

Small Compline with Canon and Akathist Hymn

(Third Friday in Great Lent)

Presbyter: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

O heavenly king, the comforter, the Spirit of truth; who art everywhere and fillest all things; treasury of blessings, and giver of life; come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O good one.

Holy God, holy mighty, holy immortal, have mercy on us. *(3 times)*

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

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O master, pardon our transgressions. O holy one, visit and heal our infirmities, for thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

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 the evil one.

Presbyter: 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.

Reader: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

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

Come, let us worship God our king.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our
king and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ
himself, our king and our God.

Psalm 50 (51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy steadfast love;
according to thine abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my
sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in
thy sight, so that thou art justified in thy sentence and blameless in
thy judgement.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which thou hast broken rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners will return to thee.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of thy deliverance.

O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.

For thou hast no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, thou wouldst not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Do good to Zion in thy good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then wilt thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on thine altar.

Psautne 69 (70)

Ô Dieu, sois attentif à me secourir, Seigneur, hâte-toi de venir à mon aide. Qu'ils rougissent et soient confondus, ceux qui cherchent mon âme ; qu'ils retournent en arrière et soient couverts de honte, ceux qui me veulent du mal ; qu'ils retournent en arrière et rougissent soudain ceux qui me disent : « Très bien, très bien. »

Qu'ils exultent et se réjouissent en toi, tous ceux qui te cherchent, ô Dieu, et qu'ils disent sans cesse : « Que le Seigneur soit magnifié ! » ceux qui aiment ton salut.

Pour moi, je suis pauvre et indigent, ô Dieu, viens à mon secours. Tu es mon secours et mon libérateur, Seigneur, ne tarde pas !

Psalm 142 (143)

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my supplications. In thy faithfulness answer me. In thy righteousness, enter not into judgement with thy servant; for no man living is righteous before thee.

For the enemy has pursued me; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead. Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.

I remember the days of old, I meditate on all that thou hast done; I muse on what thy hands have wrought. I stretch out my hands to thee; my soul thirsts for thee like a parched land.

Make haste to answer me, O Lord. My spirit fails. Hide not thy face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit. Let me hear in the morning of thy steadfast love, for in thee I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to thee I lift up my soul.

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies. I have fled to thee for refuge. Teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God. Let thy good spirit lead me on a level path. For thy name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life. In thy righteousness bring me out of trouble. And in thy steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries, for I am thy servant.

Small Doxology

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and good will among men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory. O Lord, heavenly king, God the Father almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit. O Lord God, lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every night will I bless thee, and I will praise thy name for ever, yea, for ever and ever. Lord, thou hast been our refuge in generation and generation. I said: O Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against thee. O Lord, unto thee have I fled for refuge, teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God. For in thee is the fountain of life, in thy light shall we see light. O continue thy mercy unto them that know thee.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified be thy name for ever. Amen. Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on thee. Blessed art thou, O Lord, teach me thy statutes. Blessed art thou, O master, make me to understand thy

commandments. Blessed art thou, O holy one, enlighten me with thy precepts.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endures for ever; despise not the works of thy hands. To thee belongs worship, to thee belongs praise, to thee belongs glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Symbol of Faith (Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

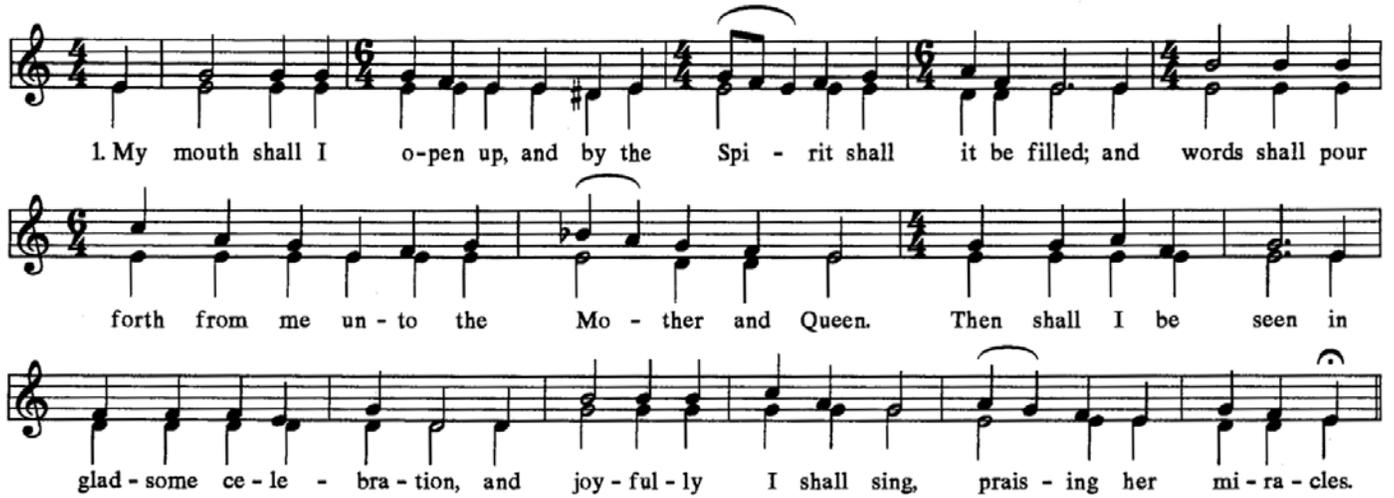
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of light; true God of true God; begotten not made; of one essence with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And he was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. In one holy, catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

And then we sing the canon of the Theotokos.

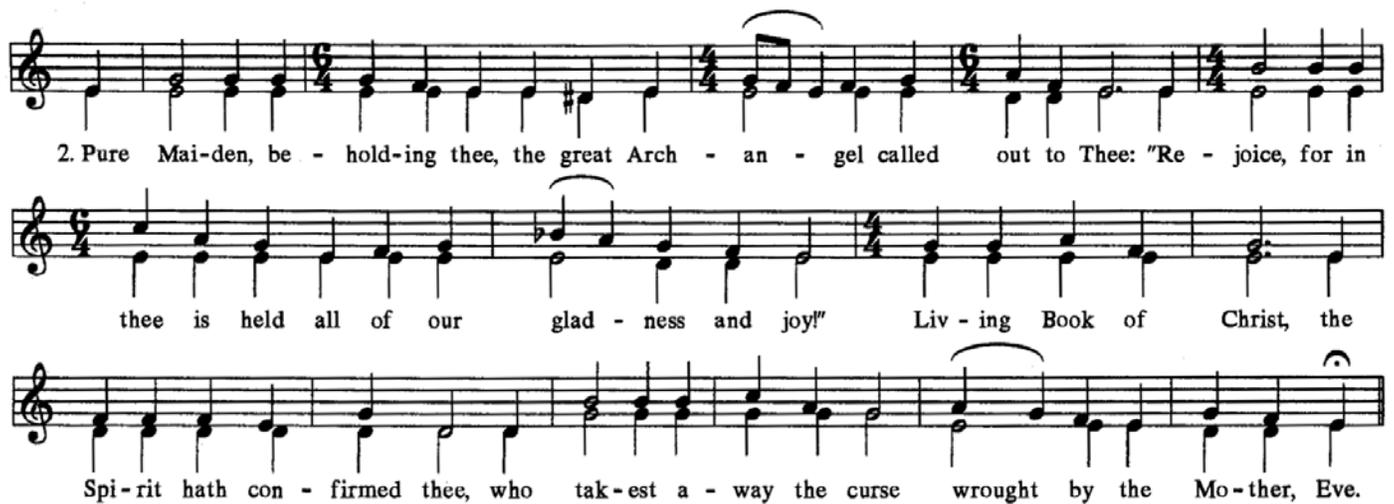
Canon to the Most Holy Theotokos

Ode One



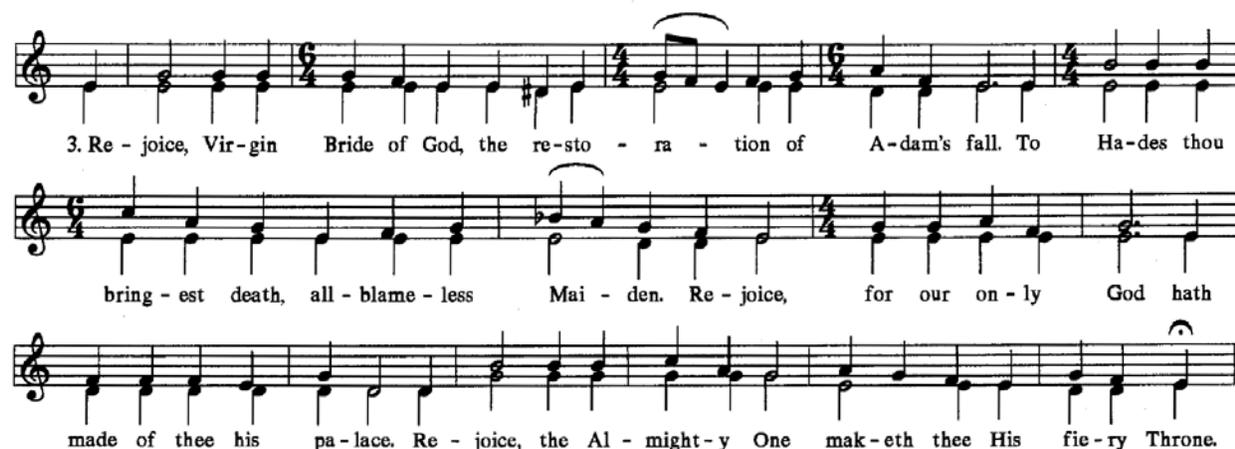
1. My mouth shall I o-pen up, and by the Spi - rit shall it be filled; and words shall pour forth from me un - to the Mo - ther and Queen. Then shall I be seen in glad - some ce - le - bra - tion, and joy - ful - ly I shall sing, prais - ing her mi - ra - cles.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



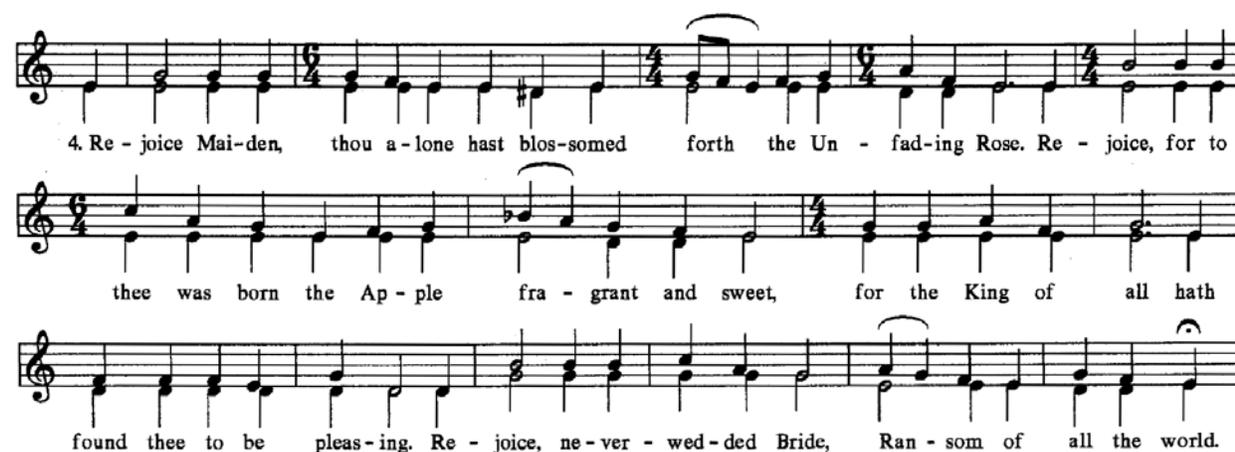
2. Pure Mai - den, be - hold - ing thee, the great Arch - an - gel called out to Thee: "Re - joice, for in thee is held all of our glad - ness and joy!" Liv - ing Book of Christ, the Spi - rit hath con - firmed thee, who tak - est a - way the curse wrought by the Mo - ther, Eve.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



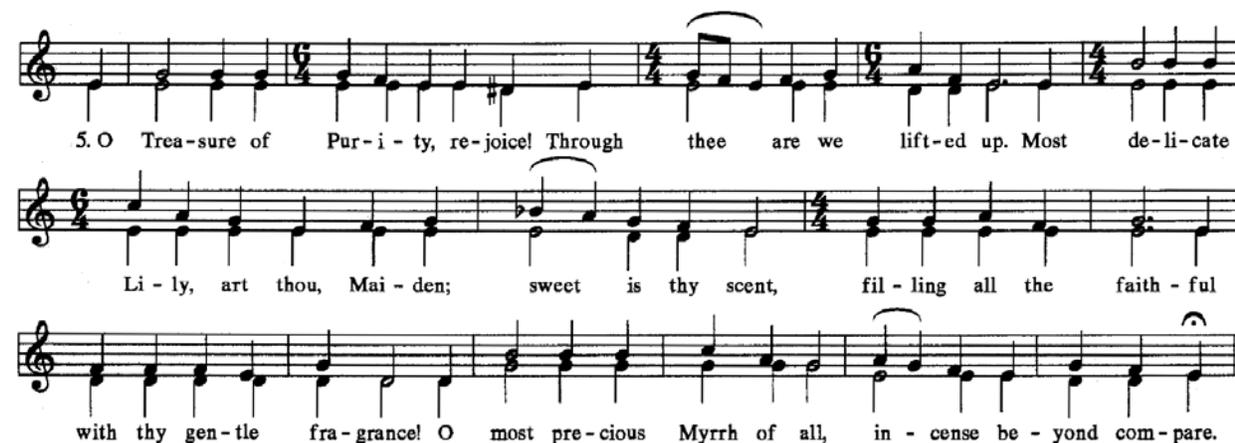
3. Re - joice, Vir - gin Bride of God, the re - sto - ra - tion of A - dam's fall. To Ha - des thou
bring - est death, all - blame - less Mai - den. Re - joice, for our on - ly God hath
made of thee his pa - lace. Re - joice, the Al - might - y One mak - eth thee His fie - ry Throne.

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



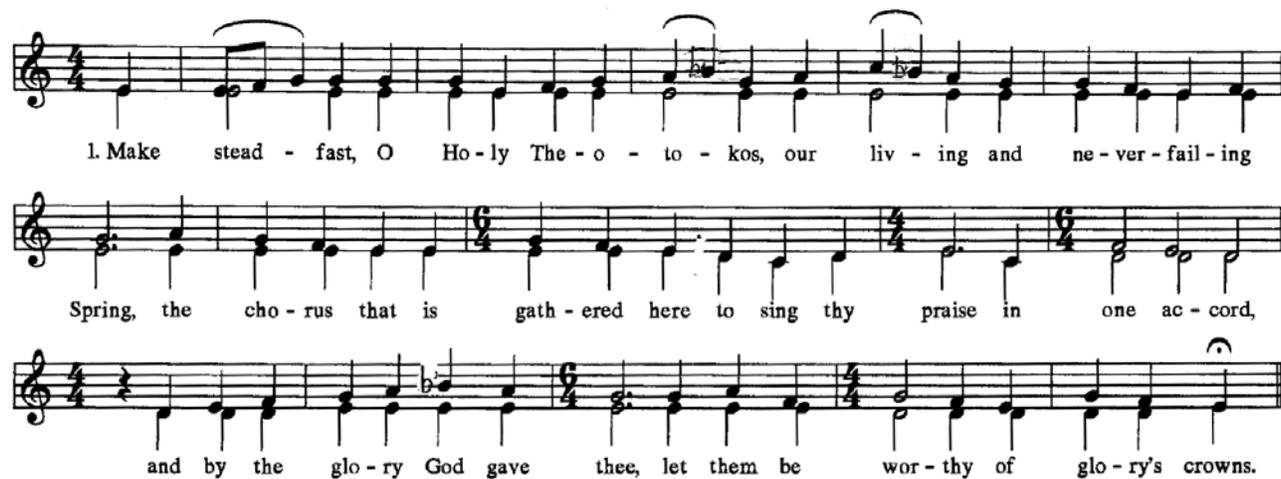
4. Re - joice Mai - den, thou a - lone hast blos - somed forth the Un - fad - ing Rose. Re - joice, for to
thee was born the Ap - ple fra - grant and sweet, for the King of all hath
found thee to be pleas - ing. Re - joice, ne - ver - wed - ded Bride, Ran - som of all the world.

Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.



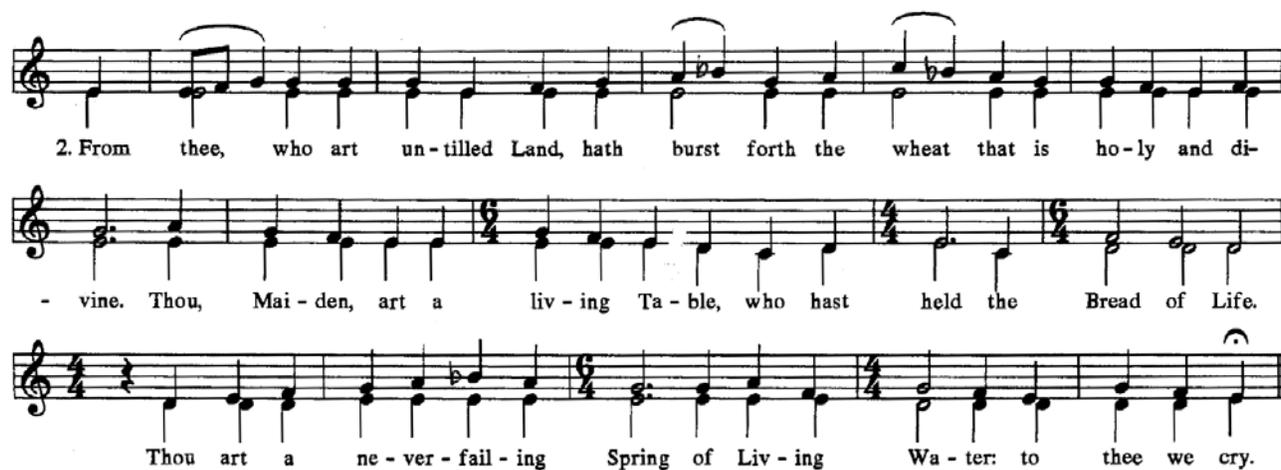
5. O Trea - sure of Pur - i - ty, re - joi - ce! Through thee are we lift - ed up. Most de - li - cate
Li - ly, art thou, Mai - den; sweet is thy scent, fil - ling all the faith - ful
with thy gen - tle fra - grance! O most pre - cious Myrrh of all, in - cense be - yond com - pare.

Ode Three



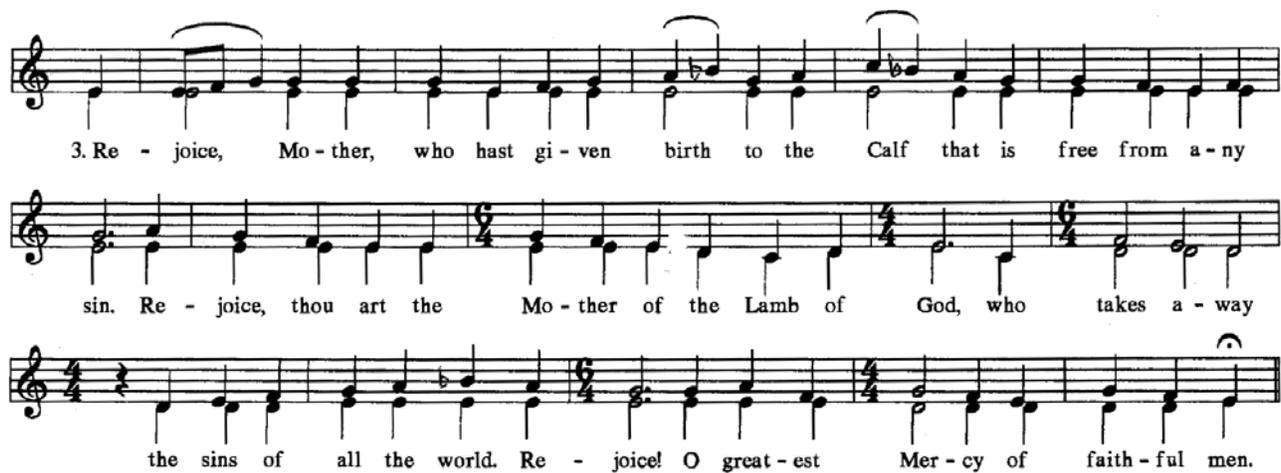
1. Make stead - fast, O Ho - ly The - o - to - kos, our liv - ing and ne - ver - fail - ing
Spring, the cho - rus that is gath - ered here to sing thy praise in one ac - cord,
and by the glo - ry God gave thee, let them be wor - thy of glo - ry's crowns.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



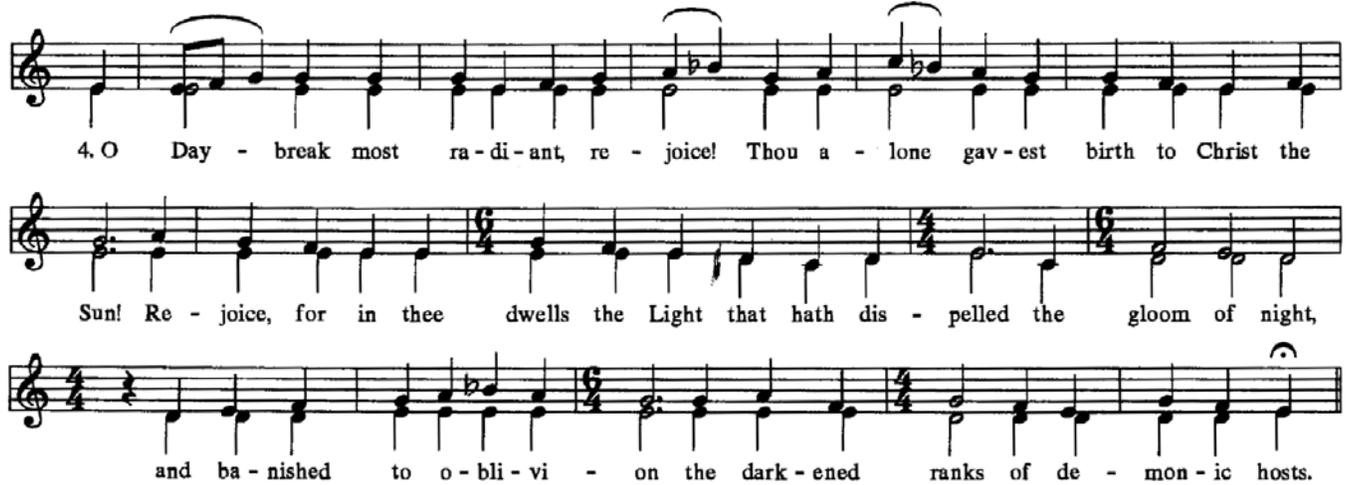
2. From thee, who art un - tilled Land, hath burst forth the wheat that is ho - ly and di -
- vine. Thou, Mai - den, art a liv - ing Ta - ble, who hast held the Bread of Life.
Thou art a ne - ver - fail - ing Spring of Liv - ing Wa - ter: to thee we cry.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



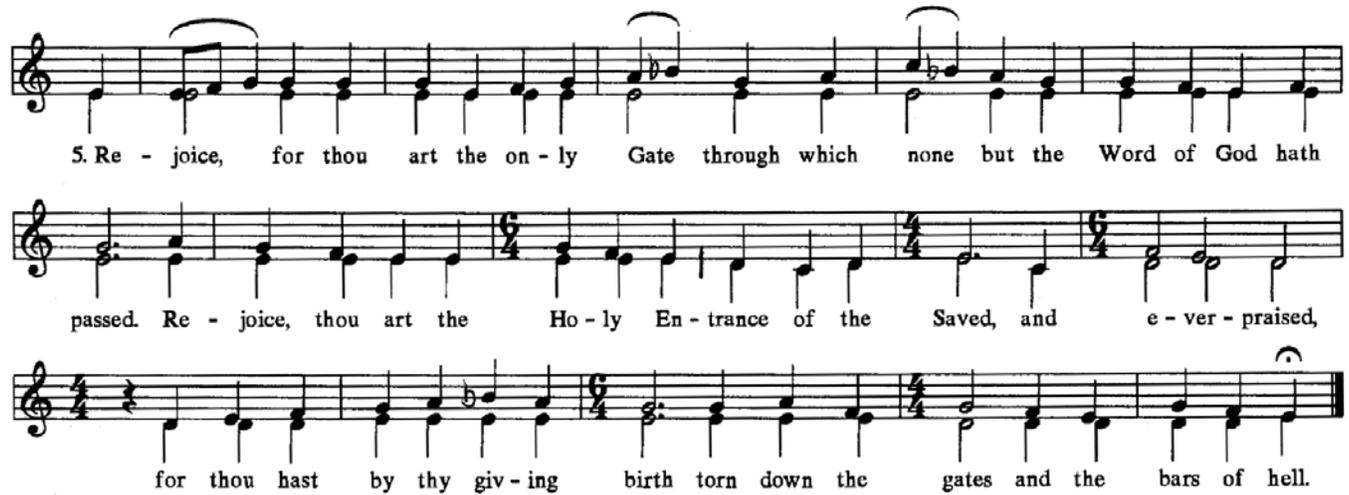
3. Re - joice, Mo - ther, who hast gi - ven birth to the Calf that is free from a - ny
sin. Re - joice, thou art the Mo - ther of the Lamb of God, who takes a - way
the sins of all the world. Re - joice! O great - est Mer - cy of faith - ful men.

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



4. O Day - break most ra-di-ant, re - joice! Thou a - lone gav - est birth to Christ the
Sun! Re - joice, for in thee dwells the Light that hath dis - pelled the gloom of night,
and ba - nished to o - bli - vi - on the dark - ened ranks of de - mon - ic hosts.

Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.



5. Re - joice, for thou art the on - ly Gate through which none but the Word of God hath
passed. Re - joice, thou art the Ho - ly En - trance of the Saved, and e - ver - praised,
for thou hast by thy giv - ing birth torn down the gates and the bars of hell.

Ode Four

1. Je-sus, God a-bove all o - thers, hath ap - peared on a cloud of light in His ho - ly
glo - ry, seat-ed on a throne of di - vi-ni-ty. And He hath gi-ven sal - va-tion by His
spot - less hands to those cry-ing to Him: Glo-ry, O Christ, to thy might-y pow'r!

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

2. We in faith raise up our voi - ces, sin-ging prais-es to thee. Re-joice: Worth-y of all
prais - es! Moun-tain that is rich with the Spi-rit's grace! Re-joice, O lamp and re - joice, O Ves-sel:
filled art thou with the man-na so sweet that hath de - light for all right-eous men.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

3. Mer-cy-Seat of all cre - a - tion, Pur-est Mai-den, art thou: Re-joice! Lad-der which hath
raised up e-very-thing on earth by thy grace: Re-joice! Thou art the Bridge that hath tru-ly led the
way from death in-to Life for all who sing thy prais - es in hymns. Re-joice!

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

4. More ex-alt-ed than the hea - vens art thou, Mai-den Im - ma-cu-late, free from pain of
child - birth, bear-ing the Found - a - tion of all the earth. Re-joice, O Sea-shell that co-lored in thy
vir - gin blood the di - vine crim-son robe worn by the King of an - ge-lic pow'rs.

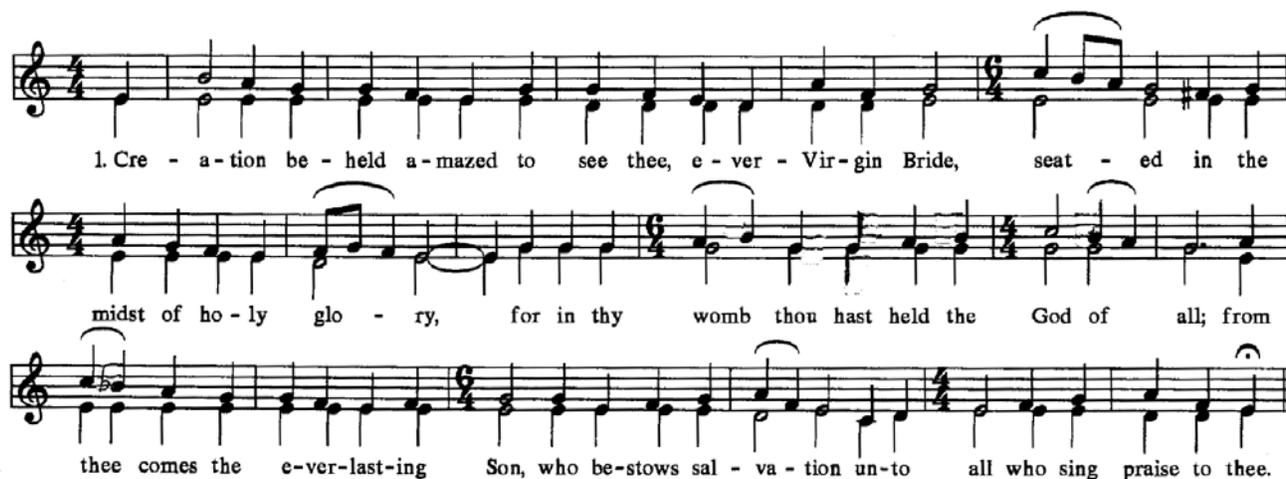
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

5. Tru-ly Mai-den, thou hast brought forth Him who set down the law to us, grant-ing to all
sin - ners par-don from trans - gres - sions a - gainst the law. The Depth we ne-ver can fa-thom,
and the Height be-yond words! Bride Un - wed-ded, re - joice! We are made chil-dren of God through thee.

Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

6. For the world's sake, hast thou wo - ven a pure crown fa-shion'd not by man. With our hymns we
praise thee, cry-ing out, "Re - joice!" Vir-gin Bride to thee. Thou art the fort-i - fi - ca-tion and de-
- fend - ing wall, and the strength of men, the sa-cred re - fuge of all man-kind.

Ode Five



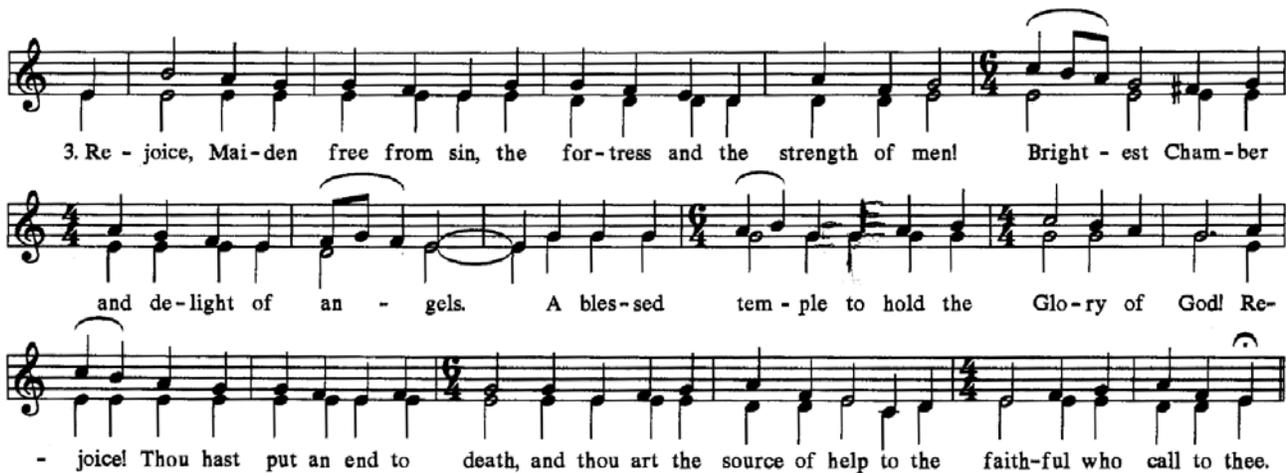
1. Cre - a - tion be - held a - mazed to see thee, e - ver - Vir - gin Bride, seat - ed in the
midst of ho - ly glo - ry, for in thy womb thou hast held the God of all; from
thee comes the e - ver - last - ing Son, who be - stows sal - va - tion un - to all who sing praise to thee.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



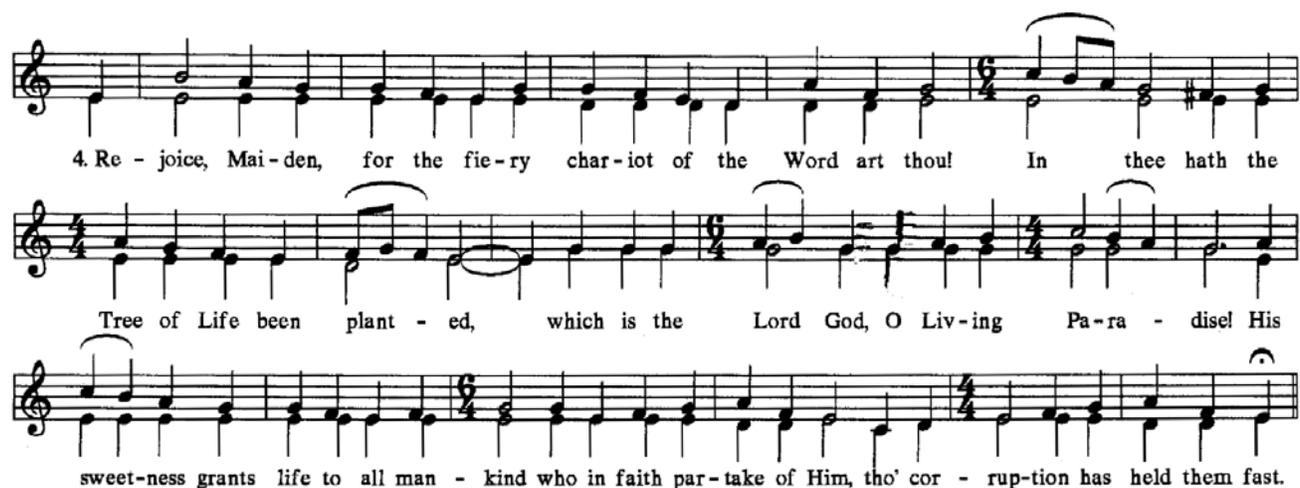
2. Re - joice, Mai - den e - ver - pure, who bring - est forth the Way of Life, sa - ving all of
man - kind from the tor - rent of our trans - gres - sions; Re - joice O Bride of God! Too
awe - some to speak of or to hear! Who hast been a place of rest for the Mas - ter of all the world.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



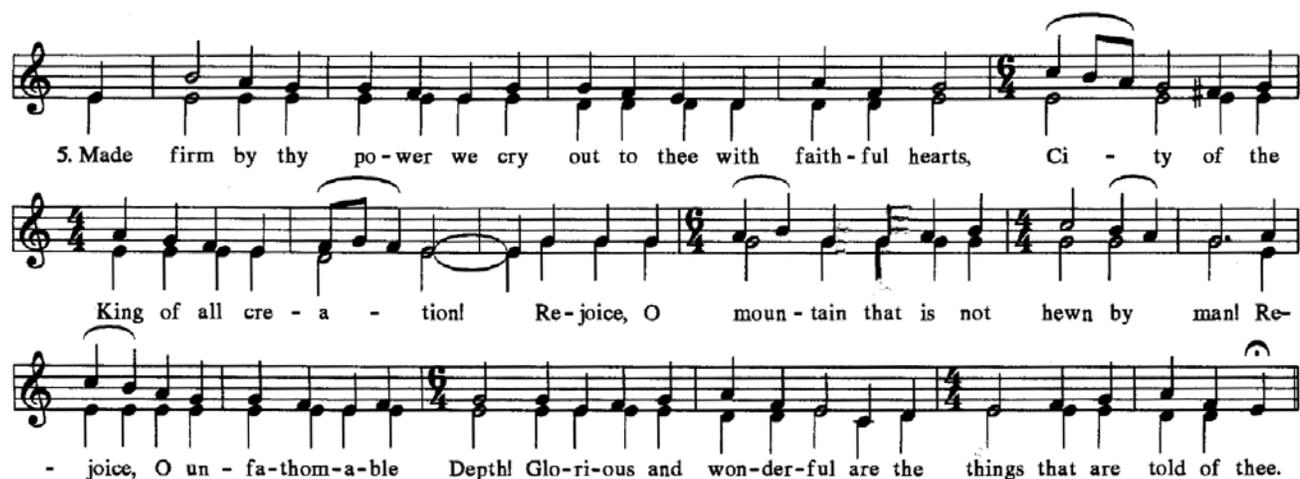
3. Re - joice, Mai - den free from sin, the for - tress and the strength of men! Bright - est Cham - ber
and de - light of an - gels. A bles - sed tem - ple to hold the Glo - ry of God! Re -
- joice! Thou hast put an end to death, and thou art the source of help to the faith - ful who call to thee.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



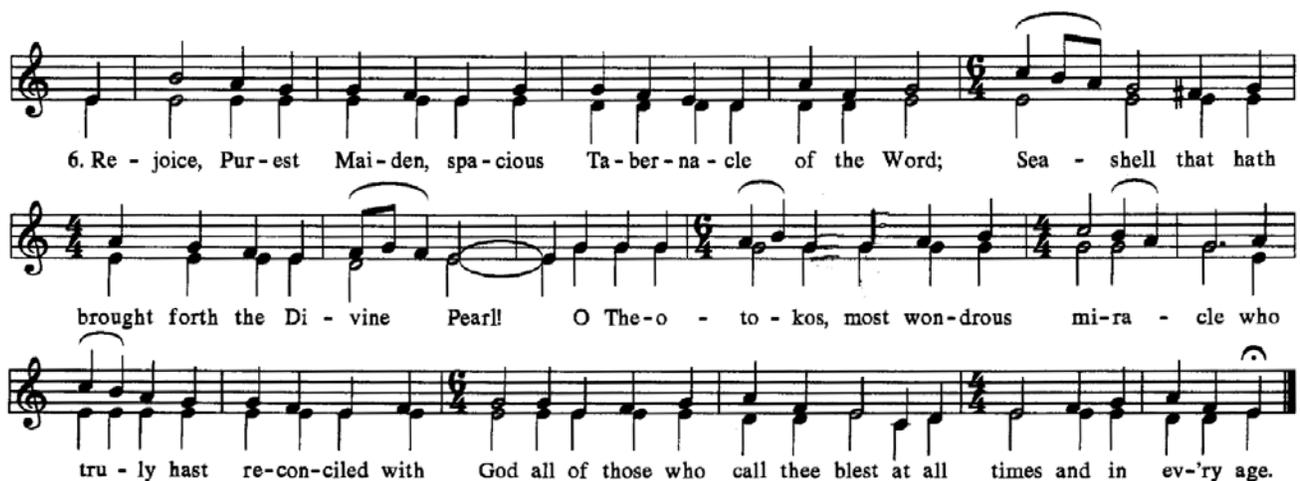
4. Re - joice, Mai - den, for the fie - ry char - iot of the Word art thou! In thee hath the
Tree of Life been plant - ed, which is the Lord God, O Liv - ing Pa - ra - disel His
sweet-ness grants life to all man - kind who in faith par - take of Him, tho' cor - rup - tion has held them fast.

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



5. Made firm by thy po - wer we cry out to thee with faith - ful hearts, Ci - ty of the
King of all cre - a - tion! Re - joice, O moun - tain that is not hewn by man! Re -
- joice, O un - fa - thom - a - ble Depth! Glo - ri - ous and won - der - ful are the things that are told of thee.

Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.



6. Re - joice, Pur - est Mai - den, spa - cious Ta - ber - na - cle of the Word; Sea - shell that hath
brought forth the Di - vine Pearl! O The - o - to - kos, most won - drous mi - ra - cle who
tru - ly hast re - con - ciled with God all of those who call thee blest at all times and in ev - ry age.

Ode Six

1 Ye god-ly mind-ed, come clap your hands, and join in ce - le - bra - tion of this most
ho - nored, sa - cred fes - ti - val, and let the Mo - ther of God be praised,
and let us sing the glo - ry of God who is her Son.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

2 O Bri-dal Cham - ber that holds the Word, thou art for all thy peo - ple the source of
god - li - ness, All - Pur - est One! Thou art the Truth of the Pro - phets' words;
Re - joice, for thou a - dorn - est A - pos - tles with thy grace.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

3. From thee hath flowed forth the god-ly dew, ex-tin-guish-ing the flames of the a-do-
- ra - tion of the pa - gan gods. For this, O Vir - gin, we cry Re - joice!
Thou art the dew - y fleece as fore - told by Gi - de - on.

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

4. We cry Re - joice, cal - ling out to thee to be a port and ha - ven for all who
sail up - on the storm - y sea, en - gulfed by sor - rows and stum - bling blocks
and by de - ceits un - num - bered the e - ne - my hath set.

Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

5. From thee come all joy and hap - pi - ness; be gra - cious to our hearts and our minds that
we may cry Re - joice to thee who art the Bush that will not be burned!
Thou art the Cloud most bril - liant which shel - ters faith - ful men.

Ode Seven

1. Brave-ly tram-pling down the fie-ry flames, the god-ly-mind-ed youths would not bow down
be-fore cre - a-tions wrought by men, but stead-fast, to God a-lone, Ma-ker of all, they bowed, as they
sang with joy, "Most praised— Lord who art the God of our fa-ters, thou art bles - sed."

The musical notation for the first stanza consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff continues the melody with a 4/4 time signature. The third staff concludes the stanza with a 6/4 time signature. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

2. With our voi-ces raised in hymns of praise, we cry to thee, Re-joice, O Cha-ri - ot that car-ries
forth the liv-ing Sun. The true vine that bear-eth fruit: clu-sters of ri-pened grapes flow-ing sweet with
wine and ma - king glad the souls of those who in faith sing out thy glo - ry.

The musical notation for the second stanza consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff continues the melody with a 4/4 time signature. The third staff concludes the stanza with a 6/4 time signature. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

3. From thee, Bride of God, the Heal-er of man - kind is born. Re-joice, O mys-tic Rod: from thee the
ne-ver-fad-ing Rose hath bud-ded and blos-somed forth. Man-kind is filled with joy, cry-ing out to
thee: "Re - joice, Our La - dy, for through thee, we are heirs of life e - ter - nal."

The musical notation for the third stanza consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff continues the melody with a 4/4 time signature. The third staff concludes the stanza with a 6/4 time signature. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

4. All the tongues of men can - not ac-claim thee worth-i - ly, Our La-dy, who art raised yet high-er
than the Se-ra - phim in bring-ing forth Christ the King; Ask Him for our sakes to de - li-ver
us from e - very harm that threat - ens us, who in faith bow down be - fore thee.

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

5. All the world sings praise, Pure Mai-den, un - to thee, and cries out bles-sing thee. Re - joice!
Thou art the Scroll on which the Word is penned by the Fa-ther's Hand. Mo-ther of God, we ask thee im-
- plore thy Son to en - ter in the Book of Life all the names of those who serve thee.

Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

6. We thy ser-vants come, en - treat-ing thee on bend-ed knee, with hearts bowed down to thee.
In-cline thine ear to our prayer, and save us from sink-ing down, drown-ing in suf-fer-ing and pre-
- serve thy flock; and, The - o - to - kos, guard thy Ci - ty from all foes that as - sault her.

Ode Eight

1. The ho - ly chil-dren cast in-to the fur - nace were saved, The-o - to-kos, by the Child
born of thee. He who was fore - sha - dowed then, now up - on the earth hath
come, and all cre - a-tion ga-thers near that we may sing to Him. Let all His works now
sing the Lord's prai - ses, and ex - alt Him great - ly from a - ges to all a - ges.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

2. Pure Mai - den, in thy womb hast thou re - ceived Him, the Word, and hast giv-en birth to Him who
bears all things. He Who at thy breast took milk, now through thee doth feed the
world, by His own will, and un-to Him does all cre - a-tion cry: Let all His works now
sing the Lord's prai - ses, and ex - alt Him great - ly from a - ges to all a - ges.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

3. Mo - ses in the burn - ing bush per - ceived the great My - ste - ry
of a child be - ing born of thee, Ho - ly Vir - gin un - de - filed. In a clear fore - sha - dow -
- ing, the chil - dren stand - ing in the flames were un - con - sumed by fire. For this we sing a
hymn of thy prai - ses, and ex - alt thee great - ly from a - ges to all a - ges.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

4. We who by de - ceit are left un - clothed have been robed in a gar - ment free from a - ny
stain of sin. Seat - ed in the dark of sin, we have come to see the
light, for in thee, Mai - den full of grace, is the a - bode of Light! For this we sing a
hymn of thy prai - ses, and ex - alt thee great - ly from a - ges to all a - ges.

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

5. Through thee, are the dead brought back to life, for from thee hath been born the One Who is Him-
- self the Life. Speech-less men are made to speak; le - pers have been pur - i-
- fied, all of the spi - rits that are lurk - ing in the air de - part, and all dis - ease is
cast off, de - feat - ed, for thou art, O Vir - gin, hu - man - i - ty's sal - va - tion!

Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

6. Pure Mai - den, who brought forth the world's sal - va - tion, through thee we are
raised from earth un - to the hea - ven's heights. E - ver - bles - sed One, re - joice! Shel - ter and pro - tect - ing
veil, a wall and ram - part thou hast been to those who sing to thee. Let all His works now
sing the Lord's prai - ses, and ex - alt Him great - ly from a - ges to all a - ges.

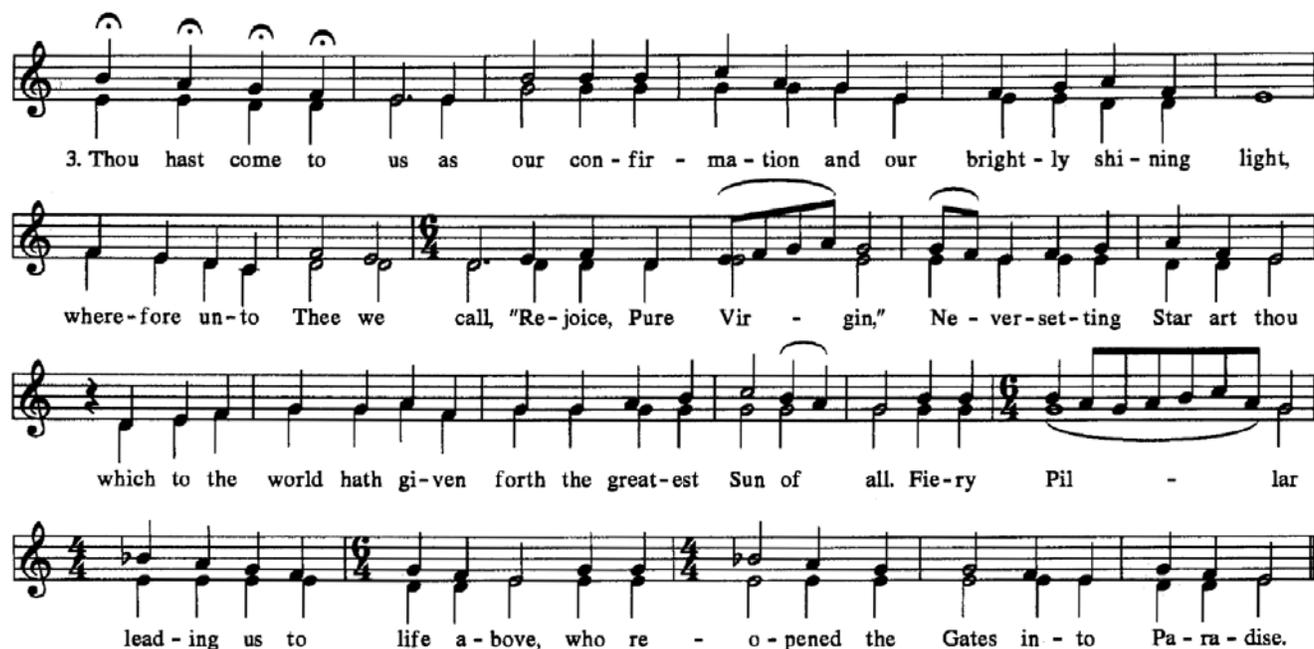
Ode Nine

1. Let all men on earth in spi - rit leap up for joy, with fest - al tor - ches lit.
Let an - ge - lic ranks re - joice, and with due ho - nor, ce - le - brate this fest - i - val,
and on this ho - ly feast, sing prai - ses to the Mo - ther of God. Let them cry out,
Mai - den e - ver - blest, re - joice! The - o - to - kos, most pure, e - ver - blest art thou.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

2. Save us from all harm, all e - vil and e - ne - mics which threa - ten mor - tal men,
co - ming on the heels of sins too great to num - ber which be - fall hu - man - i - ty.
And let the faith - ful who be - lieve in thee call out Re - joice! as par - ta - kers
of the e - ver - last - ing joy that through thee is be - stowed o - ver all man - kind.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



3. Thou hast come to us as our con-fir-ma-tion and our bright-ly shi-ning light,
where-fore un-to Thee we call, "Re-joice, Pure Vir-gin," Ne-ver-set-ting Star art thou
which to the world hath gi-ven forth the great-est Sun of all. Fie-ry Pil-lar
lead-ing us to life a-bove, who re-o-pened the Gates in-to Pa-ra-dise.

Most holy Theotokos, save us.



4. Let us stand in awe as we in the Tem-ple of the Lord cry out to thee.
Queen of all the world, Re-joice! Re-joice, O Ma-ry, Ves-sel of un-end-ing myrrh
which hath been emp-tied in-to thee, and so we cry out Re-joice! Our La-dy,
Pur-est and most beau-ti-ful a-mong wo-men art thou who hath known no sin.

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

5. Gen - tle Dove, re - joice, for God the Com - pas - sion - ate hath been brought forth from thee.
E - ver - Vir - gin Mai - den, Hail! The Crown of mar - tyrs, Glo - ry of the saints art thou,
and the di - vine a - dorn - ment of all just and right - eous men. We the faith - ful
come be - fore thee cry - ing out, O Sal - va - tion of those who be - lieve: Re - joice!

Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

6. O - ver - look our sins! For - give thine in - he - ri - tance, O God, and heed the prayer of
her who hath with - out seed on earth con - ceived Thee. She hath come be - fore thee now
to plead for us, O Christ, her Son, who hast for man - kind's sake in Thy mer - cy
cho - sen to be - come a man, and be clothed in a form that is not thine own.

TO THEE, THE CHAMPION LEADER

Plagal of Fourth Tone (Do)

To thee, the cham- pion lea- der, we thy flock de-
 di- cate a feast of vic- to- ry and of thanks-
 giv- ing, as ones res- cued out of suf-
 f'ring, O The- o- to- kos; but as thou art one
 with might which is in- vin- ci- ble, from all dan-
 gers that can be do thou de- li- ver us,
 that we may cry to thee: Re- joice, thou Bride
 un- wed- ed. wed- ded.

1 & 2 Ending: rit. 3rd Ending: rit. Un.

Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos
(Third Section)

Ikos Seven

A new creation has the creator revealed, manifesting himself unto us his creatures. From a virgin's womb he came, preserving it inviolate as it was before: that, beholding the miracle, we might sing her praises, crying:

Rejoice, flower of incorruption

Rejoice, crown of chastity

Rejoice, bright foreshadowing of the resurrection glory

Rejoice, mirror of the angels' life

Rejoice, tree of glorious fruit on which the faithful feed

Rejoice, wood of shady leaves where many shelter

Rejoice, for thou hast conceived a guide for the wanderers

Rejoice, for thou hast borne a deliverer for the captives

Rejoice, intercessor with the righteous judge

Rejoice, forgiveness for many who have stumbled

Rejoice, robe for the naked and bereft of hope

Rejoice, love surpassing all desire

Rejoice, thou bride unwedded

Chanters: Rejoice, thou bride unwedded

Kontakion Eight

Seeing this strange birth, let us become strangers to the world, fixing our minds in heaven. To this end has the most high God appeared on earth as a lowly man, because he wishes to draw heavenward all who cry aloud to him: alleluia!

Chanters: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Ikos Eight

The Word uncircumscribed was wholly present here below, yet in no wise absent from the realm on high: God descended to earth, yet underwent no change of place. He was born of a virgin, overshadowed by divine power, and unto her we sing:

Rejoice, enclosure of the God whom nothing can enclose
Rejoice, gate of the hallowed mystery
Rejoice, tidings doubted by unbelievers
Rejoice, undoubted glory of the faithful
Rejoice, most holy chariot of him who rides upon the cherubim
Rejoice, best of all dwellings for him who is above the seraphim
Rejoice, for thou bringest opposites to harmony
Rejoice, for thou hast joined in one childbirth and virginity
Rejoice, for through thee our sin is remitted
Rejoice, for through thee paradise is opened
Rejoice, key of Christ's kingdom
Rejoice, hope of blessings of the age to come
Rejoice, thou bride unwedded

Chanters: Rejoice, thou bride unwedded

Kontakion Nine

All the ranks of angels marvelled at the great work of thine incarnation. For they saw God, whom none can approach, as a man approachable by all, dwelling in our midst, and hearing from our lips: alleluia!

Chanters: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Ikos Nine

Eloquent orators we see dumb as the fishes in thy presence, O Theotokos, for they are at a loss to say how thou remainest virgin and yet hast power to bear a child. But we, marvelling at the mystery, cry aloud with faith:

Rejoice, casket of God's wisdom

Rejoice, treasury of His providence

Rejoice, for thou revealest lack of wisdom in the lovers of wisdom

Rejoice, for thou provest devoid of reason those skilled in reason's art

Rejoice, for the cunning disputants are shown to be fools

Rejoice, for the myth-makers have withered into silence

Rejoice, for thou hast torn asunder the tangled webs of the Athenians

Rejoice, for thou hast filled the nets of the fishermen

Rejoice, for thou dost draw men from the depths of ignorance

Rejoice, for thou dost illumine multitudes with knowledge

Rejoice, ship of all who would be saved

Rejoice, haven for the seafarers of life

Rejoice, thou bride unwedded

Chanters: Rejoice, thou bride unwedded

Kontakion Ten

Wishing to save the world, the fashioner of all things came to it of his own free choice. As God he is our shepherd, yet has he appeared for our sake as a man like us; and calling like by means of like, as God he hears our cry: Alleluia!

Chanters: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Then we sing again the kontakion, 'To thee, the champion leader.'

TO THEE, THE CHAMPION LEADER

Plagal of Fourth Tone (Do)

To thee, the cham- pion lea- der, we thy flock de-
 di- cate a feast of vic- to- ry and of thanks-
 giv- ing, as ones res- cued out of suf-
 f'rings, O The- o- to- kos; but as thou art one
 with might which is in- vin- ci- ble, from all dan-
 gers that can be do thou de- li- ver us,
 that we may cry to thee: Re- joice, thou Bride
 un- wed- ed. wed- ded.

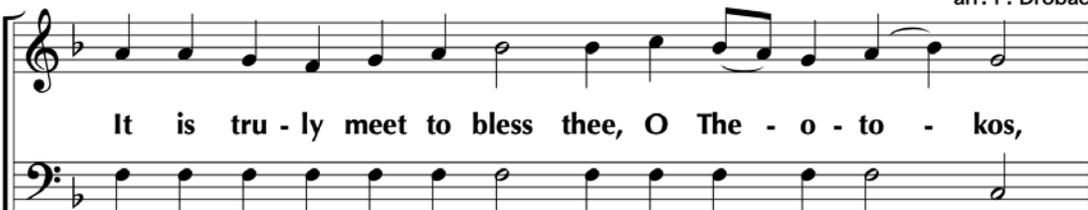
1st & 2nd Ending: | 3rd Ending: rit. Un.

It is truly meet

Serbian Chant
arr. P. Drobac

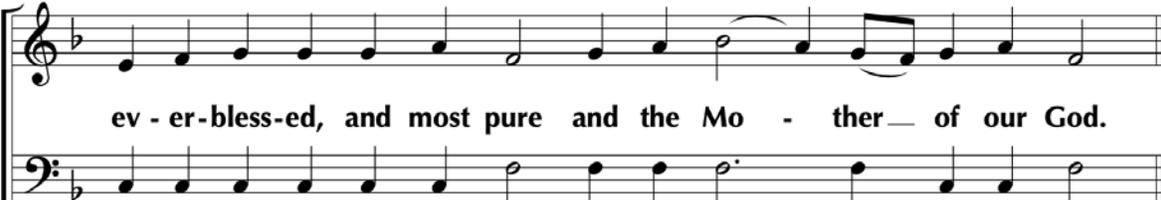
Tone 7

Melody

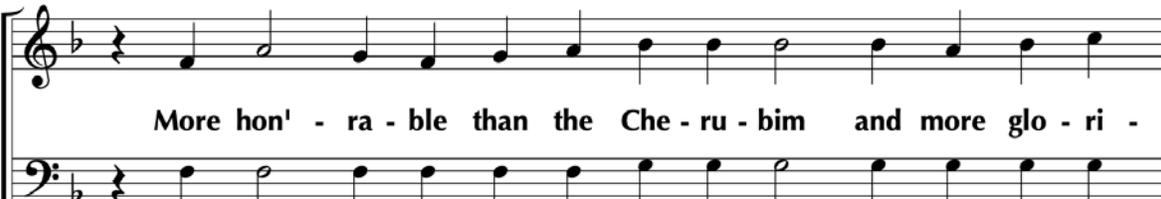


It is tru - ly meet to bless thee, O The - o - to - kos,

Isos



ev - er - bless - ed, and most pure and the Mo - ther — of our God.



More hon' - ra - ble than the Che - ru - bim and more glo - ri -



ous be - yond com - pare than the Ser - a - phim: with - out cor -



rup - tion thou gav - est birth to — God — the Word: — True



The - o - to - - kos, we mag - ni - fy — — thee.

Trisagion et Prière Dominicale

Lecteur: Saint Dieu, saint fort, saint immortel, aie pitié de nous.
(3 fois)

Gloire au Père et au Fils et au Saint Esprit, maintenant et toujours et dans les siècles des siècles. Amen.

Très Sainte Trinité, aie pitié de nous. Seigneur, remets nos péchés. Maître, pardonne nos iniquités. Saint, visite et guéris nos infirmités à cause de ton nom.

Kyrie eleison. (3 fois)

Gloire au Père et au Fils et au Saint Esprit, maintenant et toujours et dans les siècles des siècles. Amen.

Notre Père qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne arrive, que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel. Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain substantiel et remets-nous nos dettes comme nous remettons à nos débiteurs, et ne nous soumet pas à l'épreuve, mais délivre-nous du malin.

Prêtre: Car c'est à toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire, Père, Fils et Saint Esprit, maintenant et toujours et dans les siècles des siècles.

Reader: Amen.

Apostles, martyrs and prophets, hierarchs, venerable and righteous ones, who have fought the good fight and kept the faith: as you have boldness towards the Saviour, intercede for us with him, we pray, for he is good, that he may save our souls.

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

The universe offers the God-bearing martyrs, as the first-fruits of nature, to thee, O Lord and gardener of creation. Through the Theotokos and their prayers preserve thy church, thy habitation, in deep peace, O greatly merciful one.

Lord, have mercy. *(40 times)*

Prayer of the Hours

Reader: Thou, who at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ our God, long-suffering, merciful, and compassionate; who lovest the just and showest mercy upon the sinner; who callest all men to salvation through the promise of blessings to come; O Lord, in this hour receive our supplications and direct our lives according to thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds; deliver us from all tribulations, evil, and distress. Surround us with thy holy angels, that guided and guarded by their host we may attain to the unity of the faith, and to the knowledge of thine unapproachable glory, for thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

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

More honourable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim; without

corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify thee.

In the name of the Lord, father, bless.

Presbyter: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

Prayer to the Most Holy Theotokos

O spotless, undefiled, incorrupt, all-pure virgin, lady bride of God, who by thy wondrous conceiving hast united God the Word to man, and joined the outcast nature of our race to heavenly things, O only hope of the hopeless, and succour of the embattled, the ready help of them that have recourse to thee, and refuge of all Christians: abhor me not, the sinner, the accursed one, who have altogether made myself unprofitable by shameful thoughts, words, and deeds, and through my slothful ways have become a servant of the pleasures of this life.

But as the mother of the man-befriending God, do thou take pity upon me a sinner and prodigal, and receive my supplication, offered thee on unclean lips. And using thy boldness as a mother, entreat thy Son, our master and Lord, that he may open even unto me the loving compassions of his goodness, and that, overlooking mine innumerable trespasses, he would turn me to repentance, and make me the approved doer of his commandments.

And be thou ever with me, as thou art merciful, and compassionate, and the lover of good, being in this life a fervent protectress and help, to defend me from the assaults of adversaries, and guide me unto salvation; and in the hour of my departure, to care for my wretched soul, and drive far from it the dark countenances of evil

demons; and in the terrible day of judgement, to deliver me from eternal torment, and show me forth as an heir of the unspeakable glory of thy Son and our God.

This be my lot, O my lady, most holy Theotokos, by thy mediation and help, through the grace and love for man of thine only-begotten Son, our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom is due all glory, honour and worship, with his Father who is without beginning, and his all-holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer to Our Lord Jesus Christ

And grant us, O master, as we go to sleep, repose of body and soul; and keep us from the dark slumber of sin and every obscure pleasure of the night. Calm the violence of the passions, quench the fiery darts of the evil one, which are treacherously directed against us. Subdue the rebellions of our flesh, and quell our every earthly and material thought. And grant unto us, O God, a watchful mind, a chaste thought, a sober heart, and a sleep light and free from all satanic fantasies. And raise us up at the hour of prayer, established in thy commandments and holding the remembrance of thy judgements unshakable within us. Grant us to hymn thy glory all the night long, that we may praise and bless and glorify thine all-honoured and majestic name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Dismissal

Reader: Most glorious, ever-virgin, blessed Theotokos, present our prayer to thy Son and our God, and pray that through thee he would save our souls.

My hope is the Father, my refuge the Son, my shelter the Holy Spirit. O Holy Trinity, glory to thee.

Presbyter: Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to thee.

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

Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

Father, bless.

Presbyter: May Christ our true God, through the prayers of his most pure mother, of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for he is good and the friend of man.

Chanters: Amen.

The presbyter and faithful then bow down, asking and receiving forgiveness from one another.

Presbyter: Bless, holy fathers and brethren, and forgive me a sinner all wherein I have sinned this day in deed, word, and thought, and by all my senses.

People: May God forgive and have mercy on thee, holy father. Bless me, holy father, and forgive all wherein I have sinned this day in deed, word, and thought, and by all my senses, and pray for me a sinner.

Presbyter: Through his grace, may God forgive and have mercy on us all.

The presbyter then says the following litany as the chanters respond continuously, 'Lord, have mercy.'

Let us pray for our Metropolitan Tikhon, for our Archbishop Irénée, and for all our brethren in Christ.

For our sovereign lady, Queen Elizabeth, this land and all those in seats of authority.

For those who hate us and those who love us.

For those who are kind to us and serve us.

For those who have asked us to pray for them, unworthy though we be.

For the deliverance of captives.

For our absent fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters.

For travellers by land, by sea, and by air.

For those who are lying in sickness.

Let us pray also for the abundance of the fruits of the earth.

And for every Orthodox Christian soul.

Let us bless God-fearing rulers, Orthodox bishops, the founders of this holy house, and our parents and teachers, and all our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, gone before us, the Orthodox who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Let us say also for ourselves.

Chanters: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

We sing the theotokion 'Awed by the beauty,' followed by the final blessing:

Presbyter: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

AWED BY THE BEAUTY

Third Tone

Awed by the beau- ty of thy vir- gin-
 i- ty and the ex- ceed- ing ra- dian-
 ce of thy pu- ri- ty, Ga- bri- el called out
 un- to thee, O The- o- to- kos: What wor-
 thy hymn of praise can I of- fer un- to thee?
 And what shall I name thee? I am in doubt
 and stand in awe. Where- fore, as com- mand- ed, I
 cry to thee: Re- joice, O Full of Grace.

