"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!//

Let my <u>prayer</u> arise in Your sight as <u>in</u>cense, and <u>let</u> the lifting <u>up</u> 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!

Come, let us worship the <u>Word</u> of God begotten of the Father before all <u>ages</u>, and in<u>car</u>nate of the Virgin <u>Mary</u>!

Having endured the Cross,

He was buried as He himself desired.//

And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.



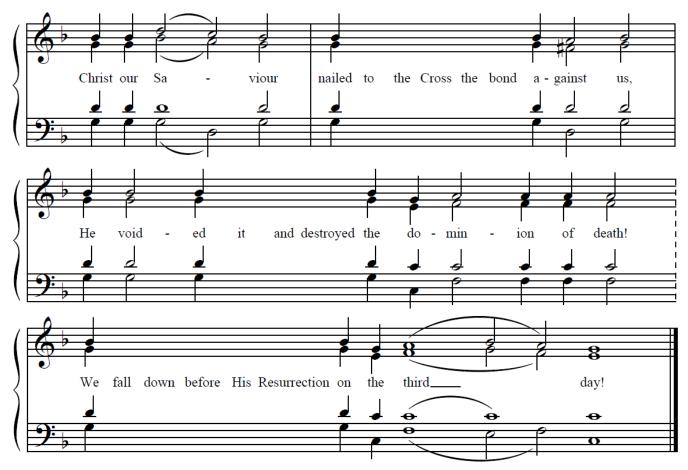
v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.

Christ our Savior

nailed to the Cross the bond against us,

He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//

We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.



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

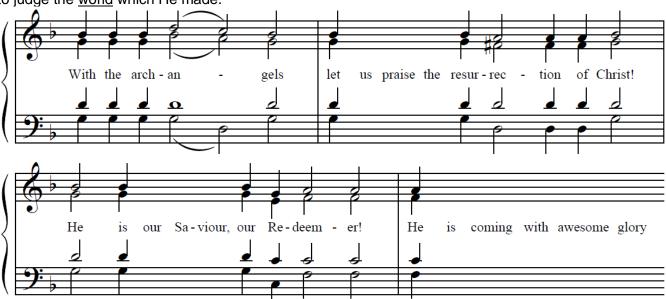
With the Archangels

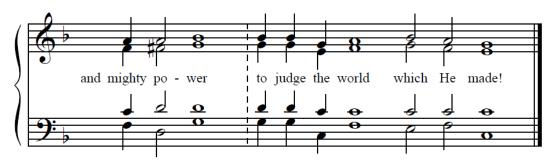
let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!

He is our Savior, our Redeemer.

He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//

to judge the world which He made.





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

The Angel proclaimed You

the crucified and buried Master.

He told the women: "Come, see the place where He lay!

He is risen as He said,

for He is almighty."

We worship You, O only immortal One.//



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

Today God, Who rests upon the spiritual thrones,

has prepared for Himself a holy throne on earth.

He, Who in wisdom established the heavens,

has fashioned a living heaven in His <u>love</u> for mankind;

for, from a barren root He has made a life-bearing branch spring up for us, even His Mother.

O God of wonders and Hope of the hopeless,//





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

This is the day of the Lord!

Rejoice, O peoples,

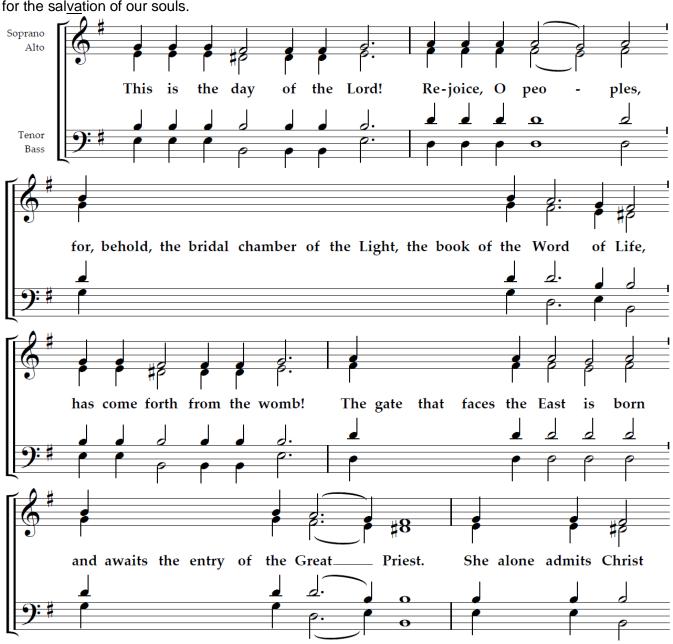
for, behold, the bridal chamber of the Light, the book of the Word of Life, has come forth from the womb!

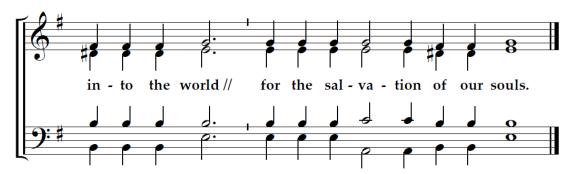
The gate that faces the East is born

and awaits the entry of the Great Priest.

She alone admits Christ into the world//

for the salvation of our souls.





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

Although by God's will other barren women

have brought forth famous offspring,

yet, of all those children Mary shines brightest, as is fitting to God.

For she herself was born wondrously of a barren mother,

and gave birth in the flesh to the God of all,

in a manner surpassing nature, from a womb without seed.

She is the only gateway of the only-begotten <u>Son</u> of God,

Who passed through this gate yet kept it closed,

and, having ordered all things in His own wisdom, //

has wrought salvation for all mankind.





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

Tone 6

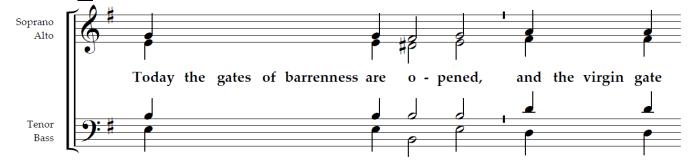
(for the Feast, by Stephen of Jerusalem)

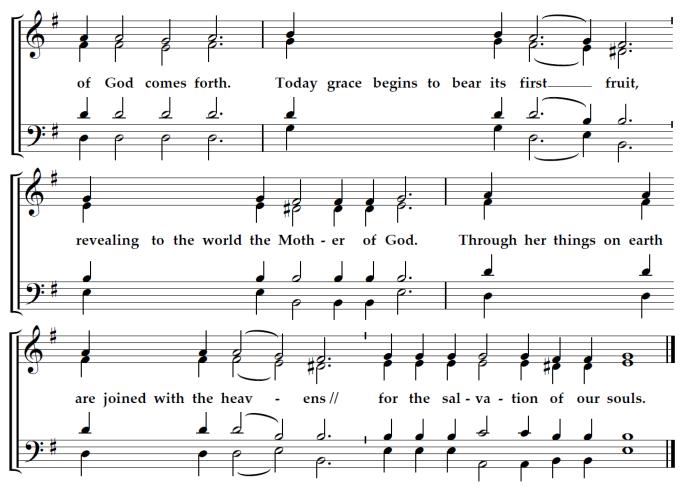
Today the gates of barrenness are opened, and the virgin gate of <u>God</u> comes forth.

Today grace begins to bear its <u>first</u> fruit, revealing to the world the <u>Moth</u>er of God.

Through her things on earth are joined with the <u>heavens//</u> for the salvation of our souls.

Idiomela





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

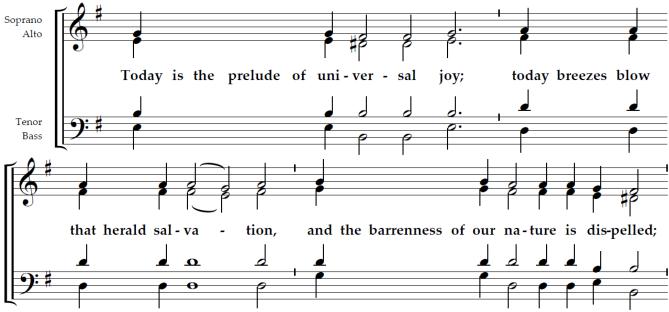
Today is the prelude of universal joy; today breezes blow that herald salvation, and the barrenness of our <u>na</u>ture is dispelled; for the barren woman is revealed as the <u>mother</u> of her who remained a <u>virgin</u> after giving birth to the Creator.

From her the One Who is God by nature

takes what is foreign to Him and makes it His own;

and works salvation through the flesh for those who have gone astray.//

He is Christ, the Lover of mankind and the Redeemer of our souls.





v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever. Today the barren Anna gives birth to the head maid of God,

who was chosen from all generations to become the abode of the King and Creator of all, Christ our God in fulfillment of the divine plan.

Through her we earth-born have been <u>fash</u>ioned anew// and restored from corruption to life eternal.



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

Tone 6 (for the Feast, by Patriarch Sergius)

Today God, Who rests upon the spiritual thrones,

has prepared for Himself a holy throne on earth.

He, Who in wisdom established the heavens,

has fashioned a living heaven in His love for mankind;

for, from a barren root He has made a life-bearing branch spring up for us, even His Mother.





Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend!
Choir: O Gladsome Light ... (p. 16)

Kontakion of the Day, Three Readings

Prokeimenon of the Day, three readings

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the First Book of Moses called Genesis. (Genesis 28:10-17)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Jacob went out from the well of the oath and journeyed towards Harran. And he lighted on a place and slept there, for the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of the place and put is at his head; and he slept in that place, and he dreamed. And behold, a ladder set up on the earth, whose head reached to heaven; and the Angels of God were going up and going down upon it. But the Lord stood above it and said: I am the God of Abraham your father, and the God of Isaac, do not be afraid. The land on which you are sleeping I shall give to you and to your seed. And your seed shall be like the sand of the earth, and it shall be spread abroad to the sea and to the south, and to the east and to the north, and in you and in your seed all the tribes of the earth shall be blessed. And behold, I am with you, guarding you on every road on which you may journey; and I shall bring you back again to this land, because I shall never abandon you until I have done all that I have said to you. And Jacob arose from his sleep and said: The Lord is in this place, but I did not know it. And he was afraid, and said: How fearful is this place. This is none other than the house of God, this is the gate of heaven.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophesy of Ezekiel. (Ezekiel 43:27-44:4)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: It shall be from the eighth day and upwards, the Priests shall make your holocausts upon the altar, and those for your salvation; and I shall accept you, says the Lord. And he turned me back by the way of the outer gate of the Holy Place, which looks towards the east, and it was shut. And the Lord said to me: This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no one shall pass through it, because the Lord, the God of Israel, will enter through it, and it shall be shut. Therefore this prince shall sit in it to eat bread. By the way of the Elam of the gate he shall enter, and by that way he shall go out. And he brought me by the way of the gate towards the North, opposite the House; and I saw, and behold the whole house of the Lord was full of glory.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from Proverbs. (Proverbs 9:1-11)

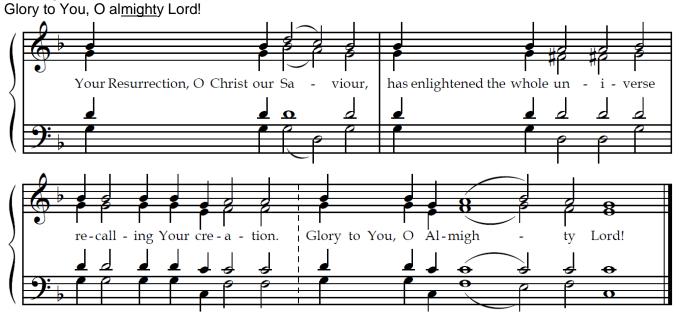
Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Wisdom has built herself a house. She has slaughtered her beasts and mixed her wine in the mixing bowl, and prepared her table. She her sent out her servants, to invite with a loud proclamation upon the mixing bowl: Whoever is foolish, let him turn to me. And to those who lack wisdom she said: Come, eat my bread, and drink the wine that I have mixed for you. Abandon folly, and you shall live; and seek understanding that you may have life, and set aright your understanding with knowledge. One who corrects the wicked shall gain dishonor for himself. One who rebukes the impious shall get blame for himself; for to the impious rebukes are blows. Do not rebuke the wicked, lest they hate you. Rebuke a wise man and he shall love you. Give instruction to a wise man and he shall be wiser; teach a righteous man and he shall increase learning. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord, and the counsel of Saints, understanding. While to know the law is the part of a good mind. For by this means you shall live for a long time, and years shall be added to your life.

Then, the Augmented Litany (p. 18)

Aposticha - Tone 2

Your Resurrection, O Christ our <u>Sav</u>ior, has enlightened the whole <u>u</u>niverse, re<u>cal</u>ling Your creation.//



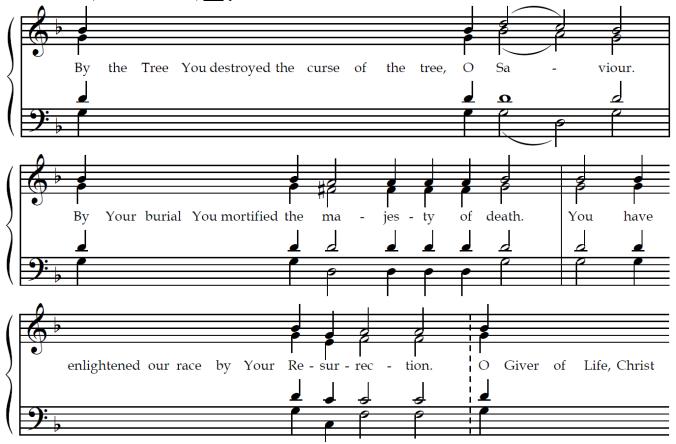
v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

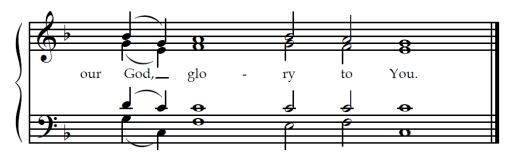
By the Tree You destroyed the curse of the Tree O Savior,

By Your burial You mortified the majesty of death.

You have enlightened our race by Your Resurrection.//

O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!





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

When You were seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,

You restored the beauty of Your creatures.

The <u>sol</u>diers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Your <u>side</u> with a spear.

The Hebrews not knowing Your power

asked that Your tomb might be sealed,

but through the mercy of Your compassions,

You accepted the tomb

and rose on the third day!//





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

O Christ, the Giver of life,

for the sake of the dead You voluntarily endured death,

descending into Hades as the Mighty One





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

Tone 8 (for the Feast, by Patriarch Sergius)

Come, all you faithful, let us run to the Virgin!

For, behold, today she is born, who was foreordained before the womb, as the <u>Moth</u>er of our God, the treasure of virginity, the rod of Aaron that budded, springing from the <u>root</u> of <u>Jes</u>se,

the preaching of the Prophets, the offspring of the righteous Joachim and Anna.

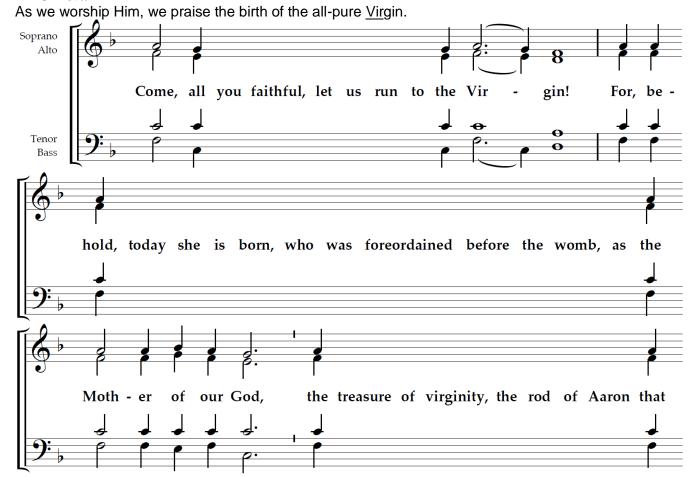
She is born and with her the world is renewed.

She comes from the womb and the Church is adorned in her majesty.

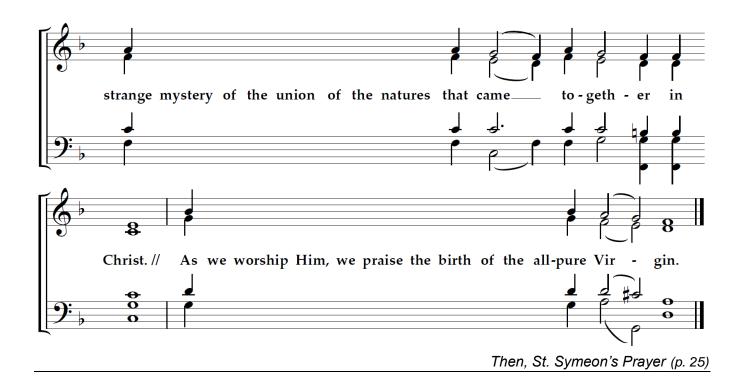
She is the holy temple, the vessel of the Godhead,

the virgin instrument and bridal chamber of the King,

in which has come to pass the strange mystery of the union of the natures that <u>came</u> to<u>geth</u>er in Christ.//







Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)

(Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 2)

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,

You slew Hades with the splendor of Your Godhead.

And when from the depths You raised the dead,

all the powers of heaven cried out://

"O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory 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 4 Troparion (Feast)

(Troparion for the Nativity – Tone 4)

Your nativity, O Virgin,

has proclaimed joy to the whole <u>u</u>niverse!

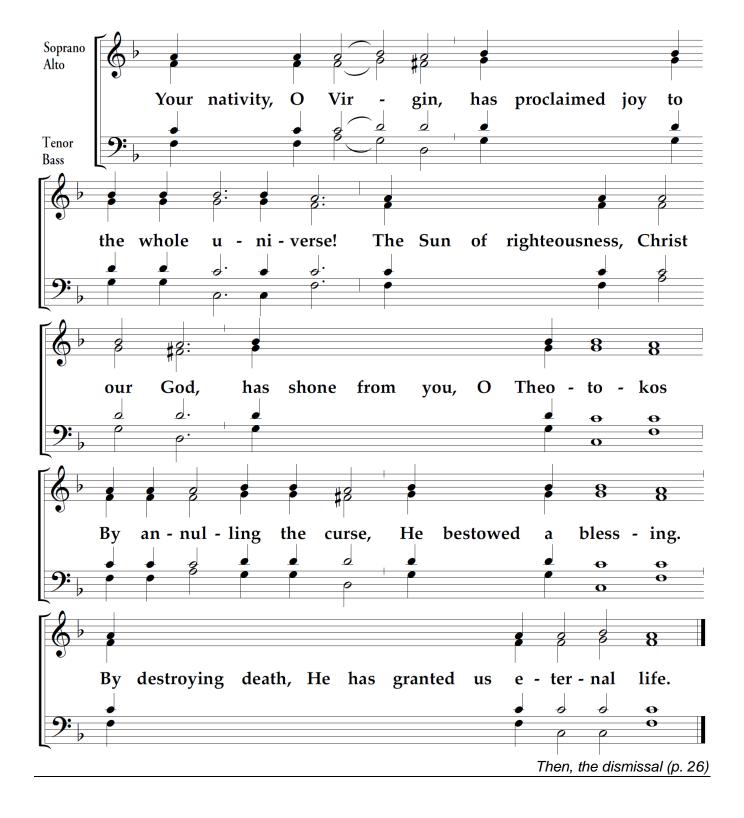
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,

has shone from you, O Theotokos.

By annulling the curse,

He bestowed a blessing.//

By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.



Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)

(Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 2)

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,

You slew Hades with the splendor of Your Godhead.

And when from the depths You raised the dead,

all the powers of heaven cried out://

"O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!"



(Troparion for the Nativity – Tone 4)

Your nativity, O Virgin,

Tone 4

has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!

The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,

has shone from you, O Theotokos.

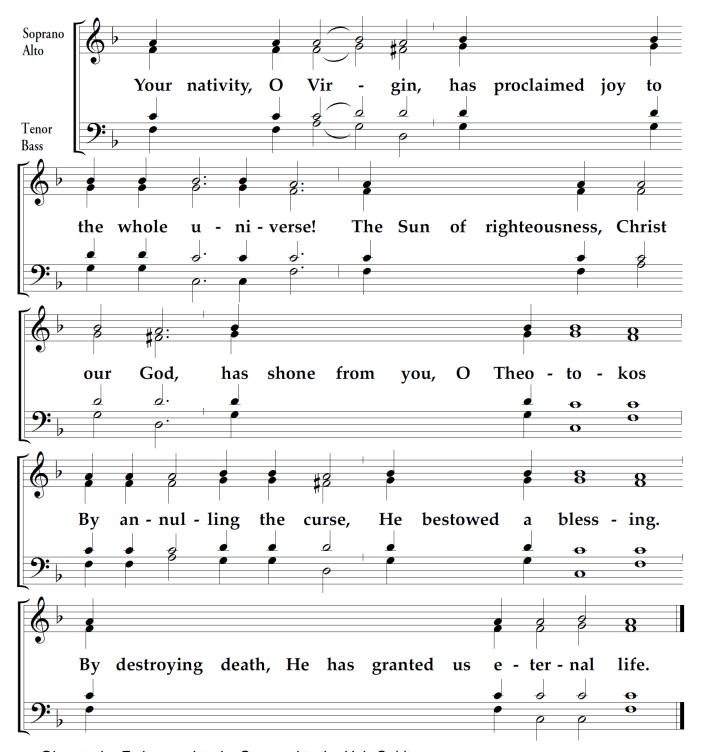
By annulling the curse,

He bestowed a blessing.//

By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Troparion

(Feast)



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

Tone 4 Kontakion (Feast)

(Kontakion for the Nativity – Tone 4)

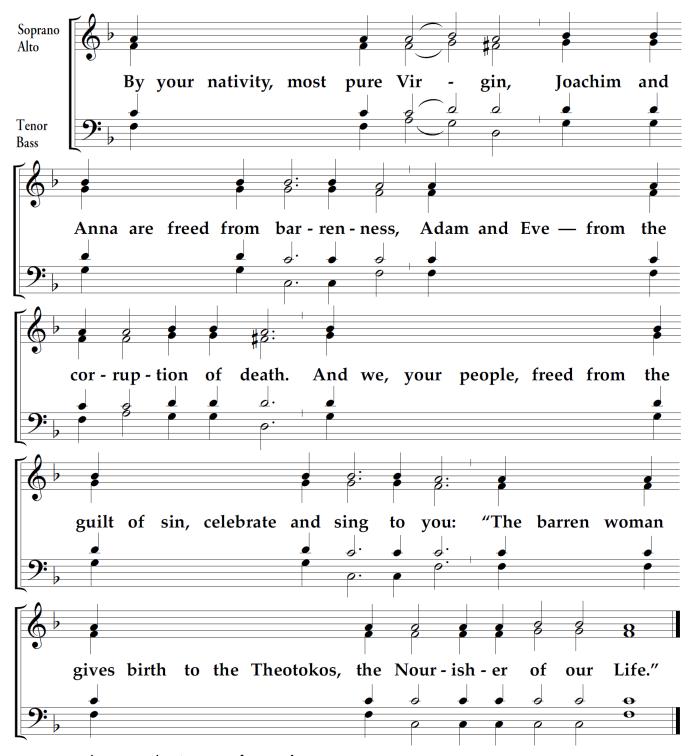
By your nativity, most pure Virgin,

Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,

Adam and Eve -- from the corruption of death.

And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you://

"The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life."



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

Tone 2 **Kontakion** (Resurrection)

(Resurrectional Kontakion – Tone 2)

Hades became afraid, O almighty Savior,

seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb!

The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with You,//

and the world, my Savior, praises You forever.



Tone 6 Prokeimenon (Sunday Before)

Prokeimenon, Tone 6

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 6th Tone: O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance! *Choir:* O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance!



Reader: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Choir: O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance, your inheritance!



Tone 3 Prokeimenon (Song of the Theotokos)

Reader: In the Third Tone, the Song of the Theotokos, My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Choir: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.



Deacon: Wisdom!

Epistle: (215) – Galatians 6:11-18 (Sunday before the Elevation), (158) – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, (240) – Philippians 2:5-11 (Nativity of the Theotokos)

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters, see with what large letters I write to you with my own hand! Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised, only so that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh. As for me, I shall find glory in nothing, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. In Christ Jesus, circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; only a new creation matters. To those who live by this rule, may there be peace and mercy upon them, and on the Israel of God. From now on, let no one cause me any trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus branded on my body.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Brothers and sisters, I declare to you, the Good News which I preached to you, which also you accepted, in which you also stand. And you are saved by it, that is if you hold firmly to the word which I preached to you. Otherwise, you believed in vain. For I delivered to you, first of all, what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day

according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Kephas, then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to over five hundred brethren at once, most of whom remain alive until now, but some have also fallen asleep.

Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all, as to the child born at the wrong time, he appeared to me also. Indeed, I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. But by the grace of God, I am what I am. His grace which was bestowed on me was not in vain, but I worked more than all of them – yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. It does not matter whether is it I or they: this is what we preach, and so you believed.

Brothers and sisters, let the following be in your mind, which was also in the mind of Christ Jesus. He who existed in the form of God did not consider equality with God as something to be taken by force. Instead, he emptied himself, taking the form of a bondservant, being made in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross! Therefore, God highly exalted him, and gave him the Name which is above every name; so that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven, on earth, and under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Priest: † Peace be to you!

Alleluia: Tone 1

Reader: And to Your spirit. In the 1st Tone: Alleluia! I have exalted one chosen out of My people.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: In the 8th Tone, Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

 Gospel:
 (9) – John 3:13-17 (Sunday before the Elevation)
 Page 278

 (79) – Matthew 19:16-26
 Page 90

 (54) – Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 (Nativity of the Theotokos)
 Page 274

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

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

Priest: The Lord said, no one has ascended into heaven, except for the one who came down out of heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven.

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, likewise, the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone believing in him should not perish but have eternal life. Indeed, God so loved the world that he gave his uniquely-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. Certainly, God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world should be saved through him.

At that time, a man came to him and asked, "Good teacher, what good thing shall I do in order to have eternal life?"

Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but one, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

The man asked him, "Which ones?"

Jesus replied, "You shall not murder.' You shall not commit adultery.' You shall not steal.' You shall not bear false witness.' Honor your father and mother;' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

The young man then said to him, "All these things I have observed from my youth! What do I still lack?"

Jesus replied, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have, give it to the poor, and you will have a treasure in heaven. Then come, and follow me!" But when the young man heard these words, he went away sad because he was a person with great possessions. Jesus said to his disciples, "Amen I say to you: it will be hard for someone who is rich to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven! Indeed, I tell you that it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God."

When his disciples heard this, they were extremely astonished and said, "Who then can be saved?"

Gazing at them, Jesus answered, "By human resources, this is impossible, but with God all things are possible!"

At that time, Jesus entered into a village, and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. She had a sister called Mary who also sat at Jesus' feet and listened to his word. However, Martha was distracted with much serving. She came up to Jesus, and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Ask her to help me!"

But Jesus answered, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things! Yet one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her."

As Jesus was saying these things, a woman called out from the crowd and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts which nursed you!"

But Jesus said, "Yes, and more than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it."

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

Sermon (then p. 89)

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

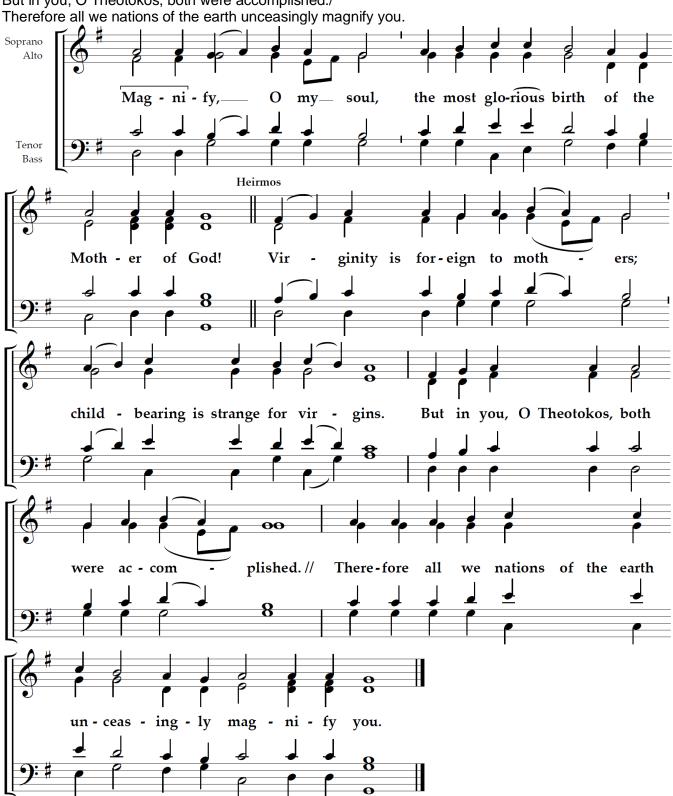
Tone 8

Magnify, O my soul, the most glorious birth of the Mother of God!

Virginity is foreign to mothers;

childbearing is strange for virgins.

But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished./

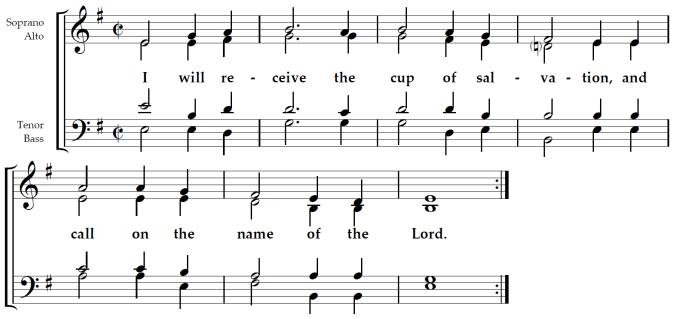


Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!



The verse below may be sung as a refrain to verses of Psalm 115 (116:10-19)



Verses:

- 1. I believed, even when I spoke: "I am greatly afflicted";
- 2. I said in my alarm, "All mankind are liars."
- 3. What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?
- 4. I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.
- 5. Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.
- 6. LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.
- 7. I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.
- 8. I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

When the priest comes through the Holy Doors:

