

Stichera at the Praises

The Annunciation of the Theotokos - March 25

Tone 1

Sedmiezersk Hermitage Chant

Sticheron 1

Model melody: "Joy of the Heavenly Hosts"

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

From the vault of heav - en Ga - bri - el flew down

Detailed description: This system shows the first line of the chant. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and two piano accompaniment staves (Tenor and Bass). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily homophonic, with chords moving in parallel motion. The lyrics are: "From the vault of heav - en Ga - bri - el flew down".

and came to Naz - a - reth; and stand - ing

Detailed description: This system continues the chant. The vocal parts and piano accompaniment continue with the same homophonic texture. The lyrics are: "and came to Naz - a - reth; and stand - ing".

before the Virgin Mary, he cried to her: "Re - joice!

Detailed description: This system continues the chant. The vocal parts and piano accompaniment continue with the same homophonic texture. The lyrics are: "before the Virgin Mary, he cried to her: "Re - joice!".

You shall con - ceive a Son, more an - cient than Ad - am,

Detailed description: This system continues the chant. The vocal parts and piano accompaniment continue with the same homophonic texture. The lyrics are: "You shall con - ceive a Son, more an - cient than Ad - am,".

[the Mak-er of all things . . .]

the Mak - er of all things and the Deliverer of those who

cry to you: // 'Re-joice, O pure Vir - gin!'"

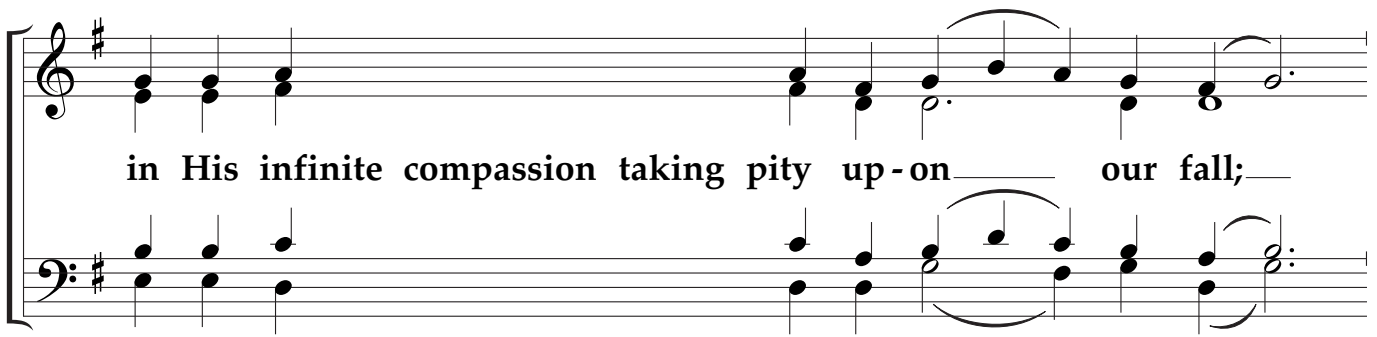
Sticheron 2

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

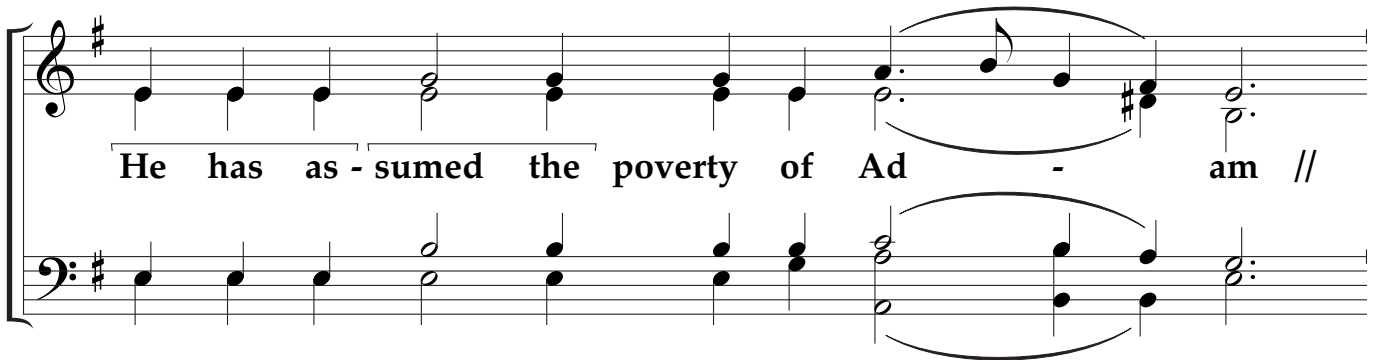
ter - ni - ty with - out being parted from things on

high now has come a - mong those be - low,

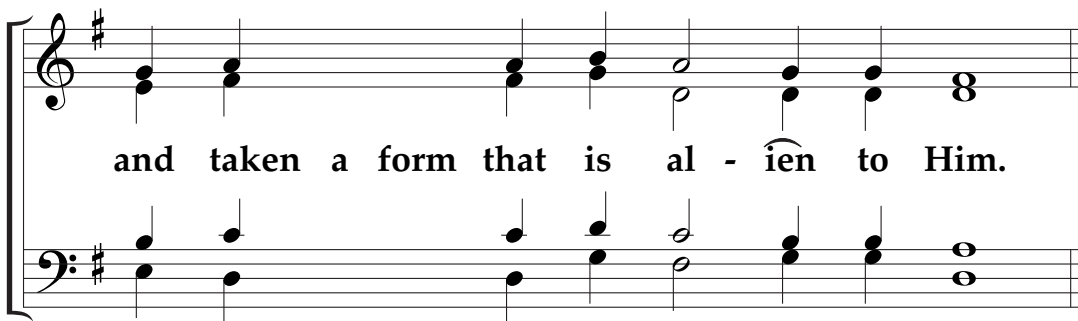
[in His infinite compassion . . .]



in His infinite compassion taking pity up-on our fall;

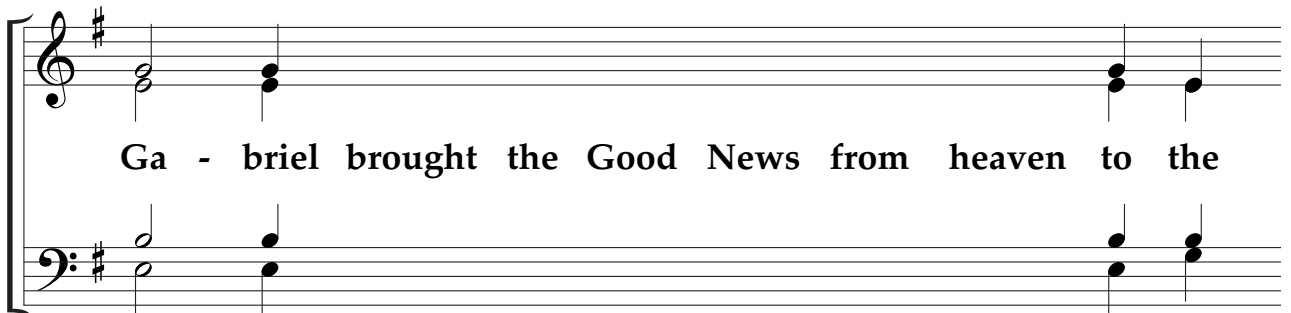


He has as-sumed the poverty of Ad-am //

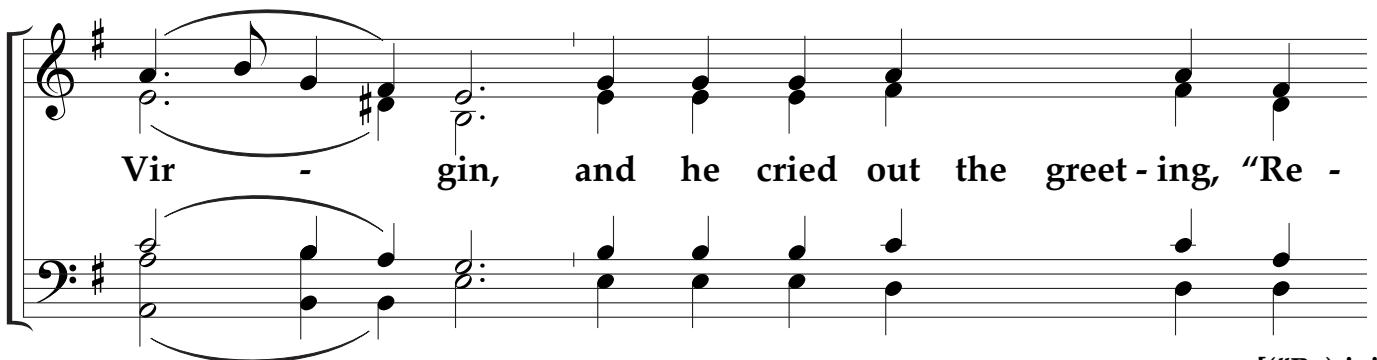


and taken a form that is al-ien to Him.

Sticheron 3



Ga-briel brought the Good News from heaven to the



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

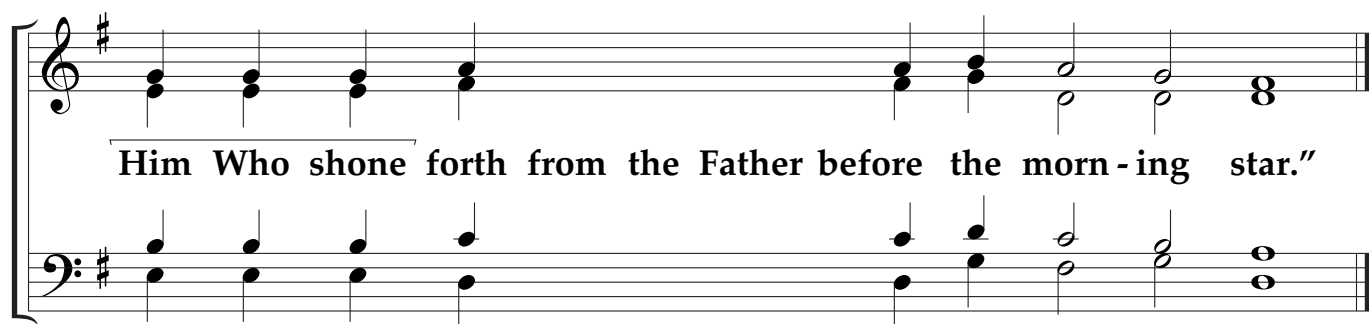
[("Re)-joice!]

joyce! You shall con-ceive Him Who can be con-

tained in you, yet Whom the world can-not con-

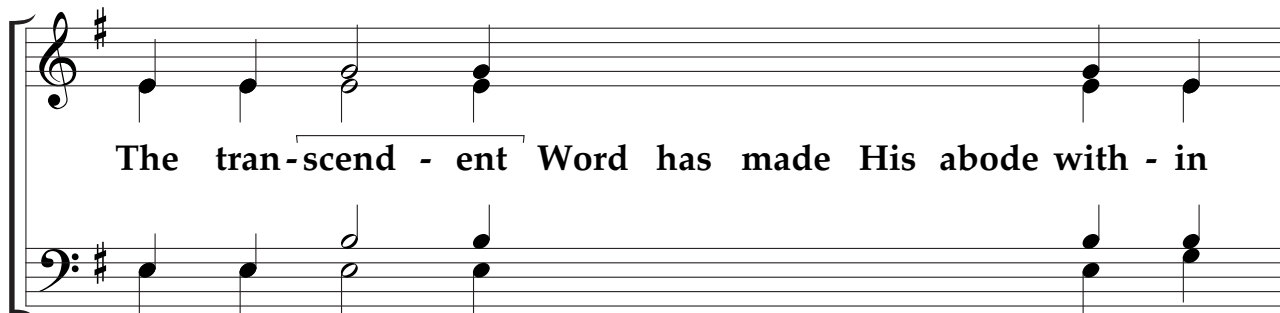


tain; and you shall be seen to bear with-in your womb //



Him Who shone forth from the Father before the morn-ing star."

Sticheron 4



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

[you in the flesh,]

you — in the flesh at the counsel of the Father, O Virgin 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. — Wherefore, with the an - gel we cry out to

you — 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.