

**December 8**  
**THE MATERNITY OF HOLY ANNA**

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2006*

*"O Lord, I have cried" is sung in Tone 4, page 58.*

Bring my soul out of this prison  
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble  
because of your goodness *to* me.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear *my* voice!

Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of *my* pleading.

**Cantor:** If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord who would survive?  
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

*Tone 4 podoben: Zvannyj svyše byw*

(6) (5)

The bar - ren An - na leaped for joy when she gave birth to Mar - y the  
Vir - gin, who in turn will give birth in the flesh to God the Word.  
O - ver - flow - ing with happi-ness, she cried out: Re - joice with me, all  
tribes of Is - ra - el, for I have conceived and put aside my bur - den of  
child - less - ness as the Cre - a - tor has deigned. He heard my pray'r



and healed the pains of my yearning heart.

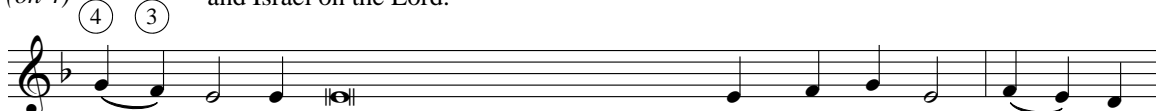
**Cantor:** My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word.

(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

(Repeat "The barren Anna...")

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak

(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.



O Anna, the One who made waters gush forth from a rock bestows



as a fruit of your womb, the ever-virgin Lady. Through her, our



salvation will come. Because of this you were delivered from shame.



No longer will you be on earth as a fruitless soil, for you have produced



an earth which will bring forth the Tree of Life. According to



his will, he delivered the human race from all shame when he became man out of



his compassion - ate mer - - - - cy.

**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (*Repeat "O Anna..."*)

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**  
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

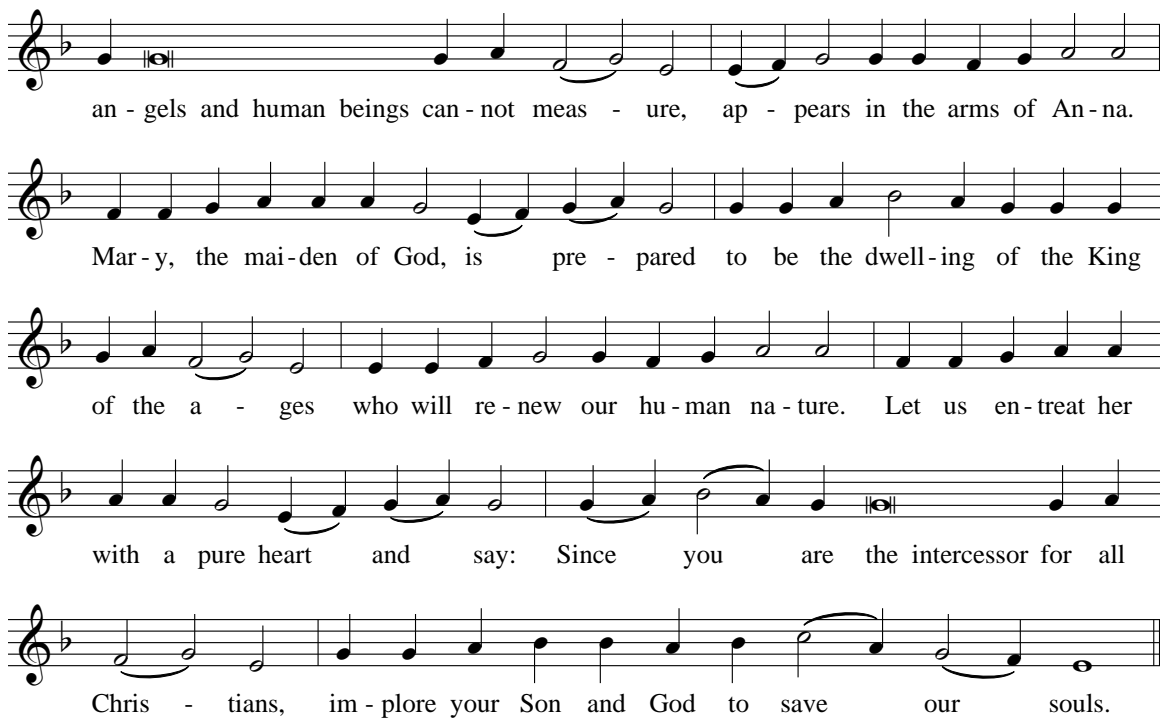
The say - ings of the prophets are now be - ing ful - filled: the ho - ly moun - tain  
is plant - ed in the womb; the di - vine lad - der is set up; the throne of  
the great king is read - y; the God - inspired city is be - ing a - dorned.  
The un - burn - a - ble bush is begin - ning to bud forth, and the treas - ure house  
of grace is o - ver - flow - ing. It is spread - ing over the rivers of un - fruit - ful - ness  
of the God - wise An - na, whom we glo - ri - fy in faith.

**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever. (*Repeat "The sayings of the prophets..."*)

**Cantor:** (*Tone 2*) Glory...now and ever...

**Doxastikon - Tone 2 samohlasen**

To - day the mystery which has been an - nounced from e - ter - ni - ty, whose depth



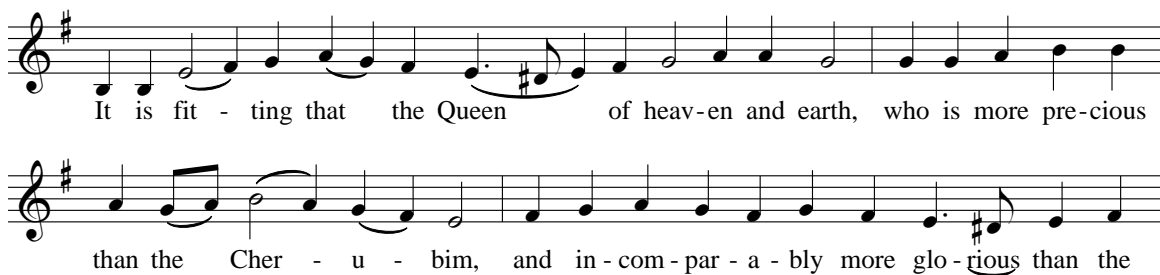
an - gels and human beings can - not meas - ure, ap - pears in the arms of An - na.  
 Mar - y, the mai - den of God, is pre - pared to be the dwell - ing of the King  
 of the a - ges who will re - new our hu - man na - ture. Let us en - treat her  
 with a pure heart and say: Since you are the intercessor for all  
 Chris - tians, im - plore your Son and God to save our souls.

*Prokeimenon for the day of the week, page 114*

**Readings:** Genesis 28: 10-17 (EOT 304-305)  
 Ezekiel 43: 27 through 44: 4  
 Proverbs 9: 1-11

### Litija

*Tone 1 Bolhar*



It is fit - ting that the Queen of heav - en and earth, who is more pre - cious  
 than the Cher - u - bim, and in - com - par - a - bly more glo - rious than the

Ser - a - phim, be con - ceived and remain im - mac - u - late as the an - gels,  
 so that they who are serv - ants of the Lord can boast of  
 their own Queen, the The - o - to - kos. Glo - ry and praise to the Lord  
 who willed it so, the Cre - a - tor of all things.

**Cantor:** Glory...now and ever...

**Doxastikon - Tone 1 Bolhar**

Be - fore the na - tiv - i - ty of the Son of God, it was fit - ting  
 for the Fa - - - ther to be - stow the most pure con - cep - tion up - on the  
 The - o - to - kos, who is be - trothed of the Ho - ly Spir - it, that  
 she might be filled with heav - en - ly gifts in a man - ner be - yond  
 all oth - er crea - tures. Glo - ry and praise to the Lord who willed it so,



the Cre - a - tor of all things.

*Litija Litany, p. 116*


### Aposticha

*Tone 5 podoben: Radujsja živosnyj Kreste*



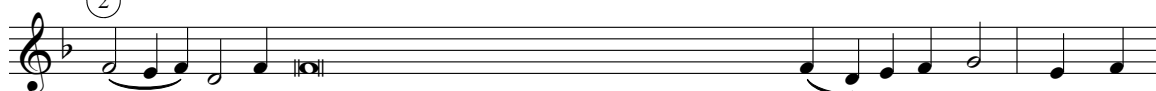
①  
An - na, whose name means di - vine grace, once cried out in her pray - er,  
ask - ing for a child. She in - voked the God and Creator of all, say - ing:  
Lord of Hosts, you know what shame it is to be bar - ren. Heal the  
pains of my heart. Make my fruit - less womb fruit - ful so that we may  
of - fer to you the child who is born as a gift, and that with one mind,  
we may bless, praise, and glo - ri - fy your love through which the world ob - tains  
great mer - cy.

*Cantor*



The Lord swore an oath to Da - vid; he will not go back on his word.


②




An - na was praying with great fervor, beseeching the Lord for a child, when she




heard the voice of an an - gel who told her that God had granted her wish,




say - ing plain - ly: Do not doubt, for your pray'r has reached the Lord.



Wipe a - way your tears, for you shall be an olive tree bringing forth a



beau-ti-ful branch. You will bring forth the Vir - gin from whom will blos-som the



flow - er, Christ - in - the - flesh who will grant great mer - cy to the world.

*Cantor*



A Son, the fruit of your bod - y, will I set up - on your throne.

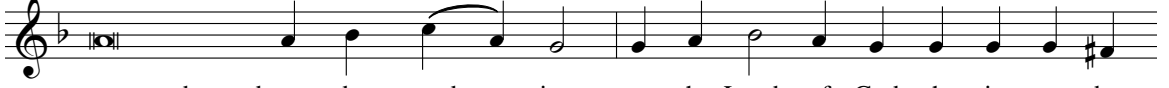
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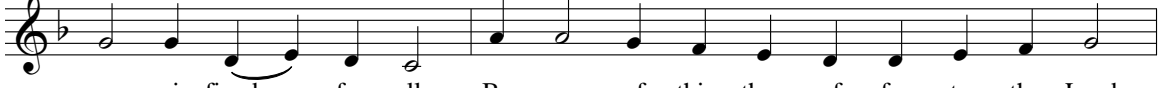
Jo - a - chim and Anna, the right - eous cou - ple, gave birth to



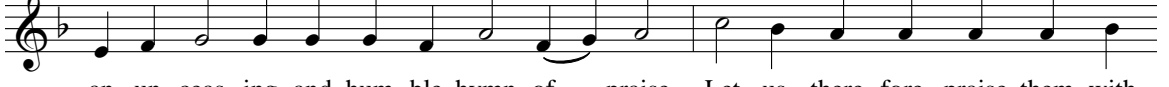
the precious heavenly fruit, the ewe - lamb, who in turn will give birth in a



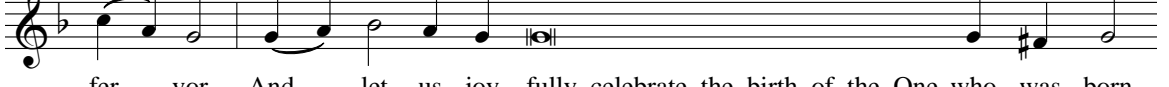
manner beyond un - der - stand - ing to the Lamb of God who is to be



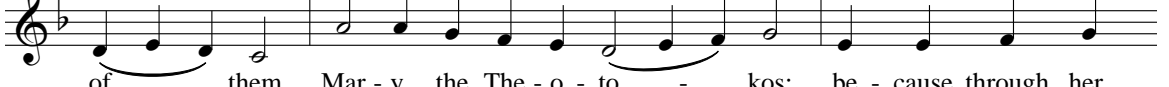
sac - ri - ficed for all. Be - cause of this, they of - fer to the Lord



an un - ceas - ing and hum - ble hymn of praise. Let us, there - fore, praise them with



fer - vor. And let us joy - fully celebrate the birth of the One who was born



of them. Mar - y, the The - o - to - kos; be - cause through her,



great mercy is grant - ed to all of us.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...now and ever...

**Doxastikon - Tone 2 samohlasen**



On this day the roy - al pur - ple ap - pears, de - scend - ing from the root of



Da - vid. The mys - tic - al flower of Jes - se buds forth; from her shall  
 blos - som Christ our God, the Sav - ior of our souls.

### Troparion

*Priest first, then all:*

*Tone 4*

To-day the bonds of bar-ren-ness are loosed, for God has heard the pray'rs of  
 Jo - a-chim and An - na. He prom-ised, beyond hope, the birth of their god-ly  
 daugh - ter. The In - des - cribable, himself, born of her as a mor - tal,  
 com - mand - ed us through the an-gel to sing to her: Re-joyce, O wo-man  
 full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Glory...now and ever...

*Troparion "Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos," page 119, followed by the Blessing of Bread.*