

# Stichera at "Lord, I call"

Pre-feast of the Annunciation - March 24

Tone 4  
Sticheron 1

Model melody: "As one valiant among martyrs"  
Optina Monastery Melody

The musical score is written for four voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is a model melody from the Optina Monastery. The lyrics are in English and describe the mystery of the Annunciation. The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "The mys - tery hidden from all e - ter - ni - ty, unknown even by the An - gels, is now en - trust - ed to the Arch-an - gel Ga - bri - el. He will come to thee, O precious ves - sel; he will sa -".

Soprano  
Alto  
Tenor  
Bass

The mys - tery hidden from all e - ter - ni - ty,  
unknown even by the An - gels, is now en -  
trust - ed to the Arch-an - gel Ga - bri - el. He will  
come to thee, O precious ves - sel; he will sa -

[(sa)-lute thee and cry out ...]

lute thee and cry out in joy: "Re-joyce, pure dove!

Re-joyce, all - ho - ly one! / Make ready

by thy word // to conceive the Word of God!

Sticheron 2

The palace of light is ready for

Thee, O Master, the womb of the undefiled

[child of God,]

child — of God. Come down — to her; come to vis - it Thy

fall - en world, which is held in bitter slav'ry to the

jeal - ous En - e - my! Many ages have passed since its

beau-ty was de-stroyed. / Make haste to de-scend<sup>5</sup> — to earth, O

Lord! // Come to de - liv - er us from the way — of death!

Sticheron 3

Ga - briel the Arch - an - gel comes to thee,  
O all-blame - less one; — he will greet thee, cry - ing  
out — with joy: "Rejoice, deliv'rance from condem - na -  
tion! Rejoice, chosen ves - sel made per - fect for God!  
Re-joyce, life - bear - ing dawn of the end - less day! /

[The Lord, Whom the heavens . . .]

The Lord, Whom the heav - ens can - not con - tain, // is

pleased — to dwell in — thee!"