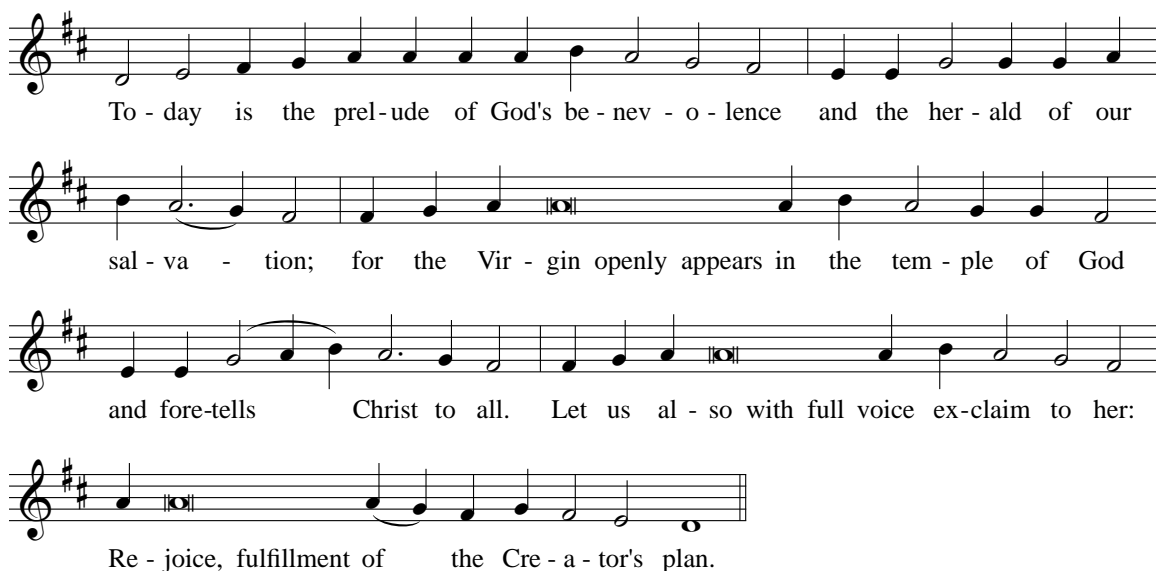


Matins propers, November 21

21 THE ENTRANCE OF OUR MOST BLESSED LADY, THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY INTO THE TEMPLE. The day after the dedication of the basilica of the New St. Mary's, built near the wall of the temple in Jerusalem, that dedication is celebrated which the future mother of God showed of her own accord toward God from her infancy. By the movement of the Holy Spirit she was immaculate, filled with grace at her conception.

Troparion - *Tone 4*



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 - joice, fulfillment of the Cre - a - tor's plan.


Sessional Hymn 1 - *Resurrection Tone 1*



The child of the right - eous Joachim and An - na is of - fered
to God in the ho-ly tem - ple; she sus-tains our life and yet is a young




child in the flesh. She re-ceive-s the bless-ing of Zech-a - ri - ah the priest.




Let all of us in faith call her bless-ed, for she is the The-o - to - kos.

Sessional Hymn 2

Tone 4 podobn: Udivisja Josif



You were con - se - crat - ed to God, O pure Vir - gin, e - ven be - fore



your con - cep - tion. Now, af - ter your birth, you are offered as a gift to him,



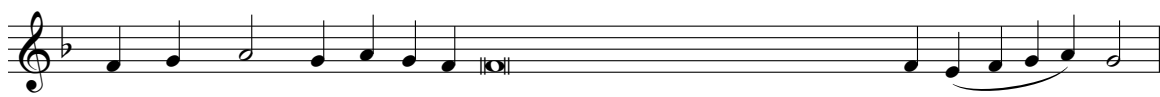
in ful - fill - ment of your par - ents' prom - ise. You are a di - vine Tem - ple,



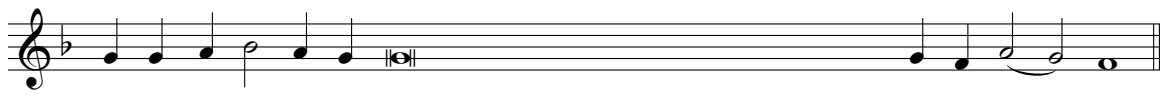
and are brought to the tem - ple of God; as a young child, you have appeared in



the tem - - - ple ac - com - pan - ied by the bright - ly burn - ing lamps.

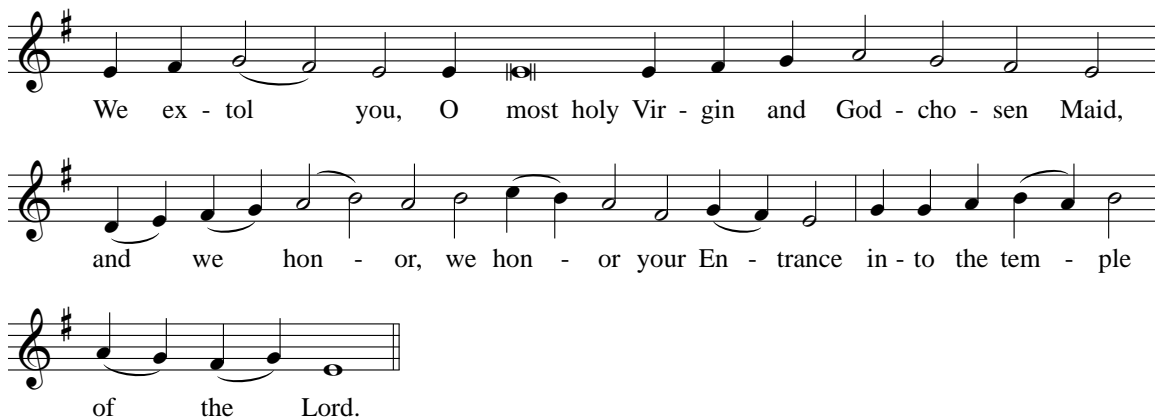


You have shown your - self to be the dwelling of the unapproachable Di - vine Light.



Tru - ly mag - ni - fi - cent is your entrance, O only Bride of God and ev - er Vir - gin.

Exaltation after the Polyelos: *The refrain is repeated after each verse.*



We ex - tol you, O most holy Vir - gin and God - cho - sen Maid,
and we hon - or, we hon - or your En - trance in - to the tem - ple
of the Lord.

Verse: The Lord is great and worthy to be praised in the city of our God.

Verse: Holy is this Temple, awesome in righteousness.

Verse: Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words.

Verse: Blessed is the one whom you choose and call to dwell in your courts.

Verse: Glory...now and ever...

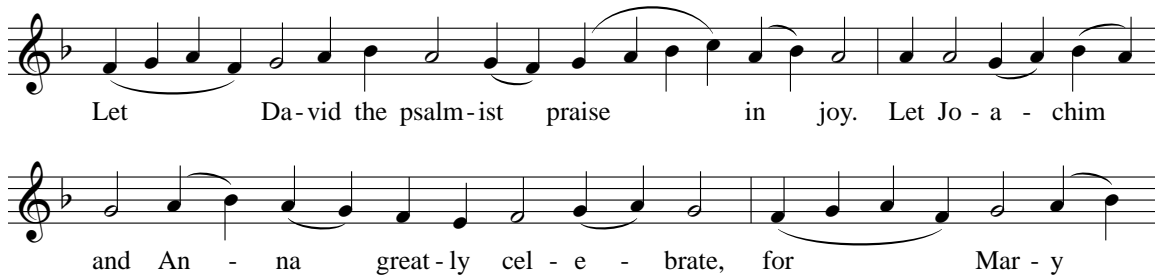
Three times, each with a reverence:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to you, O God.

All repeat the Exaltation.

Sessional Hymn - Tone 8 podobn: *Povelinoje tajno*



Let Da-vid the psalm-ist praise in joy. Let Jo - a - chim
and An - na great - ly cel - e - brate, for Mar - y

came forth from them, a ho-ly child; she is the heav-en-ly lamp that gave
 birth to the Di-vine Light. To-day she re-joic-es
 as she en-ters the tem-ple. The son of Ba-cha-ri-ah,
 wit-ness-ing her en-try, blessed her and
 cried out in joy: Re- - - joice, O Mar-vel of
 the U-ni-verse!

Cantor: Glory...now and ever... *Repeat "Let David the psalmist..."*

Prokeimenon - Tone 4

Lis - ten, O daugh-ter, give ear to my words; give ear to my words.

Verse: My heart overflows with noble words
 To the king I must speak the song I have made.

Stichera after Psalm 50


Cantor:

Tone 2 Bolhar



Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

All:



To-day the liv - ing Tem - ple of the great King en - ters the Tem - ple



to be pre - pared as a di - vine dwell - ing - place for him. *Tone 4*



O faith - ful, re - joice ex - ceed - ing - ly.

Cantor:

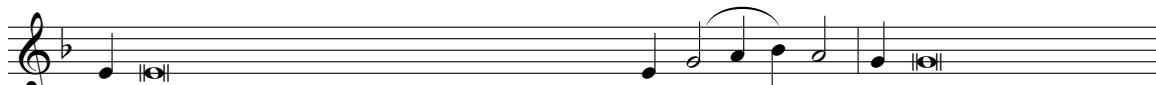


Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

All repeat "Today the living Temple..."

Cantor: (*Tone 4*) Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offense.

Tone 4 samohlasen



To - day the Theotokos, the Temple that is to contain God, is being escorted today



into the Tem - ple of the Lord, and Zechari - ah re - ceives her. To - day

the Holy of Holies greatly re-joic - es, and the choir of angels mystically cel-e-brates
 this feast. Let us also celebrate 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.

Canon

with Katavasiai of the Nativity of Our Lord

Ode 1

Irmos - Tone 4

I will o - pen my mouth; it will be filled by the Ho - ly Spir - it, and I
 will offer my praise to the Queen Moth - er. I will cel - e - brate in joy;
 in my re - joic - ing I will sing of these won - ders.

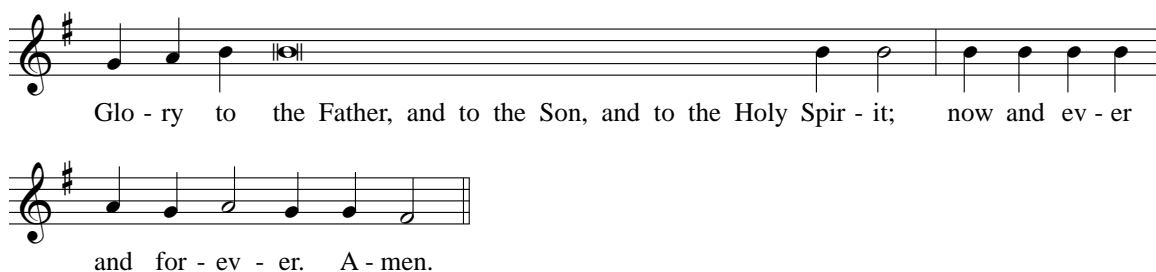
Refrain

Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us!

O all-pure Virgin, we know that you are a treasury of wisdom and a never-failing fountain of grace. Therefore, we entreat you, O Lady, to let some drops of knowledge fall upon us, so that we may sing your praises forever. *Refrain*

O most holy One, you are honored more than the heavens; you are both Temple and palace. Today you are offered in the temple of God to be prepared as a divine abode for his coming. *Refrain*

O Theotokos, you made the light of grace shine forth. You have enlightened all people and brought them together to praise your most radiant triumph in song. Come, O faithful, let us join them and quickly go to her.

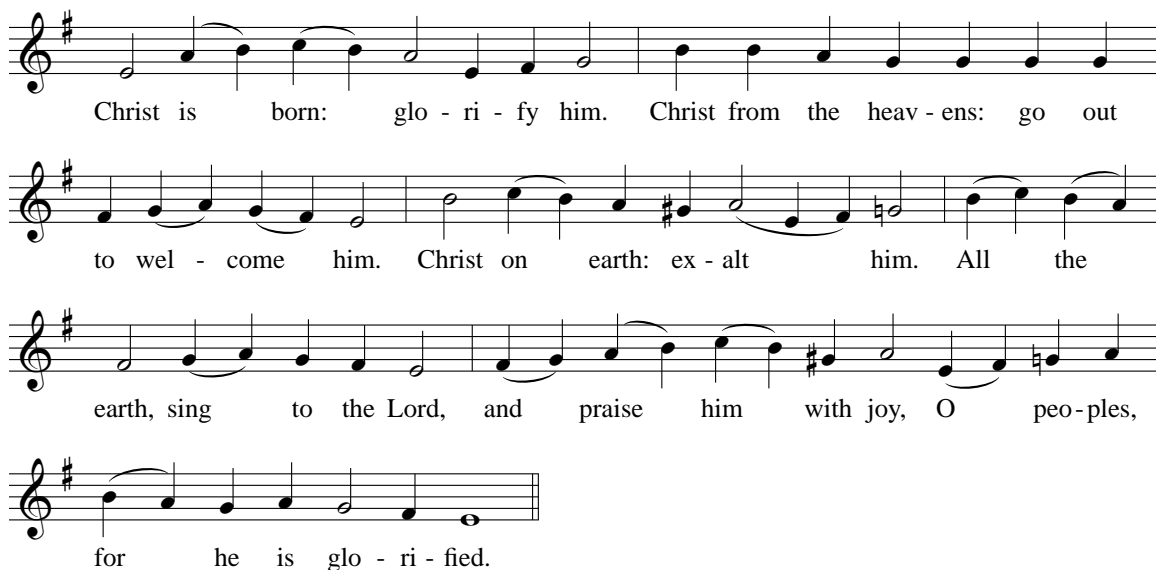


Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er
and for - ev - er. A - men.

The Glorious Gate, through which human thoughts cannot pass, now encourages us to enter with her and to rejoice in her divine wonders, for she has opened the gates of the Temple of God.

Katavasia


Tone 1 samopodoben




Christ is born: glo - ri - fy him. Christ from the heav - ens: go out
to wel - come him. Christ on earth: ex - alt him. All the
earth, sing to the Lord, and praise him with joy, O peo - ples,
for he is glo - ri - fied.

Ode 3


Irmos - Tone 4



O The o - to - kos, life - giv - ing source of bles - sings, grant strength




to those unit-ed in faith who sing hymns of praise to you.



In your glo - ry, grant them the crowns of vic - to - ry.

Refrain

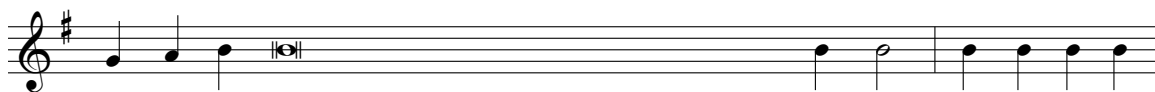


Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us!

Today the Temple, receiving the living Bridal Chamber of God, has become a wedding adornment and a beautiful chamber for the Virgin. She is pure and immaculate, shining more brightly than all creation. *Refrain*

David the leader dances in joy with us; and he praises you as Queen, O all-pure and immaculate Virgin. You are arrayed in a splendidly colored robe, and you stand in the temple before the King and our God. *Refrain*

Human nature inherited the misdeed from Eve of old. Now the Theotokos has flowered forth from Eve's stock; she is our restoration and incorruption, and today she is being brought into the temple of the Lord.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

Today all people on earth and the hosts of angels dance in your presence, O all-pure Lady. They carry lamps before you, proclaiming your greatness in the temple of the Lord.

Katavasia

Tone 1 samopodoben

Let us sing to the Son begotten of the Father without change before all
a - ges. Let us cry a - loud to Christ our God, in - car - nate
with - out seed from the Virgin in these lat - ter days: you have ex - alt - ed our horn;
Ho - ly are you, O Lord.

Ode 4

Irmos - Tone 4

When he perceived the incomprehensible purpose of God
concerning your incarnation from a Virgin, O Most High,
the prophet Habakuk cried out aloud:
Glorify to your power, O Lord!

Refrain

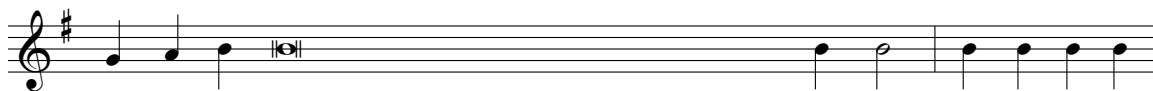


Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us!

Today the Temple of God receives the Gate through whom no one may pass. It has put an end to the worship prescribed by the shadow of the Law, and it cries out: Indeed the truth has appeared to all upon earth. *Refrain*

In former times Habakkuk foresaw and prophetically announced the overshadowed mountain which comes to dwell within the sanctuary of the temple today. She has blossomed forth flowers of virtue, and she covers the ends of the earth with her shadow. *Refrain*

O faithful, with the earth let us behold these wonderful, marvelous, and strange events. The Virgin, taking nourishment from an angel, offers us an image of the divine plan of salvation.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er




and for - ev - er. A - men.


O most pure Bride of God, being revealed as a Temple, a palace, and a living heaven, you are offered today in the temple of the Law to live therein.

Katavasia

Tone 1 samopodoben



O Christ, the rod from Jes - se's root and its flow'r, you blos - sored from the



Vir - gin; Praise - wor - thy one, from the overshadowed sha - dy moun - tain.



You came in the flesh from her who knew not man. God not made of



Ode 5

Irmos - Tone 4

All the na - tions mar - velled at your ho - ly Pres - en - ta - tion,
for you, O Virgin who have not known wed - lock, en - tered in - to the
tem - ple of God as the most pure Tem - ple, grant - ing peace
to all who sing your praise.

Refrain

Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us!

The most pure Virgin is consecrated today in the temple of God as a radiant sanctuary and a holy offering. In ways known only to him, she is preserved as a dwelling place for our God, the King of all. *Refrain*

When Zechariah beheld the beauty of your soul, O most pure Virgin, he cried out in faith: You are our deliverance; you are the joy of all. You are our restoration through whom the Incomprehensible becomes comprehensible to me. *Refrain*

O most pure Virgin, beyond understanding are your wonders. The manner of your birth, and the manner of your growing is incomprehensible. All things concerning you are splendid and marvelous, O Bride of God; they are inexpressible by the human tongue.

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er

and for - ev - er. A - men.

O Bride of God, you shone forth today in the house of the Lord as a candelabrum filled with light. You bestow light upon us through your wondrous holy gifts of grace, O undefiled and renowned Theotokos.

Katavasia

Tone 1 samopodoben

O God of peace and Fa - ther of mer - cies, you sent us the An - gel

of your great coun - sel to us to grant us peace. There - by, we have been led

toward the light of di - vine knowl - edge and ris - ing out of the night

we glo - ri - fy you, O Lov - er of us all.

**Ode 6
Irmos**

Come, all you faith - ful, and clap your hands, as we cel - e - brate this holy and sol - emn

feast of the Moth - er of God. Glo - ri - fy him who was born of her.

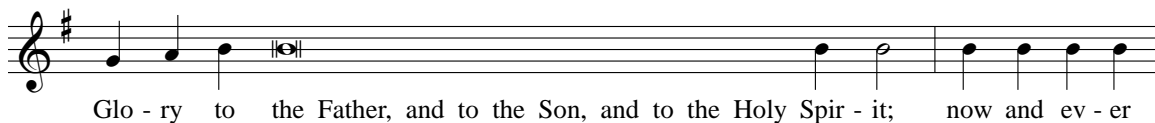
Refrain



He who sustains all things with his word, has, in his mercy, heard the prayer of the righteous Joachim and Anna. He has freed them from the disgrace of sterility and has given them her who is the cause of our joy. *Refrain*

Desiring to reveal his salvation to the Gentiles, the Lord has now chosen from among mortals her that knew not wedlock. She is to be a sign of reconciliation and renewal. *Refrain*

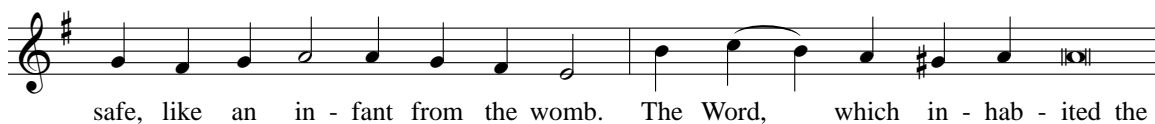
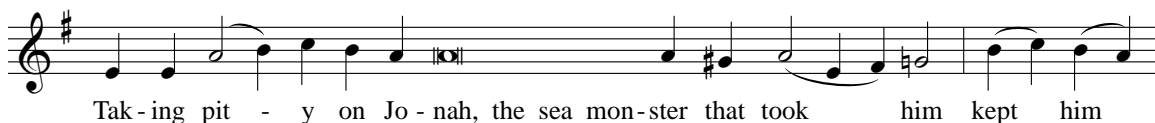
O most pure One, you are a temple of grace which holds the treasure of God's ineffable plan of salvation; you receive immeasurable joy in the temple.



O Bride of God, when the Temple received you as a precious jewel, it shone with beauty and submitted to better things; for it recognized in you the fulfillment of the prophecies.

Katavasia

Tone 1 samopodoben



He un - der - went no change, and kept in - tact the one who bore him.

Kontakion - Tone 4

The most pure Tem - ple of the Sav - ior, the most precious Bri - dal Cham - ber

and Vir - gin, the Treas - u - ry of the glo - ry of God, is led

to - day in - to the house of the Lord, bring - ing grace in the Spir - it of God.

God's angels praise her in song; she is the heav - en - ly Ark.

Ikos: I stand in awe at the wondrous works of God graciously manifested and fulfilled by the Virgin. I cannot comprehend the strange and secret manner by which she alone was chosen from all creation to be made known as the undefiled One. I am unable to express in word or thought this ineffable mystery, yet I wish to praise her. In confidence I dare to proclaim and extol her, saying: Indeed she is the heavenly Ark.

Ode 7

Irmos - Tone 4

The three youths cou - rageously walked about in the flam - ing fur - nace,

pre - fer - ring to wor - ship the Cre - a - tor ra - ther than cre - a - ted things

and they sang out in joy: Bless - ed are you and praised a - bove all, O God

of our fa - thers.

Refrain

Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us!

Behold, a bright springtime has filled the ends of the earth, enlightening our soul and mind and understanding through grace, for today is the feast of the Theotokos. Let us rejoice with all creation. *Refrain*

Let all creation: heaven and earth, the hosts of angels, and the multitudes upon earth, today escort the Queen and Mother, and let them cry out: Joy and deliverance is led into the temple. *Refrain*

The Old Law has passed away and vanished as a shadow. The rays of grace have shone forth at your entry into the temple of God, O most pure Virgin Mother, for you are blessed forever.

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er

and for - ev - er. A - men.

O most pure Lady, heaven and earth and all creatures beneath the earth have been made servants of your Son, the Creator and God. All people on earth proclaim that the Lord, the Savior of our souls, has appeared.

Katavasia

Tone 1 samopodoben

The youths, brought up to - geth - er in pi - e - ty, de - spised the or - der

of the im - pi - ous king. Un - daunt - ed by the threat of fire, they stood
 in the midst of the flames and sang this hymn: Bless - ed are you, God
 of our fa - thers.

Ode 8
Irmos - Tone 4

Lis - - - ten, O pure vir - gin maid - en, while
 Ga - - - bri - el makes the an - nounce - ment of the
 Most High that is both an - cient and true. Pre - pare to
 re - ceive God; for through you the In - com - pre - hen - si - ble
 comes to dwell a - mong mor - tals. There - fore I
 re - joice and sing: Bless the Lord, all you works



of the Lord!

Refrain



Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us!

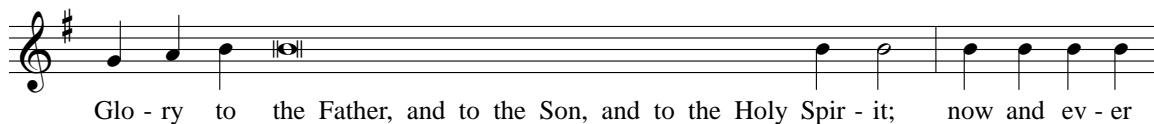
When Anna escorted the most pure Temple into the house of God, she spoke these words in faith to the priest: Take the child given to me by God and lead her into the temple of your Creator and sing to him joyfully: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord! *Refrain*

Upon seeing Anna, Zechariah said to her: You now escort here the true Mother of Life whom the prophets of God proclaimed in times past as the Theotokos. How shall the Temple contain her? Therefore, in wonder I cry out: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord! *Refrain*

Anna answered Zechariah, saying: I come here as a servant of God, calling upon him with faith and prayer to receive the fruit of my labor. For I promised, that after childbirth, I would offer my child to him who gave her to me. Therefore, I cry out in joy: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord! *Refrain*

This act is truly in conformity with the Law, said the priest to her, but I also realize that it is marvelous even to the smallest details. For I see now entering the house of God the One who surpasses the Holy of Holies in grace. Thus, in my joy, I cry out: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord! *Refrain*

I am comforted to hear your words, said Anna, since you understand things according to the Spirit of God, and you clearly proclaim the mystery of the Virgin. Therefore, receive the Immaculate One into the temple of your Creator and sing out with joy: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord!



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

Zechariah cried out: A lamp that gives light has been kindled for us and has made the temple shine with joy. Let the souls of the prophets rejoice with me as they witness great wonders accomplished in the house of God and let them now cry out: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord!

Let us praise, bless, and wor - ship the Lord, sing - ing and high - ly
ex - alt - ing him a - bove all for - ev - er.

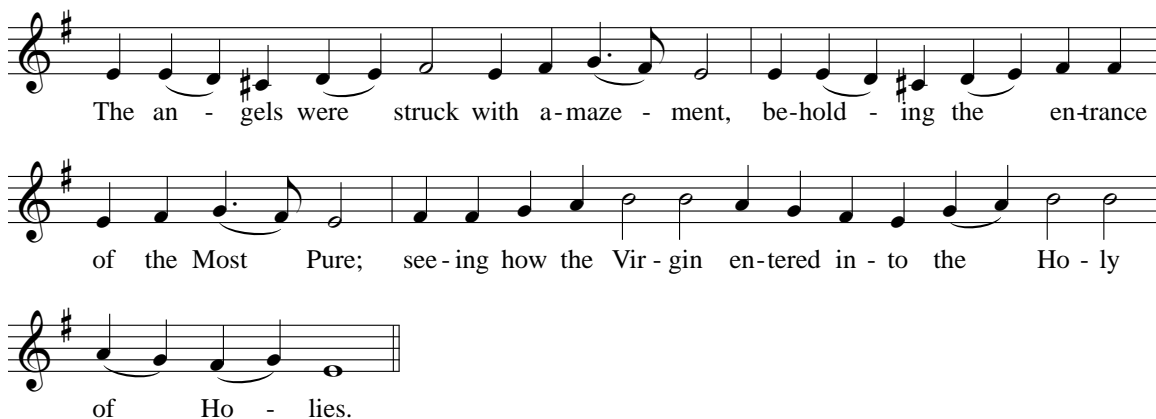
Katavasia

Tone 1 samopodoben

The fur - nace cooled like dew, mir - ac - u - lous - ly, fore - shad - owed a
great mar - vel. For it did not burn the youths it re - ceived, nor did the
fire of divinity burn the Virgin's womb by en - ter - ing it. There - fore, let us
strike up a hymn and sing: Let all cre - a - tion bless and ex - alt the Lord
for - ev - er.

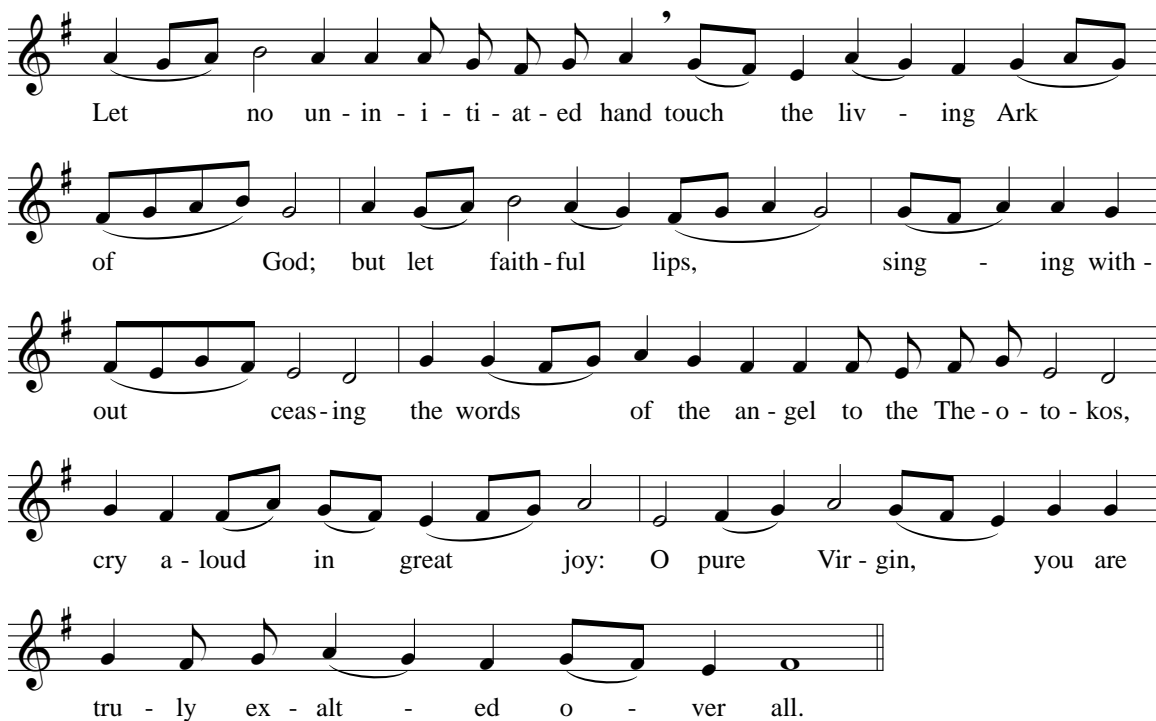
The Magnificat is omitted.

Ode 9
Magnification



The an - gels were struck with a-maze - ment, be-hold - ing the en-trance
of the Most Pure; see-ing how the Vir - gin en-tered in - to the Ho - ly
of Ho - lies.

Irmos - Tone 4



Let no un - in - i - ti - at - ed 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: O pure Vir - gin, you are
tru - ly ex - alt - ed o - ver all.

All repeat "The angels were struck with amazement..."

O undefiled Theotokos, your soul is radiant with beauty, and you are overflowing with the heavenly graces of God. You always illumine with eternal light those who praise you in joy. O pure Virgin, you are truly above all creation.

All repeat "The angels were struck with amazement..."

O undefiled Theotokos, your marvels are beyond expression. I recognize in you an unexplainable mystery, a body that was never corrupted by sin. Therefore, in thanksgiving I cry to you: O pure Virgin, you are truly above all creation.

All repeat "The angels were struck with amazement..."

The Law foretold your wonders; it proclaimed you as a tabernacle, a jar of manna, a wondrous ark, the veil of the temple, and rod of Aaron, an indestructible temple, and the gate of God. It thereby teaches us to sing: O pure Virgin, you are truly above all creation.

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er
and for - ev - er. A - men.

David sang your praises, calling you the daughter of the King, for he recognized the beauty of your virtues as an array of a splendidly colored robe. He saw you sit at the right hand of God, and, therefore, in prophecy he cried aloud: O pure Virgin, you are truly above all creation.

Katavasia

Tone 1 samopodoben

I see a strange and mar - vel - ous mys - te - ry: heav - en is a cave;
the cherubic throne, a vir - gin; the man - ger has be - come the place
in which Christ the in - comprehen - si - ble God lies down. Let us

praise and ex - tol him.

Hymn of Light

Znamenny chant, arr. W. G. Obleschuk

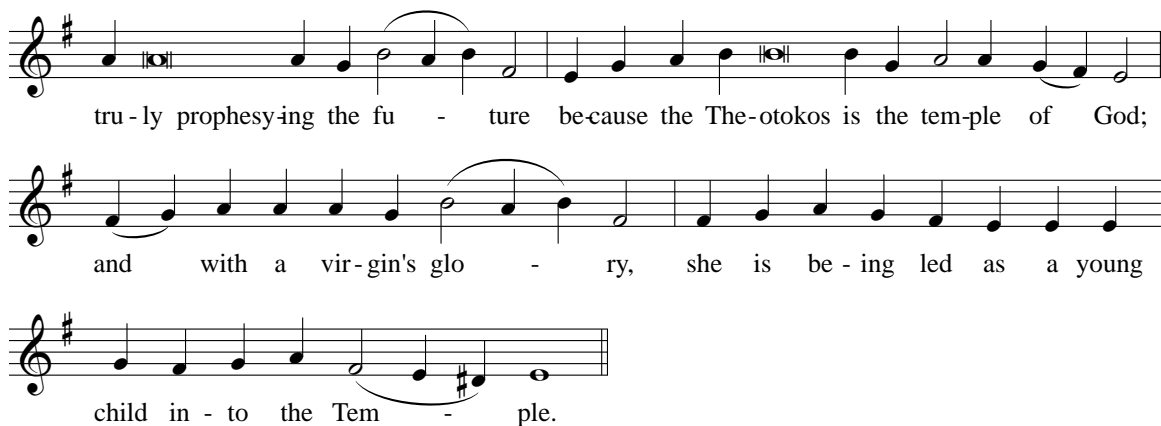
Let us praise in faith Mar-y the Child of God, whom the assembly
of proph - ets fore-told long a - go, speak-ing of her as jar
of man-na and Aa - ron's rod, tab-let of the Law and un-cut
moun-tain. For she is led to - day in - to the Ho - ly of Ho - lies,
there to be brought up to the Lord. *(sung three times)*

The Psalms of Praise are sung in Tone 1

Cantor: Praise him for his powerful deeds,
(on 4) praise his surpassing greatness.

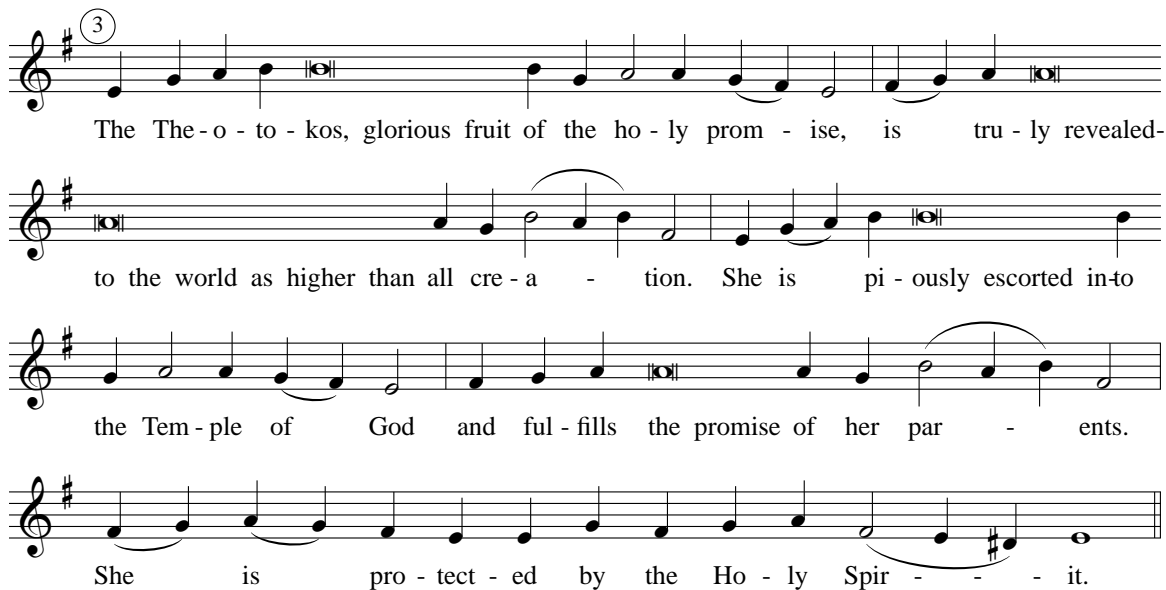
Tone 1 podobn: Nebesnych činov

The can-dle-bear-ing virgins brightly es-cort the ev - er Vir - gin. They are in spir-it



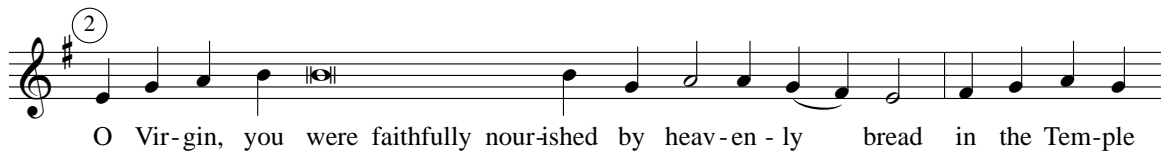
tru-ly prophesy-ing the fu - ture be-cause the The-otokos is the tem-ple of God;
and with a vir-gin's glo - ry, she is be - ing led as a young
child in - to the Tem - ple.

Cantor: O praise him with sound of trumpet
(on 3) praise him with lute and harp.

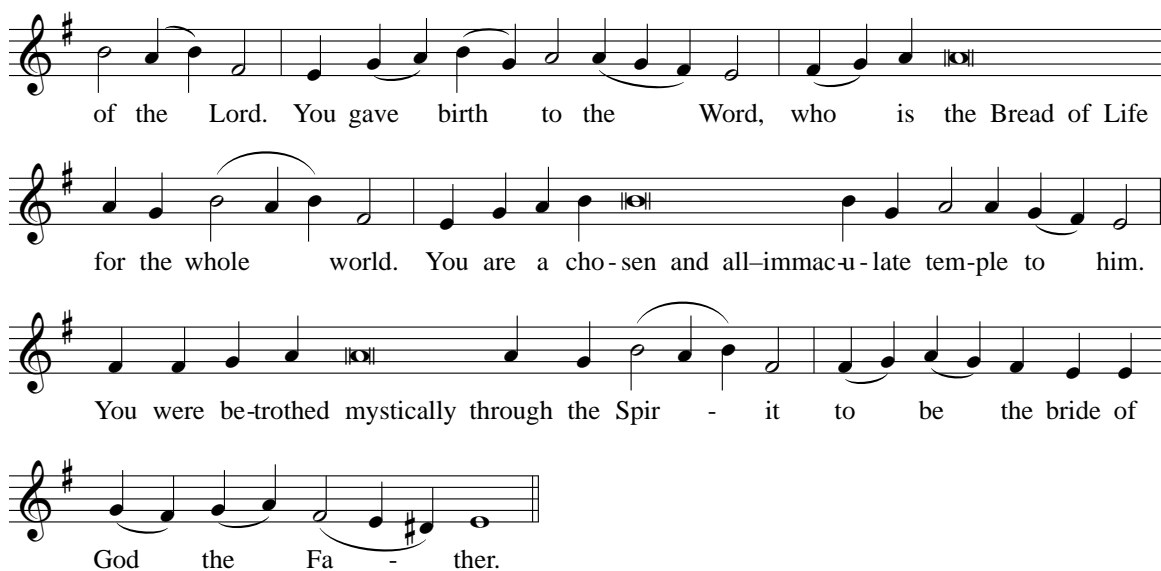


The The-o-to - kos, glorious fruit of the ho - ly prom - ise, is tru - ly revealed -
to the world as higher than all cre - a - tion. She is pi - ously escorted in-to
the Tem - ple of God and ful - fills the promise of her par - ents.
She is pro - tect - ed by the Ho - ly Spir - - - it.

Cantor: Praise him with timbrel and dance,
(on 2) praise him with strings and pipes.

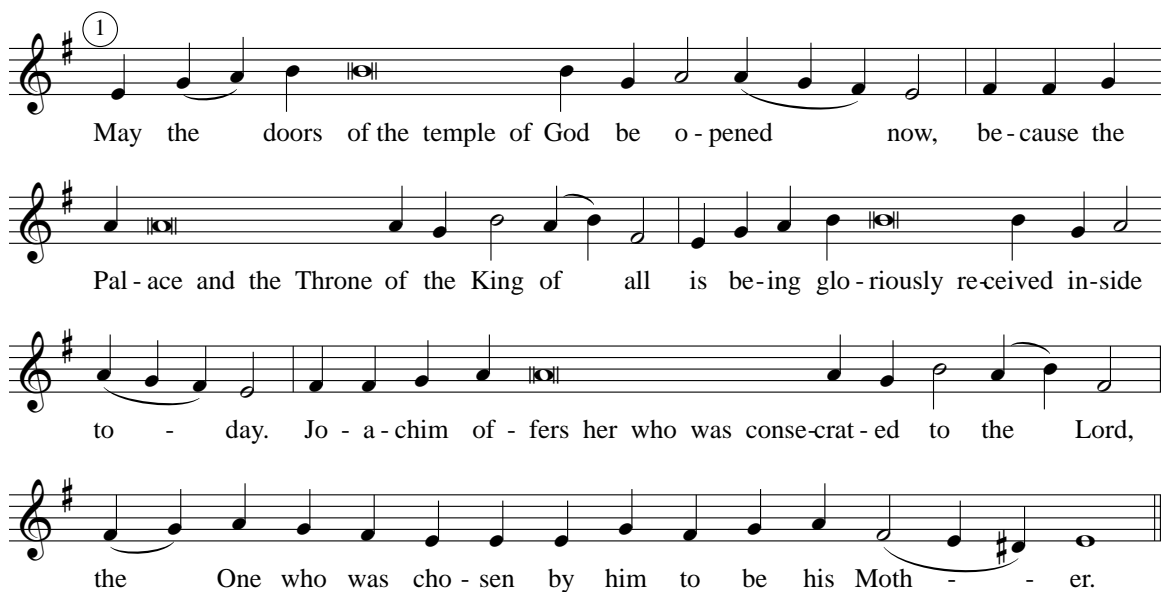


O Vir-gin, you were faithfully nour-ished by heav-en - ly bread in the Tem-ple



of the Lord. You gave birth to the Word, who is the Bread of Life
 for the whole world. You are a cho-sen and all-immac-u-late tem-ple to him.
 You were be-trothed mystically through the Spir - it to be the bride of
 God the Fa - ther.

Cantor: O praise him with resounding cymbals,
 (on 1) praise him with clashing of cymbals.
 Let everything that lives and that breathes
 give praise to the Lord.



May the doors of the temple of God be o-pened now, be-cause the
 Pal-ace and the Throne of the King of all is be-ing glo-riously re-ceived in-side
 to - day. Jo - a - chim of - fers her who was conse-crat-ed to the Lord,
 the One who was cho - sen by him to be his Moth - - er.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon - Tone 2 samohlasen

To - day the all - im - mac - u - late Vir - gin is be - ing es - cort - ed in - to the

tem - ple to be - come the abode of God, the King of all. To - day,

as a three year old child, the most pure ho - ly One is being led into the

Ho - ly of Ho - lies. With the an - gel let us cry out to her:

Re - joice, for you alone are bless - ed a - mong wom - en.