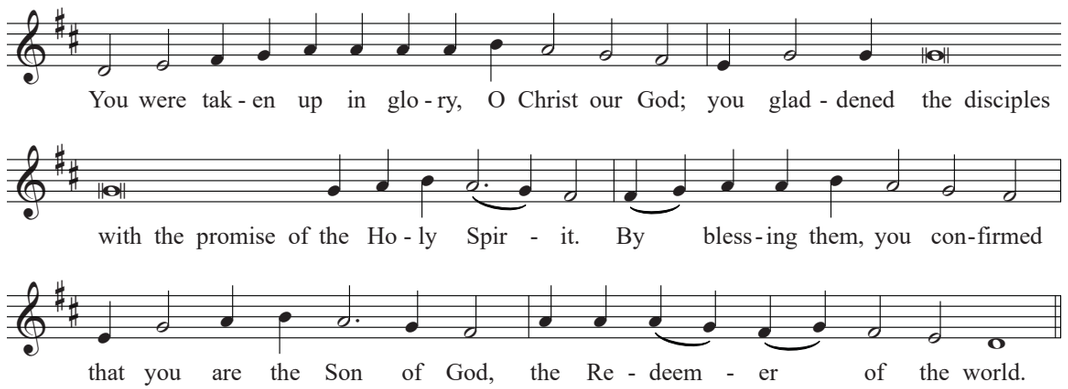
Matins Propers
Ascension of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ

All page references are to ***The Order of Matins: Sundays and Feasts,*** *2006*

"The Lord is God", Tone 4, p. 162.

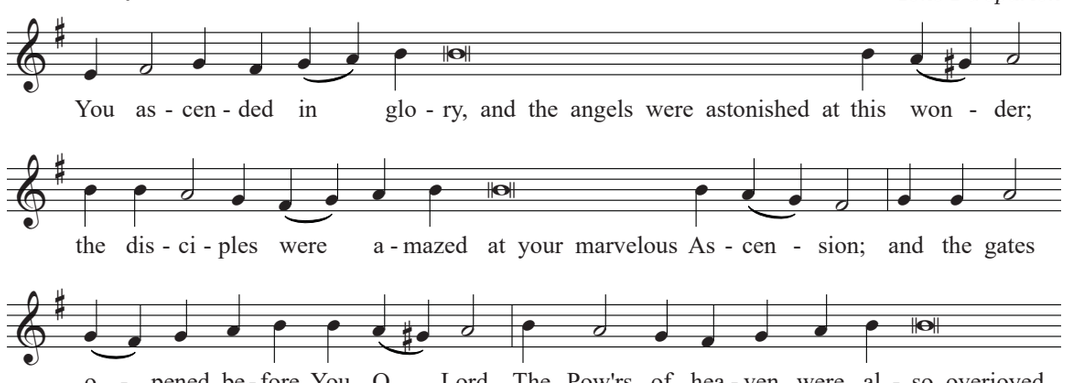
Troparion of Ascension - *Tone 4*



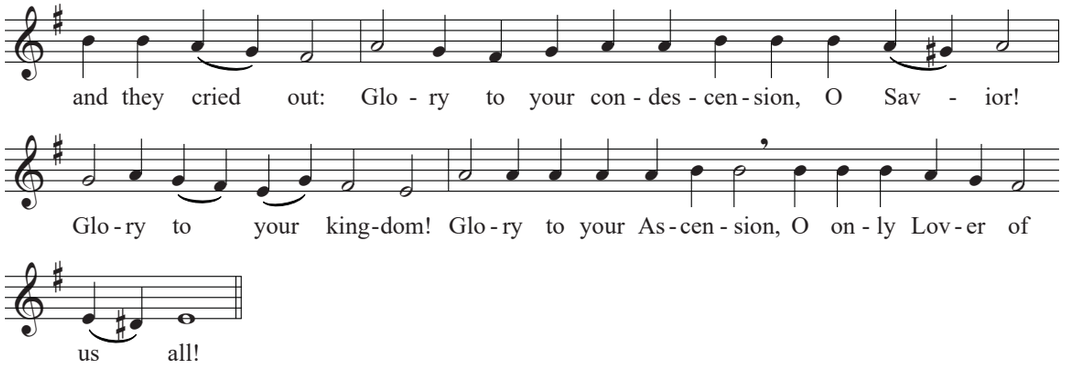
Cantor: Glory… *(All repeat the Troparion)*

Cantor: Now and ever… *(All repeat the Troparion)*

Sessional Hymn 1 *Tone 1 troparion*



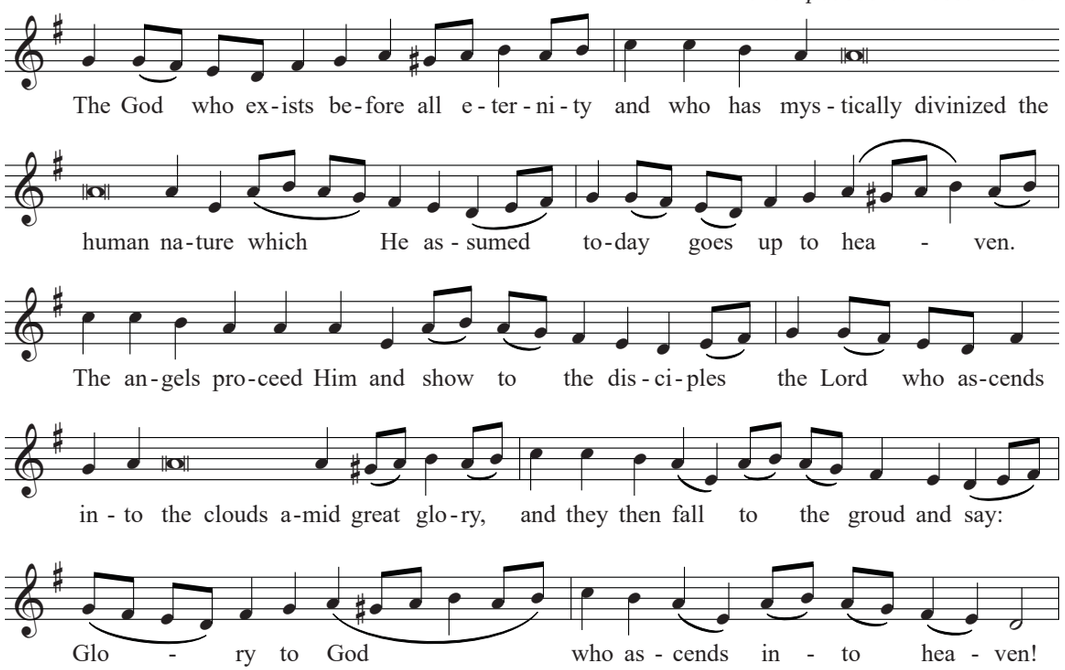
Revised 5/25/26



Cantor Glory…now and ever… *All repeat "You ascended in glory…"*

Sessional Hymn 2

Tone 4 podoben: Krasot'i divstva



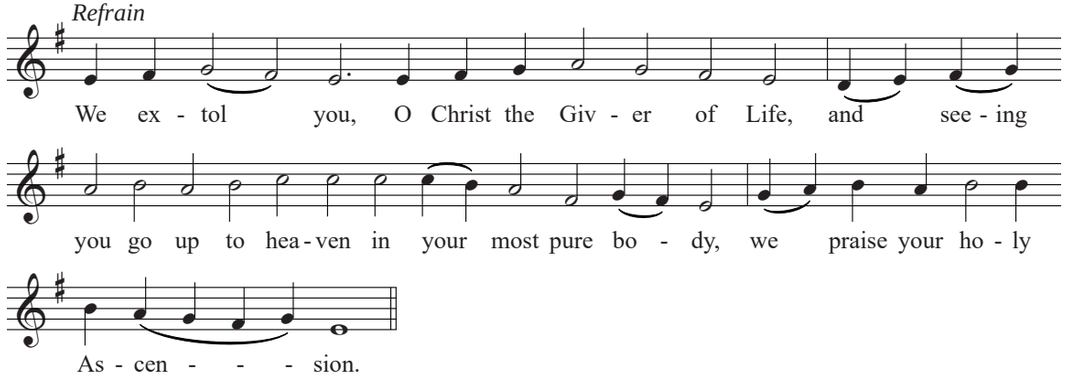
Cantor: Glory…now and ever… *All repeat "The God who exists before all eternity…"*

Polyeleos, p. 16

After the singing of the Polyeleos, the celebrant enthrones the Icon and the Exaltation is sung:

Exaltation - *Ps.46:2, 46:3, 46:6, 23:7, 102:19, 56:6)*

Refrain



Cantor: All you peoples, clap your hands;
shout to God with cries of gladness! *And the people sing the refrain*

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. *Refrain*

God ascends amid shouts of joy;
the Lord amid trumpet blasts. *Refrain*
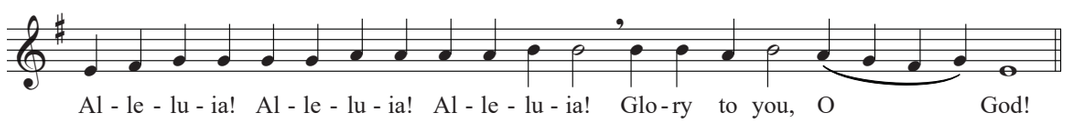
O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors.
Let Him enter, the King of glory. *Refrain*

The Lord has set his throne in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all. *Refrain*

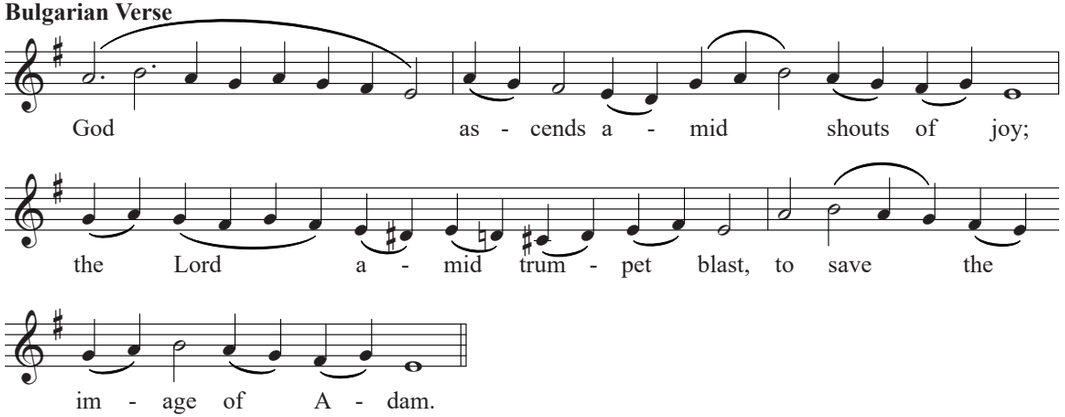
Be exalted above the heavens, O God,
and let your glory be over all the earth! *Refrain*

Glory…now and ever…

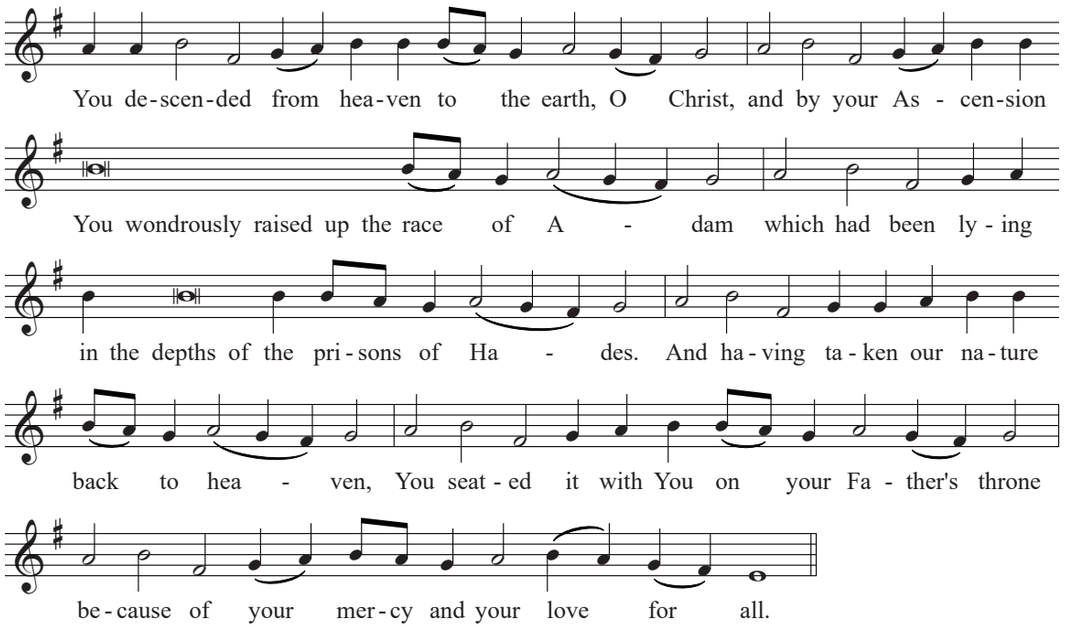
Three times, each with a reverence:



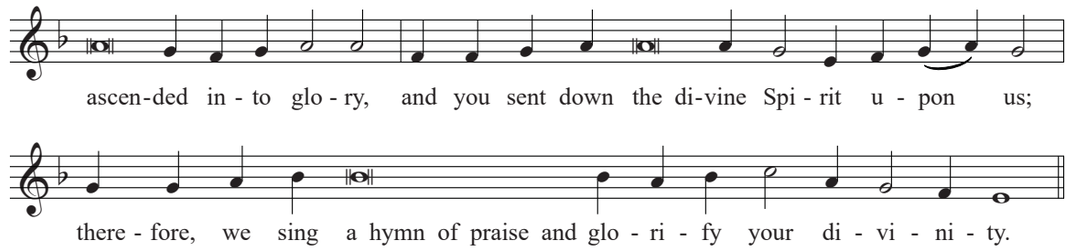
Bulgarian Verse



Sessional Hymn *Tone 5*

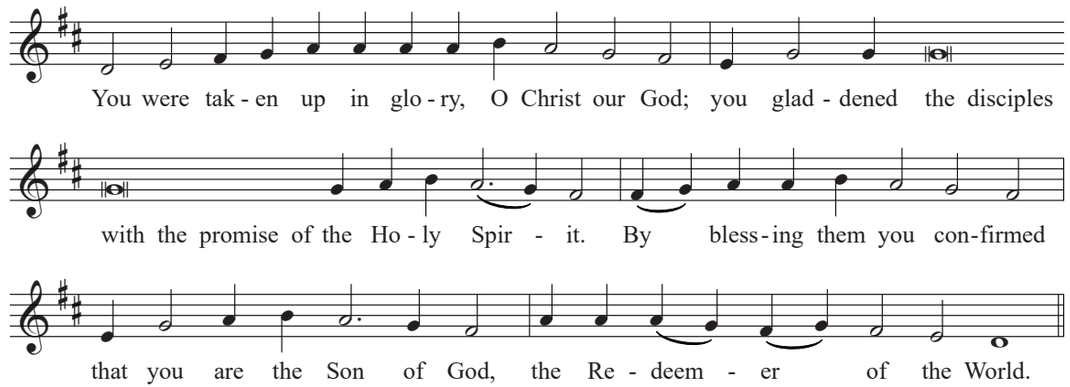


Cantor: Glory…now and ever… *All repeat "You descended from heaven to the earth…"*

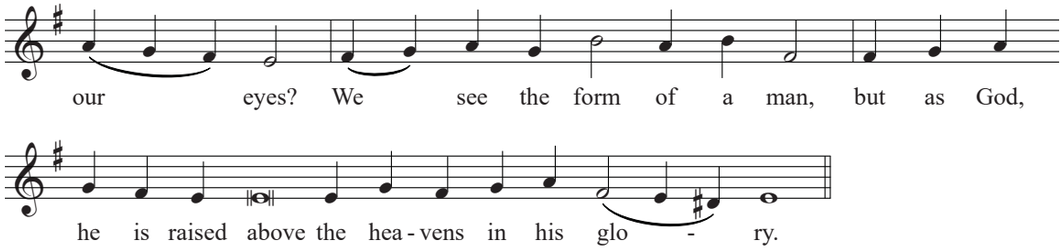


Great Doxology, p. 41.
After the Great Doxology, the troparion of the feast is sung:

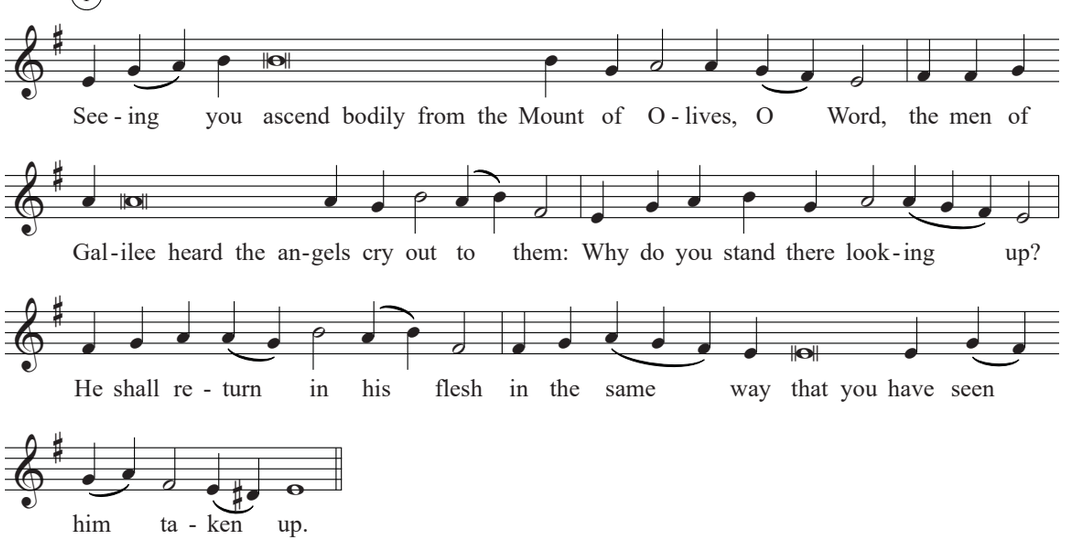
Troparion of Ascension - *Tone 8*



The service continues with the Litany of Supplication, p. 45

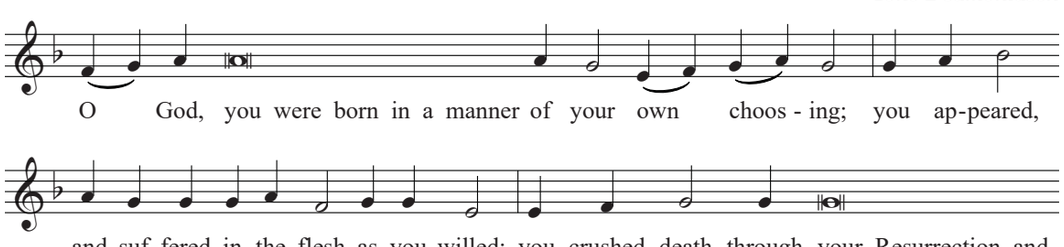


Cantor: O praise him with resounding cymbals, praise him with clashing of cymbals.
(on 1) Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord.



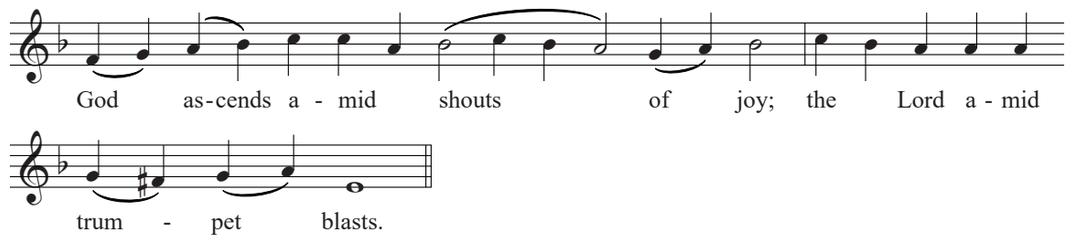
Cantor: *(Tone 2)* Glory…now and ever…

Doxastikon *Tone 2 samohlasen*



The Festal Gradual Hymn ("Ever since the days of my youth") is sung, p. 312.

Prokeimenon - *Tone 4* (Psalm 46:6.2)

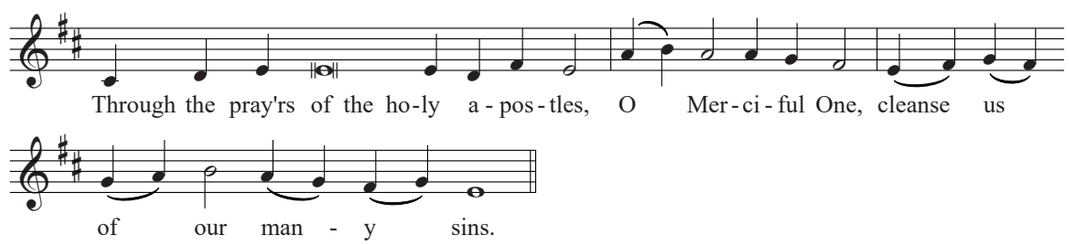


Verse: All you peoples, clap your hands; shout to God with cries of gladness!

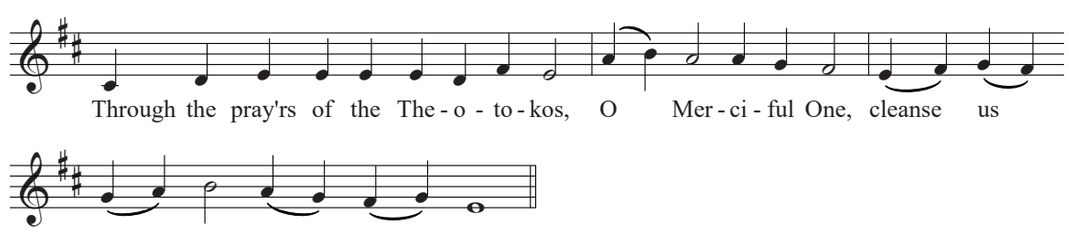
The service continues with the Preparation for the Gospel on page 24.
"Let everything that lives…" in Tone 4, p. 171.
Gospel: Mark 16: 9 - 20.
The Hymn of the Resurrection is sung once, then Psalm 50 (p. 28) and the following stichera:

Cantor: *(Tone 6)* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

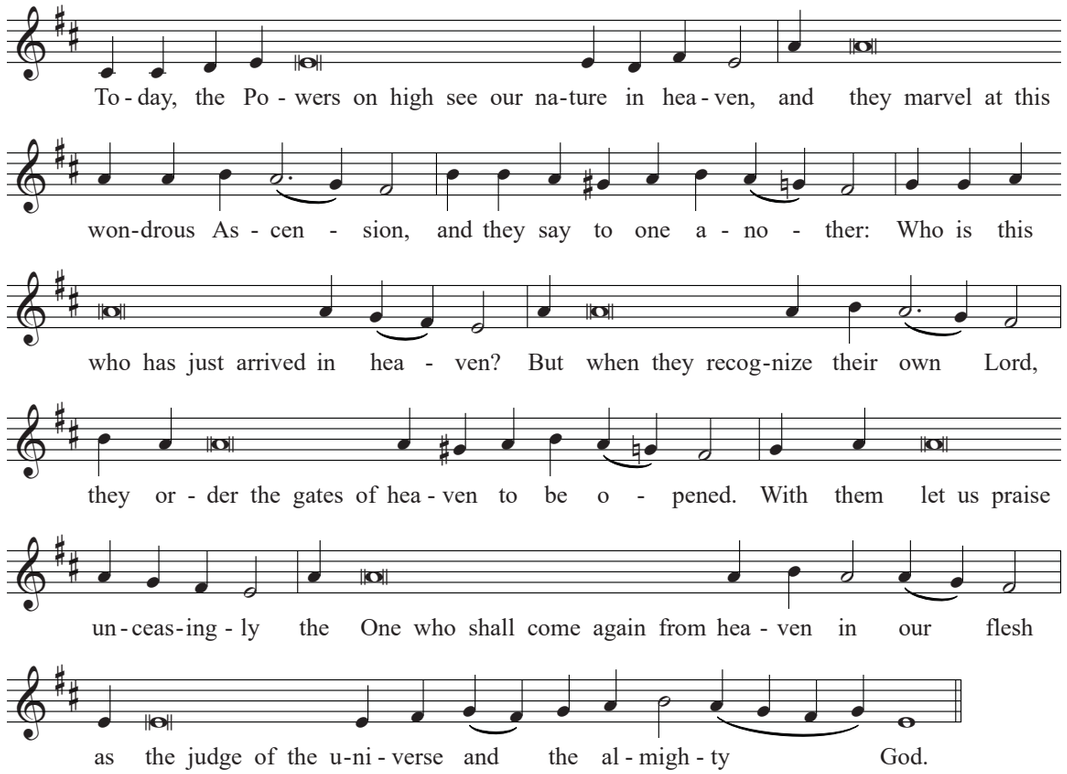
Tone 6 samohlasen



Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen.

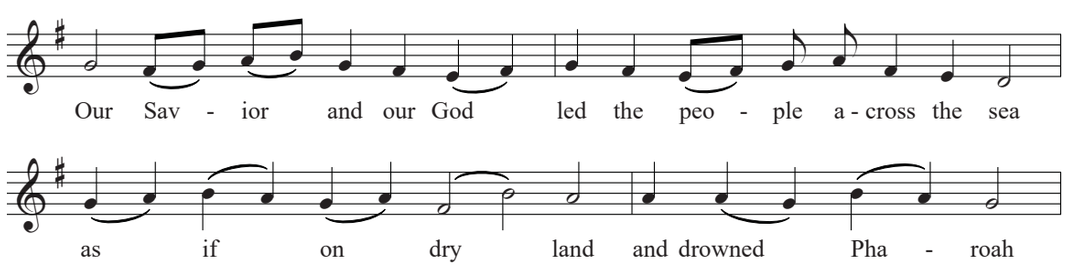


Cantor: Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offense.



Canon

Ode 1
Irmos *Tone 5 samopodoben*



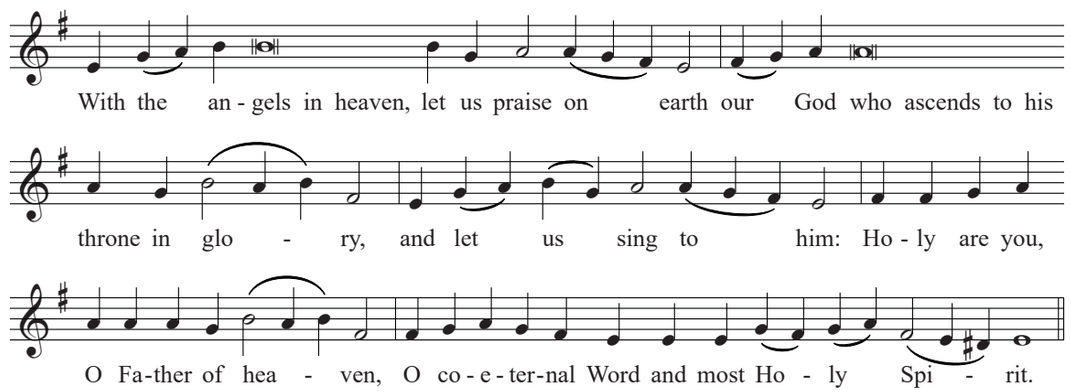
Hymn of Light

O Christ, You were raised up to heaven in the sight of your disciples; * You again went up to share your Father's throne. * The angels who came to meet You at the heavenly gate cried out: * Open your gates and lift up your lintels * so that the King of glory may come in, * for our King comes again to the Source of light. *(3 times)*

The Psalms of Praise are sung in Tone 1 through stich 5 (92-94).

Cantor: *(Tone 1)* Praise him for his powerful deeds,
(on 4) praise his surpassing greatness.

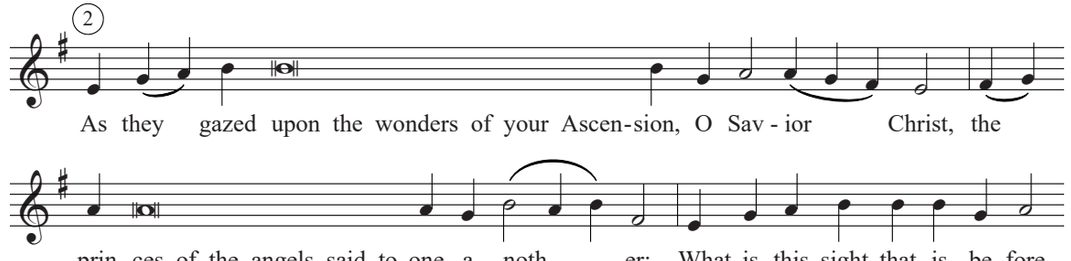
④ & ③ *Tone 1 podoben: Nebesnych činov*

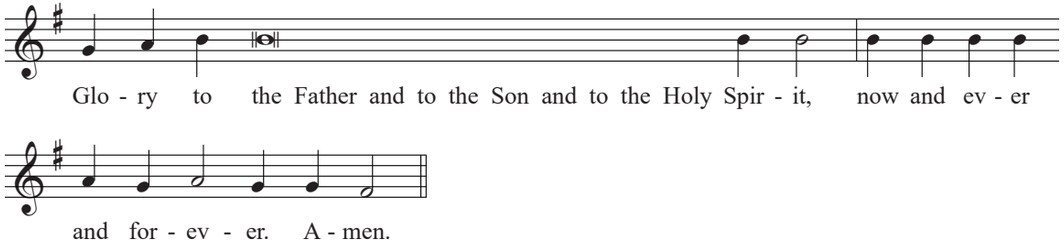


Cantor: O praise him with sound of trumpet
(on 3) praise him with lute and harp. *All repeat "With the angels in heaven…"*

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

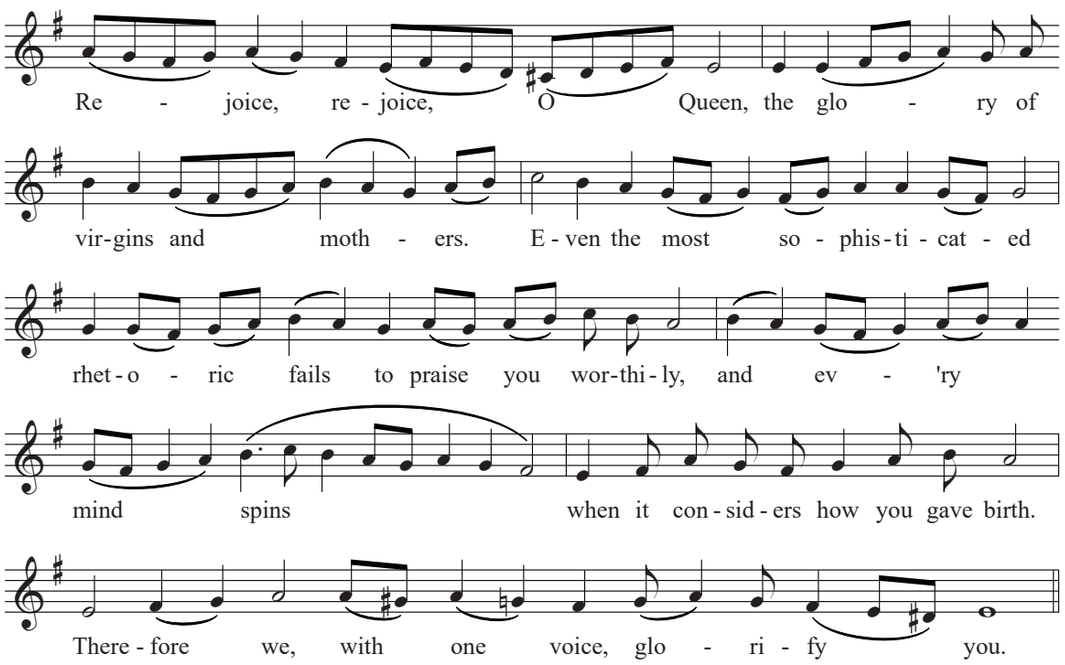
②

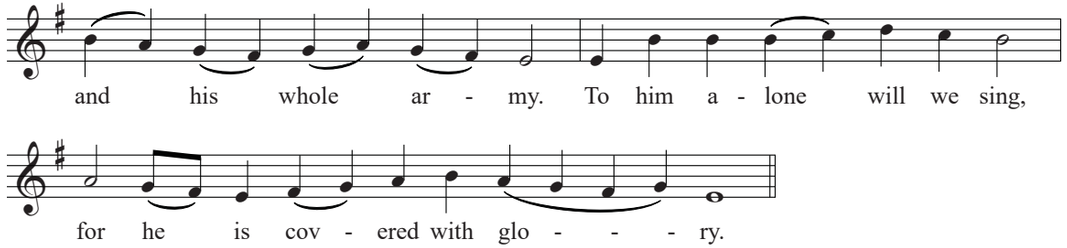




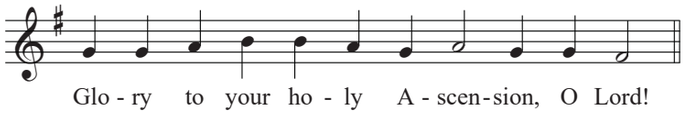
Rejoice, O holy Mother of Christ our God, * for today you extol the One whom you bore * as you see Him carried by the angels from earth to heaven.

Katavasia





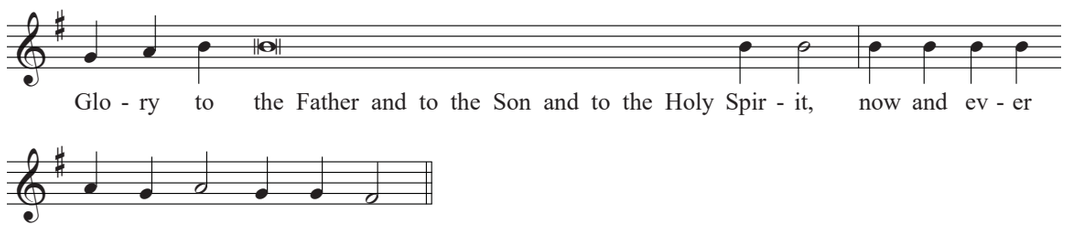
Refrain



All you peoples, let us praise Christ, * who is gloriously raised upon the wings of the Cherubim, * to seat us with Him at the right of the Father. * Let us sing our hymn of victory, * for He is covered with glory.
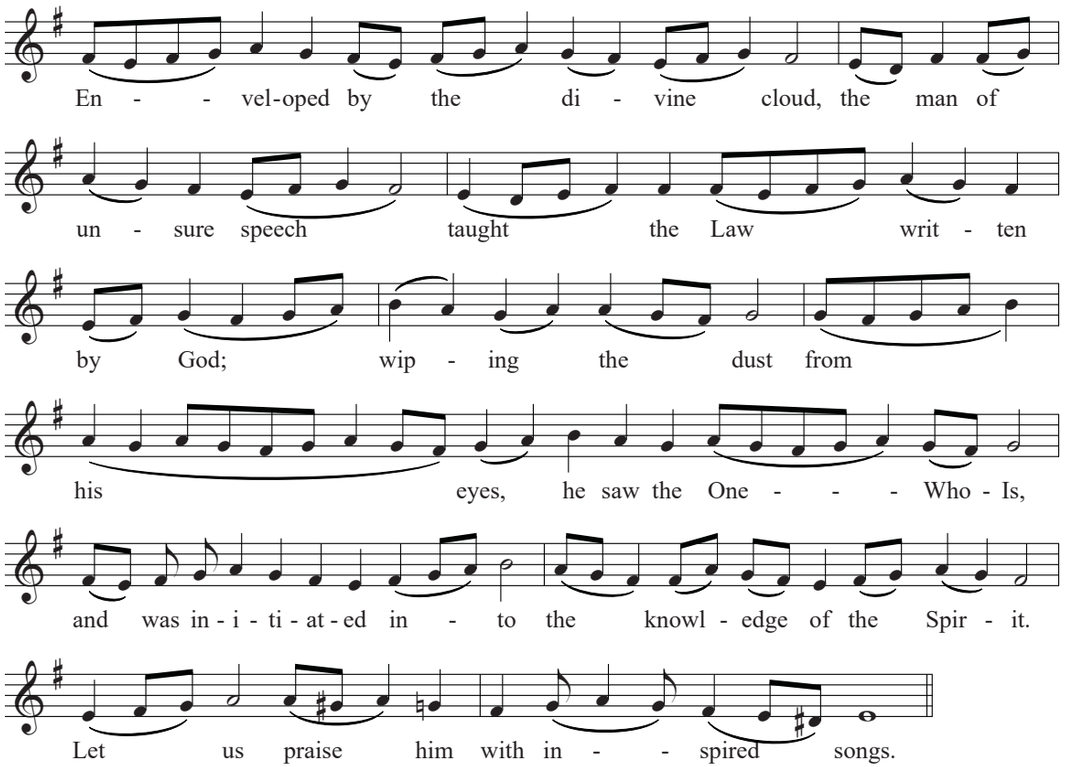
Seeing Christ, the mediator between God and mortals, * now raised on high in his flesh, * the choir of angels was seized with fear * and with one voice began to sing a hymn of victory.

God, who appeared on Mount Sinai * and gave the Law to Moses the prophet, * is now raised up bodily from the Mount of Olives. * Let us praise Him all together, * for He is covered with glory.



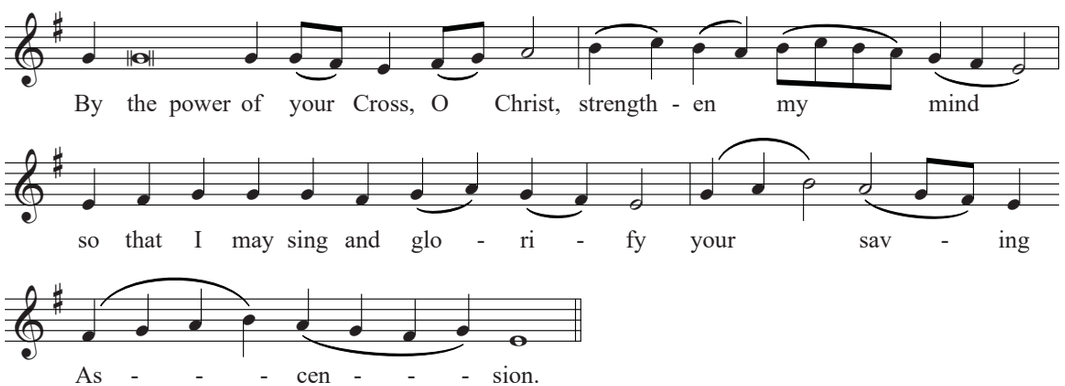
O pure Virgin and Mother of God, * intercede constantly before God who took flesh in your womb * without leaving the bosom of the Father in heaven, * that He may save from all danger * those whom He created with his own hands.

Katavasia - *second canon of Pentecost* *Tone 4 samopodoben*

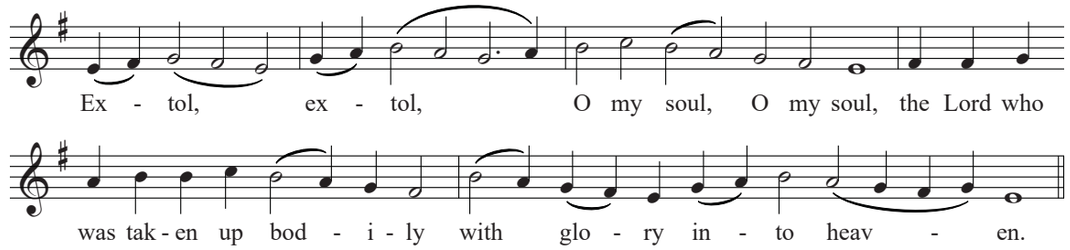


Ode 3

Irmos

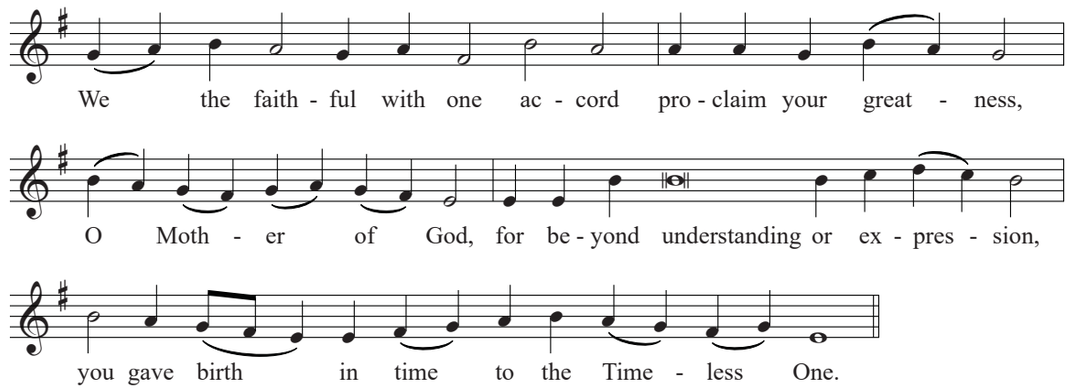


Magnification - *sing this refrain before the irmos and each troparion*



Ode 9

Irmos
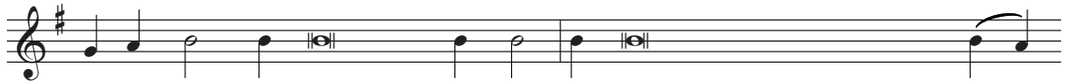


Surpassing our spirit and our understanding, * you gave birth in the world and in time to the timeless Lord; * with one voice and one heart, O Mother of God, * we the faithful extol you.
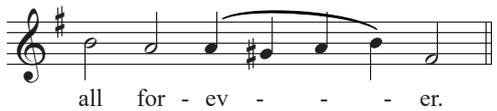
O Redeemer of the world, Christ our God, * the apostles contemplate your divine exaltation; * and in fear and in joy, they extol You.

Seeing your divinized flesh, O Christ, * the angels on high said to each other: * Truly this man is our God!

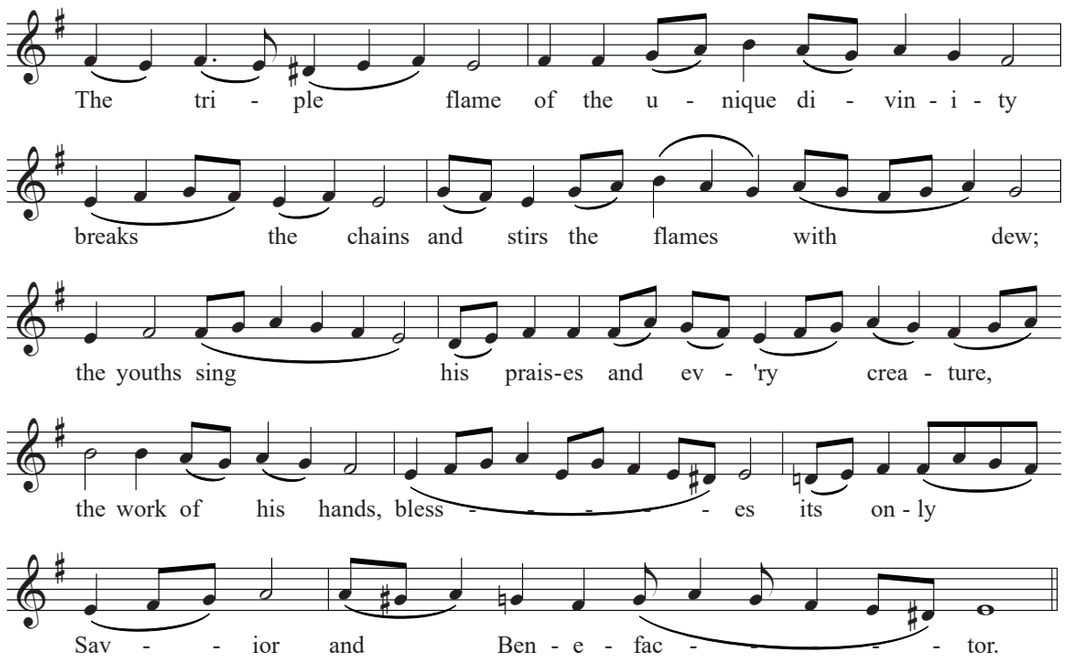
Seeing You raised upon the clouds, O Christ our God, * the choir of angels cried out: * Lift up the gates of heaven for the King of glory!

You have descended to the depths of the earth; * You have saved humanity; * and You have raised it up by your holy Ascension. * O Christ our God, we extol You!
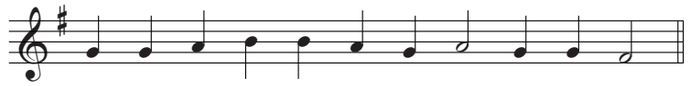




Katavasia



The Canticle of the Theotokos is not sung.

Refrain

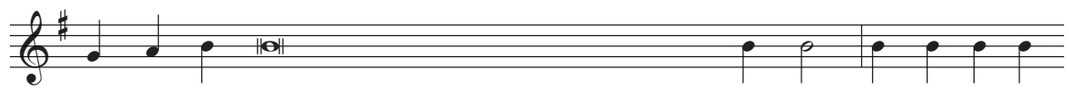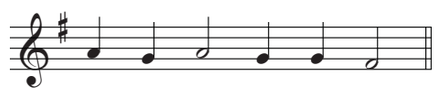


O Christ the Giver of life, * You have ascended to your Father in heaven; * and You have raised our nature with You * because of your ineffable goodness, O Lover of Mankind.

Seeing the nature of mortals raised up with You, O Savior, * the hosts of angels were astonished; * and they unceasingly sing your praises in heaven.

The choirs of angels were seized with amazement, O Christ, * when they saw You bodily raised up to heaven in glory; * and they praised your divine Ascension.
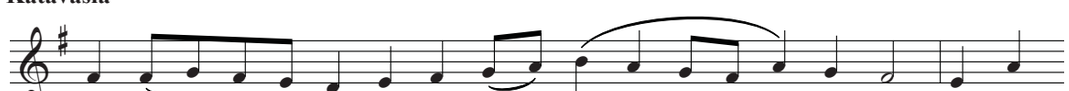
O Christ, You raised up human nature* which had been subjected to the corruption of the grave, * and You exalted it by your Ascension into heaven * where You glorify us with You.
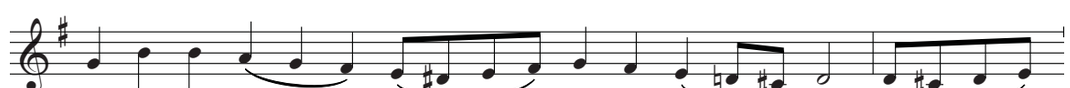


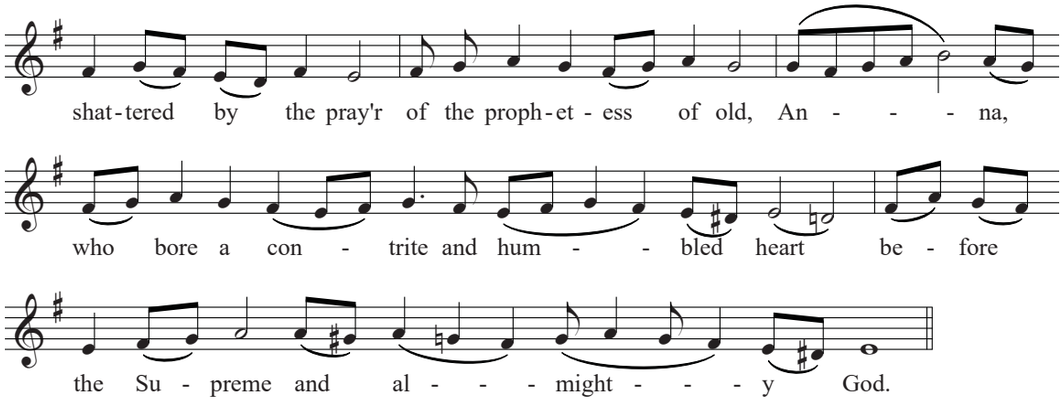


O pure Virgin, intercede unceasingly * before the One who was born of your womb * for the deliverance from all error * of those who praise you as the Mother of God.
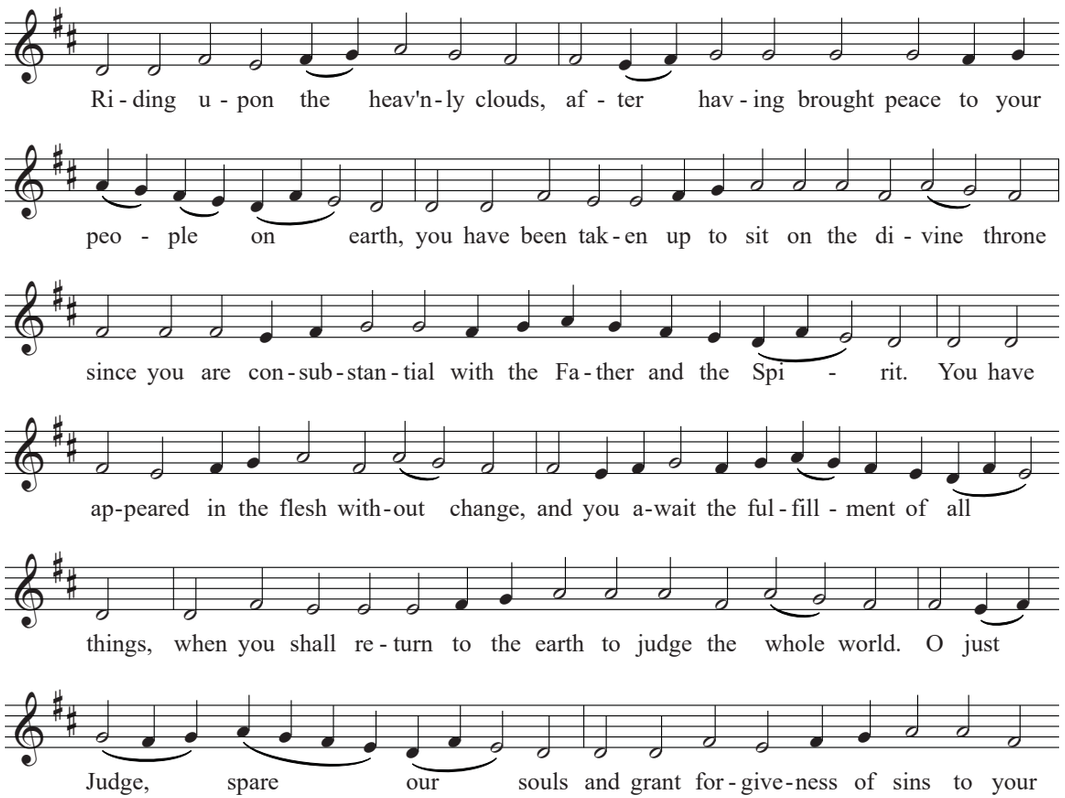
Katavasia
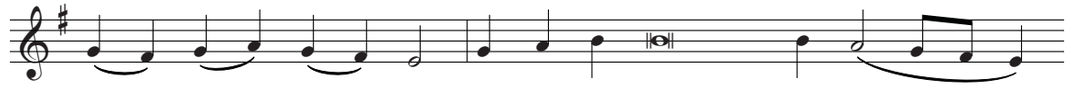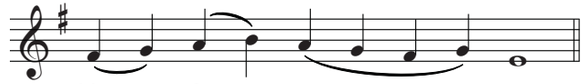






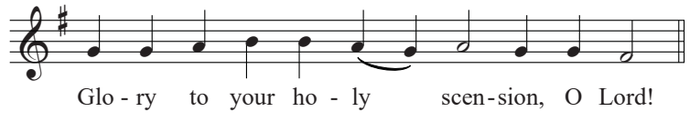
Sessional Hymn *Tone 8*







Refrain
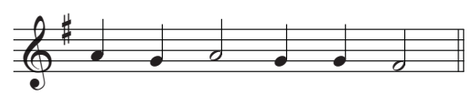


Christ the Giver of life ascends in glory to heaven; * with both his natures, He is seated at the right hand of the Father. * Praise Him, you priests, * and let the whole nation exalt Him forever.

You have redeemed the work of your hands from the slavery of the false gods; * You have presented it in freedom to your Father. * O Savior, we praise and exalt You forever.
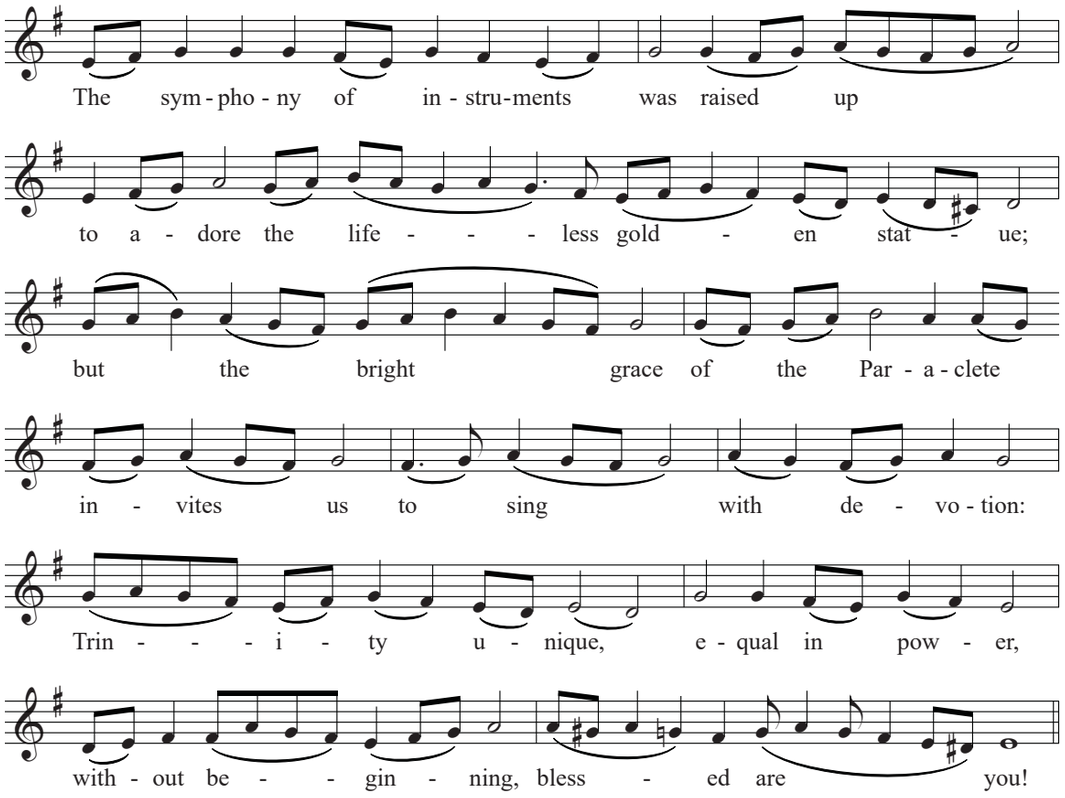
The One who descended among us * and trampled down our Enemy * now raises up our humanity by his Ascension. * Praise Him, you priests, * and let the whole nation exalt Him forever.





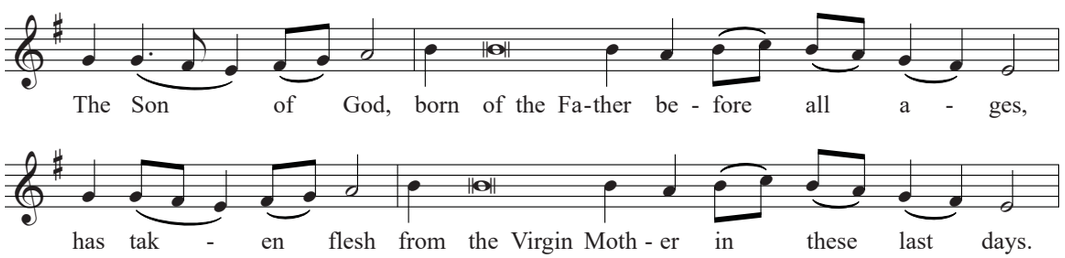
You appeared more venerable than the Cherubim, O holy Mother of God, * when you carried in your womb * the One whom they carry on their wings in heaven; * and with the bodiless angels, we mortals glorify Him forever.
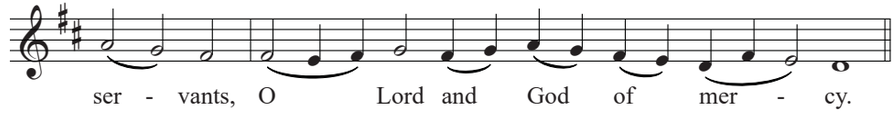
Katavasia



Ode 8

Irmos

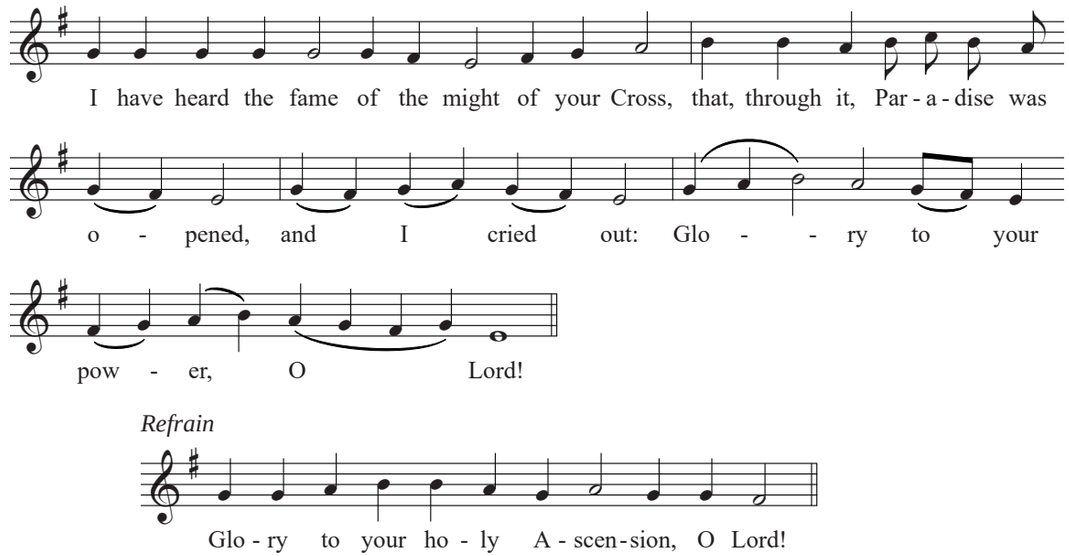




Cantor Glory…now and ever… *All repeat "Riding upon the heavenly clouds…"*

Ode 4

Irmos

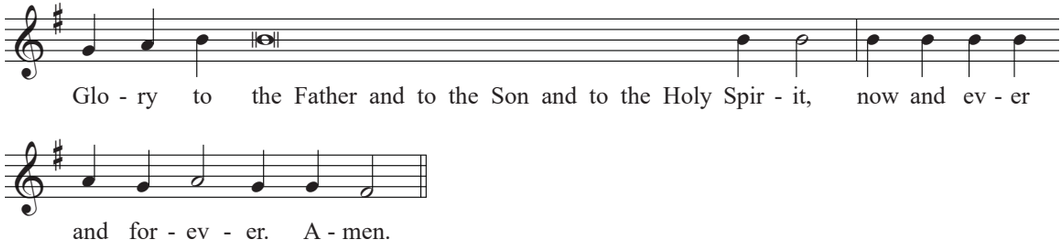


Refrain

O King of angels, You ascend in glory * to send us the Paraclete from the Father; * therefore, we cry out to You: * Glory to your Ascension, O Christ!
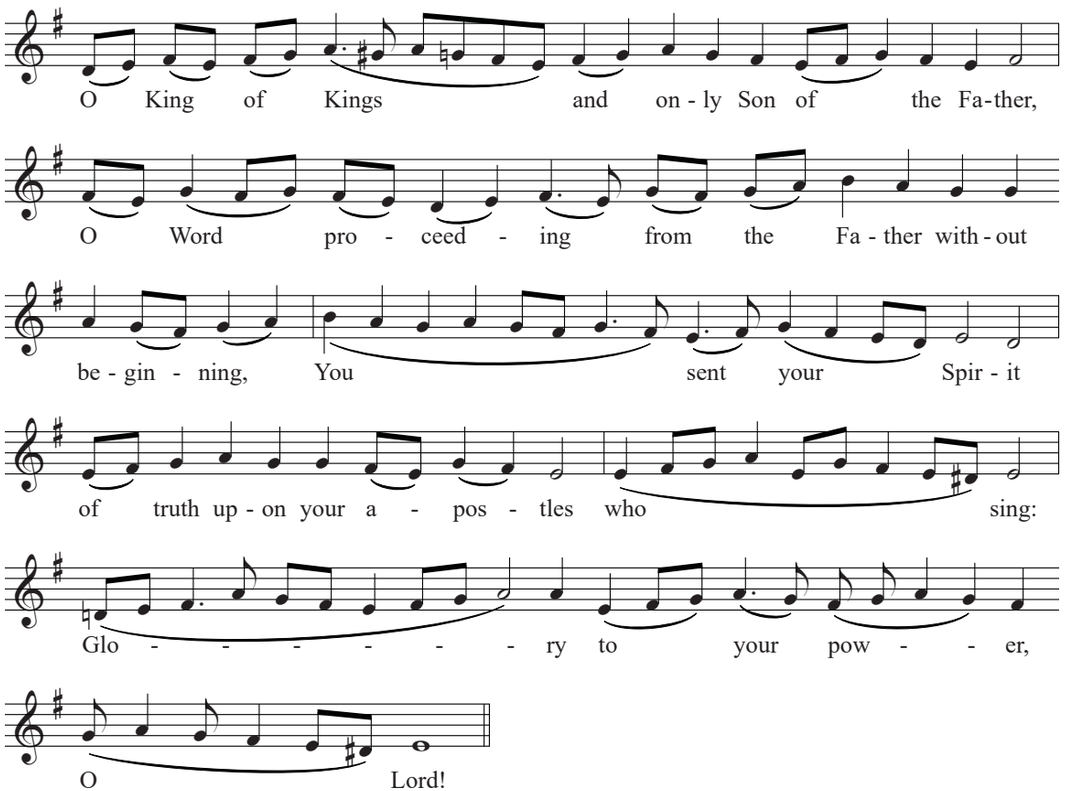
When the Savior was bodily raised up to his Father, * the angels were seized with wonder and began to sing: * Glory to your Ascension, O Christ!

The heavenly Powers cried out one to another: * Lift up the gates for Christ our Lord; * He is the King whom we praise with one heart * together with the Father and the Spirit.



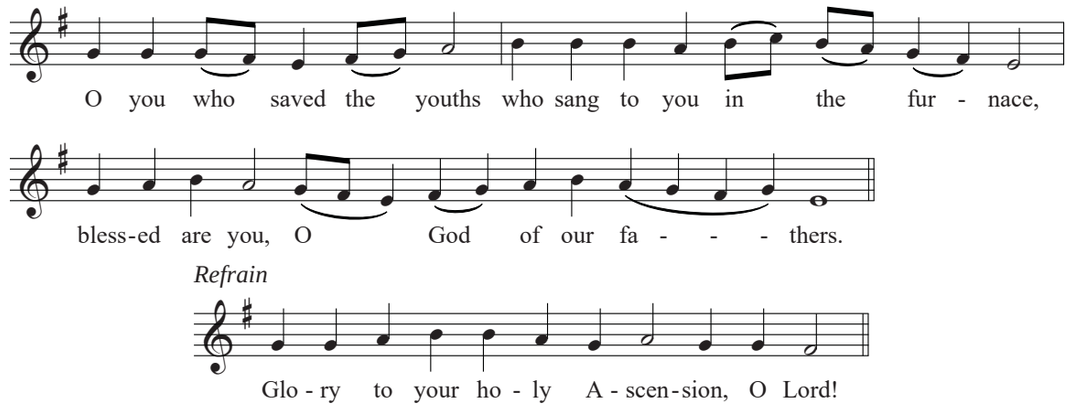
The Virgin gave birth without pain, * but she is both Mother and Virgin at the same time. * We sing to her with great joy: * Rejoice, O Mother of God!

Katavasia



Ode 7

Irmos

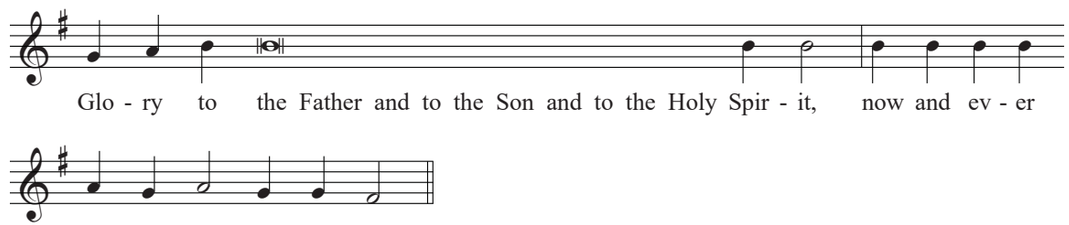


You went up in a cloud of brightness after having saved the whole world; * blessed are You, O Lord, God of our fathers.

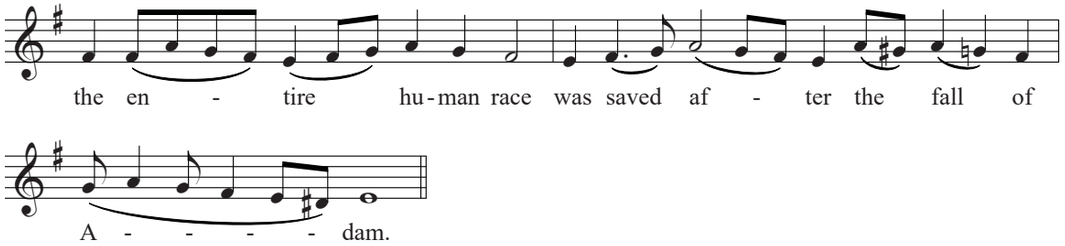
Having taken fallen human nature as a lost sheep upon your shoulders, * You led it to your Father, O Lord, by your divine Ascension.

Clothed in our flesh, You went up to your Father who is also incorporeal; * blessed are You, O Lord and God of our fathers.

You have again raised our human nature * which had been put to death by sin, O God our Savior, * to present it to your Father in heaven.

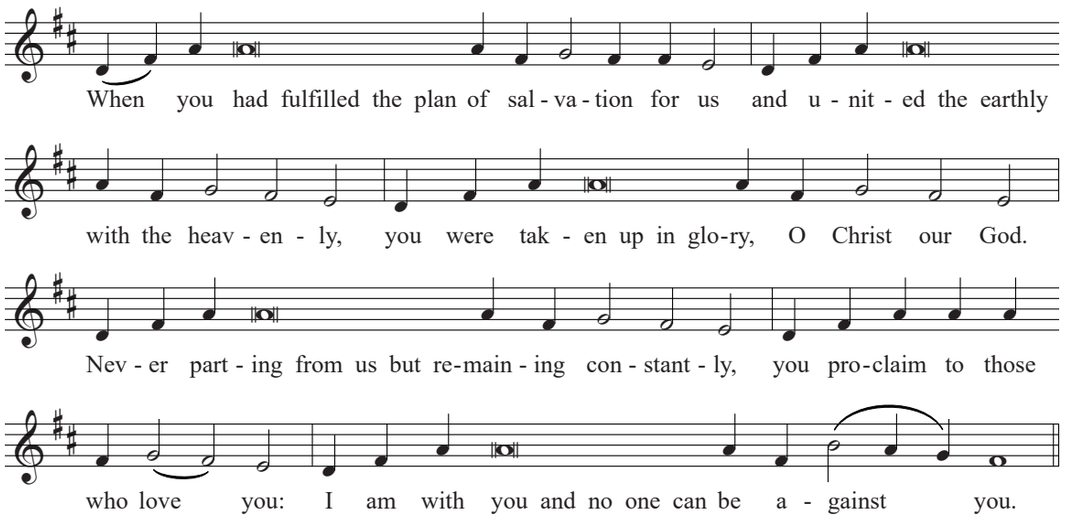


You placed the immaculate Virgin in this world, * and You made her the Mother of God; * blessed are You, O Lord, God of our fathers.



Kontakion

Tone 6
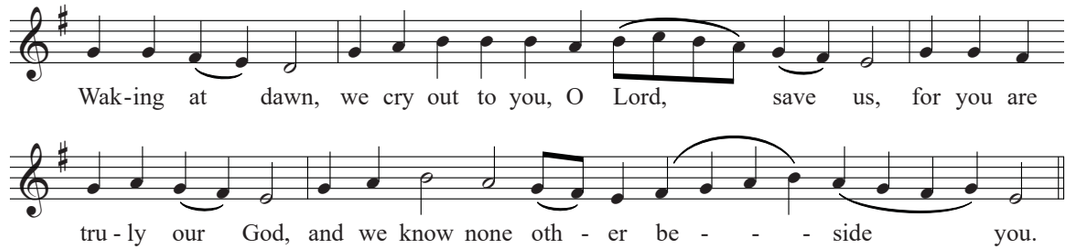


Ikos

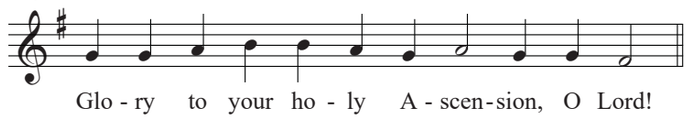
Leaving earthly cares to the earth and that which is waste and refuse to the dust, come, let us arise from sleep and with our eyes and hearts let us go towards higher things. Let us also lift up our thoughts and our attention from the earth to the gates of heaven, as if we were on the Mount of Olives, where we fix our eyes on the Redeemer as He is carried away to heaven. For it is there that the Lord departs for heaven; it is there also that He distributes his great gifts to the apostles, giving them strength and comforting them as a Father, guiding them as sons and saying to them: I am not separating myself from you; I shall always be with you, and no one shall ever have power over you.

Ode 5

Irmos



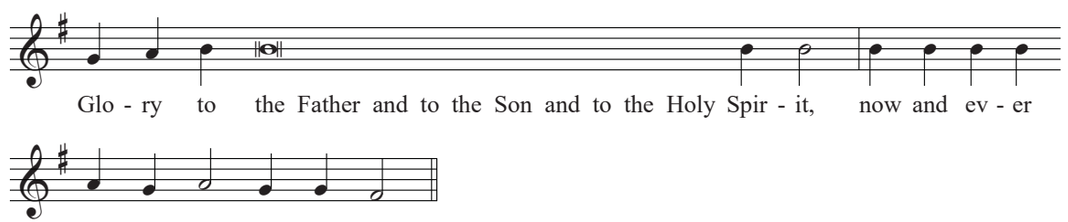
Refrain



Having filled the whole world with joy, * O God of goodness and mercy, * You have ascended in your flesh * to join the Powers on high.

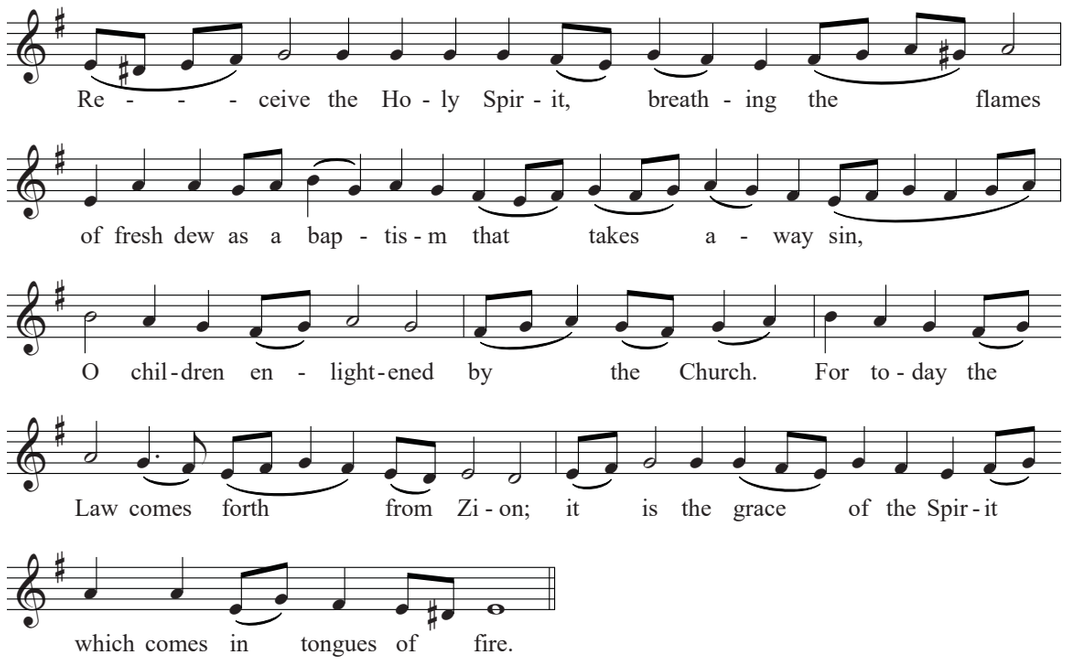
Seeing You raised to the heights, * the heavenly Powers were seized with fear, * and they said to one another: * Lift up the gates for the King!

Seeing the Savior exalted from earth to heaven, * the apostles were struck with fear and cried out: * Glory to You, O Lord and our King!



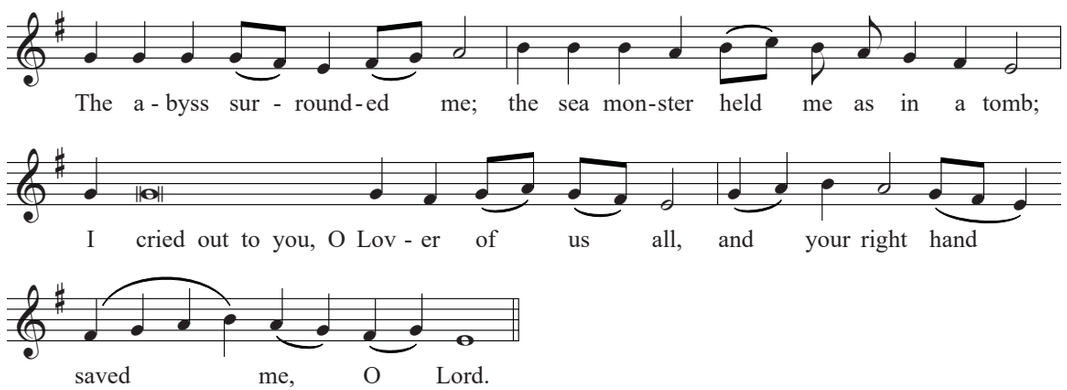
We praise you, O holy Mother of God, * a virgin even after giving birth; * for the sake of the world you truly gave birth * to the Word of God in the flesh.

Katavasia

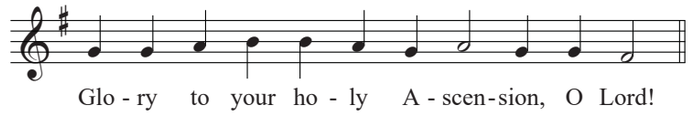


Ode 6

Irmos



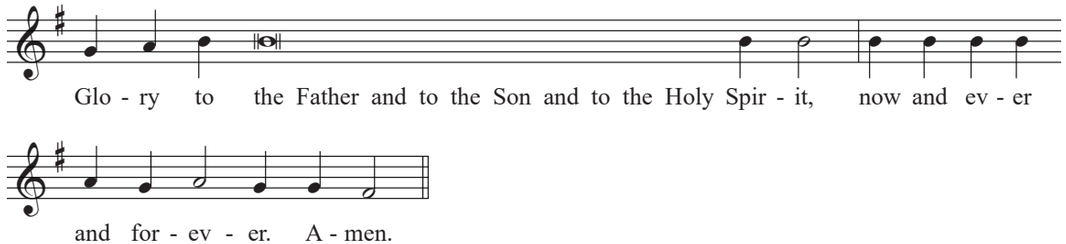
Refrain



The apostles exalt with joy on this day * as they see their Creator go up into the clouds; * and in the hope of the Spirit, whom they await, * they cry out in fear: * Glory to your divine Ascension!

O Lord, your angels came to your disciples and said: * You have seen Christ taken up in the flesh; * in the same way He shall come to judge the whole world.

Seeing You ascend in your body, O Lord, * the Powers of heaven cried out joyfully: * Great is your mercy, O Lord!



It is proper to glorify you, * O bush that burns without being consumed, * O mountain, O living ladder and gate to heaven, * O Virgin Mary, the glory of Christians.

Katavasia

