

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!

Vespers with Divine Liturgy, Evening of March 25, 2021

Thursday in the Sixth 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 a separate handout.

The service begins on page 104 in the Divine Liturgies book.

The Lamp-Lighting Psalms

Psalm 140 - Tone 8 samohlasen

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!

Then the recited verses are chanted by the cantor and faithful. The faithful may SIT when the incensation of the church is complete.

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 excuses for 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.
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.

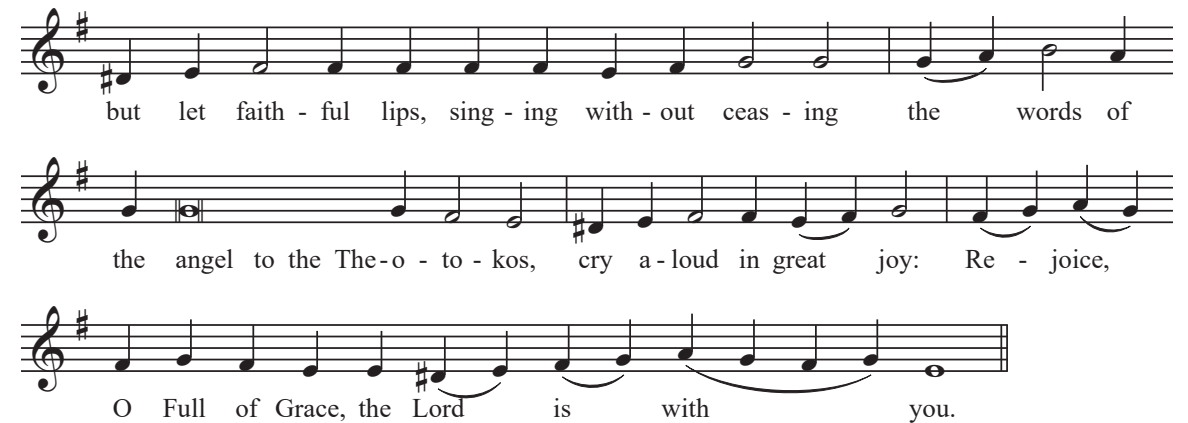
Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
while I pursue my way *un*harmed.

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 *within* 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."

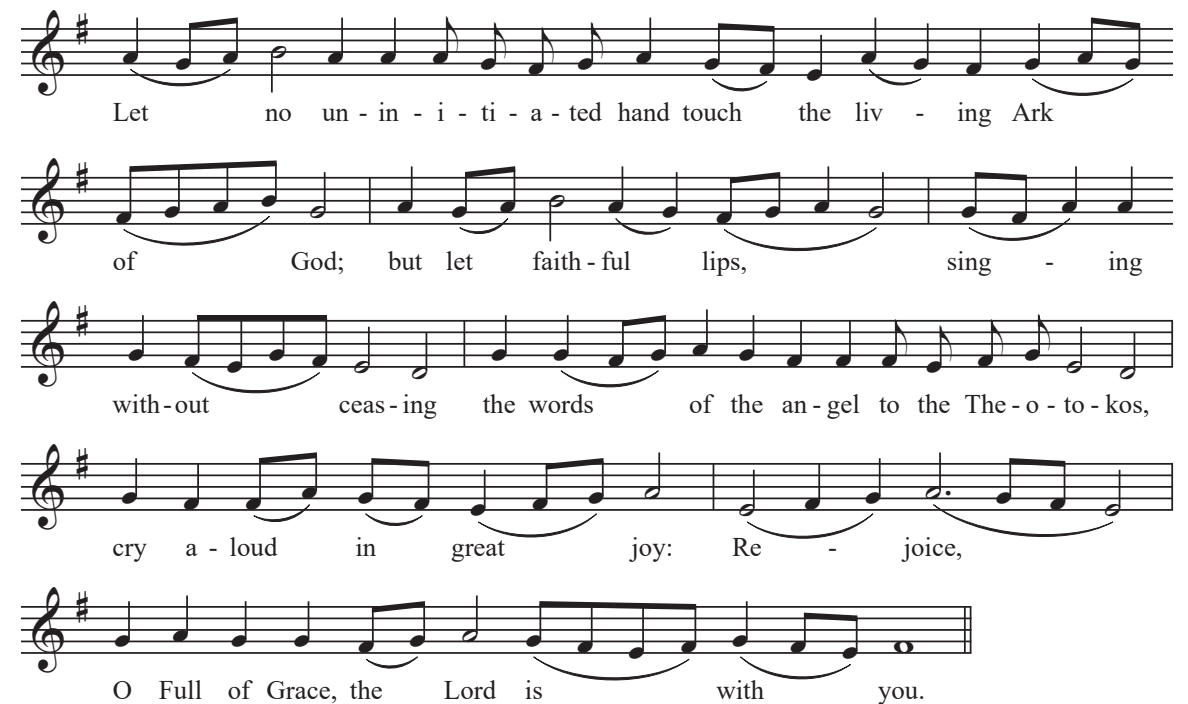


but let faith - ful lips, sing - ing with - out ceas - ing the words of
the angel to the The - o - to - kos, cry a - loud in great joy: Re - joice,
O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

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

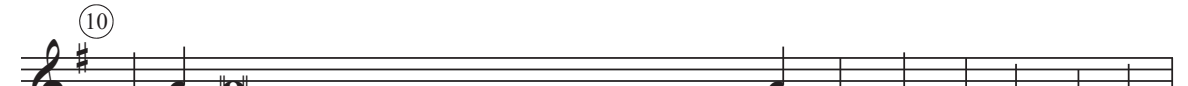


Let no un - in - i - ti - a - ted hand touch the liv - ing Ark of God;


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.

Cantor: (*Tone 8*) Bring my soul out of this prison,
(*on 10*) and then I shall praise your name.


Stichera for Thursday in the Sixth Week of the Great Fast - Tone 8 samohlasen




De - li - ver me from the greed of the merciless rich man, O Christ our God,




for by your Cross, you cleansed our sins. Make me an im - itator of



Laz - a - rus the poor, full of pa - tience and meek - - - ness.



Do not es - trange me from the bos-om of A - bra ham, be cause of -



your great good - ness.

Cantor: Around me the just will assemble
(*on 9*) because of your goodness to me. (*All repeat: "Deliver me from the greed..."*)

Cantor: (Tone 4) Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

Tone 4 samohlasen

8

Two of the holy a - pos - tles, O Christ, re - cognizing You as one of the Ho - ly
Tri - ni - ty, are sent by You on this day to ful - fill the Scrip - tures; they go in
search of a young don - key. On it, You shall sit humbly, O God of
ten - der - ness. You desire to prepare a throne in the highest for those who love You;
and You grant to the foolish, who are bent beneath the yoke of their pas - sions,
the courage to cry to You: Ho - san - - - na!

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

7

Re - ceive your King, O Zi - on! He already stands before your gates full of
meek - ness, to raise up Lazarus and to destroy the king - dom of death.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Proverbs 23:15 - 24:5]

Old Testament Readings for the Annunciation

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from Exodus.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Exodus 3:1-8] (*Epistle Book, p. 317*)

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Proverbs 8:22-31] (*Epistle Book, p. 312*)

Celebrant: Peace ☩ be to you, reader.

The service continues with the Small Litany (page 122) followed by the Trisagion ("Holy God") of the Divine Liturgy, on pages 27-30.

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

Old Testament Readings from the Triodion

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace ✠ be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 6 (Psalm 119: 1, 2)

To the Lord in the hour of my dis-tress I call
and he an - swers me.

Verse: O Lord, save my soul from lying lips, * from the tongue of the *deceitful*.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 46:1-7] (*Epistle Book, p. 275*)

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon II - Tone 6 (Psalm 120:7, 1)

My help shall come from the Lord who made hea - ven and earth,
the Lord who made hea - ven and earth.

Verse: I lift up my eyes to the mountains, * from where shall come *my* help.

And you, the choir of holy monks as - sem - bled by God, go to meet Christ
with your palms and sing to Him: Bles-sed is He who comes to save the human race
by his Passion on the Cross and to grant e - ter - nal life to our souls.

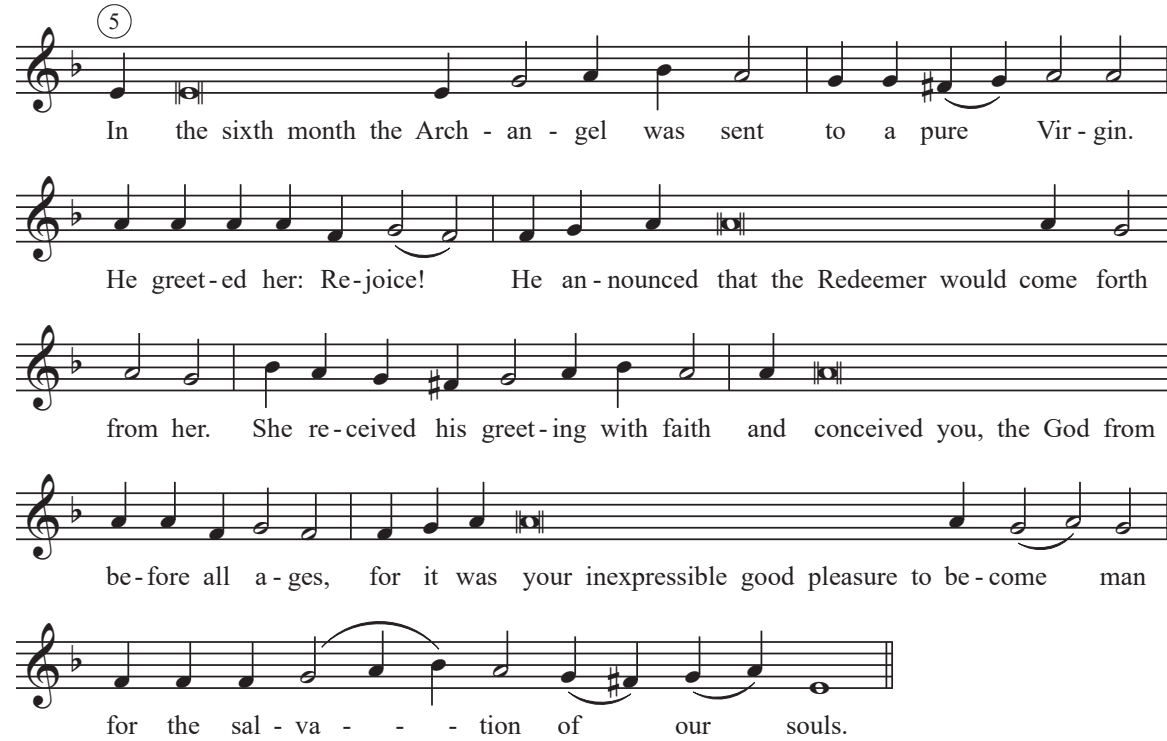
Cantor: (*Tone 8*) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
(*on 6*) But with you is found forgiveness; for this we revere you. *Tone 8 samohlasen*

You are borne upon the Seraphim in the hea - vens, O Christ, as the God
and Cre - a - tor of all. On earth You are seated on a don - key. Beth - a - ny
re - joi - ces to welcome You as a Sav - ior. Je - ru - salem exults to receive You
as the expect - ed Mes - si - ah. Death is slain as it sees Lazarus es - cap - ing
its grasp. And we, carrying our palms go out to meet You in joy
and praise the majesty of your good - ness, O Lord.

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

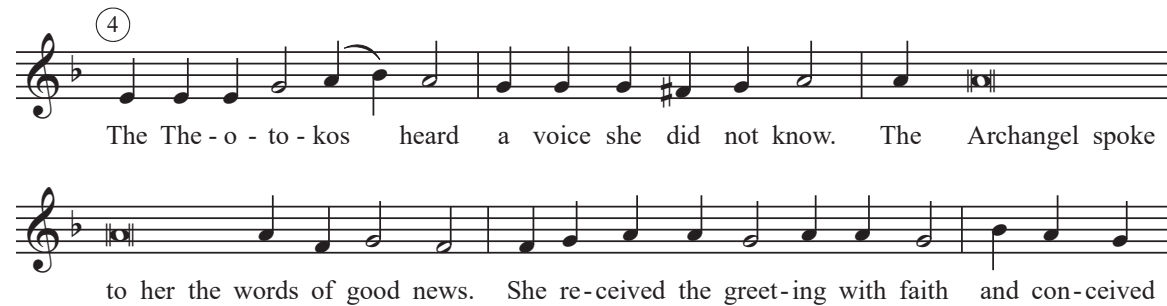
⑤



In the sixth month the Arch - an - gel was sent to a pure Vir - gin.
He greet-ed her: Re-joice! 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.

④



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

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.

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-joice, pure Vir - gin; re-joice, Un - wed - ded Bride; re-joice, Moth - er of Life;
bless-ed is the fruit of your womb.

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.

③
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-ceive 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!

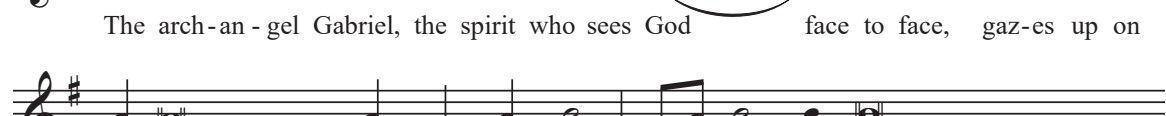
Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

Stichera of the Archangel Gabriel - Tone 1 podobn: Prechvalnii mučenicy

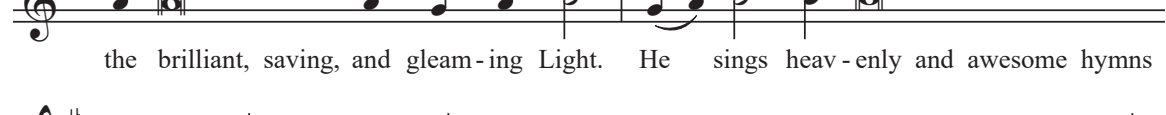
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The arch-an-gel Gabriel, the spirit who sees God face to face, gaz-es up on



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



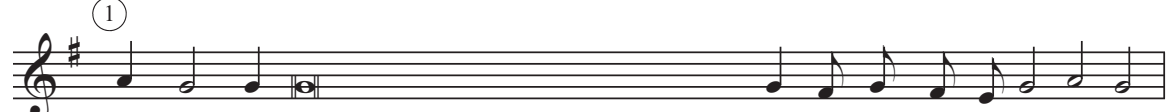
with the ranks on high. He im-plores God to grant peace and great mer - cy



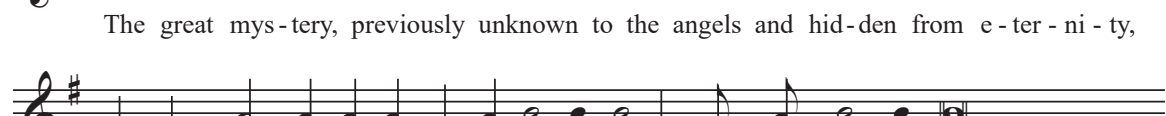
to our souls.

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

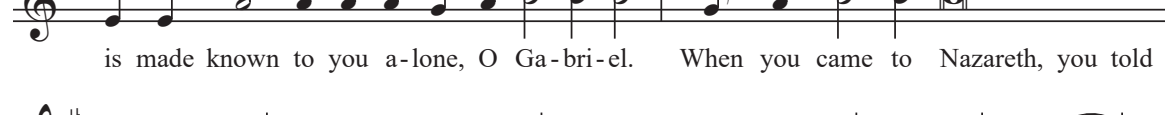
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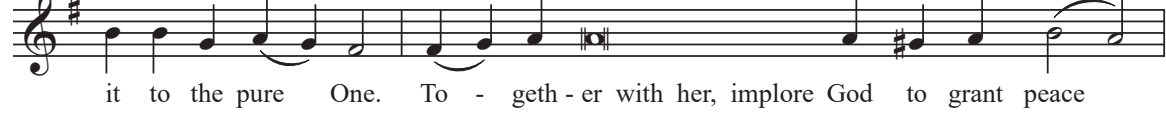
The great mys-tery, previously unknown to the angels and hid-den from e-ter-ni-ty,



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.

Cantor only: (on A)



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

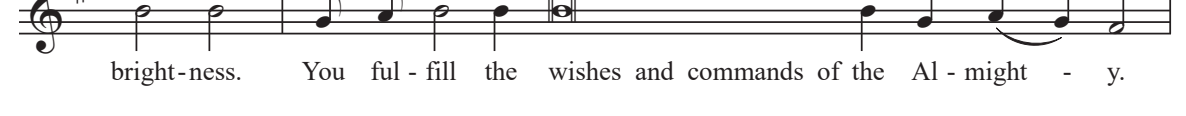


Ⓐ


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.

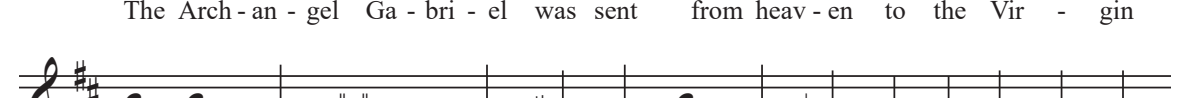
The faithful STAND,

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

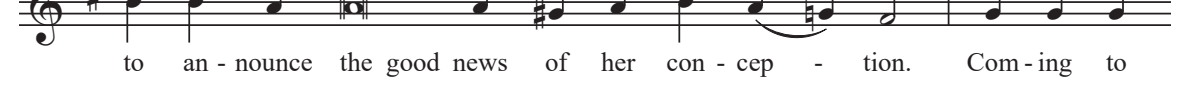
Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen



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: