

# Stichera at the Litya

*The Nativity of the Theotokos - September 8*

Tone 1  
Sticheron 1

Kievan Chant  
arr. from B. Ledkovsky

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

The first fruit — of our salvation is accomplished today, O

peo - ples, for be - hold, the Mother and Virgin and

ves - sel of God, fore - or - dained from ancient gener - a - tions,

comes to be born from a bar - ren wom - an. A

[flower from Jesse and . . . ]

flow - er from Jesse and a rod from his root has bud - ded;

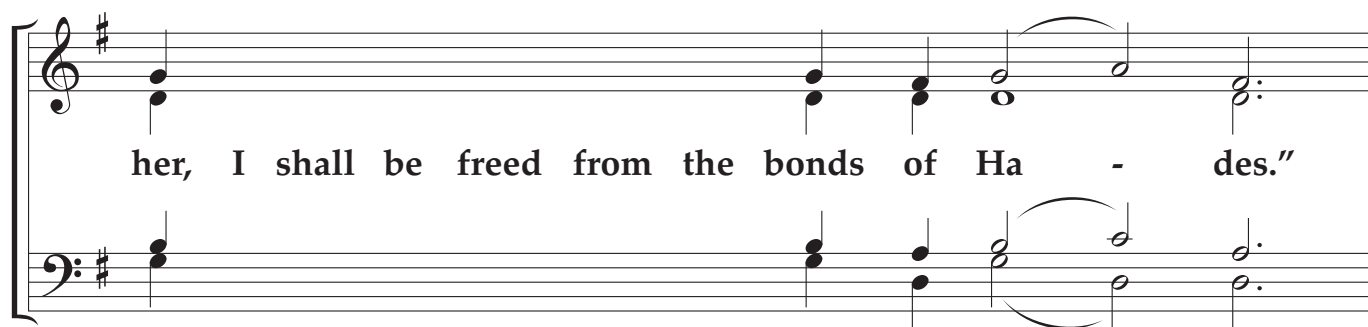
let Adam, our forefather, be glad; let Eve re-joice and de-light,

for be - hold, she who was formed from Ad - am's rib

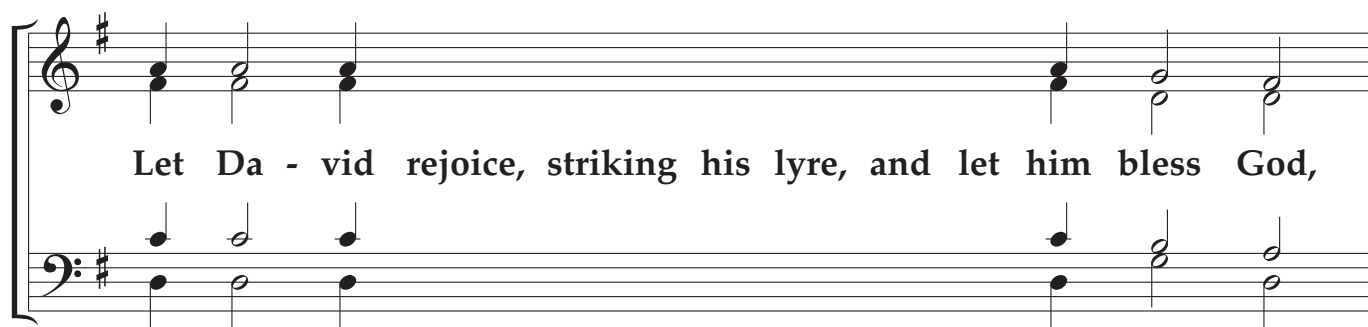
plainly calls her daughter and de - scend - ant bless - ed:

"My de - liv - er - ance has been born," says Eve; "through

[her, I shall be freed . . . ]



her, I shall be freed from the bonds of Ha - des."



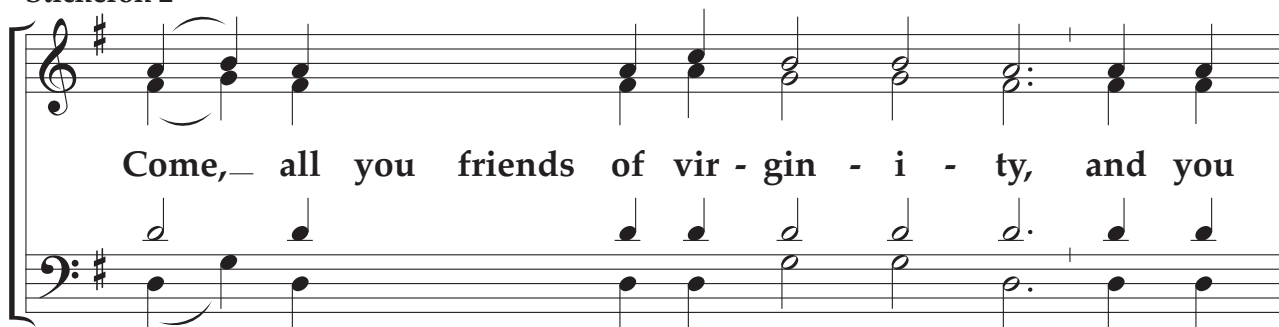
Let Da - vid rejoice, striking his lyre, and let him bless God,

for be - hold, the Virgin comes forth from a bar - ren rock //



for the sal - va - tion of our souls!

Tone 2  
Sticheron 2



Come, - all you friends of vir - gin - i - ty, and you

[lovers of purity; ]

lov - ers of pu - ri - ty; come, and welcome with love the

boast of vir - gins! She is the foun - tain of life that flows

from the sol - id rock; she is the bush that springs

from the bar - ren ground // and burns with the immaterial

fire that cleans - es and en - light - ens our souls.

Sticheron 3

What— is this sound of feast-ing we hear? Joachim and Anna

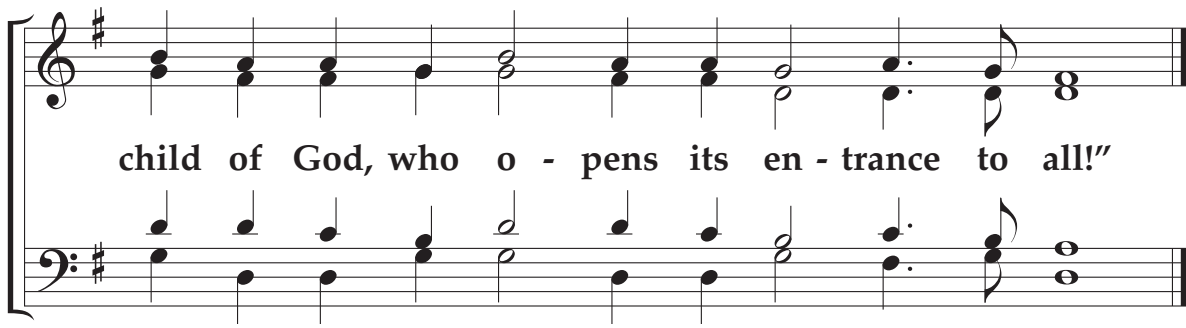
mystically cele - brate, say - ing: "Re - joice with

us today, O Ad - am and Eve; for if by your trans -

gres - sion you closed the gate of Paradise to those— of old,

we have now been given a glor - ious fruit, // Mar - y, the

[child of God, who opens . . .]



child of God, who o - pens its en - trance to all!"

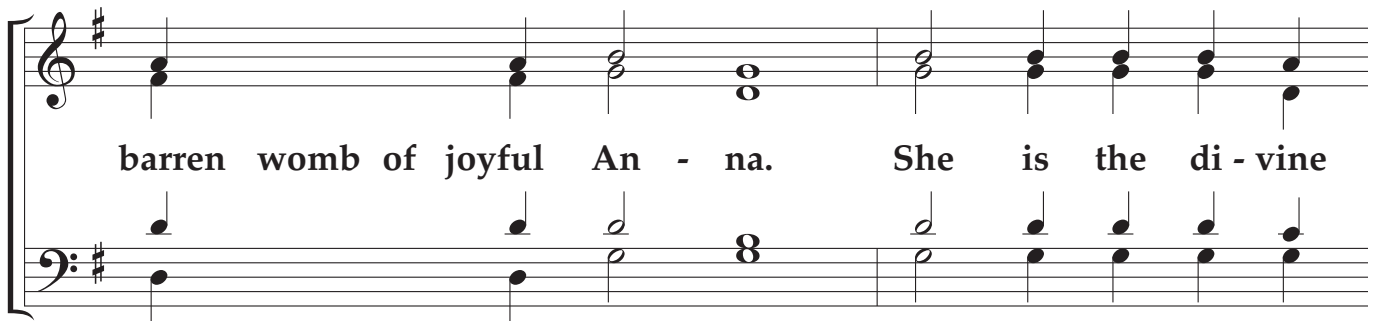
Sticheron 4



She — who was foreor-dained Queen of all and the



hab - i - ta - tion of God, has come forth to - day from the



barren womb of joyful An - na. She is the di - vine



sanctuary of the eternal Es - sence; shameless Hades has been

[trampled down through her, /]

tram - pled down through her, and Eve with all her

race is established se-cure in life. It is meet and right that

we should cry a-loud to her: // "Bless-ed art thou  
are you a-mong

wom-en, and bless - ed is the Fruit of thy  
your womb!"