

**Vesper Propers, Evening of March 24**  
**Palm (Flowery) Sunday**  
**Eve of the Feast of the ANNUNCIATION**

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

*Lamplighting Psalms in the tone of the first sticheron (Tone 6, page 82).*

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

**Stichera of the Annunciation - Tone 6 samohlasen**

<sup>(10)</sup> <sup>(9)</sup>

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:** Around me the just will assemble  
(on 9) because of your goodness to me. (*All repeat "Gabriel stood before you, O Maiden...."*)

**Cantor:** Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**

(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

8 7

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 telling me that God will be with me  
and that he will dwell in my womb. Tell me, how can I become the spacious  
con - tain - 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:** Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading. (*All repeat "The inviolate Maiden...."*)

**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.

6 5  
 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 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 able, by shar - ing in it,  
 to re - store hu - man na - ture to its an - cient dig - ni - ty.

**Cantor:** 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.  
 (All repeat "The bodiless one said...")

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Let the watchman count on daybreak  
 (on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

**Stichera of Palm Sunday - Tone 8 samohlasen**

4 3  
 Re - joyce, O ci - ty of Zi - - on, and dance with joy, O Church of God;

for be-hold your King comes to you in meekness and hu-mil - i - ty; the chil-dren  
wel-come him and sing: Ho-san-na in the high - est! Bless-ed are you, O  
Com-pas-sion-ate Lord. Have mer - cy on us!

**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 "Rejoice, O city of Zion....")

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

②  
The Sav - ior has come into the city of Je - ru - sa - lem to - day to ful-fill the  
Scrip - tures. See the peo - ple spread their garments a-long the way; they car-ry  
palms and branch-es in their hands, and re - cognize that he in-deed is our God.  
And the cher - ubim sing to him un - ceas - ing - ly: bless-ed are you,  
O com - pas - sion - ate Lord; have mer - cy on us!

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

①

You are seat-ed upon the throne of the cher - u - bim and are praised by the  
ser - a - phim; as did Da - vid, you rode up-on an ass. The chil-dren praise  
you as God; the Phar - isees blaspheme you un - just - ly; and your rid - ing  
up - on the colt shows forth the conversion of the pa - - - gans.  
O on - ly Lover of hu-man-i - ty and com-pas-sion-ate Lord: glo - ry to you!

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

**Doxastikon of Palm Sunday - Tone 6 samohlasen**

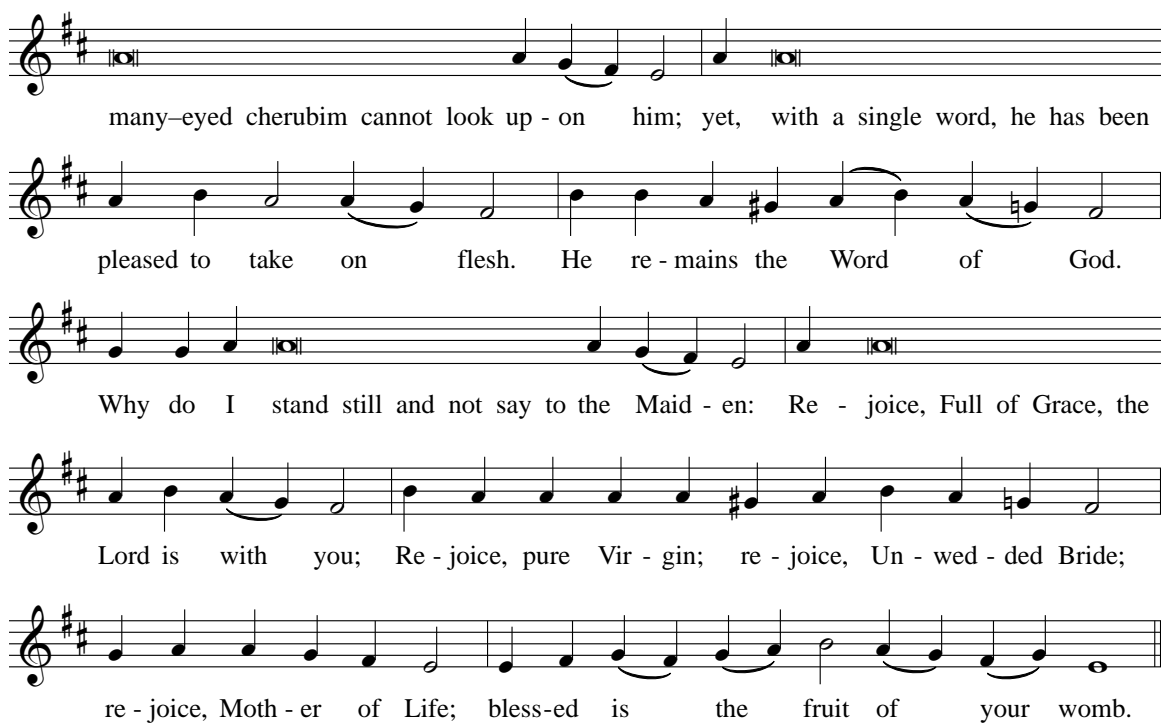
He who has heav-en as his throne and earth as his foot-stool, the Son, the Father's  
co - e - ter - nal Word, now hum - bles himself to mount on a sense - less beast,  
as he comes to Beth-a - ny. Car - rying branches, the Hebrew children wel - come him

and say: Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who is  
com-ing, the King of Is-ra-el.

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

**Doxastikon 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



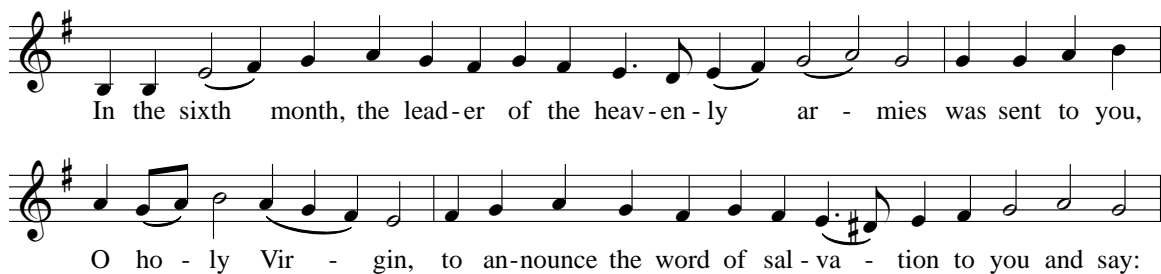
many-eyed cherubim cannot look up - on him; yet, with a single word, he has been  
 pleased to take on flesh. He re - mains the Word of God.  
 Why do I stand still and not say to the Maid - en: Re - joice, Full of Grace, the  
 Lord is with you; Re - joice, pure Vir - gin; re - joice, Un - wed - ded Bride;  
 re - joice, Moth - er of Life; bless-ed is the fruit of your womb.

*Prokeimenon of Sunday evening (p. 114).*

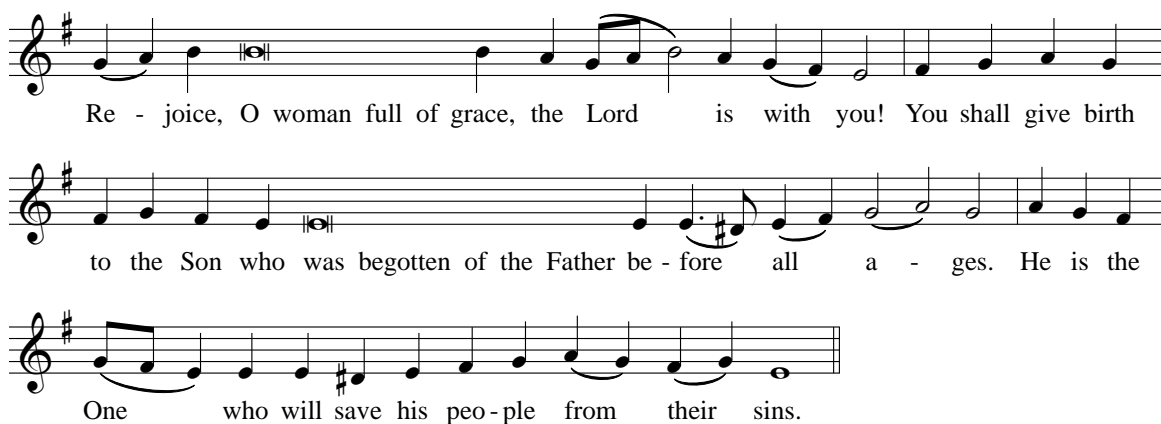
**Readings:** Genesis 28:10-17 (EOT 304)  
 Ezekiel 43:27-44; 4 (EOT 305)  
 Proverbs 9:1-11 (EOT 305)

## Litija

*Tone 1 Bolhar*



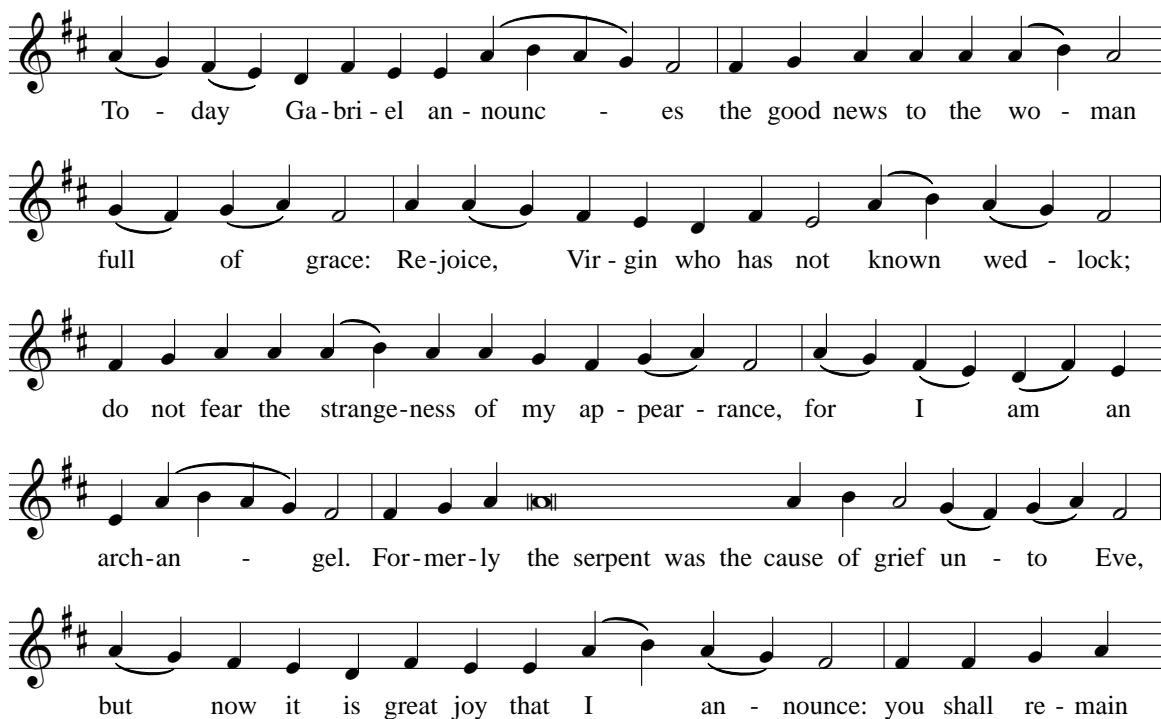
In the sixth month, the lead-er of the heav-en - ly ar - mies was sent to you,  
 O ho - ly Vir - gin, to an-ounce the word of sal - va - tion to you and say:



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.

*Litany of the Litija, p.116*

**Aposticha**

*Tone 2 samohlasen*

Pass - ing from the feast of palms and branch - es, O faith - ful, to the ven - er - a - ble  
 and saving solemnity of the suf - frings of Christ, let us be - hold him  
 who voluntarily endures his Pas - sion for us, and in thanks - giv - ing, let  
 us sing: O Foun - tain of mercy and Harbor of sal - va - tion,  
 O Lord, glo - ry to you!

*Tone 3 samohlasen*

*Cantor*

Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked won - - - ders.

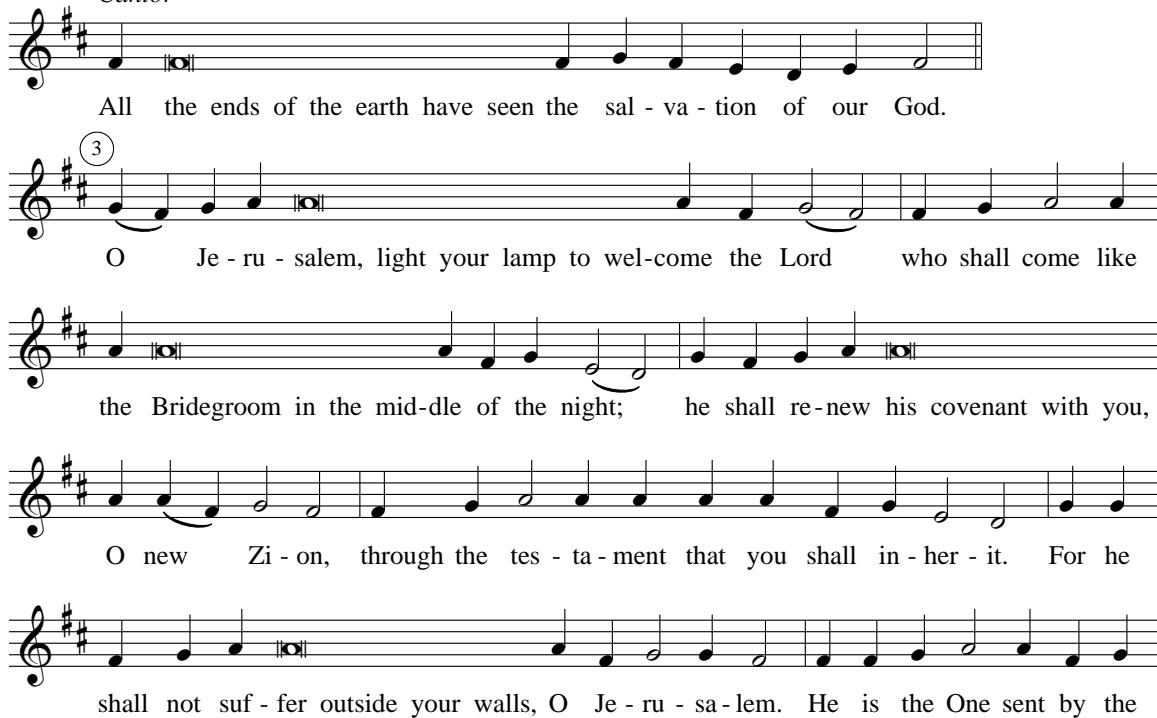
②




It is awe - some to fall into the hands of the liv - ing God! For he  
 judg - es our thoughts and the se - crets of our hearts; let no one test his  
 ir - reproach - a - ble fi - del - i - ty! But in fear and hu - mility, let us  
 go to Christ and be - seech his help and great mer - cy.

*Cantor*

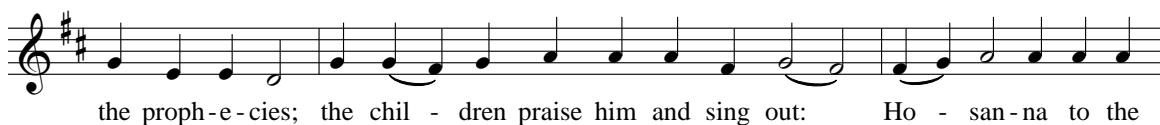
*Tone 7 samohlasen*



All the ends of the earth have seen the sal - va - tion of our God.  
 O Je - ru - salem, light your lamp to wel - come the Lord who shall come like  
 the Bridegroom in the mid - dle of the night; he shall re - new his covenant with you,  
 O new Zi - on, through the tes - ta - ment that you shall in - her - it. For he  
 shall not suf - fer outside your walls, O Je - ru - sa - lem. He is the One sent by the



Fa-ther; the proph-ets pro-claim him as the Son who shall come to ful-fill

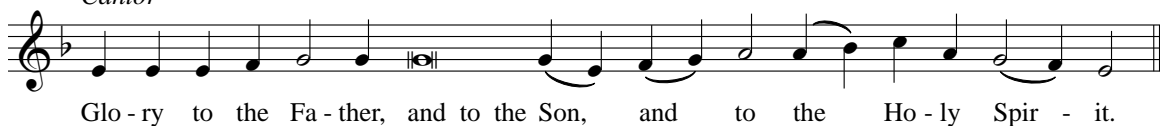


the proph-e-cies; the chil - dren praise him and sing out: Ho - san-na to the



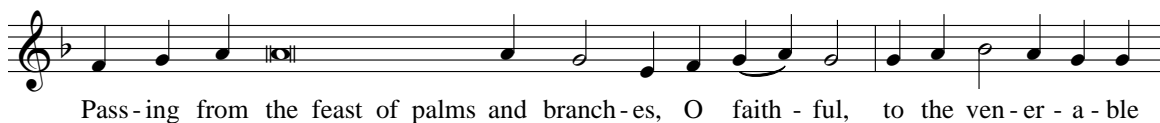
Son of Da-vid; bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

*Cantor*



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it.

**Aposticha doxastikon of Palm Sunday - Tone 2 samohlasen**



Pass-ing from the feast of palms and branch-es, O faith - ful, to the ven-er - a - ble



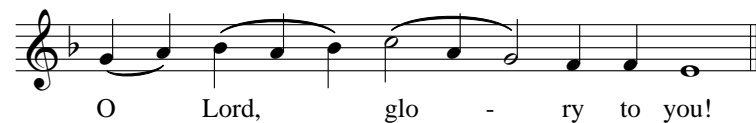
and saving solemnity of the suf - frings of Christ, let us be - hold him



who voluntarily endures his Pas - sion for us, and in thanks-giv - ing, let



us sing: O Foun - tain of mercy and Harbor of sal - va - tion,



O Lord, glo - ry to you!

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

**Aposticha doxastikon of the Annunciation - Tone 4 samohlasen**



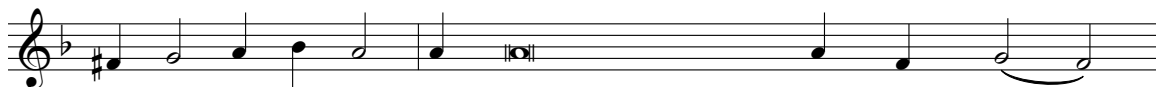
To - day is the joy of the annun-ci - a - tion and the feast of vir-gin - i - ty!



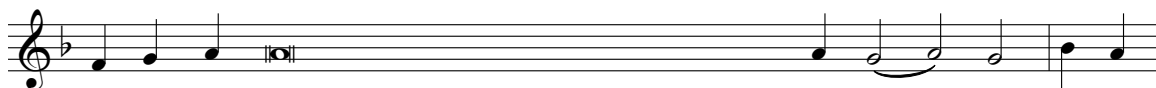
The creatures of the earth unite with those of heav - en. Ad - am is renewed and Eve



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 announc-es this mir - a - cle.



The vir - ginal womb re - ceives the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it is sent down



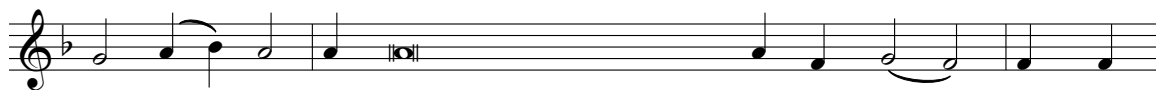
and the Father on high is well pleased. Through the u - niversal will, reconciliation



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*

## Troparia

*The troparion of the feast 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.

*Blessing of Bread, p. 119.*