

**Vespers with Divine Liturgy, Evening of March 25, 2010**  
**Thursday in the Sixth Week of the Great Fast**  
**ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY**

*(If the Annunciation falls on a Lenten weekday, the Divine Liturgy of Our Holy Father John Chrysostom is celebrated with Vespers on March 25, in the evening.)*

*Supplement for **The Divine Liturgies of our Holy Fathers John Chrysostom and Basil the Great, 2006**. Music for the cantor verses can be found in the official **Cantors' Companion**, or in the **MCI Cantor Verses** book.*

*The service begins on DL 104; either setting of Psalm 103 may be sung.*

**The Lamp-Lighting Psalms**

**Psalm 140 - Tone 8 samohlasen**

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!

*Then the recited verses are chanted by the cantor and faithful. The faithful may SIT when the incensation of the church is complete.*

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 excuses for 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.  
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 *within* 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.

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Bring my soul out of this prison,  
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.

**Stichera for Thursday in the Sixth Week of the Great Fast - Tone 8 samohlasen**

⑩

De - li - ver me from the greed of the merciless rich man, O Christ our God,  
for by your Cross, you cleansed our sins. Make me an im - itator of  
Laz - a - rus the poor, full of pa - tience and meek - - - ness.  
Do not es - trange me from the bos - om of A - bra ham, be cause of -  
your great good - ness.

**Cantor:** Around me the just will assemble  
(on 9) because of your goodness to me. (All repeat: "Deliver me from the greed...")

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**  
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

8

*Tone 4 samohlasen*

Two of the holy a - pos - tles, O Christ, re - cognizing You as one of the Ho - ly  
Tri - ni - ty, are sent by You on this day to ful - fill the Scrip - tures; they go in  
search of a young don - key. On it, You shall sit humbly, O God of  
ten - der - ness. You desire to prepare a throne in the highest for those who love You;  
and You grant to the foolish, who are bent beneath the yoke of their pas - sions,  
the courage to cry to You: Ho - san - - - na!

**Cantor:** Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

7

Re - ceive your King, O Zi - on! He already stands before your gates full of  
meek - ness, to raise up Lazarus and to destroy the king - dom of death.

And you, the choir of holy monks as - sem - bled by God, go to meet Christ  
 with your palms and sing to Him: Bles-sed is He who comes to save the human race  
 by his Passion on the Cross and to grant e - ter - nal life to our souls.

**Cantor:**

*(Tone 8)* 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.

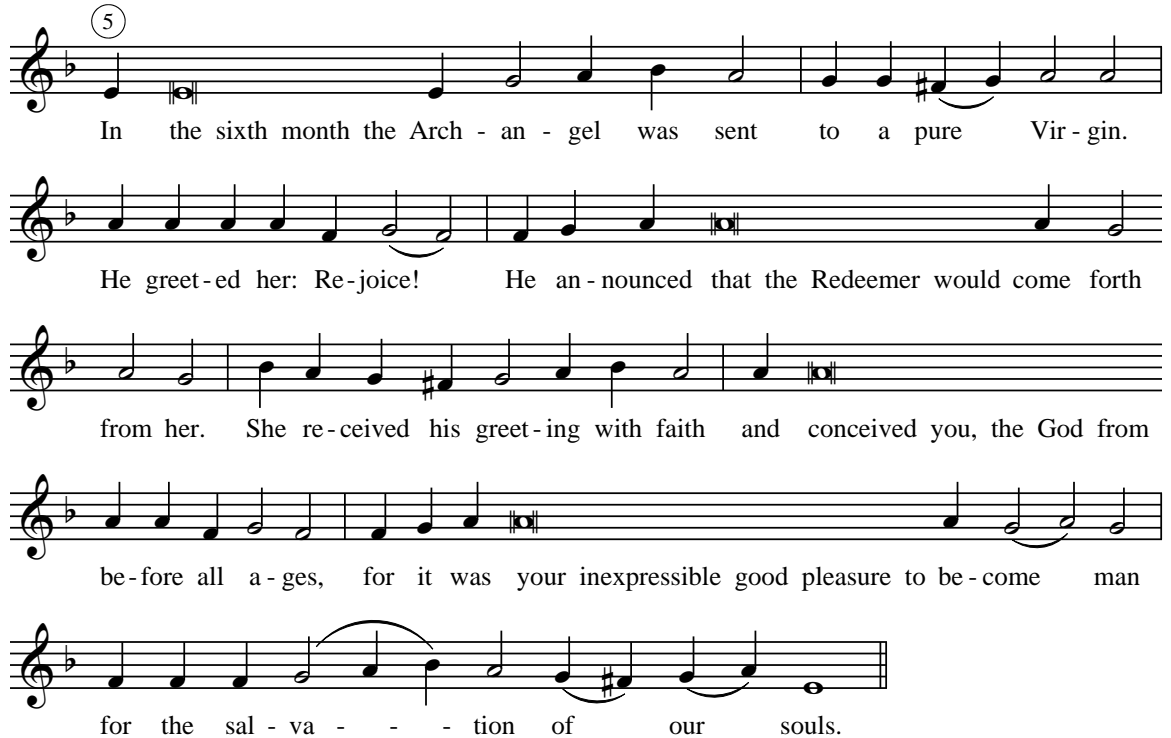
*Tone 8 samohlasen*

⑥  
 You are borne upon the Seraphim in the hea - vens, O Christ, as the God  
 and Cre - a - tor of all. On earth You are seated on a don - key. Beth - a - ny  
 re - joi - ces to welcome You as a Sav - ior. Je - ru - salem exults to receive You  
 as the expect - ed Mes - si - ah. Death is slain as it sees Lazarus es - cap - ing  
 its grasp. And we, carrying our palms go out to meet You in joy  
 and praise the majesty of your good - ness, O Lord.

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.  
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

**Stichera of the Annunciation - Tone 4 samohlasen**

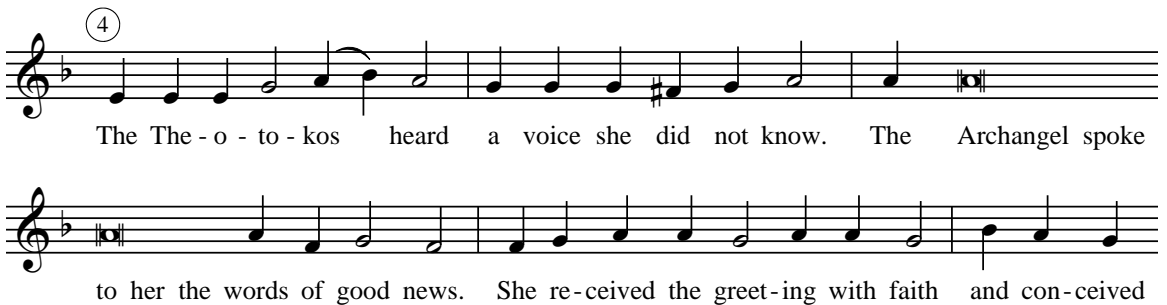
⑤



In the sixth month the Arch - an - gel was sent to a pure Vir - gin.  
He greet-ed her: Re-joyce! He an - nounced that the Redeemer would come forth  
from her. She re-ceived his greet-ing with faith and conceived you, the God from  
be-fore all a - ges, for it was your inexpressible good pleasure to be - come man  
for the sal - va - - - tion of our souls.

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

④



The The - o - to - kos heard a voice she did not know. The Archangel spoke  
to her the words of good news. She re-ceived the greet-ing with faith and con-ceived



you, the God from be-fore all a - ges. There - fore, we also rejoice and cry



out to you, O un - ap - proach - able God who were in - car - nate of her:



Grant peace to the world and great mer - - cy to our souls.

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




Be - hold our res-to - ra - tion is now re - vealed. God beyond words




is united with hu-man - i - ty. The er - ror is erased by the Arch-an-gel's voice,



for the vir-gin re-ceive the joy. What is earthly has be-come heav - en;



the world is freed from the an - cient curse. Let cre - a - tion rejoice and give voice



to hymns: O Lord, our Creator and Re - deem - er, glo - ry to you!

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

**Stichera of the Archangel Gabriel - Tone 1 podoben: Prechvalnii mučenicy**

②

The arch-an - gel Gabriel, the spirit who sees God face to face, gaz-es up on  
the brilliant, saving, and gleam-ing Light. He sings heav-enly and awesome hymns  
with the ranks on high. He im-plores God to grant peace and great mer - cy  
to our souls.

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

①

The great mys-tery, previously unknown to the angels and hid-den from e-ter-ni-ty,  
is made known to you a-lone, O Ga-bri-el. When you came to Nazareth, you told  
it to the pure One. To - geth-er with her, implore God to grant peace  
and great mer - cy to our souls.



*Cantor only: (on A)*



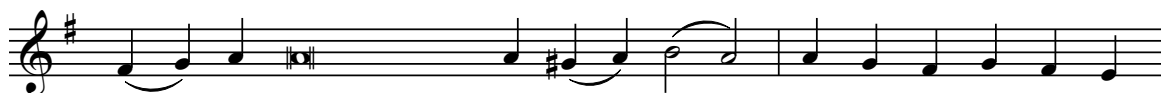
You make your an-gels spi-rits and your min - i - sters a flam - ing fire.



O prince of an-gels, all-per - fect Ga-bri-el, you are filled with the di-vine



bright-ness. You ful - fill the wishes and commands of the Al - might - y.



Save those who lovingly ven-er - ate you. Al - ways ask God to grant



peace and great mer - cy to our souls.

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

**Doxastikon - 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

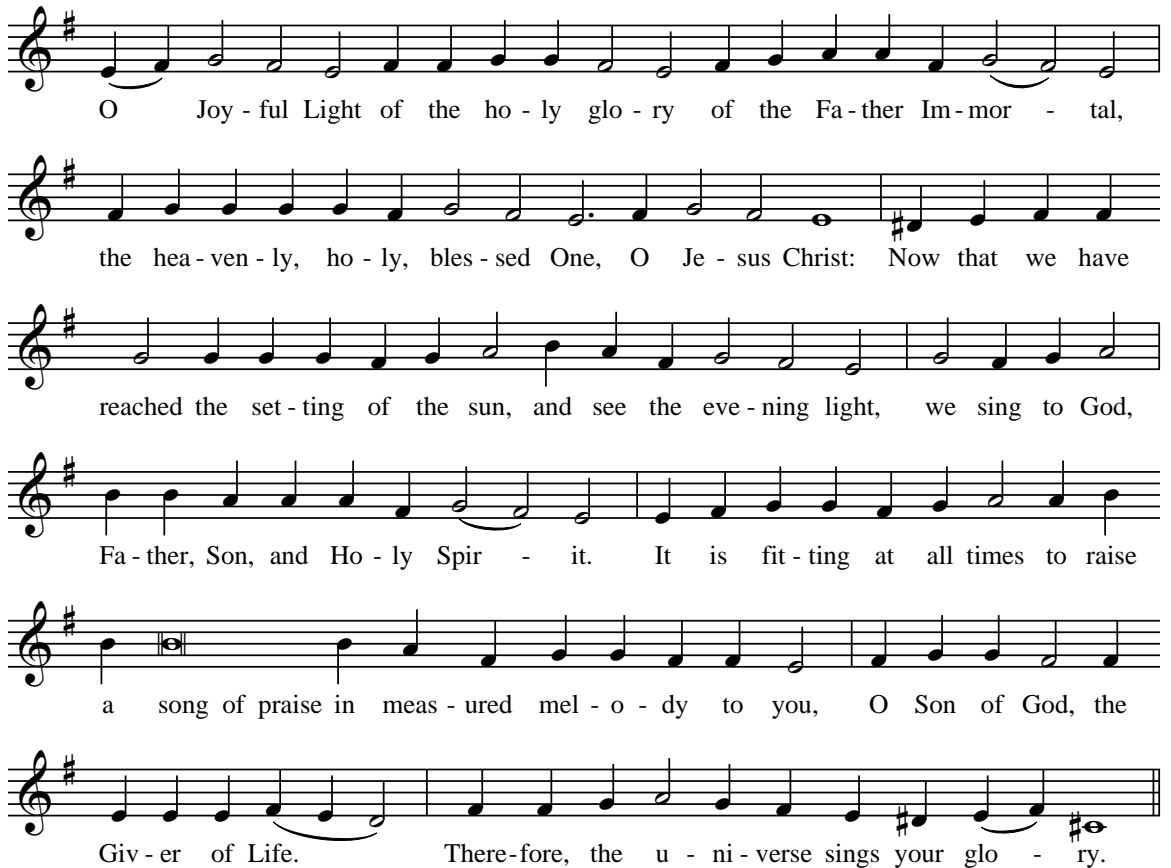


Naz - a - reth he was a - mazed as he reflected on the mys - te - ry:

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 con-tained. 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.

**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.


## Old Testament Readings from the Triodion

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Celebrant:** Peace ✕ be to all!

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon I - Tone 6** (Psalm 119: 1, 2)



To the Lord in the hour of my dis-tress I call  
and he an - swers me.

*Verse:* O Lord, save my soul from lying lips, \* from the tongue of the *deceitful*.

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Lector:** A Reading from Genesis

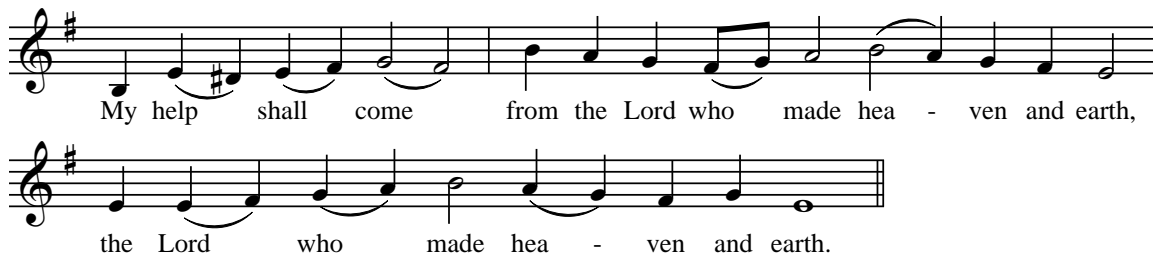
**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

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

**Lector:** [Genesis 46:1-7] (*Epistle Book, p. 275*)

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon II - Tone 6** (Psalm 120:7, 1)



My help shall come from the Lord who made hea - ven and earth,  
the Lord who made hea - ven and earth.

*Verse:* I lift up my eyes to the mountains, \* from where shall come *my* help.

**Deacon:** Wisdom!  
**Lector:** A reading from Proverbs.  
**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!  
**Lector:** [Proverbs 23:15 - 24:5]

### **Old Testament Readings for the Annunciation**

**Deacon:** Wisdom!  
**Lector:** A reading from Exodus.  
**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!  
**Lector:** [Exodus 3:1-8] (*Epistle Book, p. 317*)  
**Deacon:** Wisdom!  
**Lector:** A reading from Proverbs.  
**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!  
**Lector:** [Proverbs 8:22-31] (*Epistle Book, p. 312*)  
**Celebrant:** Peace ☩ be to you, reader.

*The service continues with the Small Litany (DL 122) followed by the Trisagion ("Holy God") of the Divine Liturgy, on page 27-30.*

*Propers for the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom are on the following pages of this booklet.*

**Prokeimenon of the Annunciation - Tone 4** (Psalm 95:2,1):



Day af-ter day an-nounce the good news of our God's sal-va - tion.

*Verse:* Sing to the Lord a new song; \* sing to the Lord, all *the* earth.

**Alleluia of the Annunciation - Tone 1** (Psalm 71:6,17):



Al - le - lu - - - ia! Al - - - le - lu - ia!



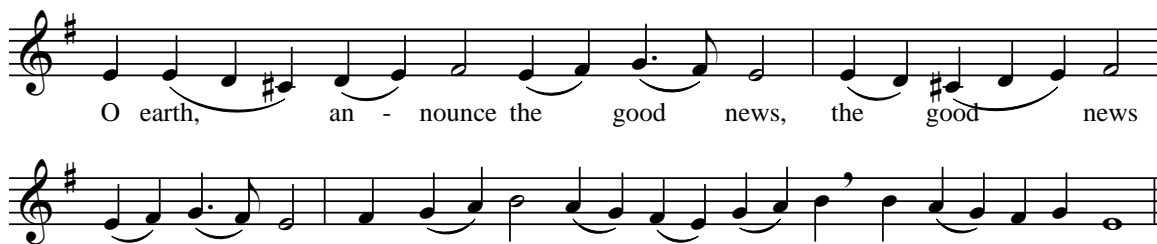
Al - le - lu - - - ia!

*Verse:* He will descend like rain on the meadows, \* like raindrops on *the* earth.

*Verse:* May his name be blessed forever, \* more enduring than *the* sun.

*Instead of* "It is truly proper . . ."

**Magnification:**



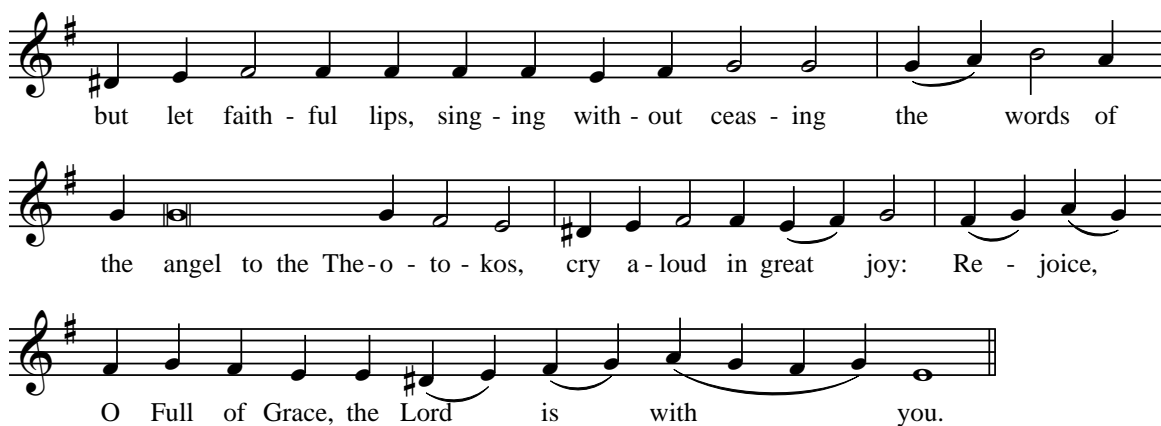
O earth, an - nounce the good news, the good news  
of great joy. You heav - ens, sing the glo - ry, the glo - ry of God.

**Irmos:**

*Tone 6 Irmos, simple setting*



Let no un - in - i - ti - a - ted hand touch the liv - ing Ark of God;

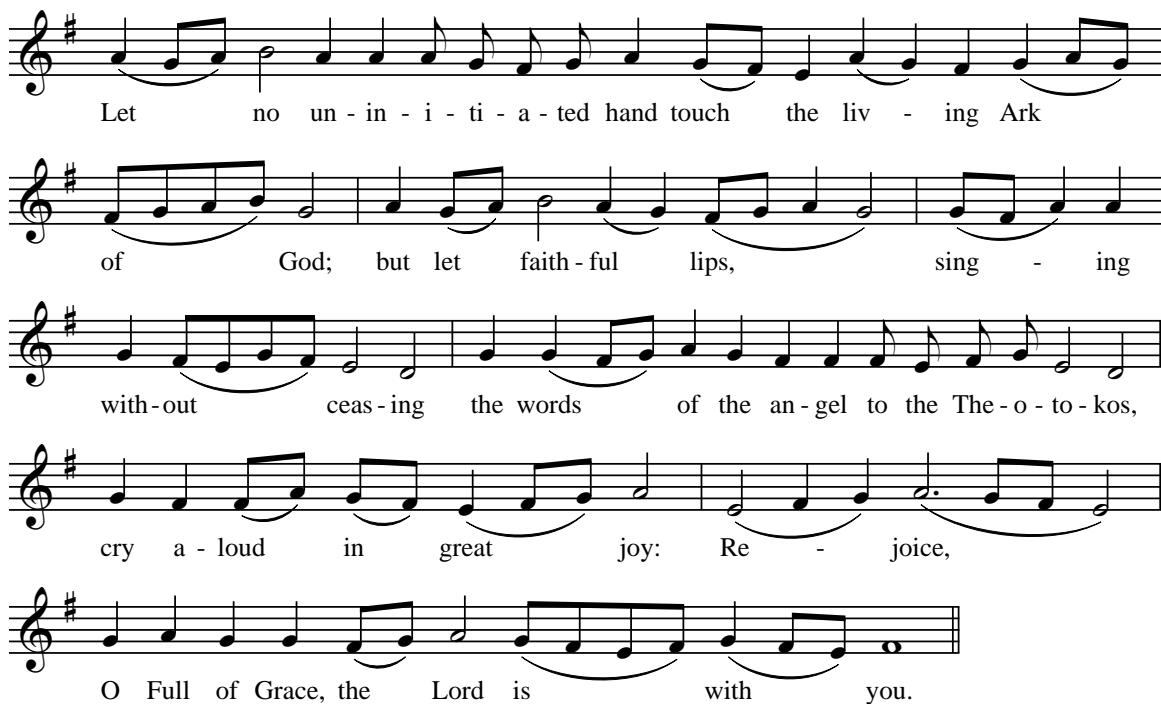


but let faith - ful lips, sing - ing with - out ceas - ing the words of  
the angel to the The - o - to - kos, cry a - loud in great joy: Re - joice,  
O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

*Or*

**Irmos:**

*Tone 4 samopodoben*



Let no un - in - i - ti - a - ted hand touch the liv - ing Ark  
of God; but let faith - ful lips, sing - ing  
with - out ceas - ing the words of the an - gel to the The - o - to - kos,  
cry a - loud in great joy: Re - joice,  
O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 131:13):

D



The Lord has cho - sen Zi - on; he pre - fers her for his dwell - ing.



*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!