

Propers for the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts  
Friday in the Fifth Week of the Great Fast  
(Eve of Akathist Saturday)  
March 27, 2009

*The reading from Genesis tells one of the most difficult stories in the Old Testament: the command of God to Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac on Mount Moriah.*

*The reading from Proverbs this evening emphasizes the behavior of the foolish man, who has no understanding of the wisdom of God.*

## The Lamplighting Psalms

### Psalm 140

Tone 6

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have  
cried to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I call  
up - on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to  
you like in - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands like an eve - ning  
sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth  
and set a seal on the door of *my* lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,  
nor make excuse for the sins I *commit*.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.  
If a just man strikes or reproves me it *is* kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.  
Let my prayer be ever against *their* malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;  
then they understood that my words *were* kind.

### Prokeimenon 2 - Tone 4 (Psalm 103: 24ab, 1ab)

How man - y are your works, O Lord. In wis - dom you have  
made them all.

*Verse:* Bless the Lord, my soul. Lord my God, how great you are.

**Deacon:** Give the command!

**Celebrant:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

*The faithful give no response to these words. All make three prostrations in silence.*

**Lector:** A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

*The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.*

**Lector:** [Proverbs 17:17 - 18:5]

**Celebrant:** Peace ☩ be to you, reader.

*The service continues with the solemn evening psalm ("Let my prayer ascend").*

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Celebrant:** Peace ☩ be to all!

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon 1 - Tone 4** (Psalm 102: 8, 1)

The Lord is com-pas - - sion and love, slow to an - ger and rich in  
mer - - - - cy.

*Verse:* My soul gives thanks to the Lord; all my being, bless his holy name.

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Lector:** A Reading from the Book of Genesis

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

*The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.*

**Lector:** [Genesis 22: 1-18]

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The faithful STAND.*

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,  
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of *the* grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;  
in you I take refuge; spare *my* soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;  
keep me from the snares of those who *do* evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set  
while I pursue my way *unharm*ed.

**Psalm 141** With all my voice I cry to the Lord,  
with all my voice I entreat *the* Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;  
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints *with*in me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.  
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *entrap* me.

Look on my right and see:  
there is no one who takes *my* part.

I have no means of escape,  
not one who cares for *my* soul.

I cry to you, O Lord.  
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."

Listen, then, to my cry  
for I am in the depths *of* distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me  
for they are stronger *than* I.

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.

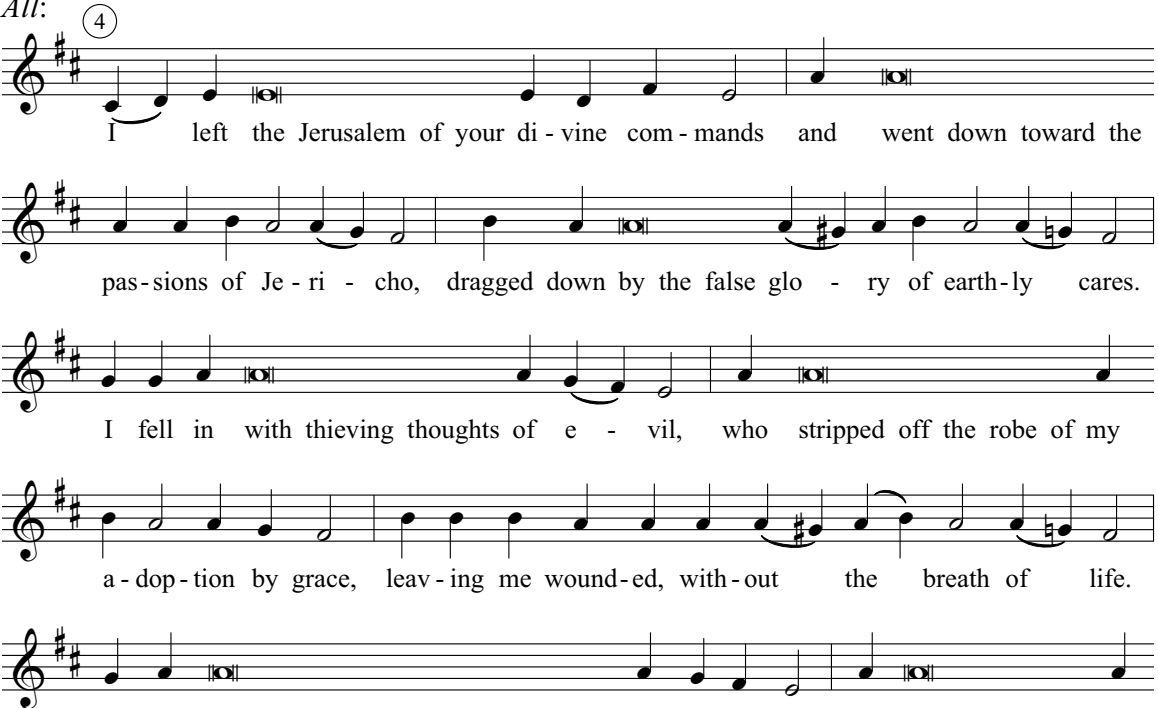
**Psalm 129** Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear *my* voice!

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

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand?  
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we *revere* you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman *for* daybreak.

Cantor:  *Tone 6*

All: 

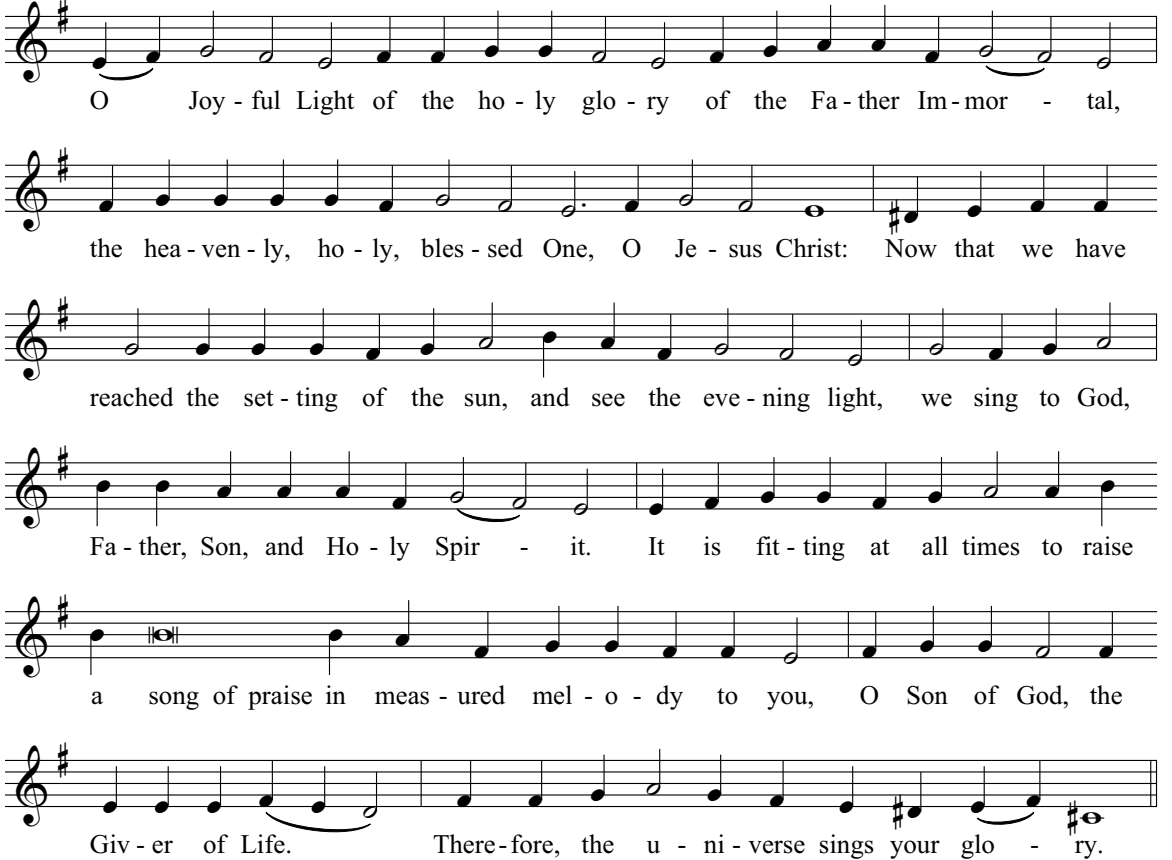
Let the watch-man count on day - break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.  
I left the Jerusalem of your di - vine com - mands and went down toward the  
pas - sions of Je - ri - cho, dragged down by the false glo - ry of earth - ly cares.  
I fell in with thieving thoughts of e - vil, who stripped off the robe of my  
a - dop - tion by grace, leav - ing me wound - ed, with - out the breath of life.  
A priest came by and ignored me, looking down at my fall; then a Levite avoided me



man. Glo - ry to you!



**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as "O Joyful Light" is sung.  
The sanctuary and the faithful are incensed.*

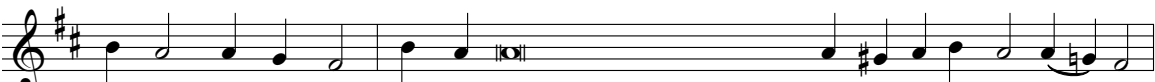







O Joy - ful Light of the ho - ly glo - ry of the Fa - ther Im - mor - tal,  
the hea - ven - ly, ho - ly, bles - sed One, O Je - sus Christ: Now that we have  
reached the set - ting of the sun, and see the eve - ning light, we sing to God,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. It is fit - ting at all times to raise  
a song of praise in meas - ured mel - o - dy to you, O Son of God, the  
Giv - er of Life. There - fore, the u - ni - verse sings your glo - ry.


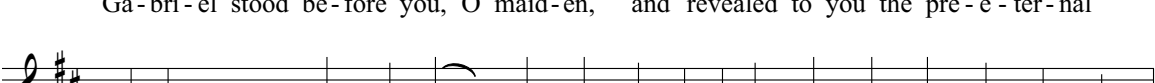
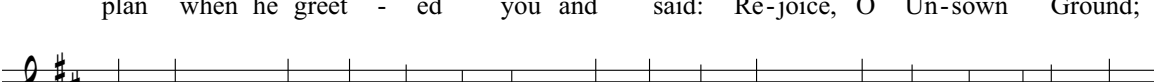
Tone 2

*Cantor:*    
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir-it,  
   
 now and ever and for - ev - er. A - men.

*All:*    
 To - day is revealed the mystery from all e - ter - ni - ty; the Son of God  
   
 be-comes the Son of Man that, by shar-ing in what is worse, he may give me  
   
 a share in what is bet - ter. Once Ad - am was de-ceived, he sought to  
   
 be-come god but failed. Now God becomes man that he may make Ad - am God.  
   
 Let cre - a - tion re-joyce; let na - ture ex - ult; for the arch - an - gel stands in fear  
   
 be-fore the Vir - gin. He greets her: "Re-joyce!" and sor - row is dis - pelled.  
   
 O God, in your mer - ci - ful com - pas - sion you have be-come

   
 as some-thing un-clean. But you, O Lord, incarnate from theVir-gin in-ex-pres-si - bly,  
   
 have poured out your sal - va - tion like oil on my scars, O Christ our God,  
   
 in the blood and water will - ing - ly shed from your side. Bind up my wounds with  
   
 lin - en and merciful-ly in-clude me in the choir of heav - - - en.

*Cantor:*    
 Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion,  
   
 Is - rael indeed he will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

*All:*    
 Ga-bri-el stood be-fore you, O maid-en, and revealed to you the pre-e-ter-nal  
   
 plan when he greet - ed you and said: Re-joyce, O Un-sown Ground;  
   
 re-joyce, O Bush Un - burned; re-joyce O Un-fath-om - a - ble Depth; re-joyce,



O Bridge which leads to Heav - en, and Ladder which Ja-cob saw raised on high;



re-joice, O Di-vine Jar of Man - na; re-joice, O Re-lease from the Curse;



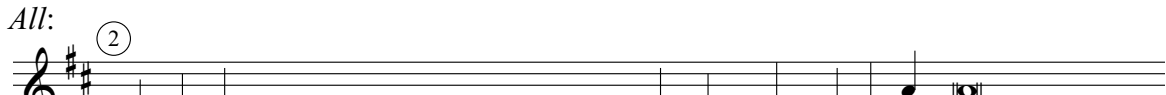
re - joice, O Restora-tion of Ad - am; the Lord is



with you.



*Cantor:* Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!



*All:* ② The un - defiled maiden said to the angel-ic com-mand-er: How do you appear to



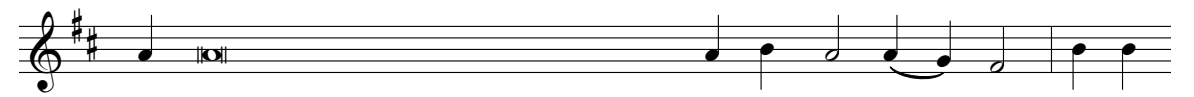
me in hu-man form but speak of su - per - hu - man things? You have



said that God will be with me and will o - ver - shad - ow my womb.



Tell me, how am I a spa-cious land? How am I a sanc - ti - fied place?



How shall I conceive the one who is borne up-on the cher - u - bim? Do not



de-ceive me, for I am in - no - cent. I have not known the pleasures



of mar - riage. How then shall I bear a child?



*Cantor:* Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith-ful for-ev - er.



*All:* ① The bod - i - less an-gel said: When - ever God so wills, the order of na-ture is



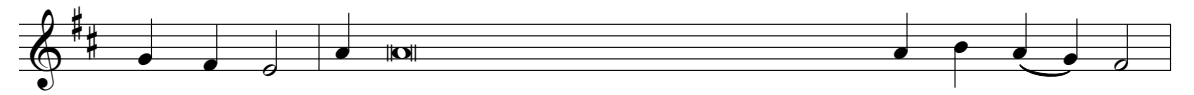
o - ver - turned to ac - com-lish su - per - hu - man deeds. Be - lieve that



my words are true, all-ho-ly and most pure one. She ex-claimed: Let it be done to



me ac-cord-ing to your word, and I shall bear the fleshless God who takes



flesh from me so that he may restore the ancient dignity of hu - man na - ture



by joining it to the di - vine, as he a - lone can do.