

Propers for the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Friday in the Fifth Week of the Great Fast
(Eve of Akathist Saturday)
March 27, 2009

The reading from Genesis tells one of the most difficult stories in the Old Testament: the command of God to Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac on Mount Moriah.

The reading from Proverbs this evening emphasizes the behavior of the foolish man, who has no understanding of the wisdom of God.

The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140

Tone 6

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have
cried to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I call
up - on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to
you like in - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands like an eve - ning
sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth
and set a seal on the door of *my* lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,
nor make excuse for the sins I *commit*.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.
If a just man strikes or reproves me it *is* kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.
Let my prayer be ever against *their* malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;
then they understood that my words *were* kind.

Prokeimenon 2 - Tone 4 (Psalm 103: 24ab, 1ab)

How man - y are your works, O Lord. In wis - dom you have
made them all.

Verse: Bless the Lord, my soul. Lord my God, how great you are.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words. All make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 17:17 - 18:5]

Celebrant: Peace ☩ be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm ("Let my prayer ascend").

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace ☩ be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon 1 - Tone 4 (Psalm 102: 8, 1)

The Lord is com-pas - - sion and love, slow to an - ger and rich in
mer - - - cy.

Verse: My soul gives thanks to the Lord; all my being, bless his holy name.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 22: 1-18]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of *the* grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;
in you I take refuge; spare *my* soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;
keep me from the snares of those who *do* evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
while I pursue my way *unharm*ed.

Psalm 141 With all my voice I cry to the Lord,
with all my voice I entreat *the* Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints *with*in me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *entrap* me.

Look on my right and see:
there is no one who takes *my* part.

I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for *my* soul.

I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."

Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths *of* distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger *than* I.

Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness *to* me.

Psalm 129 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear *my* voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of *my* pleading.

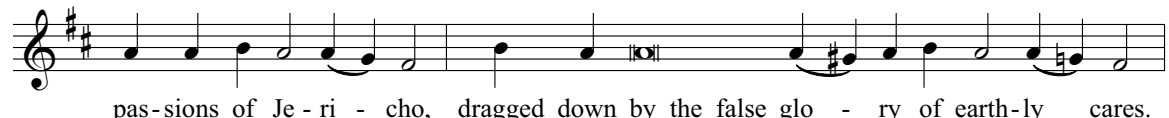
If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand?
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we *revere* you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman *for* daybreak.

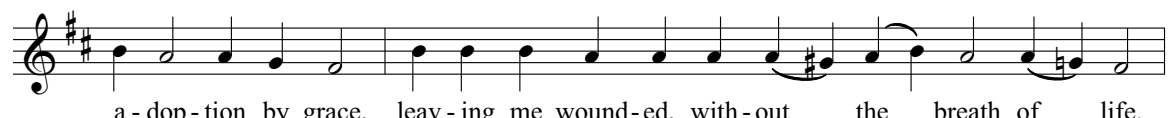
Cantor:  *Tone 6*

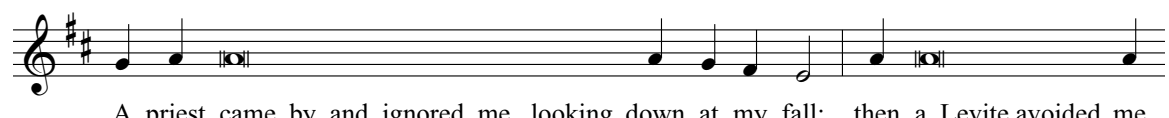
All:  4







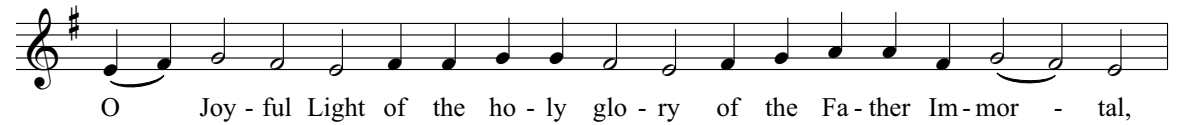






Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

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

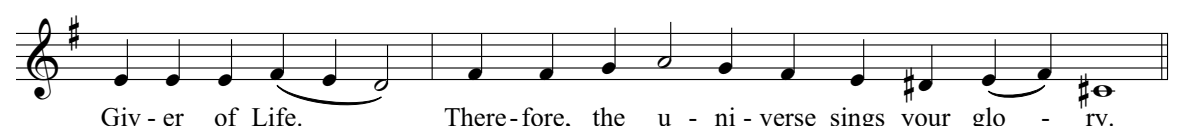












Tone 2

Cantor:



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir-it,



now and ever and for - ev - er. A - men.

All:



To - day is revealed the mystery from all e - ter - ni - ty; the Son of God



be-comes the Son of Man that, by shar-ing in what is worse, he may give me



a share in what is bet - ter. Once Ad - am was de-ceived, he sought to



be-come god but failed. Now God becomes man that he may make Ad - am God.



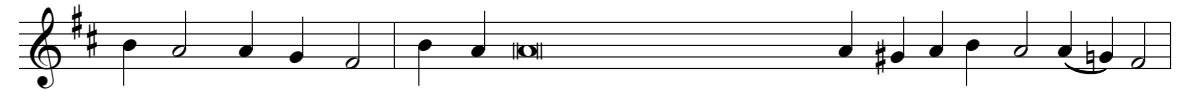
Let cre - a - tion re-joyce; let na - ture ex - ult; for the arch - an - gel stands in fear



be-fore the Vir - gin. He greets her: "Re-joyce!" and sor - row is dis - pelled.



O God, in your mer - ci - ful com - pas - sion you have be-come



as some-thing un-clean. But you, O Lord, incarnate from theVir-gin in-ex-pres-si - bly,



have poured out your sal - va - tion like oil on my scars, O Christ our God,



in the blood and water will - ing - ly shed from your side. Bind up my wounds with



lin - en and merciful-ly in-clude me in the choir of heav - - - en.

Cantor:



Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion,



Is - rael indeed he will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

All:




Ga-bri-el stood be-fore you, O maid-en, and revealed to you the pre-e-ter-nal



plan when he greet - ed you and said: Re-joyce, O Un-sown Ground;




re-joyce, O Bush Un - burned; re-joyce O Un-fath-om - a - ble Depth; re-joyce,




O Bridge which leads to Heav - en, and Ladder which Ja-cob saw raised on high;



re-joice, O Di-vine Jar of Man - na; re-joice, O Re-lease from the Curse;

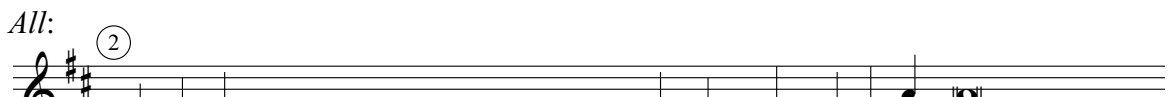


re - joice, O Restora-tion of Ad - am; the Lord is



with you.

Cantor: 
Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!


All: 
The un - defiled maiden said to the angel-ic com-mand-er: How do you appear to



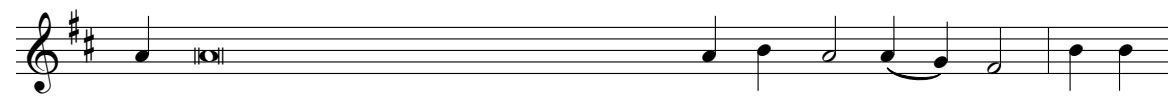
me in hu-man form but speak of su - per - hu - man things? You have




said that God will be with me and will o - ver - shad - ow my womb.




Tell me, how am I a spa-cious land? How am I a sanc - ti - fied place?



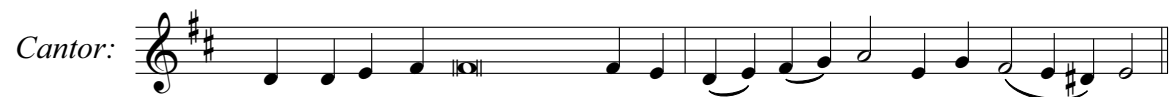
How shall I conceive the one who is borne up-on the cher - u - bim? Do not

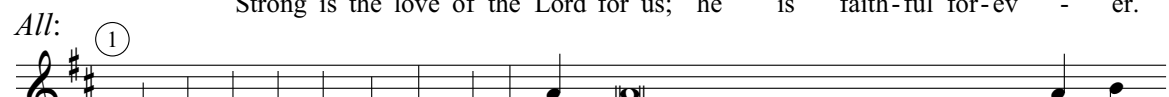


de-ceive me, for I am in - no - cent. I have not known the pleasures



of mar - riage. How then shall I bear a child?

Cantor: 
Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith-ful for-ev - er.

All: 
The bod - i - less an-gel said: When - ever God so wills, the order of na-ture is



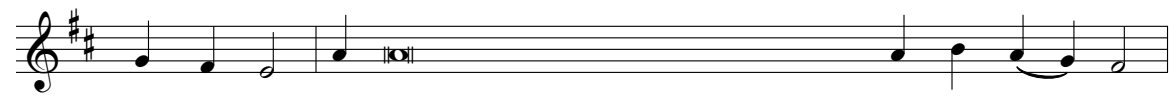
o - ver - turned to ac - com-lish su - per - hu - man deeds. Be - lieve that




my words are true, all-ho-ly and most pure one. She ex-claimed: Let it be done to



me ac-cord-ing to your word, and I shall bear the fleshless God who takes



flesh from me so that he may restore the ancient dignity of hu - man na - ture



by joining it to the di - vine, as he a - lone can do.