O blessed John, the Master’s friend, The Forerunner of Christ,
You spring from parents’ barren loins, The Master’s garden chaste,
First came the lamp, and then the Light; First voice, and then the Word.

At Jordan’s stream, you touched the head Beyond all nature’s price.
The Baptist of the Christ, our Lord, And glory of our race.
The Bridegroom’s friend, and then the Groom; His endless cry is heard:

By your sincere and constant pray’r, Raise my soul to the Lord,
We praise you, great Forerunner John, O guardian of our life:
Repent, O people, change your ways, The Bridegroom will appear!

Put out the flames of passion’s fire That Christ be e’er adored.
Repel the Serpent’s fierce attacks Defend us in all strife.
Cast sin aside, and safely bide, Seek Christ in faith and fear!
Prophet and fore-runner of the coming of Christ, although we honor you with love, we cannot give you worthy praise. Through your glorious and holy birth, your mother was freed from barrenness and your father from the loss of speech, and the incarnation of the Son of God is proclaimed to the world.

Cantor

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and for ever. Amen.

Kontakion - Tone 3

Today, she who once was barren gives birth to Christ’s fore-runner. He himself is the fulfillment of all prophecy; for in the Jordan, he imposed his hand upon the Word of God whom the prophets have foretold.
and was shown to be his prophet, herald, and forerunner.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 63:11,2):

The just man will rejoice in the Lord, rejoice in the Lord

and will put his trust in him.

Verse: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to you.

Alleluia - Tone I (Luke 1:68,76):

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

Verse: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,

for he has visited and brought redemption to his people.

Verse: And you, O child, will be called prophet of the Most High.

Instead of “It is truly proper . . .”

Magnification:

Ex - tol, ex - tol, O my soul, O my soul,

the holy birth of John the Baptist and For - run - ner of Christ.
The inefable mystery of the Word of God is clearly revealed, most pure Virgin. God has taken a body from you in his compassion. Therefore, we exalt you as the Theotokos.

The just man will be remembered forever; evil news he will not fear, evil news he will not fear. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!