

Vespers with Divine Liturgy, Evening of March 25, 2009
Thursday in the Fifth Week of the Great Fast
ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

(If the Annunciation falls on a Lenten weekday, the Divine Liturgy of Our Holy Father John Chrysostom is celebrated with Vespers on March 25, in the evening.)

*Supplement for **The Divine Liturgies of our Holy Fathers John Chrysostom and Basil the Great, 2006**. Music for the cantor verses can be found in the official **Cantors' Companion**, or on the **MCI Cantor Verses** book.*

The service begins on DL 105; either setting of Psalm 103 may be sung. At the Lamp-lighting Psalms, "O Lord, I have cried" is sung in Tone 8 (DL 159). After the recited psalm verses (DL 114-115), the cantor and people sing the following stichera:

Cantor: *(Tone 8)* Bring my soul out of this prison,
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.

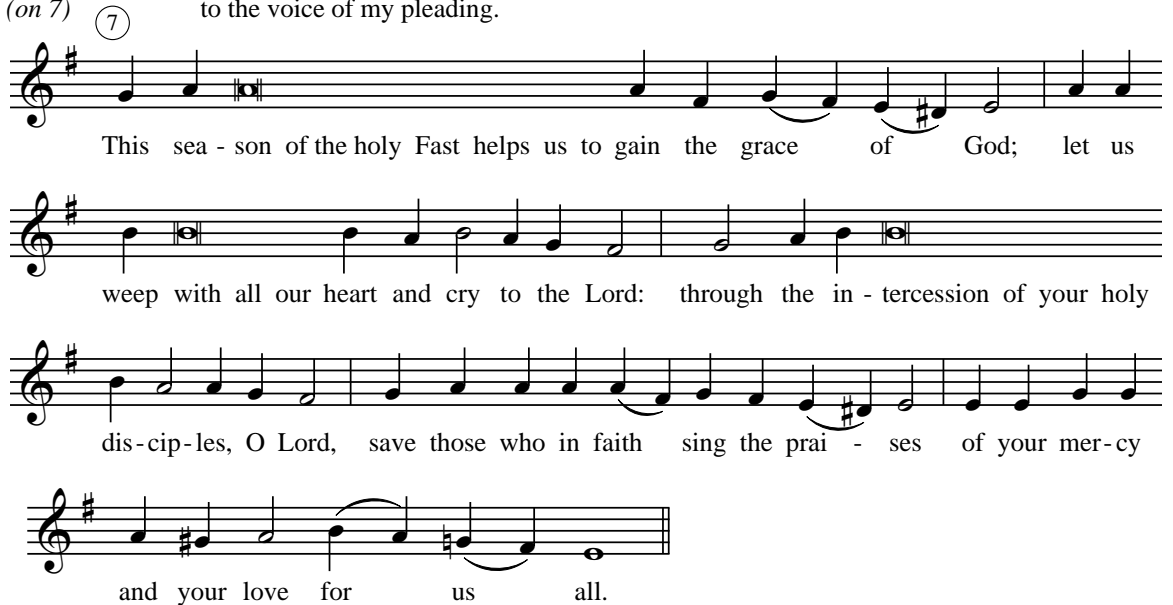
Stichera for Thursday in the Fifth Week of the Great Fast - Tone 8 samohlasen

⑩ ⑨

I fell in with thiev-ing e - vil thoughts; they stripped my wretched mind and beat me
ter - ri - bly. My soul is total-ly wound - ed, and I lay stripped of virtue
on the road of life. A priest saw me suffering from in - cur - a - ble wounds
but passed by with - out a se - cond glance. Next, a Le - vite came and saw, but

Cantor: Let your ears be attentive
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

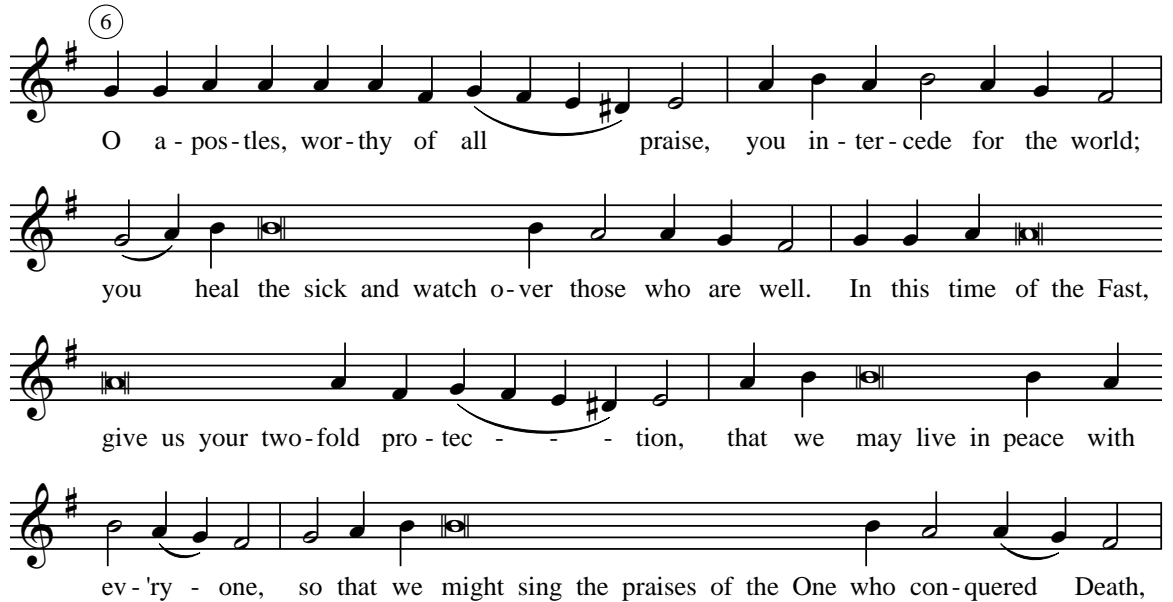
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This sea - son of the holy Fast helps us to gain the grace of God; let us
weep with all our heart and cry to the Lord: through the in - tercession of your holy
dis - cip - les, O Lord, save those who in faith sing the prai - ses of your mer - cy
and your love for us all.

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

6



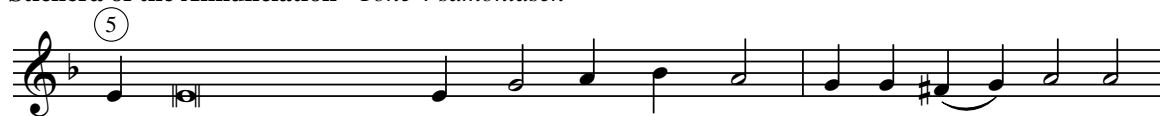
O a - pos - tles, wor - thy of all praise, you in - ter - cede for the world;
you heal the sick and watch o - ver those who are well. In this time of the Fast,
give us your two - fold pro - tec - - - tion, that we may live in peace with
ev - 'ry - one, so that we might sing the praises of the One who con - quered Death,



Christ who is the Re - sur - rec - tion of us all.

Cantor: (Tone 4) 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.

Stichera of the Annunciation - Tone 4 samohlasen



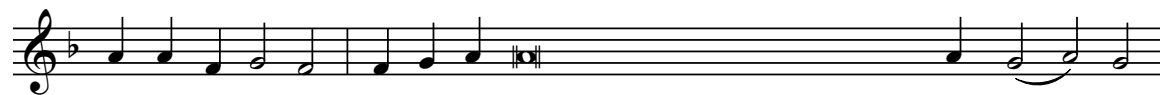
In the sixth month the Arch - an - gel was sent to a pure Vir - gin.



He greet-ed her: Re-joice! He an-nounced that the Redeemer would come forth



from her. She re-ceived his greet-ing with faith and conceived you, the God from



be-fore all a-ges, for it was your inexpressible good pleasure to be-come man



for the sal - va - - - tion of our souls.

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



The The - o - to - kos heard a voice she did not know. The Archangel spoke



to her the words of good news. She re-ceived the greet-ing with faith and con-ceived



you, the God from be-fore all a - ges. There - fore, we also rejoice and cry



out to you, O un - ap - proach - able God who were in - car - nate of her:



Grant peace to the world and great mer - - cy to our souls.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.




Be - hold our res-to - ra - tion is now re - vealed. God beyond words



is united with hu - man - i - ty. The er - ror is erased by the Arch - an - gel's voice,



for the vir - gin re - ceives the joy. What is earthly has be - come heav - en;



the world is freed from the an - cient curse. Let cre - a - tion rejoice and give voice



to hymns: O Lord, our Creator and Re - deem - er, glo - ry to you!

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

Stichera of the Archangel Gabriel - Tone 1 samohlasen

(2)

The arch - an - gel Gabriel, the spirit who sees God face to face,

gaz - es up - on the brilliant, sav - ing, and gleam - ing Light.

He sings heav - en - ly and awesome hymns with the ranks on high.

He im - plores God to grant peace and great mer - cy to our souls.

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

(1)

The great mys - ter - y, previously unknown to the angels and hidden from e - ter - ni - ty,

is made known to you a - lone, O Ga - bri - el. When you came

to Nazareth, you told it to the pure One. To - geth - er with her, implore God to

grant peace and great mer - cy to our souls.

Cantor only: (on A)



You made the winds your mes-sen-gers, and flam-ing fire your ser - vants.



O prince of angels, all-per-fect Ga-bri-el, you are filled with the di-vine



bright - ness. You ful-fill the wishes and commands of the Al-might - y.



Save those who lov-ing-ly ven-er-ate you. Al-ways ask God to grant peace and



great mer - cy to our souls.

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

Doxastikon - 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 con-tained. 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-joyce, pure Vir - gin; re-joyce, Un - wed - ded Bride; re-joyce, Moth - er of Life;
bless-ed is the fruit of your womb.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as "O Joyful Light" is sung.
The sanctuary and the faithful are incensed.*



O Joy - ful Light of the ho - ly glo - ry of the Fa - ther Im - mor - tal,
the hea - ven - ly, ho - ly, bles - sed One, O Je - sus Christ: Now that we have
reached the set - ting of the sun, and see the eve - ning light, we sing to God,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. It is fit - ting at all times to raise
a song of praise in meas - ured mel - o - dy to you, O Son of God, the
Giv - er of Life. There - fore, the u - ni - verse sings your glo - ry.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Proverbs 15:20 - 16:9] (*Epistle Book, p. 275*)

Old Testament Readings for the Annunciation

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Exodus 3:1-8] (*Epistle Book, p. 317*)

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Proverbs 8:22-31] (*Epistle Book, p. 312*)

Celebrant: Peace ☩ be to you, reader.

The service continues with the Small Litany (DL 122) followed by the Trisagion ("Holy God") of the Divine Liturgy, on page 27-30.

Proper for the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom are on the following pages.

Prokeimenon of the Annunciation - Tone 4 (Psalm 95:2,1):



Day af-ter day an-nounce the good news of our God's sal-va - tion.

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song; * sing to the Lord, all *the* earth.

Alleluia of the Annunciation - Tone 1 (Psalm 71:6,17):



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



Al - le - lu - - - ia!

Verse: He will descend like rain on the meadows,* like raindrops on *the* earth.

Verse: May his name be blessed forever, * more enduring than *the* sun.

Instead of "It is truly proper . . ."

Magnification:



O earth, an - nounce the good news, the good news of great joy.



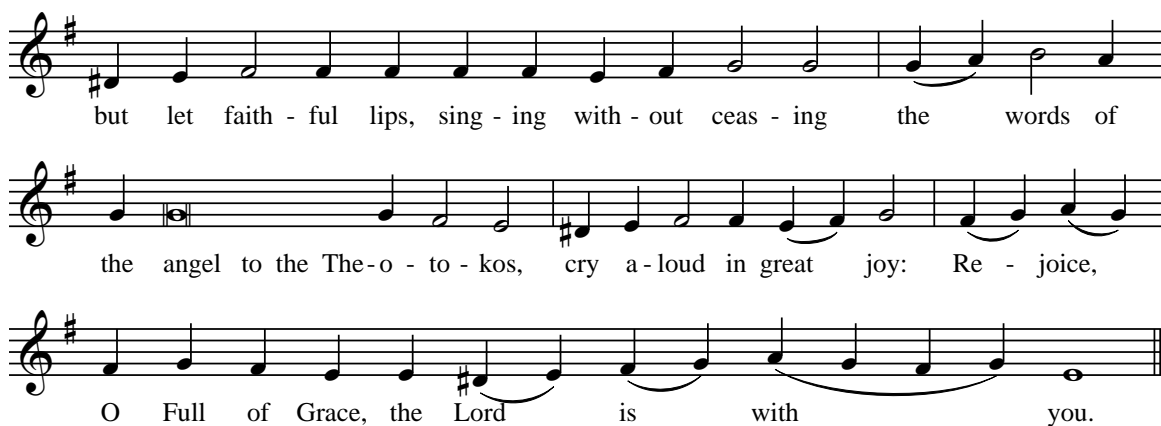
You heav - ens, sing the glo - ry, the glo - ry of God.

Irmos:

Tone 6 Irmos, simple setting



Let no un - in - i - ti - a - ted hand touch the liv - ing Ark of God;

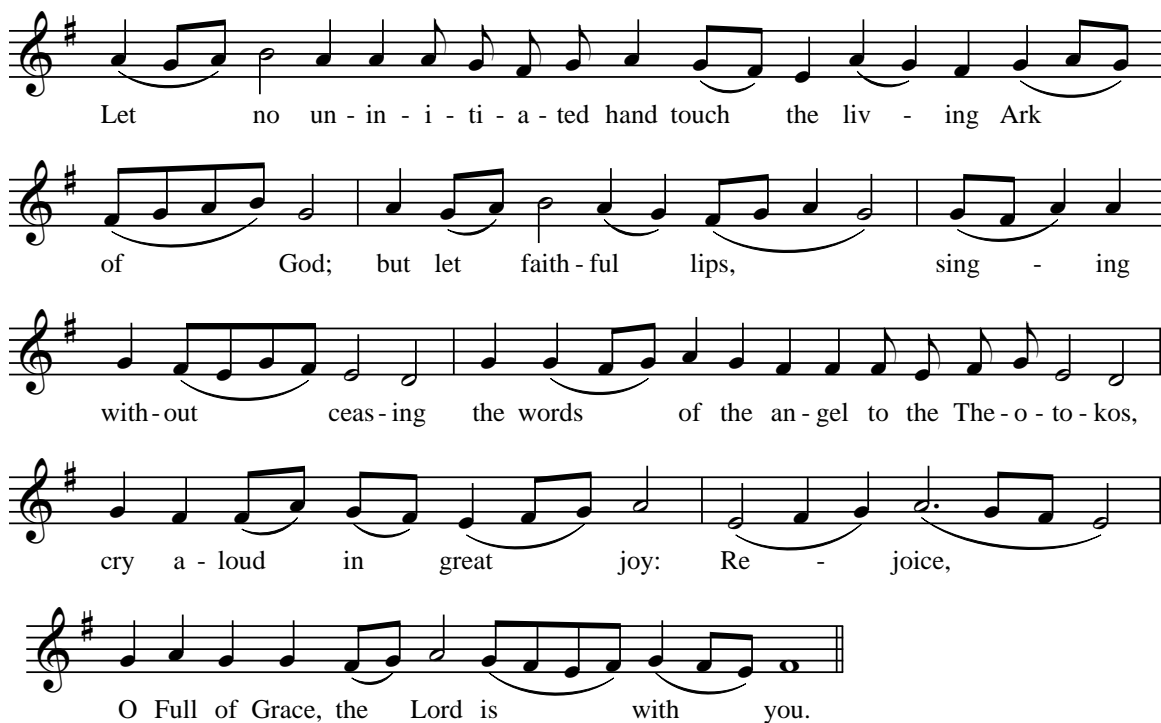


but let faith - ful lips, sing - ing with - out ceas - ing the words of
the angel to the The - o - to - kos, cry a - loud in great joy: Re - joice,
O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

Or

Irmos:

Tone 4 samopodoben



Let no un - in - i - ti - a - ted hand touch the liv - ing Ark
of God; but let faith - ful lips, sing - ing
with - out ceas - ing the words of the an - gel to the The - o - to - kos,
cry a - loud in great joy: Re - joice,
O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 131:13):

D



The Lord has cho - sen Zi - on; he pre - fers her for his dwell - ing.



Refrain

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