

# **Byzantine Monthly Menaion**

Volume Four: December

Metropolitan Cantor Institute  
Byzantine Catholic Seminary  
Pittsburgh, PA

## Foreword

A Menaion is a liturgical book which contains the changeable parts of Byzantine divine services for a given month. The volume in your hands is the fourth of a series of twelve books for use in Byzantine Catholic parishes. Each day is provided with the following material:

- (1) Synaxarion (brief life of the saints remembered)
- (2) Troparia and Kontakia
- (3) Prokeimena and Alleluiaria
- (4) Communion Hymn.

On major feasts, the proper antiphons (when there are any) and the Magnification and Irmos (appointed to take the place of It is truly proper) are also included.

Texts which are contained in the Faithful's Book published by the Byzantine Catholic Church are reproduced with their musical settings from that book. Those texts were translated by the Inter-Eparchial Liturgical Commission, and then set to plainchant by the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission.

Many of the Troparia contained in this volume of the Menaion are, in fact, common texts (i.e., they are used on more than one feast). These texts, too, come from the work of the IELC/IEMC, as are all the Prokeimena and Alleluiaria and Communion Hymns.

The texts of the Troparia and Kontakia that are not from the above-mentioned source are almost always taken from the Order of Matins published by the Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great, and we acknowledge these texts with gratitude.

This volume is intended to be used annually. Because of this, cantors must use the Typikon of the Metropolitan Church to discern how materials from the Menaion are to be combined with the Sunday Ochoechos. The Typikon will also explain how Prokeimena and Alleluiaria are to be combined.

May this series of volumes be a blessing for all who attend daily celebrations of the Divine Liturgy, as well as for those who, unable to be at church each day, still wish to pray with the Church and honor the Lord and his saints.

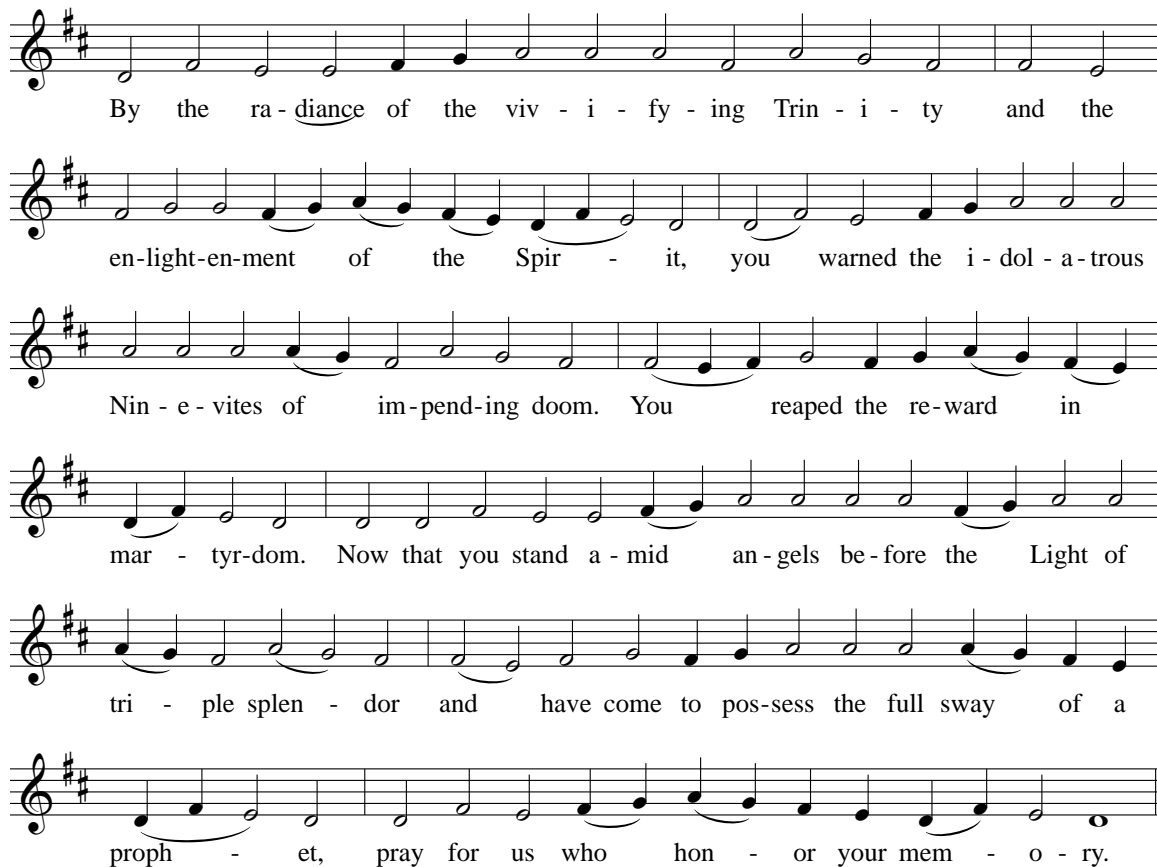
*August 28, 2005*

*Our venerable father Moses the Ethiopian and  
Our holy father Augustine, bishop of Hippo*

## MENAION - DECEMBER

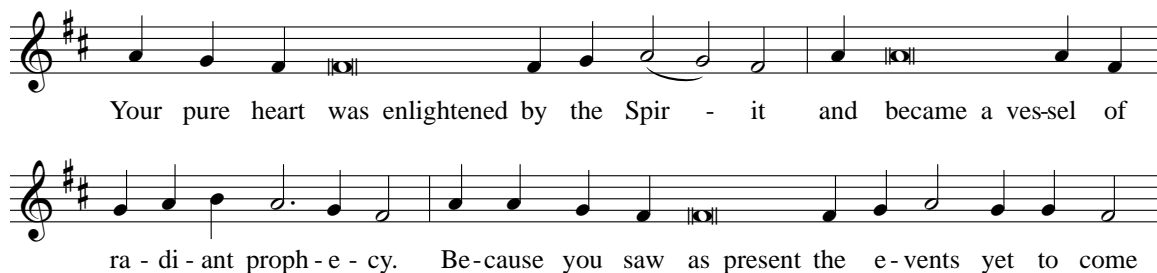
**1 The holy prophet Nahum**, who preached that God rules the course of times and judges the people with justice. **The righteous Philaret the Almsgiver**, who paupered himself that the poor of the Lord might be taken care of. (797)

### Troparion - Tone 8



By the ra-diance of the viv - i - fy - ing Trin - i - ty and the  
en-light-en-ment of the Spir - it, you warned the i - dol - a - trous  
Nin - e - vites of im-pend-ing doom. You reaped the re-ward in  
mar - tyr-dom. Now that you stand a - mid an-gels be-fore the Light of  
tri - ple splen - dor and have come to pos-sess the full sway of a  
proph - et, pray for us who hon - or your mem - o - ry.

### Kontakion - Tone 4



Your pure heart was enlightened by the Spir - it and became a ves-sel of  
ra - di - ant proph - e - cy. Be-cause you saw as present the e-vents yet to come

we honor you, O blessed and glo-ri - ous Proph - et Na - hum.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4** (Psalm 109:4,1):

You are a priest for - ev - er ac - cord - ing to the order  
of Mel-chiz - e - dek.

*Verse:* The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand till I make your enemies your footstool.

**Alleluia - Tone 5** (Psalm 98:6; 96:11):

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

*Verse:* Moses and Aaron were among his priests;  
Samuel was among those who called upon his name.

*Verse:* Light dawns for the just, and gladness for the upright of heart.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):


A

The just man will be re-mem-bered for - ev - er; e - vil news he  
*Refrain*  
will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - - ia!

**2 The holy prophet Habakkuk**, who, in the face of the iniquity and violence of the people, announced not only the judgment of the Lord, but also his mercy, saying, "But the just will live by his own faith."

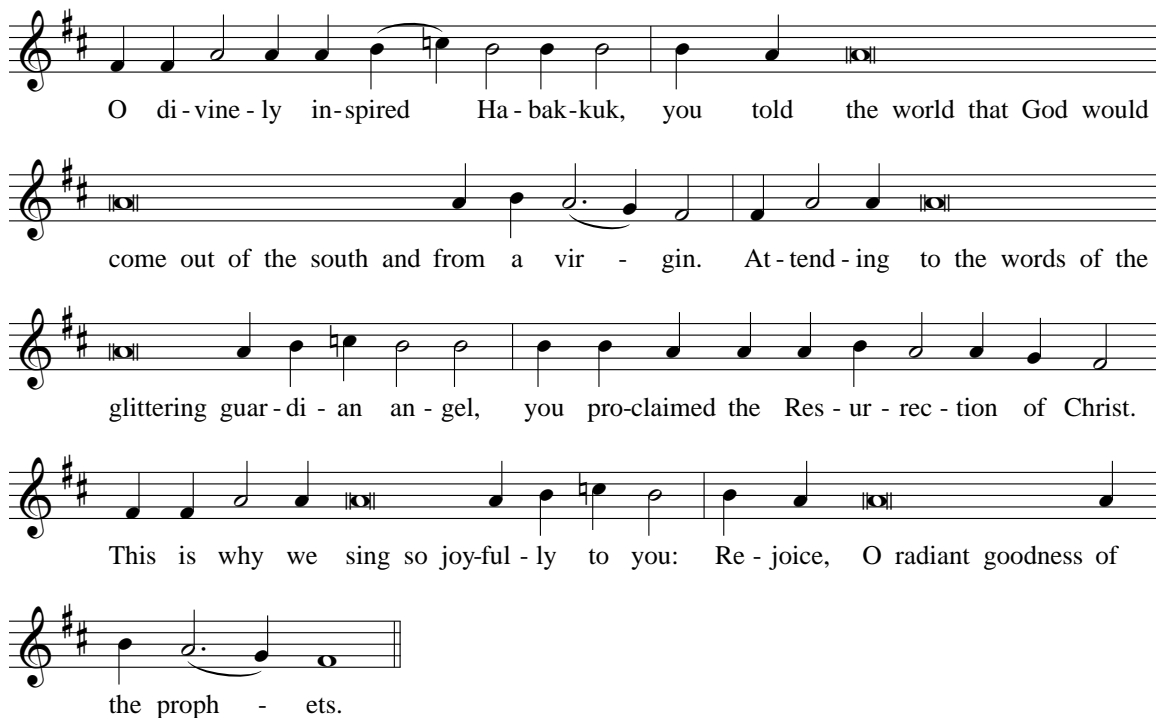
**The holy bishop and confessor John Sleziuk**. Born in Galicia in 1896, he was ordained priest in 1923. In 1945, he was ordained bishop coadjutor to Bl. Gregory Khomyshn. As it turns out, Bishop Sleziuk was arrested first in 1945 and deported for ten years' hard labor in Siberia. When released in 1954, he returned to Ivano-Frankivsk. He was arrested again in 1968, and thereafter was forced to report regularly to the KGB. (1973)

**Troparion - Tone 2:**



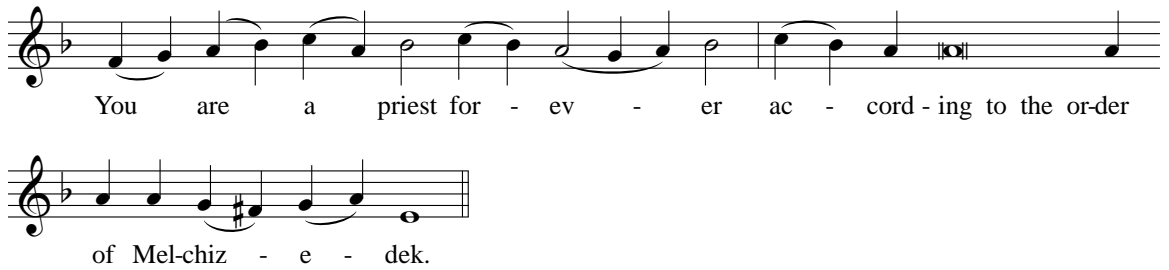
As we cel - ebrate the memory of your proph-et Ha - bak - kuk, O Lord,  
we im - plore you to save our souls through his prayers.

**Kontakion - Tone 8**



O di - vine - ly in - spired Ha - bak - kuk, you told the world that God would  
come out of the south and from a vir - gin. At - tend - ing to the words of the  
glittering guar - di - an an - gel, you pro - claimed the Res - ur - rec - tion of Christ.  
This is why we sing so joy - ful - ly to you: Re - joice, O radiant goodness of  
the proph - ets.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4** (Psalm 109:4,1):



You are a priest for - ev - er ac - cord - ing to the or - der  
of Mel - chiz - e - dek.

**Verse:** The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand till I make your enemies your footstool.

**Alleluia - Tone 5** (Psalm 98:6; 96:11):



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

**Verse:** Moses and Aaron were among his priests;  
Samuel was among those who called upon his name.

**Verse:** Light dawns for the just, and gladness for the upright of heart.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):

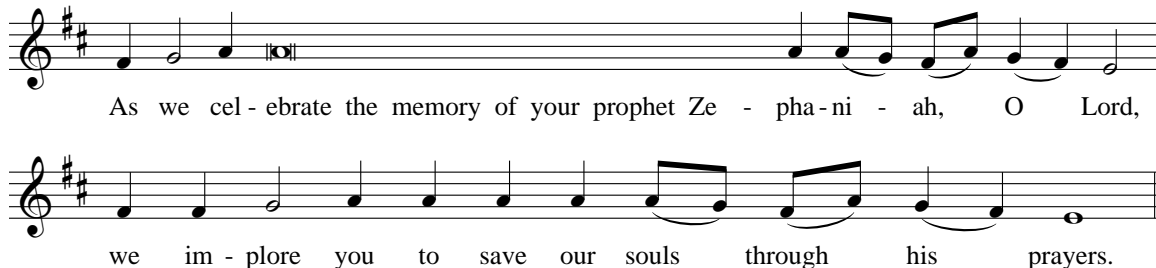
B



The just man will be re - mem - bered for - e - ver;  
e - vil news he will not fear; e - vil news he will not fear.  
*Refrain*  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - - - ia!

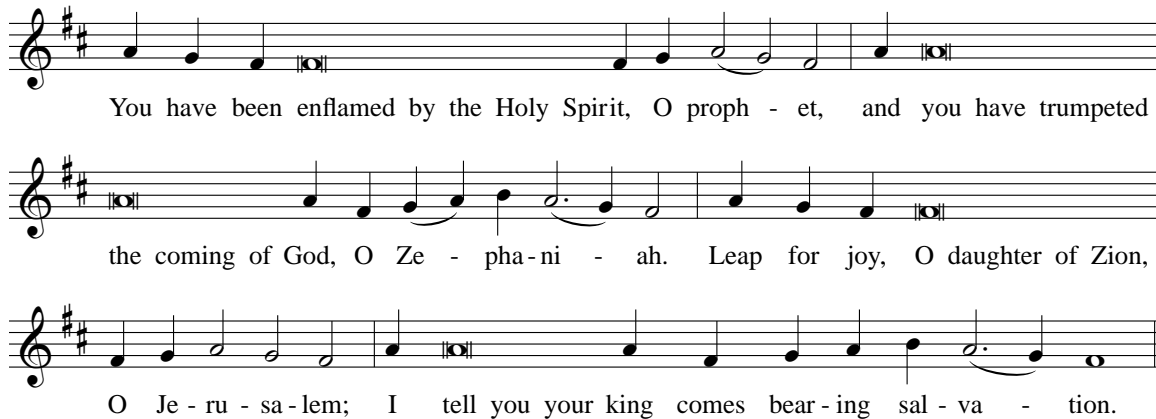
**3 The holy prophet Zephaniah**, who in the days of Josiah, king of Judah, announced the destruction of the ungodly on the day of the wrath of the Lord and strengthened the host of poor and needy people in the hope of salvation.

**Troparion - Tone 2:**



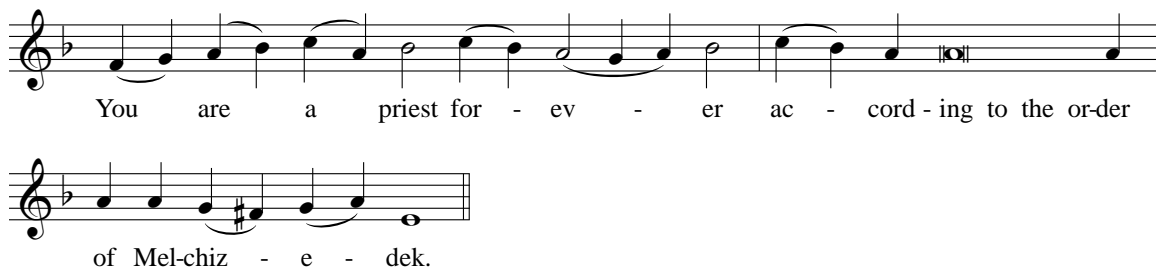
As we cel - ebrate the memory of your prophet Ze - pha-ni - ah, O Lord,  
we im - plore you to save our souls through his prayers.

**Kontakion - Tone 4**



You have been enflamed by the Holy Spirit, O proph - et, and you have trumpeted  
the coming of God, O Ze - pha-ni - ah. Leap for joy, O daughter of Zion,  
O Je - ru - sa - lem; I tell you your king comes bear - ing sal - va - tion.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 109:4,1):**



You are a priest for - ev - er ac - cord - ing to the order  
of Mel-chiz - e - dek.

**Verse:** The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand till I make your enemies your footstool.

**Alleluia - Tone 5** (Psalm 98:6; 96:11):



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


**Verse:** Moses and Aaron were among his priests;

Samuel was among those who called upon his name.

**Verse:** Light dawns for the just, and gladness for the upright of heart.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):

C



The just man will be re - mem - bered for - e - ver;



e - vil news he will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear, he will not fear.

*Refrain*



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


**4 The holy great martyr Barbara** who, it is said, was a virgin and martyr of Nicomedia. (306)

**Our venerable father John of Damascus**, a priest celebrated for his holiness and learning, He strove diligently by his word and writings in favor of the veneration of Holy Images against the Emperor Leo III, the Isaurian. Having been made a monk in the monastery of St. Sabbas near Jerusalem, he composed sacred hymns and there reposed in the Lord. His body was buried on this day. (749)

**Troparion of Barbara - Tone 8**



Let us praise the hon - 'ra - ble Bar - ba - ra. She has thwart-ed the



pow-er of the en - e - my and through the might and the strength



of the cross, she was made free in her flight to God.

**Troparion of John of Damascus - Tone 8**

Guide to Or - tho - dox - y, teach - er of pi - e - ty and ho - li - ness,

lu - mi - nar - y for the world, in - spired

a - dorn-ment of bish - ops, O wise John, harp of the

Spir - it, you en - light-ened all by your teach - ings;

in - ter - cede with Christ our God to save our souls.

**Kontakion of Barbara - Tone 4**

O hon - orable and tri-um-phant Bar - ba - ra, you be-lieved in the Ho - ly

Trin - i - ty and re-nounced the multiplicity of pa-gan de - i - ties. You fought



for your faith with great cour - age and were not fright-ened by the threats of your



per-se-cu - tors, but de-clared in-stead in a clear voice: I a-dore one God



in three Di-vine Per - sons.

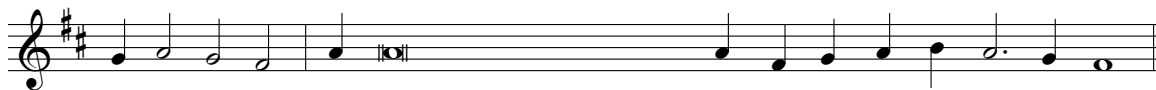
**Kontakion of John of Damascus - Tone 4**



Let us praise John the hym-no-graph-er with song. He is an effective preacher and



a teach - er for the Church. Be-hind the ar - mor of the cross he exposed the lies



of her - e - sy, and standing before God he ob-tains re-mis-sion of sins for us.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 67:36,27):**



God is won-drous in his saints, the God of Is - ra - el,



the God of Is - ra - el.

**Verse:** In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

**Alleluia - Tone 1** (Psalm 39:2,3):

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

Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**Verse:** I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.

**Verse:** He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the filthy clay.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):

D

Re-joyce in the Lord, you righ - teous ones; praise from the up-right,

*Refrain*

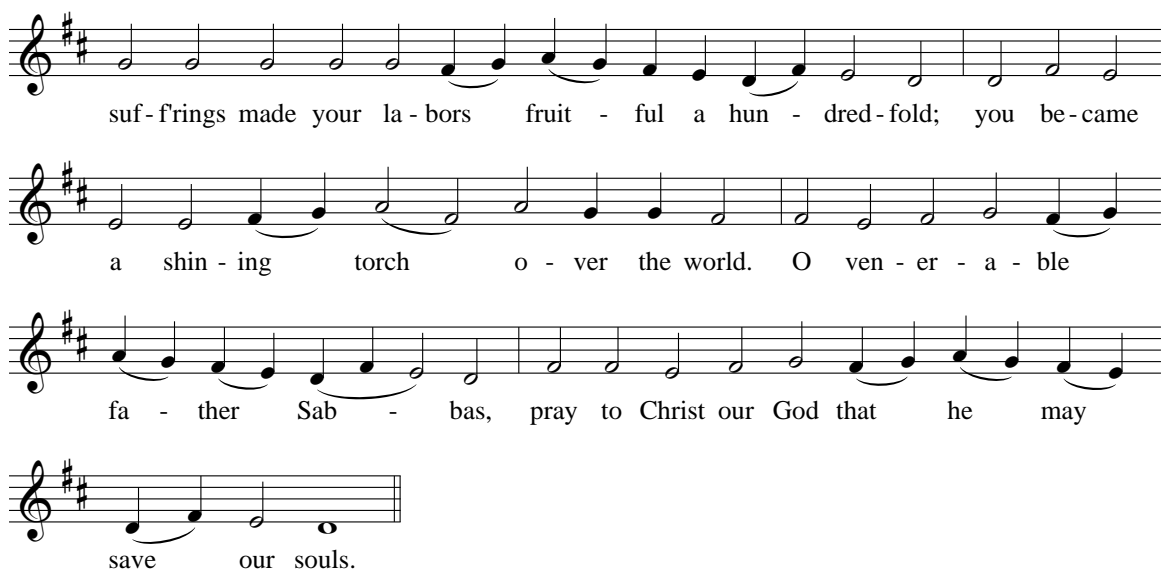
the up - right is fit-ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!

**5 Our venerable and God-bearing father Sabbas the Consecrated**, who, born in Cappadocia, arrived at the desert of Judea, and instituted a new sort of eremetical life in seven monasteries, which were called "laurae." He gathered solitaries under one overseer (hegumen). In the great laura, which afterwards was adorned with his name, he dwelt for many years, a shining example of sanctity. He strove assiduously for the faith taught at the Council of Chalcedon. (532)

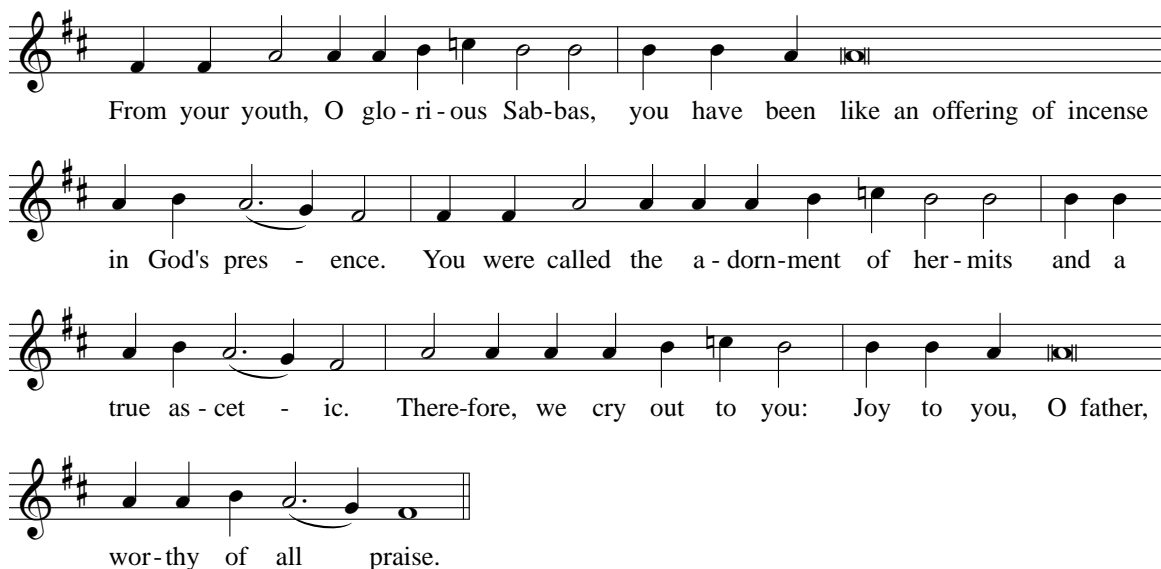
**Troparion - Tone 8**

Your a - bun - dant tears made the wil - der - ness bloom, and your



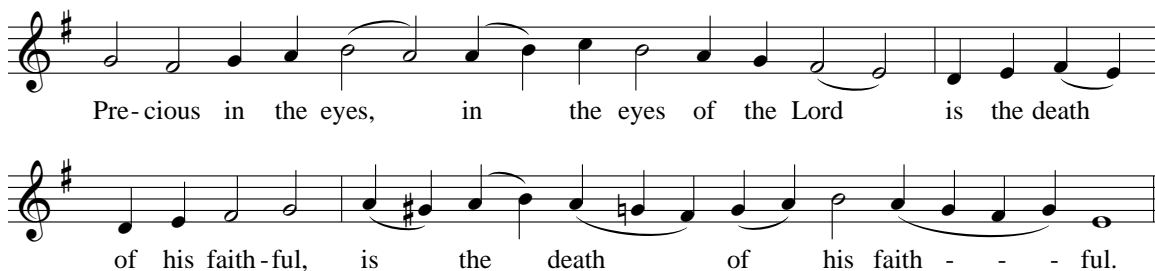
suf-frings made your la-bors fruit-ful a hun-dred-fold; you be-came  
a shin-ing torch o-ver the world. O ven-er-a-ble  
fa-ther Sab-bas, pray to Christ our God that he may  
save our souls.

**Kontakion - Tone 4**



From your youth, O glo-ri-ous Sab-bas, you have been like an offering of incense  
in God's pres-ence. You were called the a-dorn-ment of her-mits and a  
true as-cet-ic. There-fore, we cry out to you: Joy to you, O father,  
wor-thy of all praise.

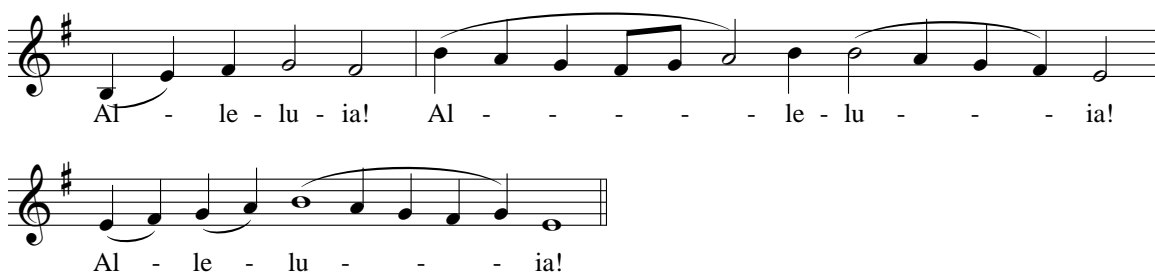
**Prokeimenon - Tone 7** (Psalm 115:6,3):



Pre-cious in the eyes, in the eyes of the Lord is the death  
of his faith-ful, is the death of his faith - - - ful.

*Verse:* What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

**Alleluia - Tone 6** (Psalm 111:1,2):



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

*Verse:* Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.

*Verse:* His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):

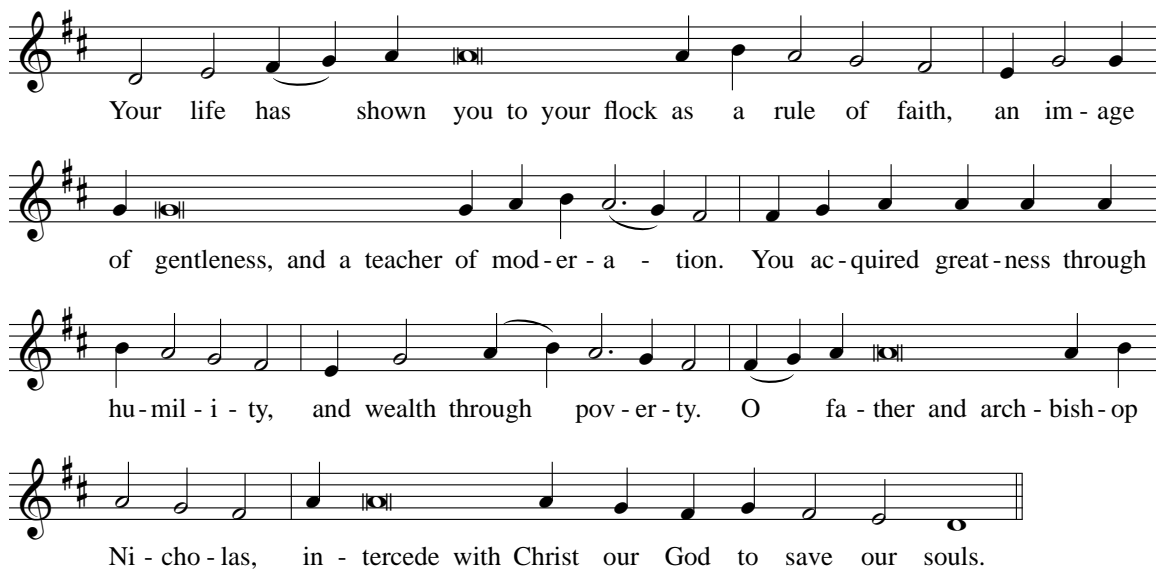
E



The just man will be re-mem - bered for - e - ver;  
e - vil news he will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear. *Refrain* Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

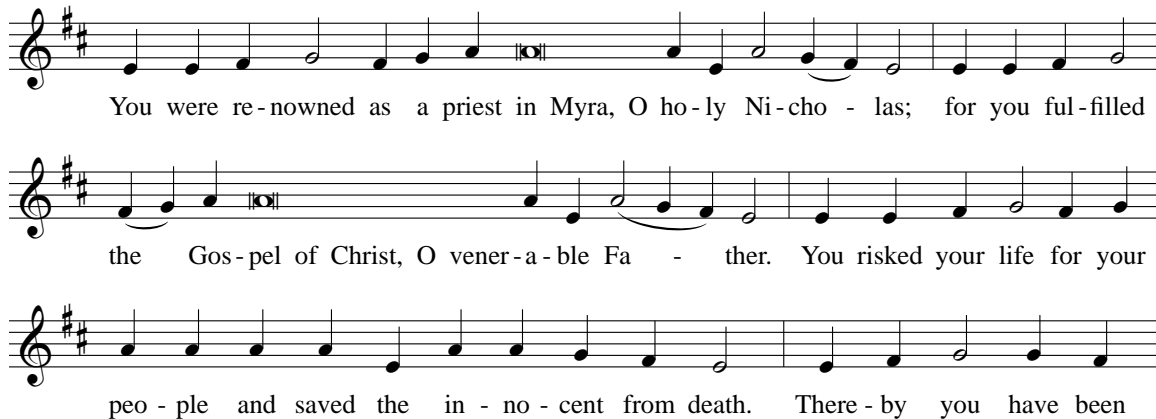
**6 OUR HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA, THE WONDERWORKER.** A native of Lycia, he became a monk at the New Sion monastery. When his parents died, he gave his entire inheritance to the poor. Ordained a priest in Patara, he was famous for his almsgiving. He was chosen as archbishop of Myra, and was a model shepherd in his care for the people of his flock. He was present at the First Ecumenical Council (Nicea, 325). Full of years, he entered into rest. (343)

**Troparion - Tone 4:**



Your life has shown you to your flock as a rule of faith, an im-age  
 of gentleness, and a teacher of mod-er-a - tion. You ac-quired great-ness through  
 hu-mil-i - ty, and wealth through pov-er - ty. O fa - ther and arch - bish - op  
 Ni - cho - las, in - tercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

**Kontakion - Tone 3:**



You were re-nowned as a priest in Myra, O ho-ly Ni-cho - las; for you ful-filled  
 the Gos-pel of Christ, O vener-a-ble Fa - ther. You risked your life for your  
 peo - ple and saved the in - no - cent from death. There - by you have been

in - i - tiated into the mys-te - ries of the grace of God.

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

The just man will re-joice in the Lord, re - joice in the Lord

and will put his trust in him.

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

**Alleluia - Tone 4** (Psalm 131:9; 111:1):

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

*Verse:* Your priests will be clothed with righteousness; and your saints will rejoice.

*Verse:* Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.

**Cherubic Hymn**

*on the hymn, "O kto, kto"*

Let us, who mys-tic-'ly rep-re-sent the cher-u-bim, and sing the thrice-ho-ly

hymn to the life - cre - at - ing, life - cre - at - ing Trin - i - ty,

now set a-side all earth-ly cares. A - men.

That we 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, thank you, O Lord,  
 and we pray to you, our God, and we pray to you, our God,  
 and we pray to you, our God.

**Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):**

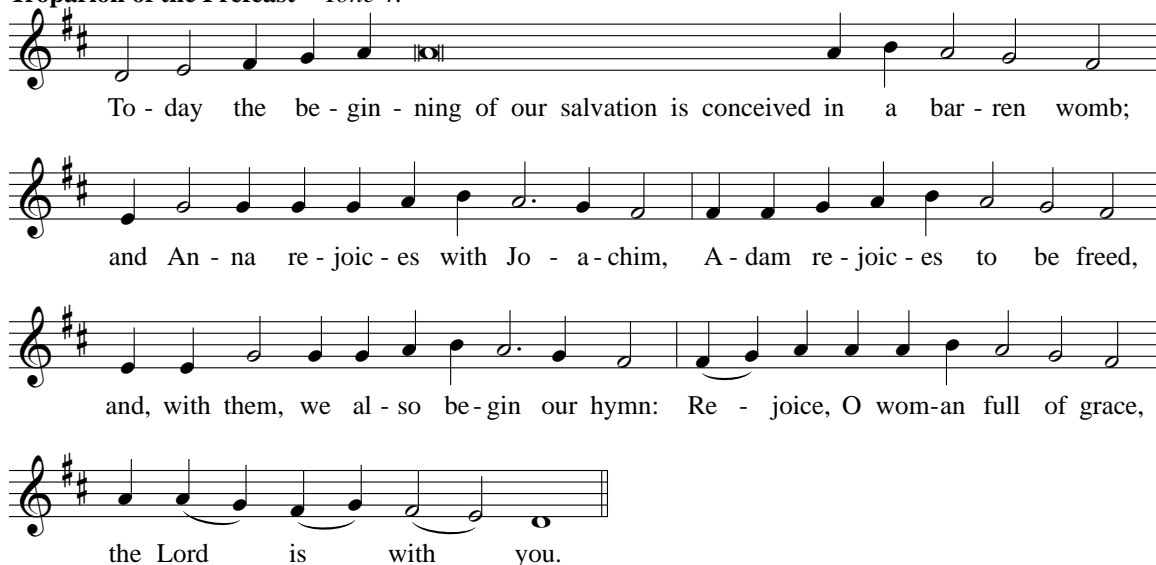
The just man will be re - mem - bered for ev - er; e - vil news he will not fear.  
*Refrain*  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



**7 Our holy father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan**, who on April 4th, on the holy night of Pascha, fell asleep in the Lord. His memory is celebrated today, on which (while still a catechumen) he undertook ruling the famous See of Milan in 373, while he was exercising the office of prefect of the city. A true pastor and teacher of the faithful, he exercised great charity toward all, defended strenuously the freedom of the Church and the doctrine of orthodox faith against the Arians. By his commentaries and his musical hymns, he piously catechized the people. (397)

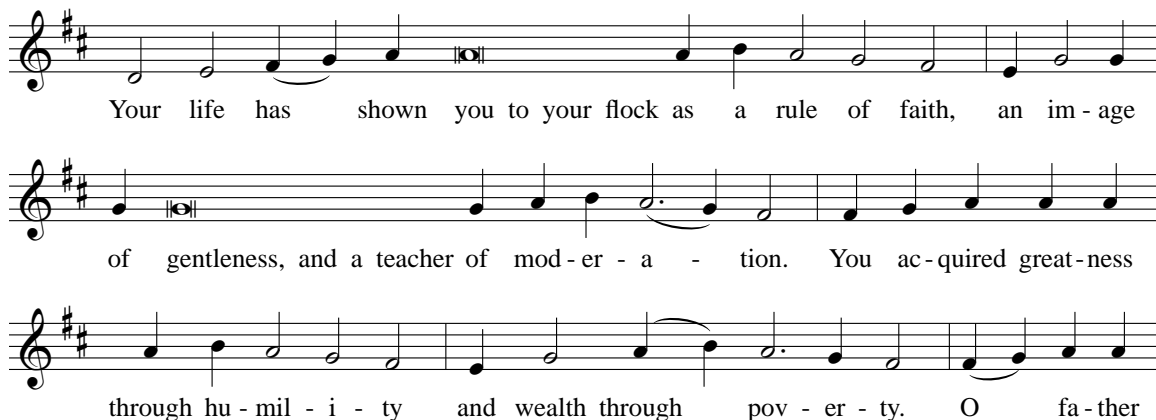
**Prefestive Day of the Maternity of the Holy Anna**

**Troparion of the Prefeast - Tone 4:**



To - day the be - gin - ning of our salvation is conceived in a bar - ren womb;  
and An - na re - joic - es with Jo - a - chim, A - dam re - joic - es to be freed,  
and, with them, we al - so be - gin our hymn: Re - joice, O wom - an full of grace,  
the Lord is with you.

**Troparion of Ambrose - Tone 4**



Your life has shown you to your flock as a rule of faith, an im - age  
of gentleness, and a teacher of mod - er - a - tion. You ac - quired great - ness  
through hu - mil - i - ty and wealth through pov - er - ty. O fa - ther

and bish-op Am - brose, in - tercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

**Kontakion of the Prefeast - Tone 3**

To - day the Vir - gin Mary, the The - o - to - kos, is born from a  
bar - ren womb according to the di - vine plan. She is the in - vi - olate bridal  
chamber of the heav - en - ly bride - groom. The char - iot of the Word  
is made read - y, for this is why she was pre - or - dained  
to be the gate - way of God and tru - ly the Moth - er of Life.

**Kontakion of Ambrose - Tone 3**

O Am - brose, shep - herd and priest of the mys - ter - ies, en - light - ened with the  
true faith, you o - ver - came A - ri - us. You o - pen - ly worked won - ders and cured  
by the Spir - it's pow'r. O ven - 'ra - ble fa - ther, beg Christ our God to save

our souls.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 1** (Psalm 48:4,2):

My lips will speak words of wis - dom;  
un - der - stand - ing will be the theme of my heart.

*Verse:* Hear this, all you peoples; give heed, all who dwell in the world.

**Alleluia - Tone 2** (Psalm 36:30,31):

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

*Verse:* The just man's mouth utters wisdom and his lips speak what is right.

*Verse:* The law of his God is in his heart; his steps shall be saved from stumbling.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):

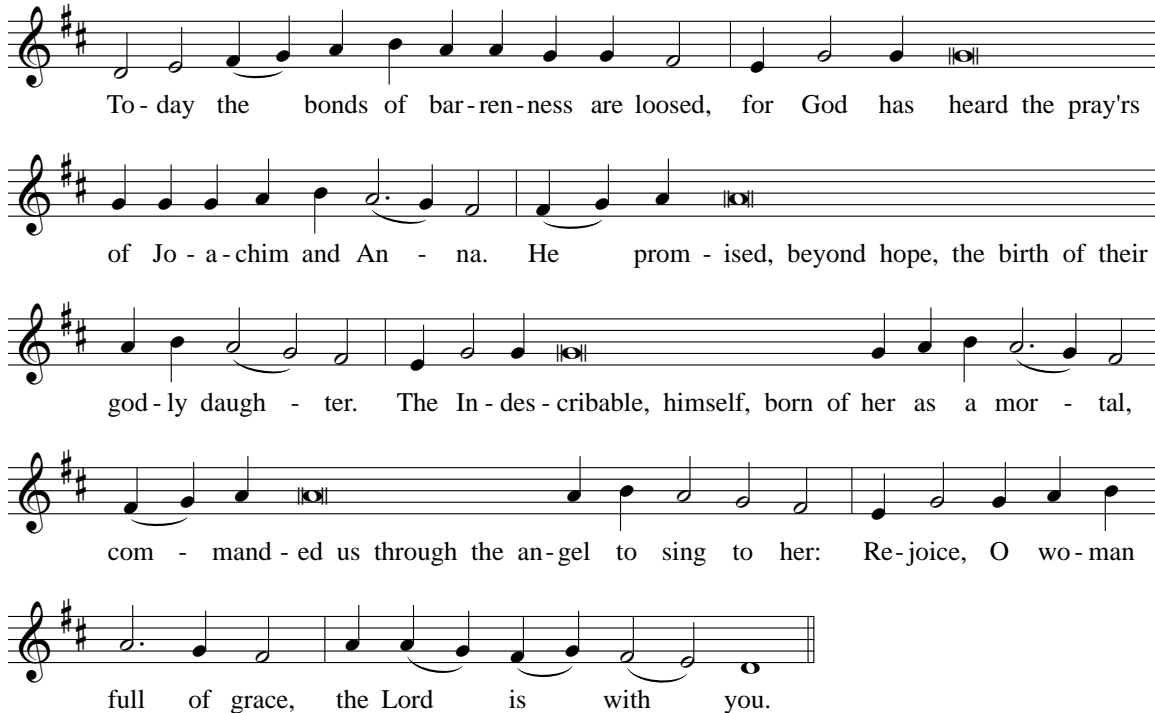
F

The just man will be re - mem - bered, be re - mem - bered for ev - ver  
*Refrain*  
e - vil news he will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## 8 FEAST OF THE MATERNITY OF THE HOLY ANNA, MOTHER OF OUR BLESSED LADY, THE MOTHER OF GOD AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.

According to tradition, Joachim and Anna were childless for fifty years of their married life. In their old age, they were promised that a daughter would be born to them. After nine months, St. Anna bore a daughter, blessed by God and by all subsequent generations of humanity: the most holy Theotokos, the ever-virgin Mary.

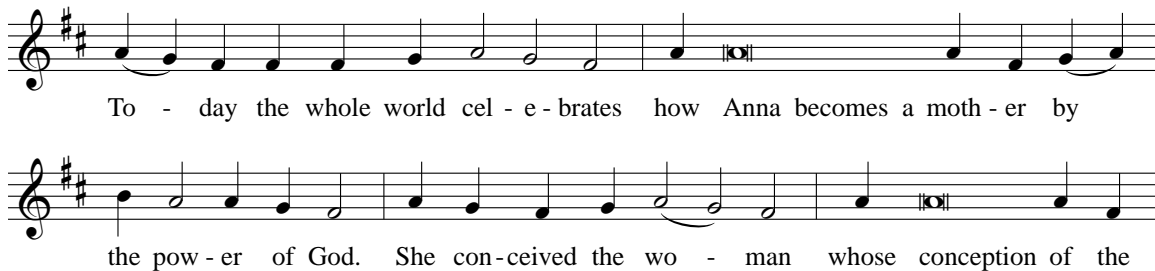
### Troparion - Tone 4:



The musical notation for the Troparion is written on five staves in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is a simple, flowing line with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, often beamed together. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

To - day the bonds of bar - ren - ness are loosed, for God has heard the pray'rs  
of Jo - a - chim and An - na. He prom - ised, beyond hope, the birth of their  
god - ly daugh - ter. The In - des - cribable, himself, born of her as a mor - tal,  
com - mand - ed us through the an - gel to sing to her: Re-joyce, O wo - man  
full of grace, the Lord is with you.

### Kontakion - Tone 4:



The musical notation for the Kontakion is written on two staves in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is similar in style to the Troparion, featuring a mix of note values and rests. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

To - day the whole world cel - e - brates how Anna becomes a moth - er by  
the pow - er of God. She con - ceived the wo - man whose conception of the



Word is be - yond our words.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4** (Psalm 67:36,27):



God is won - drous in his saints, the God of Is - ra - el,



the God of Is - ra - el.

**Verse:** In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

**Alleluia - Tone 1** (Psalm 36:39,40):



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



Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**Verse:** The salvation of the just is from the Lord; he is their protector in time of distress.

**Verse:** The Lord will help them and deliver them and rescue them from sinners and save them, for they have hoped in him.

*Instead of* "It is truly proper . . ."

**Magnification:**



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



the won-drous con-cep - tion of the Moth - er of God.

**Irmos:**

*Tone 6 Irmos, simple setting*

Let us, the faith-ful, ex-tol the The-o-to-kos, the ev-er-flow-ing Foun-tain of Life,  
ra-diant Bea-con of Grace, Liv-ing Tem-ple, and most pure Tab-er-na-cle,  
more spa-cious than earth and heav-en.

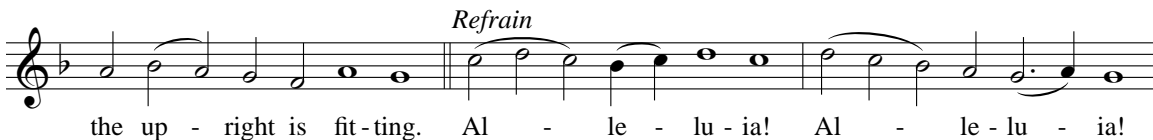
*Or this melody:*

*Tone 1 samopdoben*

Let us, the faith-ful, ex-tol the The-o-to-kos,  
the ev-er-flow-ing Foun-tain of Life, ra-diant Bea-con of  
Grace, Liv-ing Tem-ple, and most pure Tab-er-na-cle,  
more spa-cious than earth and heav-en.

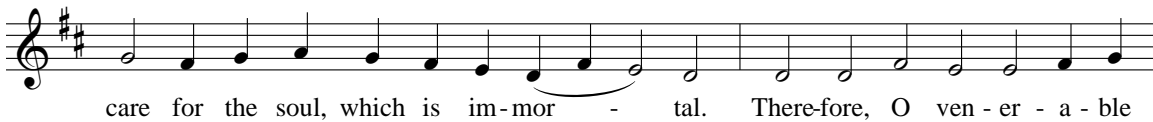
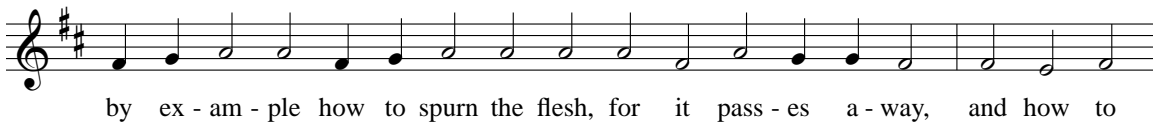
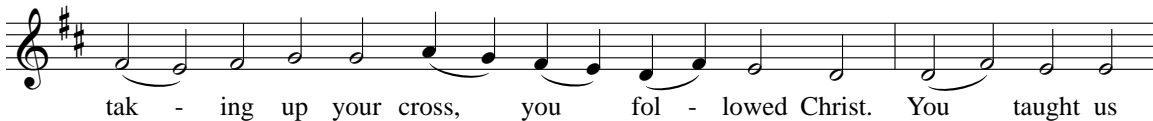
Communion Hymn (Psalm 132:1):

D



**9 Our venerable father Patapius, anchorite**, who, having come from the Thebaid, was converted at Constantinople near Blachernae and was buried in a monastery of Egyptians. (7th century)

**The holy Hannah, mother of the prophet Samuel**, was the wife of Elkanah (cf I Samuel 1). She had no child, and was in reproach for barrenness. God took pity on her, and opened her womb; she bore Samuel, and dedicated him to God from his birth. Her canticle of thanksgiving is sung at the Office of Matins.



Pa - ta - pi - us, your soul re - joic - es with the an - gels.

**Kontakion - Tone 3**

O ho - ly Pa - ta - pius, nations have found a source of spiritual heal - ing

at your shrine. All, there - fore, come to you, seeking welfare of bod-y

and spir - it; for you are a help-er to all the af - flict - ed.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):**

Pre-cious in the eyes, in the eyes of the Lord is the death

of his faith-ful, is the death of his faith - - - ful.

*Verse:* What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

**Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):**

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

Al - le - lu - - - ia!

*Verse:* Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.

*Verse:* His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.



Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

E

The just man will be re-mem - bered for - e - ver;  
e - vil news he will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Refrain*

**10 The holy martyrs Menas, Hermogenes and EUGRAPHUS.** Menas and Hermogenes were born in Athens and moved to Constantinople. Both were pagans. Menas was sent by the Emperor Maximian to calm the strife between pagans and Christians in Alexandria. While there, he became a Christian. The emperor sent Hermogenes to Alexandria to punish Menas. After a miracle that happened during Menas' trial, Hermogenes became a Christian. Then the emperor himself came to Egypt and put both men to harsh torture. Upon seeing their valor, Eugraphus, who was Menas' secretary, denounced himself to the emperor. He had all three beheaded. (4th century)

Troparion - Tone 8

Through mor - ti - fi - ca - tion and pen - ance, the ho - ly mar - tirs of  
Christ have o - ver - come the dis - or - der of their burn - ing pas - sions.  
Dur - ing their life - time they re - ceived the grace of heal - ing the sick.  
Af - ter their death they have the pow'r of per - form - ing mir - a - cles.



It is in-deed a great mar-vel that heal-ing should come forth from mere bones.



Glo - - - ry to the Cre - a - tor, to God a - lone.

**Kontakion - Tone 1**



Let us sing ho - ly hymns of praise in honor of the glo-rious mar - tyrs;



for they have hon-ored the Lord and fought for his glo - ry, thus de - ser-ving



to be counted among the an-gels in heav - en. Now they show - er us with their



mir - a - cles.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 15:3,8):**



To all the saints in his land, the Lord has shown all the



won - ders of his will.

**Verse:** I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**Alleluia - Tone 4** (Psalm 33:18,20):



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

*Verse:* When the righteous cried out, the Lord heard; and from all distress he saved them.

*Verse:* Many are the troubles of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):

F



Re-joyce in the Lord, re-joyce, you right-eous ones; praise from the up-right,

*Refrain*




the up - right is fit-ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!


**On the Sunday from December 11 to 17**  
**SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY**  
**Sunday of the Forefathers**

**Troparion - Prescribed Resurrection Tone**

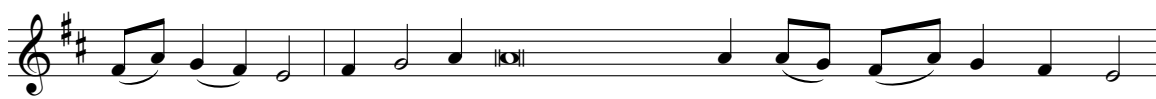
**Troparion - Tone 2:**




By faith, you, O Christ, jus - ti - fied the fore - fa - thers. Through them



you betrothed yourself to a Church from all na - tions. The saints re-joyce



in glo - ry be-cause a glorious offspring has blos - somed from their seed:

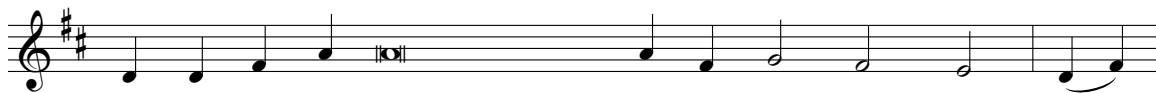


the Moth-er who bore you with-out seed. Through their pray'rs, O Christ our



God, have mer-cy on us.

**Kontakion - Tone 6:**



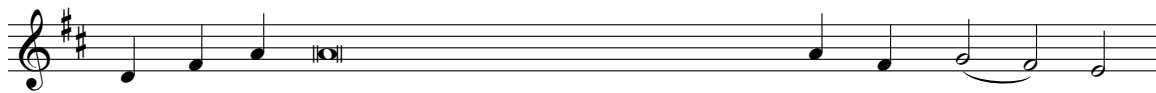
You did not wor - ship a man-made im-age, O thrice - bless'd youths. You



armed yourselves with uncrea-ted di - vin - i - ty. You were glo - ri - fied in the



trial by fire. With - stand - ing the flames, you stood and called out:



Has - ten, O compassionate God, and hurry to help us in your mer - cy.



For you can do what - ev - er you will.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Daniel 3:26,27):**



Bless-ed are you and praise-wor-thy, O Lord, the God of our Fa - thers,



and glo - ri - ous for - ev - er is your name.

**Verse:** For you are just in all that you have done for us.

**Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 98:6):**

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

**Verse:** Moses and Aaron were among his priests; Samuel was among those who called upon his name.

**Verse:** They called upon the Lord and he answered them.

For Sunday, the usual Communion Hymn is (Psalm 148:1):

D

Praise the Lord, the Lord from the heav-ens, praise him,

*Refrain*

praise him in the high-est. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - - le - lu - ia!

And for the righteous ones, the Communion Hymn is (Psalm 32:1):

D

Re-joyce in the Lord you right - eous ones; praise from the up-right,

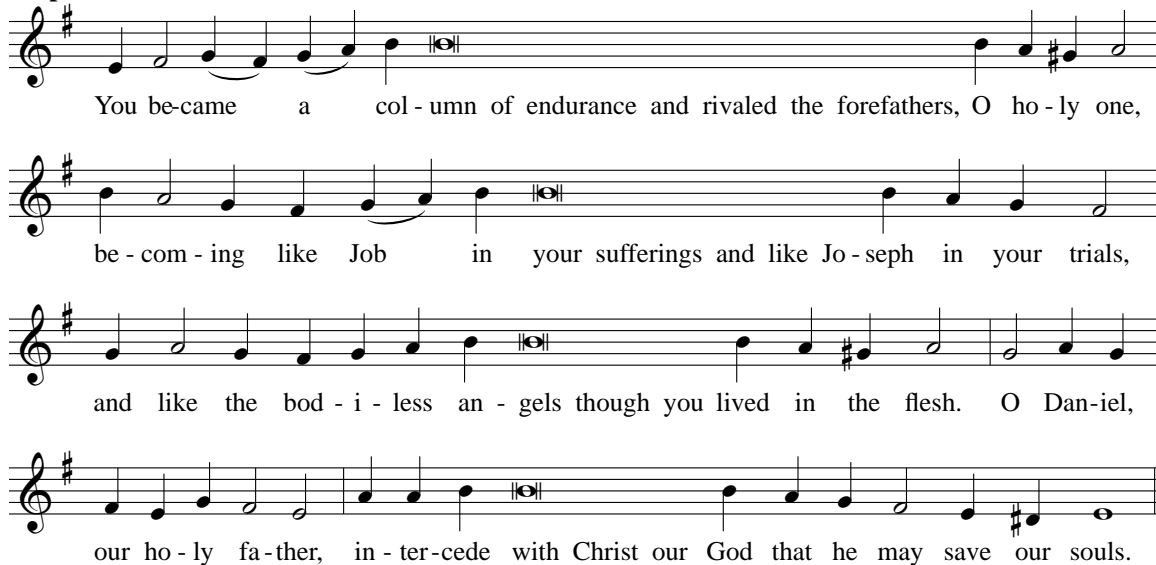
*Refrain*

the up - right is fit-ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - - le - lu - ia!

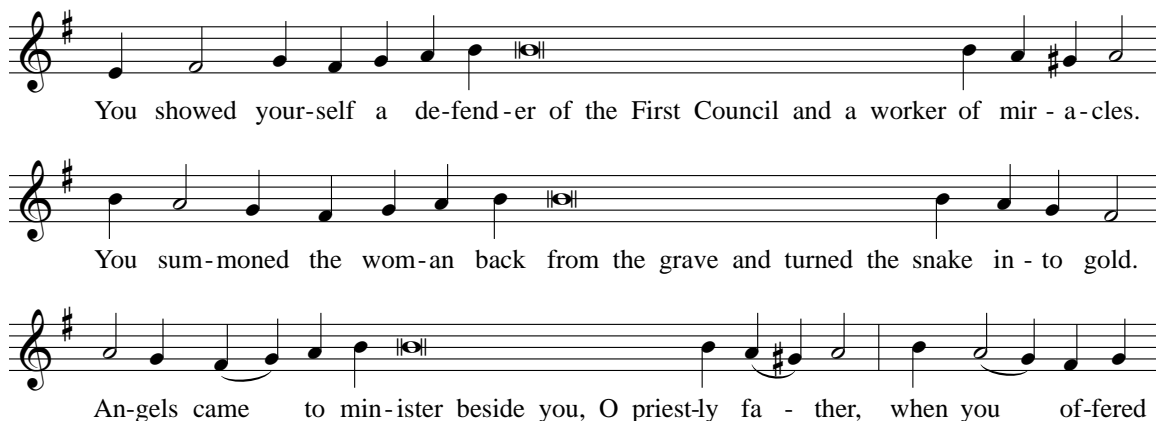
**11 Our venerable father Spiridon the Wonder-worker**, bishop of Tremithus on the island of Cyprus, bishop, a true shepherd of his sheep, whose marvelous deeds were celebrated by the mouths of all. The date of his death is December 12; his feast is transferred because of the feast of the Icon of the Mother of God of Guadalupe. (348)  
**Our venerable father Daniel the Stylite**, priest of Constantinople who, after a life led in a monastery, undertook many labors. Transported by the manner and example of St. Simeon, he stood on a column, not subdued by force of cold or heat or wind, for thirty-three years and three months, until the time of his death. (489)

**Troparion of Daniel - Tone 1**



You be-came a col-umn of en-dur-ance and rivaled the fore-fa-thers, O ho-ly one,  
 be-com-ing like Job in your suffer-ings and like Jo-seph in your tri-als,  
 and like the bod-i-less an-gels though you lived in the flesh. O Dan-iel,  
 our ho-ly fa-ther, in-ter-cede with Christ our God that he may save our souls.

**Troparion of Spiridon - Tone 1**



You showed your-self a de-fend-er of the First Council and a worker of mir-a-cles.  
 You sum-moned the wom-an back from the grave and turned the snake in-to gold.  
 An-gels came to min-ister beside you, O priest-ly fa-ther, when you of-fered

your ar-dent pray'rs. Glo-ry to him who strength-ened you! Glo-ry to  
 him who chose you! Glo-ry to him who heals us through you!

**Kontakion of Daniel - Tone 8**

You as-cend-ed your pillar like a star in the sky, and you gave the light of  
 good works to the world. You dis-pers-ed the dark-ness of lies, O fa-ther,  
 and thus we now have re-course to you. Make the unwaning light of understanding  
 dawn in our hearts, O bless-ed saint.

**Kontakion of Spiridon - Tone 2**

O all-ho-ly fa-ther, en-rap-tured by the love of Christ, you soared on  
 the wings of the Spirit to pure con-tem-pla-tion which in-spired your  
 ap-os-tol-ic life, and you be-came an al-tar of sac-ri-fice,

be - seech - ing the Lord that he may en - light - en all of us.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 1** (Psalm 48:4,2):

My lips will speak words of wis - dom;

un - der - stand - ing will be the theme of my heart.

*Verse:* Hear this, all you peoples; give heed, all who dwell in the world.

**Alleluia - Tone 2** (Psalm 36:30,31):

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

Al - - - le - lu - ia!

*Verse:* The just man's mouth utters wisdom and his lips speak what is right.

*Verse:* The law of his God is in his heart; his steps shall be saved from stumbling.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):

A

The just man will be re - mem - bered for - ev - er; e - vil news he

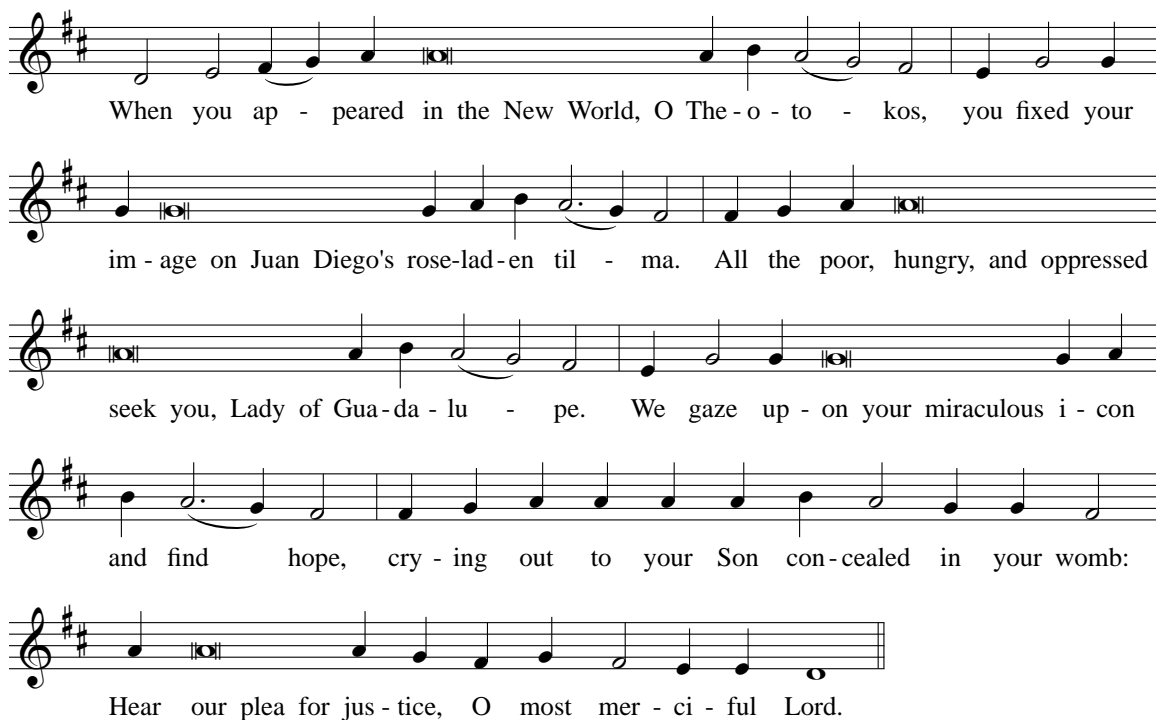
will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear. *Refrain*  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!



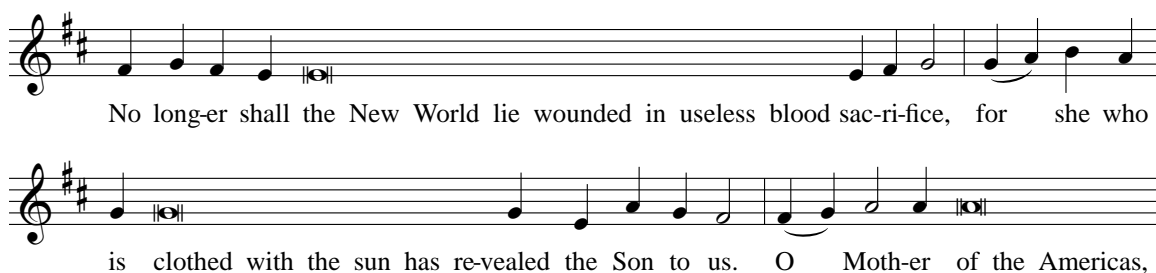
**12 The Theotokos of Guadalupe**, who first appeared on Dec. 9, 1591 in Mexico to St. Juan Diego, bestowing on him an icon “not made with human hands,” requesting that a church be built in her honor on that mountain. Her shrine there is one of the most celebrated places of pilgrimage in the Americas. Pope John Paul II named her the Patroness of the Americas.

**Troparion - Tone 4**



When you ap - peared in the New World, O The - o - to - kos, you fixed your  
 im - age on Juan Diego's rose-lad-en til - ma. All the poor, hungry, and oppressed  
 seek you, Lady of Gua-da - lu - pe. We gaze up - on your miraculous i - con  
 and find hope, cry - ing out to your Son con-cealed in your womb:  
 Hear our plea for jus - tice, O most mer - ci - ful Lord.

**Kontakion - Tone 7**



No long-er shall the New World lie wounded in useless blood sac-ri-fice, for she who  
 is clothed with the sun has re-vealed the Son to us. O Moth-er of the Americas,

imprint his name upon our hearts, just as you wove your im-age in-to the cac-tus cloth.

Teach your chil-dren to cry out: O Christ God, our hope, glo-ry to you!

**Prokeimenon - Tone 3** (Luke 1:46-48):

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spir-it re-joic-es

in God my Sav - - - ior.

**Verse:** For he has looked with favor on the humility of his servant;  
from this day forward, all generations will call me blessed.

**Alleluia - Tone 8** (Psalm 44:11,13):

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

**Verse:** Listen, O daughter, and see and incline your ear.  
**Verse:** The rich among the people will seek your favor.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 115:4):

B

I shall take the chal - - - ice, the chal - ice of sal - va - tion,

and call up - on the name, the name of the Lord.

*Refrain*

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

**13 The holy martyrs Eustratius, Auxentius, Eugene, Mardarius, and Orestes**, who gave their lives for Christ in Armenia. **The holy virgin martyr Lucy**, who as long as she lived kept guard over her enkindled lamp for the coming of her Spouse. Led from Syracuse to Sicily to a death for Christ, she was worthy to enter marriage with him and to possess light unfailling. (304)

**Troparion of the Martyrs - Tone 4**

Your ho - ly mar - tyrs, O Lord our God, in their strug - gles, received incor -  
 -rup - ti - ble crowns from you. With your strength, they brought down the ty - rants  
 and broke the cowardly val - or of de - mons. Through their prayers, O Christ our  
 God, save our souls.

**Kontakion of Eustratius - Tone 2**

O vic - to - rious one, you have been like a bright star, en - light - en - ing  
 those who stand in the dark - ness of ig - nor - ance. Your faith, as a lance in your hand,

armed you with cour - age a - gainst the haugh - ti - ness of your ene - e - mies.

O Eu - stra - ti - us, you were the most el - o - quent of or - a - tors.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4** (Psalm 15:3,8):

To all the saints in his land, the Lord has shown all the

won - ders of his will.

**Verse:** I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**Alleluia - Tone 4** (Psalm 33:18,20):

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

**Verse:** When the righteous cried out, the Lord heard; and from all distress he saved them.

**Verse:** Many are the troubles of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):

C

Re - joice in the Lord, re - joice in the Lord, you right - eous ones;

praise from the up - right, the up - right is fit - ting, is fit - ting.

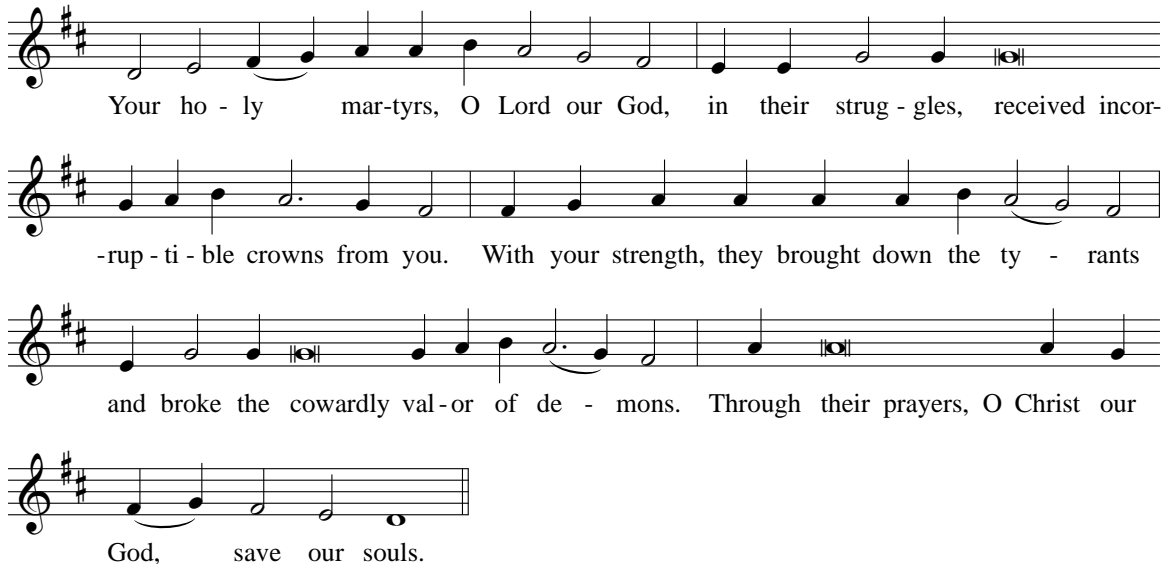
*Refrain*

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

**14 The holy martyrs Thyrsus, Leucas, Philemon, Appolonius, and Callinicus** of Apollonia in Bithynia, martyrs, who, it is related, suffered in the time of the Emperor Decius. (2nd century)

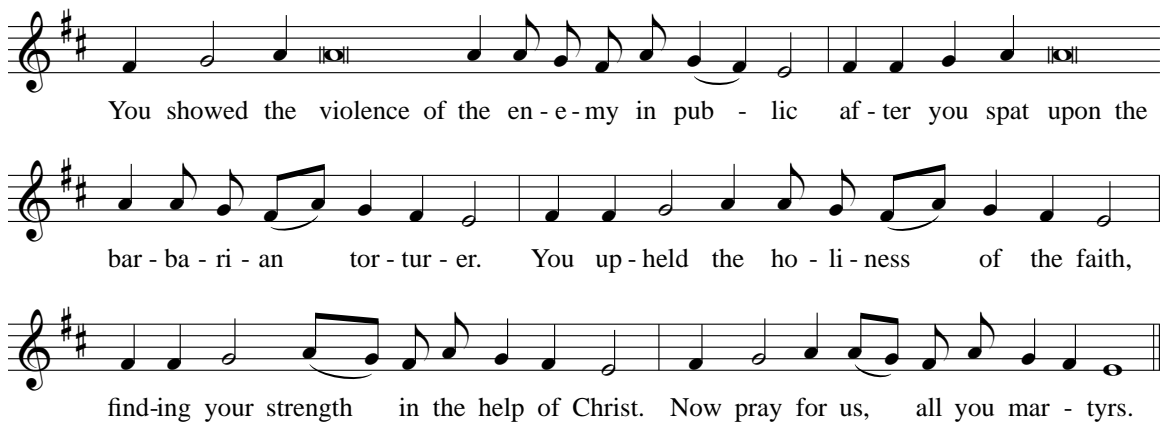
**Our venerable father Nimatulla al-Hardini (Joseph Kassab)**, who was a priest and ascetic of the Maronite Catholic Church. He labored in the training of youth for the priesthood, inculcating in them the spirit of prayer and penitence. (1858)

**Troparion - Tone 4**



Your ho - ly mar - tyrs, O Lord our God, in their strug - gles, received incor -  
rup - ti - ble crowns from you. With your strength, they brought down the ty - rants  
and broke the cowardly val - or of de - mons. Through their prayers, O Christ our  
God, save our souls.

**Kontakion - Tone 2**



You showed the violence of the en - e - my in pub - lic af - ter you spat upon the  
bar - ba - ri - an tor - tur - er. You up - held the ho - li - ness of the faith,  
find - ing your strength in the help of Christ. Now pray for us, all you mar - tyrs.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 15:3,8):**

To all the saints in his land, the Lord has shown all the  
won - ders of his will.

**Verse:** I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 33:18,20):**

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

**Verse:** When the righteous cried out, the Lord heard; and from all distress he saved them.

**Verse:** Many are the troubles of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

**Communion Hymn (Psalm 32:1):**

D

Re-joyce in the Lord, you righ - teous ones; praise from the up-right,  
*Refrain*  
the up - right is fit-ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia!

**15 The holy martyr Eleutherius.** Born of noble and eminent parents in Rome, Eleutherius was the fruit of people who heard the Gospel from the apostles. He became bishop in Illyria, and was a model shepherd. He was arrested and martyred by the emperor Hadrian. (120)

**Our venerable father Paul of Latra.** Born in Pergamum, he lived the ascetic life on a mountain called Latros in Asia Minor. He worked many miracles, and our Lord took him in his old age. (950)

**Our holy father Stephen, bishop of Surozh.** Born in Cappadocia and educated by St. Germanus the Patriarch, he was taken from his hermitage and made bishop of Surozh (now Sudak in the Crimea). Stephen suffered a great deal from the emperor Leo the Armenian. After the emperor's demise, Stephen was returned to his flock, which he governed with grace and truth. (late 8th century)

**Troparion of Eleutherius - Tone 4**

You shared in the a - pos - tles' way of life and suc - ceed - ed to their throne,  
di - vine - ly in - spired bish - op. You found ac - cess to contem - pla - tion  
in the act - ive life. There - fore, you right - ly taught the word of truth  
and strug - gled for the faith to the shed - ding of your blood. O priest - mar - tyr  
E - leu - the - ri - us, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

**Troparion of Paul - Tone 4**

You were num - bered among the monks and a com - pan - ion of an - gels,



and so we raise this song to you, O glo - ri - ous Paul. Pray that we may find



mer - cy for our souls.

**Kontakion of Eleutherius - Tone 2**



We all sing a hymn of praise to you, O ho - ly one, splen - dor of bish - ops and an



ex - am - ple of vic - to - ry. We be - seech you, O priest - martyr, to de - liv - er from

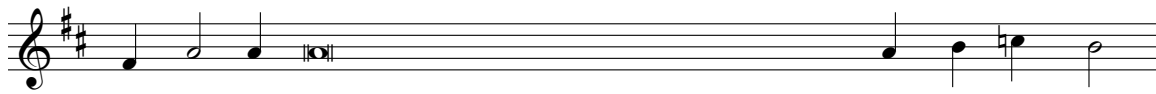


dan - ger all those who celebrate your mem - o - ry with fer - vor.

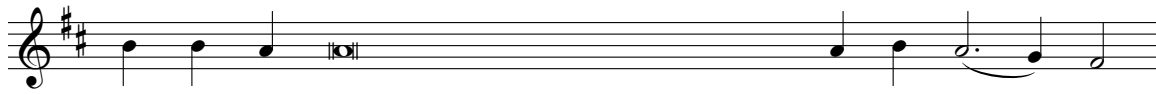


In - ter - cede un - ceas - ing - ly for all of us.

**Kontakion of Paul - Tone 8**



You act - ed maturely from your childhood and spurned the goods of the world.



You be - came a temple of the Trinity in your quest for the di - vine life.



You en - light - en those who come to you, and so we sing: Rejoice, O





gen - er - ous fa - ther Paul.

**Prokeimenon of a Bishop-Martyr - Tone 7 (Psalm 149:5,1):**



Let the faith - ful re - joice in glo - ry, re - joice



in glo - ry, shout for joy, and take their rest.

*Verse:* Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

**Prokeimenon of a Venerable - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):**



Pre - cious in the eyes, in the eyes of the Lord is the death



of his faith - ful, is the death of his faith - - - ful.

*Verse:* What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

**Alleluia for a Bishop-Martyr - Tone 2 (Psalm 131:9,13):**



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

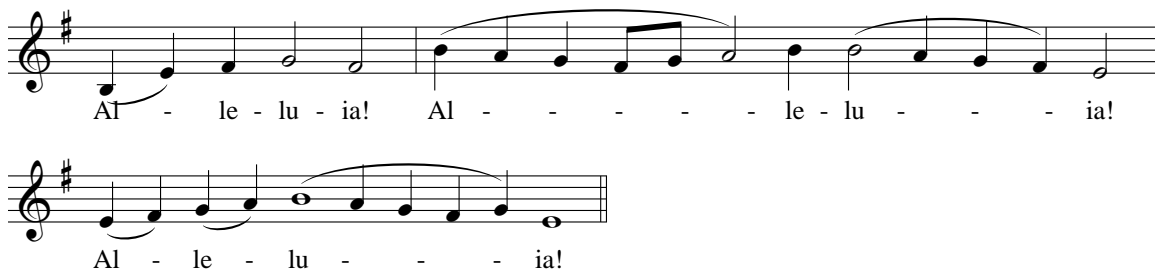


Al - - - le - lu - ia!

*Verse:* Your priests will be clothed with righteousness and your saints will rejoice.

*Verse:* The Lord has chosen Zion; he prefers her for his dwelling.

**Alleluia - Tone 6** (Psalm 111:1,2):



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

Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**Verse:** Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.

**Verse:** His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):

E



The just man will be re - mem - bered for - e - ver;

*Refrain*  
e - vil news he will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear. Al - le - lu - ia!

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

**16 The holy prophet Haggai**, who in the time of Zerubbabel governor of Judah, warned the people to rebuild the house of the Lord, into which would come the treasures of all the nations.

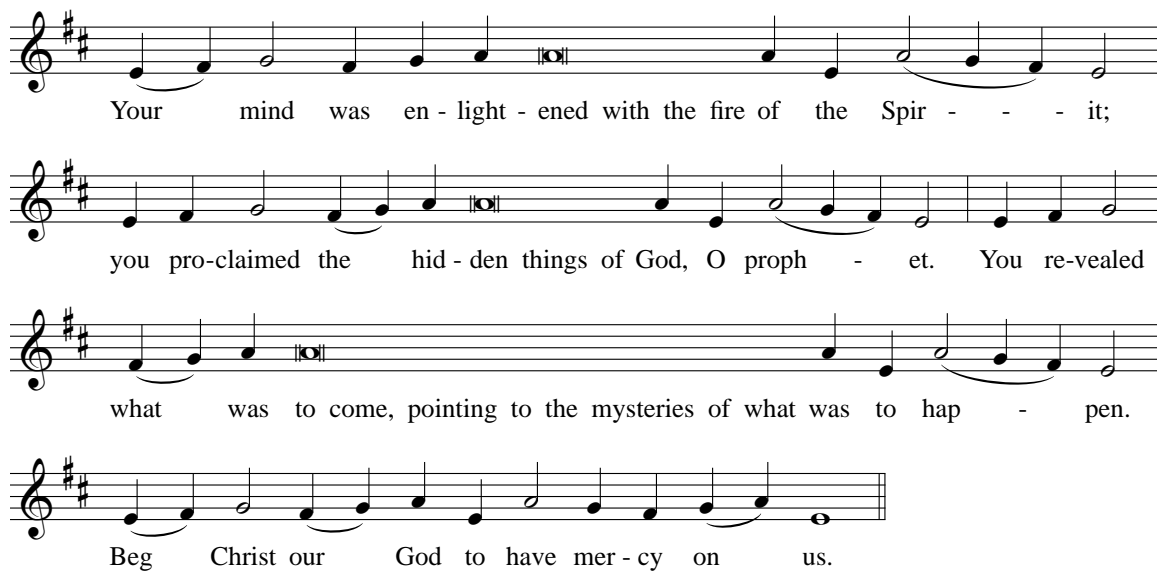
**Troparion - Tone 2**



As we cel - ebrate the memory of your proph-et Hag - gai, O Lord,

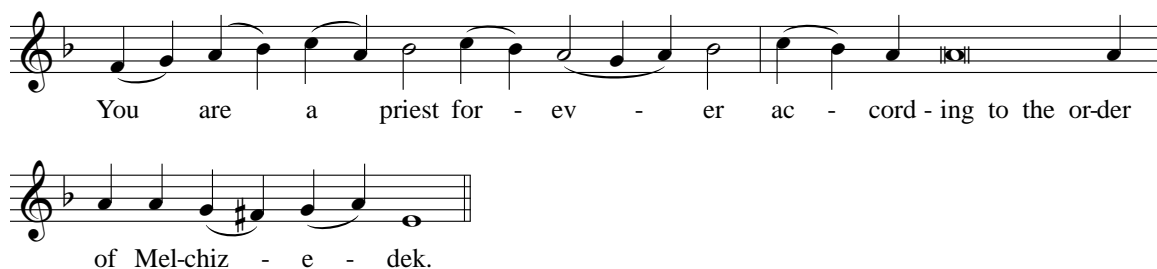
we im - plore you to save our souls through his prayers.

Kontakion - *Tone 3*



Your mind was en-light-ened with the fire of the Spir - - - it;  
you pro-claimed the hid-den things of God, O proph - et. You re-vealed  
what was to come, pointing to the mysteries of what was to hap - - pen.  
Beg Christ our God to have mer-cy on us.

**Prokeimenon** - *Tone 4* (Psalm 109:4,1):



You are a priest for - ev - er ac - cord - ing to the order  
of Mel-chiz - e - dek.

**Verse:** The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand till I make your enemies your footstool.

**Alleluia** - *Tone 5* (Psalm 98:6; 96:11):



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

**Verse:** Moses and Aaron were among his priests; Samuel was among those who called upon his name.

**Verse:** Light dawns for the just, and gladness for the upright of heart.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

F



The just man will be re - mem - bered, be re - mem - bered for ev - ver

*Refrain*



e - vil news he will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear. Al - le - lu - ia!



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

**17 The holy prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Children: Hannaniah, Azariah, and Mishael.** The story of the Three Young Men is related in the book of the Prophet Daniel. All four of these young men were members of the tribe of Judah, deported to Babylon after the fall of Jerusalem. Daniel is (with Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel) counted as one of the four major prophets.

**Troparion - Tone 2**



Great are the deeds per - formed with faith: three youths re - joiced in the



flam - ing fur - nace as if they stood in re - fresh - ing wa - ters;

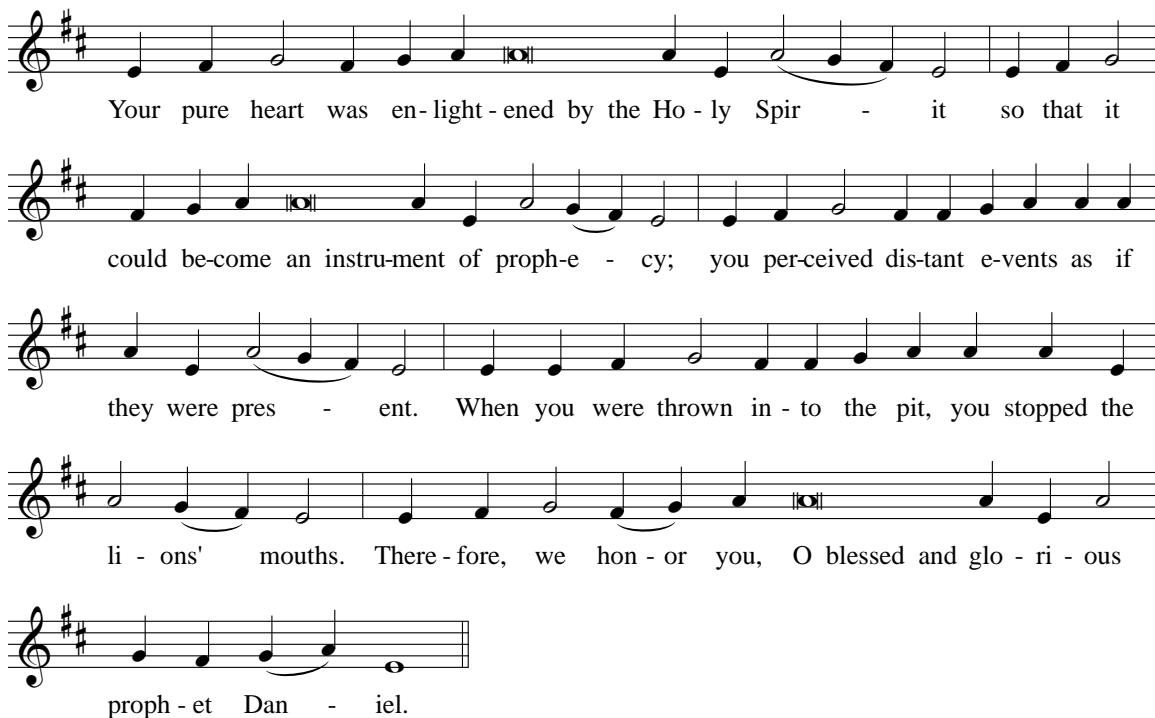


and Dan - iel the prophet faced li - ons as though they were sheep.



Through their pray'rs. O Christ our God, save our souls.

### Kontakion of Daniel - Tone 3

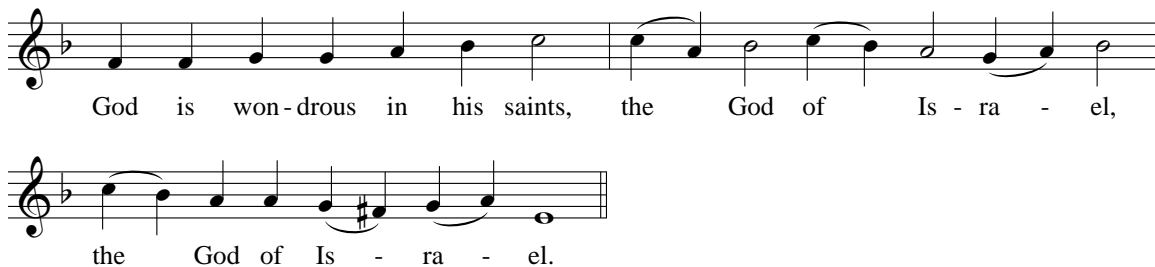


Your pure heart was en-light-ened by the Ho-ly Spir-it so that it  
could be-come an instru-ment of proph-e-cy; you per-ceived dis-tant e-vents as if  
they were pres-ent. When you were thrown in-to the pit, you stopped the  
li-ons' mouths. There-fore, we hon-or you, O blessed and glo-ri-ous  
proph-et Dan-iel.

### Kontakion of the Holy Youths - Tone 6 (music found on page 26):

You did not worship a man-made image, O thrice-bless'd youths. You armed yourselves with uncreated divinity. You were glorified in the trial by fire. Withstanding the flames, you stood and called out: Hasten, O compassionate God, and hurry to help us in your mercy. For you can do whatever you will.

### Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 67:36,27):



God is won-drous in his saints, the God of Is-ra-el,  
the God of Is-ra-el.

**Verse:** In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

**Alleluia - Tone 4** (Psalm 33:18,20):



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

**Verse:** When the righteous cried out, the Lord heard; and from all distress he saved them.

**Verse:** Many are the troubles of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):

A



Re-joice in the Lord, you right-ous ones; praise from the up-right is fit-ting.



*Refrain*  
praise from the up-right is fit-ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**On the Sunday from December 18 to 24**  
**SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY**  
**Sunday of the Ancestors**

**Troparion - Prescribed Resurrection Tone**


**Troparion - Tone 2:**



Great are the ac-com - plish - ments of faith: the three ho - ly youths rejoiced in



the streams of fire as if in re-fresh - ing wa - ters; and Dan - iel the prophet



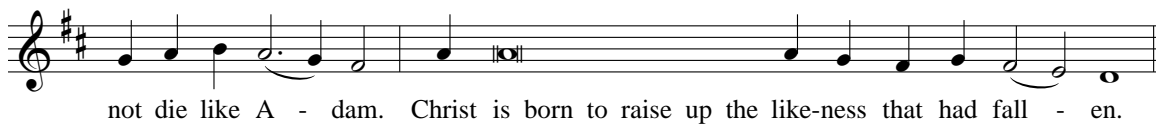
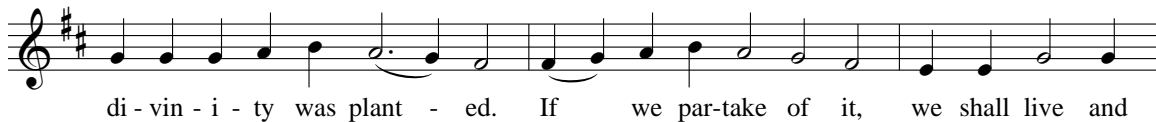
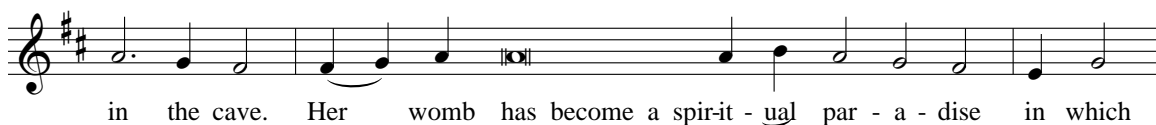
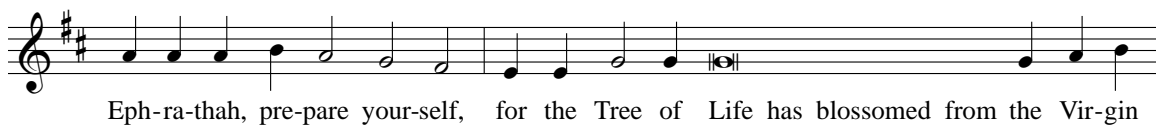
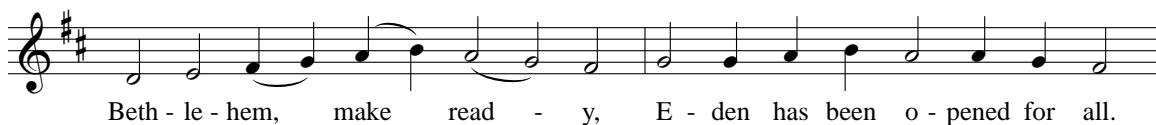
shep-herd - ed li - ons like sheep. Through their pray'rs, O



Christ our God, save our souls.

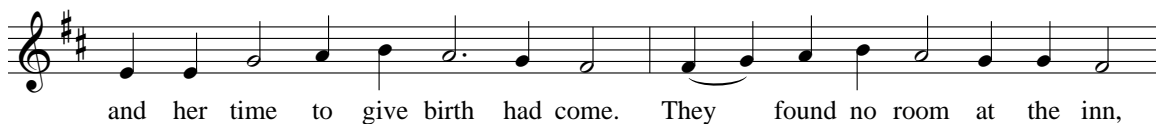
*On December 20 through 23:*

**Troparion of the Pre-feast - Tone 4**



*Only on December 24:*

**Troparion of the Vigil - Tone 4**



but the cave be - came a pleas-ant pal - ace for the Queen. Christ is born to  
 raise up the like - ness that had fall - en.

*On December 18 and 19:*

**Kontakion of the Holy Youths - Tone 6** (*music found on page 26*):

You did not worship a man-made image, O thrice-bless'd youths. You armed yourselves with uncreated divinity. You were glorified in the trial by fire. Withstanding the flames, you stood and called out: Hasten, O compassionate God, and hurry to help us in your mercy. For you can do whatever you will.

*On December 20 and 24:*

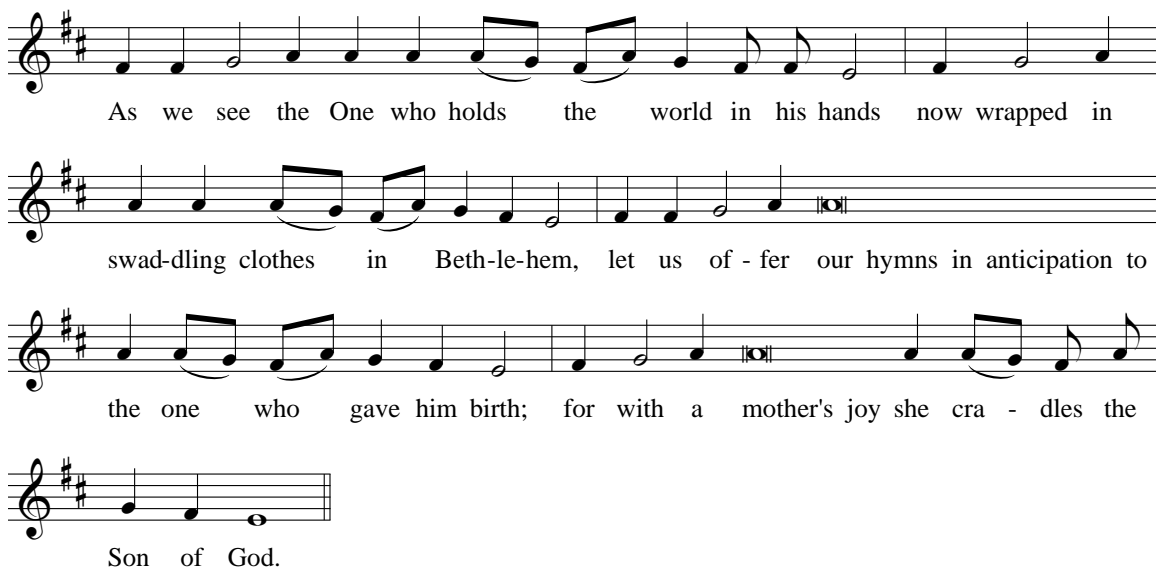
**Kontakion of the Pre-feast - Tone 3**

To - day the Vir - gin is com - ing to the cave to give birth to  
 the e - ter - nal Word in a man - ner be - yond ex - pres - sion.  
 Let the world dance when it hears the news; with the an - gels and  
 shep - herds glorify the e - ter - nal God who chose to ap - pear as a  
 new-born child.



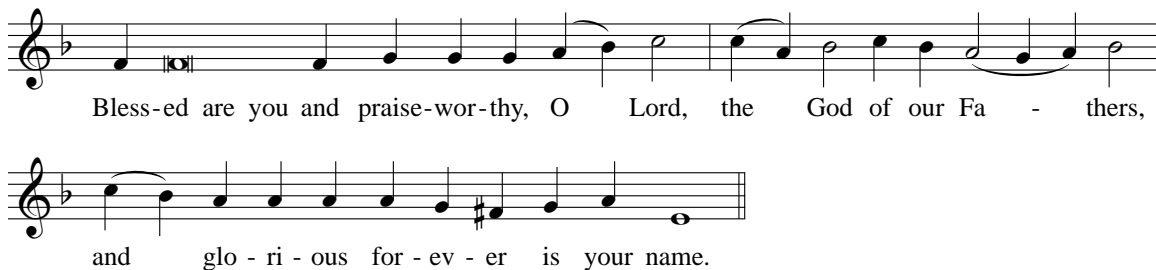
On December 21 through 23:

**Kontakion of the Pre-feast - Tone 2**



As we see the One who holds the world in his hands now wrapped in  
swad-dling clothes in Beth-le-hem, let us of-fer our hymns in anticipation to  
the one who gave him birth; for with a mother's joy she cra-dles the  
Son of God.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Daniel 3:26,27):**



Bless-ed are you and praise-wor-thy, O Lord, the God of our Fa-thers,  
and glo-ri-ous for-ev-er is your name.

**Verse:** For you are just in all that you have done for us.

**Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 43:2,8):**



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

**Verse:** O God, we have heard with our own ears;  
our fathers have told us the deed you did in their days.

**Verse:** You saved us from those who oppressed us; and those who hated us you put to shame.

For Sunday, the usual Communion Hymn is (Psalm 148:1):

D

Praise the Lord, the Lord from the heav-ens, praise him,

*Refrain*

praise him in the high-est. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!

And for the righteous ones, the Communion Hymn is (Psalm 32:1):

D

Re-joyce in the Lord you right - eous ones; praise from the up-right,

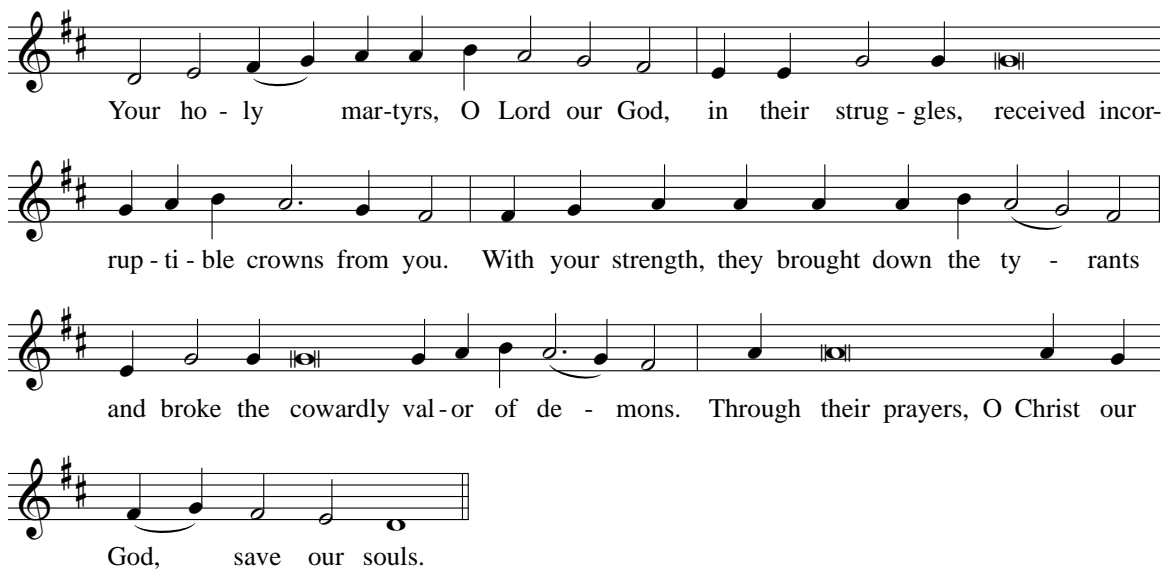
*Refrain*

the up - right is fit-ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!

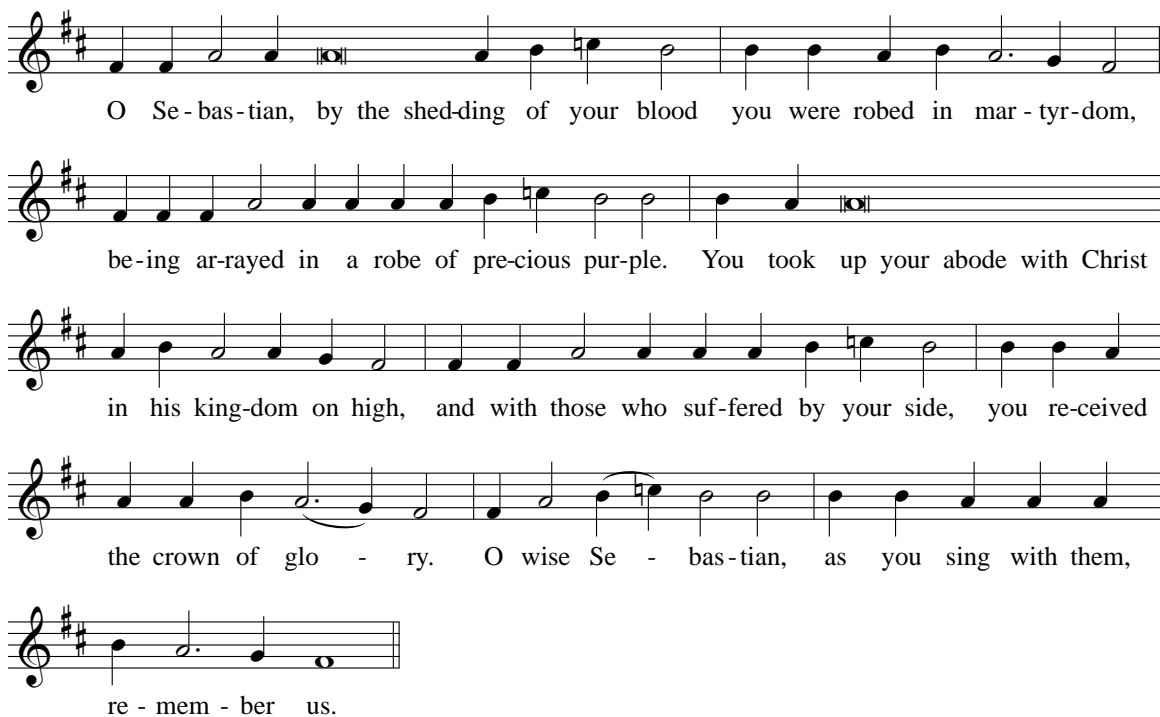
**18 The holy martyr Sebastian and his companions.** Born in Italy and brought up in the city of Milan, he intended to be a soldier. The emperor Diocletian made him captain of the imperial guard. During this time, Sebastian professed the Faith and was a great help to those persecuted for it. After many of his converts were martyred, the emperor called Sebastian and rebuked him for his betrayal, and he replied, "I always pray to my Christ for your health and for the peace of the Roman Empire." The emperor ordered him stripped and shot with arrows. Since this did not kill him, he was beaten to death with staves. (287)

### Troparion - Tone 4



Your ho - ly mar - tyrs, O Lord our God, in their strug - gles, received incor -  
rup - ti - ble crowns from you. With your strength, they brought down the ty - rants  
and broke the cowardly val - or of de - mons. Through their prayers, O Christ our  
God, save our souls.

### Kontakion - Tone 8



O Se - bas - tian, by the shed - ding of your blood you were robed in mar - tyr - dom,  
be - ing ar - rayed in a robe of pre - cious pur - ple. You took up your abode with Christ  
in his king - dom on high, and with those who suf - fered by your side, you re - ceived  
the crown of glo - ry. O wise Se - bas - tian, as you sing with them,  
re - mem - ber us.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 15:3,8):**

To all the saints in his land, the Lord has shown all the  
wonders of his will.

**Verse:** I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 33:18,20):**

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

**Verse:** When the righteous cried out, the Lord heard; and from all distress he saved them.

**Verse:** Many are the troubles of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

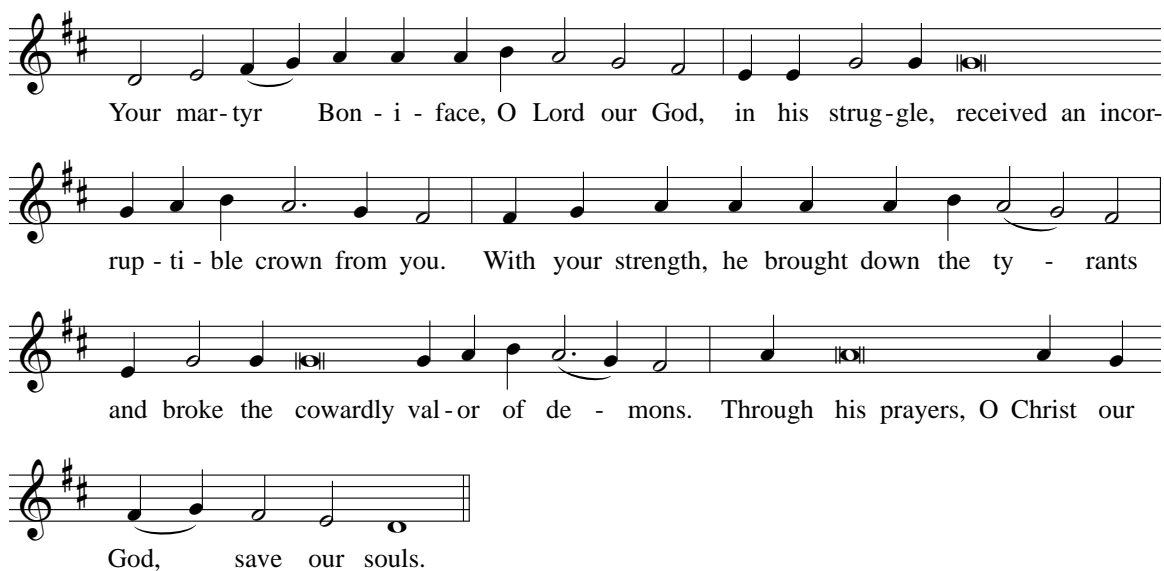
**Communion Hymn (Psalm 32:1):**

E

Re - joice in the Lord, you right - eous ones; re - joice in the Lord,  
you right - eous ones; praise from the up - right is fit - ting.  
*Refrain*  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

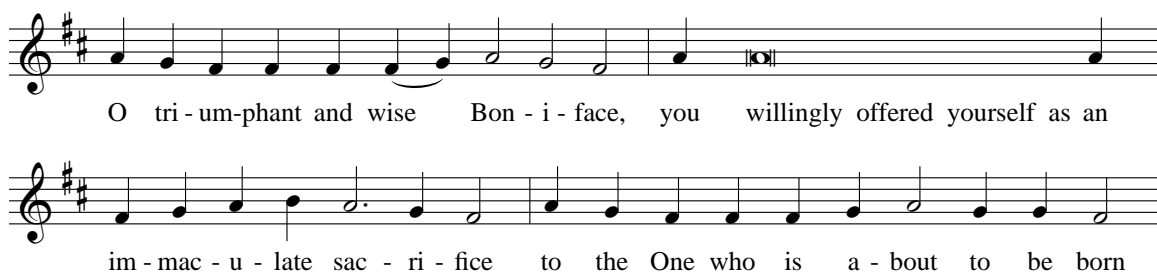
**19 The holy martyr Boniface** was a servant to a wealthy and wicked woman in Rome, and was her paramour. His mistress decided that she wanted to have some relics of a Christian martyr in her house to use as an amulet to ward off evil, and dispatched Boniface to Asia to buy what she desired. In the city of Tarsus, Boniface witnessed the deaths of many for the sake of Christ, and was converted. He denounced himself to the authorities and said, "I too am a Christian." He was then tortured and beheaded. Slaves took his body back to Rome, and an angel appeared to his former mistress, saying, "Take him who was once your servant, but who is now our brother---he is the guardian of your soul." She repented and built a church where Boniface's relics were buried. (290)

**Troparion - Tone 4**



Your mar-tyr Bon - i - face, O Lord our God, in his strug-gle, received an incor-  
rup - ti - ble crown from you. With your strength, he brought down the ty - rants  
and broke the cowardly val - or of de - mons. Through his prayers, O Christ our  
God, save our souls.

**Kontakion - Tone 4**



O tri - um-phant and wise Bon - i - face, you willingly offered yourself as an  
im - mac - u - late sac - ri - fice to the One who is a - bout to be born



from the Vir-gin Mar - y for your sake.

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



The just man will re-joyce in the Lord, re - joyce in the Lord



and will put his trust in him.

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

**Alleluia - Tone 4** (Psalm 91:13,14):



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

*Verse:* The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

*Verse:* Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):

F



The just man will be re - mem-bered, be re-mem - bered for ev - ver

*Refrain*



e - vil news he will not fear, e - vil news he will not fear. Al - le - lu - ia!



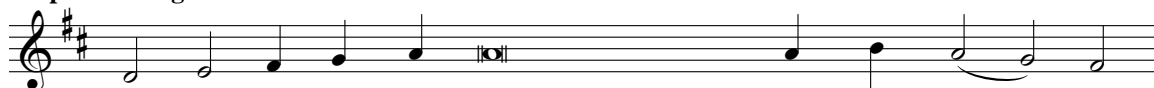
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**20 The holy martyr Ignatius the God-bearer**, a bishop and a disciple of St. John the Apostle. He ruled the Church of Antioch second after St. Peter and, condemned to the beasts under the Emperor Trajan, he was sent to Rome and there was crowned with a glorious martyrdom. On his trip, while under guard and experiencing their ferocity as if of leopards, he wrote seven letters to various Churches, by which he beseeched his brothers to serve God in unity with the bishops and not to keep him from being sacrificed as a victim for Christ. (107)

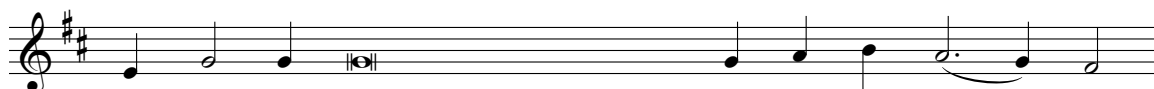
**Troparion of the Pre-feast - Tone 4:** (*music found on page 45*)

Bethlehem, make ready, \* Eden has been opened for all. \* Ephrathah, prepare yourself, \* for the Tree of Life has blossomed from the Virgin in the cave. \* Her womb has become a spiritual paradise \* in which divinity was planted. \* If we partake of it, we shall live and not die like Adam. \* Christ is born to raise up the likeness that had fallen.

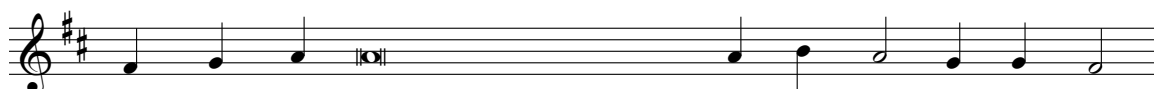
**Troparion of Ignatius - Tone 4**



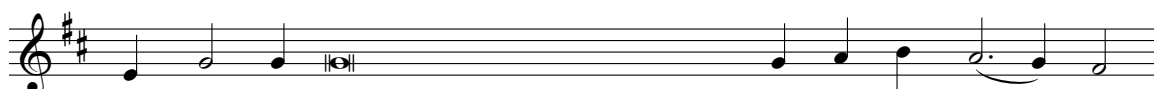
You sat on the chair of the apostles and exercised their powers.



You are the inspiration of prelates and the glory of martyrs.



You faced savage beasts, fire, and sword all for the sake of the faith



You made the course of truth straight, even at the price of your own blood.



O priest-martyr Ignatius, beg Christ our God to save our souls.

**Kontakion of the Pre-feast - Tone 3:** (*music found on page 46*)

Today the Virgin is coming to the cave \* to give birth to the eternal Word \* in a manner beyond expression. \* Let the world dance when it hears the news; \* with the angels and shepherds glorify the eternal God \* who chose to appear as a newborn child.

### Kontakion of Ignatius - Tone 3

The mov-ing cel-e-bration of your suc-cess-ful fight is like an an-nounce-ment  
of the One who is to be born of the Vir-gin. Be-cause of your  
ea-gerness to possess him for-ev-er, you has-tened to be de-voured by  
fe-ro-cious beasts. There-fore, O glo-rious Ig-na-tius, you were called the God-  
bear-er.

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

The just man will re-joice in the Lord, re-joice in the Lord  
and will put his trust in him.

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

### Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 91:13,14):

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

*Verse:* The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

*Verse:* Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.



Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

A

The just man will be re-mem-bered for-ev-er; e-vil news he  
will not fear, e-vil news he will not fear. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
Al-le-lu-ia!

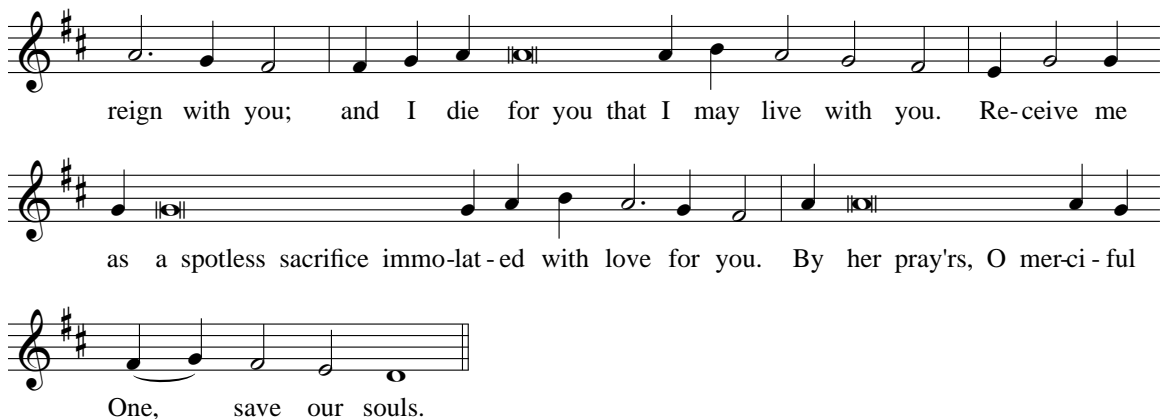
**21 The holy martyr Juliana of Nicodemia.** Born to pagan parents, she was at a young age converted to the Faith. She refused to marry the man chosen for her by her parents because he was not a Christian. She was arrested, beaten, and then beheaded, and with her many others who saw her witness and were converted by it. (304)

**Troparion of the Pre-feast - Tone 4:** (*music found on page 45*)

Bethlehem, make ready, \* Eden has been opened for all. \* Ephrathah, prepare yourself, \* for the Tree of Life has blossomed from the Virgin in the cave. \* Her womb has become a spiritual paradise \* in which divinity was planted. \* If we partake of it, we shall live and not die like Adam. \* Christ is born to raise up the likeness that had fallen.

**Troparion of Juliana - Tone 4**

Your lamb Ju-li-a-na, O Jesus, cries out in a loud voice: I love you,  
my Bridegroom; I seek you with pain-ful long-ing; I am cru-cified with you;  
in your baptism, I am bur-ied with you; I suf-fer for you that I may

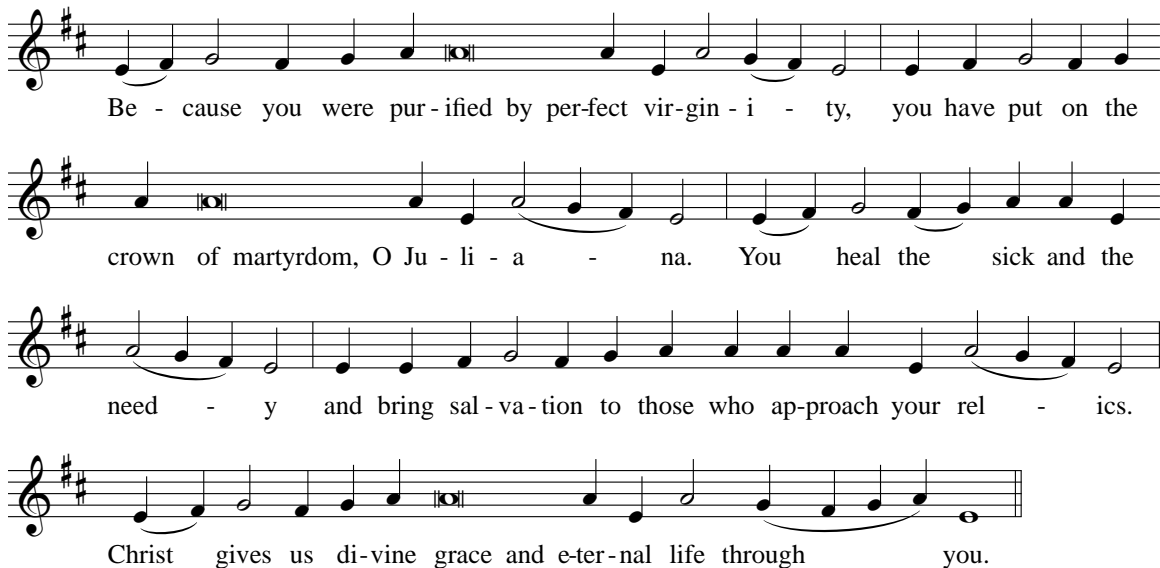


reign with you; and I die for you that I may live with you. Re-ceive me  
as a spotless sacrifice immo-lat-ed with love for you. By her pray'rs, O merci-ful  
One, save our souls.

**Kontakion of the Pre-feast - Tone 2: (music found on page 47)**

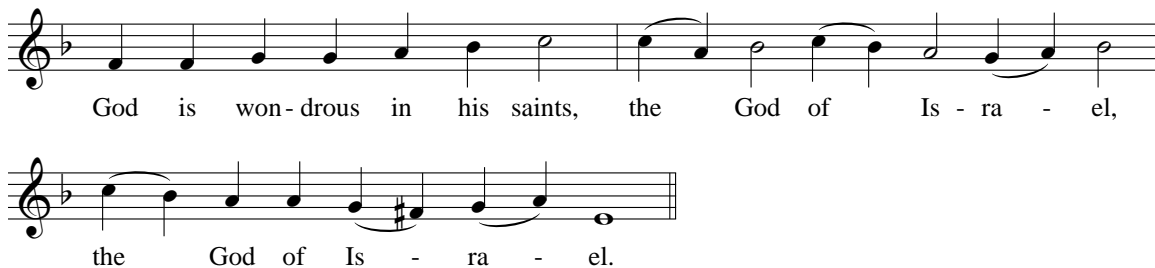
As we see the One who holds the world in his hands \* now wrapped in swaddling clothes in Bethlehem, \* let us offer our hymns in anticipation to the one who gave him birth; \* for with a mother's joy she cradles the Son of God.

**Kontakion of Juliana - Tone 3**



Be - cause you were pur-ified by per-fect vir-gin-i - ty, you have put on the  
crown of martyrdom, O Ju - li - a - na. You heal the sick and the  
need - y and bring sal - va - tion to those who ap-proach your rel - ics.  
Christ gives us di-vine grace and e-ter-nal life through you.

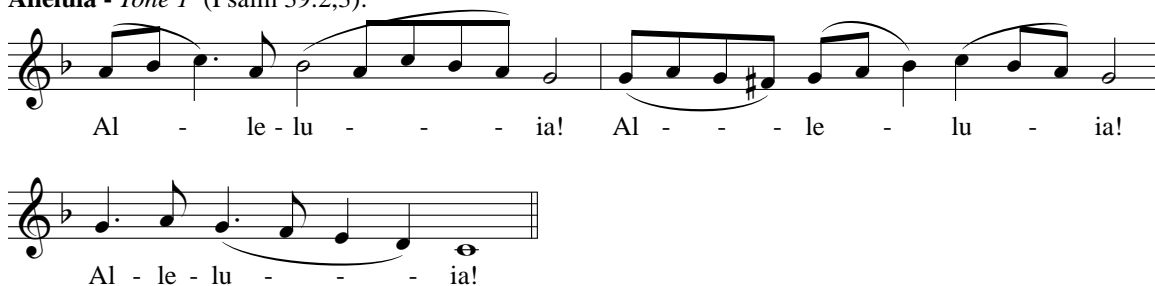
**Prokeimenon - Tone 4** (Psalm 67:36,27):



God is won-drous in his saints, the God of Is - ra - el,  
the God of Is - ra - el.

**Verse:** In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

**Alleluia - Tone 1** (Psalm 39:2,3):



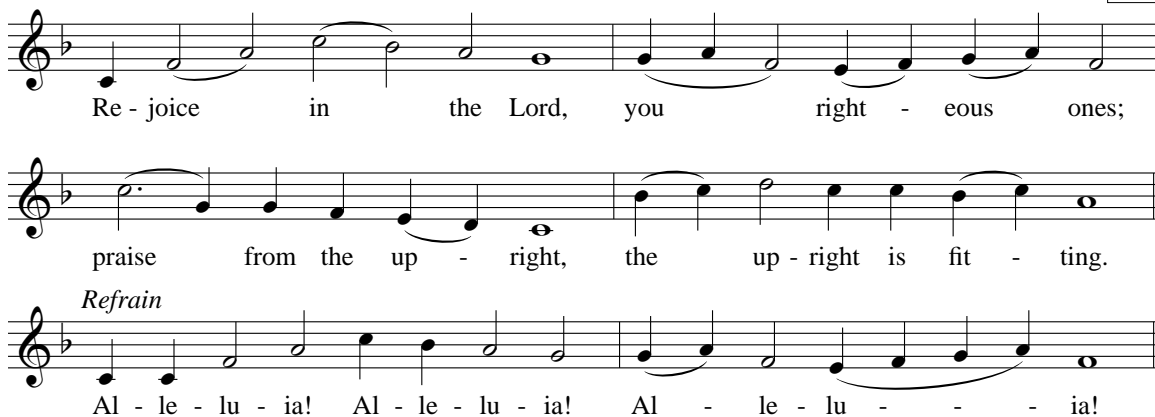
Al - le - lu - - - ia! Al - - - le - lu - - ia!  
Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**Verse:** I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.

**Verse:** He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the filthy clay.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):

B



Re - joice in the Lord, you right - eous ones;  
praise from the up - right, the up - right is fit - ting.  
*Refrain*  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**22 The holy great martyr Anastasia.** Born into a senatorial family in Rome, she was a Christian from a tender age. Forced by her father to marry a pagan landowner, she refused to have marital relations with him. For this, her husband had her tortured and imprisoned. When her husband drowned during a business trip, she began to openly minister to Christians and to all the poor who needed her help. She was arrested again, starved to death, and finally was bound to a wheel over an open fire and killed. (304)

**Troparion of the Pre-feast - Tone 4:** (*music found on page 45*)

Bethlehem, make ready, \* Eden has been opened for all. \* Ephrathah, prepare yourself, \* for the Tree of Life has blossomed from the Virgin in the cave. \* Her womb has become a spiritual paradise \* in which divinity was planted. \* If we partake of it, we shall live and not die like Adam. \* Christ is born to raise up the likeness that had fallen.

**Troparion of Anastasia - Tone 4**

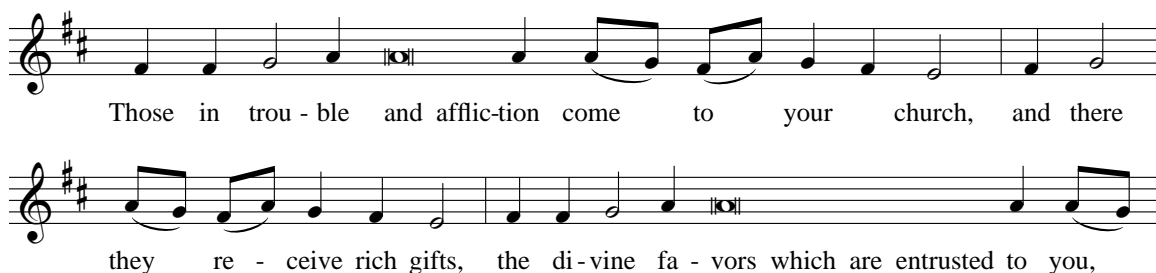


How well - named are you for the triumph of Res-ur-rec - tion. By en-dur-ing  
pain you gained the vic-to - ry of Christ your spouse, whom you love so dear - ly.  
Beg him to save our souls.

**Kontakion of the Pre-feast - Tone 2:** (*music found on page 47*)

As we see the One who holds the world in his hands \* now wrapped in swaddling clothes in Bethlehem, \* let us offer our hymns in anticipation to the one who gave him birth; \* for with a mother's joy she cradles the Son of God.

**Kontakion of Anastasia - Tone 2**



Those in trou - ble and afflic-tion come to your church, and there  
they re - ceive rich gifts, the di-vine fa - vors which are entrusted to you,

A - na - sta - si - a, and which you are al - ways show - er - ing on the world.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4** (Psalm 67:36,27):

God is won - drous in his saints, the God of Is - ra - el,  
the God of Is - ra - el.

**Verse:** In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

**Alleluia - Tone 1** (Psalm 39:2,3):

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

**Verse:** I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.

**Verse:** He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the filthy clay.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):

C

Re - joice in the Lord, re - joice in the Lord, you right - eous ones;  
praise from the up - right, the up - right is fit - ting, is fit - ting.  
*Refrain*  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - - - le - lu - ia!

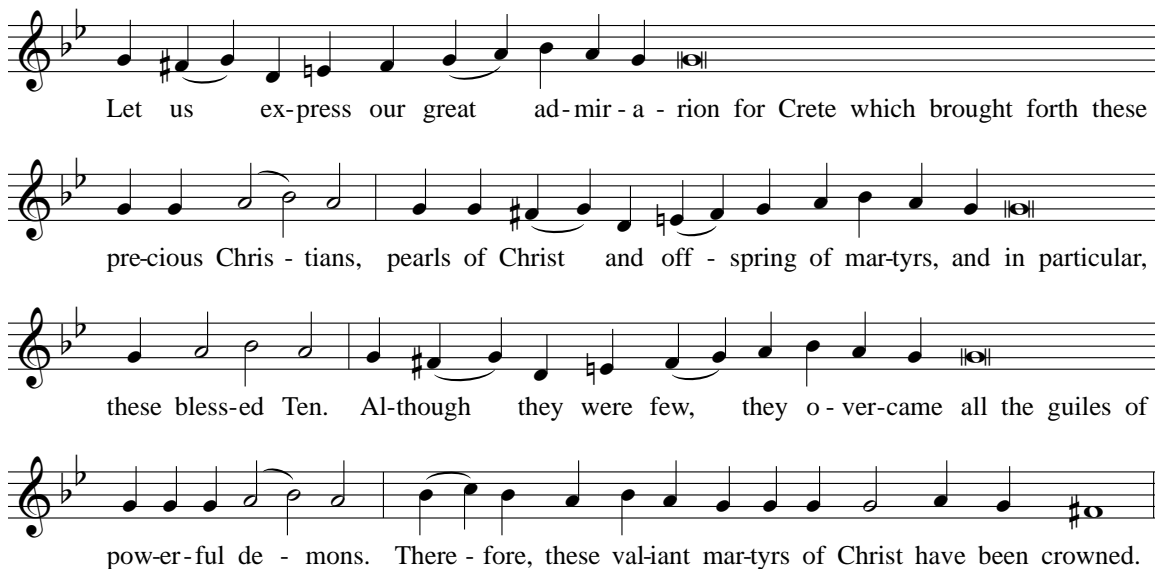
**23 The holy ten martyrs of Crete** of Gortyna, who, in the persecution of the Emperor Decius, publicly refused to sacrifice when ordered to do so during the dedication of the temple of the goddess Fortuna. They suffered tortures and were beheaded. (250)

**The commemoration of the dedication of the Church of Holy Wisdom in Constantinople.**

**Troparion of the Pre-feast - Tone 4:** *(music found on page 45)*

Bethlehem, make ready, \* Eden has been opened for all. \* Ephrathah, prepare yourself, \* for the Tree of Life has blossomed from the Virgin in the cave. \* Her womb has become a spiritual paradise \* in which divinity was planted. \* If we partake of it, we shall live and not die like Adam. \* Christ is born to raise up the likeness that had fallen.

**Troparion of the Martyrs - Tone 3**

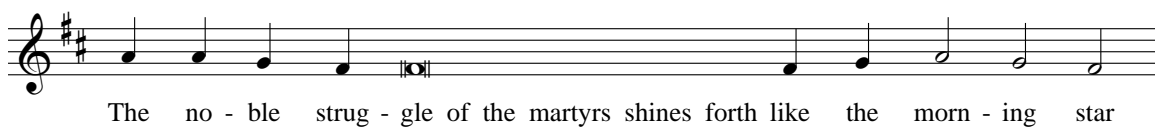


Let us ex-press our great ad-mir-a - rion for Crete which brought forth these  
pre-cious Chris - tians, pearls of Christ and off - spring of mar-tyrs, and in particular,  
these bless-ed Ten. Al-though they were few, they o - ver-came all the guiles of  
pow-er-ful de - mons. There - fore, these val-iant mar-tyrs of Christ have been crowned.

**Kontakion of the Pre-feast - Tone 2:** *(music found on page 47)*

As we see the One who holds the world in his hands \* now wrapped in swaddling clothes in Bethlehem, \* let us offer our hymns in anticipation to the one who gave him birth; \* for with a mother's joy she cradles the Son of God.

**Kontakion of the Martyrs - Tone 4**



The no - ble strug - gle of the martyrs shines forth like the morn - ing star

and sheds brilliant light for us on the One who was born in the cave,  
to whom the Vir - gin has giv - en birth with - out hu - man seed.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4** (Psalm 15:3,8):

To all the saints in his land, the Lord has shown all the  
won - ders of his will.

**Verse:** I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**Alleluia - Tone 4** (Psalm 33:18,20):

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

**Verse:** When the righteous cried out, the Lord heard; and from all distress he saved them.

**Verse:** Many are the troubles of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):

D

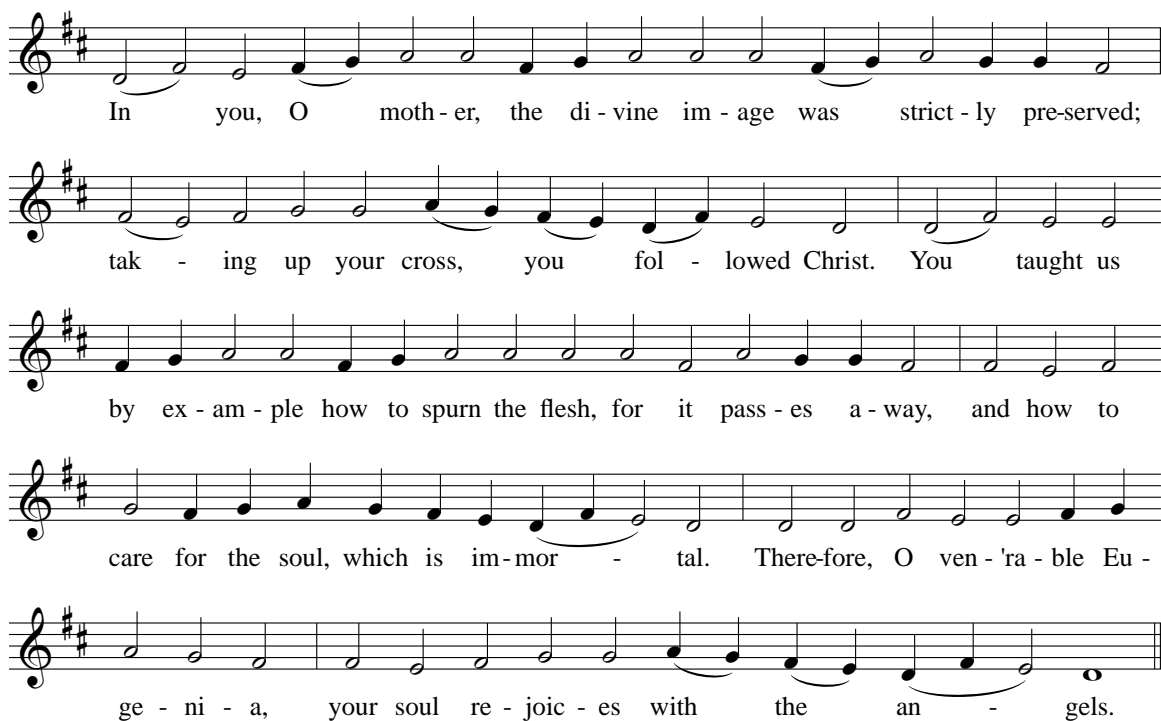
Re-joyce in the Lord, you righ - teous ones; praise from the up-right,  
*Refrain*  
the up - right is fit-ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - - - le - lu - - ia!

**24 The holy great martyr Eugenia.** Her father was Eparch of All Egypt. Eugenia ministered to the Christians who had been forced to flee the city of Alexandria due to persecution, and was then baptized. She assumed men's clothing and lived in a monastery. She was betrayed to the Eparch, who then found his daughter (thought by him to be dead). He was converted to the Faith. They moved back to Rome, where she was beheaded on December 25. (262)

**Troparion of the Vigil - Tone 4** (music found on page 45)

At that time, Mary registered in Bethlehem with the elder Joseph, who was of the house of David. She had conceived without seed and was with child, and her time to give birth had come. They found no room at the inn, but the cave became a pleasant palace for the Queen. Christ is born to raise up the likeness that had fallen.

**Troparion of Eugenia - Tone 8**



In you, O moth-er, the di-vine im-age was strict-ly pre-served;  
 tak - ing up your cross, you fol - lowed Christ. You taught us  
 by ex - am - ple how to spurn the flesh, for it pass - es a - way, and how to  
 care for the soul, which is im - mor - tal. There - fore, O ven - 'ra - ble Eu -  
 ge - ni - a, your soul re - joic - es with the an - gels.

**Kontakion of the Pre-feast - Tone 3:** (music found on page 46)

Today the Virgin is coming to the cave \* to give birth to the eternal Word \* in a manner beyond expression.  
 \* Let the world dance when it hears the news; \* with the angels and shepherds glorify the eternal God \* who chose to appear as a newborn child.

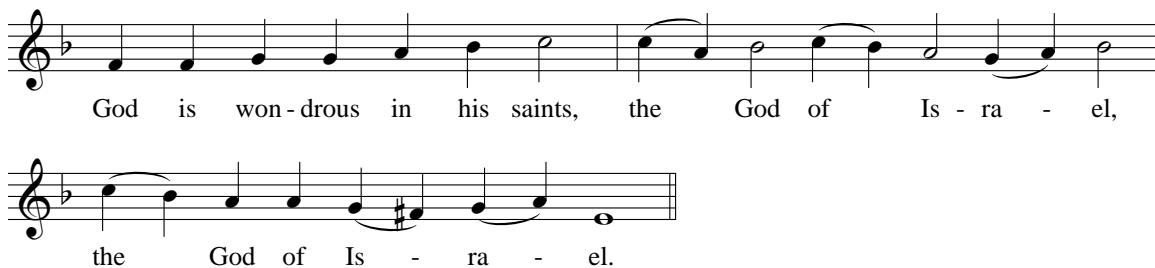


**Kontakion of Eugenia - Tone 4**



You left the Pass - ing glory of the world to fol - low Christ,  
and you kept immacu-late the bril - liance of your soul. O in-spired mar-tyr  
Eu - ge - ni - a, you are wor - thy of all praise.

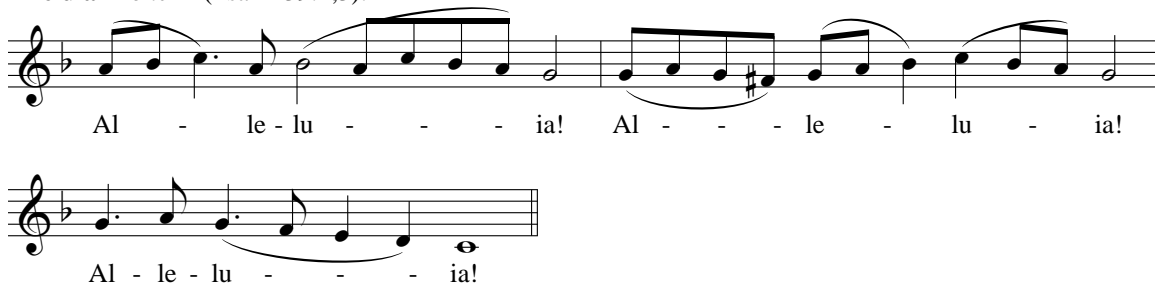
**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 67:36,27):**



God is won-drous in his saints, the God of Is - ra - el,  
the God of Is - ra - el.

**Verse:** In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

**Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 39:2,3):**



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

**Verse:** I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.

**Verse:** He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the filthy clay.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 32:1):

E



The just wo - man will be re - mem - bered for - ev - er;



e - vil news she will not fear, e - vil news she will not fear. *Refrain* Al - le - lu - ia!



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

**25 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

“When the fullness of time was come, God sent his only-begotten Son” (Galatians 4:4) to save the human race. Nine months after his conception in the womb of the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity was born in a stable in Bethlehem of Judea. To him be eternal glory and praise! Amen.

**First Antiphon** (Psalm 9:2):



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

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.  
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.


**Second Antiphon** (Psalm 111:1):



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

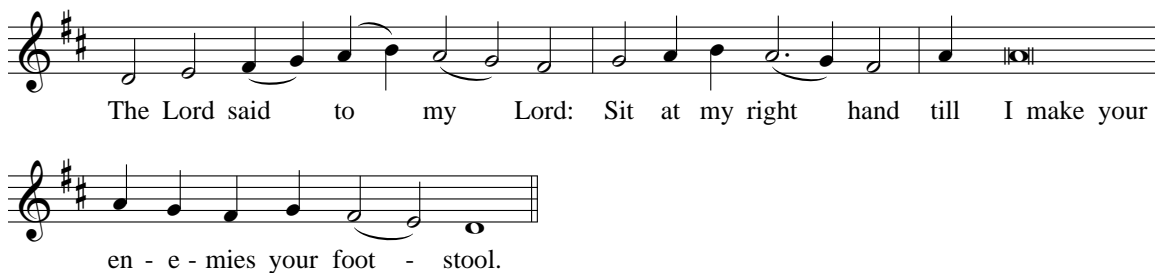


O Son of God, born of the Vir - gin, save us who sing to you:



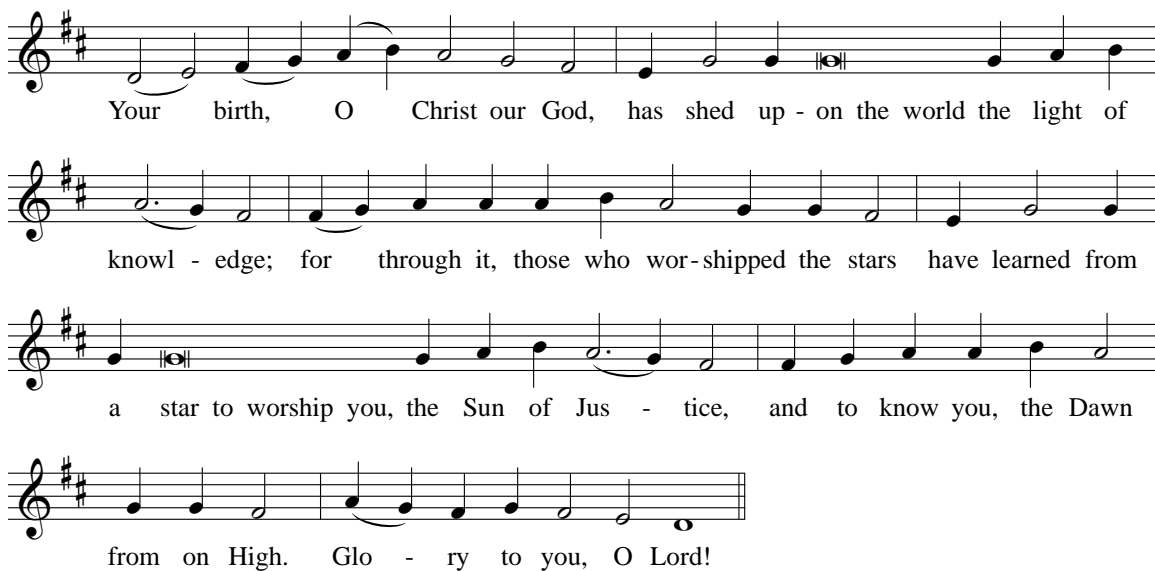
Al - le - lu - ia!

**Third Antiphon - Tone 4 Troparion** (Psalm 109:1):



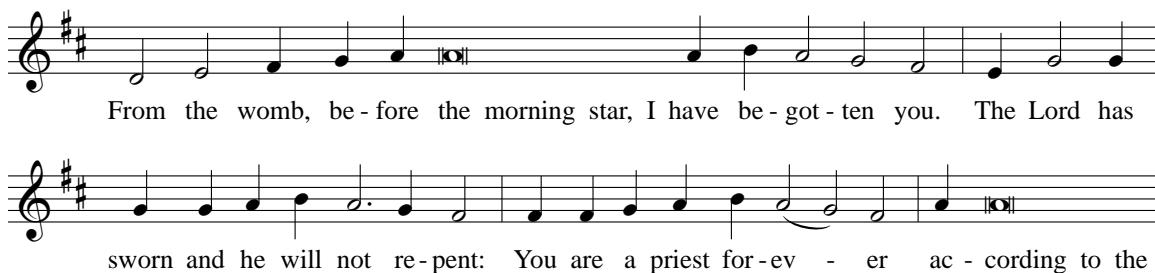
The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand till I make your  
en - e - mies your foot - stool.

**Troparion - 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 Troparion** (Psalm 109:3,4):



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

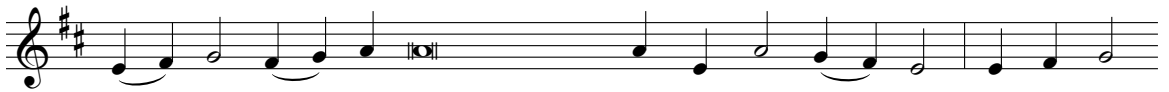


or - der of Mel - chi - ze - dek.

**Troparion - Tone 4:** (music found on page 65)

Your birth, O Christ our God, \* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; \* for through it, those who worshiped 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!

**Kontakion - 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. . ." (Galatians 3:27) – Not sung on the post-festive days:*

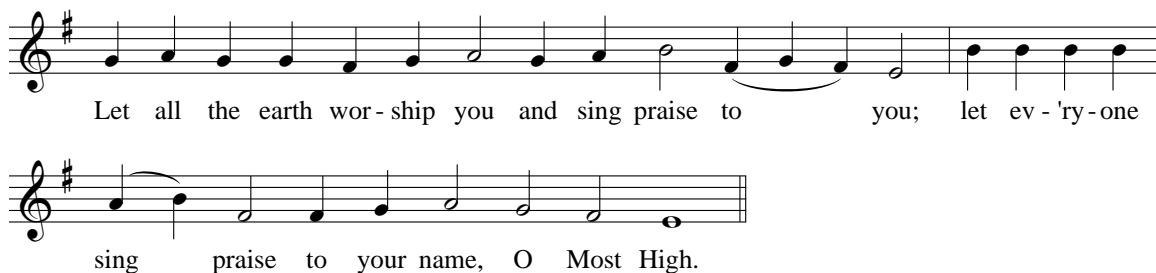
All you who have been baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ. Alleluia! (Three times)

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

Have been clothed with Christ. Alleluia!

All you who have been baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ. Alleluia!

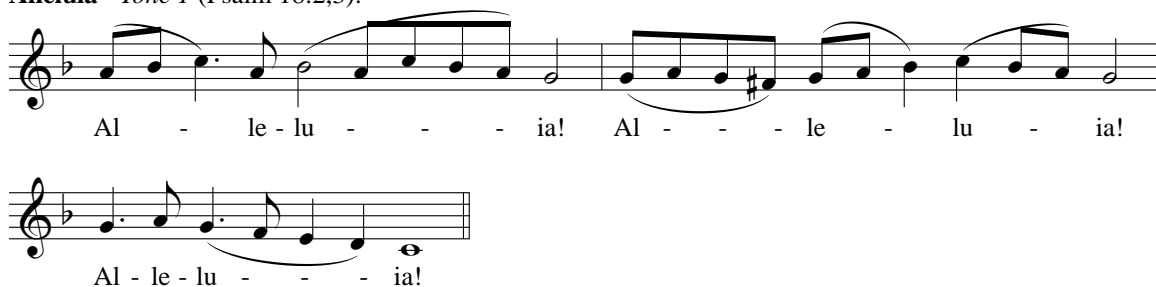
**Prokeimenon - Tone 8** (Psalm 65:4,1,2):



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):



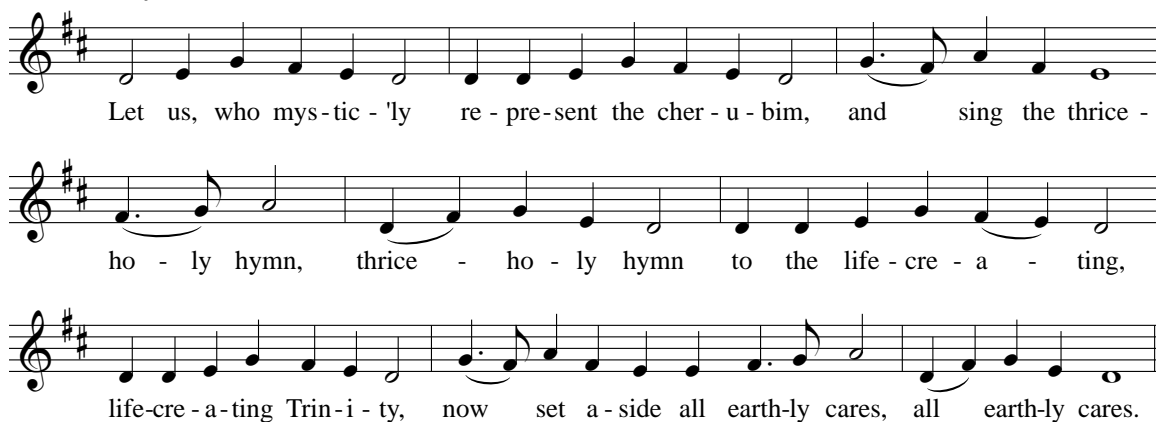
Al - le - lu - - - ia! Al - - - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**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**

*on the hymn, "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.



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.

*Instead of "It is truly proper . . ."*

### Magnification:



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



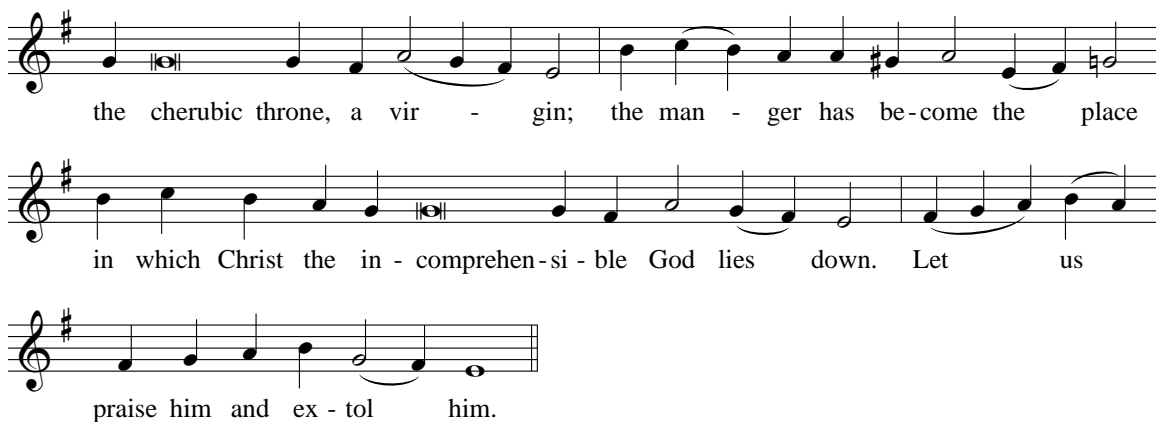
Christ the King born in a cave, Christ the King, born in a cave.

### Irmos:

*Tone 1 samopodoben*

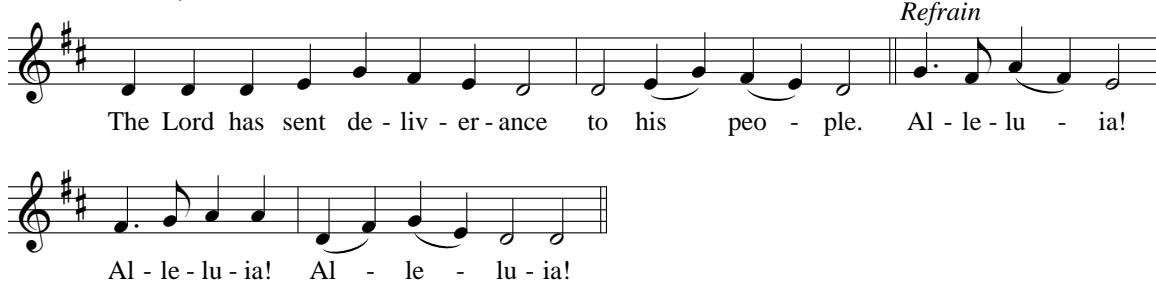


I see a strange and mar - vel - ous mys - te - ry: heav - en is a cave;



the cherubic throne, a vir - gin; the man - ger has be - come the place  
in which Christ the in - com - pre - hen - si - ble God lies down. Let us  
praise him and ex - tol him.

**Communion Hymn (Psalm 110:9):**



The Lord has sent de - liv - er - ance to his peo - ple. *Refrain* Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**On the Saturday from December 26 to 31  
SATURDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY**

**First Antiphon (Psalm 9:2):** *(music found on page 64)*

I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart; I shall declare all your wondrous deeds.  
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.  
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

**Second Antiphon (Psalm 111:1):** *(music found on page 64)*

Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.  
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Third Antiphon (Psalm 94:1):**



Come, let us sing joy-ful-ly to the Lord; let us ac-claim God our Sav - ior.



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



Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**Post-festive Entrance Hymn (Psalm 94:6):**



Come, let us wor - ship and bow be - fore Christ. O Son of God,



born of the Vir-gin, save us who sing to you: Al - le - lu - - ia!

**Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4:**

Your birth, O Christ our God, \* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; \* for through it, those who worshiped 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!

**Troparion of the Saint of the Day**

**Kontakion of the Saint of the Day**

**Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3 (music found on page 66)**

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One; and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable. The angels sing his glory with the shepherds; the wise men journey with the star. The eternal God is born for us as an infant child.



**Prokeimenon - Tone 4** (Psalm 44:18,11):



I shall make your name re - mem - bered in all gen - er - a - tions.

**Verse:** Listen, O daughter, and see and incline your ear.

**Alleluia - Tone 8** (Psalm 131:8,11):



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

**Verse:** Go up, Lord, to your rest, you and your holy ark.

**Verse:** The Lord swore a true oath to David; he will not go back on his word.

*Instead of "It is truly proper . . ."*

**Magnification:** (*music found on page 68*)


Extol, O my soul, Christ the King, born in a cave.

**Irmos:** I see a strange and marvelous mystery: heaven is a cave; the cherubic throne a virgin; the manger has become the place in which Christ the incomprehensible God lies down. Let us praise him and extol him.

Communion Hymn of the Nativity (**Psalm 110:9**) (*music found on page 69*)

**The Lord has sent deliverance to his people. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 115:4):




I shall take the chal - ice of sal - va - tion and call up - on the name

*Refrain*



of the Lord, the name of the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia!

**On the Sunday from December 26 to 31**  
**SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY**  
**The Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed,**  
**David the King, and James the Brother of God**

**First Antiphon** (Psalm 9:2): *(music found on page 64)*

I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart; I shall declare all your wondrous deeds.  
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.  
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

**Second Antiphon** (Psalm 111:1): *(music found on page 64)*

Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.  
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Third Antiphon** (Psalm 94:1): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim God our Savior.  
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Entrance Hymn** (Psalm 94:6): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us worship and bow before Christ.  
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Troparion - Prescribed Resurrection Tone**

**Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4:** *(music found on page 65)*

Your birth, O Christ our God, \* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; \* for through it, those who worshiped 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!

**Troparion - 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.

**Kontakion - Tone 3:**

To - day the god - ly Da - vid is filled with joy; Jo - seph of - fers

hymns of praise with James. Re - joic - ing, they take up the garland of

re - la - tion - ship with Christ. They sing praise to him whose birth on earth

de - fies de - scrip - tion and they cry out: O mer - ci - ful Lord, save

those who hon - or you.

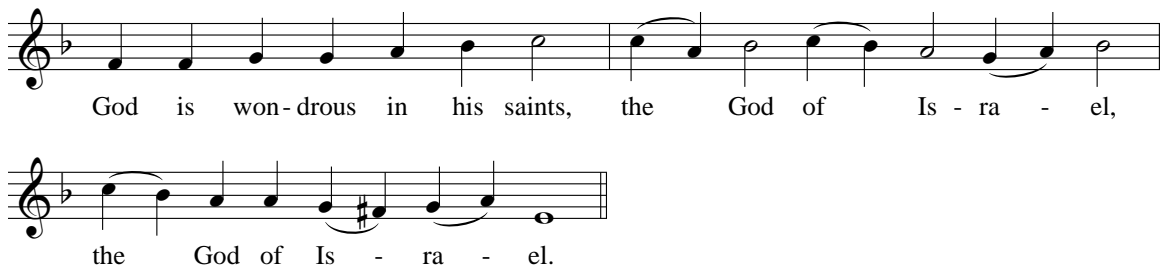
**Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3 (music found on page 66)**

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One; and the earth of fers a cave to the Unapproachable. The angels sing his glory with the shepherds; the wise men journey with the star. The eternal God is born for us as an infant child.

**Prokeimenon - Prescribed Resurrection Tone**

*Then, immediately after the verse:*

**Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 67:36,27):**



God is won-drous in his saints, the God of Is - ra - el,  
the God of Is - ra - el.

**Verse:** In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

**Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 131:1,2):**



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

**Verse:** Lord, remember David and all his humility.

**Verse:** How he swore to the Lord and vowed to the God of Jacob.

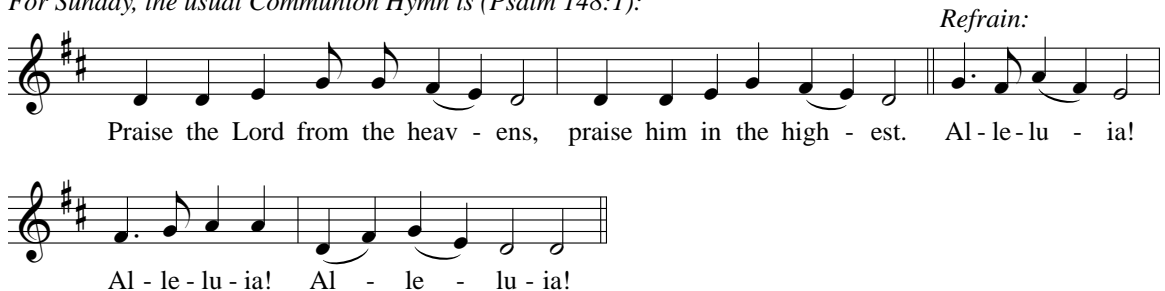
*Instead of "It is truly proper . . ."*

**Magnification:** *(music found on page 68)*

Extol, O my soul, Christ the King, born in a cave.

**Irmos:** I see a strange and marvelous mystery: heaven is a cave; the cherubic throne a virgin; the manger has become the place in which Christ the incomprehensible God lies down. Let us praise him and extol him.

*For Sunday, the usual Communion Hymn is (Psalm 148:1):*



*Refrain:*  
Praise the Lord from the heav - ens, praise him in the high - est. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

And for the Relatives of the Lord, the Communion Hymn is (Psalm 32:1):

Re-joice in the Lord, you right-eous ones, praise from the up-right is fit - ting.

*Refrain:*

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the main melody for the hymn, and the second staff contains the refrain. The lyrics are written below the notes.

**26 THE SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.** On the second day of the Christmas feast, the Church gives glory and praise to the most holy Theotokos, who bore our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**The holy martyr Euthymius**, bishop of Sardis in Lydia, who on account of his veneration of the Holy Images was forced into exile by the iconoclast Emperor Michael. Finally, when Theophilus was emperor, he was brutally beaten with leather thongs, and he fulfilled his martyrdom. (840)

**First Antiphon** (Psalm 9:2): *(music found on page 64)*

I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart; I shall declare all your wondrous deeds. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

**Second Antiphon** (Psalm 111:1): *(music found on page 64)*

Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands. O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Third Antiphon** (Psalm 94:1): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim God our Savior. O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

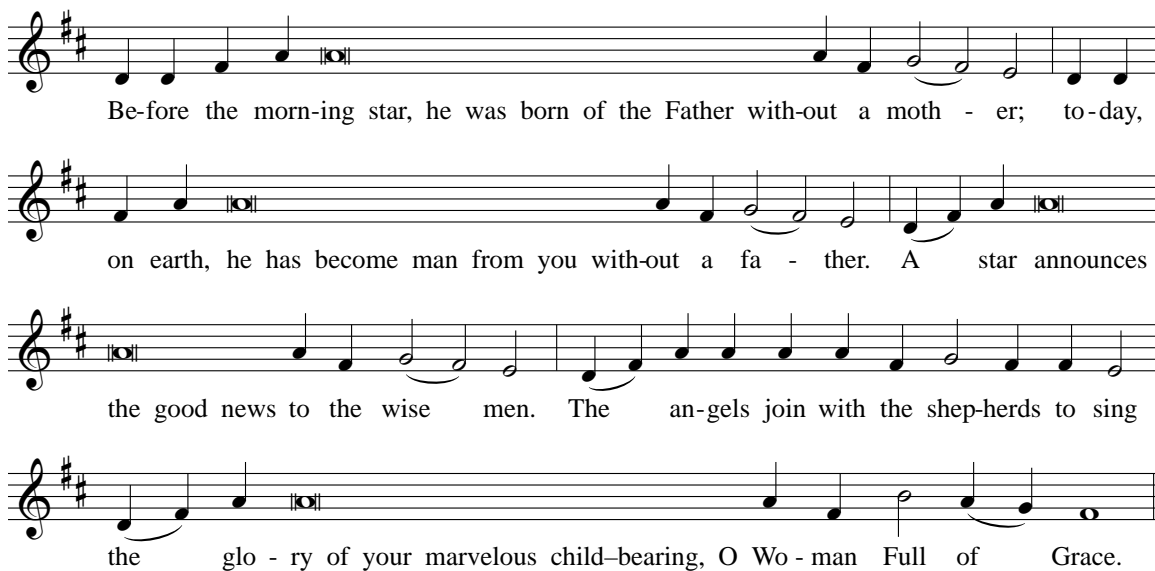
**Post-festive Entrance Hymn** (Psalm 94:6): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us worship and bow before Christ. O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4:** *(music found on page 65)*

Your birth, O Christ our God, \* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; \* for through it, those who worshiped 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!

**Kontakion of the Synaxis - Tone 6:**

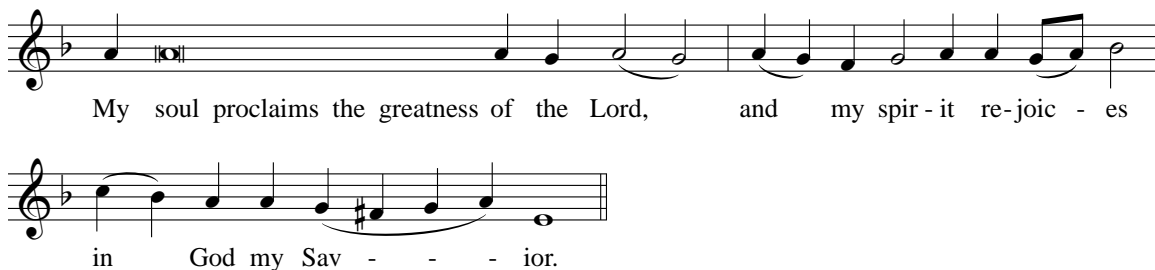


Be-fore the morn-ing star, he was born of the Father with-out a moth - er; to-day,  
on earth, he has become man from you with-out a fa - ther. A star announces  
the good news to the wise men. The an-gels join with the shep-herds to sing  
the glo - ry of your marvelous child-bearing, O Wo - man Full of Grace.

**Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3 (music found on page 66)**

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One; and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable. The angels sing his glory with the shepherds; the wise men journey with the star. The eternal God is born for us as an infant child.

**Prokeimenon - Tone 3 (Luke 1:46-48):**



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spir - it re-joic - es  
in God my Sav - - - ior.

**Verse:** For he has looked with favor on the humility of his servant;  
from this day forward, all generations will call me blessed.

**Alleluia - Tone 8 (Psalm 131:8,11):**



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

**Verse:** Go up, Lord, to your rest, you and your holy ark.

**Verse:** The Lord swore a true oath to David; he will not go back on his word.

Instead of "It is truly proper . . ."

**Magnification:**

Ex - tol, ex - tol, O my soul, O my soul,  
the most ho - ly Vir - gin The - o - to - kos who is more hon - or - a - ble  
than the an - gel - ic hosts on high.

The musical notation consists of three staves in G major. The first staff contains the melody for "Ex - tol, ex - tol, O my soul, O my soul," with a fermata over the second "O my soul". The second staff continues with "the most ho - ly Vir - gin The - o - to - kos who is more hon - or - a - ble". The third staff concludes with "than the an - gel - ic hosts on high." and ends with a double bar line.

**Irmos:**

*Tone 6 Irmos, simple setting*

Rev-'rent si-lence would run no risk; but love com-pels us, O Virgin, to a more  
dif - fi - cult task: to weave well-wrought hymns of de - vo - tion.  
O Moth - er, give us the strength to do what we in - tend.

The musical notation consists of three staves in G major. The first staff contains the melody for "Rev-'rent si-lence would run no risk; but love com-pels us, O Virgin, to a more". The second staff continues with "dif - fi - cult task: to weave well-wrought hymns of de - vo - tion." and ends with a double bar line. The third staff concludes with "O Moth - er, give us the strength to do what we in - tend." and ends with a double bar line.

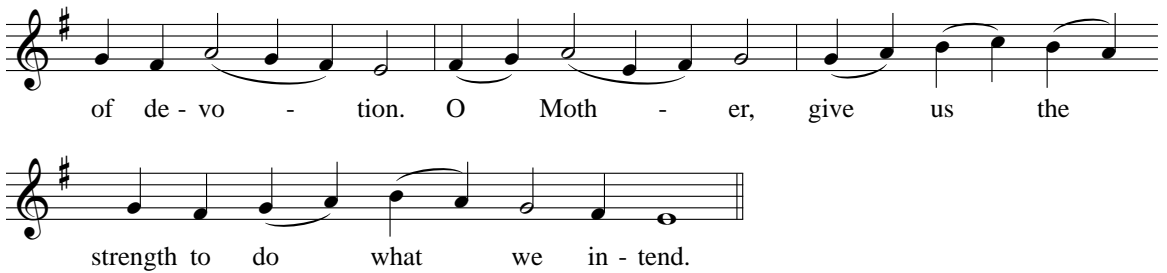
*Or this melody:*

**Irmos:**

*Tone 1 samopodoben*

Rev-'rent si - lence would run no risk; but love com-pels us,  
O Vir - gin, to a more dif - fi - cult task: to weave well-wrought hymns

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major. The first staff contains the melody for "Rev-'rent si - lence would run no risk; but love com-pels us,". The second staff continues with "O Vir - gin, to a more dif - fi - cult task: to weave well-wrought hymns" and ends with a double bar line.



---

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 110:9): *(music found on page 69)*

The Lord has sent deliverance to his people. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**27 THE HOLY APOSTLE, FIRST MARTYR, AND ARCHDEACON STEPHEN**, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit. First of seven deacons, whom the Apostles chose to be fellow-laborers in the ministry, he was also the first of the disciples of the Lord to pour out his blood at Jerusalem. He provided testimony for Christ Jesus, whom he saw standing in glory at the right hand of the Father. He was covered over by stones while praying for his persecutors.

**Our venerable father and confessor Theodore of Apamea** in Bithynia, a monk of the laura of St. Sabbas in Palestine, priest and martyr. In Constantinople with his brother St. Theophane (the Hymnographer) he endured much in the defense of the Holy Images. He endured scourging, prisons, exile, and even brands on his forehead, for which reason he was called Graptus. He expired in prison. (845)

**First Antiphon** (Psalm 9:2): *(music found on page 64)*

I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart; I shall declare all your wondrous deeds.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

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

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

**Second Antiphon** (Psalm 111:1): *(music found on page 64)*

Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.

O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Third Antiphon** (Psalm 94:1): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim God our Savior.

O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Entrance Hymn** (Psalm 94:6): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us worship and bow before Christ.

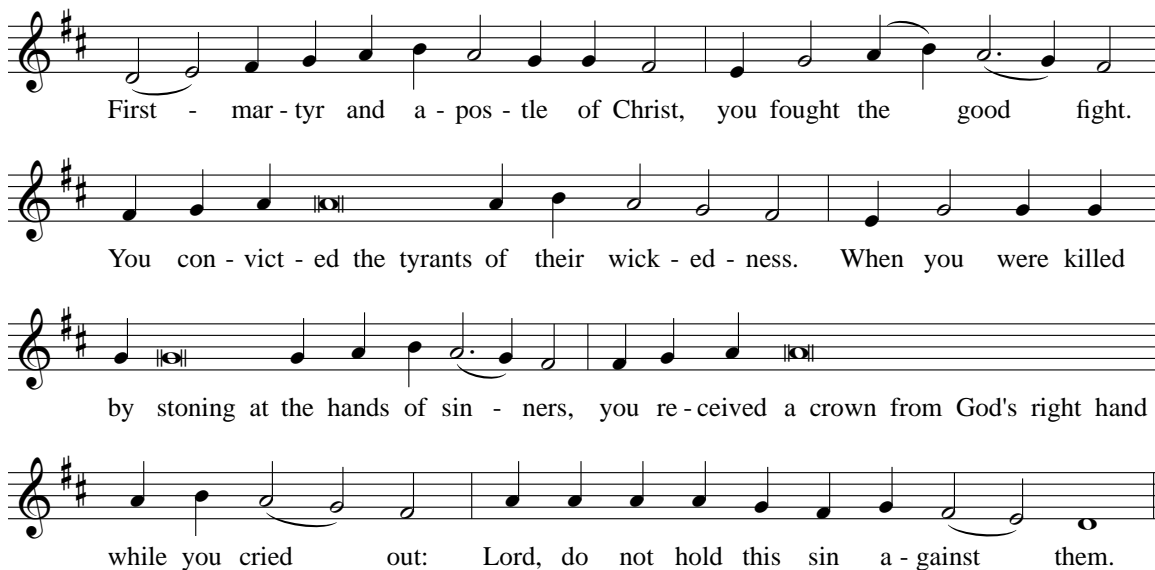
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!



**Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4:** (music found on page 65)

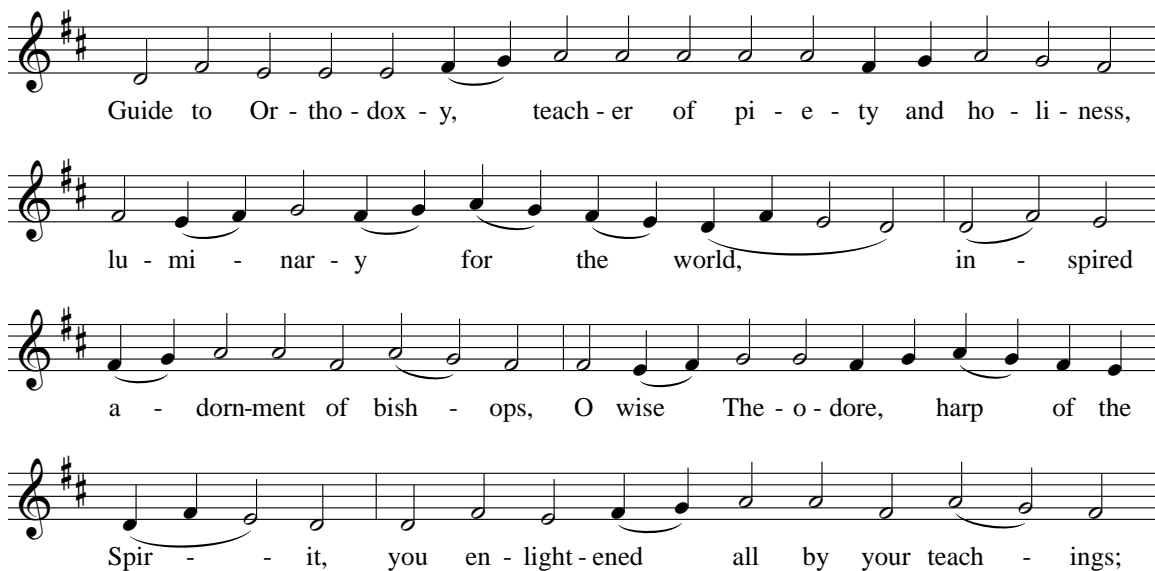
Your birth, O Christ our God, \* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; \* for through it, those who worshiped the stars \* have learned from a star to worship you, the Sun of Justice, \* and to know you, the dawn from on high. \* Glory to you, O Lord!

**Troparion - Tone 4:**



First - mar - tyr and a - pos - tle of Christ, you fought the good fight.  
You con - vict - ed the tyrants of their wick - ed - ness. When you were killed  
by stoning at the hands of sin - ners, you re - ceived a crown from God's right hand  
while you cried out: Lord, do not hold this sin a - gainst them.

**Troparion of Theodore - Tone 8**



Guide to Or - tho - dox - y, teach - er of pi - e - ty and ho - li - ness,  
lu - mi - nar - y for the world, in - spired  
a - dorn - ment of bish - ops, O wise The - o - dore, harp of the  
Spir - it, you en - light - ened all by your teach - ings;

in - ter - cede with Christ our God to save our souls.

**Troparion of Stephen - Tone 3**

Yes - ter - day, in hu - man flesh the Mas - ter came to us; to - day, from  
 the flesh, his serv - ant de - parts. Yes - ter - day. the King was born in the flesh;  
 to - day, his serv - ant is killed by ston - ing. Thus the ho - ly  
 Ste - phen, the first mar - tyr, is brought to per - fec - tion.

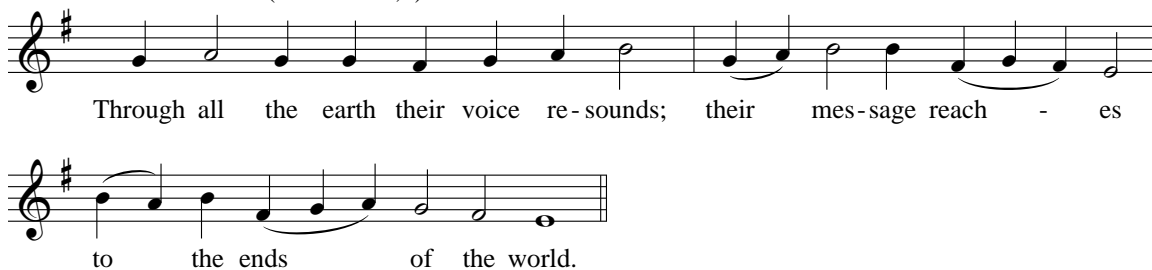
**Troparion of Theodore - Tone 3**

Your lips were ev - er sure, and you shrewdly vanquished your foe by your  
 en - dur - ance. Your face was grievously wound - ed for Christ's i - con,  
 and you taught us to hon - or and ven - er - ate all things. O The - o - dore,  
 ob - tain mer - cy for us.

**Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3** (music found on page 66)

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One; and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable. The angels sing his glory with the shepherds; the wise men journey with the star. The eternal God is born for us as an infant child.

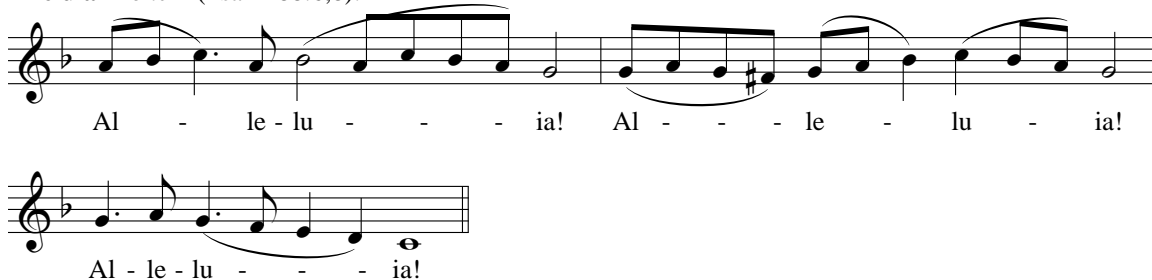
**Prokeimenon - Tone 8** (Psalm 18:5,2):



Through all the earth their voice re-sounds; their mes-sage reach - es  
to the ends of the world.

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

**Alleluia - Tone 1** (Psalm 88:6,8):



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

**Verse:** The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.

**Verse:** God is glorified in the council of the holy,  
great and awesome above all who surround him.

*Instead of "It is truly proper . . ."*

**Magnification:** (music found on page 68)

Extol, O my soul, Christ the King, born in a cave.

**Irmos:** I see a strange and marvelous mystery: heaven is a cave; the cherubic throne a virgin; the manger has become the place in which Christ the incomprehensible God lies down. Let us praise him and extol him.

**Communion Hymn** of the Nativity (Psalm 110:9): (music found on page 69)

The Lord has sent deliverance to his people. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And for the Holy Martyr Stephen, the Communion Hymn is (Psalm 18:5):

Through all the earth their voice re-sounds; their mes-sage reach - es

*Refrain*

to the ends of the world. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!

**28 The Twenty Thousand Martyrs of Nicomedia.** During the reign of emperor Maximian Hercules, the Christian faith was brutally persecuted in Nicomedia. When the local Christians had gathered in the church to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord, he ordered his soldiers to surround the church and set it on fire. Those inside were offered free passage out, as long as they betrayed Christ. They refused, men, women and children, and were martyred. (302)

**The holy priest-martyr Gregory Khomyshyn, bishop.** He was born in Galicia in 1867. After graduation from the seminary, he was ordained priest. He was sent for further studies, and in 1902 Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky appointed him rector of the seminary in L'viv. In 1904, he was ordained bishop for Ivano-Frankivsk. He was arrested twice by the Soviets, first in 1939 and again in 1945. He died in prison. (1947)

**First Antiphon** (Psalm 9:2): *(music found on page 64)*

I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart; I shall declare all your wondrous deeds.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

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

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

**Second Antiphon** (Psalm 111:1): *(music found on page 64)*

Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.

O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Third Antiphon** (Psalm 94:1): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim God our Savior.

O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Entrance Hymn** (Psalm 94:6): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us worship and bow before Christ.

O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4:** (music found on page 65)

Your birth, O Christ our God, \* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; \* for through it, those who worshiped 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!

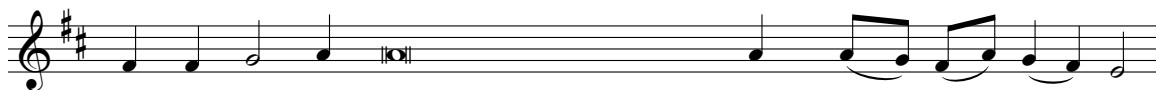
**Troparion of the Martyrs - Tone 2**



O vic - to - rious mar - tyrs of the Lord, bless - ed is the earth that re - ceived



your blood, and ho - ly are the heavenly places that o - pened to your souls.



You have van - quished the enemy in battle and pro - claimed Christ with cour - age.

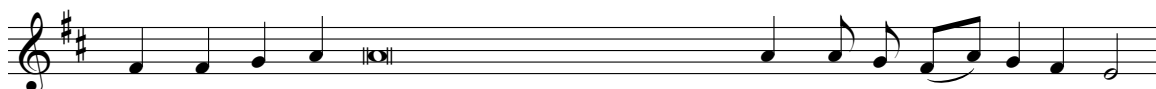


We beg you to intercede with him, the all - good One, that he may



save our souls.

**Kontakion of the Martyrs - Tone 2**



Thou - sands of saints stood firm in their faith and en - dured mar - tyr - dom in a blaze.



They cry to him who was born of the Vir - gin: O God e - ter - nal,



ac - cept our of - fer - ing as you ac - cepted the gold, frankincense, and



myrrh of the Per - sian kings.

**Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3** (*music found on page 66*)

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One; and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable. The angels sing his glory with the shepherds; the wise men journey with the star. The eternal God is born for us as an infant child.

**Prokeimenon of the Nativity - Tone 4** (Psalm 44:18,11): (*music found on page 71*)

I shall make your name remembered in all generations.

**Verse:** Listen, O daughter, and see and incline your ear.

**Alleluia of the Nativity - Tone 8** (Psalm 131:8,11): (*music found on page 71*)

**Verse:** Go up, Lord, to your rest, you and your holy ark.

**Verse:** The Lord swore a true oath to David; he will not go back on his word.

*Instead of* "It is truly proper . . ."

**Magnification:** (*music found on page 68*)

Extol, O my soul, Christ the King, born in a cave.

**Irmos:** I see a strange and marvelous mystery: heaven is a cave; the cherubic throne a virgin; the manger has become the place in which Christ the incomprehensible God lies down. Let us praise him and extol him.

Communion Hymn of the Nativity (**Psalm 110:9**) (*music found on page 69*)

**The Lord has sent deliverance to his people. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**29 The holy innocents killed by Herod in Bethlehem of Judea.** The impious king did this in the expectation that, with them, the infant Jesus would perish. They have been honored as martyrs from the first ages of the Church, the first-fruits of all who would pour out their blood for God and the Lamb.

**Our venerable father Marcellus**, hegumen of the Akimetes (the "non-sleeping ones") on the Bosphorus in Constantinople. Day and night, without any interruption ever, he carried out the singing of the Psalms. (486)

**First Antiphon** (Psalm 9:2): (*music found on page 64*)

I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart; I shall declare all your wondrous deeds.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

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

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

**Second Antiphon** (Psalm 111:1): (*music found on page 64*)

Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.

O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Third Antiphon** (Psalm 94:1): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim God our Savior.  
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

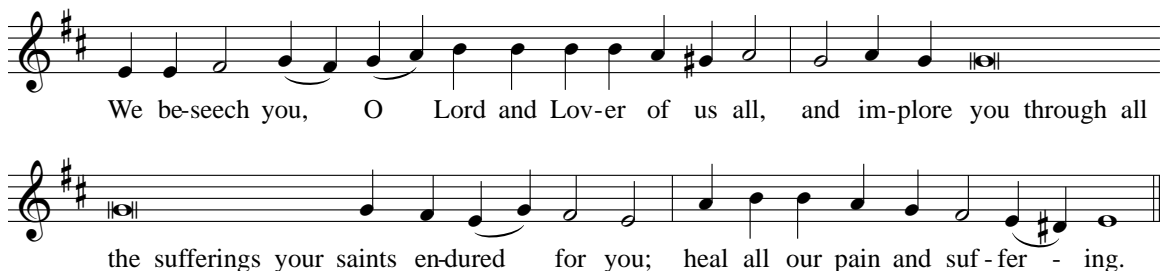
**Post-festive Entrance Hymn** (Psalm 94:6): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us worship and bow before Christ.  
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4:** *(music found on page 65)*

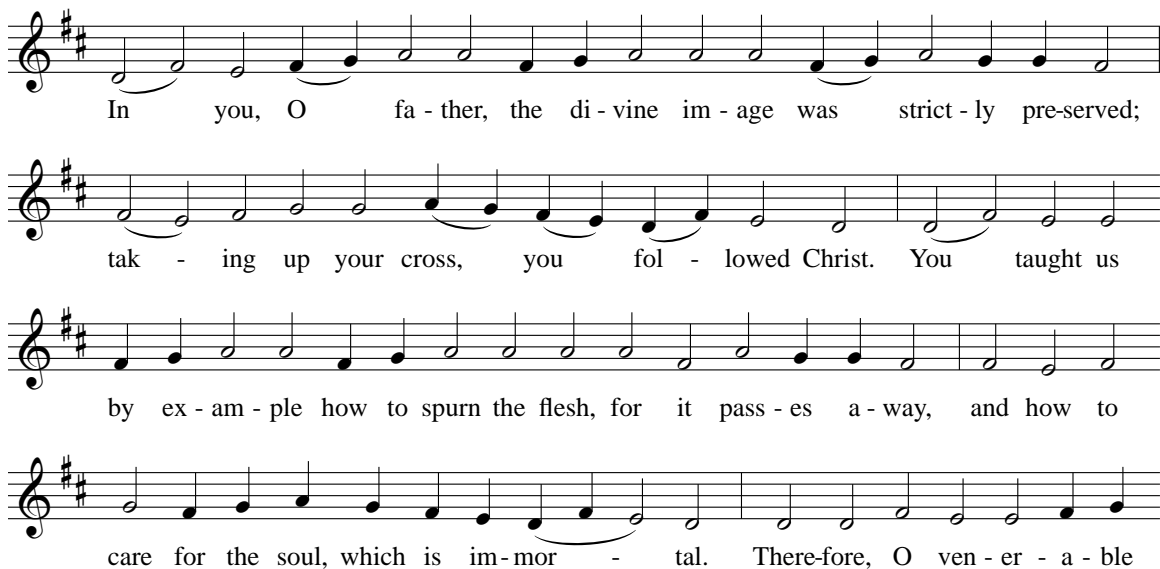
Your birth, O Christ our God, \* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; \* for through it, those who worshiped the stars \* have learned from a star to worship you, the Sun of Justice, \* and to know you, the dawn from on high. \* Glory to you, O Lord!

**Troparion of the Innocents - Tone 1**



We be-seech you, O Lord and Lov-er of us all, and im-plore you through all the sufferings your saints en-dured for you; heal all our pain and suf-fer - ing.

**Troparion of Marcellus - Tone 8**




In you, O fa-ther, the di-vine im-age was strict-ly pre-served; tak-ing up your cross, you fol-lowed Christ. You taught us by ex-am-ple how to spurn the flesh, for it pass-es a-way, and how to care for the soul, which is im-mor-tal. There-fore, O ven-er-a-ble



Mar - cel - lus, your soul re - joic - es with the an - gels.


**Kontakion of the Innocents - Tone 6**



When the King was born in Beth - le - hem, wise men came from the East and



brought him gifts. They had been led by a star on high. As for Her-od,




he became exceed - ing - ly an - gry and had the in - fants harvested



like la - ment - ing wheat; for he sees his power com - ing to an end.

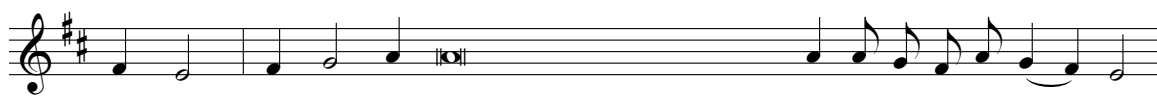
**Kontakion of Marcellus - Tone 2**



You rose in the East like a glit - er - ing star, and you thun - dered with virtuous deeds,



O bless - ed Mar - cel - lus. You were a standard for a com - mu - ni - ty



of monks, and you have become a light for the capitol, O ven - er - a - ble fa - ther.



This is why we sing to you: Re - joice, O most bless - ed fa - ther.



**Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3** (*music found on page 66*)

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One; and the earth of fers a cave to the Unapproachable. The angels sing his glory with the shepherds; the wise men journey with the star. The eternal God is born for us as an infant child.

**Prokeimenon of the Nativity - Tone 4** (Psalm 44:18,11): (*music found on page 71*)

I shall make your name remembered in all generations.

**Verse:** Listen, O daughter, and see and incline your ear.

**Alleluia of the Nativity - Tone 8** (Psalm 131:8,11): (*music found on page 71*)

**Verse:** Go up, Lord, to your rest, you and your holy ark.

**Verse:** The Lord swore a true oath to David; he will not go back on his word.

*Instead of* "It is truly proper . . ."...

**Magnification:** (*music found on page 68*)

Extol, O my soul, Christ the King, born in a cave.

**Irmos:** I see a strange and marvelous mystery: heaven is a cave; the cherubic throne a virgin; the manger has become the place in which Christ the incomprehensible God lies down. Let us praise him and extol him.

Communion Hymn of the Nativity (**Psalm 110:9**) (*music found on page 69*\_

**The Lord has sent deliverance to his people. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**30 The holy woman martyr Anysia** was arrested at Thessalonica when she entered that city to attend the synaxis of the faithful, and was put to death in 304 during the reign of Maximian Galerius.

**The venerable Zoticus**, a holy priest of Rome who went to Constantinople where he established hospitals and havens of refuge for the poor (344).

*Transferred from December 31:*

**Our venerable mother Melanie the Younger of Rome**, who, with her husband St. Pinianus, left the city of Rome and set out for the Holy City of Jerusalem. There, she among the women consecrated to God and her husband among the monks, they practiced the religious life and both rested in a holy death. (438)

**First Antiphon** (Psalm 9:2): (*music found on page 64*)

I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart; I shall declare all your wondrous deeds.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

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

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

**Second Antiphon** (Psalm 111:1): (*music found on page 64*)

Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.

O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Post-festive Third Antiphon** (Psalm 94:1): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim God our Savior.  
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

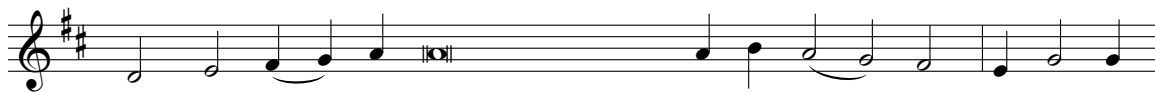
**Post-festive Entrance Hymn** (Psalm 94:6): *(music found on page 70)*

Come, let us worship and bow before Christ.  
O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

**Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4:** *(music found on page 65)*

Your birth, O Christ our God, \* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; \* for through it, those who worshiped 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!

**Troparion of Anysia - Tone 4**



Your lamb A - ny - sia, O Jesus, cries out in a loud voice: I love you,



my Bridegroom; I seek you with pain-ful long - ing; I am cru - cified with you;



in your baptism, I am bur - ied with you; I suf - fer for you that I may



reign with you; and I die for you that I may live with you. Re-ceive me

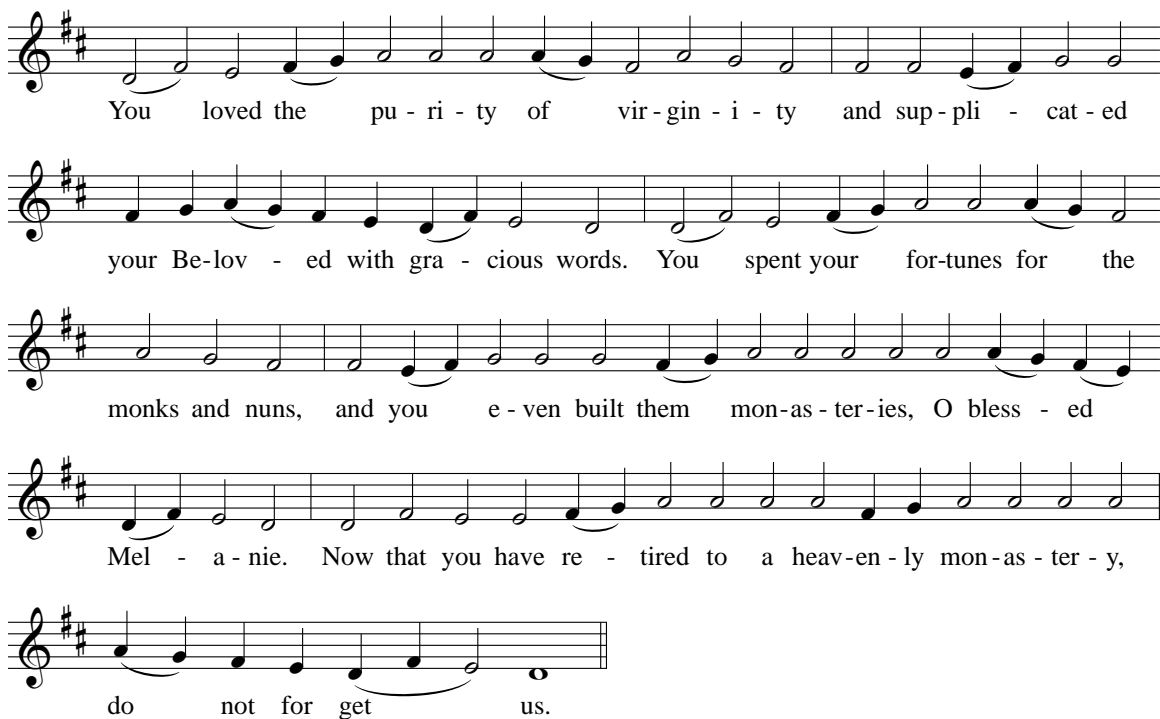


as a spotless sacrifice immo-lat-ed with love for you. By her pray'rs, O mer-ci - ful



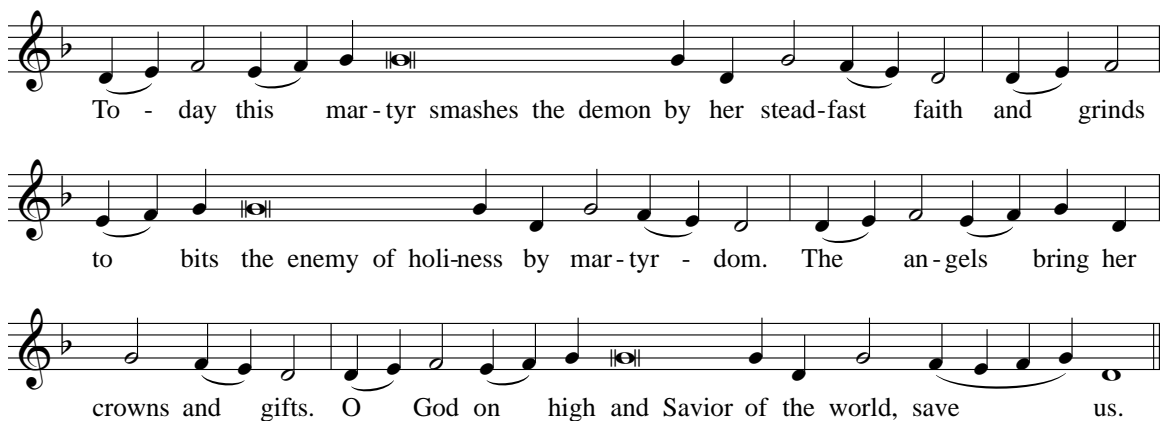
One, save our souls.

### Troparion of Melanie - *Tone 8*



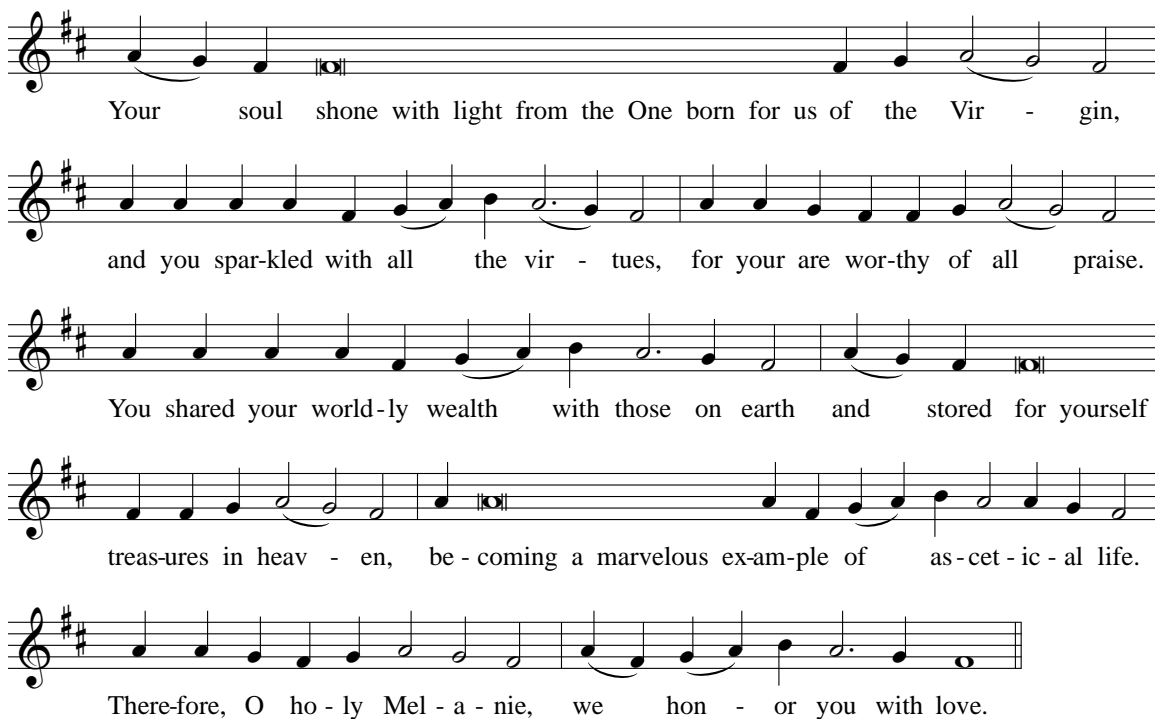
You loved the pu - ri - ty of vir - gin - i - ty and sup - pli - cat - ed  
your Be - lov - ed with gra - cious words. You spent your for - tunes for the  
monks and nuns, and you e - ven built them mon - as - ter - ies, O bless - ed  
Mel - a - nie. Now that you have re - tired to a heav - en - ly mon - as - ter - y,  
do not for get us.

### Kontakion of Anysia - *Tone 3*



To - day this mar - tyr smashes the demon by her stead - fast faith and grinds  
to bits the enemy of holi - ness by mar - tyr - dom. The an - gels bring her  
crowns and gifts. O God on high and Savior of the world, save us.

### Kontakion of Melanie - Tone 4

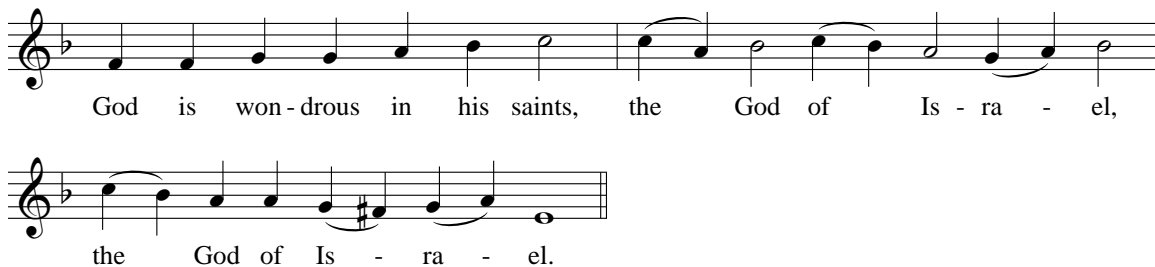


Your soul shone with light from the One born for us of the Vir - gin,  
and you spar-kled with all the vir - tues, for your are wor-thy of all praise.  
You shared your world-ly wealth with those on earth and stored for yourself  
treas-ures in heav - en, be - coming a marvelous ex-am-ple of as-cet - ic - al life.  
There-fore, O ho - ly Mel - a - nie, we hon - or you with love.

### Kontakion of the Nativity - Tone 3 (music found on page 66)

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One; and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable. The angels sing his glory with the shepherds; the wise men journey with the star. The eternal God is born for us as an infant child.

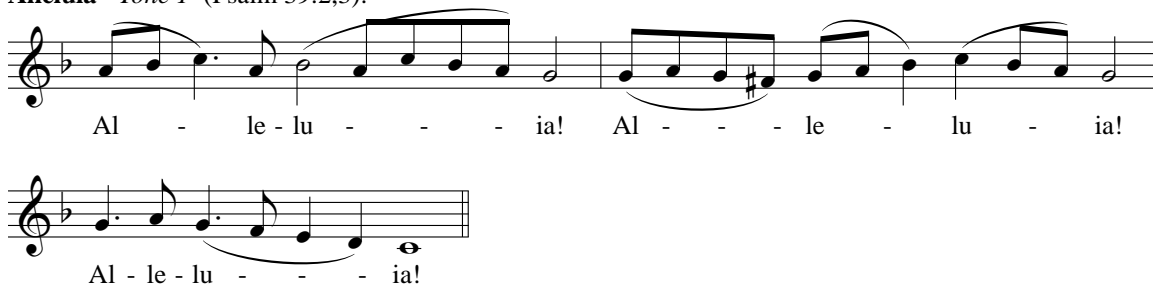
### Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 67:36,27):



God is won-drous in his saints, the God of Is - ra - el,  
the God of Is - ra - el.

**Verse:** In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

**Alleluia - Tone 1** (Psalm 39:2,3):



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

Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**Verse:** I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.

**Verse:** He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the filthy clay.

*Instead of* "It is truly proper . . ."

**Magnification:** (*music found on page 68*)

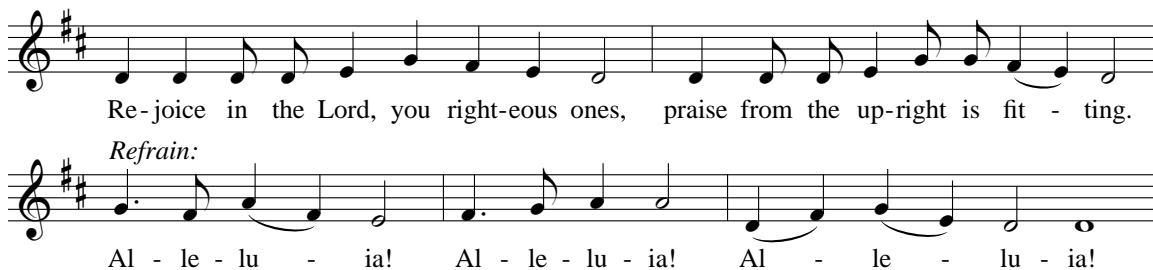
Extol, O my soul, Christ the King, born in a cave.

**Irmos:** I see a strange and marvelous mystery: heaven is a cave; the cherubic throne a virgin; the manger has become the place in which Christ the incomprehensible God lies down. Let us praise him and extol him.

Communion Hymn of the Nativity (**Psalm 110:9**) (*music found on page 69*)

**The Lord has sent deliverance to his people. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):



Re-joice in the Lord, you right-eous ones, praise from the up-right is fit - ting.

*Refrain:*

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

### **31 Leave-taking of the Feast of the Nativity.**

*All as on the feast, beginning on page 64, except:*

1 Post-festive 3rd Antiphon (*music found on page 70*)

2. Post-festive Entrance Hymn (*music found on page 70*)