

DECEMBER 25

The Nativity according to the Flesh of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ
Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

The First Antiphon

I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Your wonders known.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

In the company of the upright, in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

They are sought out according to His will.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Full of honor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

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

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Your wonders known

This block contains the first line of musical notation for the antiphon. It features a grand staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Your wonders known".

Refrain:

Through the prayers of the The - o - to - kos, O Sa - viour save us.

This block contains the first refrain of musical notation. It features a grand staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Through the prayers of the The - o - to - kos, O Sa - viour save us.".

In the company of the upright, in the con - gre - ga - tion, great are the works of the Lord!

This block contains the second line of musical notation for the antiphon. It features a grand staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "In the company of the upright, in the con - gre - ga - tion, great are the works of the Lord!".

Refrain They are stud - ied by all who have plea - sure in them. *Refrain*

This block contains the second refrain of musical notation. It features a grand staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "*Refrain* They are stud - ied by all who have plea - sure in them. *Refrain*".

His work is glo - ry and beau - ty, and His righteousness en - dures for - e - ver.

This block contains the first line of the musical score. It features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "His work is glo - ry and beau - ty, and His righteousness en - dures for - e - ver."

Refrain:

Through the prayers of the The - o - to - kos, O Sa - viour save us.

This block contains the second line of the musical score, which is the start of the refrain. It features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Through the prayers of the The - o - to - kos, O Sa - viour save us."

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

This block contains the third line of the musical score. It features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit,"

now and ever and unto ages of a - ges. A - men. *Refrain*

This block contains the fourth line of the musical score. It features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "now and ever and unto ages of a - ges. A - men. *Refrain*". The word "Refrain" is written in italics.

The Second Antiphon

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!
His descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!
Glory and wealth are in His house, and His righteousness endures forever.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!
Light rises in the darkness for the upright; the Lord is merciful, compassionate and righteous.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Bless-ed is the man who fears the Lord! who greatly delights in His com-mand-ments!

Refrain:

O Son of God born of the Vir - gin, save us who sing to You,

Al - le - lu - ia! His de - scen - dants will be migh - ty in the land;

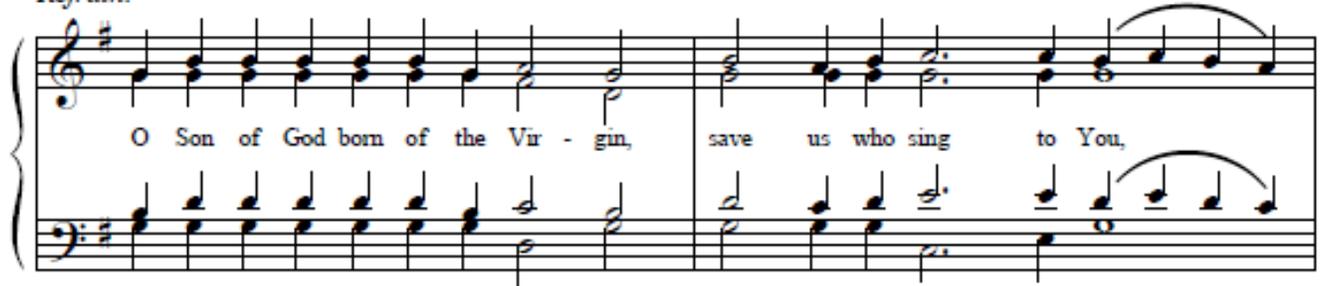
the generation of the up - right will be blessed. *Refrain*

Glo-ry and wealth are in His house, and His righteousness en-dures for - e - ver! *Refrain*



Light ris-es in the darkness for the up - ight; the Lord is merciful, compassionate, and right-eous.

Refrain:

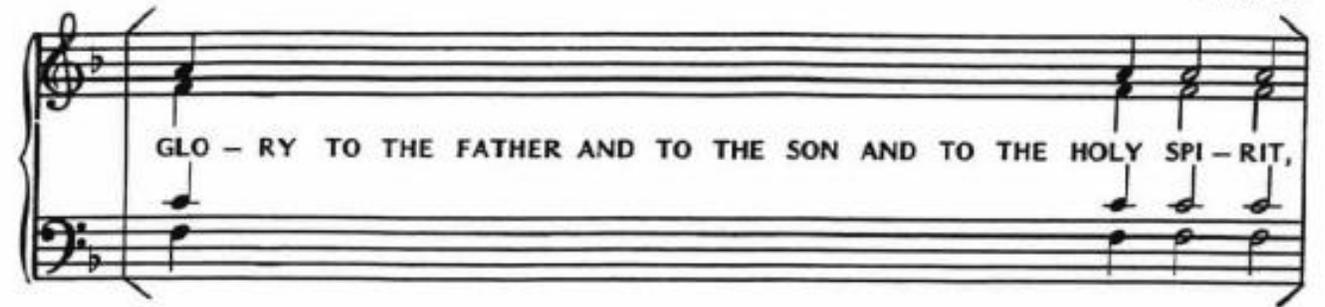


O Son of God born of the Vir - gin, save us who sing to You,

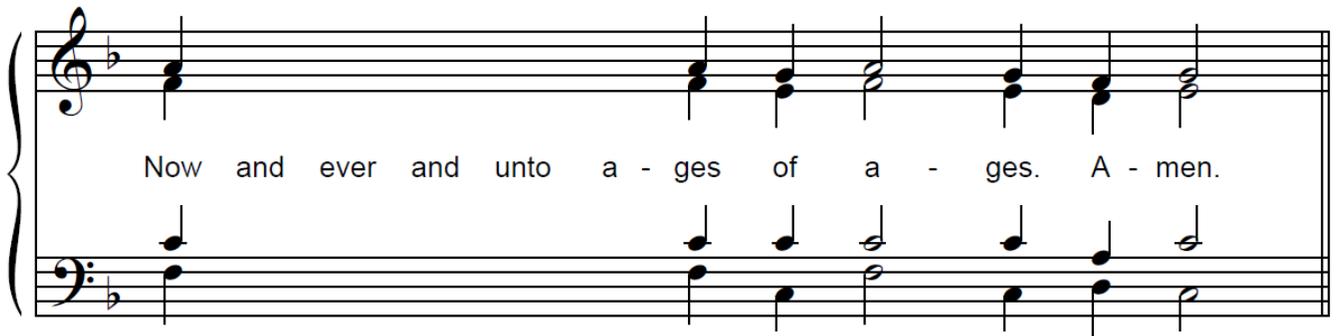


Al - le - lu - ia!

N. Soloviev



GLO - RY TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY SPI - RIT,



Now and ever and unto a - ges of a - ges. A - men.

On - ly - be - got - ten Son and Im - mor - tal Word of God,

Who for our sal - va - tion willed to be in - car - - - nate

of the Ho - ly Theotokos and ever - Vir - gin Ma - - - ry,

Who with - out change, be - came man and were cru - ci - fied,

O Christ our God, tramp - ling down death by death,

Who are one of the Ho-ly Tri - ni - ty, glo - ri-fied with the Father, and

the Ho - ly Spi - rit: Save us!

The Third Antiphon

Reader: The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand..."

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 is primarily chordal, with some melodic lines in the right hand. The lyrics are placed below the vocal lines.

As the Choir Sings:

Deacon (quietly): Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest 1 (quietly recites the Prayer of the Entrance): Master, Lord our God, who have set upright in the heavens orders and armies of angels and archangels for the liturgy of your Glory, cause that with our entrance there be an entrance of holy angels, co-liturgizing and glorifying your Goodness with us, for to you is due all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin.

Reader: "...until I make Your enemies Your footstool!"

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world

the Light of wis - dom! For by it, those who wor - shipped

the stars, were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of

Right - eous - ness, and to know_ You, the O - rient from on

High. O Lord, glo - ry to You!

Reader: The Lord shall send You the scepter of power from Zion: "Rule in the midst of Your enemies!"

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world

the Light of wis - dom! For by it, those who wor - shipped

the stars, were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of

Right - eous - ness, and to know You, the O - rient from on

High. O Lord, glo - ry to You!

Reader: Authority shall be with You on the day of Your power, in the splendor of Your saints.

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world

the Light of wis - dom! For by it, those who wor - shipped

the stars, were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of

Right - eous - ness, and to know You, the O - rient from on

High. O Lord, glo - ry to You!

The Introit of the Little Entrance

Quietly, the Deacon: Bless, Master, the Holy Entrance.

Before the Holy Doors

Priest 1: † Blessed is the entrance of Your holy place always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Introit (Entrance) Verse

Priest: Wisdom! Upright! "Out of the womb before the morning star have I begotten You." The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind: "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

After blessing the servers, the Priest re-enters the altar.

As the Choir Sings:

Priest 1: Holy God, who rest in the holy place, who are hymned by the Seraphim with the thrice-holy cry and glorified by the Cherubim and worshipped by every heavenly power, who out of nothing have brought all things into being, who created the human being according to your Image and likeness and adorned him with every gift of your grace, who give to him who asks wisdom and understanding and do not overlook the one who sins, but instead have established repentance for salvation, who have counted us, the lowly and your unworthy servants, worthy to stand in this hour before the Glory of your holy altar and to offer you due worship and praise, yourself, Master, receive even from the mouth of us the sinners the thrice-holy hymn and watch over us in your goodness. Forgive us every discord, voluntary and involuntary, sanctify our souls and bodies, and grant us to liturgize to you in holiness all the days of our life, through the intercessions of the holy Birthgiver of God and of all the saints who from of old have been well-pleasing to you.

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, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The score is divided into five systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. 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!"

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world
 the Light of wis - dom! For by it, those who wor - shipped
 the stars, were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of
 Right - eous - ness, and to know You, the O - rient from on
 High. O Lord, glo - ry to You!

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 rhythmic patterns. 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 text. The melody uses quarter and eighth notes. 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 double bar line. The melody features some longer note values and rests. The lyrics are written below the notes.

The Trisagion Hymn

(Instead of the Trisagion)

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!

(3 Times)

Obikhod

As ma - ny as have been bap - tised in - to Christ have put

on Christ: Al - le - lu - ia. **Fine** Glory to the Father, and to the

Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit, now and ever and unto ages of a - ges.

A-men. Have put on Christ: Al - le - lu - ia.

As ma - ny as have been bap - tised in - to Christ have put

on Christ: Al-le-lu-ia.

The image shows a musical score for piano and voice. The piano part is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The voice part has lyrics: "on Christ: Al-le-lu-ia." The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line.

Tone 8

Prokeimenon

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 8th Tone, Let all the earth worship you and praise you! Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Choir: Let all the earth worship you and praise you! / Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Let all the earth worship You and praise You!

Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Reader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His Name! Give glory to His praise!

Choir: Let all the earth worship you and praise you! / Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Let all the earth worship You and praise You!

Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Reader: Let all the earth worship you and praise you ...

Choir: Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Priest: Wisdom!

Epistle: (209) – Galatians 4:4-7

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians.

Priest: Let us attend!

Brothers and sisters, when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that he might redeem those who were under the law and so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, “Abba, Father!” Now you are no longer slaves, but children; and if you are children, then you are heirs of God through Christ.

Priest: † Peace to you who read!

Reader: And to your spirit! In the First Tone, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! (x3)

Reader: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! (x3)

Reader: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declare knowledge.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - - le - lu - ia! (x3)

The image shows a musical score for a vocal piece titled "Alleluia". It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - - le - lu - ia! (x3)". The piano accompaniment is written in two staves, with a bass clef on the left and a treble clef on the right. The key signature is one flat. The score is divided into three measures. The first measure contains the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia,". The second measure contains "Al - le - lu - ia,". The third measure contains "Al - - le - lu - ia! (x3)". There are some annotations in the score: a circled group of notes in the vocal line of the third measure, and a circled group of notes in the piano accompaniment of the third measure. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble line with chords and some melodic fragments.

The Gospel

Deacon/Priest 1: Wisdom! Upright! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

Priest 1 (facing the people): † Peace to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Heads uncovered.

NOW the priest serving alone may pick up the Gospel Book

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

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



Deacon: Let us attend!

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying:

“Where is he who is born King of the Jews? For we saw his star in the east and we have come to express adoration to him.” When King Herod heard about this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he asked them where the Christ would be born. They replied, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is written through the prophet:

*You Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are in no way least among the rulers of Judah:
for out of you shall come forth a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.*

Then Herod privately called the wise men, and learned from them exactly what time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the young child. When you have found him, bring me word, so that I also may come and express adoration to him.”

After listening to the king, they continued on their journey and behold, the star which they had seen in the east was going ahead of them, until it came and stood over the place where the young child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with tremendous joy. Entering the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and they fell down and expressed adoration to him. Opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. But having been warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they returned to their own country using another way.

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



Heads covered again. The people may be seated. A sermon is offered.

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the most-pure Virgin Theotokos,
more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.

Mag - ni - fy, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos,
more hon'able and more glorious than the hea - ven - ly hosts!

The musical score consists of two systems of grand staff notation. The first system covers the first two lines of text, and the second system covers the next two lines. The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a clear harmonic structure.

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery:
heaven—the cave;
the cherubic throne—the Virgin;
the manger—the place where Christ lay—
the uncontainable God, Whom we magnify in song.

I BE - HOLD A STRANGE, MOST GLO - I - OUS MYS - TER - Y! HEA - VEN — THE CAVE!
THE CHERUBIC THRONE — THE VIR - GIN! THE MAN - GER — THE PLACE WHERE
CHRIST LAY, THE UNCONTAINABLE GOD WHOM WE MAG - NI - FY IN SONG.

The musical score continues with three systems of grand staff notation. The first system covers the first two lines of text, the second system covers the next two lines, and the third system covers the final line. The music concludes with a final cadence.

Communion Hymn

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)

The Lord has sent redemption to His people. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The musical score is written for piano accompaniment on a grand staff. The right hand (treble clef) features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand (bass clef) provides a steady accompaniment of quarter notes. The lyrics are: "The Lord has sent re - demp - tion to His peo - - - ple!"

1. I will confess You, O Lord, with my whole heart in the council of the upright and in the congregation.
2. Great are the works of the Lord, sought out in all the things that He has willed.
3. Confession and majesty are His work, and His righteousness abides unto ages of ages.
4. He made a remembrance of His wonderful deeds; merciful and compassionate is the Lord; He has given food to them that fear Him.
5. He will be mindful forever of His covenant; the power of His works has He declared unto His people.
6. That He may give them the inheritance of the nations; the works of His hands are truth and judgement.
7. Faithful are all His commandments, confirmed unto ages of ages, made in truth and uprightness.
8. He has sent redemption to His people, He has enjoined His covenant forever; holy and terrible is His name.
9. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and all they that foster this have a good understanding.
10. His praise abides unto ages of ages.

The musical score continues with the same piano accompaniment. The right hand melody is repeated, and the lyrics are: "Al - le - lu ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - - - ia!"