

**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 in 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**

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

he a-void - ed me, re-pulsed by the painful pol-lu - tion of my soul.

But you who chose to take flesh, O Christ our God, not from Samaria,

but from Ma - - - ry, grant me heal - ing in your love,

pour - ing out on me your great mer - - cy.

**Cantor:** Around me the just will assemble  
(on 9) because of your goodness to me. (*All repeat: "I fell in with thieving evil thoughts..."*)

**Cantor:** Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**  
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

8  
O Lord, you made your ho-ly a-pos - tles a spi-ri - tu - al par - a - dise,

Through their prayers deliver me from the dis-tress of this world, and, through fas-ting

lift up my spi - - - rit, and turn it away from all pas - sions,

in your good-ness and your love for us all.

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!

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

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.

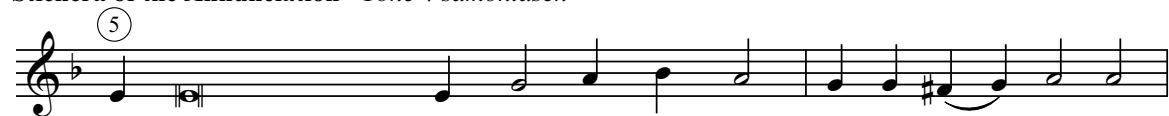
O a - pos - tles, wor - thy of all praise, you in - ter - cede for the world;  
you heal the sick and watch o - ver those who are well. In this time of the Fast,  
give us your two - fold pro - tec - - - tion, that we may live in peace with  
ev - 'ry - one, so that we might sing the praises of the One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



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

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) My soul is waiting 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**



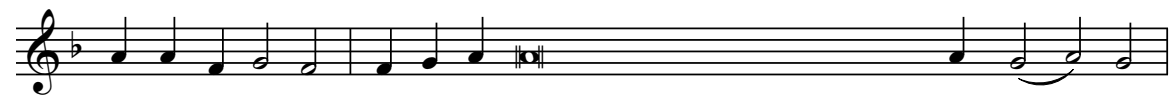
In the sixth month the Arch - an - gel was sent to a pure Vir - gin.



He greet-ed her: Re-joyce! 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



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.

**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;



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;



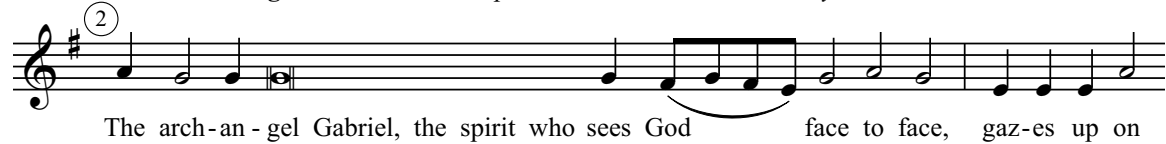
the world is freed from the an - cient curse. Let cre - a - tion rejoice and give voice




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 podoben: Prechvalnii mučenicy**




The arch-an - gel Gabriel, the spirit who sees God face to face, gaz-es up on



the brilliant, saving, and gleam-ing Light. He sings heav-enly and awesome hymns

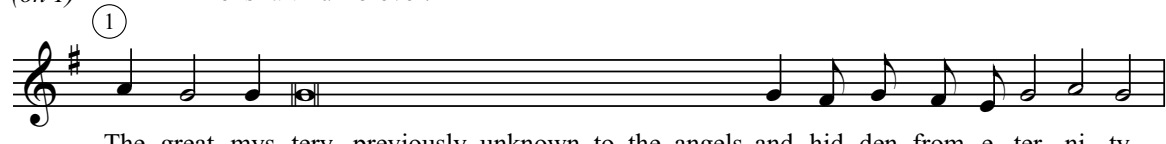


with the ranks on high. He im-plores God to grant peace and great mer - cy




to our souls.

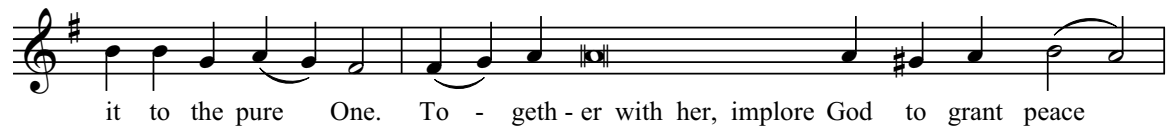
**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.



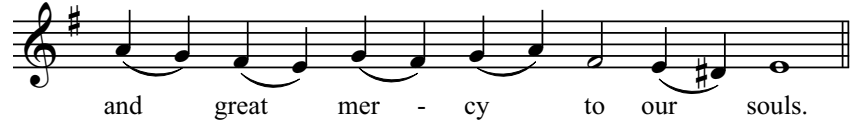
The great mys-tery, previously unknown to the angels and hid-den from e-ter-ni-ty,



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.

**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:** [Exodus 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.*

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

## Old Testament Readings from the Triodion

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Celebrant:** Peace ✠ be to all!

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon 1 - Tone 4** (Psalm 93: 1, 2)



O Lord, a - ven - ging Judge, a - ven - ging  
God, ap - pear.

*Verse:* Judge of the earth, arise, \* give the proud what they *deserve*.

**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 17:1-9] (*Epistle Book, p. 275*)

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon 2 - Tone 4** (Psalm 95: 1, 2)



Sing a new song to the Lord. Sing a new song to the Lord.

*Verse:* Sing to the Lord; \* bless *his* name.

*Cantor only: (on A)*



You make your an-gels spi-rits and your min - i - sters a flam - ing fire.



O prince of an-gels, 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 lovingly 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.