

EMMANUEL MOLEBEN
A Service of Prayer for the Christmas Fast
As a Reader Service



Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,
have mercy on us.

Response:

Psalm tone:

A - men. * -

Glory to you, our God,
glory *to* you.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
everywhere present and filling all things,
Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life,
come and dwell within us,
cleanse us of all stain,
and save our souls, O *gracious* One.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal,
have mercy *on* us. (*3 times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen*.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our transgressions;
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for *your* name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, *have* mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen*.

Set Five

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-18
"Sing for joy, O daughter of Zion..."

Epistle: Romans 16: 25-27
"Jesus Christ, revelation of a mystery now made clear..."

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45
The visitation of Mary to Elizabeth.

Set Six

Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 1: 24-28
The presentation of Samuel to the Lord

Epistle: Hebrews 10: 5-10
"Here am I, Lord, I come to do your will!"

Gospel: Luke 1: 46-56
Mary's song of praise

Set Seven

Old Testament Reading: Malachi 3: 1-4, 23-24
"I will send Elijah my prophet before my day comes..."

Epistle: Titus 3: 4-7
"When the kindness and love of God were revealed..."

Gospel: Luke 1: 57-66
The birth of John the Forerunner

Suggested Readings

If the Emmanuel moleben is sung once each week of the Philip's Fast (Advent), then seven sets of readings will be needed. These readings are grouped thematically together, and proceed from the beginning of the season to its climax at the Nativity of the Lord. If the moleben is sung fewer times, select the set of readings most suitable.

Set One

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 49: 2-8, 10
The blessing of Jacob for his son, Judah.

Epistle: James 5: 7-10
"Be patient, my brothers, until the Lord's coming..."

Gospel: Matthew 1: 1-17
The genealogy of Jesus.

Set Two

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14
The prophecy concerning Emmanuel

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24
"Be happy at all times, for all things give thanks..."

Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24
The annunciation to Joseph.

Set Three

Old Testament Reading: Judges 13: 2-7, 24-25
The birth of Samson, the man of God.

Epistle: Philippians 4: 4-7
"Rejoice in the Lord always...the Lord is near..."

Gospel: Luke 1:5-25
The annunciation to Zechariah

Set Four

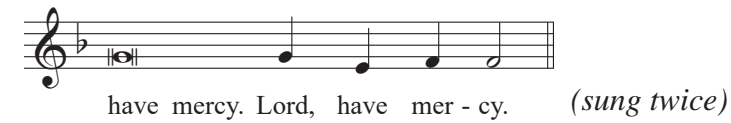
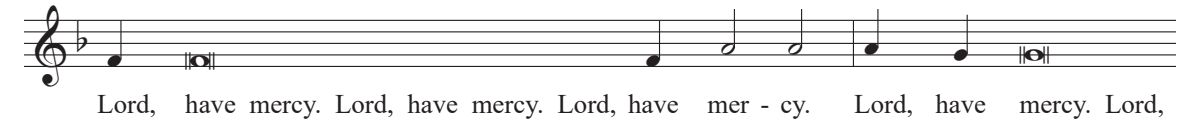
Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 23: 5-8
"I will raise up to David a righteous branch..."

Epistle: Romans 1: 1-17
"This is about the Son of God, descended from David..."

Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38
The annunciation to Mary

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us *from* evil.

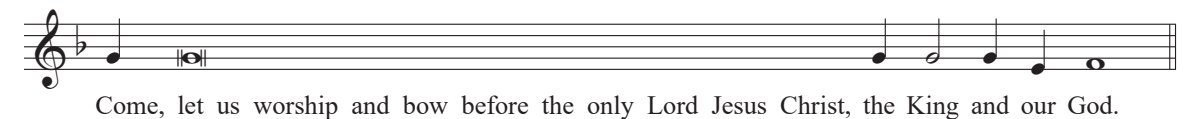
Response:



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. Amen.

Call to Worship

Each time with a reverence



Psalm 97

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has *worked* wonders.

His right hand and his holy arm
have brought *salvation*.

The Lord has made known his salvation
has shown his justice to *the* nations.

He has remembered his truth and love
for the house *of* Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of *our* God.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth,
ring out *your* joy.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the sound *of* music.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, *the* Lord.

Let the sea, and all within it, thunder;
the world and all *its* peoples.

Let the rivers clap their hands
and the hills ring out *their* joy

At the presence of the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to rule *the* earth.

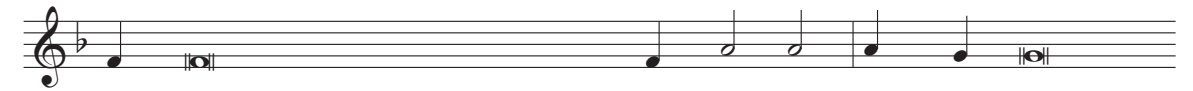
He will rule the world with justice
and the peoples *with* fairness.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
Now and ever and forever. *Amen*.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (*reverence*)
Glory to you, *O* God!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (*reverence*)
Glory to you, *O* God!

Litany of Fervent Supplication



Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,



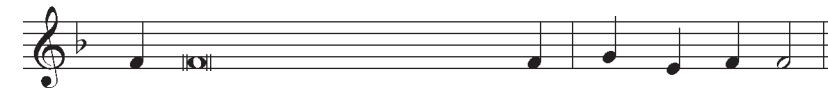
have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. (*sung twice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen*.

Leader: O good God, in all times and places you are worshiped and glorified both in heaven and on earth. You are long-suffering and generous in your mercy and compassion. You love the just and show mercy to the sinner, calling all to repentance through the promise of blessings to come. Deem, O Lord, at this very hour, to receive our supplications and to direct our lives in the path of your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set aright our minds; cleanse our thoughts; deliver us from all affliction, trouble, and distress; surround us with your holy angels so that, guided and guarded in their camp, we may attain oneness of faith and the knowledge of your unspeakable glory. For you are blessed forever and ever.

Dismissal

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen*



Lord, have mercy. Lord have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy.

Bless *O* Lord!

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,
have mercy on us.



A - - - - - men.

Leader: Jesus, long-awaited hope of the nations,
you make them children of Abraham and heirs according to the promise:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response: 
Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Leader: Jesus, everliving Word,
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
who came after the Forerunner yet are before him:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response: 
Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Leader: Jesus, Messiah, Son of the Blessed One,
O blessed and only mighty One, the Lord,
to whom be honor, praise, and glory:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response: 
Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.


Leader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
now and ever and forever. Amen.


Response: 
Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Then, all together, with melody (and with a reverence):


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

The Litany of Peace


Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,



have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. (*sung twice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. Amen.

The Lord is God, with Troparion

Leader (recto tono), then all:

Tone 4 troparion


The Lord is God and has re - vealed him - self to us; bless - ed is he who comes


in the name of the Lord. *repeat after each verse*

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his love endures forever.

Verse: They encircled me, compassed me about; in the Lord's name I crushed them.

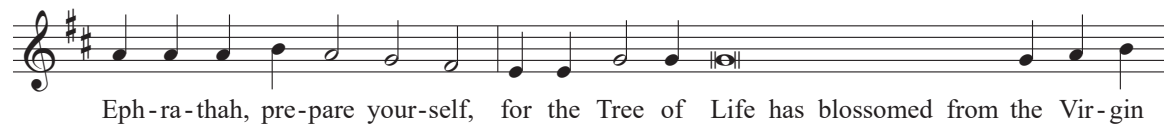
Verse: I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

Verse: The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

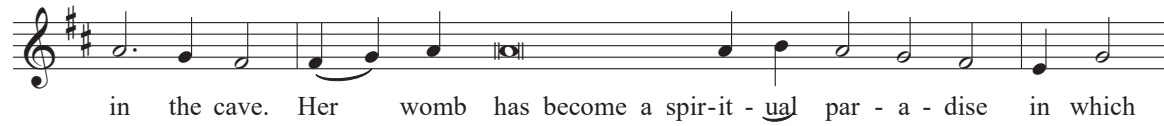
Prefestive Troparion of the Nativity - Tone 4



Beth-le - hem, make read - y, E - den has been o - pened for all.



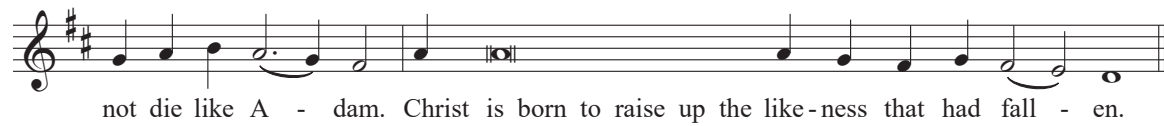
Eph-ra-thah, pre-pare your-self, for the Tree of Life has blossomed from the Vir-gin



in the cave. Her womb has become a spir-it - ual par - a - dise in which

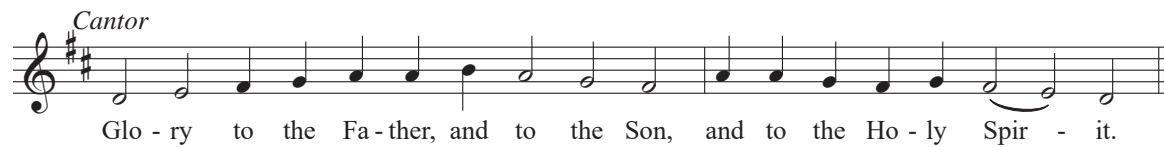


di - vin - i - ty was plant - ed. If we par-take of it, we shall live and



not die like A - dam. Christ is born to raise up the like-ness that had fall - en.

Cantor



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

All repeat the Troparion.

Cantor



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

All repeat the Troparion.

Leader: Jesus, eternal life,
wrapped as a servant in swaddling clothes,
that as God, you might sunder the chains of death:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response:



Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Leader: Jesus, Star of Jacob which rose in a cave,
O Shepherd of Israel whom the shepherds adored:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response:



Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Leader: Jesus, Deliverance of our first parents, Joy of the Patriarchs,
Fulfillment of the Law and the prophets:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response:



Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Leader: Jesus, Salvation prepared in the sight of every nation,
Light of revelation for the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response:



Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

The Supplications

Leader: Jesus, Wisdom, Designer of all,
O Breath of the Power of God,
pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response: 
Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Leader: Jesus, true Light from the eternal Light,
spotless mirror of God's creative power,
Icon of his goodness:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response: 
Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Leader: Jesus, sweetest Child,
fulfillment of the sign "Emmanuel," God with us:
Come and save those who hope in you.


Response: 
Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.


Leader: Jesus, Messenger of Great Counsel,
Prince of Peace, and Lord of the Age to Come:
Come and save those who hope in you.

Response: 
Em - man - u - el, God with us, have mer - cy on us.

Exaltation

*Holding lighted taper, the leader solemnly sing the Exaltation.
The faithful join in singing the Exaltation.*


We ex - tol you, O life-giv-ing Christ, for by ful-fil-ling the sign fore-told


of Em-man-u-el, you re-vealed your-self as Sav-ior, by proph-ets fore-told.

Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he comes, he comes to rule the earth. *All repeat "We extol you..."*

He has remembered his truth and his love for the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. *All repeat "We extol you..."*

The Lord remembers his covenant forever,
his promise for a thousand generations. *All repeat "We extol you..."*

He lowered the heavens and came down,
he came enthroned upon the Cherubim. *All repeat "We extol you..."*

The Lord of Hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. *All repeat "We extol you..."*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
now and ever and forever. Amen. *All repeat "We extol you..."*

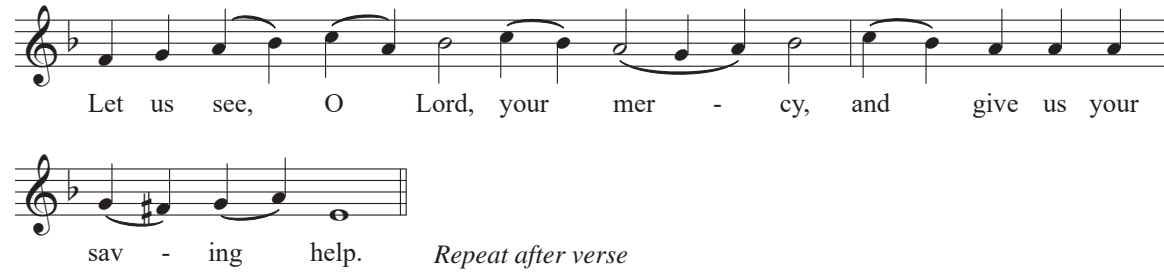
Three times, each with a reverence:


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

All repeat "We extol you..."

The Word of God

Prokeimenon - Tone 4



Let us see, O Lord, your mer - cy, and give us your
sav - ing help. *Repeat after verse*

Verse: I will hear what the Lord has to say, a voice that speaks of peace;
peace for his people and friends, and those who turn to him in their hearts.

Old Testament Reading

Lector: A reading from _____

The lector reads the passage from the Old Testament.

Epistle

Lector: A reading from the letter of _____

The lector reads the chosen passage from the Epistles

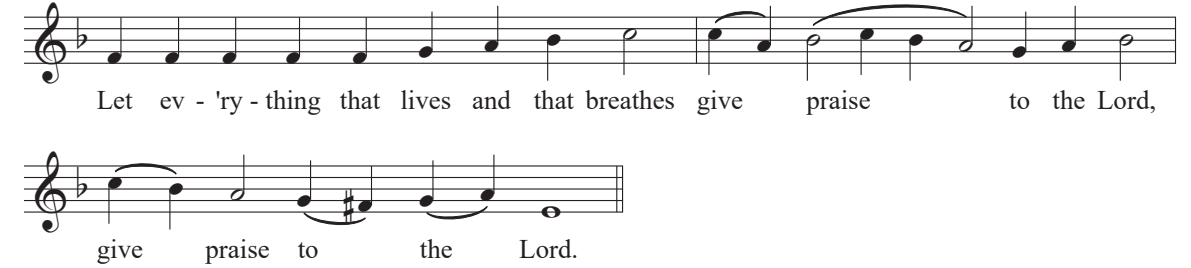
Preparation for the Gospel

This dialogue is sung between the leader and the faithful. The leader chants:

Leader: Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord!

Tone 4

Response:



Let ev - 'ry - thing that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord,
give praise to the Lord.

Leader: Praise God in his holy place; praise him in his mighty heavens.

Response: *"Let everything that lives..."*

Leader: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to the holy apostle and evangelist (*Name*).

Response:



Glo - - - ry to you, O Lord, glo - ry to you.

The Gospel is read now. Gospel is read from the nave, facing east, in a normal speaking voice.

Response:



Glo - - - ry to you, O Lord, glo - ry to you.