

Nativity of the Theotokos – Transfer of Feast

September 7, 2025

Sunday before the Cross

Tone 4

MATINS – HYBRID

The Trisagion Prayers

PEOPLE: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Troparion and Kontakion of the Cross and Theotokion

LEADER: O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance, granting to Your people victory over all adversaries, and by Your Cross preserving Your habitation.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

O Lord, Who of Your own good will were lifted up on the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Your generous gifts on the new nation which is called by Your name; make glad in Your might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Your aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O fearsome Champion, who cannot be put to confusion, despise not our petitions, O good and all-praised Theotokos; establish the way of the Orthodox; save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading us all to that victory which is from heaven, for you are she who gave birth to God and alone are blessed.

Twelve-Fold Lord Have Mercy

LEADER: Lord, have mercy. (12x)

Through the prayer of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. (3x)

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Your praise. (2x)

The Six Psalms

Psalm 3

Lord, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me. Many are they who say of me, "There is no help for him in God." But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, my glory and the One Who lifts up my head. I cried to the Lord with my voice, and He heard me from His holy hill. I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. Arise, O Lord; save me, O my God! For You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone; You have broken the teeth of the ungodly. Salvation belongs to the Lord. Your blessing is upon Your people.

I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me.

Psalm 38 (LXX 37)

O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure! For Your arrows pierce me deeply, and Your hand presses me down. There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your anger, nor any health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me. My wounds are foul and festering because of my foolishness. I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are full of inflammation, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and severely broken; I groan because of the turmoil of my heart. Lord, all my desire is before You; and my sighing is not hidden from You. My heart pants, my strength fails me; as for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me. My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, and my relatives stand afar off. Those also who seek my life lay snares for me; those who seek my hurt speak of destruction, and plan deception all the day long. But I, like a deaf man, do not hear; and I am like a mute who does not open his mouth. Thus I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth is no response. For in You, O Lord, I hope; You will hear, O Lord my God. For I said, "Hear me, lest they rejoice over me, lest, when my foot slips, they exalt themselves against me." For I am ready to fall, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare my iniquity; I will be in anguish over my sin. But my enemies are vigorous, and they are strong; and those who hate me wrongfully have multiplied. Those also who render evil for good, they are my adversaries, because I follow what is good. Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Psalm 63 (LXX 62)

O God, You are my God; early will I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory. Because Your loving-kindness is better than life, my lips shall praise You. Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips. When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me. But those who seek my life, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth. They shall fall by the sword; they shall be a portion for jackals. But the king shall rejoice in God; everyone who swears by Him shall glory; but the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped. I meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice.

My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Psalm 88 (LXX 87)

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; incline Your ear to my cry. For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to the grave. I am counted with those who go down to the pit; I am like a man who has no strength, adrift among the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, whom You remember no more, and who are cut off from Your hand. You have laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the depths. Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and You have afflicted me with all your waves. You have put away my acquaintances far from me; You have made me an abomination to them; I am shut up, and I cannot get out; my eye wastes away because of affliction. Lord, I have called daily upon You; I have stretched out my hands to You. Will You work wonders for the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise You? Shall Your loving-kindness be declared in the grave? Or Your faithfulness in the place of destruction? Shall Your wonders be known in the dark? And Your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness? But to You I have cried out, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer comes before You. Lord, why do You cast off my soul? Why do You hide Your face from me? I have been afflicted and ready to die from my youth; I suffer Your terrors; I am distraught. Your fierce wrath has gone over me; Your terrors have cut me off. They came around me all day long like water; they

engulfed me altogether. Loved one and friend You have put far from me, and my acquaintances into darkness.

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; incline Your ear to my cry.

Psalms 103 (LXX 102)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving-kindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord executes righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are but dust. As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them. The Lord has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, You His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, heeding the voice of His word. Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, you ministers of His, who do His pleasure. Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

In all places of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul!

Psalms 143 (LXX 142)

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, and in Your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight no one living is righteous. For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, like those who have long been dead. Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is distressed. I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works; I muse on the work of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul longs for You like a thirsty land. Answer me speedily, O Lord; my spirit fails! Do not hide Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your loving-kindness in the morning, for in You do I trust; cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to you. Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies; in You I take shelter. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness. Revive me, O Lord, for Your name's sake! For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of

trouble. In Your mercy cut off my enemies, and destroy all those who afflict my soul; for I am Your servant.

O Lord, give ear to my supplications and do not enter into judgment with Your servant. (2x)

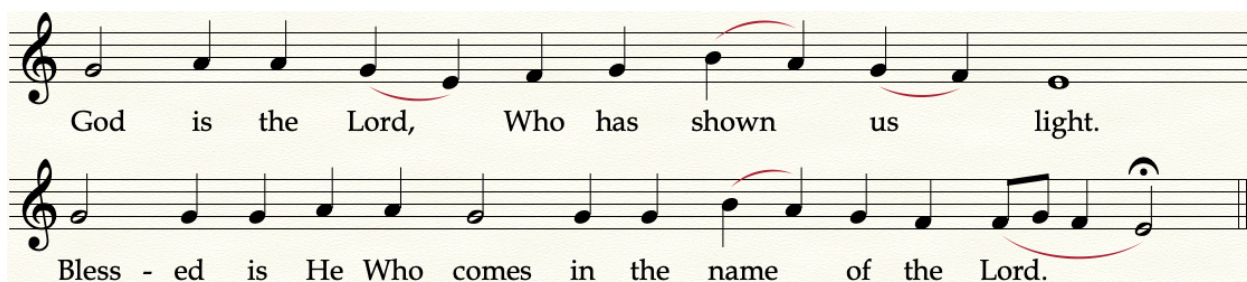
Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

O our God and our Hope, glory to You.

“God is the Lord...” - Psalm 118 (LXX 117 Tone 4 (Greek))



Verse: O give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His holy name.

Verse: All nations surrounded me; but in the name of the Lord will I destroy them.

Verse: The stone which the builders refused has become the head cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Nativity Theotokos Troparion: Tone 1 (Obikhod)

Your birth, O Theotokos, / has brought joy to all the inhabited earth: / For from you has shone forth the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. / He has loosed us from the curse, and given us blessings; / He has abolished death, / and bestowed on us eternal life.

Second Kathisma Hymn

Tone 4

O Immortal Savior, You have risen, raising up the whole world with You! By Your power, O Christ our God, You have crushed the dominion of death; and You have decreed resurrection for the whole human race. We all glorify You, O God of compassion and Lover of mankind!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

Descending from the heavenly heights, Gabriel drew near to the stone which enclosed the Rock of our Life. Robed in white, he called out to the weeping women and said: "Cease your funeral hymns, for you possess forever the One you love! Be

comforted, for the One Whom you seek in tears is truly risen! Go and tell the Apostles the Lord is risen from the dead!"

Cry out, O David: what has God sworn to you? 'What God swore to me He has now fulfilled,' said he: 'from the fruit of my loins He has given the Virgin. The Creator, Christ the new Adam, is born from her, a King to sit upon my throne. Today He reigns, Whose rule cannot be shaken.' The barren woman bears the Theotokos who sustains our life.

Resurrectional Evlogetaria - Tone 5 (Znamenny)

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your statutes.

The company of the angels was amazed, when they beheld You numbered among the dead; yet You, O Savior, were destroying the power of death and with Yourself raising up Adam and releasing all men from hell.

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your statutes.

Why, O women disciples, do you mingle sweet-smelling spices with your tears of pity? The radiant angel within the sepulcher cried to the myrrh-bearing women: "Behold the grave, and understand; for the Savior is risen from the tomb."

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your statutes.

Very early in the morning the myrrh-bearing women ran lamenting to Your tomb; but an angel came toward them, saying: "The time for lamentation is passed. Do not weep, but announce to the apostles the Resurrection."

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your statutes.

The myrrh-bearing women mourned as they carried ointments and drew near Your tomb, O Savior. But the angel spoke to them, saying: "Why do you number the living among the dead? Since He is God, He is risen from the grave."

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

We adore the Father, as also His Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity in one essence; crying with the seraphim: "Holy, holy, holy are You, O Lord."

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Since you bore the Giver of life, O Virgin, you redeemed Adam from sin, and gave to Eve joy in place of sadness; and He Who was incarnate of you, Who is both God and man, has restored to life those who had fallen from it.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

O our God and our hope, glory to You.

Hypakoe

Tone 4

The myrrhbearers ran to the Apostles and told the glad tidings of Your glorious Resurrection, O Christ, that You have risen as God, granting the world Your great mercy.

Antiphon 2

Out of the depths of my soul, I have cried to You, Lord; let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication, O my God.

All those who hope in the Lord shall be delivered from all their sorrows.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the Holy Spirit, streams of grace overflow to water the whole creation and bring it to the fullness of life.

Festal Matins Prokeimenon: Tone 2 - Psalm 7

I shall remember Your holy name, from generation to generation

Verse: My heart is overflowing with a good word.

“Let every breath...”

Matins Gospel Reading: Festal – Luke 1:39-49, 56

Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.” And Mary said: “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He Who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her house.

“Having Beheld...”

Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. We venerate Your Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Your holy Resurrection for You are our God, and we know no other than You. We call on Your name. Come all you faithful, let us venerate Christ’s holy Resurrection. For behold through the Cross, joy has come into all the world. Let us ever bless the Lord, praising His Resurrection; for by enduring the Cross for us He has destroyed death by death.

Psalm 51 (LXX 50)

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me

thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight — that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sins my mother conceived me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, that the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You. Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart — these, O God, You will not despise. Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; build the walls of Jerusalem. Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering; then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

Through the intercession of the Theotokos, O merciful One, blot out the multitude of my offenses.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the intercession of the Theotokos, O merciful One, blot out the multitude of my offenses.

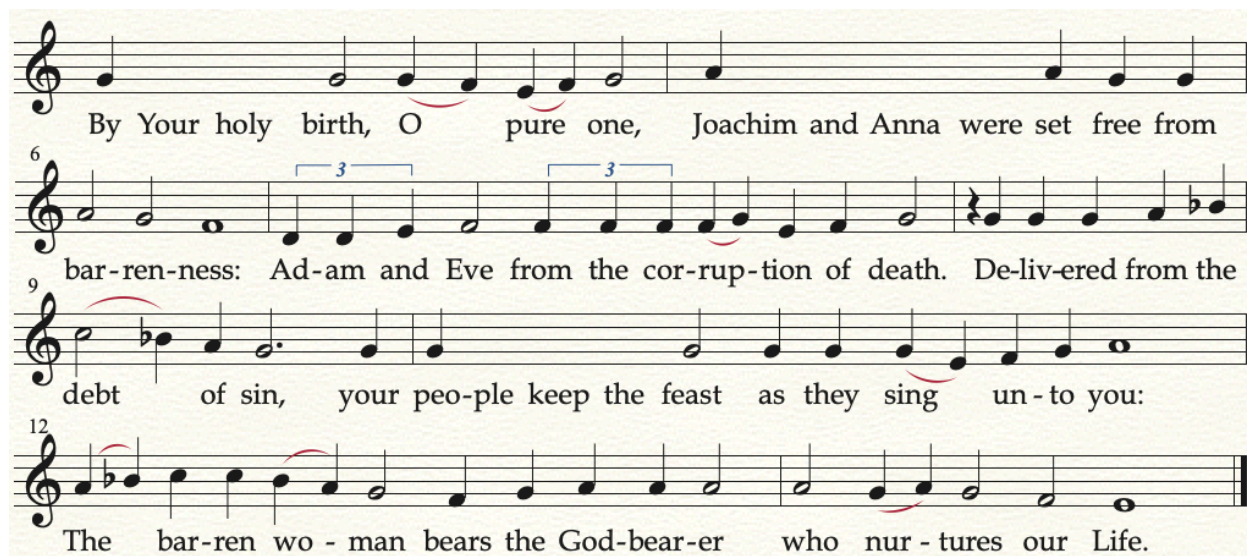
Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies blot out my transgression.

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has given us eternal life and great mercy.

Festal Idiomelon

The joy of all the world has dawned on us. The all-lauded Virgin has sprung from righteous Joachim and Anna, who because of her exceeding purity became a living temple of God and alone is known as truly Theotokos. Through her fervent prayers, O Christ our God, send grace and peace upon the world and on our souls great mercy.

Kontakion: Tone 4 (Znamenny)



***Ikos** – may be omitted*

The prayer and groaning of Joachim and Anna at their barrenness and childlessness have proved acceptable, and have come unto the ears of the Lord; and they have put forth a fruit that brings life to the world. The one offered his prayer in the mountain, the other bore her reproach in the garden. But with joy the barren woman bears the God-bearer who nurtures our life.

Synaxarion of the Feast

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Nativity of our Most-holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary.

Verses

*Truly, O Anna, you surpass all mothers,
For on this day, your daughter shall become a mother.
On the eighth, Anna brought God's Mother into the light.*

The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anna. Her father was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him, as King and High Priest, Who would be born of her. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, just as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams; for He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of

God. She was Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, and the Fount of virginity and purity. Through her intercessions, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us. Amen.

Canon – Cross: Tone 8

Katavasia Odes 1-8

Ode 1: Inscribing the invincible weapon of the Cross upon the waters, Moses marked a straight line before him with his staff and divided the Red Sea, opening a path for Israel who went over dry-shod. Then he marked a second line across the waters and united them in one, overwhelming the chariots of Pharaoh. Therefore let us sing to Christ our God, for He has been glorified.

Ode 3: The rod of Aaron is an image of this mystery, for when it budded it showed who should be priest. So in the Church, that once was barren, the wood of the Cross has now put forth flower, filling her with strength and steadfastness.

Ode 4: O Lord, I have heard the mystery of Your dispensation: I have considered Your works, and I have glorified Your Godhead.

Ode 5: O thrice-blessed Tree, on which Christ the King and Lord was stretched! Through you the beguiler fell, who tempted mankind with the tree. He was caught in the trap set by God, Who was crucified upon you in the flesh, granting peace unto our souls.

Ode 6: Jonah stretched out his hands in the form of a cross within the belly of the sea monster, plainly prefiguring the redeeming Passion. Cast out from there after three days, he foreshadowed the marvelous Resurrection of Christ our God, Who was crucified in the flesh and enlightened the world by His Rising on the third day.

Ode 7: The senseless decree of the wicked tyrant, breathing forth threats and blasphemies hateful to God, confused the people. Yet neither the fury of wild beasts nor the roaring of the fire could frighten the three Children: but standing together in the flame, fanned by the wind that brought refreshment as the dew, they sang: 'Blessed are You and praised above all, O our God and the God of our fathers.'

We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him above all forever.

Ode 8: O Children, equal in number to the Trinity, bless God the Father and Creator; sing the praises of the Word Who descended and changed the fire to dew; and exalt above all forever the most Holy Spirit, Who gives life to all.

Matins Canon – 9th Ode:

DEACON: *The Theotokos and Mother of the Light, let us honor and magnify in song.*

Refrain O my soul, magnify the most glorious birth of the Mother of God.

Tone 2

Irmos From your virgin womb the Light that was before the sun, even God Who has shone forth upon us, took flesh ineffably, coming to dwell among us in the body. O blessed and all-holy Theotokos, we magnify you.

Refrain O my soul, magnify the most glorious birth of the Mother of God.

He Who made springs of water gush forth from the rock for the disobedient people, unto our joy gives you to the obedient gentiles as fruit from a barren womb. O undefiled Mother of God, as is right and fitting, we magnify you.

Refrain O my soul, magnify the most glorious birth of the Mother of God.

You are our deliverer from the sharp punishment of old, / the restoration of our mother Eve, / the cause of the reconciliation of our kind to God, / the bridge that leads us to the Maker; / O Theotokos, we magnify you.

Ode 9

2nd Canon

Refrain *Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin Mary, who was born of a barren womb.*

Tone 8

Irmos *Virginity is foreign to motherhood, and childbearing is strange to virgins: yet both are found to be in you, O Theotokos. Therefore, we and all the nations of the world unceasingly magnify you.*

Refrain Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin Mary, who was born of a barren womb.

O Mother of God, you have inherited according to the promise a birth worthy of your purity. For as a God-given fruit have you been granted to Anna who before was fruitless. Therefore we and all the nations of the earth without ceasing call you blessed.

Refrain Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin Mary, who was born of a barren womb.

Fulfilled is the prophecy of him who cried aloud, saying: 'I will raise up the tabernacle of holy David that is fallen.' You, O Undefined, did his words prefigure, through whom the dust of man has been wholly refashioned into a body for God.

Refrain Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin Mary, who was born of a barren womb.

We venerate your swaddling clothes, O Theotokos: we glorify the Lord Who gave you to her as fruit that before was childless. He has opened by a miracle the barren womb of Anna: for, as almighty God, He does whatever He pleases.

Refrain Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin Mary, who was born of a barren womb.

O holy Anna, mother of the Virgin, you have put forth from your womb, against all hope, a virgin flower according to the promise, a divine bud pure and beautiful. Therefore as the root of our life we call you blessed.

Refrain Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin Mary, / who was born of a barren womb.

It is foreign to evil-doers to glorify the Trinity Who has no beginning, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the uncreated and sovereign Power that founded the whole world by a mighty act.

Glory to the Father, and to ...

You have contained in the womb, O Virgin Mother, one of the Trinity, Christ the King, Whose praises all creation sings / and before Whom the thrones on

high tremble. O all-venerated Lady, entreat Him for the salvation of our souls.

Ode 9: You are a mystical paradise, O Theotokos; without seed you have brought forth Christ by Whom the life-giving tree of the Cross was planted on the earth. As we bow down before the Cross which is now exalted, we magnify you.

Ode 9: Today the death that came to man through the eating of the tree, is made of no effect through the Cross. For the curse of our mother Eve that fell on all mankind is destroyed by the Fruit of the pure Mother of God, whom all the powers of heaven magnify.

Holy is the Lord our God”

Exapostilarion – Eothinon 2

The Myrrh-bearing Women rejoiced when they saw that the stone had been rolled away; they saw a young man sitting in the sepulcher who said to them: Christ is risen; tell his disciples and Peter to hasten to the mountain in Galilee where He will appear to you, as He foretold to His friends.

Exapostilaria Nativity: Tone 2 (Znamenny)

All the ends of the earth great-ly re-joyce to - day at your birth, O

Ma - ry, Moth-er of God and Bride who knows not wed-lock: for

you have re-moved the pain of your par - ents' bar-ren - ness and the

curse on child - birth our Moth - er Eve brought on her-self.

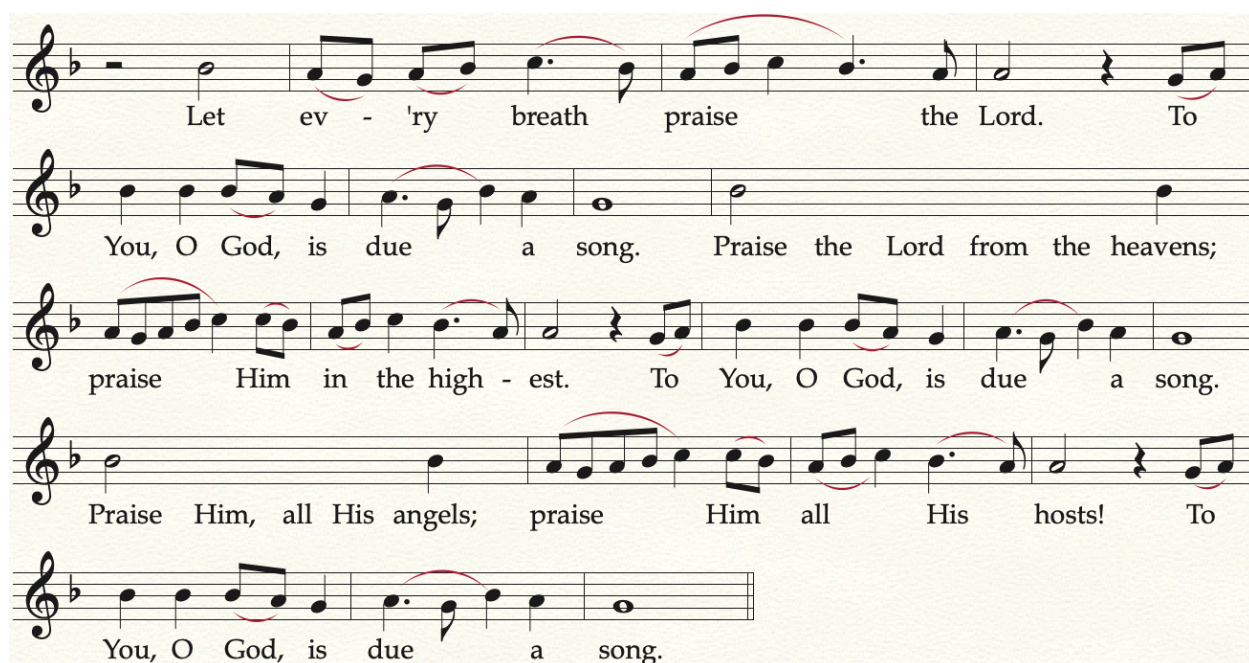
Be re - newed, O Ad - am, and be mag - ni - fied, O Eve; O

proph - ets, dance with the a - pos-tles and the right-eous. Let their

earth's com-mon joy be shared with an - gels and man-kind; for to -

day is born the The - o - to - kos of Jo - a - chim and An - na.

The Praises: Tone 4 - Psalms 148, 150 (Znamenny)



Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all you stars of light! Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for He commanded and they were created. He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away.

Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament!

Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the lute and harp.

Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!

(Tone 4) – Resurrection

O all-powerful Lord, Who endured the Cross and death, and rose from the dead, we glorify Your Resurrection.

Praise Him with loud cymbals; praise Him with clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

By Your Cross, O Christ, You freed us from the ancient curse, and by Your death You frustrated the devil who had tyrannized over our nature, while by Your rising You filled all things with joy. Therefore, we cry out to You: O Lord Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

Arise, O my God, lift up Your hand and forget not the humble.

(Tone 8) – Nativity

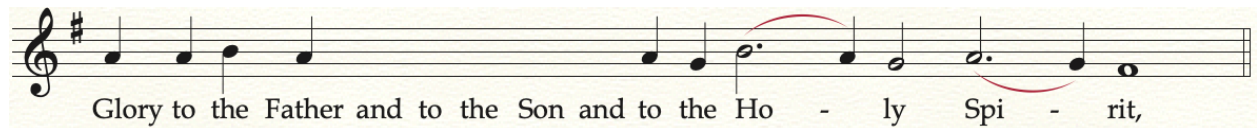
Listen, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear.

O marvelous wonder! The fount of life is born of a barren woman, and grace begins gloriously to bear its fruit. Rejoice, O Joachim, inspired by God, / who have become the father of the Theotokos. There is no other father in mankind like you. For through you has been given to us the Maiden in whom God came to dwell, the tabernacle of God, the most holy mountain

I will praise You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show all Your marvelous works.

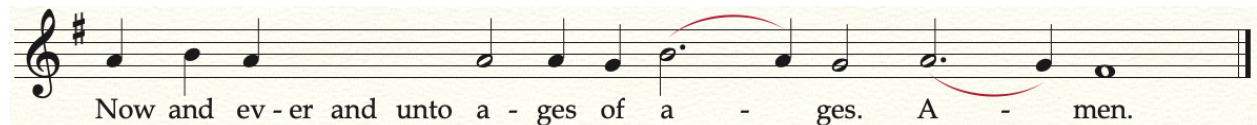
The rich among the people shall entreat your favor.

O marvelous wonder! At the command of the Almighty Maker of all, fruit has come forth from a barren womb, that has wholly ended the world's barrenness in goodness. O mothers, dance with the mother of the Theotokos and cry: 'Rejoice, you who are full of grace, the Lord is with you, granting great mercy to the world through you.'



(Tone 6) – Nativity

This is the day of the Lord: rejoice, O you people. For behold, the bridal chamber of the Light, the book of the Word of life, has come forth from the womb, and the east gate, newly born, awaits the entrance of the Great Priest. She alone brings into the world the one and only Christ, for the salvation of our souls.



Most blessed are you, O Virgin Theotokos, for through Him Who was incarnate of you Hades is plundered, Adam is recalled from the dead, the curse is made void, Eve is set free, death is slain, and we are given life. Therefore, in hymns of praise, we cry aloud: "Blessed are You, O Christ our God, Who are thus well pleased. Glory to You."

Great Doxology

Glory to You, Who have shown us the light. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory.

O Lord King, heavenly God, Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, You Who take away the sins of the world

Receive our prayer, You Who sit at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.

For You only are holy, You only are the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever; yes, forever and ever.

Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.

Blessed are You, O Lord the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever. Amen.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on You.

Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes.

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: "Be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You."

Lord, I have fled to You; teach me to do Your will, for You are my God.

For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we shall see light.

Continue Your mercy to those who know You.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

Holy God, **Holy Mighty**, Holy Immortal: **have mercy on us.**

Troparion: Tone 4

Today is salvation come unto the world. Let us sing praises to Him Who rose from the grave, the Author of our life; for having by death destroyed death, He has given us victory and great mercy.

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHYRSOSTOM

The Second Antiphon (Psalm 115)

O Son of God, **Who** rose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia

The Third Antiphon - Psalm 21 (LXX 20)

Verse by cantor then sing Troparion of the Feast (3x)

4 Your birth, O The-o - to - kos, has brought joy to all the in-hab-it-ed earth:

6 For from you has shone forth the Sun of Right-eous-ness, Christ our God.

8 He has loosed us from the curse, and giv - en us bless - ings;

He has a - bol - ished death, and be-stowed on us e - ter - nal life.

The Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. O Son of God, Who rose from the dead save us who sing to You. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Resurrection Troparion: Tone 4 (Kievan)

3 When the women dis-ci-ples of the Lord, learned from the glo-ri-ous an-gel

5 of the joy - ous message of the Res-ur-rec - tion they cast a-way

7 the an-ces-tral curse, and pro-claimed with great joy to the a-pos-tles say-ing:

9 Death is o - ver - thrown! Christ our God is ris - en,

grant-ing to the world His great mer - cy!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

Nativity of the Theotokos Troparion: Tone 4 (Znamenny)

4 Your birth, O The-o - to - kos, has brought joy to all the in-hab-it-ed earth:
6 For from you has shone forth the Sun of Right-eous-ness, Christ our God.
8 He has loosed us from the curse, and giv - en us bless - ings;
He has a-bol - ished death, and be-stowed on us e - ter - nal life.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Nativity of the Theotokos Kontakion: Tone 4 (Znamenny)

By Your holy birth, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were set free from
6 bar-ren-ness: Ad-am and Eve from the cor-rup-tion of death. De-liv-ered from the
9 debt of sin, your peo-ple keep the feast as they sing un-to you:
12 The bar-ren wo - man bears the God-bear-er who nur - tures our Life.

Prokeimenon: Tone 6 - Psalm 28 (LXX 27)

O Lord, save Your people; and bless Your inheritance.

Verse: To You I will cry, O Lord my Rock: Do not be silent to me.

The Epistle Reading – Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the Cross

of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

The Alleluia before the Gospel: Psalm 89 (LXX 88)

Verse: I have exalted one chosen out from My people.

Verse: For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him.

The Gospel Reading – John 3:13-17

The Lord said, “No one has ascended to heaven but He Who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man Who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”

Nativity Magnification Hymn

4 Mag-ni - fy, O my soul, the Vir-gin Ma - ry, who was born
of a bar-ren womb.

6 *Irmos:*
Vir-ginity is for-eign to moth-er-hood, and child-bear-ing is strange to vir -
10 gins; yet both are found to be in you, O The-o-to - kos. There-fore we and
15 all the na-tions of the world un-ceas-ing-ly mag - ni - fy you.

Nativity Communion Hymn - Psalm 148 & 112:5 (LXX 111)

What shall I render to the Lord for His bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people. I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Exapostilaria Nativity: Tone 2 (Znamenny)

All the ends of the earth great-ly re-joice to - day at your birth, O

Ma - ry, Moth-er of God and Bride who knows not wed-lock: for

you have re-moved the pain of your par - ents' bar-ren - ness and the

curse on child - birth our Moth - er Eve brought on her-self.

Be re - newed, O Ad - am, and be mag - ni - fied, O Eve; O

proph - ets, dance with the a - pos-tles and the right-eous. Let their

earth's com-mon joy be shared with an - gels and man-kind; for to -

day is born the The - o - to - kos of Jo - a - chim and An - na.

The Dismissal

PRIEST: May Christ our true God, *Who rose from the dead* through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-blameless, holy Mother *whose Nativity we commemorate today...* have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

Troparion: Tone 4 (Znamenny)

Your birth, O Theotokos, has brought joy to all the inhabited earth. For from you has shone forth the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He has loosed us from the curse, and given us blessings; He has abolished death, and bestowed on us eternal life.

Kontakion: Tone 4 (Znamenny)

By your holy birth, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were set free from barrenness; Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. Delivered from the debt of sin, your people keep the feast as they sing unto you: The barren woman bears the God-bearer who nurtures our Life.

Ikos

The prayer and groaning of Joachim and Anna at their barrenness and childlessness have proved acceptable, and have come unto the ears of the Lord; and they have put forth a fruit that brings life to the world. The one offered his prayer in the mountain, the other bore her reproach in the garden. But with joy the barren woman bears the God-bearer who nurtures our life.



Nativity of the Theotokos

“Awed by the beauty...” Tone 3 (Byzantine – Special Melody)

Awed by the beau - - - ty of your vir-gin - i - ty,
6 and the ex - ceed - ing ra - di - ance of — your pu - ri - ty,
12 Ga - bri - el stood a - mazed and cried to you, O Moth - er of God:
17 "What praise may I of - fer you — that is
21 wor - thy of your beau - ty? By what name shall I call —
25 you? I am lost and be - wil - dered; but I shall greet you
29 as I was com - mand - ed: Re - - - jice, you who are —
34 full — of grace. —