

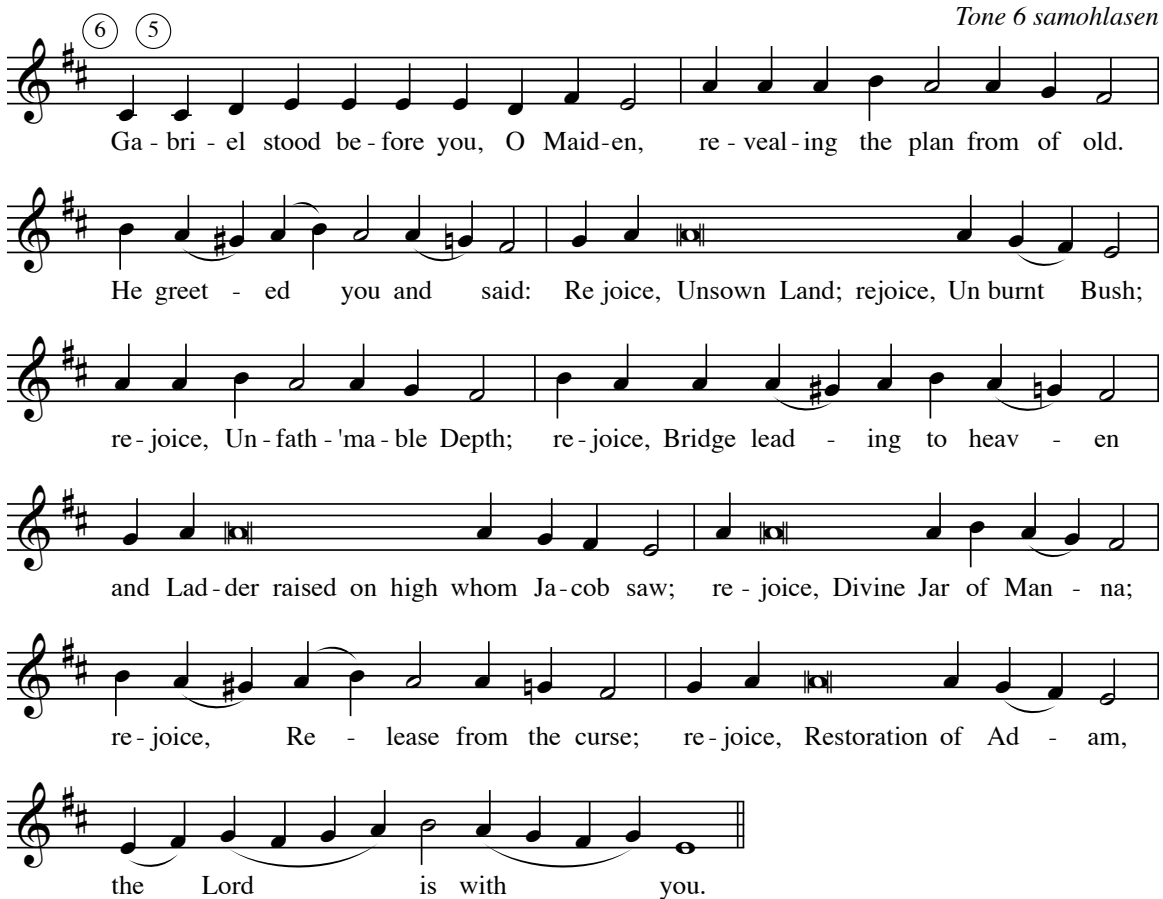
**Vesper Propers, March 25, 2007**  
**Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast**  
**The Annunciation of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary**

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006*

*Lamplighting Psalms Tone 1, p 24, stichera 10-7*

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand?  
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

*Tone 6 samohlasen*



Ga - bri - el stood be - fore you, O Maid-en, re - veal - ing the plan from of old.  
He greet - ed you and said: Re - joice, Unsown Land; rejoice, Un burnt Bush;  
re - joice, Un - fath - 'ma - ble Depth; re - joice, Bridge lead - ing to heav - en  
and Lad - der raised on high whom Ja - cob saw; re - joice, Divine Jar of Man - na;  
re - joice, Re - lease from the curse; re - joice, Restoration of Ad - am,  
the Lord is with you.

**Cantor:** My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word.  
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.  
*All repeat "Gabriel stood..."*

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak  
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

The in - vi - o - late Maid - en said to the angelic Com - mand - er:  
You ap - pear to me as a man but what you say to me is beyond  
hu - man words, for you are telling me that God will be with me  
and that he will dwell in my womb. Tell me, how can I become the spacious  
contain - er and holy temple of the one who is borne aloft on the Cher - u - bim?  
Do not en - tice me de - ceit - ful - ly, for I have never known pleas - ure,  
nor have I expe - ri - enced wed - lock. How then shall I bear a child?

**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. *All repeat "The blameless Maiden..."*

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**  
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!


 The bod-i-less one said: When-ever God so wills, the order of na-ture is  
 o-ver-come, and su-pernatural things are ac-com-plished. Be-lieve  
 that what I say is true, all holy and all spot-less one. She cried out: Let it be  
 done to me according to your word and I will give birth to the fleshless one who  
 bor-rows flesh from me, for he alone is able, by shar-ing in it,  
 to re-store hu-man na-ture to its an-cient dig-ni-ty.

**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
*(on 1)* he is faithful forever.

**Cantor:** *(Tone 6)* Glory...now and ever...

**Theotokion of the Annunciation - Tone 6 samohlasen**


 The Arch-an-gel Ga-bri-el was sent from heav-en to the Vir-gin  
 to an-nounce the good news of her con-cep-tion. Com-ing to

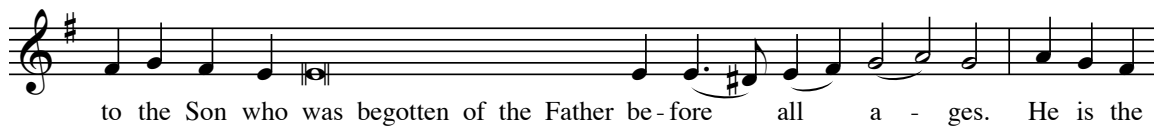
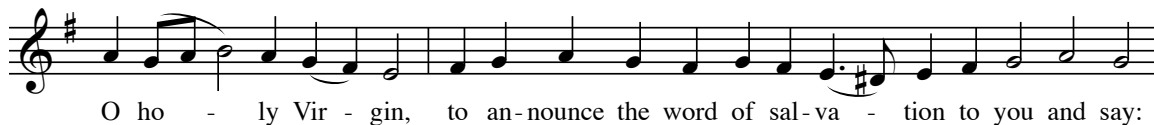
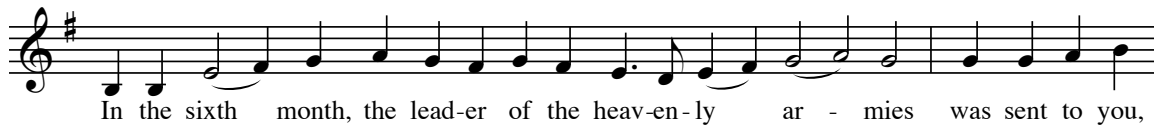
Naz - a - reth he was a - mazed as he reflected on the mys - te - ry:  
 How can the One Who Is incomprehen si - ble in the high - est  
 be born of a vir - gin? Heav - en is his throne, the earth is his foot - stool,  
 and in a wom - an's womb he is contained. The six - winged seraphim and the  
 many - eyed cherubim cannot look up - on him; yet, with a single word, he has been  
 pleased to take on flesh. He re - mains the Word of God.  
 Why do I stand still and not say to the Maid - en: Re - joice, Full of Grace, the  
 Lord is with you; Re - joice, pure Vir - gin; re - joice, Un - wed - ded Bride;  
 re - joice, Moth - er of Life; bless - ed is the fruit of your womb.

*Hymn of the Evening, p. 12*

**Readings:** Genesis 28: 10 - 17  
Ezekiel 43: 27 - 44; 4  
Proverbs 9: 1 - 11  
Exodus 3: 1 - 8  
Proverbs 8: 22 - 31

## Litija

*Tone 1 Bolhar*



**Cantor:** *Tone 2) Glory...now and ever...*

**Theotokion - Tone 2 Bolhar**



do not fear the strange - ness of my ap - pear - rance, for I am an  
 arch an - gel. For mer - ly the serpent was the cause of grief un - to Eve,  
 but now it is great joy that I an - nounce: you shall re - main  
 a virgin and yet you shall give birth to the Lord.

*Litija Litany, p. 116*

*Aposticha, Tone 1, p. 31*

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Glory...now and ever...

**Theotokion of the Annunciation - Tone 4 samohlasen**

To - day is the joy of the annun ci - a - tion and the feast of vir - gin - i - ty!  
 The creatures of the earth unite with those of heav - en. Ad - am is renewed and Eve  
 is freed from her an cient sor - row. She who is of our own substance be comes

the tem - ple of God! by the divinity of him who was con - ceived. O what

mys - tery! the incomprehensible quality of the con des - cen - sion and the

in - expressible wealth of good - ness! An angel announces this mir - a - cle.

The vir - ginal womb re - ceives the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it is sent down

and the Father on high is well pleased. Through the u - niversal will, reconciliation

is ac com plished for all. Let us, who have been saved in it and through it,

sing with Gabriel to the Vir - gin: Re - joice, O Full of Grace! For our sal - va - tion,

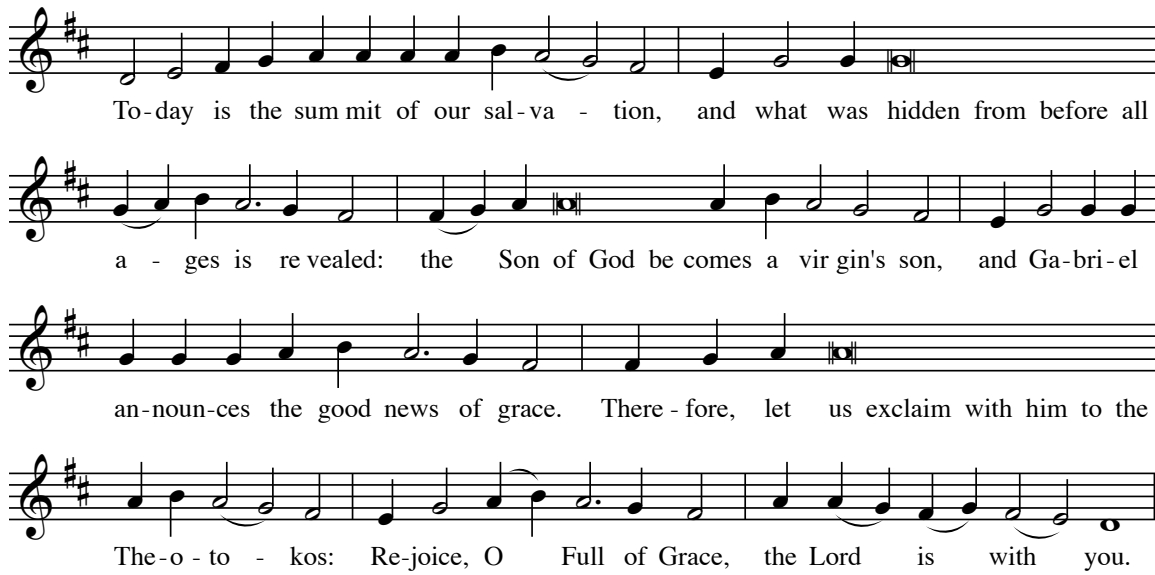
Christ our God took nature from you and joined it to him - self.

There fore, im - plore him to save our souls.

*Prayer of Simeon, p. 19*

*At the Blessing of Bread, p. 119, the Troparion of the Annunciation is sung once by the Priest and twice by the people.*

**Troparion - Tone 4**



To-day is the sum mit of our sal-va - tion, and what was hidden from before all  
a - ges is re vealed: the Son of God be comes a vir gin's son, and Ga-bri-el  
an-noun-ces the good news of grace. There - fore, let us exclaim with him to the  
The-o - to - kos: Re-joice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.