

The Nativity of Our Lord

STICHERA APOSTICHA

Common Chant,
arranged from
LVOV-BAKHMETEV

Sticheron 1: Tone 2

Soprano
Alto

(Melody
in Alto)

A great and wondrous mystery un - folds to - day: A vir - gin

Tenor
Bass

gives birth and remains a vir - gin! The Word is made flesh without

leav - ing His Fa - ther! An - gels and shep - herds glo - ri - fy Him!

Let us join in their song: "Glory to God in the high - est,

and on earth, _____ peace!"

Verse in Tone 3.

The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand,

un - til I make Thine en - e - mies Thy foot - stool."

Sticheron 2: Tone 3.

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Mak - er of all! E - den

of - fers a cave. To those in darkness a star re - veals Christ,

the Sun! Wise men are enlightened by faith and

wor - ship with gifts. Shep - herds behold the wonder, and the

an - gels sing: "Glo - ry to God in the High - - est!"

Verse in Tone 3.

Out of the womb before the morn - ing star have I be - got - ten Thee.

Sticheron 3: In the same Tone.

When Jesus the Lord was born in Bethlehem of Ju - dah, Wise men

came from the East to wor - ship God made man. Eagerly opening their

treas - ures, they offered pre - cious gifts to Him:

pur - est gold -- for the King of the a - ges; frank - in - cense

-- for the God of all; myrrh -- for the Im - mor - tal One,

as though He were dead three days. Come, all you nations,

let us wor - ship Him! He is born to save our souls!

"Glory" in the Fourth Tone:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

After "Glory...": Tone 4.

Sing, O Je - ru - sa - lem! Make merry, all who love Zi - on!

To - day Ad - am's an - cient bonds are bro - ken! Par - adise is

o - pened to us! The ser - pent is cast down!

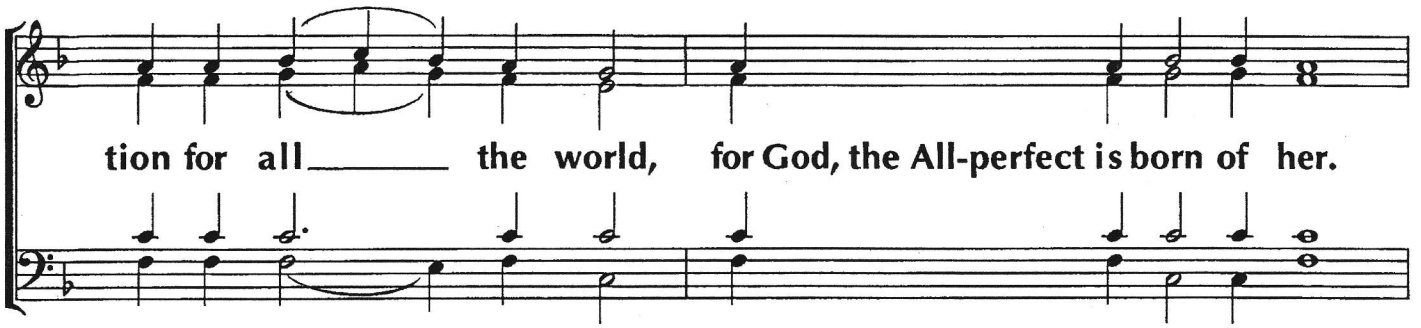
Long ago our first mother was de - ceived by him. Now he sees

a woman become mother of the Cre - a - tor. O the depth

of the riches of the wis - dom and knowl - edge of God!

Through Eve, woman became the tool of sin, bring - ing death

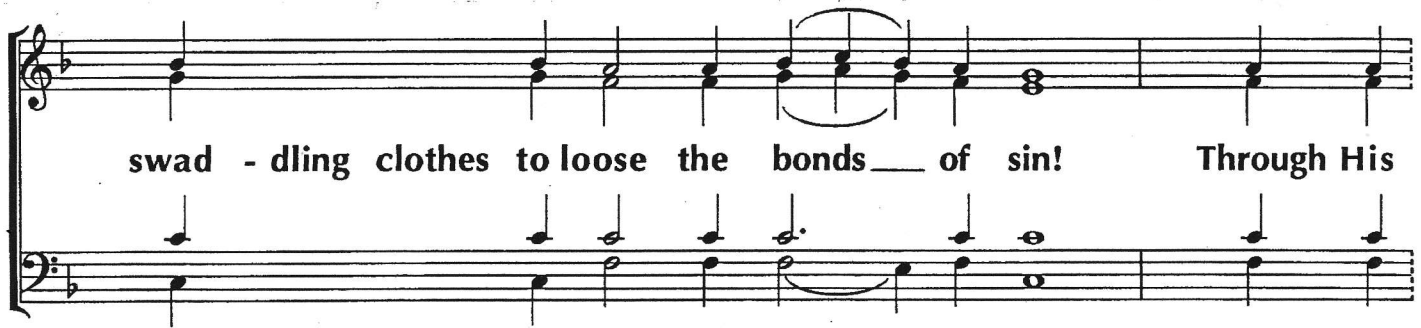
to all flesh; but through Mary, she becomes the first - fruits of sal - va -



tion for all _____ the world, for God, the All-perfect is born of her.



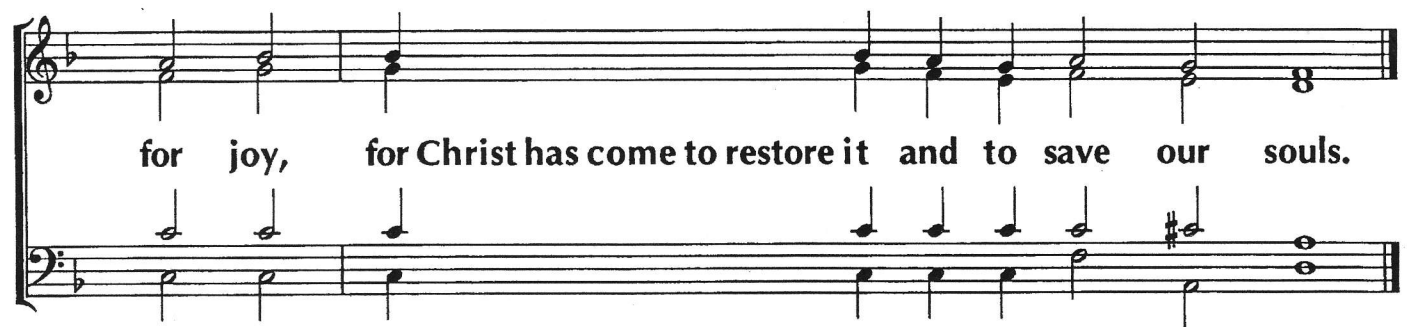
By His birth He seals her vir - gin - i - ty. He is bound in



swad - dling clothes to loose the bonds _____ of sin! Through His



birth, the pains of Eve are healed! Let all creation sing and dance



for joy, for Christ has come to restore it and to save our souls.

"Now and ever" in the same Tone:

Now and ever, and unto a - ges of a - ges. A - men.

After "Now and ever..."; Tone 4.

Thou hast dwelt in a cave, O Christ our God; a man - ger wel - comed

Thee; shep - herds and wise men wor - shipped Thee. Then were the

words of the proph - ets ful - filled, and the hosts of an - gels mar -

velled and cried: "Glory to Thy condescension, O on - ly Lov - er of Man!"