

"Lord I Call..." – Tone 1

Reader: In the First Tone, Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon You!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Reader: (Reads text from service book)

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!

Accept our evening prayers, O holy Lord!

Grant us remission of sins,//

for You alone have manifested the Resurrection to the world.

Ac - cept our evening prayers, O ho - ly Lord!

Grant us re - mis - sion of sins,

for You alone have manifested the Resur - rec - tion to the world!

*v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*

Encircle Zion  
 And surround her, O people!  
 Give glory in her to the One Who rose from the dead!  
 For He is our God, //  
 Who has delivered us from our transgressions!

En - cir - cle Zi - on and surround her, O peo - - - ple!

Give glo - ry in her to the One Who rose from the dead!

For He is our God, Who has delivered us from our trans-gres - sions.

*v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Come, O people,

Let us hymn and fall down before Christ,  
 glorifying His Resurrection from the dead!//  
 For He is our God,  
 Who has delivered the world from the Enemy's deceit!

Come, O peo - ple! Let us hymn and fall down be - fore Christ,  
 glo-rifying His re-sur-rec - tion from the dead! For He is our God,  
 Who has delivered the world from the En - e-my's de- ceit!

*v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

Be glad, O heavens!  
 Sound trumpets, O foundations of the earth!  
Sing in gladness, O mountains!  
 Behold Emmanuel has nailed our sins to the Cross!  
 Granting life, He has slain death.//  
 He has resurrected Adam as the Lover of Man.

Be glad, O hea - vens! Sound trumpets, O found - a - tions of the earth!  
 Sing in glad-ness O moun-tains. Behold, Emmanuel has nailed our sins to the Cross,

grant-ing life, He has slain death. He has resurrected Adam as the Lo-ver of Man.

*v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

Let us praise Him  
 Who voluntarily was crucified in the flesh for our sake.  
 He suffered, was buried, but rose from the dead.  
 By orthodoxy confirm Your Church, O Christ. //  
 Grant peace for our life  
 As the gracious Lover of Man.

Let us praise Him Who voluntarily was crucified in the flesh for our sake.

He suf - fered, was buried, but rose from the dead.

By Orthodoxy con-firm Your Church, O Christ. Grant peace for our life

as the gracious Lo - ver of Man.

*v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

We stand before Your life bearing tomb  
 Unworthily, O Christ God,  
 offering glory to Your unspeakable compassion.  
 You have accepted the Cross and death, O sinless One//  
 to grant Resurrection to the world as the Lover of man.

We stand before Your life-bearing tomb unworthily, O Christ— God  
 offering glo - ry to Your unspeakable com - pas - sion.  
 You have accepted the Cross and death, O sin - less One  
 to grant resurrection to the world as the Lov - er of Man.

*v. (4) In the Sixth Tone, From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

**Tone 6**

*(for the Holy Fathers)*

*(Having placed all their hope)*

The memory of the Ancestors has been manifested to the ends of the world,  
 truly filling it with light  
 and making known the dawning of grace.  
 For Christ shined forth from afar, brighter than the sun,  
 the leading rank of stars shining with Him;  
 and the divine-human birth was revealed to take place in Bethlehem.  
 Therefore with faith let us all gather at this birth, //  
 rejoicing in chorus and singing the pre-festal praise!

The memory of the Ancestors has been manifested to the ends of the world,

truly fill - ing it with light and making known the dawn - ing of grace.

For Christ shined forth from afar, bright - er than the sun,

the leading rank of stars shin - ing with Him;

and the divine - human birth was revealed to take place in Beth - le - hem.

Therefore with faith let us all gath - er at this birth,

rejoicing in chorus and singing the pre - fes - tal praise!

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

The memory of the Ancestors has been manifested to the ends of the world,  
truly filling it with light  
and making known the dawning of grace.  
For Christ shined forth from afar, brighter than the sun,

the leading rank of stars shining with Him;  
and the divine-human birth was revealed to take place in Bethlehem.  
Therefore with faith let us all gather at this birth, //  
rejoicing in chorus and singing the pre-festal praise!

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For Christ shined forth from afar, bright - er than the sun,

the leading rank of stars shin - ing with Him;

and the divine-human birth was revealed to take place in Beth - le - hem.

Therefore with faith let us all gath - er at this birth,

rejoicing in chorus and singing the pre - fes - tal praise!

*v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

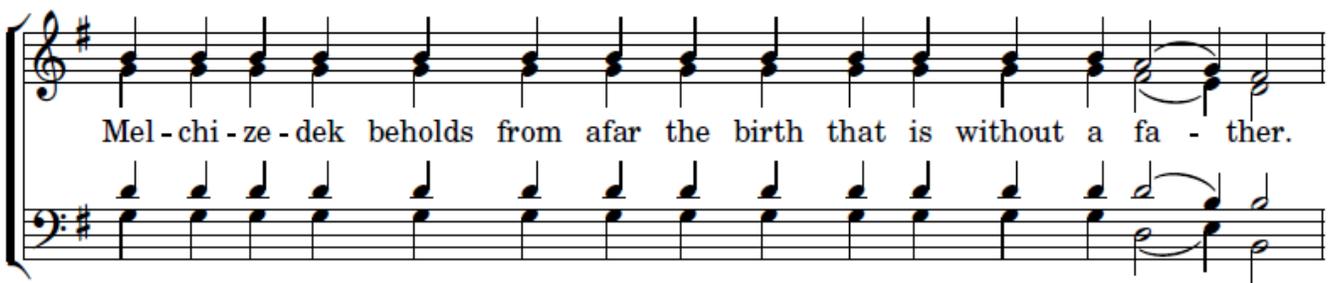
Adorned with the glory of divine communion, Adam rejoices today,  
 as he is the foundation and the support of the wise Ancestors.  
 With him Abel leaps with joy, and Enoch makes glad;  
 Seth dances, and with him Noah;  
 the all-praiseworthy Patriarch Abraham sings;  
 Melchizedek beholds from afar the birth that is without a father.  
 Therefore, as we celebrate the divine memory of the Forefathers of Christ, //  
 we pray for the salvation of our souls.

Adorned with the glory of divine communion, Adam re - joic - es to - day,

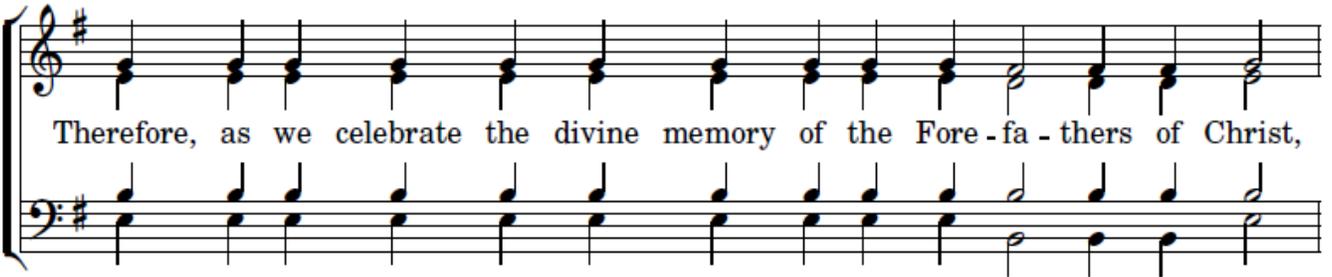
as he is the foundation and the support of the wise An - ces - tors.

With him Abel leaps with joy, and En - och makes glad;

Seth dances, and with him No - ah; the all-praiseworthy Patriarch A - bra - ham sings;



Mel-chi-ze-dek beholds from afar the birth that is without a fa-ther.



Therefore, as we celebrate the divine memory of the Fore-fa-thers of Christ,



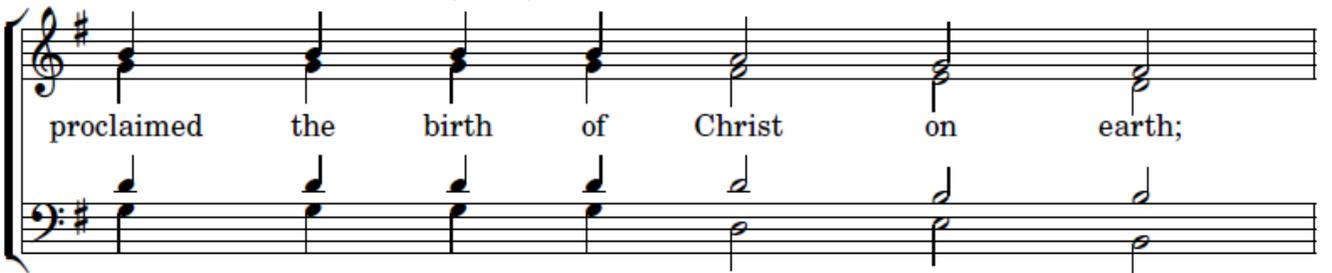
we pray for the sal-va-tion of our souls.

*v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

The three Youths, wise in God,  
 who shone with joy in the furnace,  
 proclaimed the birth of Christ on earth;  
 For just as the Lord sent down a precious dew,  
 He preserved from the flame her who gave birth;  
 He keeps her undefiled and enriches her with divine gifts.  
 Therefore Daniel, pleasing to God, rejoiced and was glad,  
 for having foreseen the Stone from the Unquarried Mountain,//  
 he now prays with boldness in behalf of our souls.



The three Youths, wise in God, who shone with joy in the fur-nace,



proclaimed the birth of Christ on earth;

For just as the Lord sent down a pre - cious dew,  
 He preserved from the flame her who gave birth;  
 He keeps her undefiled and enriches her with di - vine gifts.  
 Therefore Daniel, pleasing to God, re - joiced and was glad,  
 for having foreseen the Stone from the Unquarried Moun - tain,  
 he now prays with boldness in be - half of our souls.

*In the Sixth Tone, Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 6**

*(for the Holy Fathers)*

Daniel, the man of desires, beheld You, O Lord,  
 the Stone cut without human hands from the Mountain.  
 Thus, he foretold that You would take flesh without seed,  
 O Word of God, born of the Virgin,//

the changeless God and Savior of our souls!

Daniel, the man of desires, be - held You, O Lord,  
the Stone cut without human hands from the Moun - tain.

Thus, he foretold that You would take flesh with - out seed,

O Word of God, born of the Vir-gin, the changeless God and Sav-ior of our souls!

*In the First Tone, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 1**

*(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Let us praise the Virgin Mary!  
The gate of heaven, the glory of the world!  
The song of the angels, the beauty of the faithful!  
She was born of man, yet gave birth to God!  
She was revealed as the heaven, as the temple of the godhead!  
She destroyed the wall of enmity!  
She commenced the peace; she opened the Kingdom!  
Since she is our foundation of faith,  
our defender is the Lord Whom she bore!  
Courage! Courage! O People of God!  
For Christ will destroy our enemies//  
since He is all powerful.

Let us praise the Vir-gin Ma - ry! The gate of heaven, the glo - ry of the world!

The song of the angels, the beauty of the faith - ful!

She was born of man, yet gave birth to God!

She was re - vealed as the heaven, as the temple of the God - head!

She destroyed the wall of en - mi - ty!

She com - menced the peace, she opened the King - dom!

Since she is our found - a - tion of faith,

our de - fend - er is the Lord Whom she bore!

Courage! Courage! O peo - - ple of God!

For Christ will destroy our en - e - mies since He is all - pow - er - ful.

The image shows two systems of musical notation. Each system consists of a grand staff with a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The first system has a vocal line with lyrics: "Courage! Courage! O peo - - ple of God!". The second system has a vocal line with lyrics: "For Christ will destroy our en - e - mies since He is all - pow - er - ful.". The piano accompaniment is written in a simple, homophonic style with block chords and moving bass lines.

*Priest:* Wisdom! Let us attend!

*Choir:* O Gladsome Light ... (p. 16)

*Prokeimenon of the Day, Three Readings*

## Old Testament Readings *(Holy Fathers)*

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* The Reading from The First Book of Moses called Genesis. *(Genesis 14:14-20)*

*Priest:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* Now when Abram heard that Lot his nephew had been taken captive, he numbered his own home-born servants three hundred and eighteen, and pursued the enemy as far as Dan. And he fell upon them by night, he and his servants, and smote them and pursued them as far as Chobal, which is on the left of Damascus. And he brought back all the cavalry of Sodom, and he brought back Lot his nephew and all his goods and the women and the people. And the king of Sodom came out to meet him, after his return from the slaughter of Cho-do-~~lo~~-go-mor and the kings with him, to the valley of Sabi; this was the plain of Kings. And Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out bread and wine; he was Priest of the Most High. And he blessed Abram and said: Blessed is Abram by the most high God, who created the heaven and the earth. And blessed is the most high God, who has delivered your enemies into your hand.

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* The reading from the Fifth Book of Moses called Deuteronomy. *(Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17)*

*Priest:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* Moses said to the sons of Israel: See, I have delivered the land before you; go in and inherit the land which I swore to your fathers, to Abraham and to Isaac and to Jacob, to give it to them and to their seed after them. And I spoke to you at that time saying: I alone shall not be able to bear you. the Lord your God has multiplied you, and behold, you are to-day as the stars of heaven in multitude. May the Lord the God of our fathers multiply you a thousand times more than you are, and bless you as he has spoken to you. And I took from you wise and understanding and prudent men, and I set them to rule over you, captains of thousands and hundreds and fifties and tens and recorders for your judges. And I commanded your judges at that time, saying: Hear cases between your brethren, and judge rightly between a man and his brother and the stranger who is with him. You shall not have respect to persons in judging. You shall hear the small as well as the great. You shall not shrink before any man's person; for the judgement is God's.

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* The reading from the Fifth Book of Moses called Deuteronomy. *(Deuteronomy 10:14-21)*

*Priest:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* Moses said to the sons of Israel: Behold the heaven and the highest heaven belong to the Lord your God, the earth and all that is in it. The Lord preferred your fathers, to love them: and he chose their seed after them, you above all nations, as it is at this day. So circumcise the hardness of your heart and stiffen your neck no longer. For the Lord your God is God of Gods and the Lord of Lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality, who takes no bribe. He executes judgment for the stranger, the orphan and the widow; and loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing. You shall fear the Lord your God and serve him, and to him you shall hold fast, and take oaths in his name. He is your boast, he your God, who has done for you the great and wonderful things which your eyes have seen.

*Then, the Augmented Litany (p. 18)*

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## Aposticha – Tone 1

We have been freed from sufferings  
by Your suffering, O Christ.  
We have been delivered from corruption  
by Your Resurrection.//  
O Lord, glory to You!

We have been freed from suf - fer - ings by Your suf - fer - ing, O Christ.

We have been delivered from cor - rup - tion by Your Re -

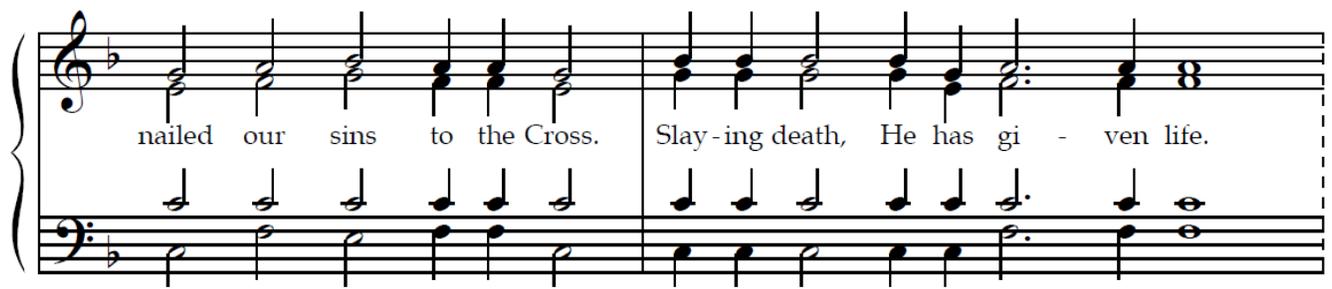
sur - rec - tion. O Lord, glo - ry to You.

*v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

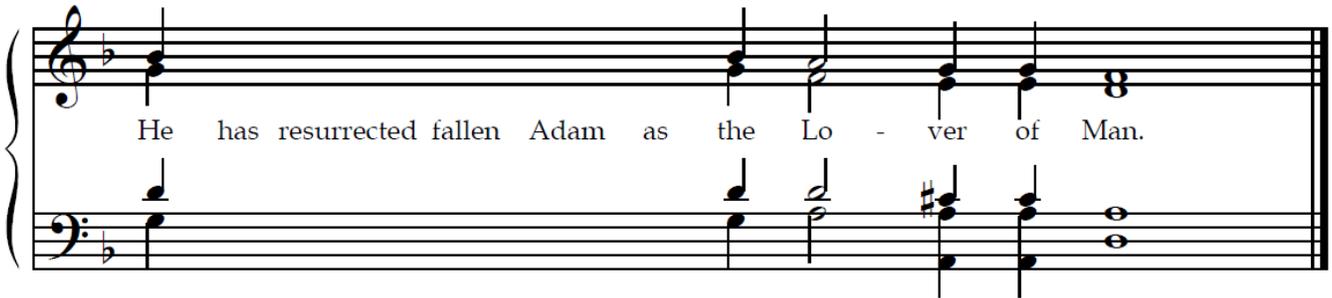
Let creation rejoice!  
Let the heavens be glad!  
Let the nations clap their hands with gladness,  
for Christ our Savior has nailed our sins to the Cross.  
Slaying death, He has given life.//  
He has resurrected fallen Adam as the Lover of Man.

Let cre - a - tion re-joyce. Let the hea - vens be glad. Let the na -

tions clap their hands with glad - ness. For Christ our Saviour has



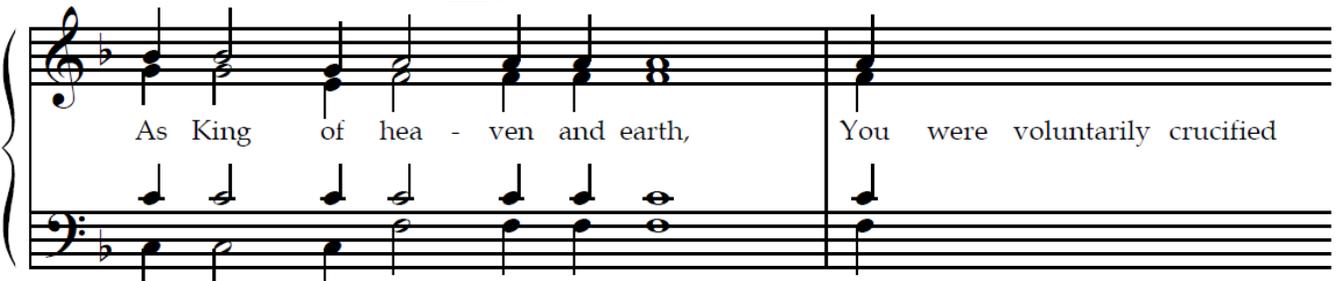
nailed our sins to the Cross. Slay-ing death, He has gi - ven life.



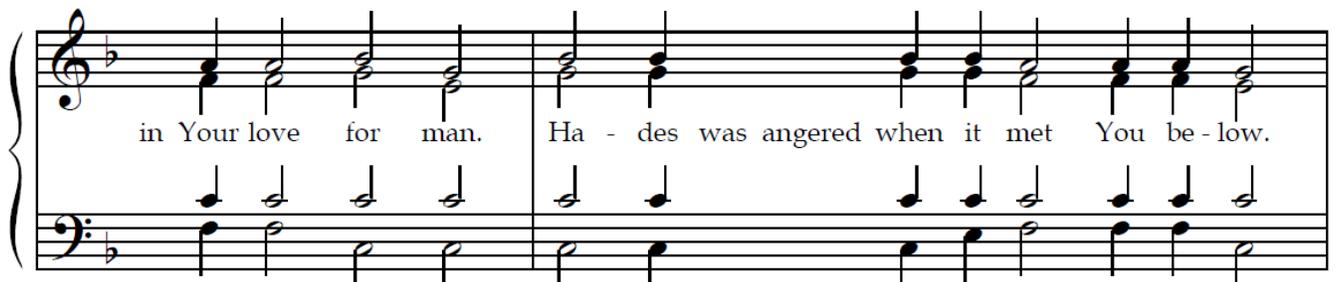
He has resurrected fallen Adam as the Lo - ver of Man.

*v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

As King of heaven and earth,  
 You were voluntarily crucified in Your love for man.  
Hades was angered when it met You below.  
 Adam rose seeing You, the Creator, under the earth.  
O Wonder!  
 How has the Life of All tasted death?  
 You enlightened the world which cries://  
 "O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!"



As King of hea - ven and earth, You were voluntarily crucified



in Your love for man. Ha - des was angered when it met You be - low.



Adam rose seeing You, the Cre - a - tor un - der the earth. O — won - der!

How has the life of all tast - ed death? You en - light - ened the world which cries:

O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glo - ry to You!

*v. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!*

The myrrhbearing women came with haste to Your tomb,  
 bearing myrrh and lamentations.  
 Not finding Your most pure body,  
 they learned from the angel of the new and glorious wonder.  
 They told the Apostles://  
 "The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy."

The myrrh - bearing women came with haste to Your tomb, bearing myrrh

and lamen - ta - tions. Not find - ing Your most pure Bo - dy

they learned from the angel of the new and glo - ri - ous won - der.

They told the a-pos-tles: "The Lord is risen granting to the world great mer - cy."

*In the Second Tone, Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 2**

*(for the Holy Fathers, by Cyprian)*

Rejoice, honored Prophets,  
 who laid well the foundation of the Law of the Lord,  
 and were revealed as firm and unshaken pillars of faith!  
 They became indeed the mediators of Christ's new covenant.  
 Since, therefore, you have been taken up into heaven,//  
 intercede with Him to grant peace to the world and salvation to our souls!

Rejoice, honored Pro - phets who laid well the foundation of the Law of the Lord,

and were re - vealed as firm and un - shak - en pil - lars of faith!

They became indeed the mediators of Christ's new co - ve - nant.

Since, therefore, you have been taken up into heav - en,

intercede with Him to grant peace to the world and sal-va-tion to our souls!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 2**

*(Theotokion)*

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles!  
 Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man,  
 who carried in her arms her Creator?  
 This birth is the will of God!  
 Since you carried Him as an infant in your arms, O most pure one,  
 and since you possess motherly boldness before Him,  
 do not cease praying for us who honor you, //  
 that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

A new miracle surpasses all ancient mir - a - cles! Who knows of a mother

who gave birth with-out a man, who carried in her arms her Cre - a - tor?

This birth is the will of God! Since you carried Him as an infant in your

arms, O Most Pure One, and since you possess motherly boldness be-fore Him:

do not cease praying for us who hon - our you, that He may be

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The lyrics are: "do not cease praying for us who hon - our you, that He may be". The music features a simple harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

boun - ti - ful and save \_\_\_\_\_ our souls!

The second system of music continues the piece. It also consists of two staves in the same key signature. The lyrics are: "boun - ti - ful and save \_\_\_\_\_ our souls!". The word "save" is followed by a long horizontal line, indicating a sustained note or a long breath. The music concludes with a double bar line.

*St. Symeon's Prayer (p. 25)*

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 1

Troparion

(Resurrection)

(Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,  
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,  
You rose on the third day, O Savior,  
Granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:

“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Your Kingdom!!!

Glory to Your dispensation, O you who love mankind!”

When the stone\_ had been sealed by the Jews; While the soldiers were guarding

Your most pure Bo - dy; You rose\_ on the third day, O Sa - viour,

grant-ing life to the world. The po - wers of heaven therefore cried to

You, O Gi - ver of Life: Glo - ry to Your Re - sur - rec - tion, O Christ!

Glo - ry to Your King-dom! Glory to Your dispensation, O You Who love man - kind!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

**Tone 2**

**Troparion**

*(Holy Fathers)*

*(Troparion for the Fathers – Tone 2)*

Great are the accomplishments of faith,  
for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest;  
and the Prophet Daniel appeared  
a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep.//  
So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

The musical score is written for four voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. It is in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Great are the ac - com - plish - ments of faith, for the Three Holy Youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though in the wa - ters of rest; and the pro - phet Dan - iel ap - peared, a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!" The score consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 2**

**Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

*(Resurrection Dismissal Theotokion – Tone 2)*

All beyond thought, all most glorious,  
are your mysteries, O Theotokos.  
Sealed in purity, preserved in virginity,  
you were revealed to be the true Mother who gave birth to the True God.//  
Entreat Him to save our souls!

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

All beyond thought, all most glo - ri - ous, are your

Detailed description: This system shows the first two staves of a four-part vocal setting. The Soprano and Alto parts are on a treble clef staff, and the Tenor and Bass parts are on a bass clef staff. The music is in a minor key (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "All beyond thought, all most glo - ri - ous, are your".

mysteries, O The - o - to - kos. Sealed in pur - i - ty, preserved

Detailed description: This system continues the vocal setting. The lyrics are: "mysteries, O The - o - to - kos. Sealed in pur - i - ty, preserved".

in vir - gin - i - ty, you were revealed to be the true Mother

Detailed description: This system continues the vocal setting. The lyrics are: "in vir - gin - i - ty, you were revealed to be the true Mother".

who gave birth to the True God. En - treat Him to

Detailed description: This system continues the vocal setting. The lyrics are: "who gave birth to the True God. En - treat Him to".

save our souls.

Detailed description: This system concludes the vocal setting. The lyrics are: "save our souls.".

*Then, the dismissal (p. 26)*

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 1

Troparion

(Resurrection)

(Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,  
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,  
You rose on the third day, O Savior,  
Granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:

“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Your Kingdom!!!

Glory to Your dispensation, O you who love mankind!”

When the stone\_ had been sealed by the Jews; While the soldiers were guarding

Your most pure Bo - dy; You rose\_ on the third day, O Sa - viour,

grant-ing life to the world. The po - wers of heaven therefore cried to

You, O Gi - ver of Life: Glo - ry to Your Re - sur - rec - tion, O Christ!

Glo - ry to Your King-dom! Glory to Your dispensation, O You Who love man - kind!

**Tone 2****Troparion***(Holy Fathers)**(Troparion for the Fathers – Tone 2)*

Great are the accomplishments of faith,  
 for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest;  
 and the Prophet Daniel appeared  
 a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep.//  
 So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

Great are the ac - com - plish - ments of faith, for the

Three Holy Youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though

in the wa - ters of rest; and the pro - phet Dan - iel ap - peared,

a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. So by

their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 6****Kontakion***(Holy Fathers)**(Kontakion for the Fathers – Tone 6)*

You did not worship the graven image,  
 O thrice-blessed ones,  
 but armed with the immaterial Essence of God,  
 you were glorified in a trial by fire.  
 From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying:  
 "Hasten, O compassionate One!

Speedily come to our aid, //  
for You are merciful and able to do as You will!"

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

You did not worship the grav-en im - age, O thrice -  
bless-ed ones, but armed with the immateri - al Es - sence of God,  
you were glorified in a trial by fire. From the midst of  
unbearable flames you called on God, cry - ing: Hasten, O  
com - pas - sion - ate One! Speed - i - ly come to our aid,  
for You are merciful and able to do as You will.

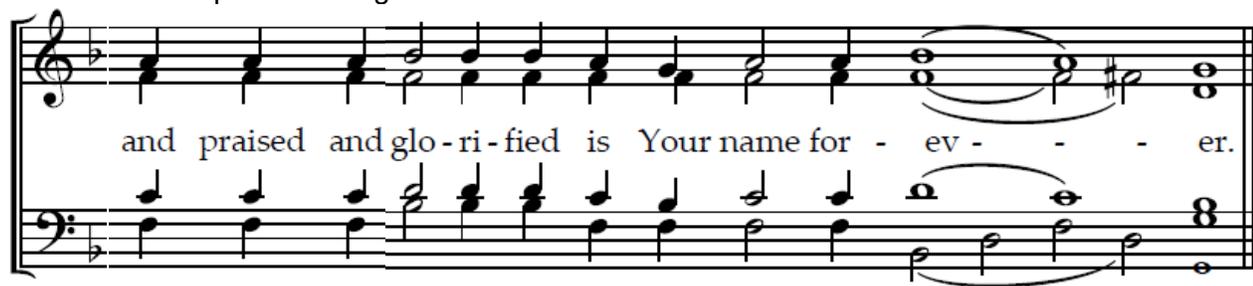
(then, p. 83)

**Tone 4****Prokeimenon***(Holy Fathers)**Priest:* Let us attend! † Peace be unto all!*Reader:* And with your spirit!*Priest:* Wisdom!*Prokeimenon, Tone 4**Reader:* The Prokeimenon, in the 4<sup>th</sup> Tone, the Song of the Fathers: Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever!*Choir:* Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever!


Blessèd are You, O Lord God of our fa - thers, and praised and  
glo - ri - fied is Your name for - ev - - - er.

*Reader:* For You are just in all that You have done to us.*Choir:* Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever!


Blessèd are You, O Lord God of our fa - thers, and praised and  
glo - ri - fied is Your name for - ev - - - er.

*Reader:* Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, ...*Choir:* ... and praised and glorified is Your name forever!


and praised and glo - ri - fied is Your name for - ev - - - er.

*Deacon:* Wisdom!**Epistle:** (328) Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 *(Sunday before Nativity)**Reader:* The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews.*Deacon:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* Brothers and sisters, by faith Abraham lived as an alien in the land of the promise, as in a land that was not his own, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob who were heirs with him of the same promise. Indeed, Abraham looked for the city which has foundations and whose architect and builder is God. By faith, Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac in sacrifice. Yes, he who had joyfully received the promises was now offering up his uniquely loved son, the very one of whom it was said, "In Isaac will your seed be called." Abraham concluded that God was even able to raise up the dead and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from the dead.

By faith, Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding future events. By faith, Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each one of Joseph's sons and bowed down, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith, Joseph, when his end was near, made mention of the exodus of the children of Israel and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith, Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents because they saw that he was a beautiful child and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

What more shall I say? Time would fail me if I mentioned Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith, the saints overpowered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign armies to flee.

Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.

Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted and they were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted, and ill-treated. And yet the world was not worthy of them! They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth. All of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise because God had made provision for us to have something better, and they were not to reach perfection apart from us.

*Priest:* Peace be to you.

*Alleluia:* Tone 4

*Reader:* **And to Your spirit.** In the 4<sup>th</sup> Tone: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Reader:* We have heard with our ears, O God, for our fathers have told us.

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Reader:* For You have saved us from them that oppose us, and have put to shame them that hate us.

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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**Gospel:** (1) Matthew 1:1-25 (*Sunday before the Nativity*)

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*Priest:* The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. **Matthew**.

*Choir:* Glory to You O Lord, Glory to You.

*Priest:* Let us Attend!

The book of the origins of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham became the father of Isaac. Isaac became the father of Jacob. Jacob became the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar. Perez became the father of Hezron. Hezron became the father of Ram. Ram became the father of Amminadab. Amminadab became the father of Nahshon. Nahshon became the father of Salmon. Salmon became the father of Boaz by Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed by Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse. Jesse became the father of King David. David became the father of Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon became the father of Rehoboam. Rehoboam became the father of Abijah. Abijah became the father of Asa. Asa became the father of Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat became the father of Joram. Joram became the father of Uzziah. Uzziah became the father of Jotham. Jotham became the father of Ahaz. Ahaz became the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh. Manasseh became the father of Amon. Amon became the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the exile to Babylon. After the exile to Babylon, Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel. Shealtiel became the father of Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel became the father of Abiud. Abiud became the father of Eliakim. Eliakim became the father of Azor. Azor became the father of Sadoc. Sadoc became the father of Achim. Achim became the father of Eliud. Eliud became the father of Eleazar. Eleazar became the father of Matthan. Matthan became the father of Jacob. Jacob became the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. And so, all the generations from Abraham to David

are fourteen generations; from David to the exile to Babylon fourteen generations; and from the exile to Babylon until the Christ, fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ happened like this: after his mother, Mary, was promised in marriage to Joseph but before they came together, she was found pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph, her betrothed, who was a righteous man did not want to make her a public spectacle and so intended to put her away quietly. But as he was thinking about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife home, for what is conceived in her is by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you shall give him the name Jesus because he will be the one to save his people from their sins."

Now all this happened so that what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled: Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bring forth a son. They shall call his name Emmanuel; which means, 'with us is God.'

Joseph arose from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him: he took his wife to live with him, and had no relations with her before she had brought forth her firstborn son; and he named him Jesus.

*Choir:* Glory to You O Lord, Glory to You.

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**Sermon**

*(then p. 89)*

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# Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous!  
Praise befits the just! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

Praise the Lord from the heav - ens! Praise Him in the high - est!

Re - joice in the Lord, O you right - eous; praise be - fits the just!

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system has two staves: the top staff is for Soprano and Alto voices, and the bottom staff is for Tenor and Bass voices. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Praise the Lord from the heav - ens! Praise Him in the high - est!". The second system also has two staves for Soprano/Alto and Tenor/Bass. The key signature changes to one flat (Bb) and the time signature remains 4/4. The lyrics are: "Re - joice in the Lord, O you right - eous; praise be - fits the just!".

1. Praise the Lord with the lyre, make melody to Him with the harp of ten strings.
2. Sing to Him a new song, play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
3. For the word of the Lord is upright; and all His work is done in faithfulness.
4. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.
5. By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of His mouth.
6. He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle; He put the deeps in storehouses.
7. Let all the earth fear the Lord, let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!
8. For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood forth.

Al - le - lu - ia, — Al - le - lu - ia, —

The musical score for the Alleluia consists of two staves. The top staff is for Soprano and Alto voices, and the bottom staff is for Tenor and Bass voices. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, — Al - le - lu - ia, —".

Al - le - lu - ia!

The musical score for the Alleluia consists of two staves. The top staff is for Soprano and Alto voices, and the bottom staff is for Tenor and Bass voices. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia!".