

Menaion: Sunday between  
December 18 and 23

# Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ

## Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord

### Kontakion

Byzantine Chant – Tone 1  
arr. K. Lawrence

$\text{♩} = 92-96$

Melody

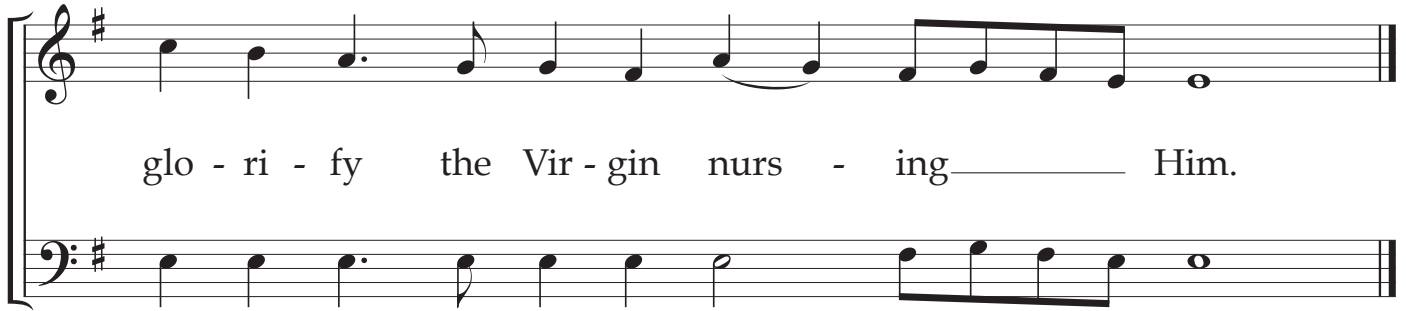
Re-joyce, O Beth - le - hem! Pre-pare your - self, O Eph - ra - tha!

Ison

The Lamb is on her way to give birth to the Chief Shep - herd

she car - ries in her womb. The God - bear - ing Fore - fa - thers

will re - joyce, be - hold - ing Him, and with the shep - herds, they will



The image shows a musical score for a kontakion. It consists of two staves: a treble staff on top and a bass staff on the bottom. Both staves are in the key of D major, indicated by a sharp sign on the F line. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a sharp sign. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a sharp sign. The lyrics are written below the treble staff: "glo - ri - fy the Vir - gin nurs - ing Him." The word "ing" is followed by a long horizontal line, indicating a long note or a melisma. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, and rests.