

# Stichera at the Praises

*The Annunciation of the Theotokos - March 25*

**Tone 1** **Kievan Chant**  
arr. from B. Ledkovsky

**Sticheron 1**

Soprano  
Alto  
Tenor  
Bass

From the vault — of heav-en Ga-bri-el flew down and  
came to Naz - a - reth; and stand-ing before the Virgin Mary, he  
cried to her: "Re-joice! Thou shalt conceive a Son, more an-cient than  
Ad - am, the Mak - er of all things and the Deliverer of  
[those who cry to thee:]

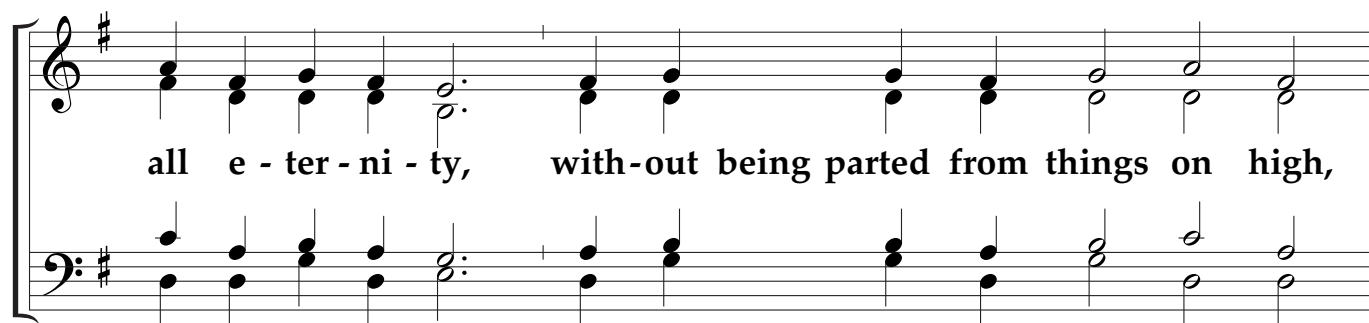


those who cry to thee: // 'Re-joyce, O pure Vir - gin!"

Sticheron 2



The co - e - ter - nal Word of the Father who is from



all e - ter - ni - ty, with-out being parted from things on high,



now has come among those be-low, in His infinite compassion



tak-ing pit - y up - on our fall; He has as - sumed the

[poverty of Ad-am . . .]

pov - er - ty of Ad - am // and taken a form that is

al - ien to Him.

Sticheron 3

Ga - briel brought the Good News from heaven to the

Vir - gin, and he cried out the greet - ing, "Re - joice!

Thou shalt con - ceive Him who can be con - tained in thee,

[yet whom the world ...]

yet whom the world can - not con - tain; and thou wilt be

The first system of musical notation for the sticheron. It consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in the key of D major (one sharp). The melody is written in a simple, homophonic style with eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: "yet whom the world can - not con - tain; and thou wilt be".

seen — to bear with - in thy womb // Him who shone

The second system of musical notation. It continues the melody from the first system. The lyrics are: "seen — to bear with - in thy womb // Him who shone". A double bar line is used after "womb".

forth from the Father be - fore the morn - ing star."

The third system of musical notation. It concludes the sticheron. The lyrics are: "forth from the Father be - fore the morn - ing star." A double bar line is at the end. A small "#8" is written at the end of the staff.

Sticheron 4

The tran - scend - ent Word has made His abode with -

The first system of musical notation for Sticheron 4. It consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in the key of D major. The melody is written in a simple, homophonic style. The lyrics are: "The tran - scend - ent Word has made His abode with -".

in thee in the flesh at the counsel of the Father, O

The second system of musical notation for Sticheron 4. It continues the melody from the first system. The lyrics are: "in thee in the flesh at the counsel of the Father, O".

[Virgin Theo-to-kos.]

Vir-gin The - o - to - kos; be-com - ing like us, He has built

up the race of man-kind, which fell through the an - cient curse.

Where - fore, with the angel we cry out to thee with faith: //

"Re-joyce, O Moth - er of Christ!"

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The order and number of stichera given here follows the Slavic Menaion. The Greek Menaion (as reflected in The Festal Menaion of Metropolitan Kallistos [Ware] and Mother Mary) contains only the first three stichera, with the order of Stichera 2 and 3 transposed.*