

If this Sunday falls on the 18th or 19th, then on "O Lord to thee have I cried," six (6) stichera are chanted for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week, as in the Byzantine Vesper Service by Kazan, and four (4) Prosomia for the Forefathers, "As we celebrate today...", as in this December Menaion on pages 48 to 53. The "Glory" is "Verily, Daniel the man of desires," sung in Tone 6 as on page 90a of this book, followed by "Both now" for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week. For the Aposticha, sing the stichera for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week, followed by "Glory" and "Rejoice, O honored Prophets" in Tone 2, as on pages 92-93 of this book (*not Tone 8 as Nassar and Kazan incorrectly have it, both of which have been corrected to Tone 2*). Then sing "Both now" for the Resurrection in Tone 2, "O wondrous event," on pages 94-95 of this book. For the Troparia, sing for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week, followed by "Glory" and the Troparion of the Holy Forefathers, "Great are the accomplishments of faith" in Tone 2, as on page 96 of this book, and "Both Now" and the Theotokion "Exceeding glorious" in Tone 2, as on page 97 of this book.

If this Sunday falls on the 20th, 21st, 22nd, or 23rd, on "O Lord to thee have I cried," four (4) are chanted for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week, three (3) for the Preparation (Forefeast), "O Virgin free of all blame," and three (3) Prosomia for the Forefathers, "As we celebrate today." These last six (6) are on pages 80-85 of this book. (*The stichera on pages 80-83 of the first edition of the printed December Menaion ("Let us go before...") are for when this Sunday falls on the 24th.*) The "Glory" is "Verily, Daniel the man of desires," sung in Tone 6 as on page 90a of this book, followed by "Both now" for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week. For the Aposticha, sing the stichera for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week, followed by "Glory" and "Rejoice, O honored Prophets" in Tone 2 as on pages 92-93 of this book. Then sing "Both now" and "Behold, the time of our salvation" in Tone 2 as on page 95-96 of this book. (*Nassar and Kazan have both of these hymns incorrectly written in Tone 8. They are corrected here.*) For the Troparia, sing for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week, followed by "Glory" and the Troparion of the Holy Forefathers, "Great are the accomplishments of faith" in Tone 2, as on page 96 of this book, and "Both Now" and the Troparion of the Forefeast, "Make ready, O Bethlehem," in Special Tone 4 as on page 98 of this book.

If this Sunday falls on the 24th, nothing is sung for the Resurrection at Vespers. On "O Lord to thee have I cried," sing four (4) Prosomia for the Forefathers and four (4) for the Preparation (Forefeast), from December 20th, "Let us go before, O Nations, ..." as on pages 86-89e in this book. The "Glory" is "Verily, Daniel the man of desires" sung in Tone 6, as on pages 90a of this book, followed by "Both now" and "O cavern, make ready," from December 6th, as on page 90b-90c of this book. For the Aposticha, sing the stichera "O Virgin free of all blame," in special Tone 1 with their Stichoi, on pages 91 to 92 of this book. Now sing the "Glory" and "Rejoice, O honored Prophets" in Tone 2, as on pages 92-93 of this book, followed by "Both Now" and "Behold, the time of our salvation" in Tone 2 as on page 95-96 of this book. (*Nassar and Kazan have both of these hymns incorrectly written in Tone 8. They are corrected here.*) For the Troparia, sing the Troparion of the Forefathers, "Great are the accomplishments of faith" in Tone 2, as on page 96 of this book, then "Glory ... Both Now" and the Troparion of the Paramon "And it came to pass" in Special Tone 4, as on page 99b of this book (or Kazan's standard Tone 4 on page 99a).

(NOTE: The following six stichera are for when this Sunday falls from December 20th-23rd.)

Verse 5

If thou, O Lord, should'st mark in - iq - ui - ties, O
Lord, — who shall stand? For with thee there is for - give - ness.

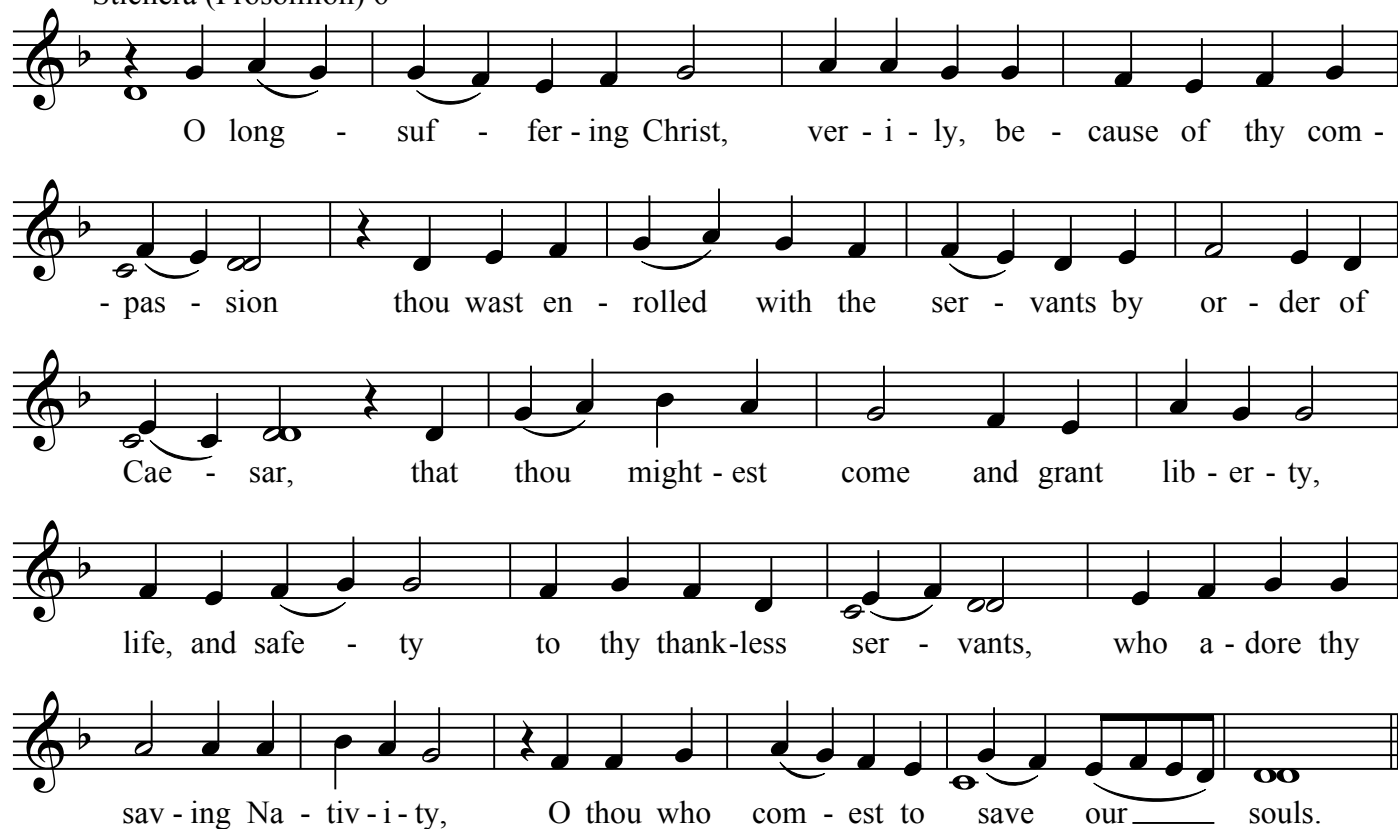
Stichera (Prosimion) 5 - Special Melody: *O all-lauded martyrs*

O Vir - gin free of all — blame, the breath - ing
pal - ace of God, thou hast held — him whom the heav - ens hold —
not, to whom thou shalt give — birth in a man - ner ex -
- ceed - ing un - der - stand - ing; who — hum - bled him - self, be - com - ing
flesh, that he might make me wor - thy, and en - rich — me; who be -
- came — poor by ex - cess of the most bit - ter — food.

Verse 6

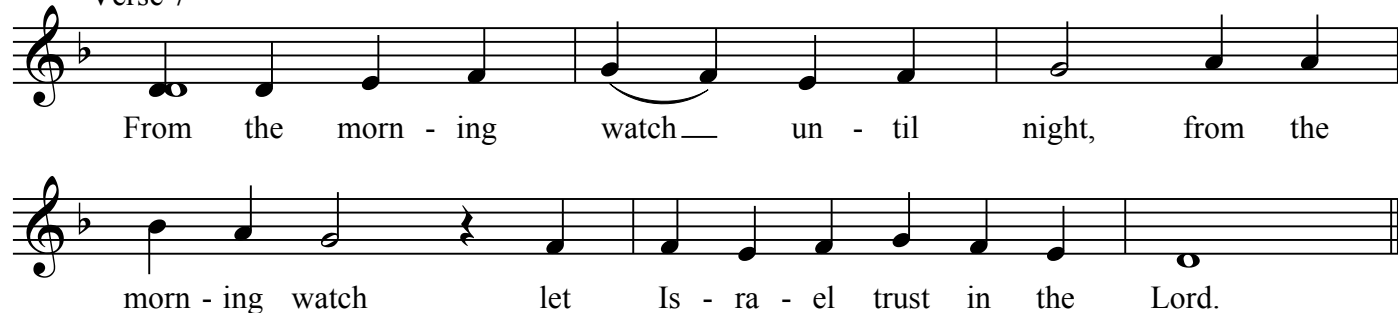
Be - cause of thy Name have I wait - ed for thee, O Lord; my soul hath
wait - ed up - on thy word, my soul — hath hoped in the Lord.

Stichera (Prosomion) 6



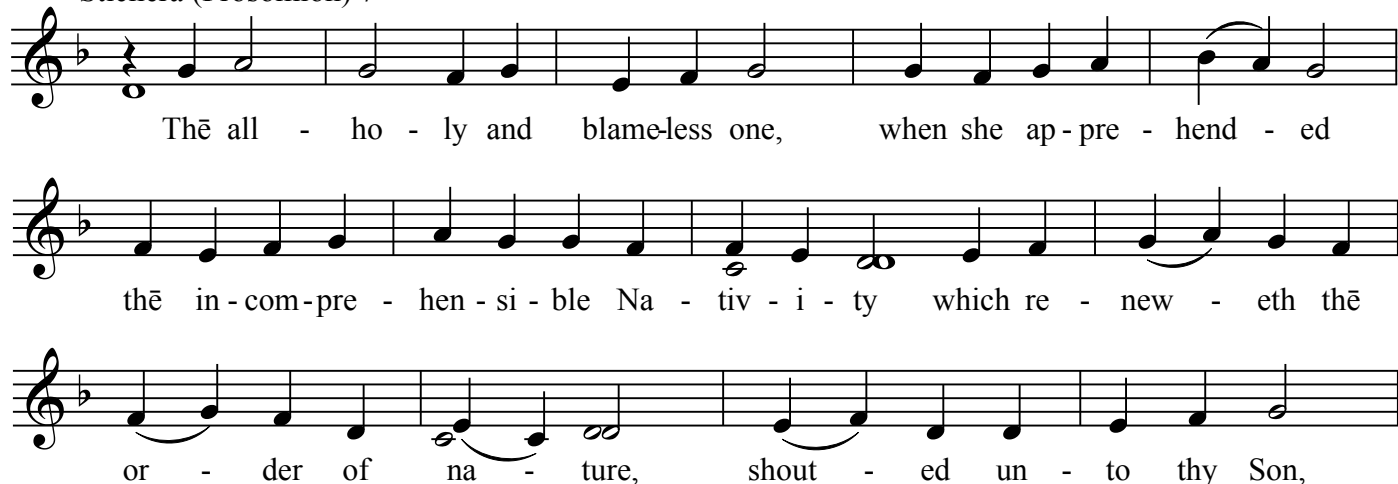
O long - suf - fer - ing Christ, ver - i - ly, be - cause of thy com -
- pas - sion thou wast en - rolled with the ser - vants by or - der of
Cae - sar, that thou might - est come and grant lib - er - ty,
life, and safe - ty to thy thank-less ser - vants, who a - dore thy
sav - ing Na - tiv - i - ty, O thou who com - est to save our _____ souls.

Verse 7



From the morn - ing watch _____ un - til night, from the
morn - ing watch let Is - ra - el trust in the Lord.

Stichera (Prosomion) 7



Thē all - ho - ly and blame-less one, when she ap - pre - hend - ed
thē in - com - pre - hen - si - ble Na - tiv - i - ty which re - new - eth thē
or - der of na - ture, shout - ed un - to thy Son,

say - ing: My — great - ly be - lov - ed Son, I am
 daz - zled by this great — mys - ter - y: that by thy might
 I shall still be a Vir - gin af - ter thy Birth, O
 thou — who do - est all things by — thy — will.

Verse 8 - for the Holy Forefathers - Tone 8

For with the Lord there is mer - cy, and with him is a -
 - bun - dant re - demp - tion, and he wil de -
 - liv - er Is - ra - el from all — his in - iq - ui - ties.

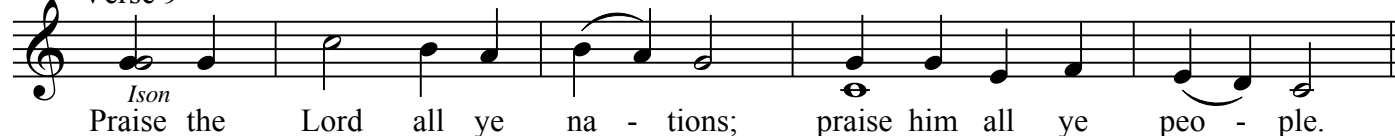
Prosomeion 8 - Special Melody: *The Paradise of Eden*

As we cel - e - brate to - day the mem - o - ry of the fore - fa - thers,
 let us, O be - liev - ers, praise in faith Christ — the De -
 - liv - er - er who mag - ni - fied them a - mong all na - tions; the



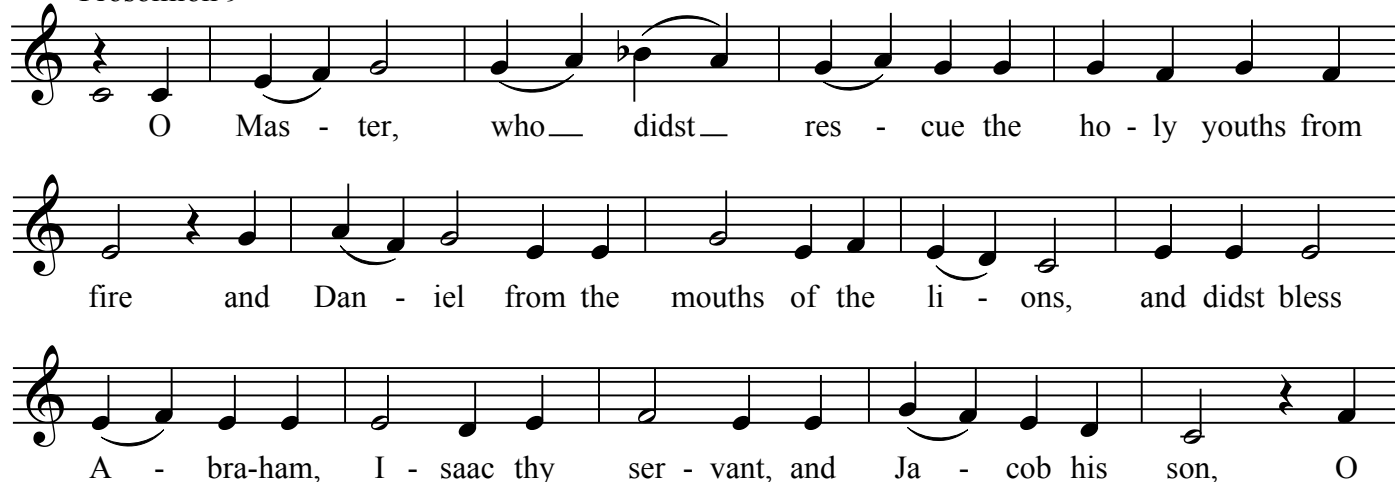
Lord who do - eth strange won - ders; for he _____ is
prec - ious and might - y, who _____ show - eth us through them a staff of
strength. She is Mar - - y thē un - de - filed _____ Maid - en of
God who a - lone knew no _____ man, from whom pre - ceed - ed Christ, the
Blos - som bud - ding life for all, the ev - er - last - ing
Bliss and e - ter - nal Sal - va - - - - tion.

Verse 9



Ison
Praise the Lord all ye na - tions; praise him all ye peo - ple.

Prosomion 9



O Mas - ter, who _____ didst _____ res - cue the ho - ly youths from
fire and Dan - iel from the mouths of the li - ons, and didst bless
A - bra - ham, I - saac thy ser - vant, and Ja - cob his son, O

thou__ who wast will - - - ing to be - come like us, of their
 seed, that thou__ might-est save our fore - fa - thers who fell of old,
 and to be__ cru - ci - fied and bur - ied in or - der to crush the bonds of
 death and raise the dead from e - ter - ni - ty, we wor - ship, O
 Christ, thine e - ter - nal__ king - - - - dom.

Verse 10

For his mer - cy is great__ t'ward__ us, and the
 truth__ of the Lord en - dur - eth for - ev - er.

Prosomion 10

The youths of God walk - ing forth a - midst the flame, re - joic - ing in the
 dew__ of the Spir - it as though they were__ in a gar -
 - den, did go be - fore and fore - sha - dow there - in the myst' - ry of the

Trin - i - ty and thē In - car - na - tion of Christ.

And in that they were wise men they quenched by faith the pow'r of

fire. And as for Dan - - - iel the right - eous, he did ap-pear

clos - ing the mouths of the li - ons. Where - fore, by their be -

- sech - - - ings we plead with thee, O Sav - iour and

Lov - er of man - kind, to de - liv - er us from thē ev - er -

- last - ing and un - quench - a - ble fire, and to make us

wor - - - thy to re - ceive thy heav'n-ly king - dom.

*Now continue with the Glory, "Verily, Daniel the man of desires," on page 90a,
and then Both Now for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week.*

(NOTE: The following eight stichera are for when this Sunday falls on December 24th.)

Verse 3




Out of the depths have I cried un-to thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.

Prosomion 3 - Special melody: *The Paradise of Eden*


As we cel - e - brate to - day the mem - o - ry of the fore - fa - thers,



let us, O be - liev - ers, praise in faith Christ_ the De -



liv - er - er who mag - ni - fied them a - mong all na - tions; the



Lord who do - eth strange won - ders; for he_____ is




prec - ious and might - y, who_ show - eth us through them a staff of



strength. She is Mar - - - y thē un - de - filed_



Maid - en of God who a - lone knew no_ man, from




whom pre - ceed - ed Christ, the Blos - som bud - ding life for all, thē




ev - er - last - ing Bliss and e - ter - nal Sal - va - - - tion.

Verse 4




Let thine ears— be at - ten-tive to the voice of my sup-pli-ca - tion.

Prosimion 4




O Mas - ter, who didst res - cue the ho - ly youths from fire and



Dan - iel from the mouths of the li - ons, and didst bless A - bra-ham,



I - saac thy ser - vant, and Ja - cob his son, O thou— who wast




will - - ing to be - come like us, of their seed, that thou might-est



save-our fore - fa - thers who fell of old, and to be— cru-ci-fied and bur - ied in



or - der to crush the bonds of death and raise the dead from e-ter-ni - ty, we



wor - ship, O Christ, thine e - ter - nal— king - - - dom.

Verse 5



If thou, O Lord, should'st mark in - iq - ui - ties, O

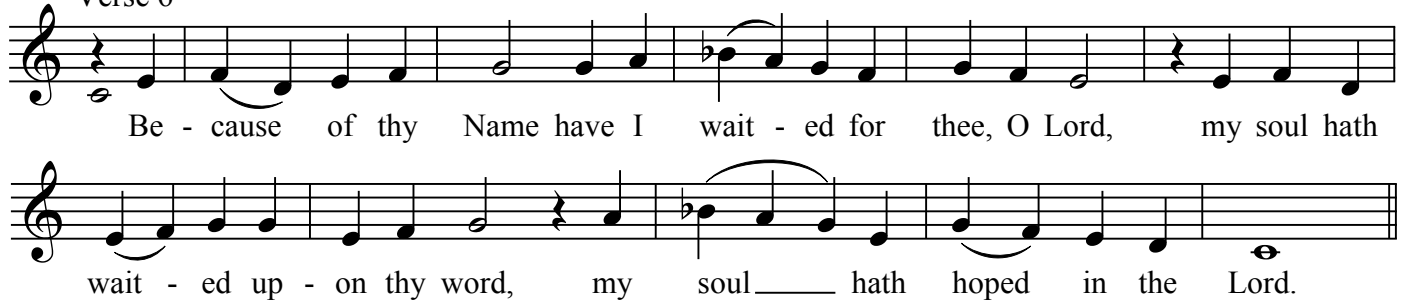


Lord,— who shall stand? For with thee there is for - give - ness.

Prosimion 5

The youths of God walk-ing forth a-midst the flame, re - joic - ing in the
dew__ of the Spir - it as though they were__ in a gar -
- den, did go be - fore and fore - sha - dow there - in the
myst' - ry of the Trin - i - ty and thē In - car - na - tion of Christ.
And in that they were__ wise__ men they quenched by faith the pow'r of
fire. And as for Dan - iel the right - eous, he__ did ap-pear
clos - ing the mouths of the li - ons. Where - fore, by their be -
- sech - - ings we plead with thee, O Sav - iour and Lov - er of
man - kind, to de-liv-er us from thē ev-er - last - ing and un - quench - a - ble
fire, and to make us wor - - - - thy to re -
- ceive__ thy heav'n - ly king - - - - dom.

Verse 6



Be - cause of thy Name have I wait - ed for thee, O Lord, my soul hath
wait - ed up - on thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

Prosomion 6



Thy ho - ly youths, O Christ, when they were in the fur - nace of
fire, as though in dew, did go be - fore and fore - sha-dow mys-tic' -
- ly thy com - ing from the Vir - gin, which hath il -
- lu - mi - nat - ed us with - out burn - ing. And right - eous
Dan - iel, won-der - ful a - mong Proph - ets, when he went be -
- fore and ex - plained plain - ly thy di - vine Se - cond
Com - - - ing, did shout, say - ing, And I saw the
thrones placed, and the Judge sat, and the riv - er of

89b

Vespers - Menaion (Dec. 24)
Stichera of the Forefathers, Tone 8
Stichera of the Forefeast, Tone 1

December 18 - 24
Sunday Before Christmas
Basil Kazan

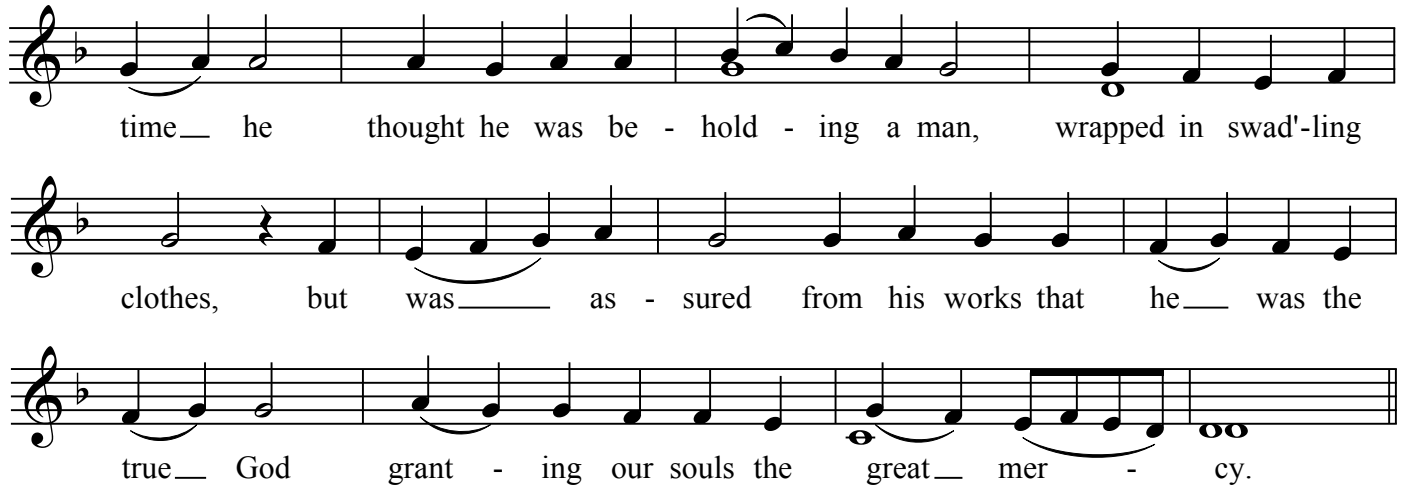
fire__ came be - fore__ him. Where - fore, by their be - seech -
- ings, O__ Mas - ter, de - liv - er__ us.

Verse 7 - For the Forefeast

From the morn - ing watch__ un - til night, from the
morn - ing watch let Is - ra - el trust in the Lord.

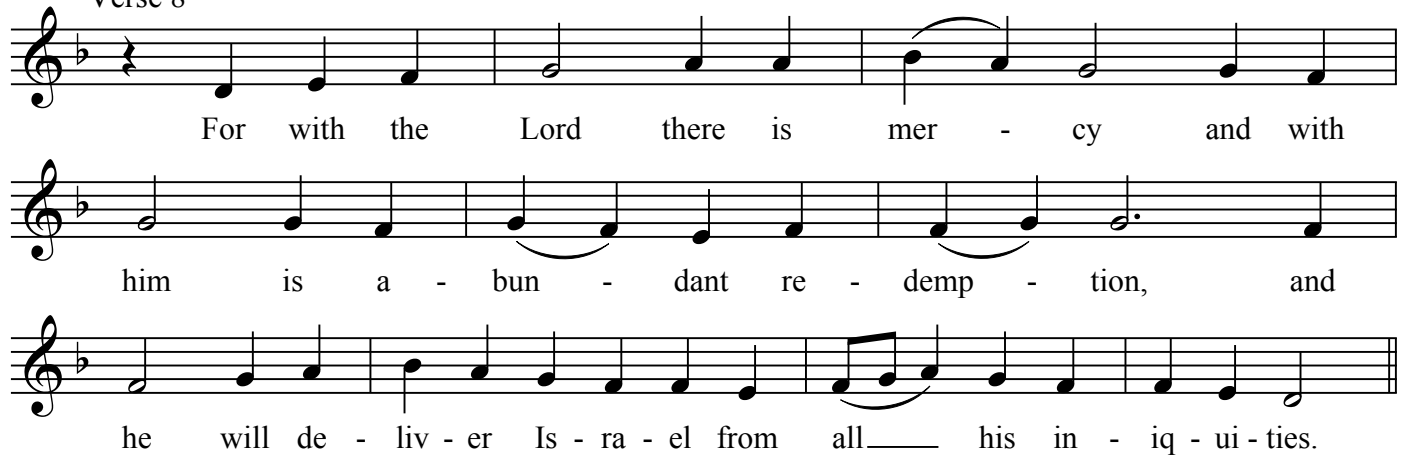
Stichera 7

Let us go be-fore, O na - tions, and cel - e - brate the Na - tiv - i - ty of
Christ. And lift - ing our__ minds to Beth - le - hem, let us as -
- cend with our con - scien - ces, be - hold - ing with the thoughts of our
hearts, the Vir - gin ap - proach - ing, giv - ing birth__ in the
cave__ to the Lord__ of all, our God, whose stu -
- pen - dous won - ders Jo - seph did be - hold, while at the



time__ he thought he was be - hold - ing a man, wrapped in swad'-ling
clothes, but was_____ as - sured from his works that he__ was the
true__ God grant - ing our souls the great__ mer - cy.

Verse 8



For with the Lord there is mer - cy and with
him is a - bun - dant re - demp - tion, and
he will de - liv - er Is - ra - el from all_____ his in - iq - ui - ties.

Now repeat Stichera 7 on the previous page, and then sing Verse 9 below.

Verse 9



Praise the Lord_____ all ye na - tions; praise him all ye peo - ple.

Stichera 9



Let us go be - fore, O na - tions, and cel - e - brate__ the Na -
- tiv - i - ty of Christ; and lift - ing our__ minds to Beth - le - hem,

let us as - cend with our con - scien - ces and be - hold the great
Mys - t'ry that is in the cave; for E - den hath ver - i - ly been -
o - pened by the com - ing forth of God from the spot - less Vir - gin,
per - fect in Di - vin - i - ty and per - fect in Hu - man - i - ty.
Where - fore, let us shout forth: Ho - ly God, E - ter - nal Fa -
- ther, Ho - ly Might - y, thē In - car - - nate Son,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, the Com - fort - ing Spir - it,
O Ho - ly Trin - i - ty, glo - ry to thee.

Verse 10

For his mer - cy is great t'ward us, and the
truth of the Lord en - dur - eth for - ev - er.



Lis - ten, O heav - en, and give___ ear, O earth; for be -
- hold, the Son, the Word of the Fa - ther, com - eth to be___
born of a maid - en that hath not known___ man.
Where-fore, by the pleas - ure of him who gave him___ birth
with-out pas - sion, and by___ thē as - sis - tance of the Ho-ly Spir - it, O
Beth - le - hem, make read - y, and O E - den, o - pen thou___ thy___
gates; for he who___ is shall be that which hath not been, and the
Mak - - - er of thē en - tire___ cre - a - tion
shall be - come the grant - or of great___ mer - cy
to the whole___ world.

Glory



Glo - - - ry to the Fa - ther and to the
Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - - - it.
Ver - i - ly, Dan - - - iel, the man of de - sires,
when he saw thee, O Lord, a Stone cut
out with - out hands, did fore - call thee a babe
born with - out seed, O Word in - car - nate of the Vir - - -
- gin, the un - trans - formed God,
Sav - - iour of our souls.

If this Sunday falls between December 18 & 23,
then sing Both Now for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week.

If this Sunday falls on December 24th,
then sing "Both now..." and "O cavern, make ready," on the following pages, 90b-90c.

Both now

The musical score is written in a single system with ten staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The text is as follows:

Both now and ever, and un - to
a - ges of a - ges. A - - - men.
O cav-ern, make read - y; for thē ewe doth come bear-ing
Christ in em-bry-o; O man - ger re - ceive him who by
his word un-did the bes - tial works of us earth - ly men.
O shep - herds watch and bear wit - ness to thē awe - some won - der.
And, O Ma - gi, who come from Per - sia, bring forth to the
King gold, frank - in-cense and myrrh; for the
Lord hath ap - peared from a vir - gin Moth - er; whose
Moth - er did bow to him as a ser - - - vant, ad-dress-ing

him in her bos-om, say - ing: How wast thou seed - ed in
me, and how didst thou grow in me, my
God and my De - liv - er - er?

For the Aposticha:

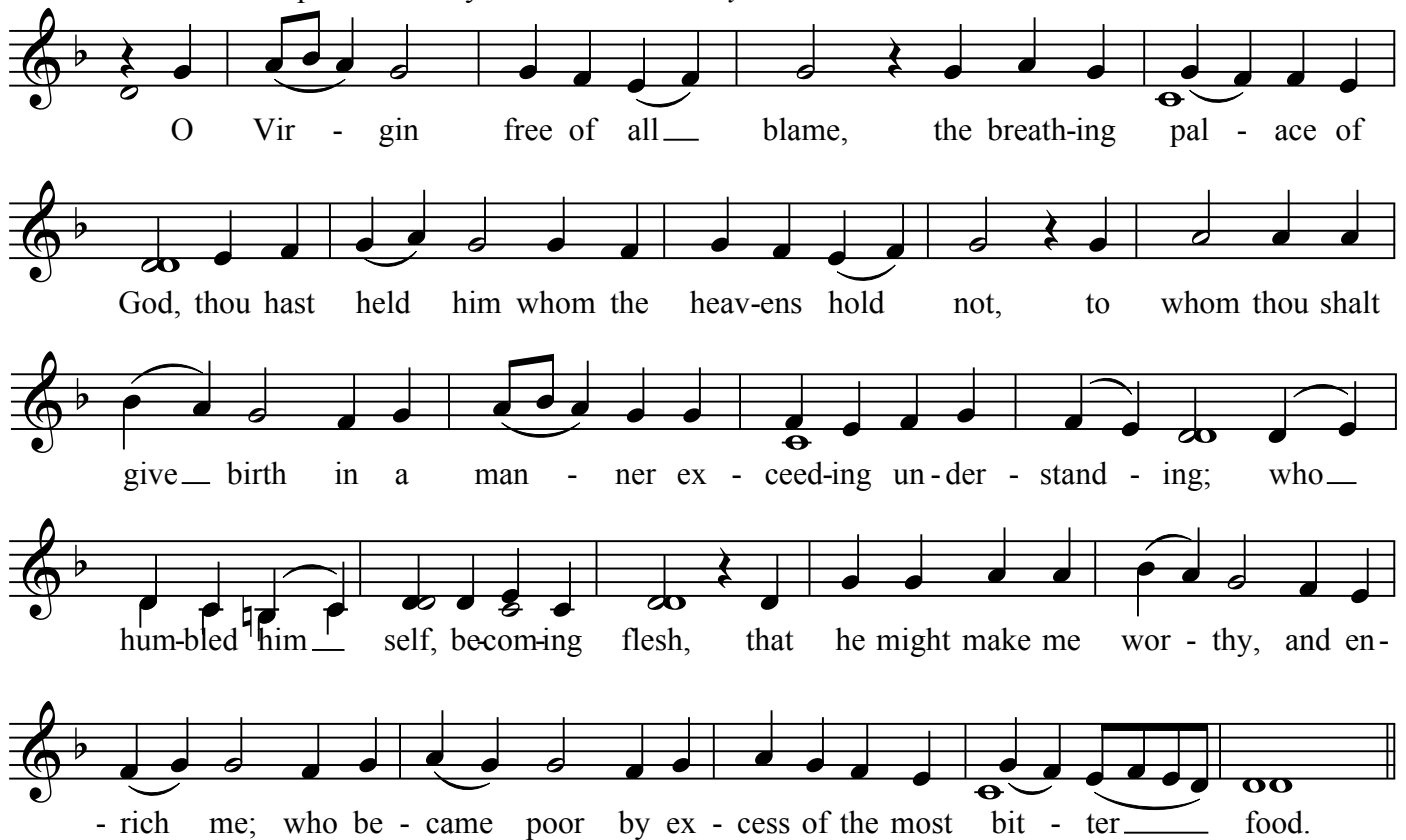
If this Sunday falls between December 18 & 23,

sing the stichera for the Resurrection in the Tone of the week.

If this Sunday falls on December 24th,

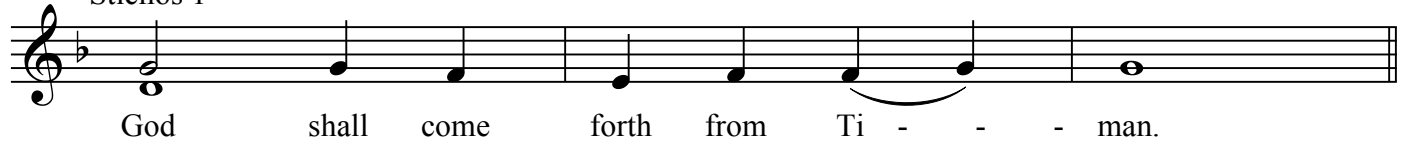
*sing the following stichera, "O Virgin free of all blame,"
with the special Stichoi on pages 91-92.*

Prosomion 1 - Special Melody: *O all-lauded martyrs*



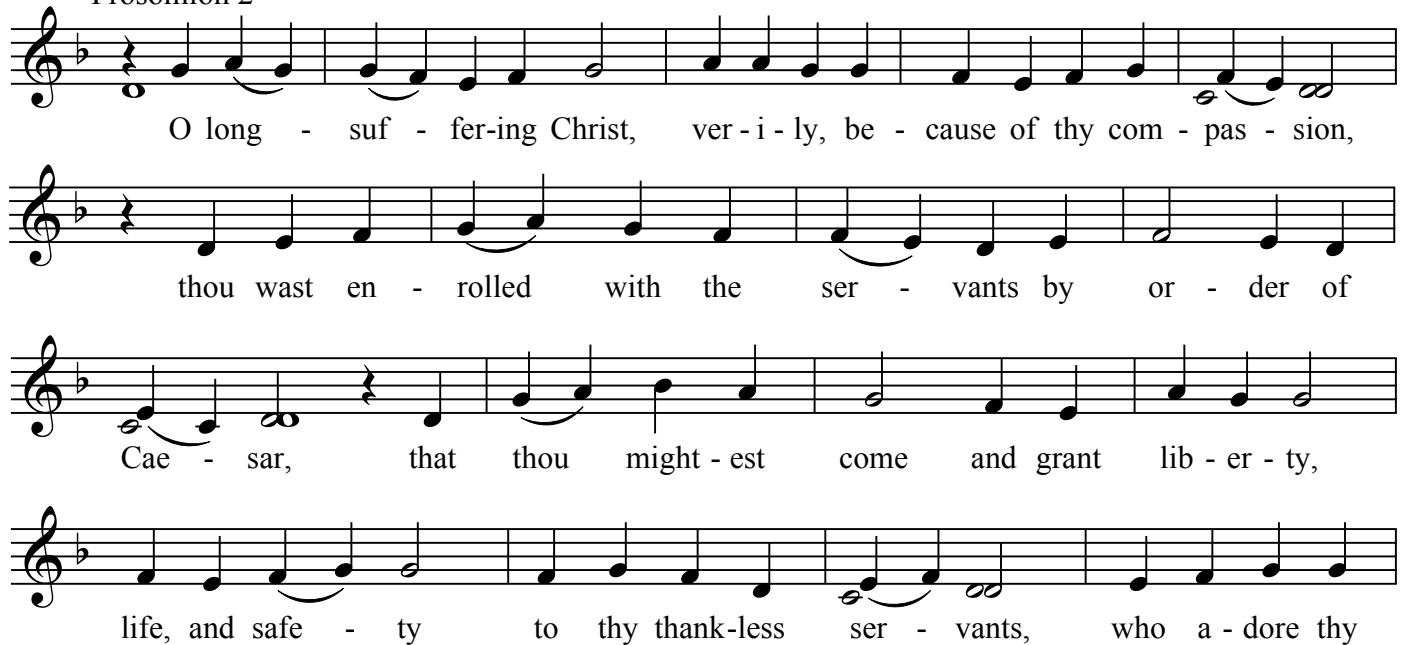
O Vir - gin free of all__ blame, the breath-ing pal - ace of
God, thou hast held him whom the heav-ens hold not, to whom thou shalt
give__ birth in a man - ner ex - ceed-ing un - der - stand - ing; who__
hum-bled him__ self, becom-ing flesh, that he might make me wor - thy, and en -
- rich me; who be - came poor by ex - cess of the most bit - ter__ food.

Stichos 1

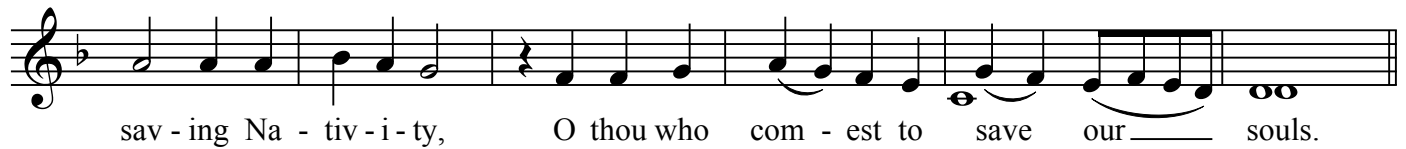


God shall come forth from Ti - - - man.

Prosomion 2



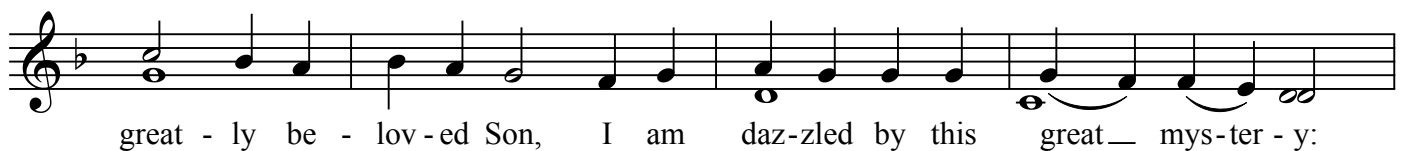
O long - suf - fer-ing Christ, ver - i - ly, be - cause of thy com - pas - sion,
thou wast en - rolled with the ser - vants by or - der of
Cae - sar, that thou might - est come and grant lib - er - ty,
life, and safe - ty to thy thank-less ser - vants, who a - dore thy



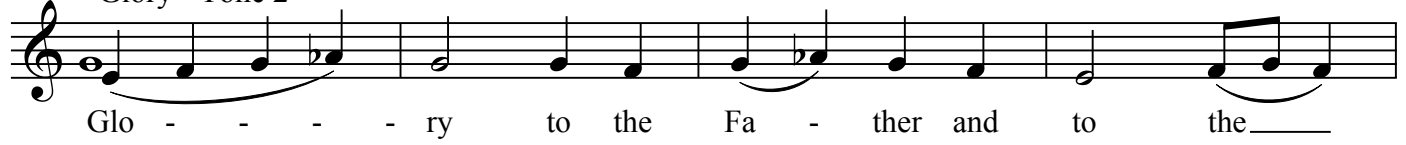
Stichos 2



Prosimion 3



Glory - Tone 2



Holwey

Re - joice, O hon - ored Proph - ets, who did
or - gan-ize well the law of the Lord, and ap - peared as
sta - ble, un - shake - a - ble pil - lars of faith; for
ver - i - ly, they be - came mē - di - a - tors of the New
Cov - e - nant of Christ. Where - fore,
hav - ing been trans - lat - ed to heav - en, plead ye with
him to grant safe - ty to the world
and to save our souls.

***If this Sunday falls on December 18 or 19, go to pages 94-95,
and sing "Both now..." and "O wondrous event," for the Resurrection in Tone 2.***

***If this Sunday falls between December 20-24, go to pages 95-96,
and sing "Both now..." and "Behold, the time of our salvation..."***

Both now__ and ev - er, and un-to a - ges of a - ges. A - men.

O won - drous e - vent tran - scend - ing all thē an - cient

mir - a - cles! For who hath ev - er__ heard of a

Moth - er giv - ing birth__ with - out__ man; and

in__ her__ own__ arms, bear - ing Him__ who con -

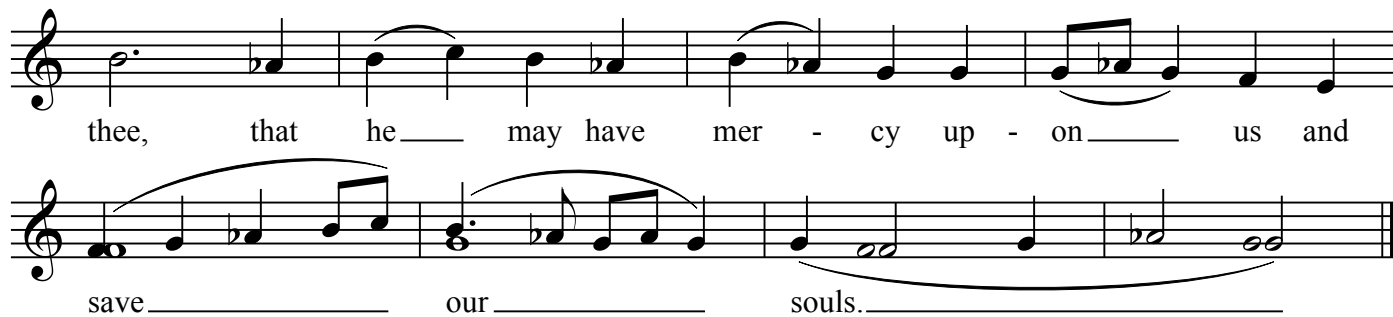
- tain - eth all cre - a - - - - tion? Yet this is the

will of the God__ who is born.__ Cease not, there - fore, O

un - de - filed__ one to pray to him whom thou__ didst__

car - ry in thine arms when he__ was__ a__ babe, and with whom thou__

didst ac - quire__ moth - er - ly priv - i - lege for us who hon - our




thee, that he may have mer - cy up - on us and
save our souls.

Sing this Both Now for when this Sunday falls between December 20-24.

Holwey



Both now and ev - er, and un-to a - ges of a - ges. A - men.



Be - hold, the time of our sal - va - tion ap - proach - eth;



make thou read - y, O cave; for it is



time for the Vir - gin to give birth:



and thou, Beth - le - hem of Ju - dah, re - joice and be



hap - - - py; for from thee shall shine



forth our Lord. Lis - ten, O moun - - - tains and



hills and the re - gions a - bout Ju - dah; for Christ

com - eth to save _____ man whom he _____ did cre - ate; for
he _____ is the Lov - er of man - - - kind. _____

If this Sunday falls on December 18 or 19, sing the Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the week, then Glory, and the following Troparion of the Forefathers, "Great are the accomplishments of faith," then Both Now, and "Exceeding glorious..." in Tone 2, on page 97.

If this Sunday falls December 20-23, sing the Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the week, then Glory, and the following Troparion of the Forefathers, "Great are the accomplishments of faith," then Both Now, and the Troparion of the Forefeast, "Make ready, O Bethlehem," on page 98.

If this Sunday falls on December 24, sing the Troparion of the Forefathers, "Great are the accomplishments," then Glory & Both Now, and the Troparion of the Paramon, "And it came to pass," on page 99b (or 99a).

Troparion of the Forefathers - Tone 2

Great _____ are the ac - com - plish - ments of faith; for the
three ho - ly youths re - joiced in the foun - tain of flames as
though _____ at wa - ters of rest. And the Proph-et Dan - iel ap -
peared a shep - - - herd to the li - ons as though
they _____ were sheep. Where - fore by their plead - ings, O
Christ _____ God, have mer - cy up - on _____ us.

Theotokion - Tone 2

Ex - ceed - ing glo - ri - ous be - yond the pow'r of
thought are thy mys - tries, O The - o - to -
- kos; for be - ing sealed in pu - i - ty and pre -
- served in vir - gin - i - ty, thou wast ac - knowl - edged to
be in ver - y truth the moth - - - er who
didst bring forth the true God. Where - fore, en - treat
him to save our souls.

Special melody: *Joseph was amazed*

Make read - y, O — Beth - le - hem; for
E - den hath been o - pened for all. Pre - pare, O —
Eph - ra - tha; for the Tree — of life hath
blos - somed forth in the cave — from the Vir - - -
- gin; for her bel - ly did — ap - pear as a
su - per - sen - su - al par - a - dise in which is — plant - ed
the di - vine — Plant, where - of eat - ing we
shall — live and not die — as Ad - - - am. Ver - i - ly,
Christ — shall be born, rais - ing the like - ness
that fell — of — old.

The hymn "And it came to pass" is traditionally sung in the Special Melody: "Joseph was amazed," which is offered on the following page, 99b.

Below is Kazan's version from the printed Menaion which he did in the standard Tone 4.



And it came to pass that Mar - y was en - rolled with Jo - seph the
old man, in Beth - le - hem, since she was
of the seed of Da - vid, and was great with the
Lamb, without seed. And when the time for de -
liv - er - y drew near, and they had no place in the
vil - age, the cave did ap - pear to the
queen as a de - light - ful pal - ace.
Ver - i - ly, Christ shall be born,
rais - ing the like - ness that fell of old.

Arr. by Christopher Holwey, from the
arrangement by Abdo Elyas,
Protopsaltis of the Archdiocese
of Mt. Lebanon (20th century)

Special melody: *Joseph was amazed*

And it came _____ to _____ pass that Mar - y was en - rolled with
Jo - seph thē _____ old man, in Beth - le - hem, since she was of the
seed _____ of _____ Da - - - vid, and was great _____ with _____ the
Lamb, with - out _____ seed. And when the time _____ for de - liv-'ry drew
near, and they had no _____ place _____ in the vil - lage, the _____
cave _____ did _____ ap - pear to _____ the _____
queen as a de - light-ful pal - ace. Ver-i - ly, Christ _____
shall _____ be _____ born, rais - ing the like - ness that
fell _____ of _____ old. _____