

**The Order of Great Compline for the
Feast of the NATIVITY of our Lord, God,
and Savior, Jesus Christ**



**Together with the Propers for the Divine
Liturgy of the Nativity, and Traditional
Hymns for the Feast in English and Slavonic**

Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh
December 2010

In the tradition of the Byzantine Rite, the night-time vigil for the feast of the Nativity consists of :

- the service of Great Compline
- the litija procession, with prayers for the world
- the service of Matins, with the Gospel of the Nativity, and the Great Doxology which begins with the words of the angels, announcing the birth of our Lord and Savior in Bethlehem: “Glory to God in the highest!”

This booklet provides that portion of the service which was printed by Father William Levkulic in 1969, bearing the title “Christ is born – Glorify Him.”

The texts used by Father Levkulic have been updated where necessary to bring them into conformity with translations officially promulgated for the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. The music has been prepared by the Metropolitan Cantor Institute, following the standard established by the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission.

Until such time as the full vigil of Christmas is officially promulgated for use in our churches, we hope that this booklet will serve as a useful replacement for Monsignor Levkulic's service book. To that aim, the other materials in the previous booklet – the propers for the Divine Liturgy of Christmas Day, and a selection of carols and hymns in English and Slavonic – have also been included.

See the website of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute for more information about the services for the Nativity and their music:

www.metropolitancantorinstitute.org

The icon image on the cover is taken from the Roman edition of the Ruthenian *Časoslov* (1950).

The Celebrant, vested in bright epitrachilion and phelonion, incenses the Holy Table, Icon Screen, the whole church, and the people. The deacon precedes him with a lighted candle. The Celebrant then stands before the Holy Doors, holding the censer. The deacon stands to his right and says:

Deacon: Give the command!.

People: Rev-'rend Fa-ther, give the bles-sing!

or if there is no deacon:

People: In the name of the Lord, Fa-ther, give the bles-sing!

While making the sign of the cross with the censer, the celebrant says:

Celebrant: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, always, now and ever and forever.

Response: A - men.

Come let us worship our King and God.

Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.

Come, let us worship and bow down before the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and **our** God.

Then the people chant the psalms of Great Compline. (Three of the six appointed psalms are given here). The psalms may be chanted antiphonally - that is, one side of the church taking the first verse, and the other side of the church the next verse, and so on. The deacon returns to the altar.

Psalm 4

Joyful confidence in the Lord

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;
from anguish you released me, have mercy **and** hear me!
O men, how long will your hearts be closed,
will you love what is futile and seek what **is** false?

It is the Lord who grants favors to those whom he loves;
the Lord hears me whenever **I** call him.
Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still.
Make justice your sacrifice, and trust in **the** Lord.

“What can bring us happiness?” many say.
We have been signed, O Lord, with the light of **your** face.
You have put into my heart a greater joy
than they have from abundance of wheat, wine, **and** oil.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell **in** safety.

Psalm 6

Prayer in times of trial

Lord, do not reprove me in your anger;
punish me not in **your** rage.
Have mercy on me, Lord, I have no strength;
Lord, heal me, my body is racked;
my soul is racked **with** pain.

But you, O Lord, how long?
Return, Lord, rescue **my** soul.
Save me, O Lord, in your merciful love;
for in death no one remembers you;
from the grave, who can give **you** praise?

I am exhausted with my groaning;
every night I drench my pillow with tears;
I bedew my bed **with** weeping.
My eye wastes away with grief;
I have grown old surrounded by **my** foes.

Leave me, all you who do evil;
for the Lord has heard **my** weeping.
The Lord has heard my plea;
The Lord will accept **my** prayer.

All my foes will retire in confusion,
foiled and suddenly *con*founded.

Psalm 12

Prayer of a sorrowful man

How long, O Lord, will you forget me?
How long will you hide *your* face?
How long must I bear grief in my soul,
this sorrow in my heart day *and* night?

How long shall my enemy prevail?
Look at me, answer me, Lord *my* God!
Give light to my eyes lest I fall asleep in death,
lest my enemy say: "I have overcome him";
lest my foes rejoice to see *my* fall.

As for me, I trust in your merciful love.
Let my heart rejoice in your *saving* help:
Let me sing to the Lord for his goodness to me,
singing psalms to the name of the Lord, the *Most* High.

And again:

Look at me, answer me, Lord my God!
Give light to my eyes lest I fall asleep in death,
lest my enemy say: "I have *over*come him."

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
Now and ever and forever. *Amen*.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, *O* God! (*reverence*)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, *O* God! (*reverence*)

And the last time, all sing together:

reverence

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to you, O God!

God is with us

The faithful STAND. The clergy sing the following hymn using the first melody, and the people repeat it using the second melody. The people then sing the hymn as a refrain after each verse that the celebrant (or, in some places, the cantor) intones.

①

God is with us! Un - der - stand, all you na - tions,

and sub - mit your - selves for God is with us!

②

God is with us! Un - der - stand, all you na - tions,

and sub - mit your - selves for God is with us!

Verses:

Give ear all you distant lands, for God is with us. (1)

You mighty ones, submit yourselves, for God is with us. (2)

If you strengthen yourselves again, again you will be defeated, for God is with us. (1)

Form a plan, but the Lord will thwart it, for God is with us. (2)

Whatever word you speak will not stand even among yourselves, for God is with us. (1)

We will not fear what you fear nor shall we be dismayed, for God is with us. (2)

Hallow the Lord our God and He will be your fear, for God is with us. (1)

If you trust in Him, He will be your refuge, for God is with us. (2)

We will hope in Him and by Him will we be saved, for God is with us. (1)

Here am I with the children God has given me, for God is with us. (2)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, for God is with us. (1)

Upon you who dwelt in the shadow of death a light has shone, for God is with us. (1)

For a child is born to us; a son is given to us, for God is with us. (2)

Upon His shoulder dominion rests, for God is with us. (1)

Of His peace there is no end, for God is with us. (2)

They call Him Angel of Great Counsel, for God is with us. (1)

Wonderful Counselor, for God is with us. (2)

Mighty God, Master, Prince of Peace, for God is with us. (1)

Father of the age to come, for God is with us. (2)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, for God is with us. (1)

Now and ever and forever. Amen, for God is with us. (2)

Then the clergy (or cantors) sing "God is with us" once more to the first melody, and the people repeat it using the second melody.

Then the people sing the troparion and kontakion of the Nativity:

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!

Cantor

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - - - men.

Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3

To - day the Vir - gin gives birth to the Tran - scen - dent One; and the earth
of - fers a cave to the Un - ap - proach - a - ble. The an - gels sing his glory

with the shep - herds; the wise men jour - ney with the star.

The e - ter - nal God is born for us as an in - fant child.

Litija

At this point in the service, the clergy, servers and people go in procession to the narthex (porch or vestibule of the church) to pray for the needs of the whole world. The celebrant takes the hand cross, and the deacon the censer. (If there is no deacon, a server takes the censer.) The celebrant and deacon go around the Holy Table, then through the Royal Doors, and through the center of the Church to the narthex, followed by the servers and people. The Hymns of the Litija are sung during this procession:

By tradition, the Bolhar or Bulgarian melodies are used for these hymns. For settings of these hymns to the samohlasen melodies, see pages 21-22


Tone 1 Bolhar

May heav - en and earth re - joice pro - phet - ic - ly this day. May an - gels

and people spirit - ual - ly cel - e - brate, for God ap - peared in the flesh

to those grop - ing in the darkness 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 us from hos - tile bond - age.

Cantor



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

All


Tone 5 Bolhar




The Per - sian Magi clearly recog - nized 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

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Tone 6 samohlasen

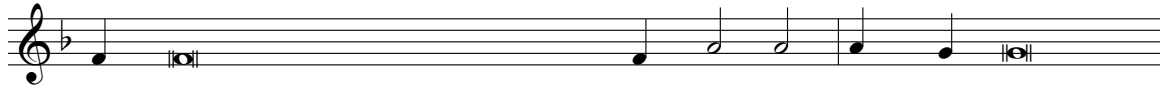
An-gels re-joyce in heav-en, and peo-ple ex-ult to - day, and all crea - tures
 leap with joy be - cause of the birth of the Lord and Savior in Beth - le - hem; for
 all deceit of i - dol - at - ry has ceased, and Christ reigns for - ev - er.

Then the deacon (or the celebrant, if there is no deacon) censens the people, and intones the Litany of the Litija:

Deacon: Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance. Watch over your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the strength of true Christians and send down upon us your abundant mercies. Through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable and heavenly angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious prime apostles Peter and Paul whose feast we gloriously celebrate today; of the other holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyr Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo; of our blessed fathers and confessors Paul, bishop of Prešov; and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of our other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, of the holy _____, patron of this church; of the holy _____

(*saint of the day*), and of all the saints; we beseech you, all-merciful Lord, hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.

Response:



Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,



have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. (*Sing this twice.*)

Deacon: Again we pray for our Holy Father (*Name*), pope of Rome, for his health and salvation, and that the Lord God may hasten and assist him in everything; O Lord, hear and have mercy.

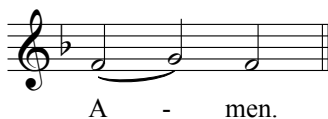
Response: "Lord, have mercy", *twelve times, as above.*

Deacon: Again we pray for our most reverend metropolitan (*Name*), for our God-loving bishop (*Name*); for our spiritual fathers and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ, and for every Christian soul that is troubled and afflicted and in need of God's mercy and help; for the protection of this city and those who dwell here; for the peace and serenity of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God; for the salvation and assistance of our fathers and brothers and sisters who labor and serve with diligence and fear of God; for those who are absent and for those who are traveling; for the healing of those who are confined by illness; for the repose, blessed memory, and remission and forgiveness of sins of all our true-believing fathers and brothers and sisters who have gone before us; and for all our brothers and sisters who are present at these services; and for all who have served and now serve in this holy church, let us say:

Response: "Lord, have mercy", *twelve times, as above.*

Celebrant: Hear us, O God our Savior, hope of the ends of the earth and of those far off at sea, and be merciful to us, O merciful Master, on account of our sins, and have mercy on us. For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



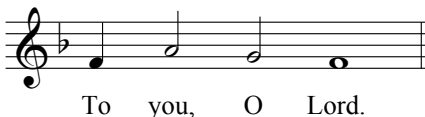
Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Response:



Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Response:



Celebrant: All-merciful Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, make our prayer acceptable: through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly, and angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyr Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo; of our blessed fathers and confessors Paul, bishop of Prešov; and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of our other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints; grant us remission of our faults; shelter us under the shadow of your wings; drive far from us every enemy and adversary and make our life peaceful. Lord, have mercy on us and on your world and save our souls, for you are good and you love us all.

Response:



A - men.

The clergy, servers, and people make their way in procession back into the nave of the church, as the hymns of the Aposticha (below) are sung. The clergy and servers stand at the tetrapod.

Aposticha

Tone 2 samohlasen

①

A great and glo - ri - ous mir - a - cle was wrought to day: the Vir - gin
gives birth without corrupting her vir - gin - i - ty; the Word is made flesh without
separa - tion from the Fa - ther; the an - gels and shepherds give praise, and we
ex - claim with them: Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace on earth.


Cantor

From eternity you have been born of my womb, vows the Lord who does not
re - pent.

Tone 3 samohlasen

②

Today the Vir - gin gives birth to the Crea - tor of all, Par - a - dise of - fers



a cave, and a star presents Christ as the Sun in dark - ness; the Ma-gi with their



gifts, enlightened by faith, a - dore; the shep-herds be-hold a mir - a - cle,

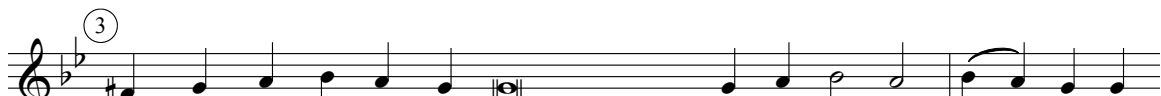


while the an - gels ex - claim: Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

Cantor



The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand.



When the Lord Je - sus was born in Bethlehem of Ju - de - a, the Ma-gi,



com - ing from the East, a-dored God made man, and unfolding their treasures,



they brought pre - cious gifts: the pu-rest of gold as to the e-ter-nal King;



and in-cense as to the God of all; and myrrh as to the immortal dead of

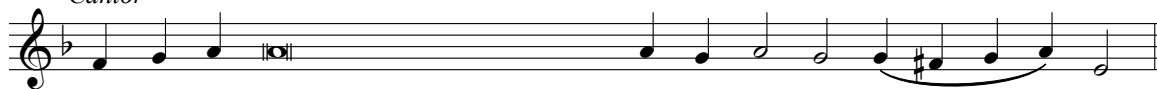


three days. Come all na-tions, let us a - dore him who is born



to save our souls.

Cantor



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

All

Tone 4 samohlasen



Re-joyce, Je - ru - sa - lem; ex - ult, all those who love Zi - on. To - day



the tempo-rar - y bond of Ad - am's condemna-tion is dis - solved; Par - a - dise



is o - pened to us, and the ser-pent is crushed; for woman, whom he first de-ceived,



he now perceives as mother of the Cre - a - tor. O a - byss of divine




wealth, wis-dom, and in - tel - lect! She, who had been a sinful vessel conveying death



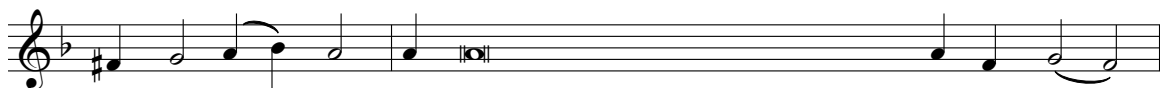
to all flesh, has be - come through the The-o - to - kos the means




of salvation to the whole u - ni - verse; for of her is born a Child, ever-per - fect




God, whose birth con-firms vir - gin - i - ty, loos-'ning the bonds of sins



with swad-dling clothes, and, through his infancy, healing Eve's care-lad - en pains.



May the whole u - niverse exult and leap with joy, for Christ has come



to re - gen - er - ate it and to save our souls.

Cantor




Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

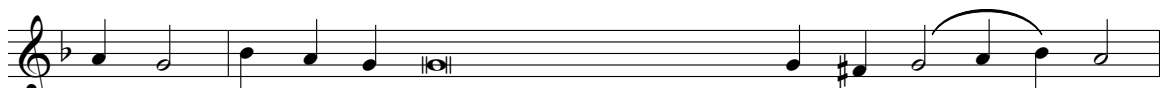
All




You have dwelt in a cave, O Christ God, and a man - ger re - ceived you;



the shepherds and the Ma-gi a - dored you. Then were the predictions of proph - ets



ful - filled; and an - gel - ic powers stood amazed, sing - ing and say - ing:



Glo - ry to your con - de - scen - sion, for you a - lone love all cre - a - tion.

The faithful **STAND** while they (or according the local custom, the celebrant) sing the

The Prayer of the Holy Prophet Simeon

Now you may dis - miss your serv - ant, O Lord,
in peace, ac - - - cord - ing to your word; for
my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all peo - ple:
a light for re - ve - la - tion to the Gen - tiles, and the glo - ry
of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Three times

Ho - ly God! Ho - ly and Might - y! Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal,
have mer - cy on us.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen.*

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our transgressions;
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for **your** name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, **have** mercy.

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us **from** evil.

Celebrant: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and
Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:  A - men.

The Troparion of the Nativity is now sung three times while the Celebrant incenses the four sides of the tetrapod, on which has been placed bread, wheat, wine, and oil.

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!

Blessing of Bread

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

Lord, have mer - cy.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ our God, you blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and fed the five thousand. Likewise bless these loaves, wheat, wine, and oil, and multiply them in this city and through your whole world. Sanctify your faithful who will partake of them, for you yourself bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you with your eternal Father and your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

A - - - men.

The celebrant now sings the following:

Bless - ed be the name of the Lord, now and for - ev - er,

And the people respond with:

Bless - ed be the name of the Lord, now and for - ev - er,

Bless - ed be the name of the Lord, now and for - ev - er.

The cantor and faithful chant Psalm 33:

Psalm 33

I will bless the Lord at all times,
 his praise always on *my* lips;
 in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
 The humble shall hear and *be* glad.

Glorify the Lord with me.
 Together let us praise *his* name.
 I sought the Lord and he answered me;
 from all my terrors he set *me* free.

Look towards him and be radiant;
 let your faces not be *abashed*.
 This poor man called; the Lord heard him
 and rescued him from all *his* distress.

The angel of the Lord is encamped
 around those who revere him, *to* rescue them.
 Taste and see that the Lord is good.
 He is happy who seeks refuge *in* him.

Revere the Lord, you his saints.
 They lack nothing, those who *revere* him.
 Strong lions suffer want and go hungry
 but those who seek the Lord lack *no* blessing.

Celebrant: The blessing of the Lord be upon you through his grace and loving-kindness,
 always, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!

Response:



Give the bless - ing.

Celebrant: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

Response:



A - men.

O God, strengthen the true faith
forever *and* ever.

Celebrant: O most holy Theotokos, save us!

Response:

More honorable than the cherubim,
and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim,
who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word,
you, truly the Theotokotos, we *magnify*.

Celebrant: Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope; glory to you!

Response:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen*.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Give *the* blessing.

Celebrant:

May Christ our true God, who for our salvation deigned to be born in a
cave in Bethlehem of Judea and lay in a manger, have mercy on us and
save us ... for Christ is good and loves us all.

Response:



A - - - - - men.

Hymns of the Litija (samohlasen melodies)

Tone 1 samohlasen

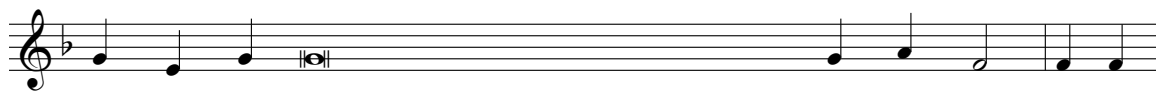
May heav - en and earth re - joice pro - phet - ic - 'ly this day. May an - gels
and people spirit-ual - ly cel - e - brate, for God ap-peared in the flesh
to those groping in the darkness and resting in a shad - ow. Hav-ing been
born of a Vir - gin, a cave and a man-ger re - ceived him. Shep-herds re - late
a mir - a - cle; the Ma - gi from the East bring gifts to Beth - le - hem, while we,
with unworthy lips, render 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.

Cantor



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

Tone 5 samohlasen



The Per - sian Magi clearly recognized the heavenly 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 E - ter - nal One, ly - ing as a Child, in the cave.

Continue with "Now and ever" at the top of page 9.

Divine Liturgy propers, December 25
Nativity of Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ

First Antiphon

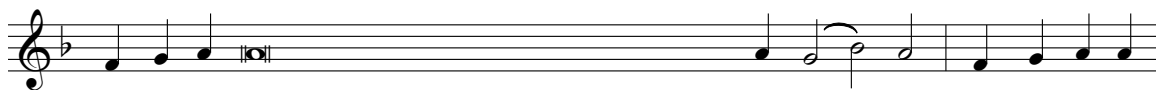


I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart; I shall de-clare all your won-drous deeds.

Refrain:



Through the pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos, O Sav - ior, save us.



Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it, now and ev-er

Refrain:



and for - ev - er. A - men. Through the pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos,



O Sav - ior, save us.

Second Antiphon



Hap - py the man who fears the Lord and great - ly de - lights in his com - mands.

Refrain:



O Son of God, born of the Vir - gin, save us who sing to you:



Al - le - lu - - - ia!

Third Antiphon

The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand till I make your
en - e - mies your foot - stool.

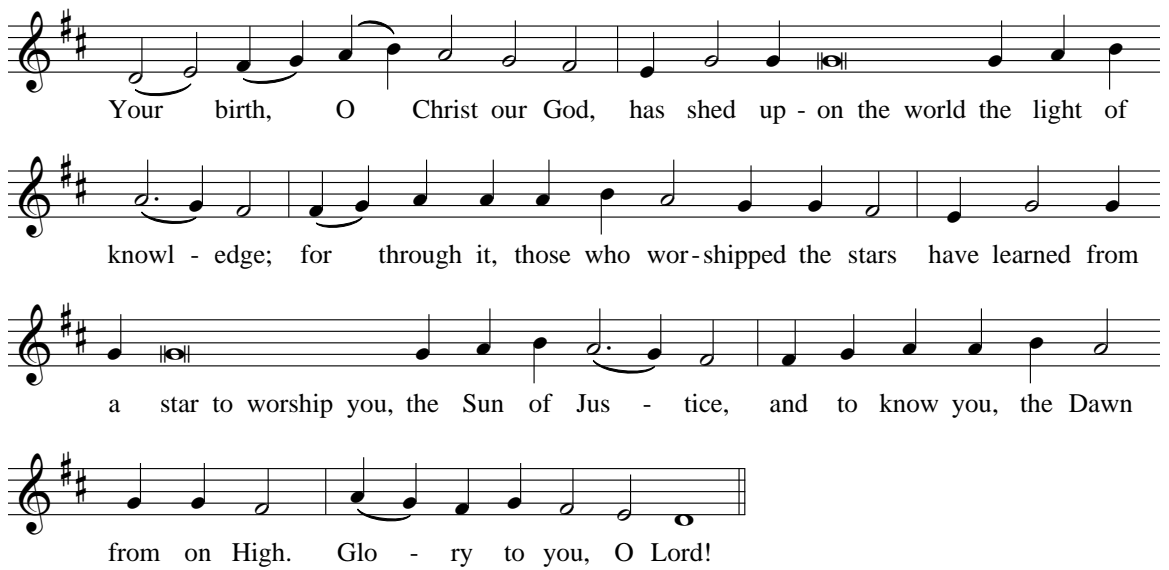
Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4

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!

Entrance Hymn - Tone 4

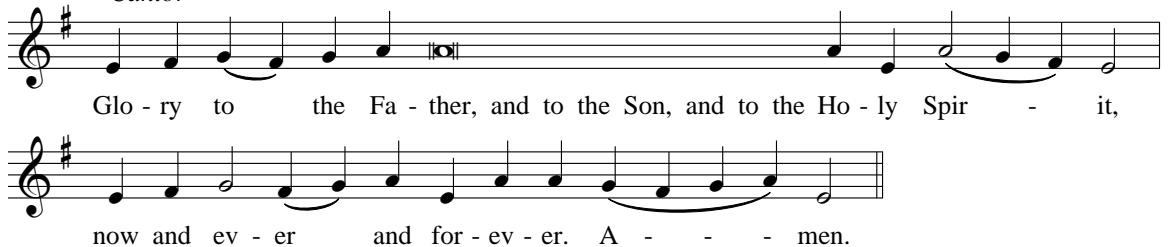
From the womb, be - fore the morning star, I have be - got - ten you. The Lord has
sworn and he will not re-pent: You are a priest for-ev - er ac - cording to the
or - der of Mel-chi - ze - dek.

Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4



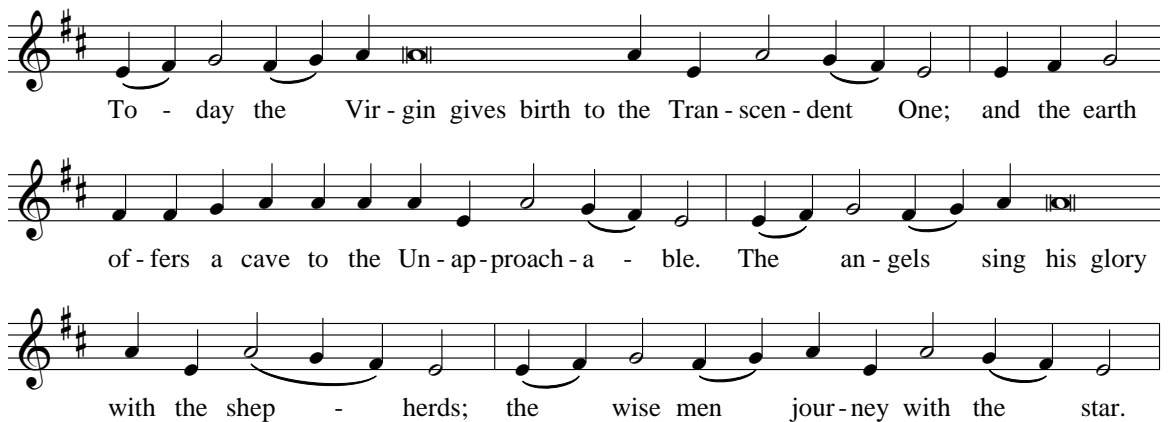
Your birth, O Christ our God, has shed up - on the world the light of
knowl - edge; for through it, those who wor-shipped the stars have learned from
a star to worship you, the Sun of Jus - tice, and to know you, the Dawn
from on High. Glo - ry to you, O Lord!

Cantor



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - - - men.

Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3



To - day the Vir - gin gives birth to the Tran - scen - dent One; and the earth
of - fers a cave to the Un - ap - proach - a - - ble. The an - gels sing his glory
with the shep - herds; the wise men jour - ney with the star.



The e - ter - nal God is born for us as an in - fant child.

Instead of "Holy God"

Three times:

Rusyn chant



All you who have been bap - tized in - to Christ have been clothed



with Christ. Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to the Fa - ther,



and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - - - it,



now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - - - men. Have been



clothed with Christ. Al - le - lu - - - ia! *D.C. al Fine*

Or this melody:

Three times:

Galician chant



All you who have been bap-tized in - to Christ have been clothed with Christ.



Al - le - lu - - - ia! Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly

Spir-it, now and ever and forev-er. A-men. Have been clothed with Christ.

Al - le - lu - - - ia! *D.C. al Fine*

Prokeimenon - Tone 8 (Psalm 65:4,1,2):

Let all the earth wor-ship you and sing praise to you; let ev - ry - one

sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Verse: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth;
sing praise to his name, give to him glorious praise.

Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 18:2,3):

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

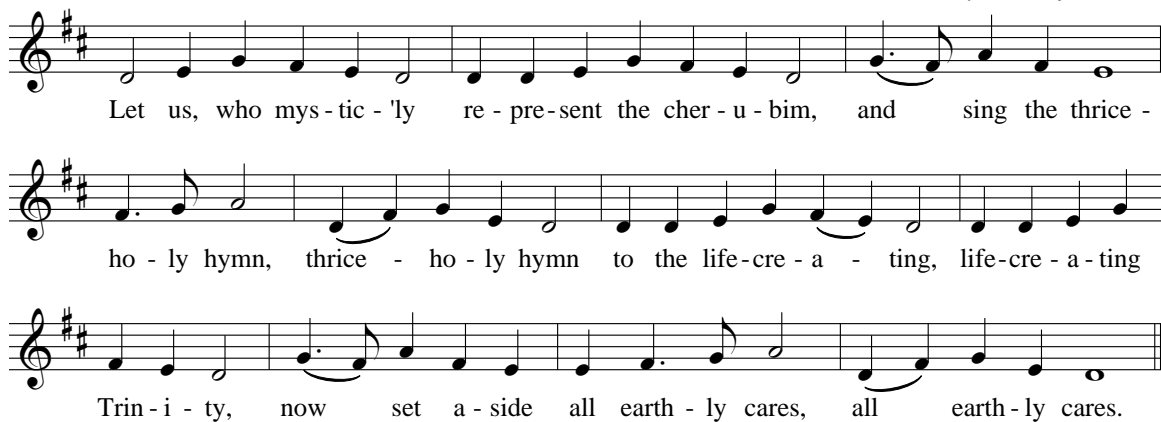
Al - le - lu - - - ia!

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Verse: Day unto day pours out the word and night unto night imparts knowledge.

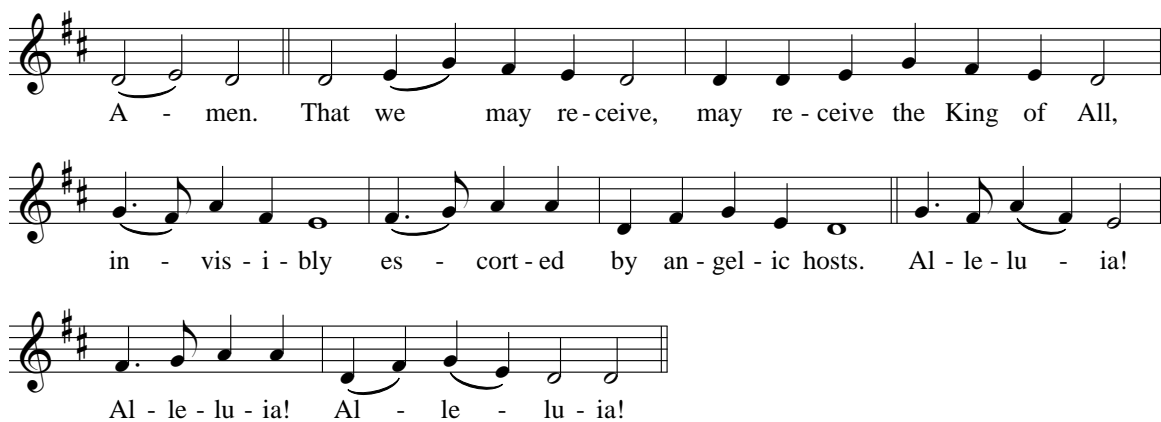
Cherubic Hymn

melody: Divnaja novina



Let us, who mys - tic - ly re - pre - sent the cher - u - bim, and sing the thrice -
ho - ly hymn, thrice - ho - ly hymn to the life - cre - a - ting, life - cre - a - ting
Trin - i - ty, now set a - side all earth - ly cares, all earth - ly cares.

After the commemorations:



A - men. That we may re - ceive, may re - ceive the King of All,
in - vis - i - bly es - cort - ed by an - gel - ic hosts. Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Anamnesis Acclamation



We praise you, we bless you, we thank you, O Lord, and we pray to you,
our God, pray to you, our God.

Angels From Heaven

So nebes Anhel

NATIVITY



1. An - gels from heav - en came to you shep - herds.
2. There in a man - ger, you will be - hold Him,
3. So close be - side Him, Mar - y His moth - er;
1. So *ne - bes An - hel* *pri - šed - še ko vam,*
2. *U - zri - te Sy - na* *Bož - ja rož - den - na*
3. *Pri - nem jest' Ma - ti,* *Je - ho pre - či - sta*



Have no fear! Have no fear! Has - ten to hon - or Him,
Son of God. Son of God. Child whose hu - mil - i - ty
Vir - gin pure! Vir - gin pure! Soothed by her gen - tle hands,
Pa - sty - r'i, *pa - sty - r'i.* *Do Vif - le - je - ma*
Vo jas - lach, *vo jas - lach.* *On bu - det vs'im vam*
Ma - ri - ja, *Ma - ri - ja.* *Mež - du by - dl'a - ty,*

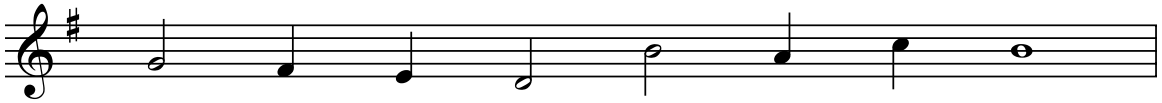


born near in Beth - le - hem; Of - fer gifts though poor and small.
veils His di - vin - i - ty, Our true Sav - ior, Christ the Lord.
while beasts in won - der stand, Her true Son, yet Son of God.
hrja - d'i - te sko - ro, *S da - ra - mi,* *s da - ra - mi.*
Ot - ku - pi - te - lem, *Na - i - st'i,* *na - i - st'i.*
Pi - ta - jet Je - ho, *Jak Sy - na,* *jak Sy - na.*

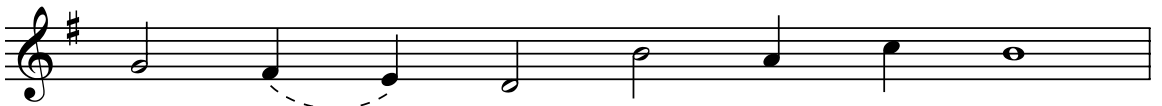
Eternal God

Boh predv'ičnyj narodilsja

NATIVITY



1. E - ter - nal God, through gates of birth,
2. Beth - le - hem's child, born in a cave;
1. Boh pred - v'ič - nyj na - ro - dil - sja:
2. V Vif - le - je - mi na - ro - dil - sja:



From heav - en's throne came down to earth.
Mes - si - - - ah sent here to save.

(this line of music not sung in Slavonic)



Shep - herds a - dore, an - gels sing;
Des - tined to make sac - ri - fice;
Prij - šol dnes', so ne - bes,
Me - si - - - ja Chri - stos naš



Star shines on the new - born King. Je - sus Christ is born.
On - ly God could pay such price For the fall of man.
A - by spas l'ud svoj v ves', I u - t'i - šil - sja.
I Pan naš dl'a vs'ich nas, Nam na - ro - dil - sja.

God the Lord Eternal

Hospod' Boh predviènyj

NATIVITY



1. God the Lord e - ter - nal Shows Him - self to us.
2. Shep - herds in their pas - tures Hear the joy - ful sto - ry.
1. Ho - spod' Boh pred - vič - nyj Ny - ñi nam ja - vil - sja.
2. Tu - ju pišň na po - l'i Pas - tyr - jam ho - lo - sjať,



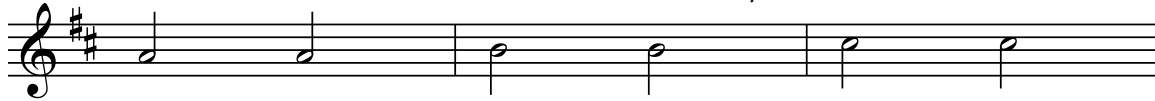
Born in hum - ble man - ger from a vir - gin spot - less.
Kings and poor to - geth - er At the crib of glo - ry.
Z ne - po - roč - noj D'i - vy V jas - lach na - ro - dil - sja.
Vs'ich l'u - dej u - bo - hich So ver - te - pa pros - jat'.



Choirs of an - gels joy - ful - ly sing:
So they may hon - or this new - born King,
Cho - ry an - hel - ski spi - va - jut'
Čtob Ī - su - su čest' voz - dal - i



Wel - come to this new - born King.
Rais - ing voic - es, glo - rious - ly sing:
Na - rož - den - na - ho vi - ta - jut':
I ve - se - lo za - spi - va - li:



Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry!
Sla - va! Sla - va! Sla - va!



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
Sla - va v vyš - nich Bo - hu.

God's Son is Born

Boh sja raždajet

NATIVITY



God's Son is born, but a mys - t'ry to our mind.
Boh sja raž - da - jet, ktož Ho mo - žet zna - ti,



Je - sus, His name, means the Sav - ior of man-kind.
I - sus Mu im - ja, Ma - ri - ja Mu ma - ti.



Now the an - gels sing their pray'r, Mak - ing known this Child so fair.
Tut An - he - ly ču - d'at - sja, Rož - den - na - ho bo - jat' - sja.



Shep herds hear the an - gels' song, Come and keep watch all night long.
A vol sto - jit' trja - set - sja, o - sel smut - no pa - set - sja.



Sheep and ox - en gaze and warm this new-born Babe; For
Pa - sti - ri - je kl'a - čut, v plo - ti Bo - ha ba - čut',



all cre - a - tion knows this is their Lord.
Tu - tže, tu - tže, tu - tže, tu - tže, tut!

Heaven and Earth

Nebo i zeml'a

NATIVITY

1. Heav - en and earth, heav - en and earth
2. In Beth - le - hem, in Beth - le - hem
1. Ne - bo i zem - l'a, ne - bo i zem - l'a
2. Vo Vif - le - je - mi, vo Vif - le - je - mi

now wel - come their Re - deem - er. An - gels and peo - ple,
God's Word is giv - en birth. Born of a vir - gin,
Ny - ňi tor - žest - vu - jut'. An - hel - y l'u - de,
Ve - se - la no - vi - na, Či - sta - ja D'i - va,

an - gels and peo - ple join in a cel - e - bra - tion.
born of a vir - gin, Mas - ter of heav'n and earth.
an - hel - y l'u - de Ve - se - lo spraz - dnu - jut'.
či - sta - ja D'i - va Po - ro - di - la Sy - na.

Sal - va - tion is be - gun, born is the Vir - gin's Son;
Chri - stos ro - dil - sja, Boh vo - plo - til - - - sja,

An - gel voic - es ring - ing, Wise men gifts are bring - ing;
An - he - ly spi - va - jut', Ca - ri - je vi - ta - jut,

Shep - herds tell the sto - ry; star pro - claims the glo - ry;
Po - klon ot - da - jut', pa - sty - ri - je hra - jut',

Christ is born in Beth - - - le - hem.
Ču - do, ču - do po - vi - da - jut'.

In the Town of Bethlehem

V Viflejemi novina

NATIVITY



1. In the town of Beth - le-hem Mar - y's Son is born a King.
2. In a cave at Beth - le-hem, Bed of straw His roy - al throne.
1. V Vif - le - jem - i no - vi - na, D'i - va Sy - na po - ro - di - la,
2. Po - lo - ži - la na s'i - ňi V Vif - le - jem - skoj ja - ski - ňi.



Born to bless us and to save us
Mar - y won - dered, Jo - seph pon - dered
Po - ro - di - la v bla - ho - da - ti,
Jo - sif D'i - vu po - t'i - ša - je,



And to lead all men to God, O Sav - ior.
How the Child was Son of God, the Sav - ior.
Ne - po - roč - na D'i - va Ma - ti, Ma - ri - ja.
Po - vi - va - ti po - mo - ha - je, Ma - ri - ji.

Jesus Came From Heaven

Spas naš narodilsja

NATIVITY



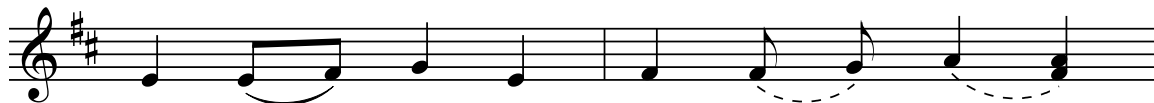
Je - sus came from heav-en, Ad - am's son through birth.
Spas naš na - ro - dil - sja V t'i - l'i Boh ja - vil - sja.



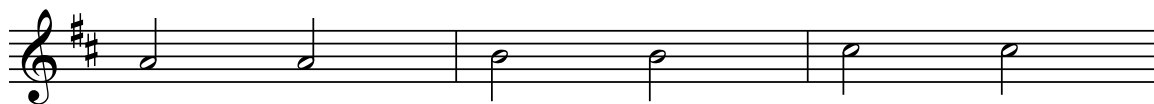
Just a low - ly sta - ble, A King's pal - ace on earth.
Chot' On ne - vmi - sti - myj, V jas - l'ach po - mi - stil - sja.



Choirs of an - gels joy - ful - ly sing:
Cho - ry an - hel - ski spi - va - jut'



Wel - come to this new - born King.
Na - rož - den - na - ho vi - ta - jut':



Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry!
Sla - va! Sla - va! Sla - va!



Glo - ry to God in the high - - - est.
Sla - va v vyš - nich Bo - - - hu.

Joyful News

Nova radost' stala

NATIVITY



1. Joy - ful news to the whole world: Christ is born to re - deem men.
 2. Roy - al born in a sta - ble' Born to be King of all kings.
 3. An - gels came to the shep - herds Sing - ing this won - drous sto - ry.
 1. *No - va ra - dost' sta - la, Ja - ka ne by - va - la,*
 2. *An - he - ly spi - va - jut' "Sla - va" vos - kli - ca - jut'.*
 3. *Kol' Chri - stos ro - dil - sja, Z D'i - vy vo - plo - til - sja,*



Bril - liant star shines in the heav - ens
 He was wrapped in swad - dling cloth - ing
 Heav'n and earth re - sound - ed loud - ly:
Nad ver - te - pom, zviz - da jas - na
Na ne - be - si, i na zem - li
Jak če - lo - vik pe - le - na - mi



Lead - ing kings to Beth - le - hem.
 To be like us in all things.
 Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - - - ry!
Svit - lo za - si - ja - - - la.
Ra - dost' voz - vi - šča - - - jut'.
U - bo - ho po - vil - - - sja.

Joyful Tidings Come Our Way

Radost' nam sja javl'ajet

NATIVITY



1. Joy - ful tid - ings come our way; Je - sus Christ is born to - day.
2. Jo - seph lend your lov - ing care, Guard this Child and moth - er fair.
1. Ra - dost' nam sja jav - l'a - jet D'i - va Sy - na raž - da - jet,
2. Ty Jo - si - fe sta - reñ - kij, Pa - će Ī - sus ma - leñ - kij!



Heav - ens sing, shep - herds told, Wise men bring gifts of gold.
Won - drous night, ho - ly night; N'er be - fore star so bright.
Ne - be - sa, ne - be - sa, ne - be - sa Po - jut', po - jut'.
Po - ma - haj, po - ma - haj, po - ma - haj, Je - ho, Je - ho,



An - gels kneel in a - - - do - ra - - - tion;
An - gels sing a sal - - - u - ta - - - tion
An - hel - y sja u - - - div - l'a - - - jut'
Či - stoj D'i - vi ko - - - ly - sa - - - ti,



Crea - tures hushed in con - - - tem - pla - - - tion.
To the Mas - ter of Cre - a - - - tion.
Pa - sty - ri - je po - - - klon da - - - jut',
I pišň Je - mu za - - - spi - va - - - ti:



Hail the new - born King.
Hail the new - born king.
Na - rož - den - no - mu.
L'u - l'aj, Car - ju naš!

Rejoice All Nations

Christos rodilsja, Boh voplotilsja

NATIVITY



Re-joyce all na-tions, God has be-come man In Beth-le-hem as
Chri-stos ro - dil - sja, Boh vo - plo - til - sja, Vo Vif - le - jem - skoj



was his plan. The vir - gin Mar - y pure as no oth - er
ja - ski - ňi. V staj - ňi u - bo - hoj ni - šče - ty mno - hoj,



Ac cepts God's will made known to her. The an gels sing His glo-ry.
Ve - li - ka ra - dost' nam ny - ňi. An - he - ly spi - va - jut',



The shep herds fall on their knees. Christ is born in Beth-le-hem.
Čest' Je - mu ot - da - jut' Bo - hu i Tvor - cu na - še - mu.



Let us a-dore the new-born Mes-si-ah, For He re-deemed us
Li - kuj če - lo - v'i - če, z rož - dest - va to - ho! Chri - stos bo spa - se - jet



as said I - sai - ah. Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.
z a - da duš mno - ho, I iz ne - vol' - i vra - ži - ja.

Wondrous News

Divnaja novina

NATIVITY



1. Wondrous news to all the earth; First and on - ly vir - gin birth.

2. Roy - al pal - ace not for him; Turned a - way from Beth'l'em's inn.

1. *Div - na - ja no - vi - na, Ny - ňi D'i - va Sy - na,*

2. *Ne v car - skoj pa - la - t'i. No mež - du by - dl'a - ti,*



Born in Beth - le hem, Born of Mar - y, Yet both God and man.

God had deigned it so To serve the poor, These things He must know.

Po - ro - di - la v Vif - le - je - mi Ma - ri - ja je - di - na.

Vo pu - sty - ňi, vo jas - ki - ňi, Tre - ba to vs'im zna - ti.

To Jordan's Water

THEOPHANY



1. To Jor - dan's wa - ter, to Jor - dan's wa - ter
2. Three Per - sons in God, Three Per - sons in God,
3. Saint John the Bap - tist, Saint John the Bap - tist



Christ comes to be bap - tized. John the Fore - run - ner,
Are now re - vealed to us. Fa - ther and Son,
Fore - tells re - lease to - day: The Lamb of God,



John the Fore - run - ner, Now hum - bly steps a - side.
Fa - ther and Son, Ho - ly Spir - it, One God.
The Lamb of God Will wash our sins a - way.



Christ our Lord is bap - tized. Sal - va - tion is now real - ized.



Skies of heav en o - pen, God the Fa - ther spok en, O'er the Jor - dan a Dove,



Ho - ly Spir - it of Love: Rev - e - la - tion from a - bove.

Traditional English Christmas Carols

Angels we have heard on high

Anonymous

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plain
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Hark! the herald angels sing

C. Wesley – Felix Mendelssohn

Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild;
God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies.
With angelic hosts proclaim:
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!

It came upon the midnight clear

E. Sears – R. S. Willis

It came upon the midnight clear
The glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold.
“Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heav'n's all-gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Joy to the world

Isaac Watts – G. F. Handel

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King!
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heavn', and heav'n
and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods,
rocks, hill and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

O come, all ye faithful

John F. Wade

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God in the highest.
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

O little town of Bethlehem

P. Brooks – L. H. Redner

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O, morning stars together proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God our King, and peace to men on earth.

Silent night

Joseph Mohr – Franz Gruber

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child
Holy infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace!
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia.
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born.

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from your holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at your birth!
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Troparion of the Nativity

Your birth, O Christ our God, has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; for through it, those who worshipped the stars have learned from a star to worship you, the Sun of Justice, and to know you, the Dawn from on High. Glory to you, O Lord!

Roždestvó Tvojé, Christé Bóže naš, vozsjá mírovi svít rázuma: v nem bo zv'izdám služášči zvizdóju učáhusja, Tebí kláňatisja Sólncu právdy, i Tebé víd'iti s vysotý Vostóka: Hóspodi, sláva Tebí.

Hymn of Great Compline

God is with us! Understand, all you nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

S námi Boh, rozumíjte jazýci, i pokarjájtesja: jáko s námi Boh.

Troparion of Theophany

At your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, worship of the Trinity was revealed; for the Father's voice bore witness to you, calling you his beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words. O Christ God, you appeared and enlightened the world. Glory to you!

Vo Jordáňi kreščájuščusja Tebí Hóspodi, Trójčeskoje javísja poklonénije: rodítelev bo hlas svid'ítel'stvovaše Tebí, vozl'úblennaho Ťa Sýna imenúja, i Duch v víd'i holubíňi, izvístvovaše slovesé utverždénije, javléjsja Christé Bóže, i mir prosviščěj, sláva Tebí.

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Christós raždájetsja! Slávite Jeho!