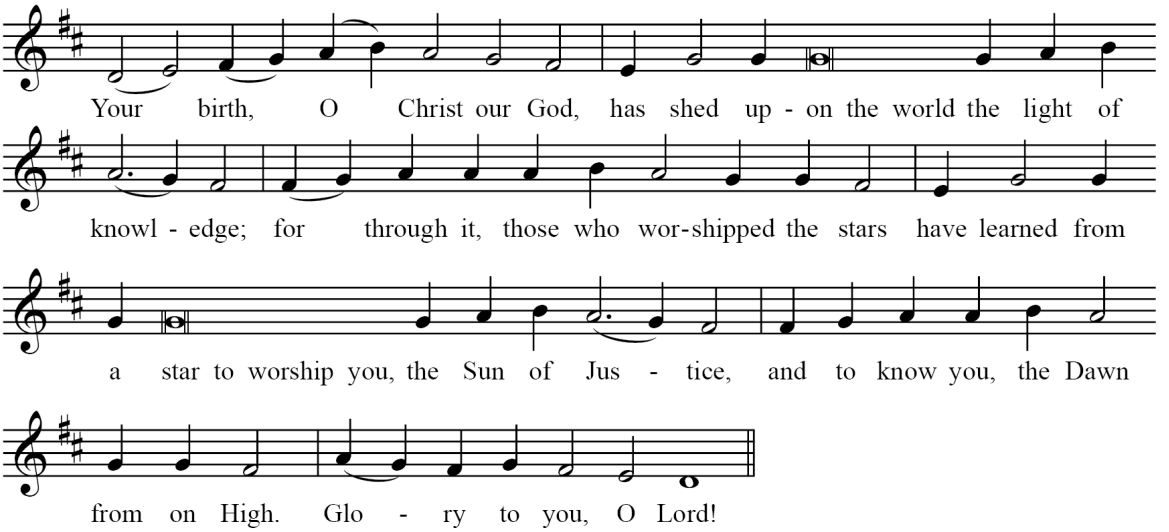
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, | but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

Troparion of the Nativity - *Tone 4*



The priest, vested in epitrachilion, comes before the holy doors.

Lord, have mercy. *(40 times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, | who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, | Father, give the blessing.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us!

Response: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF OUR HOLY FATHER BASIL THE GREAT

Priest: O Lord, our Lord, as you preserved us this day from the arrows that fly in daylight, so now keep us safe from everything that lurks about in the darkness of night. To you we raise our hands in prayer: accept this as our evening sacrifice. Count us worthy of sleep free of sin, sheltered from all evil. Keep far from us all the fearful temptations, and every confusion or cowardice that comes from the devil. Fill our souls with contrition and our minds with anxiety as we

become aware of the strictness with which you will search our thoughts on your dread and just day of judgment. Nail our flesh to fear of you. Mortify our bodies, that in the quiet of sleep, we may be illumined with the vision of your judgments. Spare us from indecent dreams and all improper desires. Awaken us in time for prayer, strong in faith and ready to observe all you have taught us. Through the loving kindness of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit: now and ever, and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

THE SECOND PART OF GREAT COMPLINE

Come, let us worship our King and God. *(Bow)*
Come, let us worship Christ our King and God. *(Bow)*
| Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God. *(Bow)*

Psalm 50:
Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. | In your compassion blot out my offense.
O wash me more and more from my guilt | and cleanse me from my sin.

My offenses truly I know them; | my sin is always before me
Against you, you alone, have I sinned; | what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence | and be without reproach when you judge,
O see, in guilt I was born, | a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart; | then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.
O purify me, then I shall be clean; | O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness, | that the bones you have crushed may thrill.
From my sins turn away your face | and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God, | put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence, | nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help; | with a spirit of fervor sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways | and sinners may return to you.

O rescue me, God, my helper, | and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.
O Lord, open my lips | and my mouth shall declare your praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight, | burnt offering from me you would refuse,
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit, | a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

In your goodness, show favor to Zion: | rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice, burnt offerings wholly consumed, | then you will be offered young bulls on your altar.

Psalm 101:
O Lord, listen to my prayer | and let my cry for help reach you.
Do not hide your face from me | in the day of my distress.

Turn your ear towards me | and answer me quickly when I call.
For my days are vanishing like smoke, | my bones burn away like a fire.

My heart is withered like the grass. | I forget to eat my bread.
I cry with all my strength | and my skin clings to my bones.

I have become like a pelican in the wilderness | like an owl in desolate places.
I lie awake and I moan | like some lonely bird on a roof.

All day long my foes revile me; | those who hate me use my name as a curse.
The bread I eat is ashes; | my drink is mingled with tears.

In your anger, Lord, and your fury | you have lifted me up and thrown me down.
My days are like a passing shadow | and I wither away like the grass.

But you, O Lord, will endure for ever | and your name from age to age.
You will arise and have mercy on Zion: | for this is the time to have mercy,

yes, the time appointed has come | for your servants love her very stones, are moved with pity even for her dust.
The nations shall fear the name of the Lord | and all the earth's kings your glory,

when the Lord shall build up Zion again | and appear in all his glory.
Then he will turn to the prayers of the helpless; | he will not despise their prayers.

Let this be written for ages to come that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord; | for the Lord leaned down from his sanctuary on high.
He looked down from heaven to the earth | that he might hear the groans of the prisoners and free those condemned to die.

The sons of your servants shall dwell untroubled | and their race shall endure before you
that the name of the Lord may be proclaimed in Zion | and his praise in the heart of Jerusalem,

when peoples and kingdoms are gathered together | to pay their homage to the Lord.
He has broken my strength in mid-course; | he has shortened the days of my life.

I say to God: “Do not take me away before my day are complete, | you, whose days last from age to age.
Long ago you founded the earth | and the heavens are the work of your hands.

They will perish but you will remain. | They will wear out like a garment.
You will change them like clothes that are changed. | But you neither change, nor have an end.”

The Prayer of Manasseh:
O Lord God of our fathers. | God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and their righteous offspring;
He who made the heaven and the earth | with all their beauty.

He who bound the sea | and established it by the command of his word,
he who closed the bottomless pit | and sealed it by his powerful and glorious name:

You, before whom all things fear and tremble; | especially before your power.
Because your awesome magnificence | cannot be endured;

none can endure or stand before | your anger and your fury against sinners.
But unending and immeasurable | are your promised mercies;

Because you are the Lord. | long-suffering. merciful, and greatly compassionate.
and you feel sorry over the evils of men.

You, O Lord, according to your gentle grace, | promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins,
and in your manifold mercies | appointed repentance for sinners as the way to salvation,

You, therefore, O Lord, God of the righteous, | did not appoint grace for the righteous,
such as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, | those who did not sin against you;

but you appointed grace for me, | I who am a sinner.
Because my sins exceeded the number of the sands of the sea, | and on account of the multitude of my iniquities, I have no strength to lift up my eyes.

And now, O Lord, I am justly afflicted, | and I am deservedly harassed; already I am ensnared.
And I am bent by many iron chains, | so that I cannot lift up my head;

for I do not deserve to lift up my eyes | and look to see the height of heaven,
because of the gross iniquity of my wicked deeds, | because I did evil things before you,

and provoked your fury, | and set up idols and multiplied impurity.
And now behold I am bending the knees of my heart before you; | and I am beseeching your kindness.

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned; | and I certainly know my sins.
I beseech you; | forgive me, O Lord, forgive me!

Do not destroy me with my transgressions; | do not be angry against me forever;
do not remember my evils; | and do not condemn me and banish me to the depths of the earth!

For you are the God of those who repent. | In me you will manifest all your grace;
and although I am not worthy, | you will save me according to your manifold mercies.

Because of this salvation I shall praise you continually | all the days of my life.
because all the hosts of heaven praise you, | and sing to you forever and ever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! | Glory to you, O God!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! | Glory to you, O God!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! *(Third time with melody)*

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, | have mercy on us. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; | Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

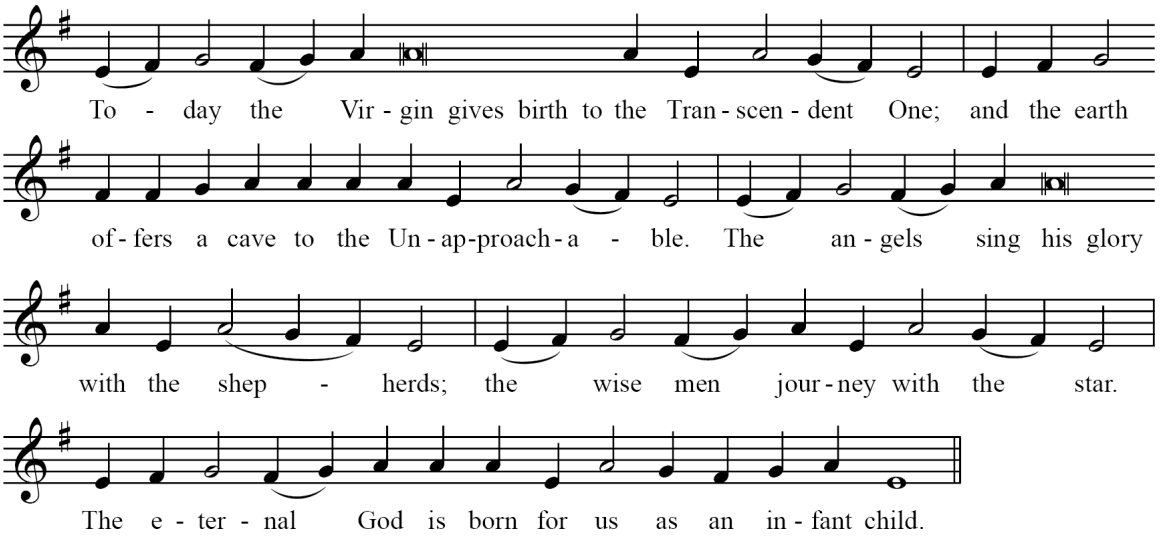
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, | but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

Kontakion of the Nativity - *Tone 3*



Lord, have mercy. *(40 times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, | who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, | Father, give the blessing.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us!

Response: **Amen.**

Priest: O God our Master, Almighty Father, only-begotten Son, Lord Jesus Christ; and You, O Holy Spirit, one God and one Power, have mercy on me a sinner, and save me, your unworthy servant, according to the ways of Your wisdom. For You are blessed forever and ever.

Response: **Amen.**

THE THIRD PART OF GREAT COMPLINE

Come, let us worship our King and God. *(Bow)*
Come, let us worship Christ our King and God. *(Bow)*
| Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God. *(Bow)*

Psalm 69:
O God, make haste to my rescue, | Lord, come to my aid!
Let there be shame and confusion | on those who seek my life.

O let them turn back in confusion, | who delight in my harm,
let them retreat, covered with shame, | who jeer at my lot.

Let there be rejoicing and gladness | for all who seek you.
Let them say for ever: "God is great," | who love your saving help.

As for me, wretched and poor, | come to me, O God.
You are my rescuer, my help, | O Lord, do not delay.

Psalm 142:
Lord, listen to my prayer: turn your ear to my appeal. | You are faithful, you are just; give answer.
Do not call your servant to judgment | for no one is just in your sight.

The enemy pursues my soul; | he has crushed my life to the ground;
he has made me dwell in darkness | like the dead, long forgotten.

Therefore my spirit fails; | my heart is numb within me.
I remember the days that are past: | I ponder all your works.

I muse on what your hand has wrought | and to you I stretch out my hands.
Like a parched land | my soul thirsts for you.

Lord, make haste and answer; | for my spirit fails within me.
Do not hide your face | lest I become like those in the grave.

In the morning let me know your love | for I put my trust in you.
Make me know the way I should walk: | to you I lift up my soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies; | I have fled to you for refuge.
Teach me to do your will | for you, O Lord, are my God.

Let your good spirit guide me | in ways that are level and smooth.
For your name's sake, Lord, save my life; | in your justice save my soul from distress.

In your love | make an end of my foes;
destroy all those who oppress me | for I am your servant, O Lord.

THE LESSER DOXOLOGY

Glory to God in the highest, | and to people on earth, peace and good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, | we glorify you, we thank you for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, Father Almighty; | Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit.
Lord God, Lamb of God, | Son of the Father,

You take away the sin of the world, | have mercy on us
You take away the sins of the world, | hear our prayer.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father, | have mercy on us.
For you alone are holy, you alone are the Lord, Jesus Christ, | to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

I will bless you day after day, | and praise your name forever.
O Lord, you have been our refuge | from one generation to the next.

I said: Lord, have mercy on me, | heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.
O Lord, I have fled to you, | teach me to do your will, for you, O Lord, are my God.

In you is the source of life | and in your light we see light.
Extend your mercy to those who know you. | Make us worthy, O Lord, to be kept sinless this morning.

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, | and praiseworthy and glorious is your name forever. Amen
May your mercy, O Lord, be upon us | because we have placed our hope in you.

Blessed are you, O Lord, | teach me your commandments.
Blessed are you, O Master, | make me understand your commandments.

Blessed are you, O Holy One, | enlighten me with your commandments.
O Lord, your mercy is forever; | despise not the work of your hands.

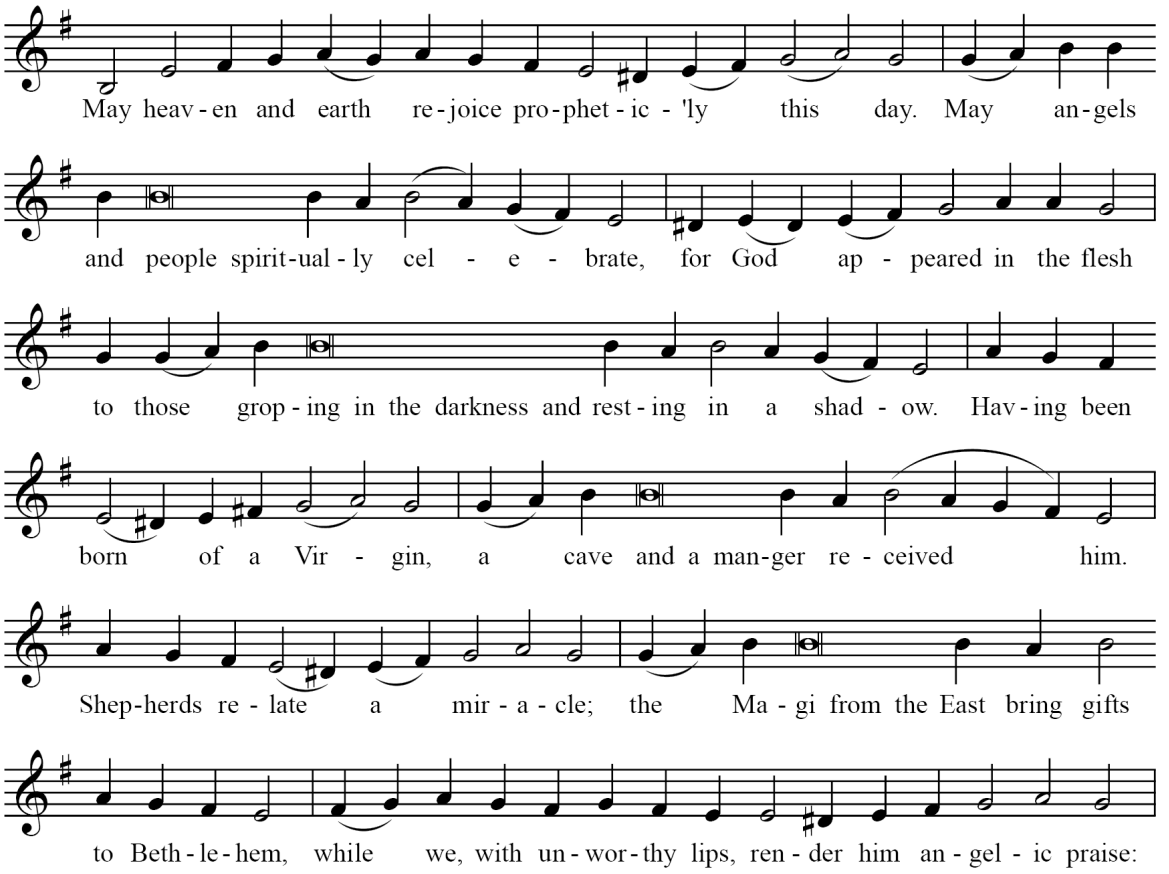
To you is due praise, to you is due a hymn; | to you is glory due.
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

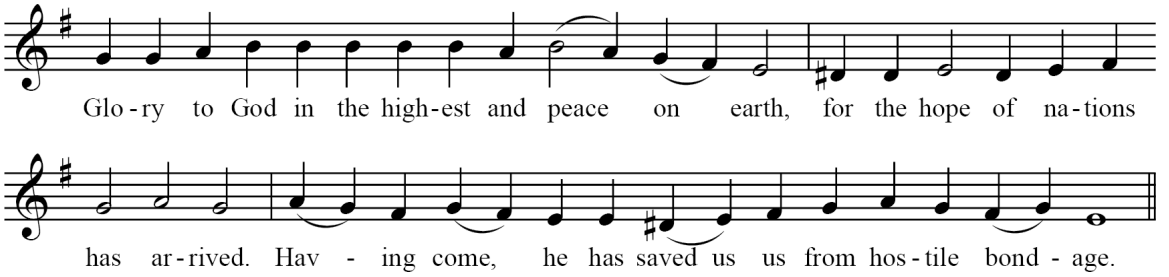
LITIJA

The celebrant takes the hand cross, and the deacon the censer. Together with the faithful, the clergy process to the narthex. The celebrant leaves the sanctuary through the holy doors, and the deacon through the northern door. Concelebrating priests may join in this procession, each vested in epitrachilion and phelonion.

Having received the blessing from the celebrant, the deacon incenses the icons in the narthex, the priest(s), and the faithful in the narthex.

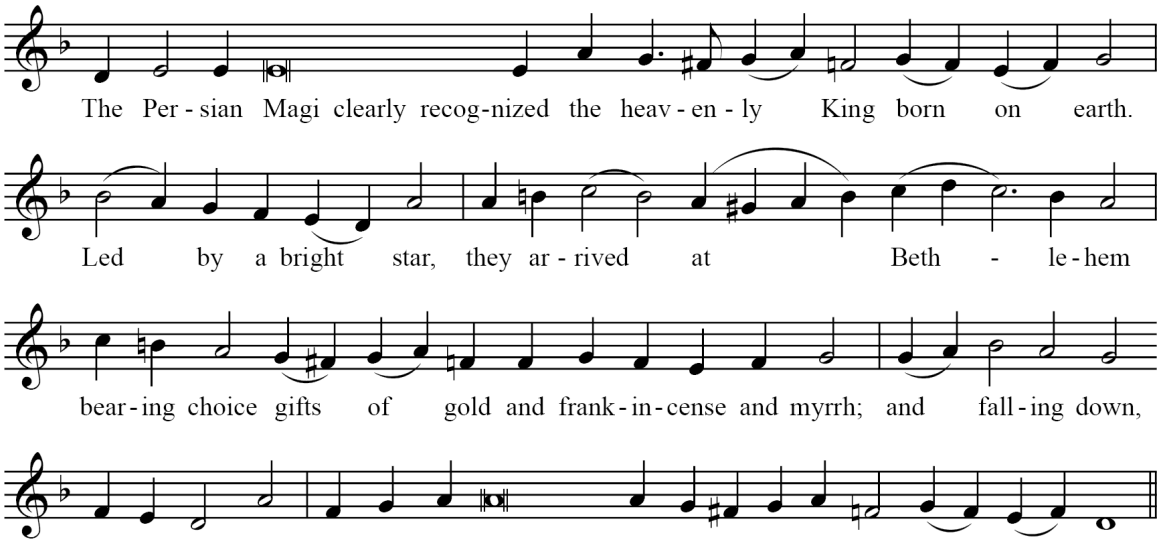
Tone 1 Bolhar





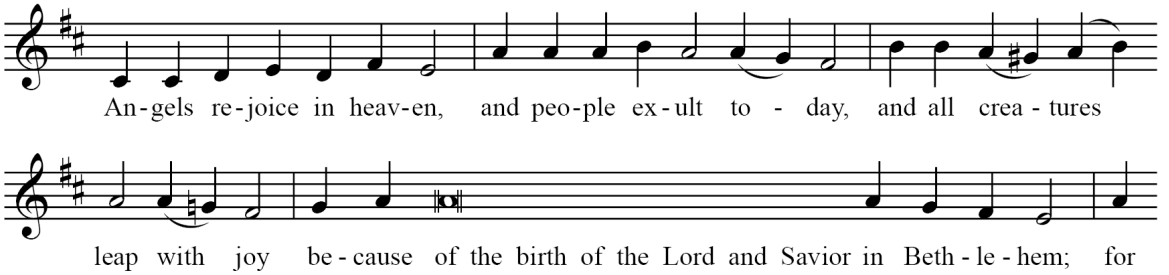
Cantor: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Doxastikon - *Tone 5 Bolhar*



Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen.

Tone 6 samohlasen





Deacon: Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance. Watch over your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the strength of true Christians and send down upon us your abundant mercies. Through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary; by the power of the precious and life-creating cross; through the protection of the honorable and heavenly angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonder-worker, archbishop of Myra in Lycia, of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyrs, Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo, Paul, bishop of Prešov, and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of all other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the holy *(Name/s of the patron/s of this church);* and of all the saints; we beseech you, all-merciful Lord, hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.

Response: Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

- Again we pray for our holy father *(Name),* Pope of Rome, for his health and salvation, and that the Lord God may hasten and assist him in everything; O Lord, hear and have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

- Again we pray for our most reverend Metropolitan *(Name),* for our God-loving Bishop *(Name), [if in a monastery:* our most venerable hieromonks, our Proto-archimandrite *(Name),* our Archimandrite *(Name),* our Proto-hegumen *(Name),* and our Hegumen *(Name),]* for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ, and for every Christian soul that is troubled and afflicted and in need of God's mercy and help; for the protection of this city *[or:* of this holy monastery*]* and those who dwell here; for the peace and serenity of the whole world; for the stability of the holy Churches of God; for the salvation and assistance of our fathers and brothers and sisters who labor and serve with diligence and fear of God; for those who are absent and those who are traveling; for the healing of those who are confined by illness; for the repose, blessed memory, remission, and forgiveness of sins of all our true-believing fathers and brothers and sisters who have gone before us; and for all our brothers and sisters who are present at these services, and for all who have served and now serve in this holy church *[or:* in this holy monastery*];* let us say.

Response: **Lord, have mercy.** *(12 times)*

Celebrant: Hear us, O God our Savior, hope of the ends of the earth and of those far off at sea. Be merciful to us, O merciful Master, on account of our sins, and have mercy on us. For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

Celebrant: + Peace be to all.

Response: **And to your spirit.**

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Response: **To you, O Lord.**

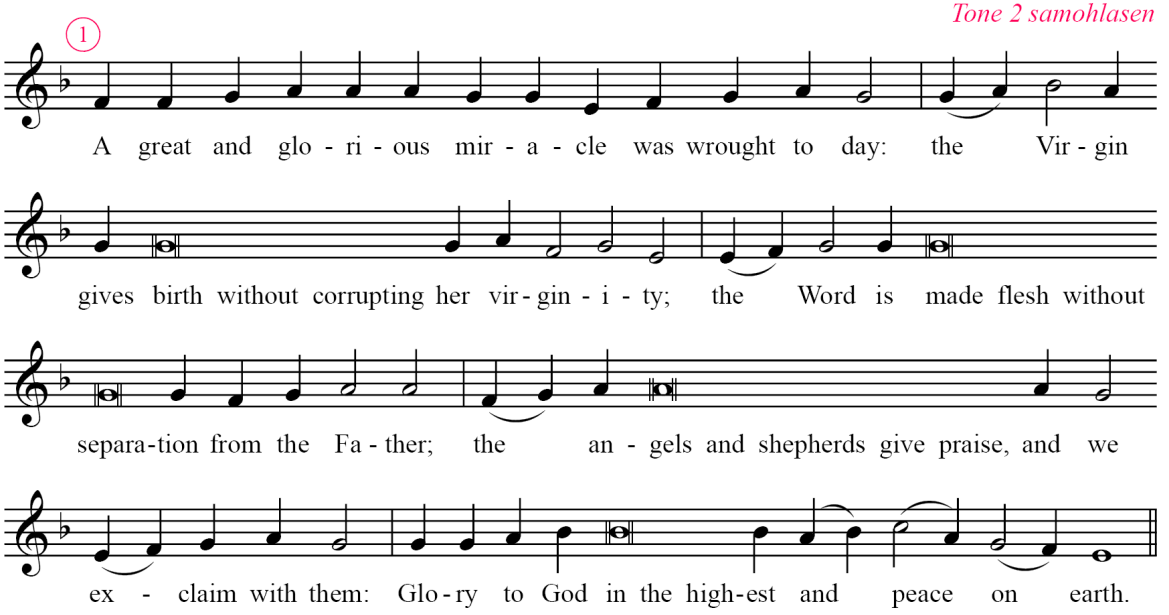
Celebrant: All-merciful Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, make our prayer acceptable; through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary; by the power of the precious and life-creating cross; through the protection of the honorable and heavenly angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonder-worker, archbishop of Myra in Lycia, of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyrs, Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo, Paul, bishop of Prešov, and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of all our venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the holy *(Name/s of the patron/s of this church);* and of all the saints. Grant us remission of our faults; shelter us under the shadow of your wings; drive away from us every enemy and adversary; and make our life peaceful. Lord, have mercy on us and on your world, and save our souls, for you are good and love us all.

Response: **Amen.**

All then enter the nave of the church and sing the Apostichera.
The clergy stand at the tetrapod, where the loaves, wheat, wine, and oil have been prepared.

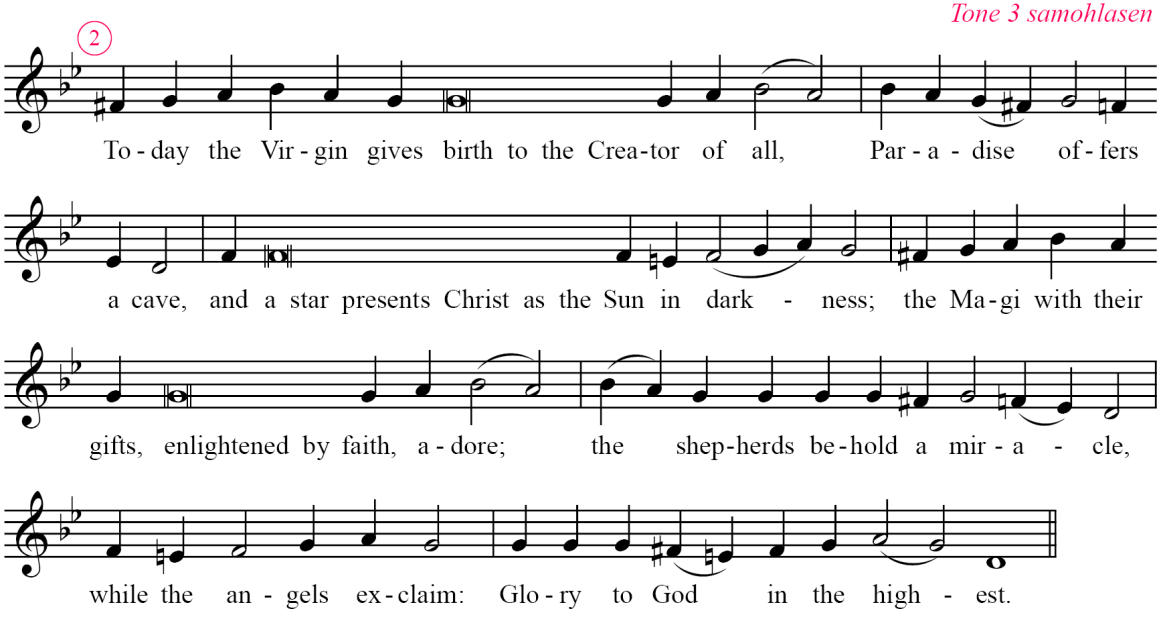
APOSTICHERA

Tone 2 samohlasen



Cantor: From eternity you have been born of my womb, vows the Lord who does not repent.

Tone 3 samohlasen

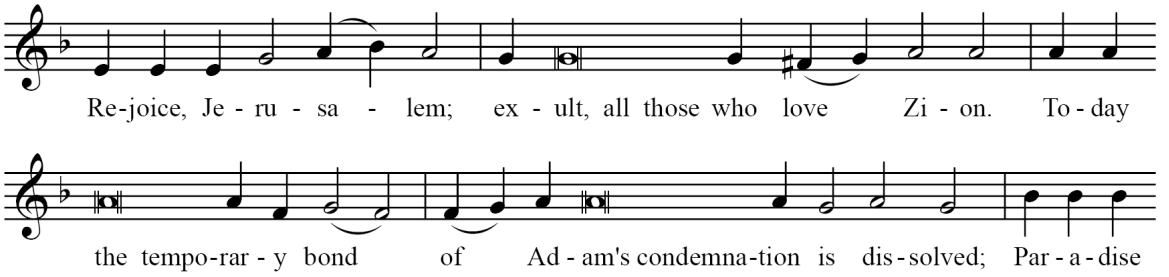


Cantor: The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand.



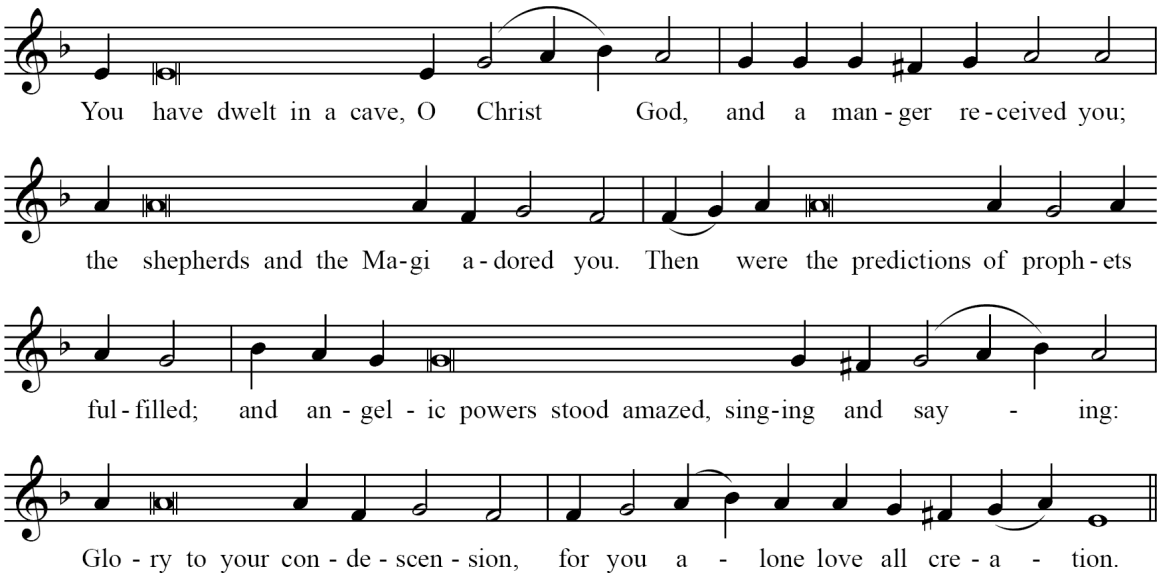
Cantor: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Doxastikon - *Tone 4 samohlasen*

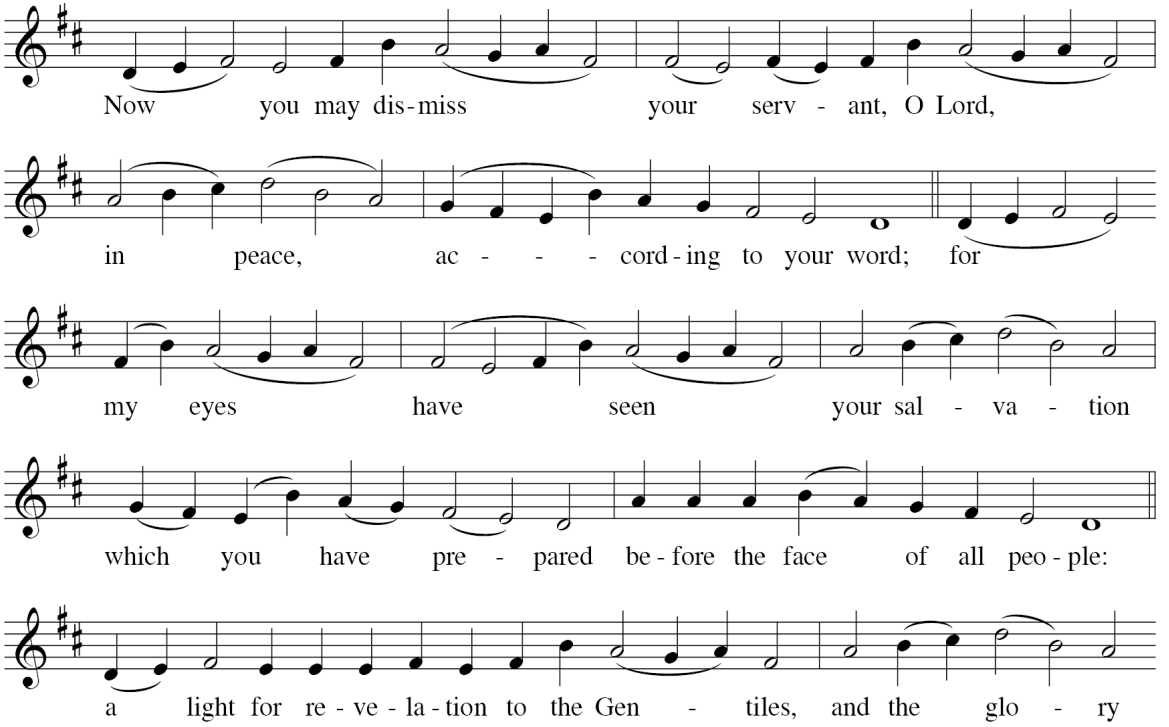




Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen.



THE PRAYER OF HOLY SIMEON THE GOD-BEARER





Three times:





Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; | Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, | now and ever and forever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, | but deliver us from evil.

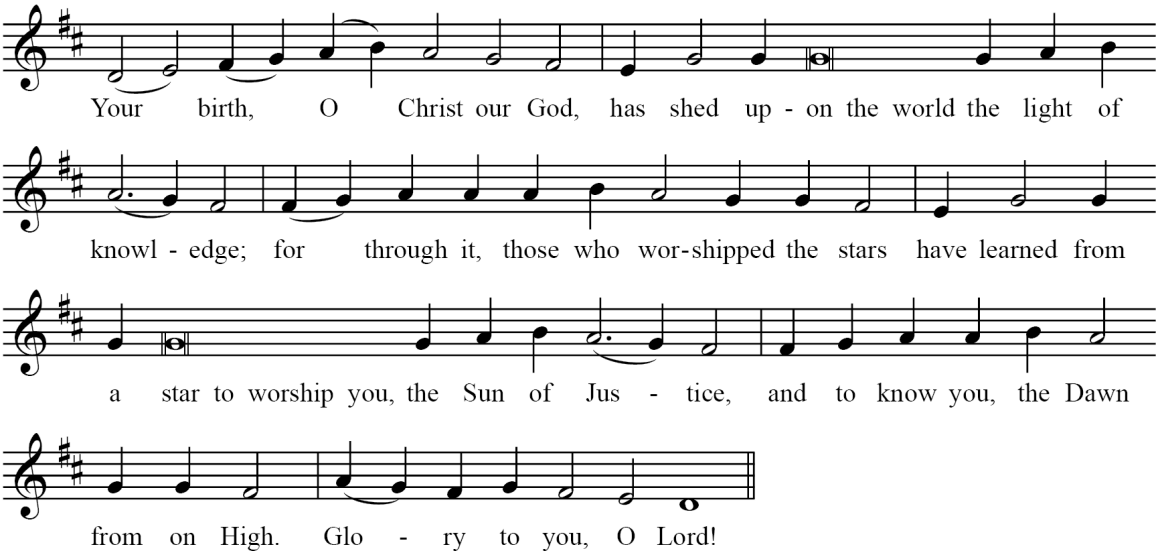
Celebrant: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

TROPARION

During the Troparion the deacon, having received the blessing of the celebrant, incenses around the tetrapod three times and then incenses the priest(s).

Troparion of the Nativity - *Tone 4*



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

The faithful repeat **"Your birth, O Christ our God..."**

Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen.

The faithful repeat **"Your birth, O Christ our God..."**

BLESSING OF BREAD

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy.

The celebrant takes one loaf and blesses the other four with it. Having returned the loaf, he then intones the prayer of blessing. At the words, "bless these loaves, wheat, wine, and oil," he points to each substance with his right hand.

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ our God, you blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and fed the five thousand. Likewise bless these loaves, wheat, wine, and oil, and multiply them in this city and through your whole world. Sanctify your faithful who will partake of them, for you yourself bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you with your eternal Father and your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

First time sung by the priest, then by all the faithful:



All:



After the blessing, the celebrant and the deacon, who carries the tray of loaves, wheat, wine, and oil, enter the sanctuary, both entering by way of the holy doors.

Psalm 33:

I will bless the Lord at all times, | his praise always on my lips;
In the Lord | my soul shall make its boast.

The humble shall hear | and be glad.
Glorify the Lord with me. | Together let us praise his name.

I sought the Lord and he answered me; | from all my terrors he set me free.
Look towards him and be radiant; | let your faces not be abashed.

This poor man called, the Lord heard him | and rescued him from all his distress.
The angel of the Lord is encamped, | around those who revere him, to rescue them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good. | He is happy who seeks refuge in him.
Revere the Lord, you his saints. | They lack nothing, those who revere him.

Strong lions suffer want and go hungry | but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord be upon you through his grace and loving-kindness, always, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

If Matins follows, begin with the Hexapsalmos now. Otherwise:

DISMISSAL

The deacon leaves the sanctuary through the southern door and stands near the icon of Christ the Lord. Looking towards the faithful and elevating the orarion, he intones:

Deacon: Wisdom!

Response: | **Give the blessing.**

Celebrant: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

Response: **Amen.**
O God, uphold the holy and true faith, | **forever and ever.**

Celebrant: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Response: **More honorable than the cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim;** | **who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify.**

Celebrant: Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope, glory to you.

Response: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,** | **now and ever and forever. Amen.**
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. | **Give the blessing.**

Facing the faithful, the celebrant intones the Prayer of Dismissal:

Priest: May Christ our true God, who for our salvation was born in a cave in Bethlehem of Judea and lay in a manger, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

Response: **Amen.**

The deacon enters the sanctuary through the southern door, and closes the holy doors. The celebrant and the deacon kiss the holy table and remove their vestments.

THE END OF COMPLINE.