

Vesper Propers, December 26, 2022
The Synaxis of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary
The Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed,
David the King, and James the Brother of God

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2006

"O Lord, I have cried" is sung in Tone 2. After the chanted verses:

Cantor: (Tone 2) 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.

Stichera of the Nativity of Our Lord - Tone 2 samohlasen

⑥

Come, let us re-joyce in the Lord; let us pro-claim the pres-ent mys-te-ry
by which the partition has been broken and the flam-ing sword with-held. Now the
Cher - ubim shall let us all come to the Tree of Life. As for me, I
am returning to the bliss of Par - a - dise from which I had been banished by
dis - o - be - dience, Be - hold! The Im - age of the Father and his unchangeable
e - ter - ni - ty has tak - en the form of a serv - ant.



With - out suf - fer - ing he has come forth to us from an all - pure Vir - gin, and



yet he has re - mained un - changed. He is true God as he was be - fore,



and he has tak - en on himself what he had not been, be - com - ing man out of



his love for all. There - fore, let us raise our voices in hymns sing - ing:



O God, born of the Vir - gin, have mer - cy on us.

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.



Be - cause the Lord Je - sus was born of the ho - ly Vir - gin, all cre - a - tion is



en - light - ened. Be - hold! The shep - herds keep watch and the ma - gi are a - dor - ing;



the an - gels are sing - ing hymns of praise and Her - od is trem - bling;



for the Sav - ior of our souls has re - vealed him - self in the flesh.

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



4

O Christ our God, your king-dom is e - ter - nal, and your reign is from
gen - eration to gen - er - a - tion. You be - came in - carnate of the Ho - ly Spir - it
and be - came man from the ev - er - vir - gin Mar - y. Your com - ing,
O Christ, has shed a great light up - on us. You are the Light of Light
and the ra - diance of the Fa - ther. You have il - lum - ined the whole cre - a - tion.
There - fore, ev - 'ry - thing that breathes sings a hymn of praise to you.
You are the im - age of the Fa - ther's glo - ry. You are
the e - ternal God, existing be - fore all a - ges, who shone forth from the Vir - gin.
O Lord our God, have mer - cy on us.

Cantor: (Tone 1) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of David, Joseph and James - Tone 1 podoben: Nebesnych činov

③

Let us praise Da-vid the King, the an-ces-tor of God, be-cause from him came forth

the branch who is the Vir - gin. From her bloomed the Flow-er, Christ,

who sum - moned Adam and Eve from cor - rup - tion. He is

com - pas - sion - ate to all.

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

②

In his ad - vanced years, Jo-seph clear-ly saw the pro-phe-cies ful-filled.

It was tru - ly a strange be-troth - al; and he re - ceived a revelation from the

an-gels who cried out: Glo-ry to God who sent down peace up - on

the world.

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

①

Let all of us praise the relative of the Lord, the a-pos-tle James, who brave-ly
 suf-fered martyrdom as a bish - op. By his prayers, O Christ our God,
 who was wrapped in swad-dling clothes in the cave, save all those
 who ex - tol you.

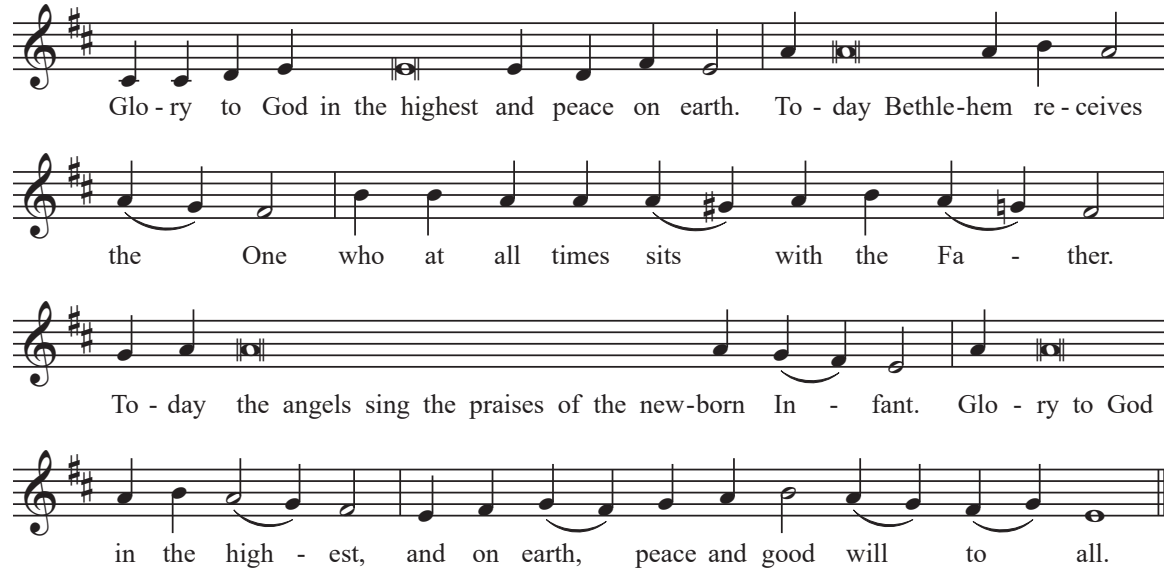
Cantor: *(Tone 6)* Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

We are com-mem-orating the noble Da-vid and James, the king and prophet, the
 apostle and first bish - op. be-cause by their teaching we have been de-liv - ered
 from er - ror. Let us sing the prais-es of Christ who came forth from the
 Vir - gin, and be-came in - car - nate to save our souls.

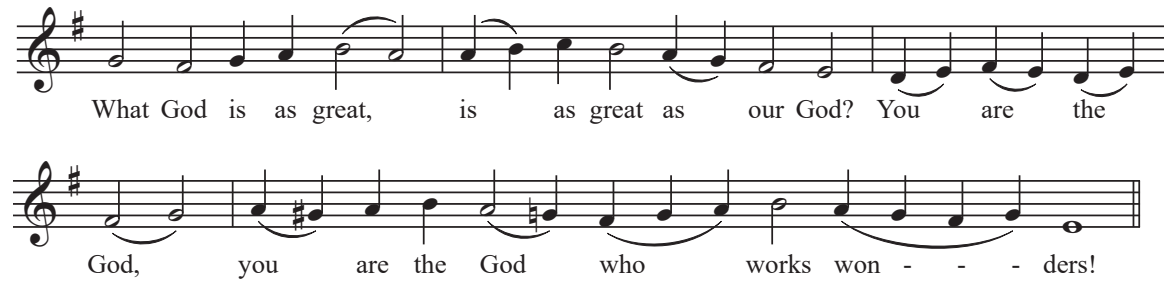
Cantor: (Tone 6) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon of the Nativity (from Matins) - Tone 6 samohlasn



Glo - ry to God in the highest and peace on earth. To - day Bethle-hem re - ceives
the One who at all times sits with the Fa - ther.
To - day the angels sing the praises of the new-born In - fant. Glo - ry to God
in the high - est, and on earth, peace and good will to all.

Great Prokeimenon of the Nativity - Tone 7 (Psalm 76: 14-16, 11, 12)



What God is as great, is as great as our God? You are the
God, you are the God who works won - - - ders!

Verse: You showed your power among the peoples. * Your strong arm redeemed your people.

Verse: I said: Now I begin, * and this is the will of the Most High

Verse: I remember the deeds of the Lord. * I remember your wonders of old.

Optional readings: Genesis 25:21-34
Sirach 7: 1-28
Isaiah 11: 1-9

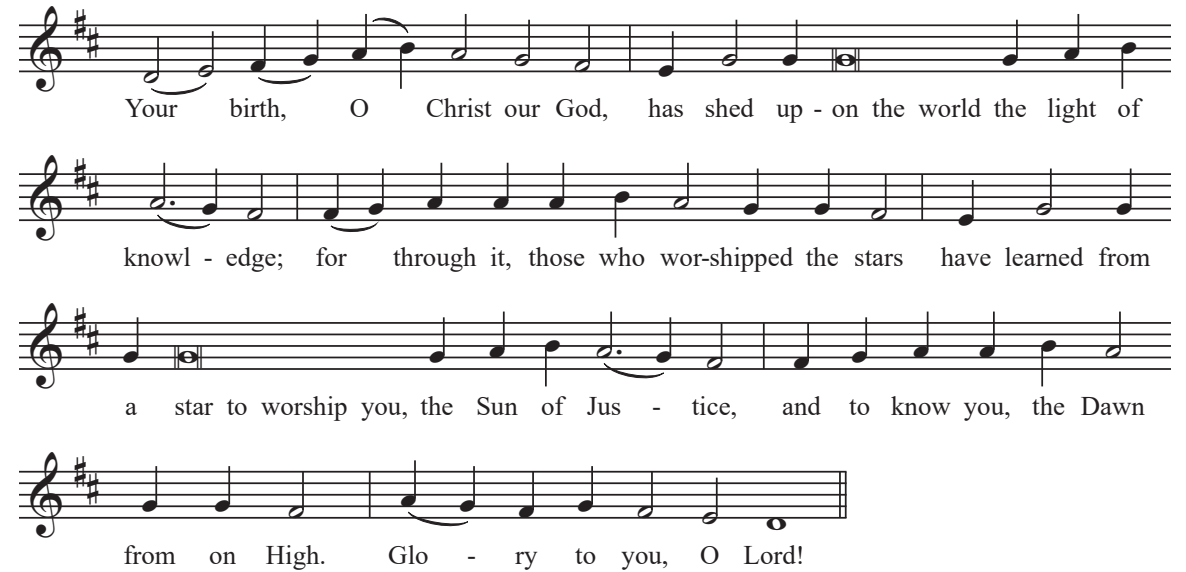
If there is no Blessing of Bread, the Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, page 91) is sung, then:

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

“Joseph, proclaim the wonders...” (above)

Cantor: (Tone 4) Now and ever...

Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4



Your birth, O Christ our God, has shed up - on the world the light of
knowl - edge; for through it, those who wor-shipped the stars have learned from
a star to worship you, the Sun of Jus - tice, and to know you, the Dawn
from on High. Glo - ry to you, O Lord!



three - day bur - i - al. Let us cry out to him: Hav - ing become incarnate
of the Vir - gin, save our souls, O Christ God.

Troparia

If there is Blessing of Bread, the Troparion of the Nativity ("Your birth, O Christ our God," next page) is sung twice, then:

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

Troparion of the Sunday after the Nativity - Tone 2

Jo-seph, pro-claim the won - ders you have seen to Da-vid, the fore - fa-ther
of God: the Vir - gin has giv - en birth; you have giv - en glo - ry
with the shep - herds and wor-shipped with the wise men; you have
been in-struct-ed by the an - gel. Ask Christ our God to save our souls.

and the service continues with the Blessing of Bread, p. 119.

May heav-en and earth re-joyce pro-phet - ic - ly this day. May an-gels
and peo-ple spir - it - ually cel - e-brate, for God ap - peared in the flesh
to those grop - ing in the dark-ness and rest - ing in a shad - ow.
Hav-ing been born of a Vir - gin, a cave and a man - ger re-ceived him.
Shep-herds re-late a mir - a - cle; the Ma-gi from the East bring gifts
to Beth-le-hem, while we, with un-wor-thy lips, ren - der him an - gel - ic praise:
Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace on earth,
for the hope of na - tions has ar - rived.
Hav - ing come, he has saved us from hos - tile bond - age.

Aposticha

Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 6, page 88), concluding with:

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

The Per-sian Ma-gi clearly recognized the heav-en-ly King born on earth.
Led by a bright star, they ar-rived at Beth-le-hem
bear-ing choice gifts of gold and frank-in-cense and myrrh; and fall-ing down,
they a-dored him; for they saw the eternal One, ly-ing as a Child, in the cave.

An-gels re-joice in heav-en, and peo-ple ex-ult to-day, and all crea-tures
leap with joy be-cause of the birth of the Lord and Savior in Beth-le-hem;
for all deceit of i-dol-at-ry has ceased, and Christ reigns for-ev-er.

The re-mem-brance of your na-tiv-i-ty brings happiness to priests and might
to kings. Let us al-so boast of it and say: Our Fa-ther who art in
heav-en, hal-lowed be thy name, O Lov-er of us all.

Cantor: Now and ever...

To-day the invisible nature is united with our visible nature through the Vir-gin.
To-day the infinite Essence is wrapped in swaddling clothes in Beth-le-hem.
To-day God is guiding the Ma-gi by a star so that they might
wor-ship him. With the gold, frank-in-cense and myrrh, he is foretelling his