

Vesper Propers, March 25, 2007
Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast
The Annunciation of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006

Lamplighting Psalms Tone 1, p 24, stichera 10-7

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

Tone 6 samohlasen

Ga - bri - el stood be - fore you, O Maid-en, re - veal - ing the plan from of old.
He greet - ed you and said: Re - joice, Unsown Land; rejoice, Un burnt Bush;
re - joice, Un - fath - 'ma - ble Depth; re - joice, Bridge lead - ing to heav - en
and Lad - der raised on high whom Ja - cob saw; re - joice, Divine Jar of Man - na;
re - joice, Re - lease from the curse; re - joice, Restoration of Ad - am,
the Lord is with you.

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.
All repeat "Gabriel stood..."

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

The in - vi - o - late Maid - en said to the angelic Com - mand - er:
You ap - pear to me as a man but what you say to me is beyond
hu - man words, for you are telling me that God will be with me
and that he will dwell in my womb. Tell me, how can I become the spacious
contain - er and holy temple of the one who is borne aloft on the Cher - u - bim?
Do not en - tice me de - ceit - ful - ly, for I have never known pleas - ure,
nor have I expe - ri - enced wed - lock. How then shall I bear a child?

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. *All repeat "The blameless Maiden..."*

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



The bod-i-less one said: When-ever God so wills, the order of na-ture is
o-ver-come, and su-pernatural things are ac-com-plished. Be-lieve
that what I say is true, all holy and all spot-less one. She cried out: Let it be
done to me according to your word and I will give birth to the fleshless one who
bor-rows flesh from me, for he alone is able, by shar-ing in it,
to re-store hu-man na-ture to its an-cient dig-ni-ty.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

Cantor: *(Tone 6)* Glory...now and ever...

Theotokion of the Annunciation - Tone 6 samohlasen



The Arch-an-gel Ga-bri-el was sent from heav-en to the Vir-gin
to an-nounce the good news of her con-cep-tion. Com-ing to

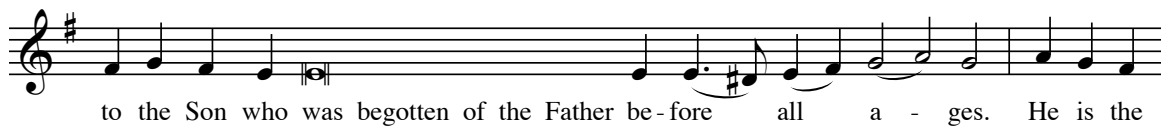
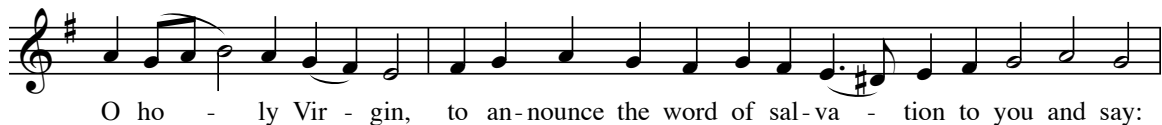
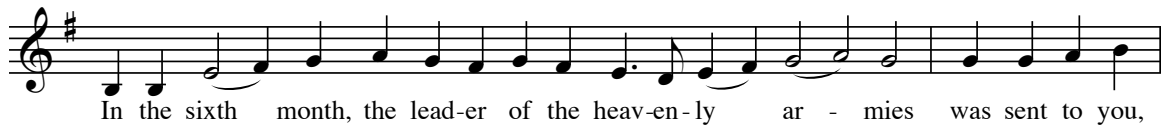
Naz - a - reth he was a - mazed as he reflected on the mys - te - ry:
 How can the One Who Is incomprehen si - ble in the high - est
 be born of a vir - gin? Heav - en is his throne, the earth is his foot - stool,
 and in a wom - an's womb he is contained. The six - winged seraphim and the
 many - eyed cherubim cannot look up - on him; yet, with a single word, he has been
 pleased to take on flesh. He re - mains the Word of God.
 Why do I stand still and not say to the Maid - en: Re - joice, Full of Grace, the
 Lord is with you; Re - joice, pure Vir - gin; re - joice, Un - wed - ded Bride;
 re - joice, Moth - er of Life; bless - ed is the fruit of your womb.

Hymn of the Evening, p. 12

Readings: Genesis 28: 10 - 17
Ezekiel 43: 27 - 44; 4
Proverbs 9: 1 - 11
Exodus 3: 1 - 8
Proverbs 8: 22 - 31

Litija

Tone 1 Bolhar



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

Theotokion - *Tone 2 Bolhar*



do not fear the strange - ness of my ap - pear - rance, for I am an
 arch an - gel. For mer - ly the serpent was the cause of grief un - to Eve,
 but now it is great joy that I an - nounce: you shall re - main
 a virgin and yet you shall give birth to the Lord.

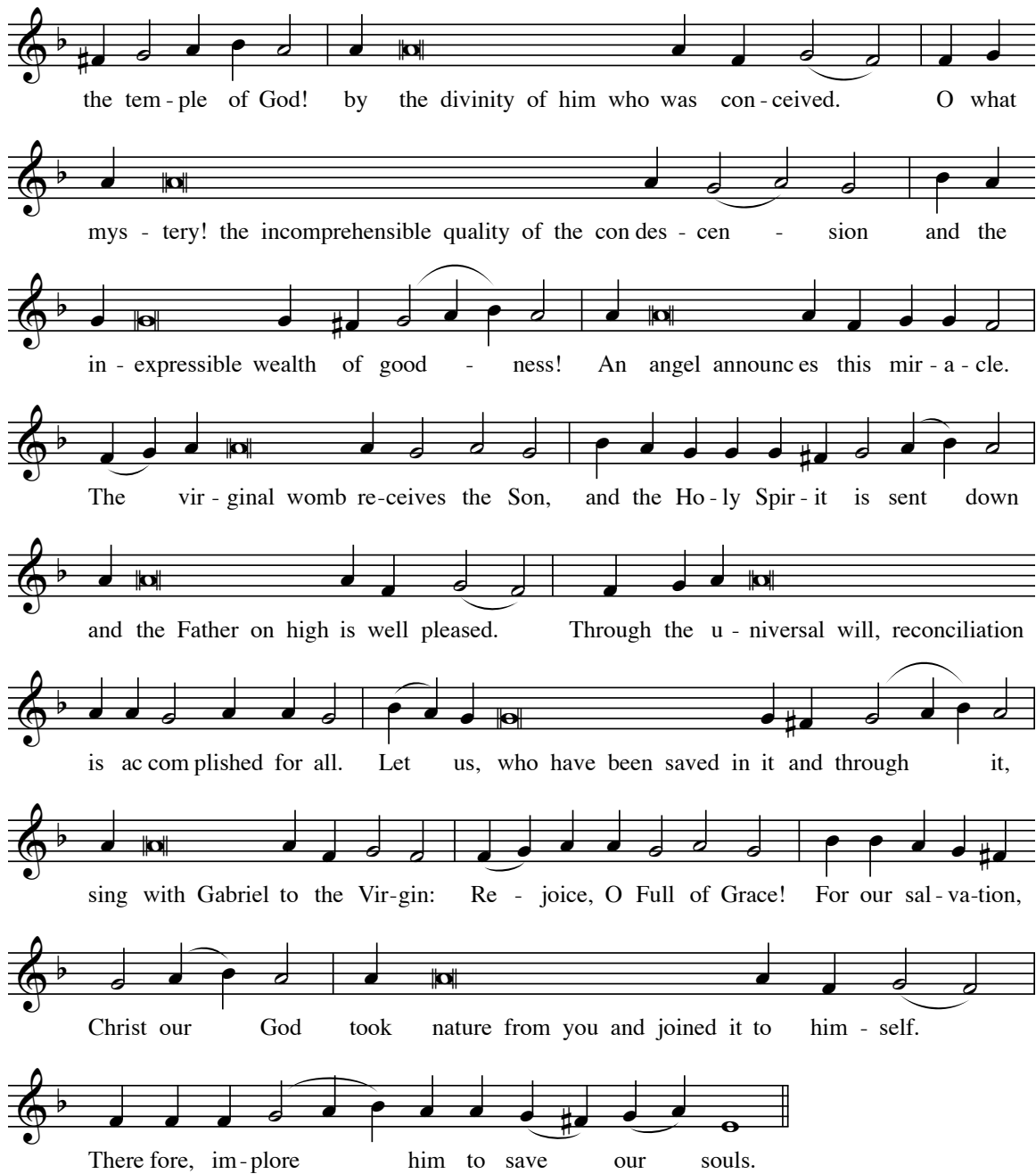
Litija Litany, p. 116

Aposticha, Tone 1, p. 31

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...now and ever...

Theotokion of the Annunciation - Tone 4 samohlasen

To - day is the joy of the annun ci - a - tion and the feast of vir - gin - i - ty!
 The creatures of the earth unite with those of heav - en. Ad - am is renewed and Eve
 is freed from her an cient sor - row. She who is of our own substance be comes

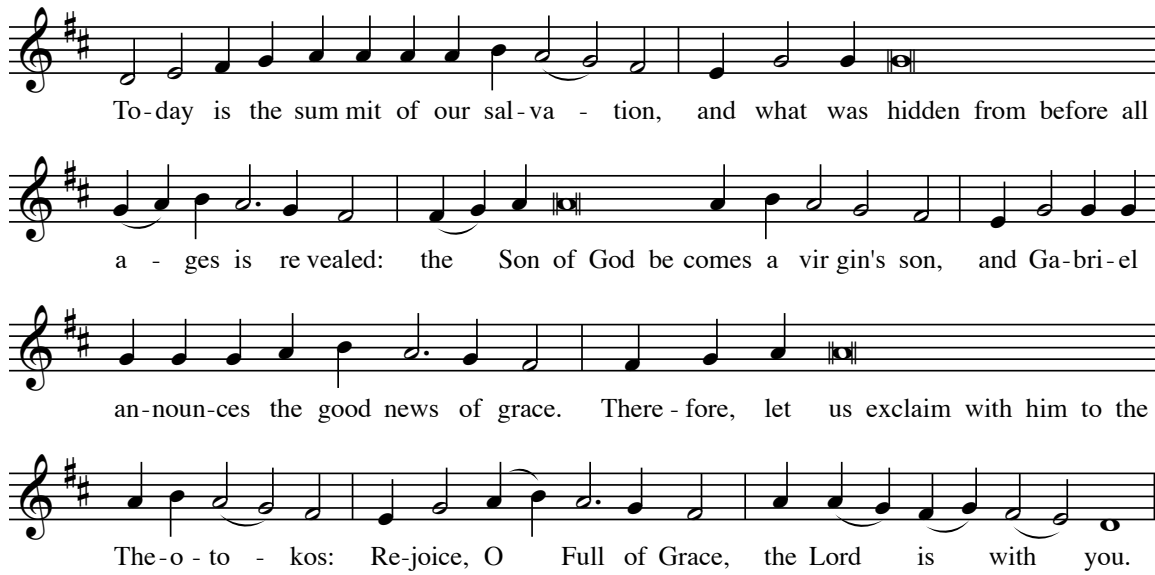


the tem - ple of God! by the divinity of him who was con - ceived. O what
mys - tery! the incomprehensible quality of the condes - cen - sion and the
in - expressible wealth of good - ness! An angel announces this mir - a - cle.
The vir - ginal womb re - ceives the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it is sent down
and the Father on high is well pleased. Through the u - niversal will, reconciliation
is ac - com - plished for all. Let us, who have been saved in it and through it,
sing with Gabriel to the Vir - gin: Re - joice, O Full of Grace! For our sal - va - tion,
Christ our God took nature from you and joined it to him - self.
There fore, im - plo - re him to save our souls.

Prayer of Simeon, p. 19

At the Blessing of Bread, p. 119, the Troparion of the Annunciation is sung once by the Priest and twice by the people.

Troparion - Tone 4



To-day is the sum mit of our sal-va - tion, and what was hidden from before all
a - ges is re vealed: the Son of God be comes a vir gin's son, and Ga-bri-el
an-noun-ces the good news of grace. There - fore, let us exclaim with him to the
The-o - to - kos: Re-joice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.