

The Tone 5 Troparion melody

Here is the Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 5:

O faith-ful, let us praise and a-dore the Word e-ter-nal with the Fa-ther
and the Spir-it, and born of the Vir-gin for our sal-va-tion.
For he chose to as-cend the cross in the flesh and to suf-fer death, and to
raise the dead by his glo-ri-ous res-ur-rec-tion.

This melody has a regular “pulsed” rhythm in half notes, like a walking pace, which is occasionally interrupted by one beat – more or less as one might jog-step when keeping in step with someone else.

The form of the melody

The tone 5 troparion melody consists of a single phrase (A), repeated as many times necessary, and a concluding phrase (F) which is a variation of the A melody.

Here is the basic form of the repeating phrase of the tone 5 troparion melody:

intonation *reciting tone* *prep. notes* *cadence*

re mi ti do re mi mi mi mi re do re do ti do

It is possible for the intonation to be “counted” – that is, sung one note per syllable – but it is more common for the second half note (*mi*) to be accented. As a result, the phrase can begin in any of the following ways:

O faith-ful and born for he chose

Glo-ry

In the last example, since the text begins with an accented syllable, the music accent is *not* on the first second half note, but on the first.

The remaining notes of the intonation lead into the reciting tone (on *mi*), which is sung in the same pulsed rhythm as the rest of the phrase.

The last note on the reciting tone is sung more quickly, and begins the preparatory notes for the cadence. You must sing these notes clearly, or else the entire phrase will become muddled and uncertain. It is normal to slow down and sing more quietly when unsure of one's self; fight this temptation at this point in the tone 5 melody!

The cadence begins on an accent, and can be sung in any of the following ways:

Three musical examples showing different cadence patterns for the text 'Spi - rit', 'suf - er death', and 'God's sav - ing plan'. Each example is on a single staff in G major (one sharp). The first example shows a half note on G, a quarter note on A, a quarter note on B, and a half note on C. The second example shows a half note on G, a quarter note on A, a quarter note on B, and a half note on C. The third example shows a half note on G, a quarter note on A, a quarter note on B, and a half note on C.

The final or F phrase begins just like the A phrase, but has different cadence, descending from *mi* down to *la*:

Musical notation for the final phrase 're mi ti do re mi mi mi mi re do re mi re do ti la'. The notation is on a single staff in G major (one sharp). The notes are: re (quarter), mi (quarter), ti (quarter), do (quarter), re (quarter), mi (quarter), mi (quarter), mi (quarter), mi (quarter), re (quarter), do (quarter), re (quarter), mi (quarter), re (quarter), do (quarter), ti (quarter), la (half). Above the staff, four brackets label the sections: 'intonation' (re mi ti do), 'reciting tone' (re mi), 'prep. notes' (mi mi mi mi re), and 'cadence' (do re mi re do ti la). Accents are placed above the first note of each section.

Go back and compare this to the final phrase in the sample troparion. There you will see that the final half note before the cadence will sometimes be subdivided into quarter notes, in order to place the accents accurately.

Another example

The glo - ri - ous be - head - ing of the Forerunner was part of God's sav - ing plan
that the com - ing of the Sav - ior might be announced even to those in Ha - des.
Let He - ro - di - as mourn for she sought a law - less mur - der
be - cause she loved neither the Law of God nor e - ter - nal life,
but on - ly this false and fleet - ing life.

Kontakia in Tone 5

There is no separate kontakion melody in tone 5, so the Tone 5 troparion melody is used for these hymns as well. Here is the Kontakion of the Resurrection in tone 5:

O Sav - ior, you de - scend - ed in - to Ha - des. You crushed its
gates as the Al - might - y. You raised the dead and destroyed the sting
of Death as the Cre - a - tor. You de - liv - ered Ad - am from the curse,
O Lov - er of us all; there - fore, all cry out to you, O Lord,
save us.

