

November 26 - December 24

PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Kontakion (A)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 3
The Original Melody

Melody taken from the music of
Frederick Karam (1926-1978)

Ison $\bullet = 120$

The__ Vir - gin com - eth to - day to__ the
cave__ to give____ birth, in - ef - fa - bly to__ bring forth
the____ Word__ e - ter - nal. There - fore, re -
joice,__ O__ earth at the mes - sage
with the an - gels and shep - herds give glo - ry to him
who__ shall ap - pear by__ his own__ will as a__ young____ child,
he who is from e - ter - ni - ty God.

November 26 - December 24

PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Kontakion (B)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 3
The Original Melody

Arranged by
Frederick Karam (1926-1978)

♩ = 120

The Vir - gin com - eth to - day to the

cave to give birth, in - ef - fa - bly to bring forth

the Word e - ter - nal. There - fore, re -

joice, O earth at the mes - sage

PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST - Kontakion (B) - 2

with thē an - gels and shep-herds give glo - ry to him

who shall ap-pear by his own will as a young child,

he who is from e - ter - ni - ty God.

Second Sunday before the Nativity of Christ
December 11th - 17th

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS
Troparion (A)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 2

Adapted by Christopher Holwey
from the music of Basil Kazan (1915-2001)

Ison
Thou _____ hast jus - ti - fied by faith the an - cient
fore - fa - thers and through them thou _____ hast gone be - fore
and be - trothed un - to thy - self the Church _____ of the Gen - tiles.
Let the saints, there - fore, take pride _____ in glo - ry;
for from their _____ seed sprout - ed forth a no - ble fruit, and she it was
who gave birth to thee with - out _____ seed. Where - fore, _____ by their
plead - ings, O Christ _____ God, save _____ our souls. _____

Second Sunday before the Nativity of Christ
December 11th - 17th

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS

Troparion (B)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 2

Harmony & adaptation by Christopher Holwey
from the melody of Basil Kazan (1915-2001)

The musical score is written for Soprano/Alto and Tenor/Bass voices. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Thou hast justified by faith the ancient fore-fathers and through them thou hast gone before and betrothed unto thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory;"

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS – Troparion (B) - 2

for from their ___ seed sprout - ed forth a no - ble fruit, and she it was

who gave birth to thee with - out ___ seed. Where - fore, ___ by their

rit.
plead - ings, O Christ ___ God, save ___ our souls.

December 17th
(Also sung on the Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord, December 18th - 24th)

PROPHET DANIEL & THE HOLY THREE CHILDREN Troparion (A)

Byzantine Chant, Tone 2

Basil Kazan
(1915 - 2001)

The musical score is written in a single system with seven staves. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. The melody is a simple, stepwise line with some grace notes and slurs. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The text is: "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." The word "Ison" is written below the first note of the first staff.

Ison
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.

December 17th
(Also sung on the Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord, December 18th - 24th)

PROPHET DANIEL & THE HOLY THREE CHILDREN Troparion (B)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 2

Harmony by Christopher Holwey
from the melody of Basil Kazan (1915 - 2001)

Soprano
Alto

Great are the ac - com - plish - ments of faith;

Tenor
Bass

Detailed description: This block shows the first line of the Troparion. It features two vocal staves: Soprano/Alto (treble clef) and Tenor/Bass (bass clef). The Soprano/Alto staff has a melodic line with a long note on 'Great' and a slur over 'are the'. The Tenor/Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The lyrics are 'Great are the ac - com - plish - ments of faith;'.

for the three ho - ly youths re - joiced in the foun - tain of

Detailed description: This block shows the second line of the Troparion. It features two vocal staves: Soprano/Alto (treble clef) and Tenor/Bass (bass clef). The Soprano/Alto staff continues the melodic line. The Tenor/Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are 'for the three ho - ly youths re - joiced in the foun - tain of'.

flames as though at wa - ters of rest.

Detailed description: This block shows the third line of the Troparion. It features two vocal staves: Soprano/Alto (treble clef) and Tenor/Bass (bass clef). The Soprano/Alto staff has a melodic line with a slur over 'as though'. The Tenor/Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are 'flames as though at wa - ters of rest.'

And the Proph - et Dan - iel ap - peared a shep - herd

Detailed description: This block shows the fourth line of the Troparion. It features two vocal staves: Soprano/Alto (treble clef) and Tenor/Bass (bass clef). The Soprano/Alto staff has a melodic line with a slur over 'Dan - iel'. The Tenor/Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are 'And the Proph - et Dan - iel ap - peared a shep - herd'.

PROPHET DANIEL & THE THREE HOLY CHILDREN
SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD – Troparion (B) - 2

to the li - ons as though they were sheep.

The first system of music consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in G major and features a melodic line with a fermata over the word 'they'. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic support with chords and single notes.

Where - fore, by their plead - ings, O Christ God have

The second system continues the musical setting. The vocal line has a fermata over the word 'Christ'. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady harmonic accompaniment.

rit.
mer - cy up - on us.

The third system begins with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. The vocal line has a long, expressive line with a fermata over the word 'on'. The piano accompaniment features a long, sustained chord under the fermata.

December 20th-23rd

PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Troparion (A)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 4
Special Melody: *Joseph was amazed*

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



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 womb 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.

December 20–23

PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Troparion

Byzantine Chant, Tone 4

Special Melody: *Joseph was amazed*

Melodic setting: Christopher Holwey

Harmonization: Kevin Lawrence

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Make read - y, O Beth - le - hem, for E - den hath been

Detailed description: This block contains the first line of the Troparion. It features two vocal staves: Soprano/Alto (top) and Tenor/Bass (bottom). The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Make read - y, O Beth - le - hem, for E - den hath been". The melody is a simple, stepwise line with some grace notes and a final cadence.

o - pened for all. Pre - pare, O E - phra - tha,

Detailed description: This block contains the second line of the Troparion. It features two vocal staves: Soprano/Alto (top) and Tenor/Bass (bottom). The lyrics are: "o - pened for all. Pre - pare, O E - phra - tha,". The melody continues from the first line, maintaining the same stepwise character.

for the Tree of life hath blos - somed forth

Detailed description: This block contains the third line of the Troparion. It features two vocal staves: Soprano/Alto (top) and Tenor/Bass (bottom). The lyrics are: "for the Tree of life hath blos - somed forth". The melody continues, with a slight rise in pitch for the word "blos - somed".

in the cave from the Vir - gin;

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth and final line of the Troparion. It features two vocal staves: Soprano/Alto (top) and Tenor/Bass (bottom). The lyrics are: "in the cave from the Vir - gin;". The melody concludes with a final cadence on the word "gin;".

for her womb 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 A - dam.

PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST - Troparion - 3

Ver - i - ly, Christ shall be born, rais - ing the

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. The melody is written in a style characteristic of Byzantine chant, with notes often beamed together and some notes having a fermata. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

like - ness that fell of that old.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It features similar notation with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. The system concludes with a double bar line.

December 24th

PARAMON OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Troparion (A)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 4
Special Melody: *Joseph was amazed*

Traditional Antiochian Byzantine chant
adapted by Christopher Holwey

Ison

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.