

Vesper Propers, September 8, 2005

THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY,
of the seed of Abraham, born from the tribe of Judah, from the line of King David. From her, the Son of God was born in the flesh that he might free people from the ancient slavery of sin.

*Supplement for **The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2004***

Psalm 140, Tone 6, p. 82

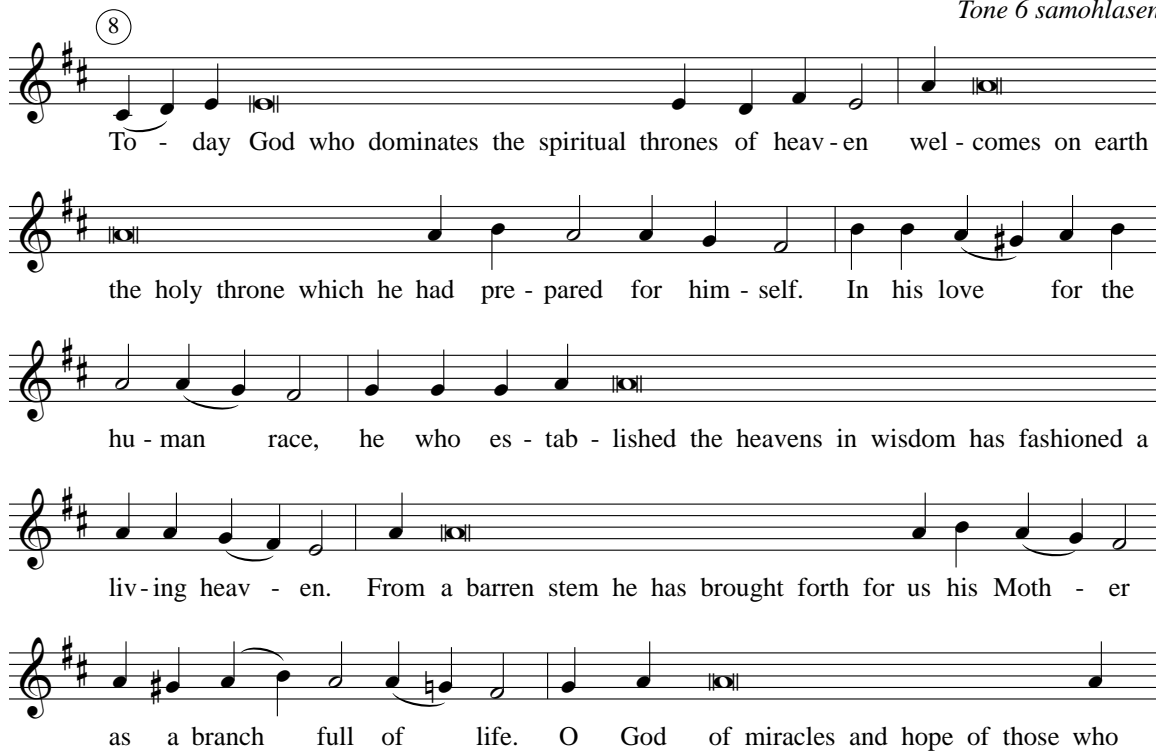
Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness *to* me.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

Tone 6 samohlasen

8



To - day God who dominates the spiritual thrones of heav - en wel - comes on earth
the holy throne which he had pre - pared for him - self. In his love for the
hu - man race, he who es - tab - lished the heavens in wisdom has fashioned a
liv - ing heav - en. From a barren stem he has brought forth for us his Moth - er
as a branch full of life. O God of miracles and hope of those who

have no hope; O Lord, glo - ry to you!

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

7
 This is the day of the Lord: Re - jice, there - fore, O na - tions!

Be - hold, the chamber of Light and the scroll of the liv - ing Word

has come forth from the womb. The gate that opens to the Ris - ing Sun

and is read - y for the entrance of the High Priest, is here to - day.

She is the on - ly one who introduced Christ, and Christ alone, in - to the world

for the sal - va - - - tion of our souls.

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.

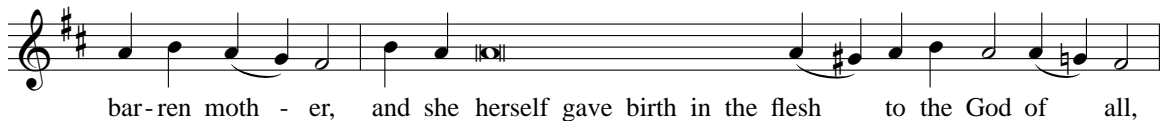
6 5
 In - deed some famous barren women have given birth by the will of God; but the



na - tivity of Mary surpasses all na - tiv - i - ties in hon - or and splen - dor



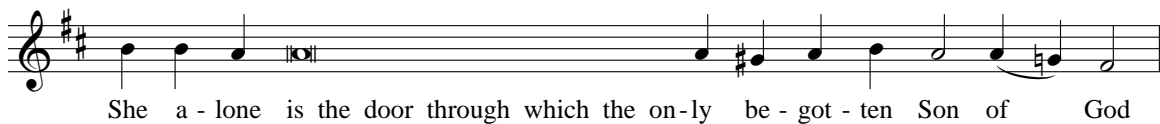
as it is wor - thy of the maj - es - ty of God. For she was born in a miraculous way of a



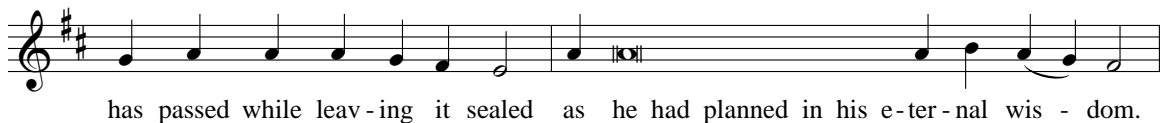
bar - ren moth - er, and she herself gave birth in the flesh to the God of all,



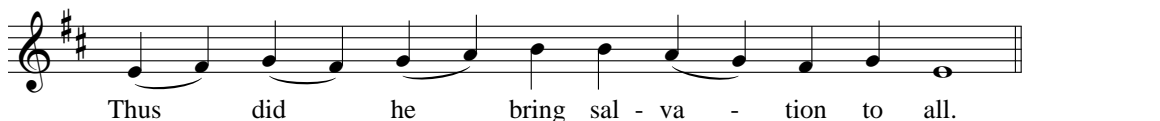
in - car - nate in her womb with - out hu - man seed a - gainst the laws of na - ture.



She a - lone is the door through which the on - ly be - got - ten Son of God



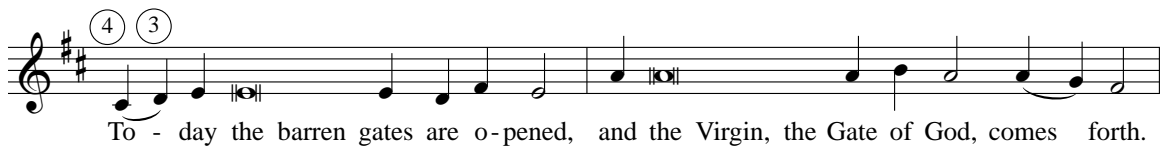
has passed while leav - ing it sealed as he had planned in his e - ter - nal wis - dom.



Thus did he bring sal - va - tion to all.

Cantor: 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. *All repeat "Indeed..."*

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



To - day the barren gates are o - pened, and the Virgin, the Gate of God, comes forth.

To - day grace be - gins to bear fruit, show - ing forth to the world the
 The - o - to - kos, through whom earth is unit-ed to heav - en for the
 sal - va - - - tion of 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. *All repeat "Today the barren gates..."*

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

To - day glad tidings go forth to the whole world. To - day sweet fra-grance is
 sent forth by the pro - cla - ma - tion of sal - va - tion. To - day is the end
 of the barrenness of our na - ture; for the barren one be - comes a moth - er,
 the moth - er of the one who will not cease to be a vir - gin, e - ven af - ter
 giv - ing birth to the One who by nature is Cre - a - tor and God. He it is who took flesh

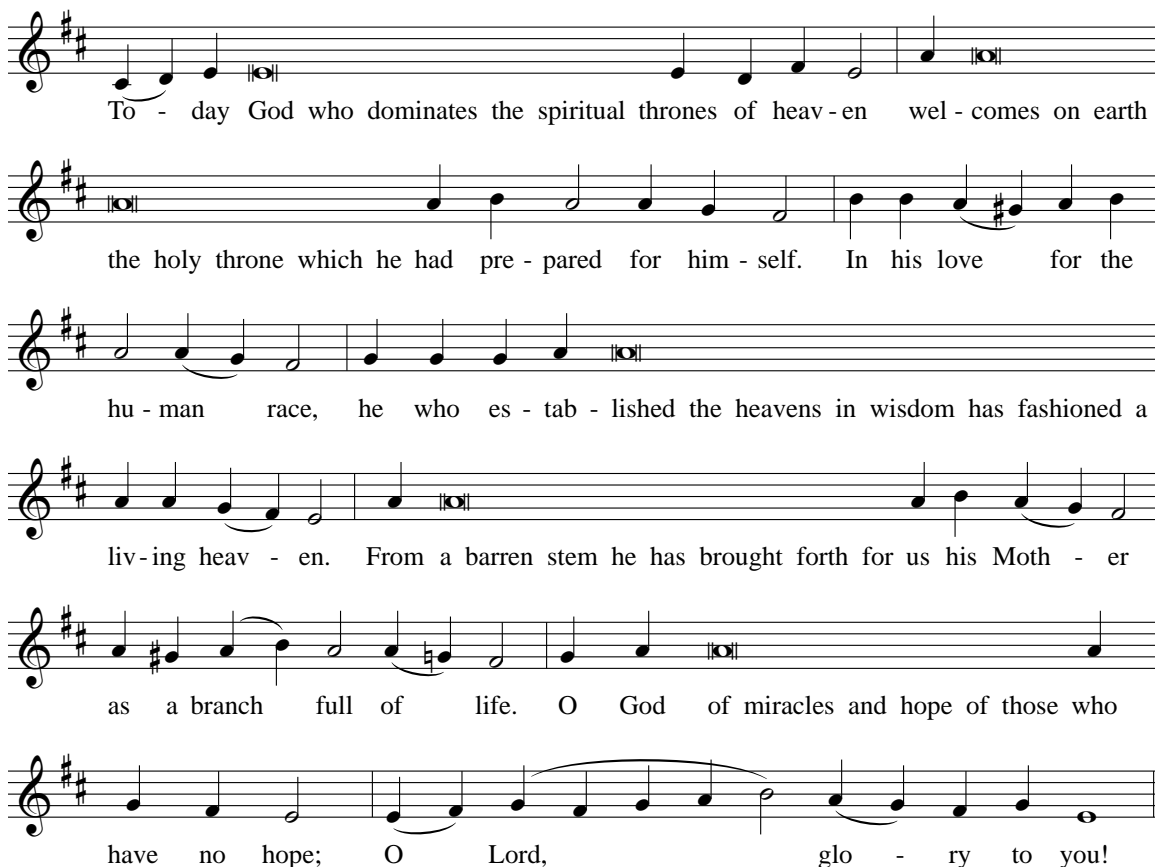
by which he brought sal-va - tion to the lost; he is Christ, the Lov - er
of us all, and the Sav - - - ior of our souls.

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

To - day Anna, the barren one, gives birth to the maid-en of God who had been chosen
from all the human gen - er - a - tions to be - come the dwelling place of the
Cre - a - tor, Christ our God and the King of all. In her he fulfilled his
di - vine plan through which our human na - ture was re - newed
and by which we were to be trans-ferred from cor - rup - tion
to e - ter - nal life.

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

Doxastikon - Tone 6



The musical score is written on six staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The text concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

To - day God who dominates the spiritual thrones of heav - en wel - comes on earth
the holy throne which he had pre - pared for him - self. In his love for the
hu - man race, he who es - tab - lished the heavens in wisdom has fashioned a
liv - ing heav - en. From a barren stem he has brought forth for us his Moth - er
as a branch full of life. O God of miracles and hope of those who
have no hope; O Lord, glo - ry to you!

Hymn of the Evening, p. 12

Prokeimenon for the day of the week, pp 114-115

Readings: Genesis 28: 10 - 17
Ezekiel 43: 27 - 44: 4
Proverbs 9: 1 - 11

The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication, p.13

At the Litija

Tone 1 Bolhar

To-day is the be-gin-ning of our sal-va - tion, O peo - ple; for be-hold,
the Mother and Virgin who was chosen from all gen - er - a - tions to be the
ha - bi - ta - tion of God is born and comes forth from the
bar-ren one. She is the flow-er from Jes-se and pos-ses - ses the rod from his root.
May our fore - father Ad-am re-joyce and be full of joy; for be-hold, she
who was cre - ated from the rib of Ad - am de - clares that her daughter
and de-scen - dant is bless - ed. She says: My de - liv - er - ance has been
born to me. Through her, I will be freed from the bonds of Ha - des.
May Da - vid re-joyce, play on his harp, and bless God; for be-hold,

the Virgin comes forth from the womb of the barren woman for the
sal - va - tion of our souls.

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

Litija Doxastikon - Tone 8 samohlasen

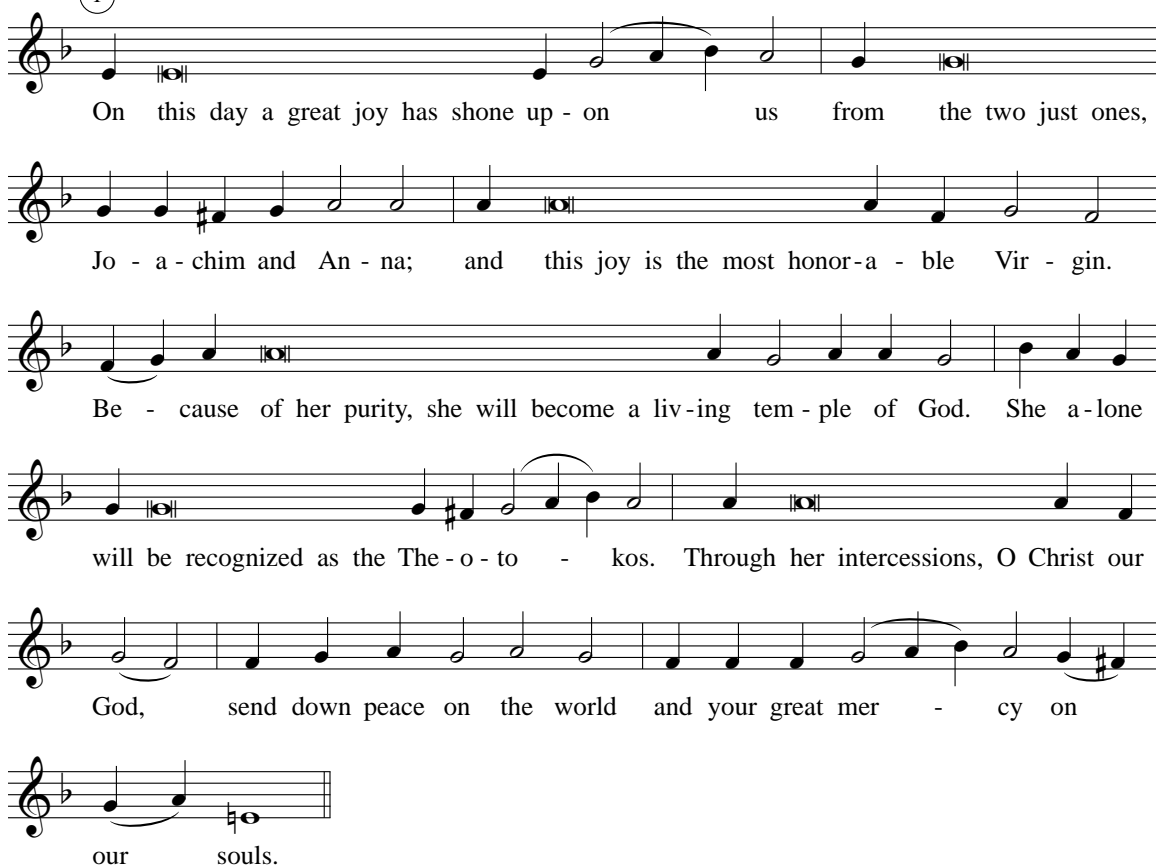
Let us play the spiritual flute on this note - worthy feast, be-cause from the seed of
Da - vid is born the Mother of the Life who dispels the dark - ness.
She is the renewal of Adam and the an - swer to Eve, the source of incorruption
and the transformation of cor-rup - tion. Be - cause of her we have been divinized
and de - liv - ered from death. We cry out to her with Ga - bri - el:
Re - joice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you. Be - cause of you, he has
grant - ed to us great mer - cy.

The service continues with the Litany of the Litija, p 116.

Aposticha

Tone 4 samohlasen

①



On this day a great joy has shone up - on us from the two just ones,
Jo - a - chim and An - na; and this joy is the most honor - a - ble Vir - gin.
Be - cause of her purity, she will become a liv - ing tem - ple of God. She a - lone
will be recognized as the The - o - to - kos. Through her intercessions, O Christ our
God, send down peace on the world and your great mer - cy on
our souls.

Cantor

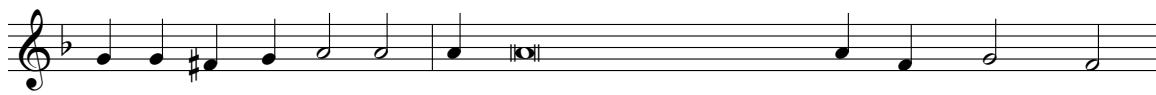


Lis - ten, O daugh - ter, give ear to my words.

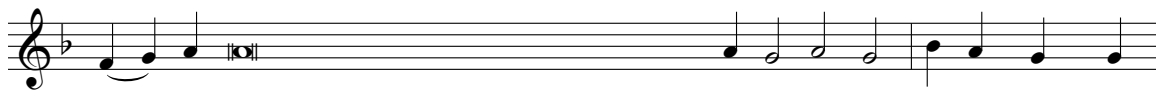
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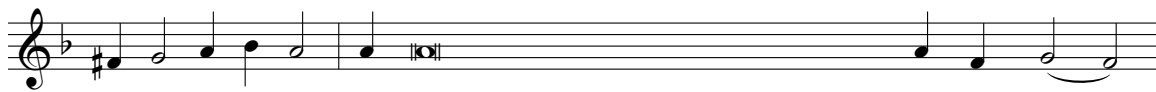
O Virgin, today you were born a most no - ble child from the two just ones,



Jo - a - chim and An - na, as the angel had promised in his an - nounce - ment.



To God you are a heaven, a throne, and a vessel of ho - li - ness; to the whole world



a her - ald of joy, the cause of our life, the blessing that wiped out the curse.



You are the rea - son for all the bles - sings of God. O Maid - en, whom God has



cho - sen, on this day of your na - tiv - i - ty, ob - tain peace and great



mer - cy for our souls.

Cantor



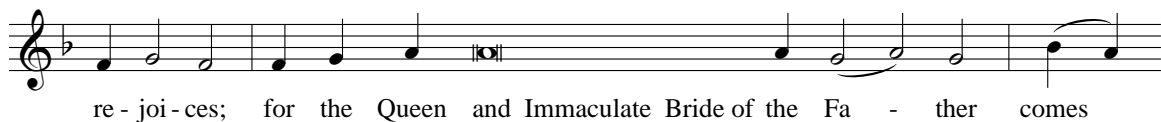
The rich - est of peo - ple will seek your fa - - - vor.



To - day Anna, the barren one, claps her hands for joy. The earth is bathed in light



and kings sing their hap - pi - ness, priests enjoy all blessings and the whole uni - verse



re - joi - ces; for the Queen and Immaculate Bride of the Fa - ther comes



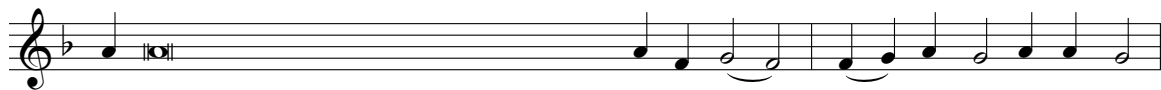
forth from the root of Jes - se. Be - hold, no woman will ever again bear a child



in sorrow or an - xi - e - ty, for joy has come forth in abundance and life and



has filled the world. Jo - a - chim's of - ferings shall no more be re - jec - ted,



for the tears of Anna have now been turned in - to joy. And now An - na can say:



Re - joi - ce with me, all you chosen ones of Is - ra - el, for the Lord has given me



the palace of his divine and liv - ing glo - ry to be a place of joy and happiness for



the whole u - ni - verse and for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory...now and ever...

Aposticha Doxastikon - Tone 8



Come all you faithful, and let us has - ten to the Vir - gin; for long be - fore

her con-cep-tion in the womb, the one who was to be born of the root of

Jes - se was des-tined to be the Moth-er of our God. The one who

is the treasury of vir - gin - i - ty, the flow-'ring rod of Aa - ron,

the ob-ject of the proph - e - cies, the child of Joachim and An-na is born

to - day, and the world is re-newed in her. Through her birth, the Church

is clothed with splen - dor. O ho - ly Temple, vessel of the God - head,

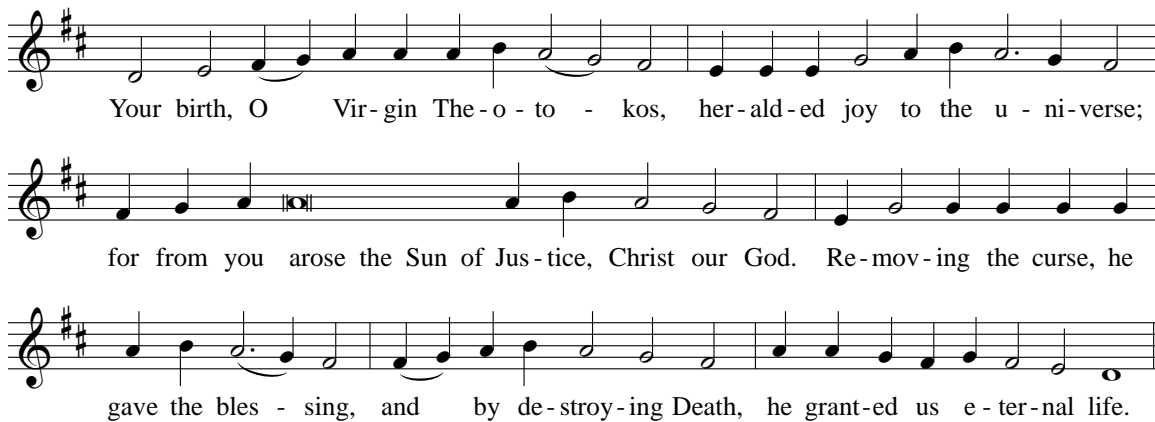
mod - el of vir - gins and strength of kings, in you was realized the wondrous

union of the two na - tures of Christ. We wor-ship him and glori-fy your most

pure birth, and the whole world ex - tols you.

The service continues with the Prayer of the Holy Prophet Simeon, p. 19.

Troparion - Tone 1 *Sung three times*



Your birth, O Vir-gin The-o - to - kos, her-ald-ed joy to the u - ni-verse;
for from you arose the Sun of Jus-tice, Christ our God. Re-mov-ing the curse, he
gave the bles - sing, and by de-destroy-ing Death, he grant-ed us e - ter-nal life.

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