

**Vesper Propers, December 26, 2010**  
**The Sunday after Christmas:**  
**The Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed,**  
**David the King, and James the Brother of God**

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

*Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, p. 82), stichera 10-8.*

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

**Stichera of the Nativity of Our Lord - Tone 2 samohlasen**

⑦

Come, let us re-joyce in the Lord; let us pro-claim the pres-ent mys-te - ry

by which the partition has been broken and the flam-ing sword with-held. Now the

Cher - ubim shall let us all come to the Tree of Life. As for me, I

am returning to the bliss of Par - a - dise from which I had been banished by

dis - o - be-dience. Be - hold! The Im - age of the Father and his unchangeable

e - ter - ni - ty has tak - en the form of a serv - ant.

With-out suf-fer-ing he has come forth to us from an all-pure Vir-gin, and

yet he has re-mained un - changed. He is true God as he was be-fore,

and he has tak - en on himself what he had not been, be-com-ing man out of

his love for all. There-fore, let us raise our voices in hymns sing - ing:

O God, born of the Vir-gin, have mer - cy on us.

**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.

Be-cause the Lord Je - sus was born of the ho - ly Vir - gin, all cre - a - tion is

en-light - ened. Be-hold! The shep-herds keep watch and the ma-gi are a - dor-ing;

the an-gels are sing-ing hymns of praise and Her - od is trem - bling;

for the Sav - ior of our souls has re - vealed him - self in the flesh.

*If there is no Blessing of Bread, the Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, page 91) is sung, then:*

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

“Joseph, proclaim the wonders...” (above)

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Now and ever...

**Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4**

Your birth, O Christ our God, has shed up - on the world the light of

knowl - edge; for through it, those who wor-shipped the stars have learned from

a star to worship you, the Sun of Jus - tice, and to know you, the Dawn

from on High. Glo - ry to you, O Lord!

three - day bur - i - al. Let us cry out to him: Hav - ing become incarnate  
of the Vir - gin, save our souls, O Christ God.

**Troparia**

*If there is Blessing of Bread, the Troparion of the Nativity ( "Your birth, O Christ our God," next page) is sung twice, then:*

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

**Troparion of the Sunday after the Nativity - Tone 2**

Jo-seph, pro-claim the won - ders you have seen to Da-vid, the fore - fa-ther  
of God: the Vir - gin has giv - en birth; you have giv - en glo - ry  
with the shep - herds and wor-shipped with the wise men; you have  
been in-struct-ed by the an - gel. Ask Christ our God to save our souls.

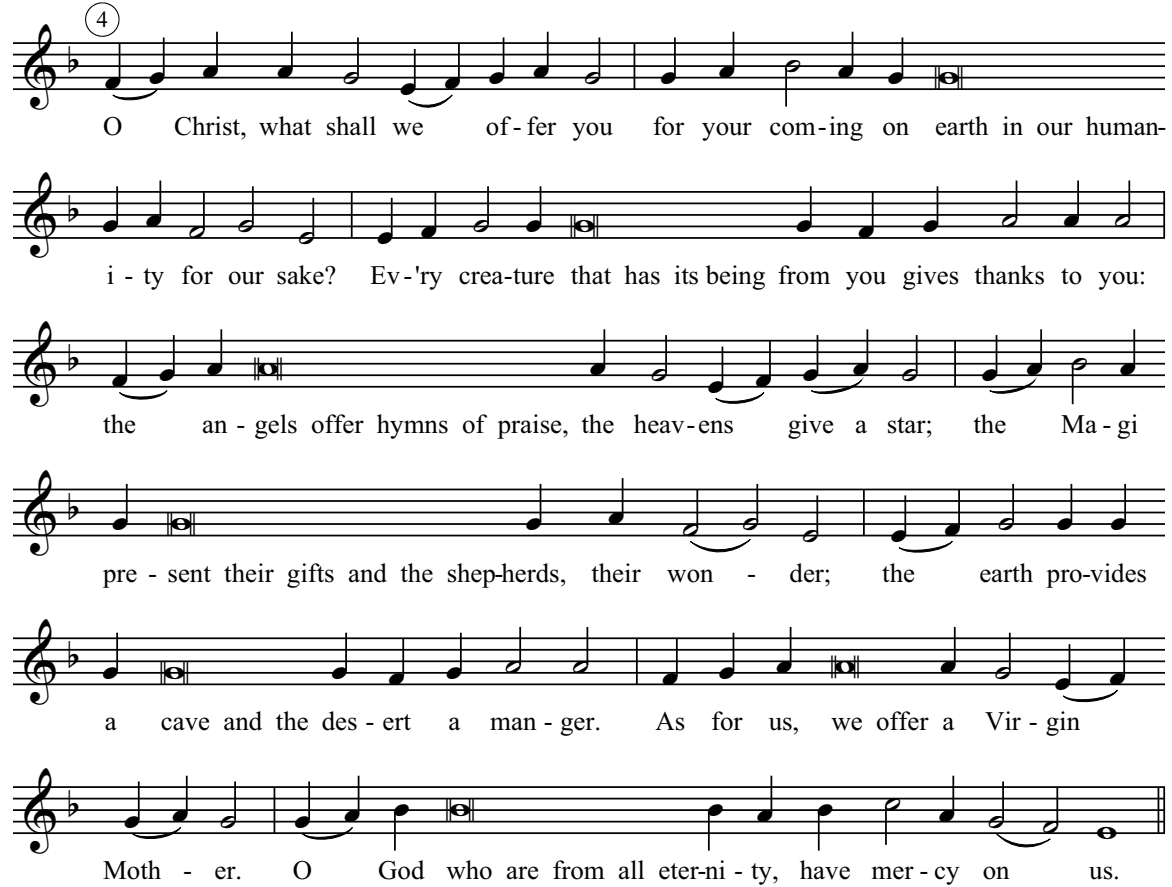
*and the service continues with the Blessing of Bread, p. 119.*

**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.

O Christ our God, your king-dom is e - ter - nal, and your reign is from  
gen - eration to gen - er - a - tion. You be-came in - carnate of the Ho - ly Spir - it  
and be - came man from the ev - er - vir - gin Mar - y. Your com - ing,  
O Christ, has shed a great light up - on us. You are the Light of Light  
and the ra - dian - ce of the Fa - ther. You have il - lum - ined the  
whole cre - a - tion. There - fore, ev - 'ry - thing that breathes sings a hymn of praise  
to you. You are the im - age of the Fa - ther's glo - ry. You are  
the e - ternal God, existing be - fore all a - ges, who shone forth from the Vir - gin.  
O Lord our God, have mer - cy on us.

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

④

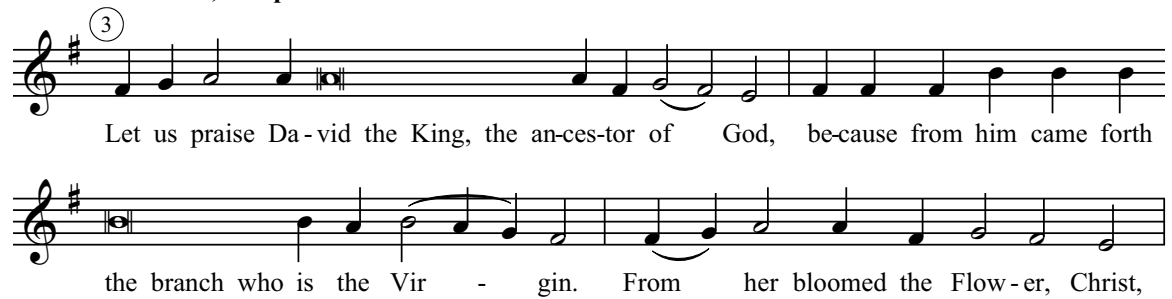


O Christ, what shall we of-fer you for your com-ing on earth in our human-  
i - ty for our sake? Ev-'ry crea-ture that has its being from you gives thanks to you:  
the an - gels offer hymns of praise, the heav-ens give a star; the Ma - gi  
pre - sent their gifts and the shep-herds, their won - der; the earth pro-vides  
a cave and the des - ert a man - ger. As for us, we offer a Vir - gin  
Moth - er. O God who are from all eter-ni - ty, have mer - cy on us.

**Cantor:** (Tone 1) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

**Stichera of David, Joseph and James - Tone 1 samohlasen**

③



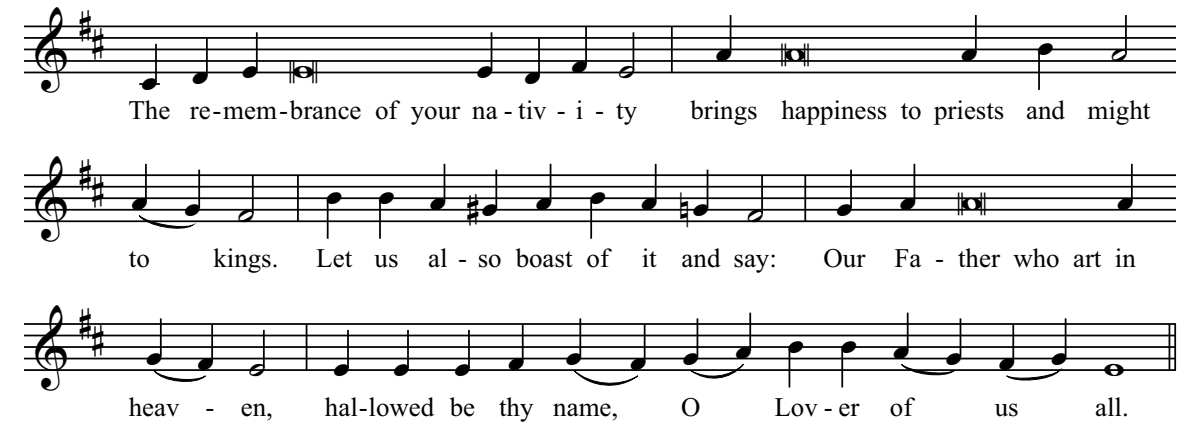
Let us praise Da-vid the King, the an-ces-tor of God, be-cause from him came forth  
the branch who is the Vir - gin. From her bloomed the Flow-er, Christ,

## Aposticha

*Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, page 88), concluding with:*

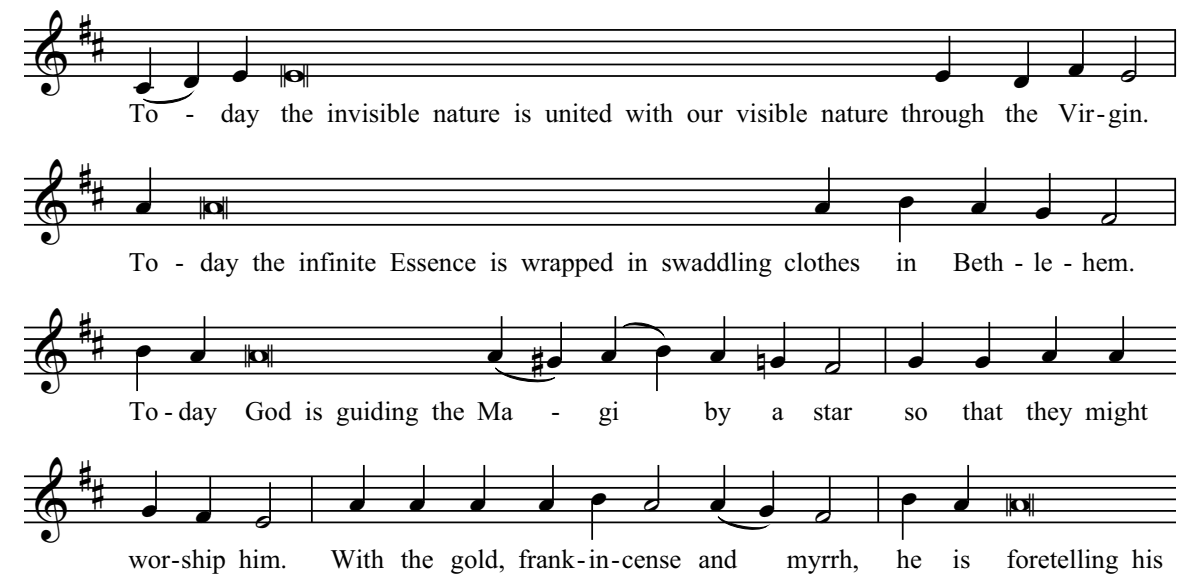
**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen**



The re-mem-brance of your na-tiv - i - ty brings happiness to priests and might  
to kings. Let us al - so boast of it and say: Our Fa - ther who art in  
heav - en, hal-lowed be thy name, O Lov - er of us all.

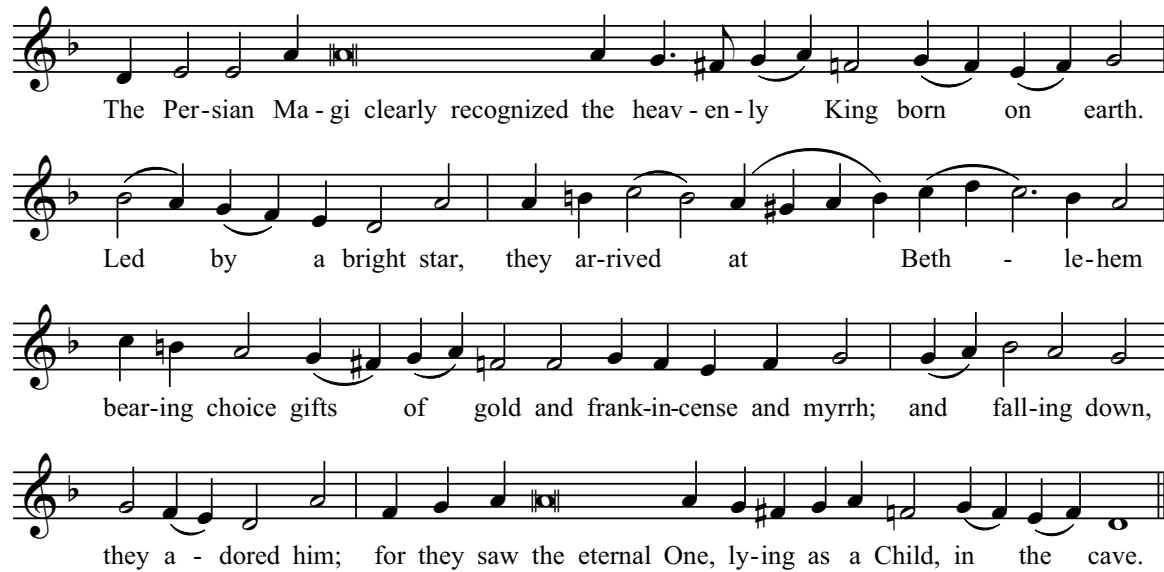
**Cantor:** Now and ever...



To - day the invisible nature is united with our visible nature through the Vir-gin.  
To - day the infinite Essence is wrapped in swaddling clothes in Beth - le - hem.  
To-day God is guiding the Ma - gi by a star so that they might  
worship him. With the gold, frank-in-cense and myrrh, he is foretelling his

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Glory...

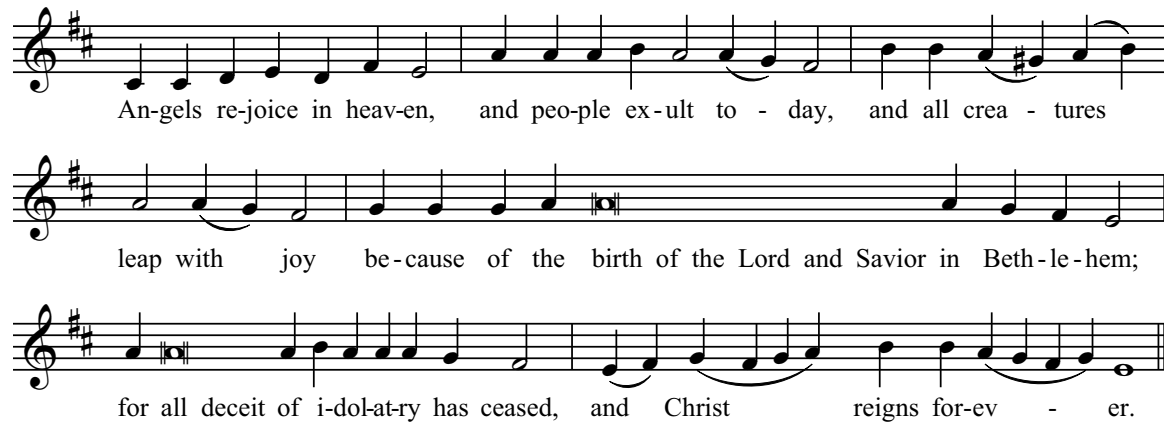
**Doxastikon - Tone 5 Bolhar**



The Per-sian Ma-gi clearly recognized the heav-en-ly King born on earth.  
Led by a bright star, they ar-rived at Beth-le-hem  
bear-ing choice gifts of gold and frank-in-cense and myrrh; and fall-ing down,  
they a-dored him; for they saw the eternal One, ly-ing as a Child, in the cave.

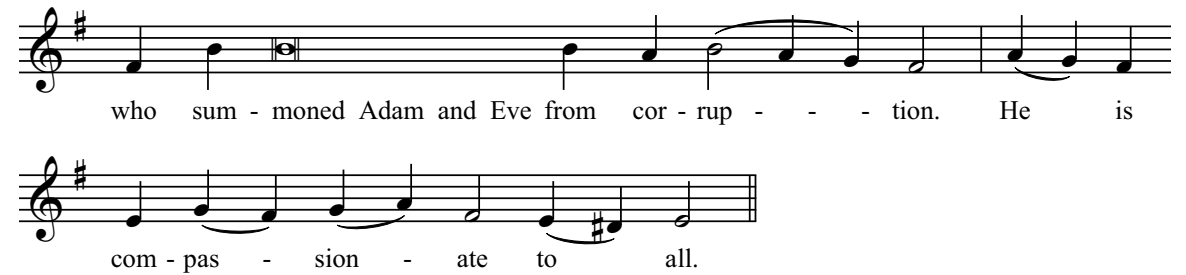
**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Now and ever...

*Tone 6 samohlasen*



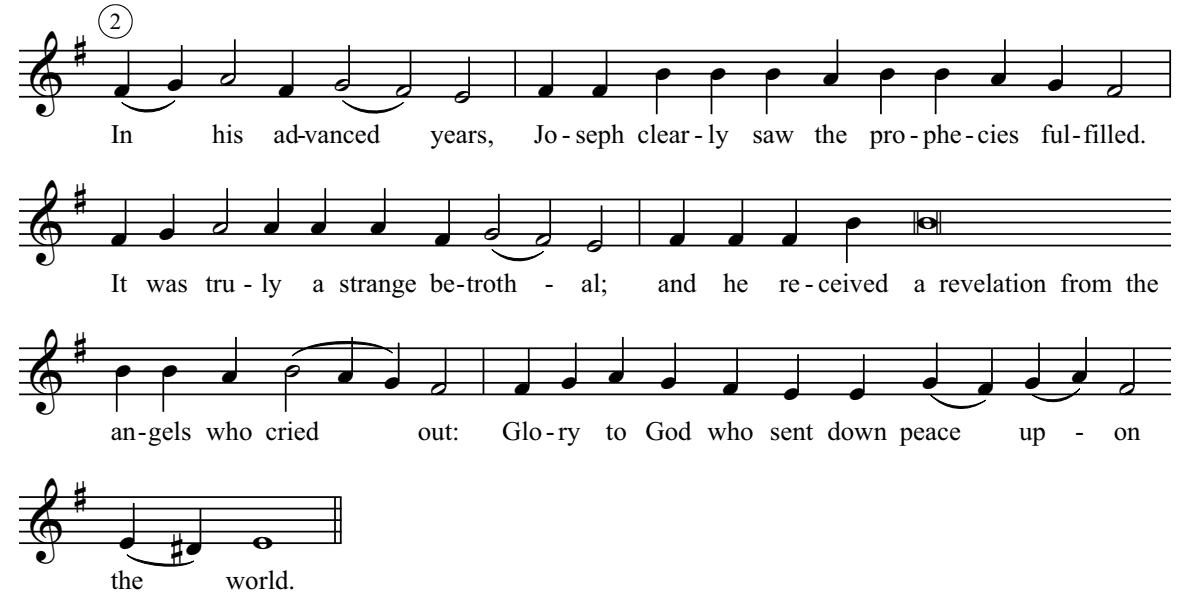
An-gels re-joice in heav-en, and peo-ple ex-ult to-day, and all crea-tures  
leap with joy be-cause of the birth of the Lord and Savior in Beth-le-hem;  
for all deceit of i-dol-at-ry has ceased, and Christ reigns for-ev-er.

*Litija Litany p.116*



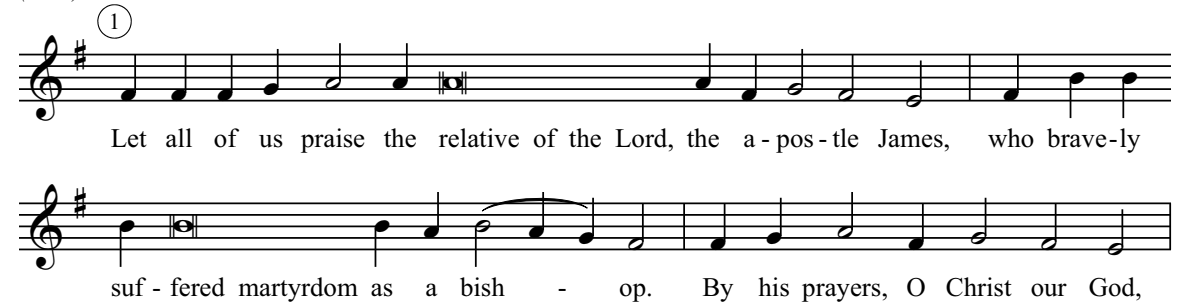
who sum-moned Adam and Eve from cor-rup-tion. He is  
com-pas-sion-ate to all.

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



In his ad-vanced years, Jo-seph clear-ly saw the pro-phe-cies ful-filled.  
It was tru-ly a strange be-troth-al; and he re-ceived a revelation from the  
an-gels who cried out: Glo-ry to God who sent down peace up-on  
the world.

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



Let all of us praise the relative of the Lord, the a-pos-tle James, who brave-ly  
suf-fered martyrdom as a bish-op. By his prayers, O Christ our God,

who was wrapped in swad-dling clothes in the cave, save all those  
who ex - tol you.

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen**

We are com-mem-orating the noble Da-vid and James, the king and prophet, the  
apostle and first bish - op. be-cause by their teaching we have been de-liv - ered  
from er - ror. Let us sing the prais-es of Christ who came forth from the  
Vir - gin, and be-came in - car - nate to save our souls.

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

*Dogmatikon in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, page 87).*

**Readings:** Genesis 25:21-34  
Sirach 7: 1-28  
Zechariah 8:3-11

## Litija

*Tone 1 Bolhar*

May heav-en and earth re-joyce pro-phet - ic - 'ly this day. May an-gels  
and peo-ple spir - it - ually cel - e-brate, for God ap - peared in the flesh  
to those grop - ing in the dark-ness and rest - ing in a shad - ow.  
Hav-ing been born of a Vir - gin, a cave and a man - ger re-ceived him.  
Shep-herds re-late a mir - a - cle; the Ma-gi from the East bring gifts  
to Beth-le-hem, while we, with un-wor-thy lips, ren - der him an - gel - ic praise:  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace on earth,  
for the hope of na - tions has ar - rived.  
Hav - ing come, he has saved us from hos - tile bond - age.