***Set Five***

*Old Testament Reading:* Zephaniah 3: 14-18
"Sing for joy, O daughter of Zion..."

*Epistle:* Romans 16: 25-27
"Jesus Christ, revelation of a mystery now made clear..."

*Gospel:* Luke 1:39-45
The visitation of Mary to Elizabeth.

***Set Six***

*Old Testament Reading:* 1 Samuel 1: 24-28
The presentation of Samuel to the Lord

*Epistle:* Hebrews 10: 5-10
"Here am I, Lord, I come to do your will!"

*Gospel:* Luke 1: 46-56
Mary's song of praise

***Set Seven***

*Old Testament Reading:* Malachi 3: 1-4, 23-24
"I will send Elijah my prophet before my day comes..."

*Epistle:* Titus 3: 4-7
"When the kindness and love of God were revealed..."

*Gospel:* Luke 1: 57-66
The birth of John the Forerunner



# EMMANUEL MOLEBEN
## A Service of Prayer for the Christmas Fast



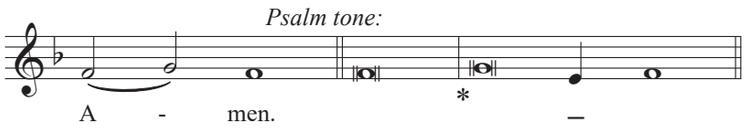
Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
November 2018

*If a procession will be made, the icon of Emmanuel (i.e. the Theotokos of the Sign) is placed on the altar. Otherwise, the icon is set on the tetrapod. Tapers are distributed to the faithful, which will be lit during the Exaltation; then, the censer, the lights at the holy table, and the lights before the iconostas are lit. The temple itself is only dimly lit.*

**Deacon:** Father, give the blessing.

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

**Response:**




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 gra***cious*** One.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal,
have mercy ***on*** us. *(3 times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

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. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, ***have*** mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.



## Suggested Readings

*If the Emmanuel moleben is sung once each week of the Philip's Fast (Advent), then seven sets of readings will be needed. These readings are grouped thematically together, and proceed from the beginning of the season to its climax at the Nativity of the Lord. If the moleben is sung fewer times, select the set of readings most suitable.*

***Set One***

*Old Testament Reading:* Genesis 49: 2-8, 10
The blessing of Jacob for his son, Judah.

*Epistle:* James 5: 7-10
"Be patient, my brothers, until the Lord's coming..."

*Gospel:* Matthew 1: 1-17
The genealogy of Jesus.

***Set Two***

*Old Testament Reading:* Isaiah 7: 10-14
The prophecy concerning Emmanuel

*Epistle:* 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24
"Be happy at all times, for all things give thanks..."

*Gospel:* Matthew 1: 18-24
The annunciation to Joseph.

***Set Three***

*Old Testament Reading:* Judges 13: 2-7, 24-25
The birth of Samson, the man of God.

*Epistle:* Philippians 4: 4-7
"Rejoice in the Lord always...the Lord is near..."

*Gospel:* Luke 1:5-25
The annunciation to Zechariah

***Set Four***

*Old Testament Reading:* Jeremiah 23: 5-8
"I will raise up to David a righteous branch..."

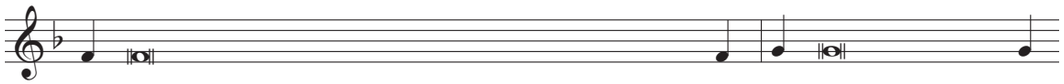
*Epistle:* Romans 1: 1-17
"This is about the Son of God, descended from David..."

*Gospel:* Luke 1: 26-38
The annunciation to Mary

## Dismissal

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

**Response:**
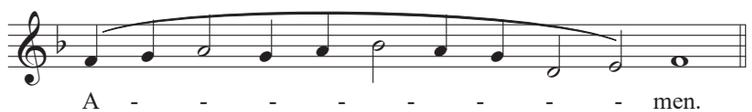






**Priest:** May Christ our true God, who for our salvation chose to fulfill the sign foretold of Emmanuel, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy prophet and herald of the Savior, Isaiah; of the holy fathers, prophets and just ones who lived under the Law and awaited the Messiah's coming; and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

**Response:**
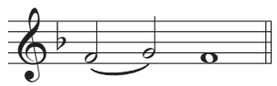


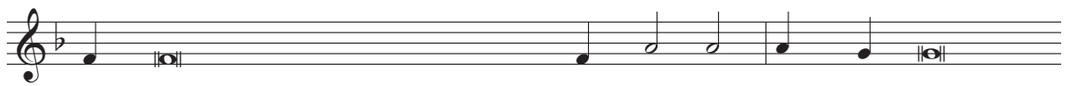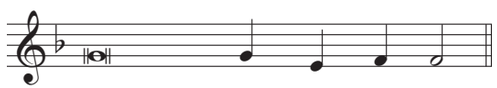



Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us ***from*** evil.

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

**Response:**
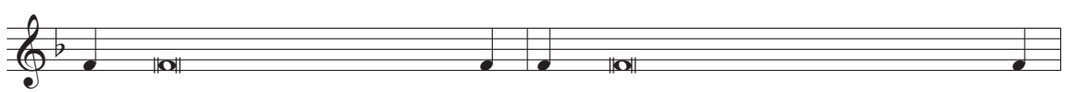






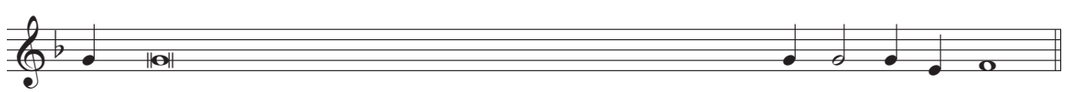
*(sung twice)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

## Call to Worship

*Each time with a reverence*




*Then Psalm 97 is sung, alternated between cantor and faithful, men and women, or sides of the church.*

## Psalm 97

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has ***worked*** wonders.

His right hand and his holy arm
have brought ***sal***vation.

The Lord has made known his salvation
has shown his justice to ***the*** nations.

He has remembered his truth and love
for the house ***of*** Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of ***our*** God.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth,
ring out ***your*** joy.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the sound ***of*** music.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, ***the*** Lord.

Let the sea, and all within it, thunder;
the world and all ***its*** peoples.

Let the rivers clap their hands
and the hills ring out ***their*** joy

At the presence of the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to rule ***the*** earth.

He will rule the world with justice
and the peoples ***with*** fairness.
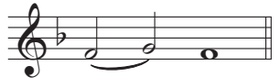
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
Now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! *(reverence)*
Glory to you, ***O*** God!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! *(reverence)*
Glory to you, ***O*** God!
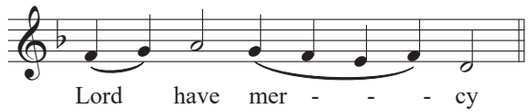


**Response:**




## Kneeling Prayer
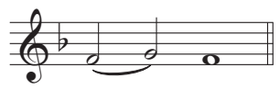
**Deacon:** Bowing our heads and our knees, let us humbly pray to the Lord.

**Response:**



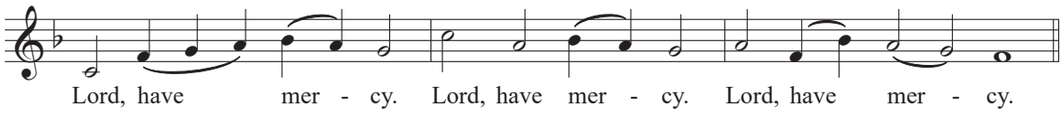

**Priest:** O God and Father, the Almighty One, you created the human race in your image and likeness, and when we fell through disobedience, you promised to send a Savior. When the fullness of time had come, your favor rested on your only-begotten Son, and he was born of the Virgin Mary. Thus, what Isaiah the prophet foretold was fulfilled: "Behold, the Virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel, which means 'God with us.'" His birth filled all creation with light; he gave us the baptism of repentance, and restored our ancient dignity. Now, most compassionate Lord, you bring us to these honored days of the Christmas Fast that we may do battle with the desires of the flesh and draw strength from the hope of resurrection. Receive us, then, as penitents and forgive our wrongdoing, those done knowingly and unknowingly, through malice and through weakness. And may our prayers, our fasting, and our works of mercy rise up before you as incense, as sweet spiritual fragrance, that in company with the Magi and the shepherds we too, with pure hearts, may be found worthy to bow down before the Nativity of Jesus Christ, your beloved Son. To him, together with you and your all-holy Spirit, belong glory, honor, and worship, now and ever and forever.

**Response:**



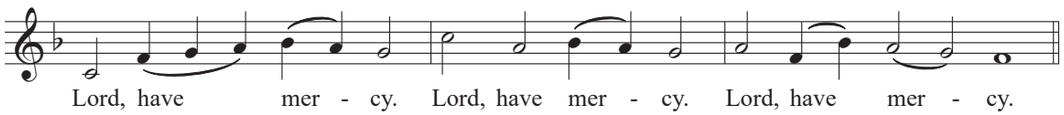

*(All stand.)*

**Response:**
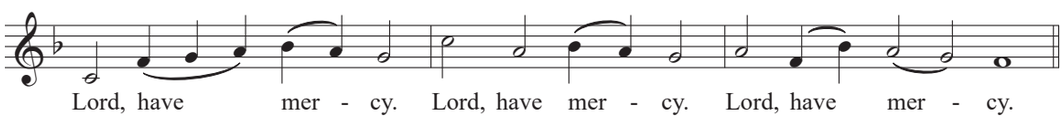



**Deacon:** That our brothers and sisters who are persecuted by the works of darkness may find strength and hope in you, O God of all consolation, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

**Response:**
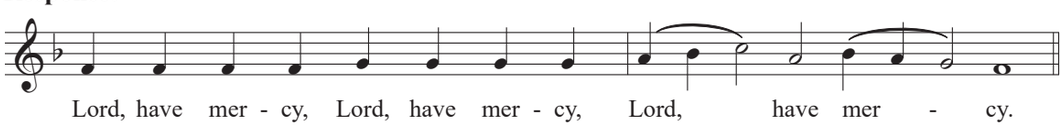



**Deacon:** That in this holy time of repentance, the Holy Spirit come down upon us and help us to prepare the way for the One who is coming; that by his grace, he would level the mountains of our sins and make our crooked ways straight, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** Again we pray for the people here present who await your great and abundant mercy, for those who show us mercy, and for all Christians of the true faith.
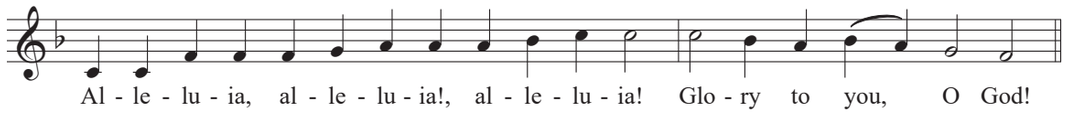
**Response:**




**Priest:** Lord our God, accept this fervent supplication from your servants, and have mercy on us according to your abundant mercies. Be compassionate to us and to all your people who expect rich mercies from you. For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.
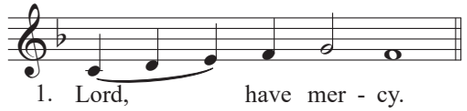


*Then, all together, with melody (and with a reverence):*




## The Litany of Peace
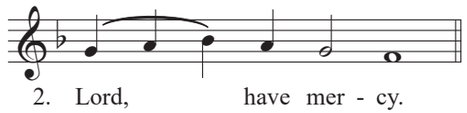
**Deacon:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:**




**Deacon:** For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** For our holy father, *(Name)*, pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For our most reverend metropolitan, *(Name)*, for our God-loving bishop, *(Name)*, for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For this city, for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the captive and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.
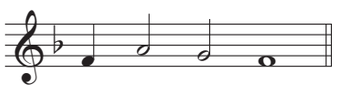
**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

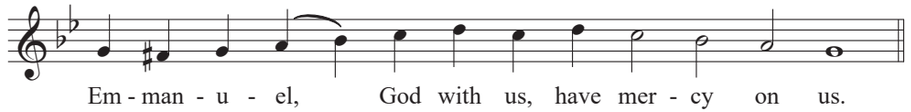
**Response:**






**Clergy:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
now and ever and forever. Amen.
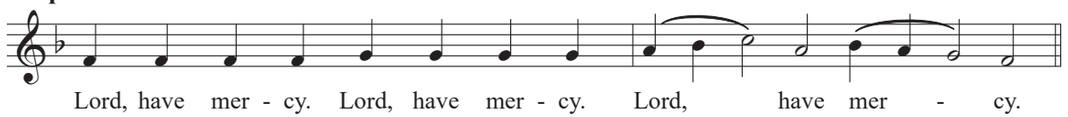
**Response:**




## Litany of Fervent Supplication
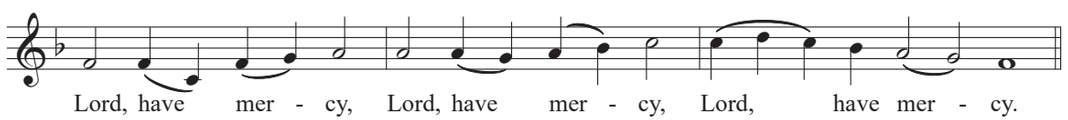
**Deacon:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

**Response:**
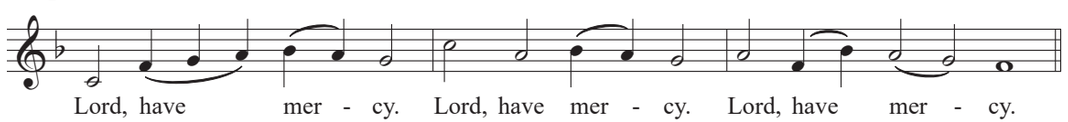



**Deacon:** We also pray for our holy father *[Name]*, the Pope of Rome, for our most reverend Metropolitan *[Name]*, for our God-loving bishop *[Name],* for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and all of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Response:**



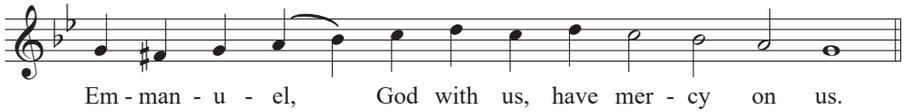

**Deacon:** That the Church of Christ be established thoughout the world as a visible sign of the nearness of the kingdom of God, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

**Response:**



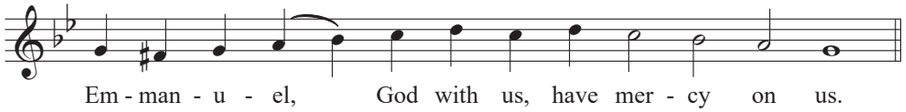

**Deacon:** That, in evangelical hope and poverty, we may confidently await the Savior who is coming in glory, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

**Response:**



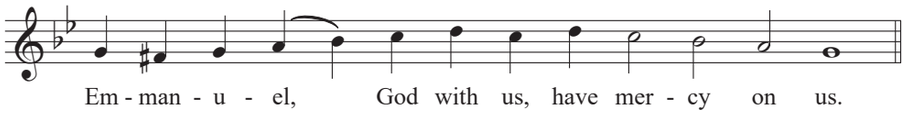

**Clergy:** Jesus, Salvation prepared in the sight of every nation,
Light of revelation for the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Response:**
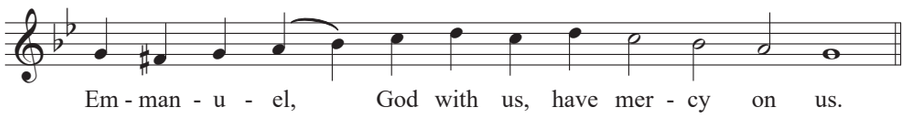



**Clergy:** Jesus, long–awaited hope of the nations,
you make them children of Abraham and heirs according to the promise:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Response:**
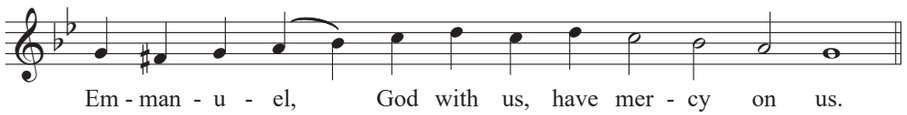



**Clergy:** Jesus, everliving Word,
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
who came after the Forerunner yet are before him:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Response:**




**Clergy:** Jesus, Messiah, Son of the Blessed One,
O blessed and only mighty One, the Lord,
to whom be honor, praise, and glory:
Come and save those who hope in you.
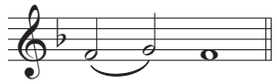
**Response:**






**Priest:** Treasury of all good, ever-flowing spring, Holy Father, wonder-worker, all-powerful Ruler of all: we worship you and beg of your mercy and compassion, help and support us in our lowliness. Lord, remember those who pray to you, and let our prayer rise like incense before you. Grant that no one of us may be put to shame, but surround us with your mercy. Lord, remember those who keep watch and sing of your glory, and that of your only-begotten Son and our God, and of your Holy Spirit. Be their help and support and accept their prayers upon your heavenly spiritual altar. For you are our God, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

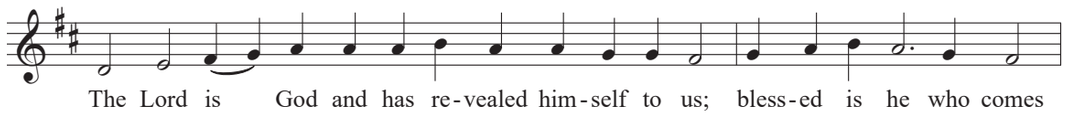
**Response:**
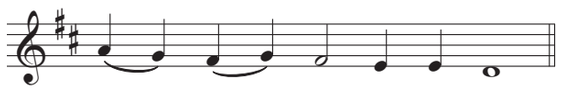



## The Lord is God, with Troparion

*Deacon (recto tono), then all:*

*Tone 4 troparion*







*repeat after each verse*

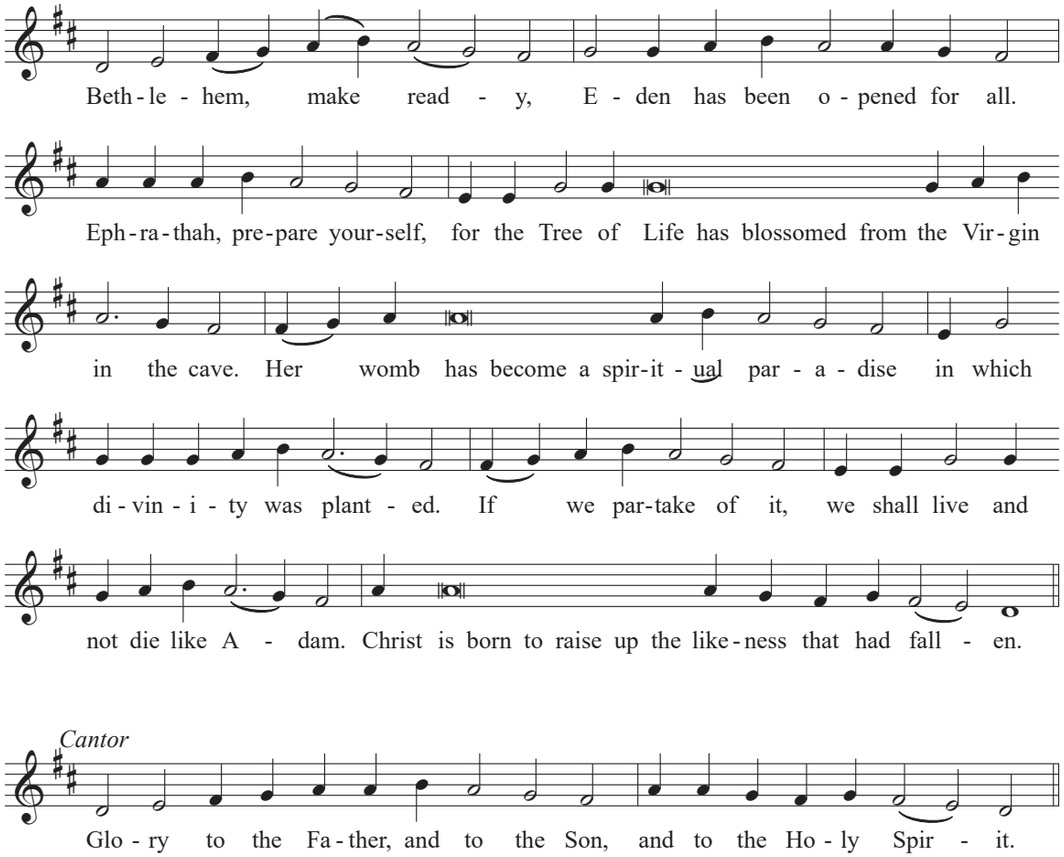
***Verse:*** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his love endures forever.

***Verse:*** They encircled me, compassed me about; in the Lord's name I crushed them.
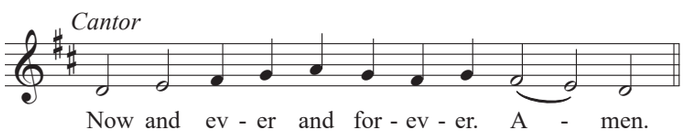
***Verse:*** I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

***Verse:*** The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

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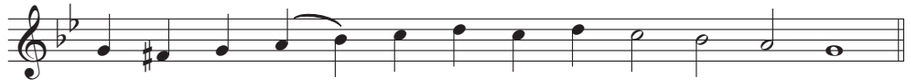



*All repeat the Troparion.*




*All repeat the Troparion.*
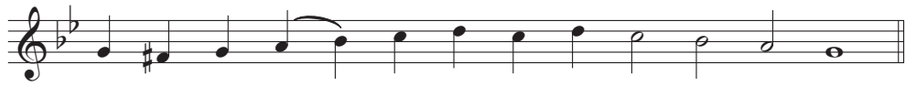


**Response:**
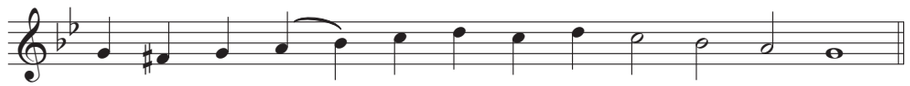



**Clergy:** Jesus, sweetest Child,
fulfillment of the sign "Emmanuel," God with us:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Response:**
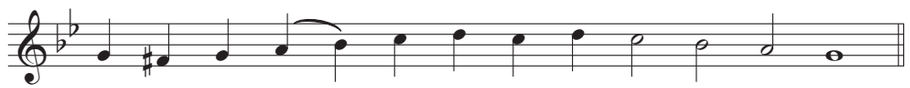



**Clergy:** Jesus, Messenger of Great Counsel,
Prince of Peace, and Lord of the Age to Come:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Response:**
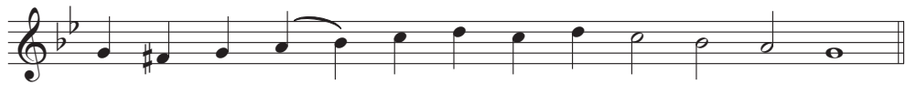



**Clergy:** Jesus, eternal life,
wrapped as a servant in swaddling clothes,
that as God, you might sunder the chains of death:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Response:**




**Clergy:** Jesus, Star of Jacob which rose in a cave,
O Shepherd of Israel whom the shepherds adored:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Response:**
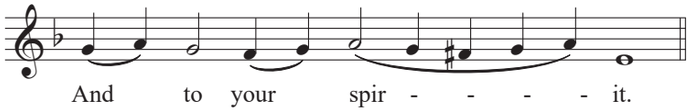



**Clergy:** Jesus, Deliverance of our first parents, Joy of the Patriarchs,
Fulfillment of the Law and the prophets:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the holy Gospel.
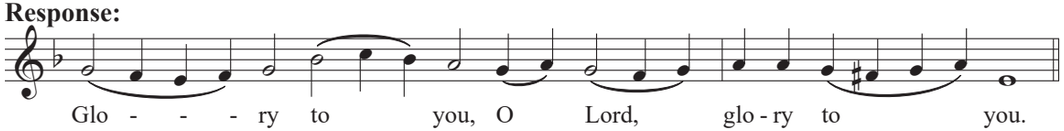
**Priest:** Peace be to all!

**Response:**
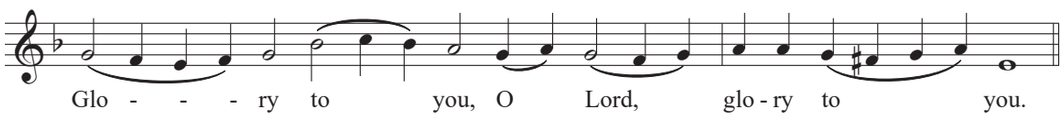



**Priest:** A reading of the Holy Gospel according to the holy apostle and evangelist *(Name)*.

**Response:**




*The Gospel is read now.*

**Response:**
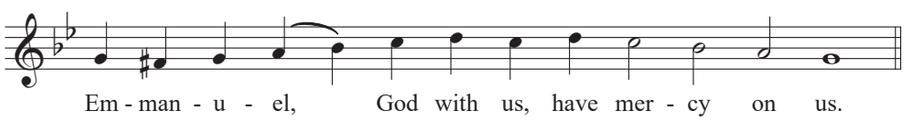



## The Supplications

*The clergy come from the altar to the tetrapod, and the Supplications are sung.*

**Clergy:** Jesus, Wisdom, Designer of all,
O Breath of the Power of God,
pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty:
Come and save those who hope in you.

**Response:**



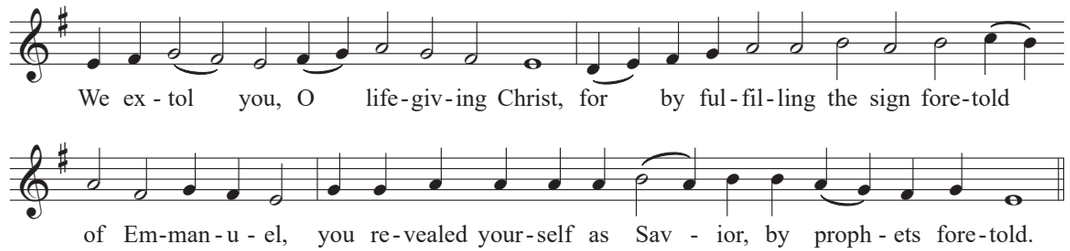

**Clergy:** Jesus, true Light from the eternal Light,
spotless mirror of God's creative power,
Icon of his goodness:
Come and save those who hope in you.



## Exaltation

*If the icon of the Sign is to be carried in procession, the clergy enter the sanctuary at the singing of Psalm 97. During the singing of the Exaltation, the deacon or server leads the procession holding a candle and the censer. The procession proceeds around the holy table and ends at the tetrapod, upon which the icon is placed. If there is no procession, the clergy remain standing before the icon on the tetrapod. Holding lighted tapers, they solemnly sing the Exaltation.*

*The faithful light their tapers and join in singing the Exaltation.*




Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he comes, he comes to rule the earth. *All repeat "We extol you…"*

He has remembered his truth and his love for the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. *All repeat "We extol you…"*
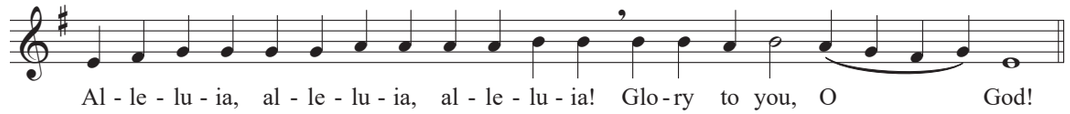
The Lord remembers his covenant forever,
his promise for a thousand generations. *All repeat "We extol you…"*

He lowered the heavens and came down,
he came enthroned upon the Cherubim. *All repeat "We extol you…"*

The Lord of Hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. *All repeat "We extol you…"*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
now and ever and forever. Amen. *All repeat "We extol you…"*

*Three times, each with a reverence:*




*All repeat "We extol you…"*

# The Word of God
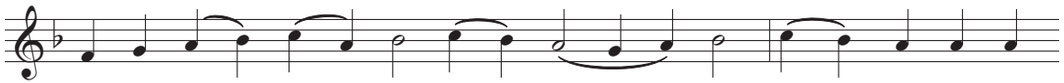
*See pages 18-19 for suggested sets of readings.*
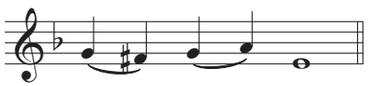
**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Priest:** Peace be to all.

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon** - *Tone 4*







*Repeat after verse*

***Verse:*** I will hear what the Lord has to say, a voice that speaks of peace;
peace for his people and friends, and those who turn to him in their hearts.

**Old Testament Reading**

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Lector:** A reading from _____

**Priest:** Let us be attentive!

*The lector reads the passage from the Old Testament.*

**Epistle**

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Lector:** A reading from the letter of _____

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

*The lector reads the chosen passage from the Epistles*
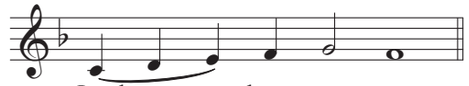
**Priest:** Peace to you, reader.



# Preparation for the Gospel
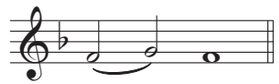
**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:**




**Priest:** For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

**Response:**
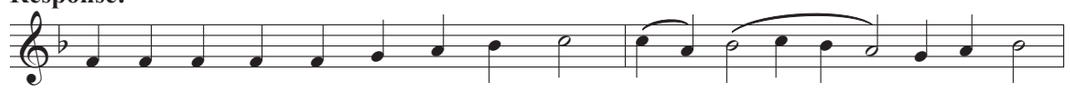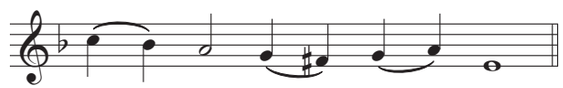



*This dialogue is sung between the deacon and the faithful. The deacon chants:*

**Deacon:** Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord!

*Tone 4*

**Response:**







**Deacon:** Praise God in his holy place; praise him in his mighty heavens.

**Response:** *"Let everything that lives..."*

**Deacon:** That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, our God.
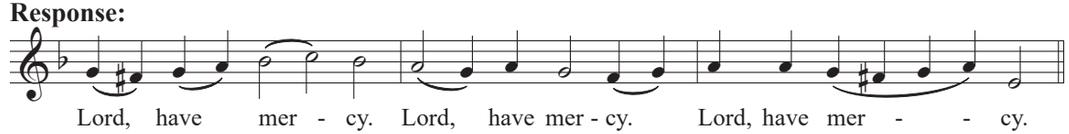
**Response:**

