

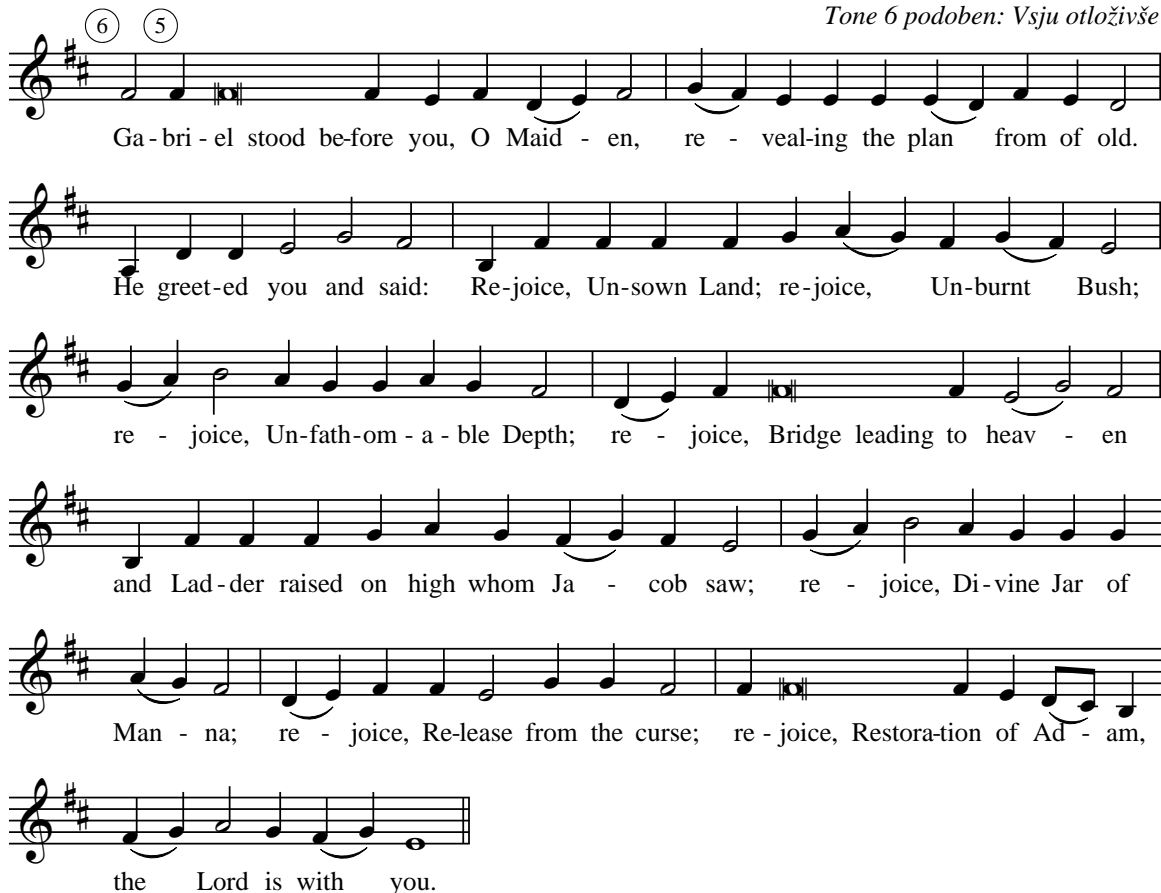
Vesper Propers, March 25, 2012
Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast
The Annunciation of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

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

Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 8, p. 102), stichera 10-7.

Cantor: 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 podobn: Vsju otloživše



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-joyce, Un-sown Land; re-joyce, Un-burnt Bush;
re - joyce, Un-fath-om - a - ble Depth; re - joyce, Bridge leading to heav - en
and Lad-der raised on high whom Ja - cob saw; re - joyce, Di-vine Jar of
Man - na; re - joyce, Re-lease from the curse; re - joyce, Restora-tion of Ad - am,
the Lord is with you.

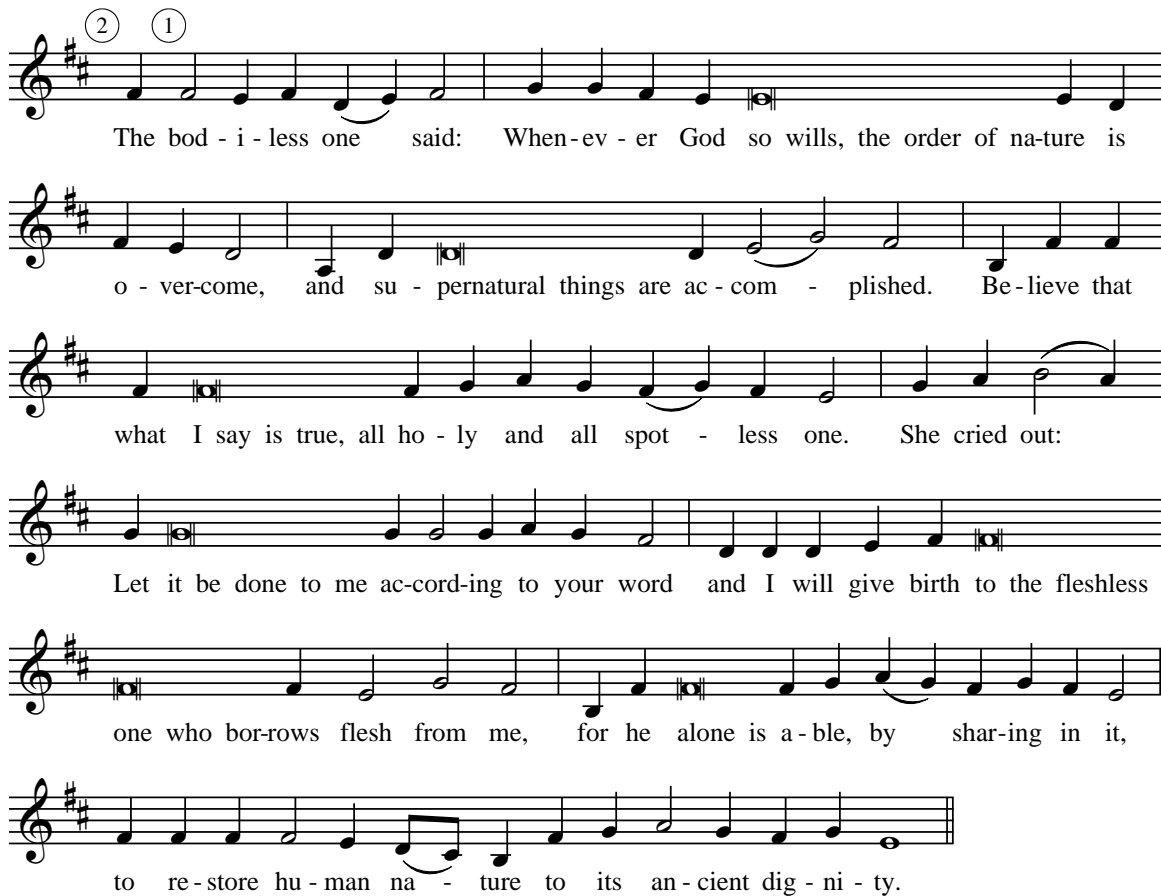
Cantor: My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.
All repeat "Gabriel stood..."

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

The in - vi - o - late Maid - en said to the angel-ic Com-mand - er:
You ap-pear to me as a man but what you say to me is be-yond hu - man words,
for you are tell - ing me that God will be with me and that he will
dwell in my womb. Tell me, how can I be-come the spa-cious con-tain - er
and ho - ly tem - ple of the one who is borne aloft on the Cher - u - bim?
Do not en-tice me de-icit-ful-ly, for I have nev-er known pleas - ure,
nor have I ex-pe-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!

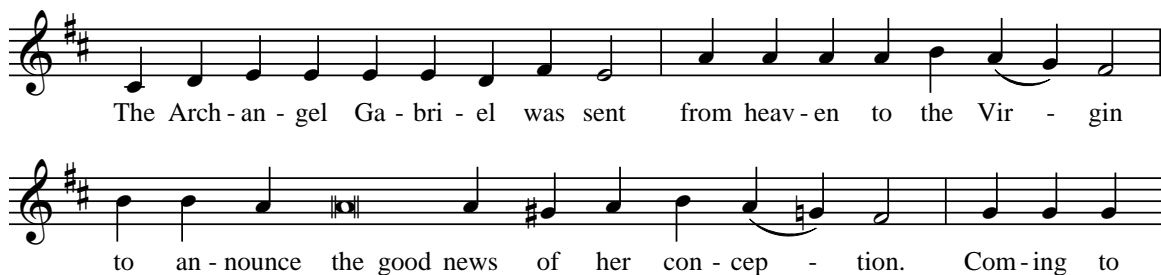


The bod - i - less one said: When - ev - er God so wills, the order of na - ture is
 o - ver - come, and su - pernatural things are ac - com - plished. Be - lieve that
 what I say is true, all ho - ly and all spot - less one. She cried out:
 Let it be done to me ac - cord - ing to your word and I will give birth to the fleshless
 one who bor - rows flesh from me, for he alone is a - ble, 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 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;

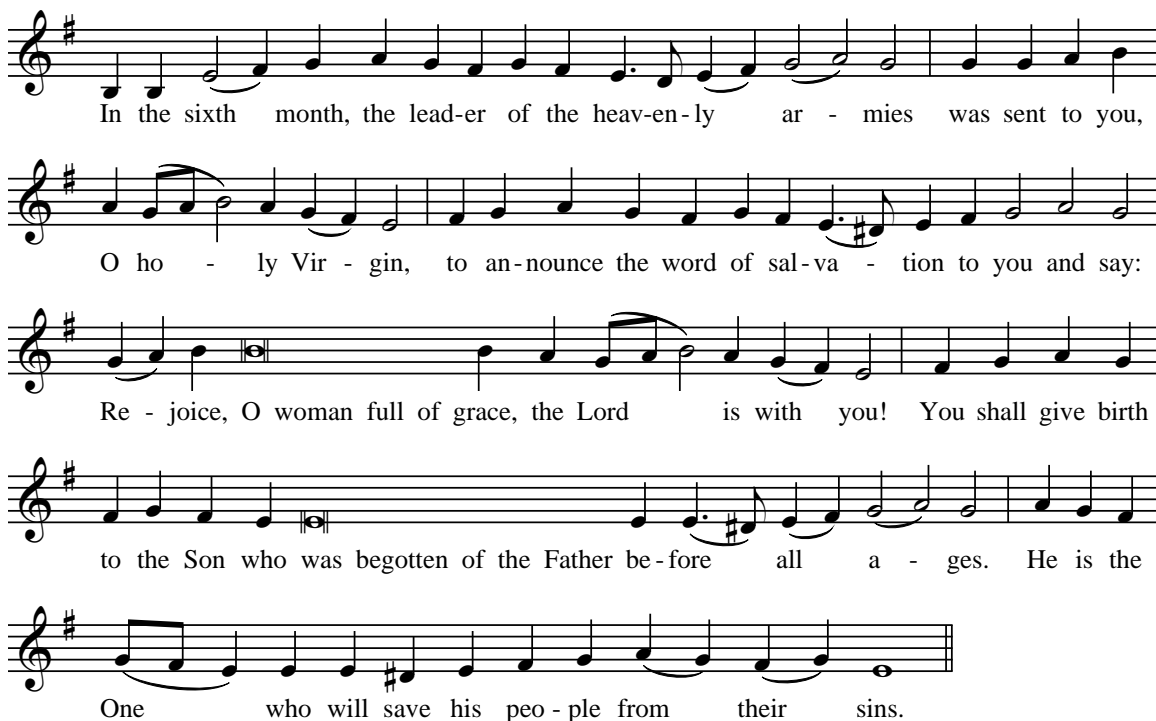


re - joice, Moth - er of Life; bless - ed is the fruit of your womb.

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



In the sixth month, the lead-er of the heav-en-ly ar - mies was sent to you,
O ho - ly Vir - gin, to an-nounce the word of sal-va - tion to you and say:
Re - joice, O woman full of grace, the Lord is with you! You shall give birth
to the Son who was begotten of the Father be-fore all a - ges. He is the
One who will save his peo - ple from their sins.

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

Theotokion - *Tone 2 Bolhar*



To - day Ga-bri-el an-nounc - es the good news to the wo - man
full of grace: Re-joice, Vir - gin who has not known wed - lock;

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

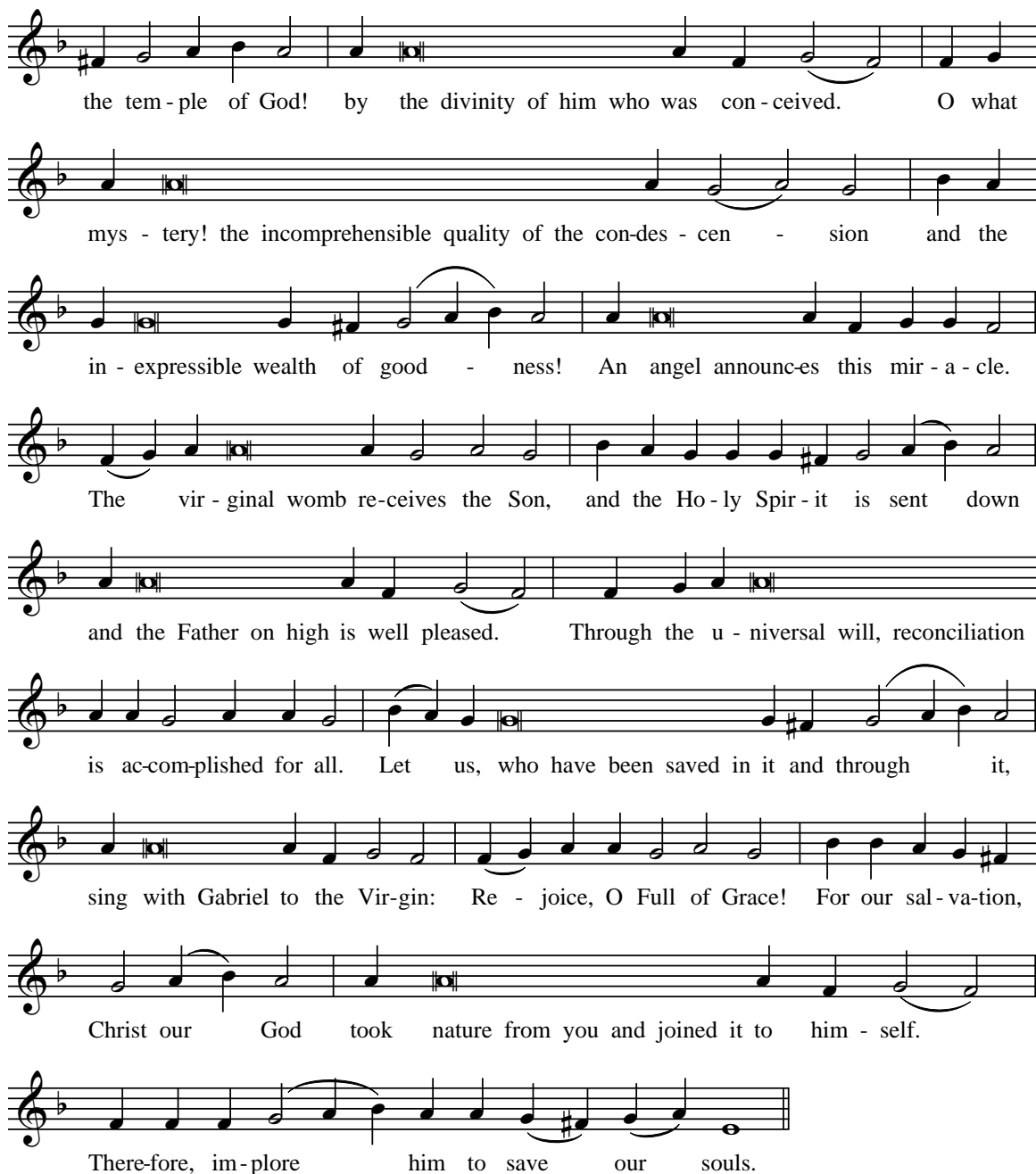
Aposticha

Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 8, p. 108), concluding with:

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 con-des - 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-plore him to save our souls.

The service continues with the 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 of the Annunciation - 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-joyce, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.