



Mar-y, the pure and bless-ed one, is be-ing brought into the tem-ple ac-cord-ing  
to the Law to live in its ho-ly pre-cincts. Jo-achim and Anna and all the  
vir-gins re-joice with her in spir-it. They sing hymns of praise  
to the Lord and give hon-or to his Moth-er.

**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.  
*(Repeat "Today the living temple...")*

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

O Vir-gin Moth-er of God, you are the one foretold by all the proph-ets.  
You are the a-pos-tles' glo-ry and the pride of the mar-tys  
and the cause of renewal for the en-tire hu-man race. Through you, we have been  
rec-on-ciled with God. There-fore, we hon-or your entrance in-to the tem-ple.

of the Lord. To-gether with the an - gels, all of us who are saved by your  
 pray'rs sing to you: Re - joice, O most ho - ly one!

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

*Tone 4 samohlasen*

③  
 The holy and im-mac-u-late one is being led into the Holy of Holies by the Ho-ly  
 Spir-it. She is being nour-ished by an-gels, since she is the holy Temple of  
 our ho - ly God. He has sanc - tified all creation because of her en - trance,  
 and he has deified our fall - en hu - man na - ture.

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

②  
 To-day the mai-dens re-joice. Car-rying lamps, they piously es-cort Mar-y,  
 the spiritual lamp, into the Ho-ly of Ho - lies. This is a foreshadowing of

the splen - did Light that will shine forth from her, the Light that will  
 en - light - en all who sit in the dark - ness of ig - nor - ance.

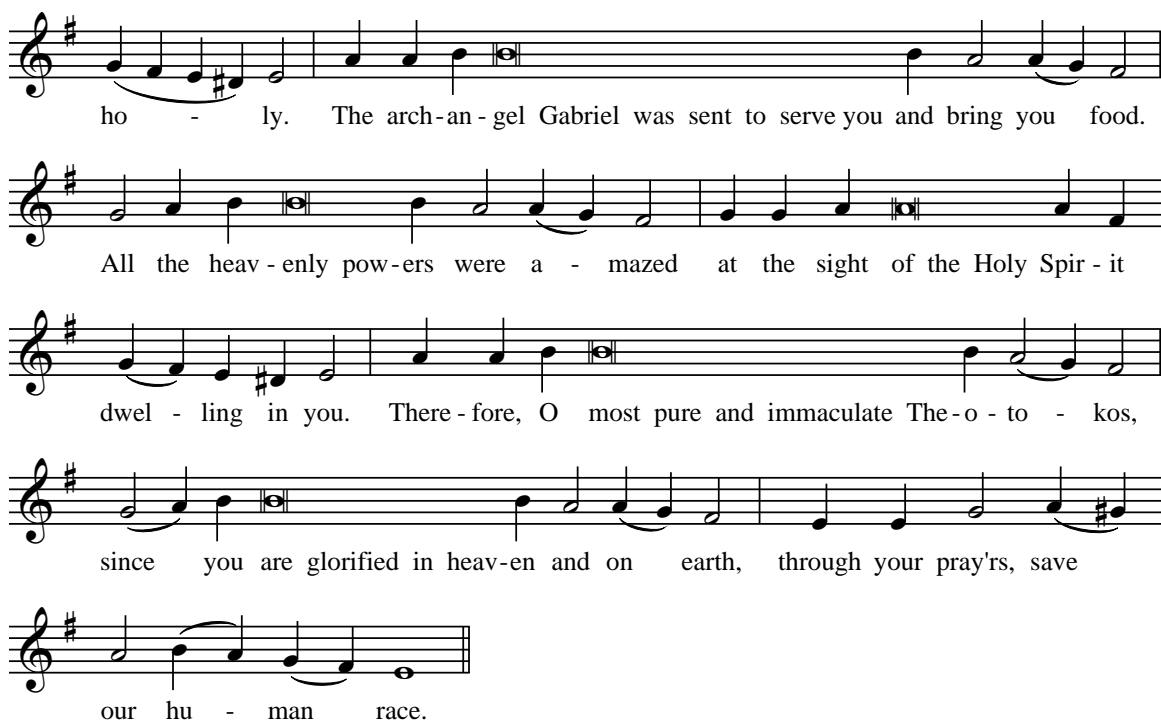
**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
*(on 1)* he is faithful forever.

①  
 The most praiseworthy Anna cries out in great joy: O Zechariah, receive the One  
 whom the proph - ets of God fore - told through the Spir - it. Es - cort her into  
 the ho - ly tem - ple, since she is to be the sub - lime Tem - ple,  
 the palace, throne, and won - drous a - bode of our God.

**Cantor:** *(Tone 8)* Glory...now and ever...

**Doxastikon - Tone 8 samohlasen**

O La - dy and Bride of God, you en - tered the temple of God in your  
 in - fan - cy to be brought up in the Holy of Ho - lies, for you are



ho - ly. The arch-an - gel Gabriel was sent to serve you and bring you food.

All the heav - enly pow - ers were a - mazed at the sight of the Holy Spir - it

dwel - ling in you. There - fore, O most pure and immaculate The - o - to - kos,

since you are glorified in heav - en and on earth, through your pray'rs, save

our hu - man race.

*The Prokeimena for weekdays are found on pages 114-115*

Readings: Exodus 40:1-5, 9-10, 16, 34-35 (EOT 307-308)  
 1 Kings 7:51 - 8:1, 3-7, 9-11  
 Ezekiel 43:27 - 44:4

### Litija

*Tone 4 Bolhar*



To - day the The - o - to - kos, that Tem - ple that is to


con - tain God, is be - ing es - cort - ed with glad - ness in - to the



Tem - - - ple of God, and Zech - a - ri - ah re - ceives her.



To - day the Ho - ly of Ho - lies great - ly re - joi - ces,



and the an - gel - ic choir cel - e - brates this feast mys - ti - cal - ly.



Let us al - so cel - e - brate with them to - day and cry out with




Ga - bri - el: Re - joice O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you,



and he grants us great mer - - - - cy.



Come all you peo - ple, and let us praise the on - ly



Im - mac - - - u - late One who was fore - told by the proph - ets



and is be - ing led in - to the tem - ple. She was cho - sen from

e - ter - ni - ty to be the Moth - er; and in time she was re-vealed  
as the The - o - to - kos. Gra - cious Lord, through her in - ter - ces - sions,  
grant us your peace and great mer - cy.

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Glory...now and ever...

**Doxastikon - Tone 5 Bolhar**

A day of re - joi - cing has dawned tru - - - ly. It is a most  
pre-cious feast for us, be-cause she who was vir-gin be-fore and af - ter  
child - birth to - day is of - - - fered in the tem - ple.  
The ag - ed Zech - a - ri - ah, fa - ther of the Fore-run - ner,  
cries a - loud, re - - - joi - cing: The in - ter - ces - sor of  
those in af - flic - - - tion comes in - to the ho - ly tem-ple,



since she her-self is ho - ly. She will be sanc - ti - fied in the  
 a - bode of the King of all. Let her fa - ther Jo - a - chim  
 be glad and let An - na re-joyce exceed - ing - ly, be-cause  
 they have of - fered to God the im - mac - u - late Queen as  
 a three-year old child. Re - joyce with them, all you wom - en;  
 all you vir - gins and bar - ren ones, dance for joy and  
 cel - e - brate with them, for the Queen of all has o - pened  
 the king - dom of heav - en for us. let all peo-ple be glad  
 and re - - - joyce.

# Aposticha

*Tone 5 samohlasen*

①



Heav-en and earth to-gether re-joice to-day at the sight of the mys-tic-al heav - en;  
the im-mac-ulate and pure Virgin is coming into the ho - ly tem-ple to be  
brought up in hon-or. Zech-a-ri-ah, rejoicing in her and leap-ing for joy,  
cried out in awe: O Door of the Lord, I open the doors of the tem-ple  
to you, be-cause I know and be-lieve that the sal-va-tion of Israel  
is al-read-y com-ing, that the Word of God will be born from you,  
and that he will grant great mer-cy to the world.

*Cantor*

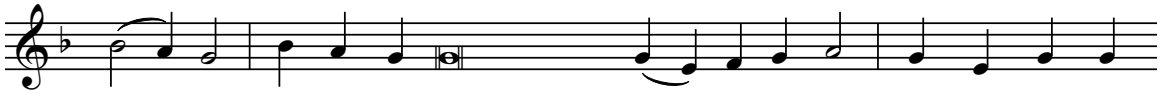


She is led to the king with her mai - den com-pan - - - ions.

②



When An-na, which means grace, was graced with the pure and ev-er Vir-gin



Mar-y, she pre-sent-ed her into the tem-ple of God. She called mai-dens



to carry candles and walk before her as she said: O child, go to be an of-fer-ing



and a fra-grant incense for the One who sent you to me. En-ter in-to the veiled



places and learn the myste-ries of God. Pre-pare yourself to be a delightful dwell-ing



place for Je-sus who will give great mer-cy to the world.

*Cantor*



They are escorted amid gladness and joy; they pass with-in



the pal-ace of the King.

③



The all-ho-ly Virgin is handed over in-to the tem-ple. Mai-dens car-rying can-dles

go be-fore her. Her par - ents, the devoted couple, Joachim and Anna,  
 joy - ful - ly cel - e-brate, for they have given birth in the flesh to the One  
 who will bear the Cre - a - tor. She will dance for joy in the tem - ple of God  
 and will be fed by the hand of an an - gel. The all - im - mac - u - late Moth - er  
 of Christ has ap - peared, and he will grant great mer - cy to the world.

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

**Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen**

O as - sem - bly of the faith - ful, let us celebrate this day as a spir - it - ual feast.  
 With great love. let us hon - or the mai - den of God, the Vir - gin and  
 The - o - to - kos, as she is presented into the tem - ple of the Lord;  
 for she has been chosen from among all gen - er - a - tions to be the dwelling

place of Christ our God who is the King of all. O vir - gins, carry  
 can - dles and lead the way for the en - trance of the ev - er Vir - gin.  
 Fol - low after her who is the Moth - er of God and me - diatrix for the  
 joy of the world. There - fore, let us all cry out together with the an - gels: Re - joi - ce,  
 for you are full of grace, and you con - tin - u - al - ly pray for our souls.

**Troparion of the Entrance - Tone 4**

*Sung once by the priest and twice by the faithful*

To - day is the pre - lude of God's be - nev - o - lence and the her - ald of our  
 sal - va - tion; for the Vir - gin openly appears in the tem - ple of God  
 and fore - tells Christ to all. Let us al - so with full voice ex - claim to her:  
 Re - joi - ce, fulfillment of the Cre - a - tor's plan.

*The service continues with  
 the Blessing of Bread, p. 119*