

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 *unharm*ed.

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 *with*in 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."

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

⑩

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!

8

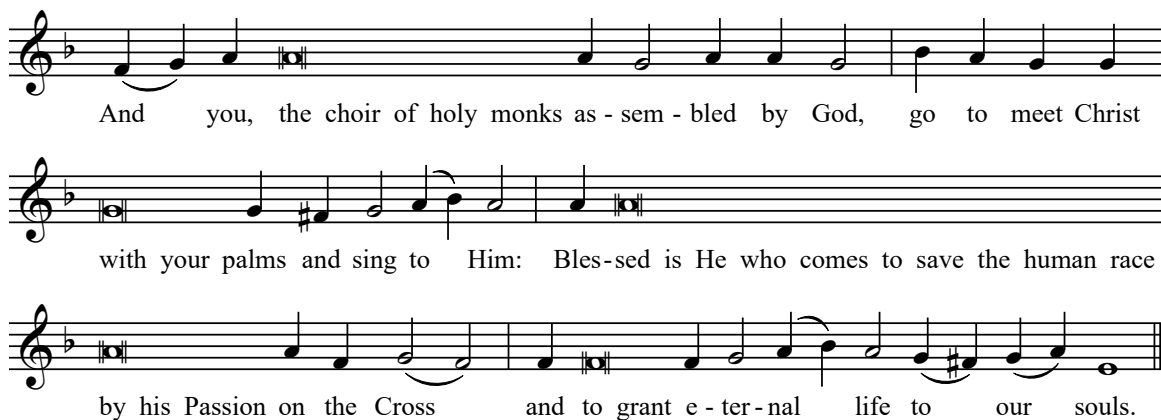
Tone 4 samohlasen

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.

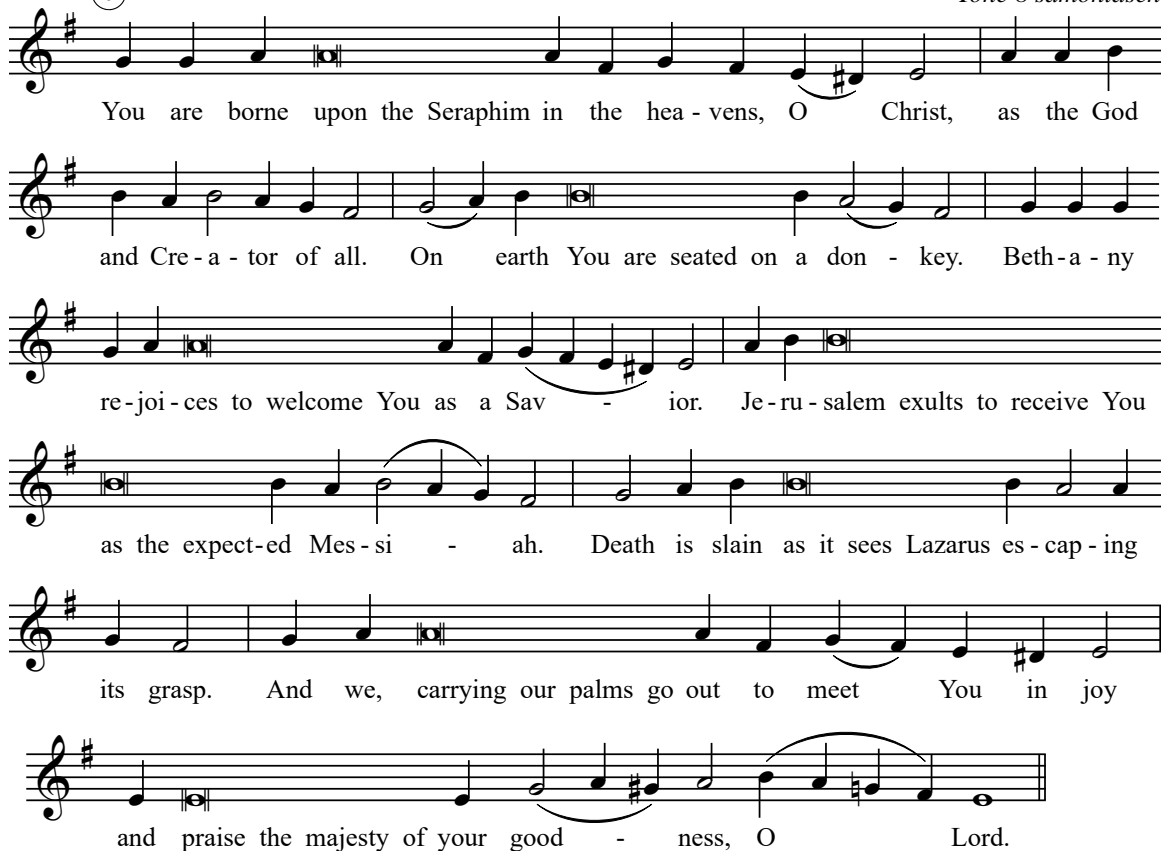
7

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.



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) ⁶ But with you is found forgiveness; for this we revere you. *Tone 8 samohlasen*

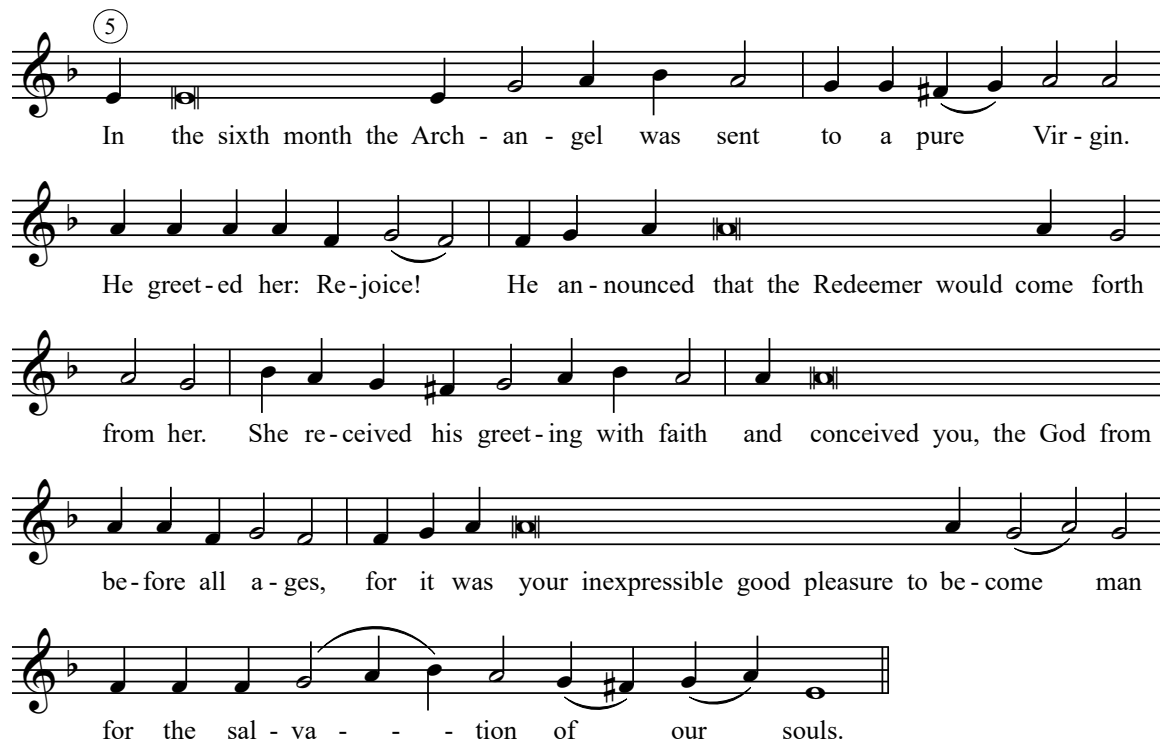


You are borne upon the Seraphim in the hea - vens, O Christ, as the God
and Cre - a - tor of all. On earth You are seated on a don - key. Beth - a - ny
re - joi - ces to welcome You as a Sav - ior. Je - ru - salem exults to receive You
as the expect - ed Mes - si - ah. Death is slain as it sees Lazarus 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

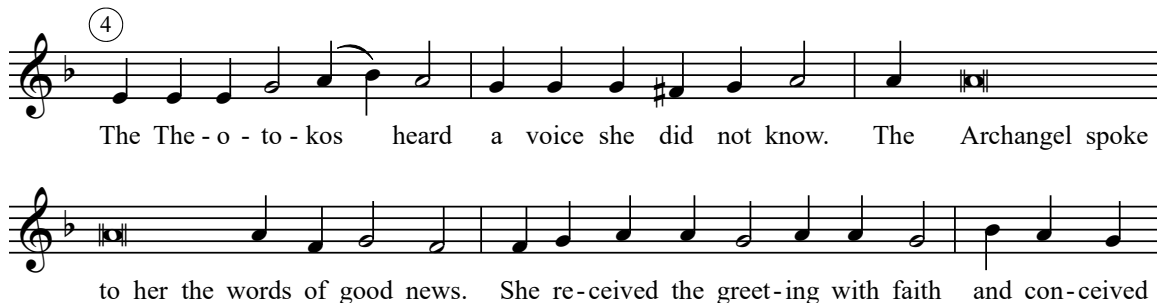
⑤



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 - - - 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



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.

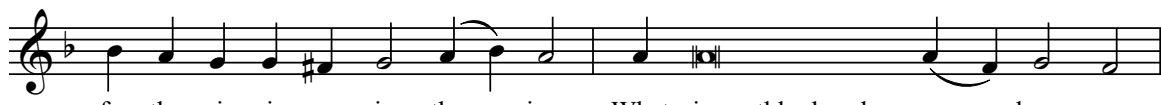
Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.




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 samohlasen

(2)

The arch - an - gel Gabriel, the spirit who sees God face to face,

gaz - es up - on the brilliant, sav-ing, and gleam - ing Light.

He sings heav - en - ly 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.

(1)

The great mys-ter-y, previously unknown to the angels and hidden 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 angels, 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 lov-ing-ly 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:

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.

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.

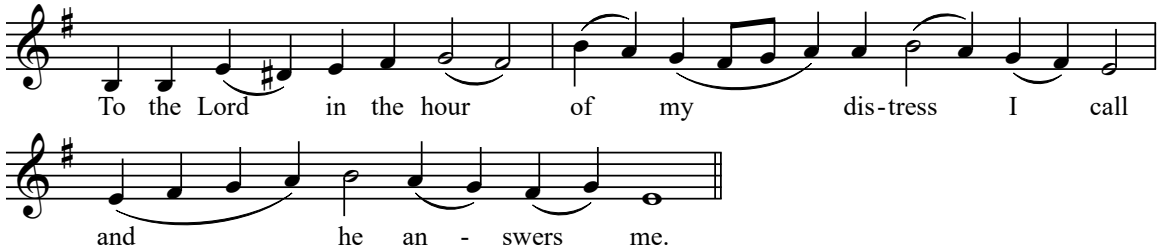
Old Testament Readings from the Triodion

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

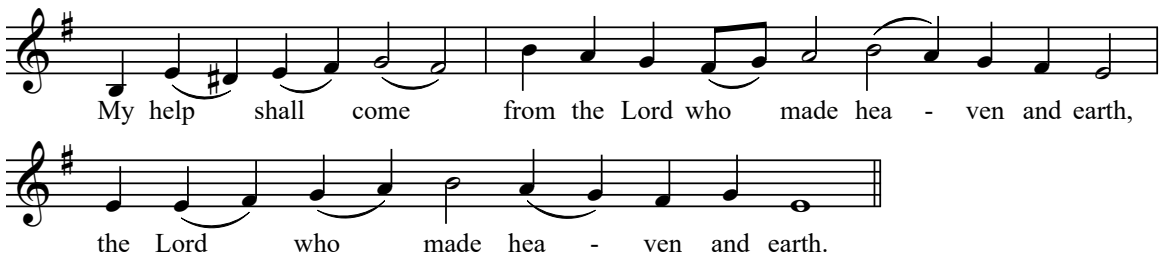
Deacon: Let us be attentive!

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.

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.

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!



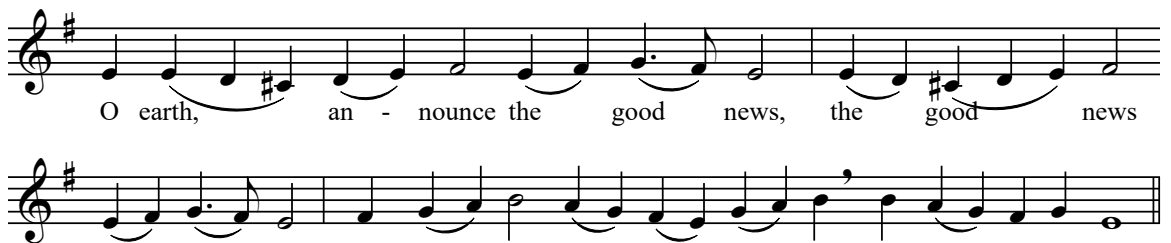
Al - le - lu - - - ia!

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:



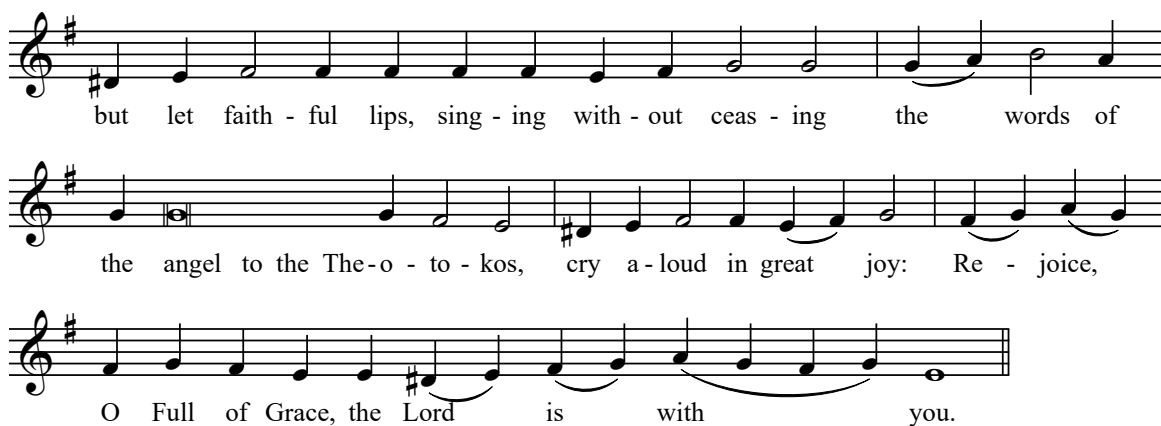
O earth, an - nounce the good news, the good news
of great joy. You heav - ens, sing the glo - ry, the glo - ry of God.

Irmos:

Tone 6 Irmos, simple setting



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

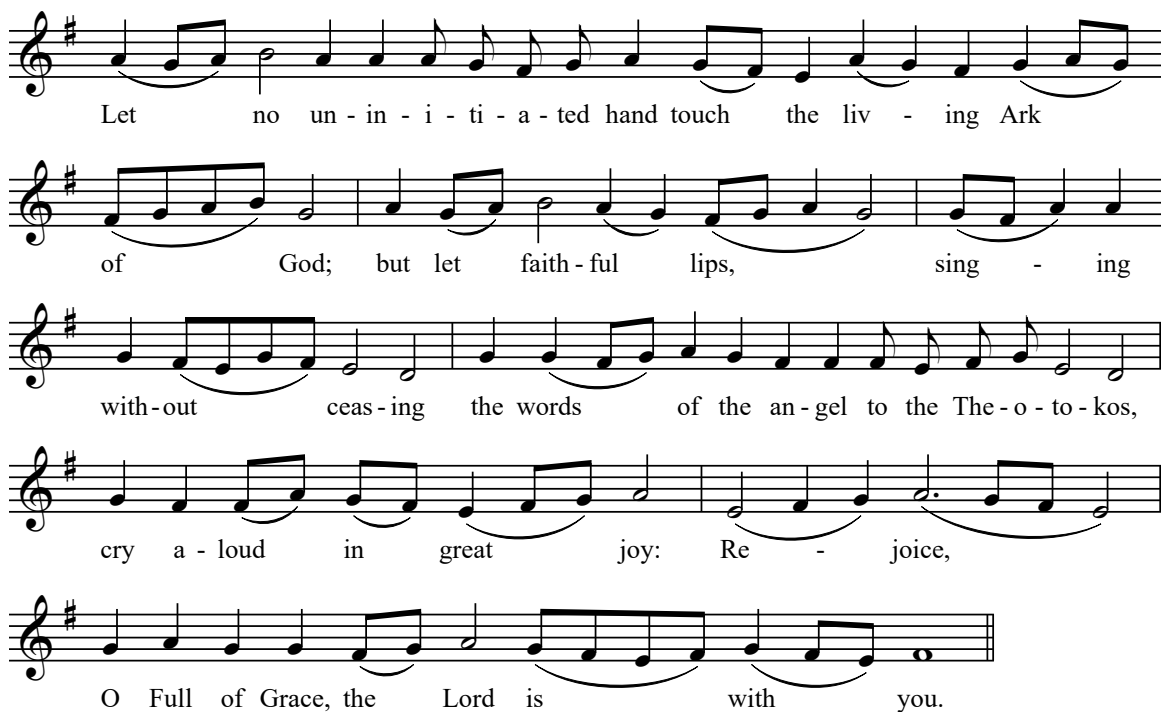


but let faith - ful lips, sing - ing with - out ceas - ing the words of
the angel to the The - o - to - kos, cry a - loud in great joy: Re - joice,
O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

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.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 131:13):

D



The Lord has cho - sen Zi - on; he pre - fers her for his dwell - ing.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!