

"Lord I Call..." – Tone 2

Reader: In the Second 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!

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 u - pon You. Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer a - rise in Your sight as in - cense and let the lifting

up of my hands be an evening sac - ri - fice. 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!

v. (9) The righteous shall wait patiently for me until You shall reward me.

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

Come, let us greatly rejoice in the Lord,
as we sing of this present mystery:
the wall that divided God from man has been destroyed;
the flaming sword withdraws from Eden's gate;
the Cherubim withdraw from the Tree of Life;
and I, who had been cast out through my disobedience,
now feast on the delights of Paradise:
for today the Father's perfect Image,
marked with the stamp of His eternity,
has taken the form of a servant.

Without undergoing change He is born from an unwedded mother;

He was true God, and He remains the same,

but through His love for mankind,

He has become what He never was: true man.

Come, O faithful, let us cry to Him://

"O God, born of the Virgin, have mercy on us!"

Come, let us greatly re-joyce in the Lord, as we sing of this present mys-ter-y:

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a series of chords, and the bass staff contains a series of notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

the wall that divided God from man has been de-stroyed;

The second system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a series of chords, and the bass staff contains a series of notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

the flaming sword withdraws from E - den's gate;

The third system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a series of chords, and the bass staff contains a series of notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

the Cherubim withdraw from the Tree of Life;

The fourth system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a series of chords, and the bass staff contains a series of notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

and I, who had been cast out through my dis - o - be - di - ence,

now feast on the delights of Par - a - dise: for today the Father's perfect I - mage,

marked with the stamp of His e - ter - ni - ty, has taken the form of a ser - vant.

Without undergoing change He is born from an unwedded moth - er;

He was true God, and He re - mains the same, but through His love for man - kind,

He has become what He never was: true man. Come, O faithful, let us cry to Him:

"O God, born of the Virgin, have mer - cy on us!"

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!
 Come, let us greatly rejoice in the Lord,

as we sing of this present mystery:
 the wall that divided God from man has been destroyed;
 the flaming sword withdraws from Eden's gate;
 the Cherubim withdraw from the Tree of Life;
 and I, who had been cast out through my disobedience,
 now feast on the delights of Paradise:
 for today the Father's perfect Image,
marked with the stamp of His eternity,
 has taken the form of a servant.

Without undergoing change He is born from an unwedded mother;
 He was true God, and He remains the same,
 but through His love for mankind,
 He has become what He never was: true man.

Come, O faithful, let us cry to Him://

"O God, born of the Virgin, have mercy on us!"

Come, let us greatly re-joyce in the Lord, as we sing of this present mys-ter-y:

the wall that divided God from man has been de - stroyed;

the flaming sword withdraws from E - den's gate;

the Cherubim withdraw from the Tree of Life;

and I, who had been cast out through my dis - o - be - di - ence,

now feast on the delights of Par - a - dise: for today the Father's perfect I - mage,
 marked with the stamp of His e - ter - ni - ty, has taken the form of a ser - vant.
 Without undergoing change He is born from an unwedded moth - er;
 He was true God, and He re - mains the same, but through His love for man - kind,
 He has become what He never was: true man. Come, O faithful, let us cry to Him:
 "O God, born of the Virgin, have mer - cy on us!"

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

When the Lord Jesus was born of the Holy Virgin,
 the whole universe was filled with light.
 The shepherds watched in the fields.
 The Wise Men worshipped, and the Angels sang.
 But Herod was troubled,
 for God had appeared in the flesh.//
 He is the Savior of our souls.

When the Lord Jesus was born of the Holy Vir - gin,

the whole universe was filled with light. The shep - herds watched in the fields.

The Wise Men worshipped, and the An - gels sang. But Herod was t>rou - bled,

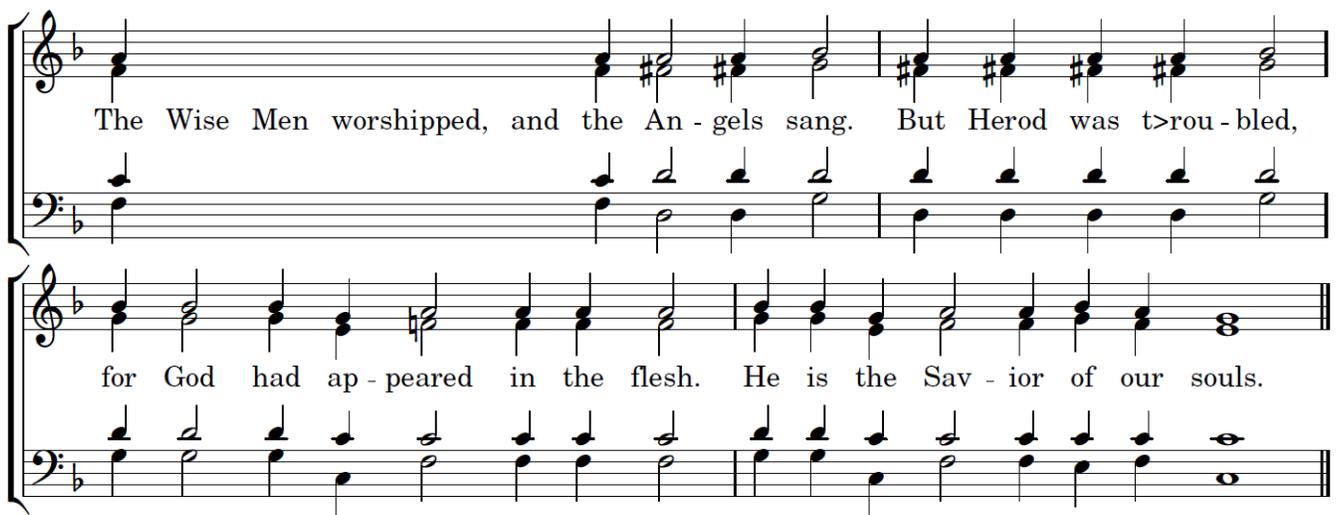
for God had ap - peared in the flesh. He is the Sav - ior of our souls.

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.

When the Lord Jesus was born of the Holy Virgin,
 the whole universe was filled with light.
 The shepherds watched in the fields.
 The Wise Men worshipped, and the Angels sang.
 But Herod was troubled,
 for God had appeared in the flesh.//
 He is the Savior of our souls.

When the Lord Jesus was born of the Holy Vir - gin,

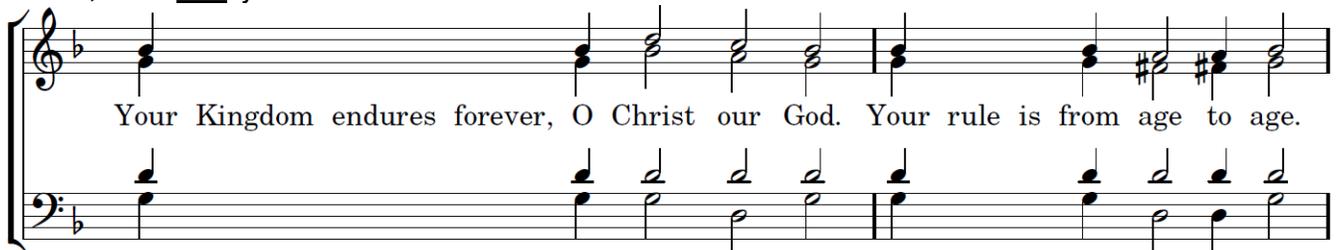
the whole universe was filled with light. The shep - herds watched in the fields.



The Wise Men worshipped, and the An - gels sang. But Herod was trou - bled,
for God had ap - peared in the flesh. He is the Sav - ior of our souls.

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope on the Lord.

Your Kingdom endures forever, O Christ our God.
Your rule is from age to age.
Made flesh by the Holy Spirit,
made man of the ever-virgin Mary,
You have filled all creation with joy.
The light of Your coming has shone on us;
every living creature praises You,
the Image of the Father's glory.
Light of Light, the radiance of the Father,
the same yesterday, today, and forever,
You have shone forth from the Virgin.//
O God, have mercy on us!



Your Kingdom endures forever, O Christ our God. Your rule is from age to age.



Made flesh by the Ho - ly Spir - it, made man of the ever - virgin Mar - y,

You have filled all cre - a - tion with joy. The light of Your coming has shone on us;

every living creature prais - es You, the Image of the Father's glor - y.

Light of Light, the radiance of the Fa - ther, the same yesterday, today, and for - ev - er,

You have shone forth from the Vir - gin. O God, have mer - cy on us!

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

Your Kingdom endures forever, O Christ our God.
 Your rule is from age to age.
 Made flesh by the Holy Spirit,
 made man of the ever-virgin Mary,
 You have filled all creation with joy.
 The light of Your coming has shone on us;
 every living creature praises You,
 the Image of the Father's glory.
 Light of Light, the radiance of the Father,
 the same yesterday, today, and forever,
 You have shone forth from the Virgin.//
 O God, have mercy on us!

Your Kingdom endures forever, O Christ our God. Your rule is from age to age.

Made flesh by the Ho - ly Spir - it, made man of the ever - virgin Mar - y,

You have filled all cre-a-tion with joy. The light of Your coming has shone on us;
 every living creature prais-es You, the Image of the Father's glor-y.
 Light of Light, the radiance of the Fa-ther, the same yesterday, today, and for-ev-er,
 You have shone forth from the Vir-gin. O God, have mer-cy on us!

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

What shall we offer You, O Christ,
 Who for our sakes have appeared on earth as a man?
 Every creature made by You offers You thanks:
 the Angels offer a hymn; the heavens, a star;
 the Wise Men, gifts; the shepherds, their wonder;
 the earth, its cave; the wilderness, a manger,
 and we offer You a virgin Mother!!!
 O Pre-eternal God, have mercy on us!

What shall we of-fer You, O Christ,
 Who for our sakes have appeared on earth as a man?

Every crea - ture made by You of - fers You thanks:

the Angels offer a hymn; the heav - ens, a star;

the Wise Men, gifts; the shepherds, their won - der;

the earth, its cave; the wilderness, a man - ger,

and we offer You a virgin Moth - er! O Pre - eternal God, have mer - cy on us!

v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.

What shall we offer You, O Christ,
 Who for our sakes have appeared on earth as a man?
 Every creature made by You offers You thanks:
 the Angels offer a hymn; the heavens, a star;
 the Wise Men, gifts; the shepherds, their wonder;
 the earth, its cave; the wilderness, a manger,
 and we offer You a virgin Mother!!!
 O Pre-eternal God, have mercy on us!

What shall we of - fer You, O Christ,

Who for our sakes have appeared on earth as a man?

Every creature made by You offers You thanks:

the Angels offer a hymn; the heavens, a star;

the Wise Men, gifts; the shepherds, their wonder;

the earth, its cave; the wilderness, a manger,

and we offer You a virgin Mother! O Pre-eternal God, have mercy on us!

Entrance with the Gospel Book

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

When Augustus ruled alone upon the earth,
 the many kingdoms of men came to an end,
 and when You were made man of the pure Virgin,
 the many gods of idolatry were destroyed.
 The cities of the world passed under one single rule,
 and the nations came to believe in one sovereign Godhead.
 The peoples were enrolled by the decree of Caesar,
 and we the faithful were enrolled in the name of the Godhead,

When You, our God, were made man.
Great is Your mercy, O Lord, glory to You!

When Augustus ruled a - lone up - on the earth,

the many kingdoms of men came to an end,

and when You were made man of the pure Vir - gin,

the many gods of i - dol - a - try were de - stroyed.

The cities of the world passed under one sin - gle rule,

and the na - tions came to believe in one sov - er - eign God - head.

The peoples were enrolled by the decree of Cae - sar,

and we the faithful were enrolled in the name of the God - head,

When You, our God, were made man. Great is Your mercy, O Lord, glor - y to You!

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has lyrics: "and we the faithful were enrolled in the name of the God - head,". The second system has lyrics: "When You, our God, were made man. Great is Your mercy, O Lord, glor - y to You!". The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a key signature of one flat.

Priest, making the cross with the Gospel Book: Wisdom! Upright!

Choir: O Gladsome Light ...

Great Prokeimenon for Sunday, Readings

The Holy Doors are closed.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the First Book of Moses, called Genesis. (*Genesis 1:1-13*)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: In the beginning God made the heaven and the earth. Now the earth was invisible and unformed, and darkness was upon the deep and the Spirit of God was borne upon the water. And God said, "Let there be light", and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God made a separation between the light and the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night; and there was evening and there was morning, one day. And God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the water and let there be a separation between the water and the water"; and it was so. And God made the firmament. And God made a separation between the water, which was below the firmament, and between the water which was above the firmament. And God called the firmament Heaven; and God saw that it was good, and there was evening and there was morning, a second day. And God said, "Let the water below heaven be gathered together into one gathering, and let dry land appear"; and it was so. And the water below heaven was gathered together into their gatherings, and the dry land appeared. And God called the dry land Earth, and the accumulations of the waters he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. And God said, "Let the earth sprout herb of grass, sowing seed according to its kind and according to its likeness, and fruiting tree making fruit, whose seed is in it according to its kind upon the earth"; and it was so. And the earth brought forth herb of grass, sowing seed according to its kind and according to its likeness, and fruiting tree making fruit, whose seed was in it according to its kind upon the earth, and God saw that it was good. And there was evening and morning, a third day.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Fourth Book of Moses, called Numbers. (*Num. 24:2-3, 5-9, 17-18*)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: And the Spirit of God came upon Balaam, and he took up his discourse, and said, "How fair are your houses, O Jacob, your tents, O Israel. Like shady groves, like gardens beside a river, like tents that the Lord has planted, like cedar trees beside the waters. A man shall come forth from his seed and shall be lord over many nations, and his kingdom shall be exalted and increased. God led him out of Egypt; he has as it were the glory of the unicorn, he shall eat up the nations of his adversaries, and suck the marrow of their fat bones, and pierce the foe through with his arrows. He couched, he lay down like a lion, and like a young lion; who will rouse him? Blessed be everyone who blesses you, and cursed be everyone who curses you". A star shall come forth out of Jacob, and a man shall rise out of Israel; and shall crush the princes of Moab, and plunder all the sons of Seth. Edom shall be an inheritance, Esau his foe shall be an inheritance, while Israel did valiantly.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Micah. (*Micah 4:6-7; 5:2-4*)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: In those days, says the Lord, I will gather her that is bruised, and her that has been driven out I will receive, and those whom I have driven out; and her that has been bruised I will make into a remnant; and her that has been cast out into a strong nation; and the Lord shall reign over them in Mount Sion from this henceforth and for ever more. Thus says the Lord: And you Bethlehem, house of Ephratha, are not least among the thousands of Juda; for from you there shall come forth for me the one who is to be ruler in Israel, and his goings out are from the beginning, from eternity. Because of this he will give them until the moment that she who bears child shall bring to birth; and the remainder of his brethren shall return to the children of Israel. And he will stand and shall see, and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, and they shall abide in the glory of the name of the Lord his God; for now they shall be magnified even to the extremities of the earth.

The Holy Doors are opened.

(Then we **stand** and sing the following troparion. The reader chants the verses and the choir responds.)

Tone 6

Troparion

You were born secretly in the cave,
but heaven spoke through a star and proclaimed You to all, O Savior.
And it brought Magi, who worshipped You with faith;

have mercy upon them and upon us!

Thou wast born se - cret - ly in the cave, but heav - en
You were
spoke through a star and pro - claimed Thee to all, O Sav - ior.
You
And it brought Ma - gi, who wor - shipped Thee with faith;
You
have mercy u - pon them and u - pon us!

v: His foundations are in the holy mountains. The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

And it brought Magi, who worshipped You with faith;
have mercy upon them and upon us!

And it brought Ma - gi, who wor - shipped Thee with faith;
You
have mercy u - pon them and u - pon us!

v: Glorious things are spoken of you, O City of God. I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to those who know Me.

And it brought Magi, who worshipped You with faith;
have mercy upon them and upon us!

And it brought Ma - gi, who wor - shipped Thee with faith;
You

have mercy u - pon them and u - pon us!

v: Behold, O Philistia and Tyre and the people of Ethiopia!

And it brought Magi, who worshipped You with faith;
have mercy upon them and upon us!

And it brought Ma - gi, who wor - shipped Thee with faith;
You

have mercy u - pon them and u - pon us!

v: "This one was born there," And of Zion it will be said, "This one and that one were born in her, and the Most High Himself shall establish her."

And it brought Magi, who worshipped You with faith;
have mercy upon them and upon us!

And it brought Ma - gi, who wor - shipped Thee with faith;
You

have mercy u - pon them and u - pon us!

v: The Lord will record, when He registers the people and the princes born in her. All rejoice to have their dwelling in you.

And it brought Magi, who worshipped You with faith;
have mercy upon them and upon us!

And it brought Ma - gi, who wor - shipped Thee with faith;
 You
 have mercy u - pon them and u - pon us!

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

You were secretly in the cave,
 but heaven spoke through a star and proclaimed You to all, O Savior.
 And it brought Magi, who worshipped You with faith;
 have mercy upon them and upon us!

Thou wast born se - cret - ly in the cave, but heav - en
 You were
 spoke through a star and pro - claimed Thee to all, O Sav - ior.
 You
 And it brought Ma - gi, who wor - shipped Thee with faith;
 You
 have mercy u - pon them and u - pon us!

Old Testament Readings

The Holy Doors are closed.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Isaiah 11:1-10)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Thus says the Lord: There shall come forth a rod from the root of Jesse, and a flower shall grow out of the root. And the Spirit of the Lord God shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and piety. The spirit of the fear of the Lord will fill him. He shall not judge by glory nor reprove by hearsay; but he will give judgement for the lowly with justice, and reprove with equity the glorious ones of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the word of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall destroy the wicked. And he will have his loins girt with righteousness, and his sides clothed with truth. Then the wolf shall feed with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the bull and the lion shall feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The ox and the bear shall feed together; their young shall be together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. An infant child shall put its hand over the hole of asps, and the weaned child its hand on the nest of the offspring of asps. They shall not hurt or be able to destroy anyone on my holy mountain; for the whole earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as much water covers the sea. In that day there shall be the root of Jesse, and he that shall arise to rule nations; in him shall the nations hope, and his rest shall be honor.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Jeremiah. (*Baruch 3:36-4:4*)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: This is our God, and there shall be none other reckoned in comparison with him. He has found out all the way of knowledge, and given it to Jacob his servant and Israel his beloved. After this he appeared on earth and lived among men. This is the book of the commandments of God, and the law which exists unto the ages; all those who keep it fast shall have life; but those who abandon it shall die. Turn back Jacob, and lay hold of it, walk in the presence of its light to be illumined. Do not give your glory to another, and what is profitable to you to a foreign nation.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Daniel. (*Daniel 2:31-36, 44-45*)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Daniel said to Nebuchadnezzar, "You saw, O king, and behold, a great image. This image, mighty and of exceeding brightness, stood before you, and its appearance was lightening. The head of this image was of pure gold, its hands, breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. As you looked, a stone was cut out from a mountain by no human hand, and it smote the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces; then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, all together were broken in pieces, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. This was the dream; now we shall tell the king its interpretation. The God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall this kingdom be left to another people. It shall crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand unto the ages; just as you saw that a stone was cut from the mountain not by hands, and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. The great God has informed the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation trustworthy".

The Holy Doors are opened. All stand.

Tone 6

Troparion

You have shone forth from a Virgin, O Christ,
Spiritual Sun of righteousness,
and a star showed You, Whom nothing can contain,
contained within a cave.

You have led Magi to worship You,
and joining them we magnify You:
"O Giver of Life, glory to You!"

Thou hast shone forth from a Vir - gin, O Christ, thou spir - i - tual Sun of
You have you

right - eous - ness, and a star showed Thee, Whom noth - ing can con - tain,
You

con - tained with - in a cave. Thou hast led Ma - gi to wor - ship Thee,
You have You

and join - ing them we mag - ni - fy Thee: O Giver of Life, glor - y to Thee!
You You

v: The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty; the Lord has put on His apparel and girded Himself with strength.

You have led Magi to worship You,
and joining them we magnify You:
"O Giver of Life, glory to You!"

Thou hast led Ma - gi to wor - ship Thee,
You have You

and join - ing them we mag - ni - fy Thee: O Giver of Life, glor - y to Thee!
You You

v: He has made the world so sure, that it cannot be moved; Your throne is from of old; You are from everlasting.

You have led Magi to worship You,
and joining them we magnify You:
"O Giver of Life, glory to You!"

Thou hast led Ma-gi to wor-ship Thee,
You have

and join-ing them we mag-ni-fy Thee: O Giver of Life, glor-y to Thee!
You You

v: The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves at the voice of many waters.

You have led Magi to worship You,
and joining them we magnify You:
"O Giver of Life, glory to You!"

Thou hast led Ma-gi to wor-ship Thee,
You have

and join-ing them we mag-ni-fy Thee: O Giver of Life, glor-y to Thee!
You You

v: Wonderful are the mighty waves of the sea; wonderful is the Lord on high. Your testimonies are very sure.

You have led Magi to worship You,
and joining them we magnify You:
"O Giver of Life, glory to You!"

Thou hast led Ma-gi to wor-ship Thee,
You have

and join-ing them we mag-ni-fy Thee: O Giver of Life, glor-y to Thee!
You You

v: Holiness becomes Your house, O Lord, forever.

You have led Magi to worship You,
and joining them we magnify You:
"O Giver of Life, glory to You!"

Thou hast led Ma-gi to wor - ship Thee,
You have You

and join-ing them we mag - ni - fy Thee: O Giver of Life, glor - y to Thee!
You You

The musical score consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "Thou hast led Ma-gi to wor - ship Thee, You have You". The second system also has a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "and join-ing them we mag - ni - fy Thee: O Giver of Life, glor - y to Thee! You You". The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a key signature of one flat.

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

You have shone forth from a Virgin, O Christ,
Spiritual Sun of righteousness,
and a star showed You, Whom nothing can contain,
Contained within a cave.
You have led Magi to worship You,
and joining them we magnify You:
"O Giver of Life, glory to You!"

Thou hast shone forth from a Vir - gin, O Christ, thou spir-i-tual Sun of
You have you

right - eous - ness, and a star showed Thee, Whom noth - ing can con - tain,
You

con - tained with - in a cave. Thou hast led Ma-gi to wor - ship Thee,
You have You

The musical score consists of three systems of staves. The first system has a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "Thou hast shone forth from a Vir - gin, O Christ, thou spir-i-tual Sun of You have you". The second system has a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "right - eous - ness, and a star showed Thee, Whom noth - ing can con - tain, You". The third system has a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "con - tained with - in a cave. Thou hast led Ma-gi to wor - ship Thee, You have You". The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a key signature of one flat.



Old Testament Readings

The Holy Doors are closed.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (*Isaiah 9: 6-7*)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: A child has been born for us, a son has been given to us; whose government is upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called "Angel of Great Counsel, Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Potentate, Prince of Peace, Father of the age to come". For I will bring peace upon princes, peace and health to him. Great his government, and of his peace there is no bound, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with judgement and with justice from henceforth and for ever more. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (*Isaiah 7:10-16 & 8:1-4, 8-10*)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; in the depth or in the height". But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test". And Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David. Is it a little thing for you to contend with men, and how do you contend with the Lord? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel. He shall eat butter and honey before he knows how to prefer evil or choose good. For before the child knows good or evil, he refuses the evil to choose the good. Then the Lord said to me, 'Take for yourself a large new volume and write upon it in with a man's pen, Of making a rapid plunder of spoils; for it is at hand. And get me witnesses, reliable men, Urias the priest and Zachary the son of Barachias'. And I went to the prophetess, and she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said to me, 'Call his name Despoil-quickly-plunder-rapidly; for before the child knows how to cry 'Father' or 'Mother,' he will take the power of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria before the king of the Assyrians'. Know you nations and be wasted; give ear, as far as the extremity of the earth; for if again you have become strong, again you shall be wasted. And whatever counsel you take, the Lord will scatter it; and whatever word you speak, it shall not remain in you, for God is with us".

The Holy Doors are opened.

Then the Little Litany (NOTE: The Trisagion is NOT done), and immediately the Prokeimenon:

The Little Litany

Second Deacon: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.



Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mer - cy.

A musical score for a piano accompaniment. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music consists of four measures. The first measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble. The second measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble. The third measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble. The fourth measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble.

Commemorating our all-holy, most pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

To You, O Lord

A musical score for a piano accompaniment. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music consists of four measures. The first measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble. The second measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble. The third measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble. The fourth measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble.

Priest: For holy are You, O our God, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

A - men.

A musical score for a piano accompaniment. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music consists of two measures. The first measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble. The second measure has a half note chord (F2, A2) in the bass and a half note chord (C4, E4) in the treble.

First Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: † Peace to all!

Reader: And to your spirit!

First Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 1st Tone, The Lord said to Me, “You are My Son, this day have I begotten You.”

Choir: The Lord said to Me, “You are My Son, this day have I begotten You.”

The Lord said to me: You _____ are My Son, This day have I be - got - ten You.

This musical score is for a choir reading. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The text is: "The Lord said to me: You _____ are My Son, This day have I be - got - ten You." There are some markings above the notes, possibly indicating breath or phrasing.

Reader: Ask of Me, and I shall give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth as Your possession!

Choir: The Lord said to Me, “You are My Son, this day have I begotten You.”

The Lord said to me: You _____ are My Son, This day have I be - got - ten You.

This musical score is identical to the first one, featuring a treble and bass clef staff with the same key signature and lyrics.

Reader: The Lord said to Me,...

Choir: ... “You are My Son, this day have I begotten You.”

You _____ are My Son, This day have I be - got - ten You.

This musical score is identical to the previous ones, featuring a treble and bass clef staff with the same key signature and lyrics.

First Deacon: Wisdom!

Epistle: (207) Galatians 3:15-22

Reader/Second Deacon: The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians.

First Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters, speaking of a human example: even a human contract, once it has been confirmed, cannot be cancelled or altered. Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Notice that he does not say, “to seeds,” as if there were many, but as of one, “to your seed,” which is Christ. What I am saying is this: the law, which came four hundred thirty years after the covenant previously confirmed by God in Christ, does not cancel it to make the promise of no effect. If the inheritance comes from the law, it is no longer from the promise; but in fact, God granted it to Abraham by way of a promise.

What then is the law about? It was added because of transgressions, until the seed to whom the promise had been made should come, and it was established through the angels, by the hand of a mediator. Now there is no mediator when there is only one party, and God is one. Therefore, is the law against God’s own promises? Certainly not! If a law had been given which could make alive, then certainly, righteousness would have been from the law. But in fact, the Scriptures declared all things to be captive under sin, so that the promise might be given to those who believe—that is, by faith in Jesus Christ.

Priest: † Peace be to you.

Second Deacon/Reader: **And to your spirit.** In the 5th Tone, Alleluia! The Lord said to My Lord:
“Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool!”

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A musical score for a choir, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef) with a grand staff bracket on the left. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - - le - lu - ia! (x3)". The first two phrases are separated by a comma, and the third phrase is followed by "(x3)". There are some circled notes in the treble staff, and a fermata over the final note of the third phrase.

verse: “The Lord shall send You a rod of strength out of Zion.”

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

verse: “From the womb before the morning star have I begotten You.”

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Priest: *Illuminate our hearts, O Master, Who loves mankind, with the pure light of Your divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Your gospel teachings. Implant also in us the fear of Your blessed commandments that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things that are well pleasing to You. For You are the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and to You we ascribe glory, together with Your Father, Who is from everlasting, and Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.*

Second Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

Priest (facing the people): † Peace to all.

Now the priest may pick up the Gospel Book.

Choir: And to your spirit.

A musical score for a choir, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef) with a grand staff bracket on the left. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "And to your spi-rit." There are some circled notes in the treble staff.

First Deacon: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. *Luke*.

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

A musical score for a choir, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef) with a grand staff bracket on the left. The key signature has one sharp (F-sharp). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry to You, O Lord, glo - ry to You." There are some circled notes in the treble staff.

Second Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

In those days, Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census made when Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to enroll themselves, everyone to his own city. Because he was of the house and family of David, Joseph left the city of Nazareth in Galilee and went up to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem. He did so to enroll himself with Mary who was pledged to be married to him as wife and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. She gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes. She laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

There were shepherds in the same countryside, staying in the field and keeping watch by night over their flock. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood by them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you Good News of great joy which will be for all the people. For there is born to you, this day, in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord! This is the sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will among mankind.

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go to Bethlehem now and see what has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." They came with haste and found both Mary and Joseph; and the baby was lying in the manger. After seeing it, they revealed the news which had been spoken to them about this child. All those who heard what the shepherds were saying were amazed, but Mary kept all these sayings, pondering them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things which they had heard and seen, just as it was told them.

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



Then "Vouchsafe, O Lord...", the Evening Litany, and the Dismissal.

Immediately after the Dismissal the clergy go to the center of the church where the icon of the feast has been placed. The Troparion and the Kontakion of the feast are sung.

Tone 4

Troparion

Your Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore You,
the Sun of righteousness,
and to know You, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to You!

The musical score is written for four voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. It is in the key of B-flat major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the Light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Orient from on High. O Lord, glory to You!" The score consists of five systems of staves. Each system has a vocal line (Soprano/Alto or Tenor/Bass) and a piano accompaniment line. The piano accompaniment features chords and rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are placed below the vocal lines.

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

Tone 3

Kontakion

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One.

Angels with shepherds glorify Him;

the Wise Men journey with the star, //

since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

To - day the Vir - gin gives birth to the tran - scen - dent One,

The first system of musical notation features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes.

and the earth of - fers a cave to the un - ap - proach - a - ble One!

The second system continues the melody with similar note values. The lyrics are written below the notes.

An gels with shep - herds glo - ri - fy Him! The wise men jour - ney with a star!

The third system contains two phrases of music. The first phrase ends with a double bar line. The second phrase begins with a new melodic line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Since for our sake the e - ter - nal God was born as a lit - tle child!

The fourth system concludes the piece with a final melodic phrase. The lyrics are written below the notes.