The Nativity of the holy prophet John the Forerunner

1. The God-named Voice, lamp of the Light, who told the Master’s way,
   Since Zachary received with doubt the promise from on high,
   To God, the blessed Trinity to Father and to Son.

O John the Baptist, prophet great, your birth we hymn today.
Nine months was he completely mute, till your birth bid him cry:
And Holy Spirit, Paraclete, our God, the Three-in-One:

To Zachary the priest was brought the message of your birth,
“Blest be the God of Israel who comes to set us free;
For holy John’s nativity all glory be addressed

Send from on high as joyful news by Gabriel, come to earth.
And blest are you, O child of mine; Christ’s prophet you will be.”
Now from the Church both gathered here and from the saints at rest!

Text: J. Michael Thompson, based on the Vespers texts for June 24
Melody: Forest Green