

Stichera at "Lord, I Call"

Beheading of the Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John - August 29

Tone 6
Sticheron 1

Russian Imperial Court Chant
arr. from L'vov/Bakhmetev

Soprano
Alto

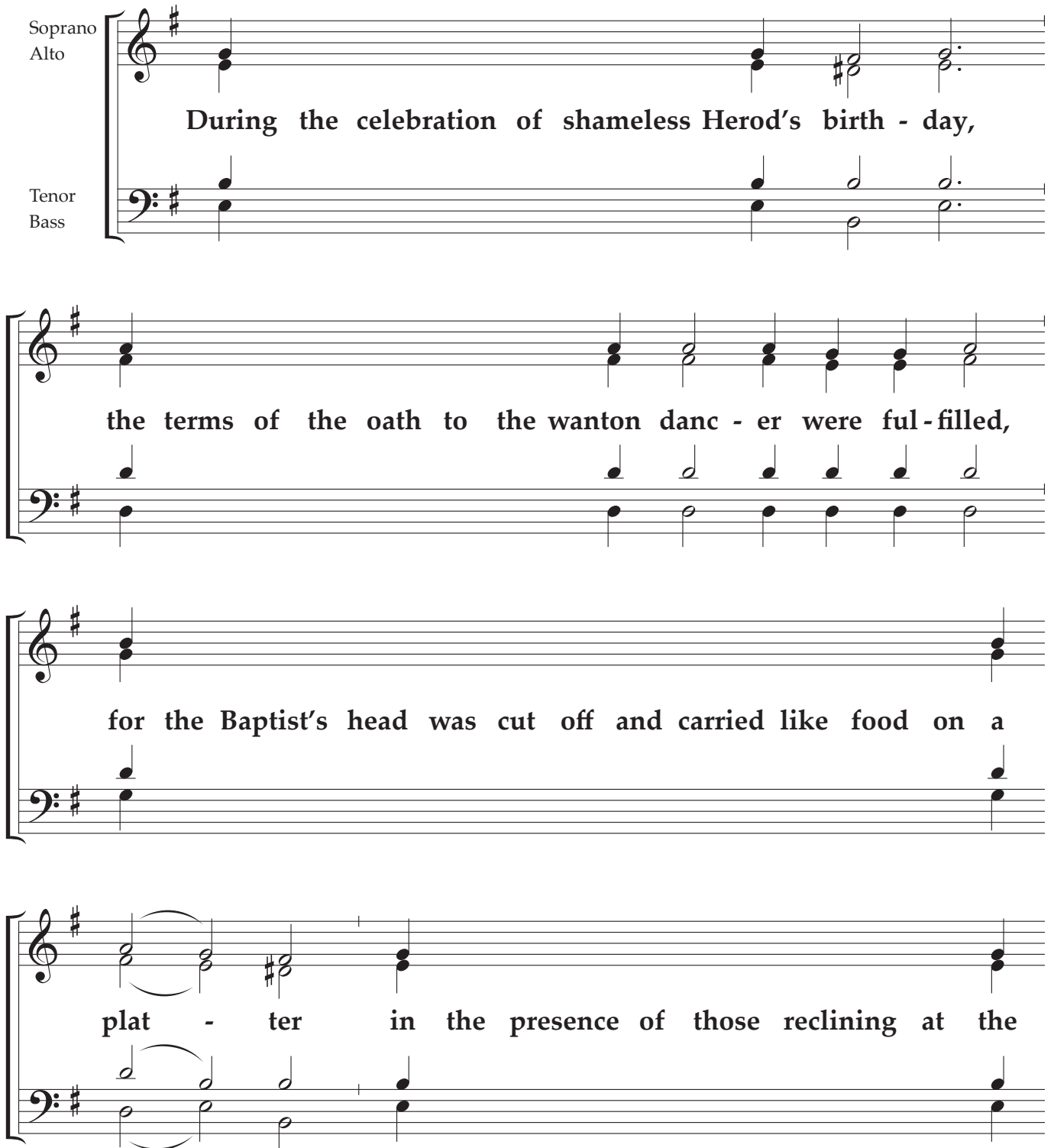
Tenor
Bass

During the celebration of shameless Herod's birth - day,

the terms of the oath to the wanton danc - er were ful - filled,

for the Baptist's head was cut off and carried like food on a

plat - ter in the presence of those reclining at the



[loathsome ban-quet.]

loath-some ban - quet. Truly they feasted on wickedness and

mur - der. But let us bless the Fore - runner as is his

due, // and honor him as the greatest born of wom - en!

Sticheron 2

The dance of the devil's dis - ci - ple was rewarded with

your head, O Fore - run - ner. Oh, ban-quet of blood! Would that

[you had never sworn, . . .]

you had never sworn, deceitful Her - od! Better that you lie

than shed right-eous blood! But let us bless the Bap - tist as is his

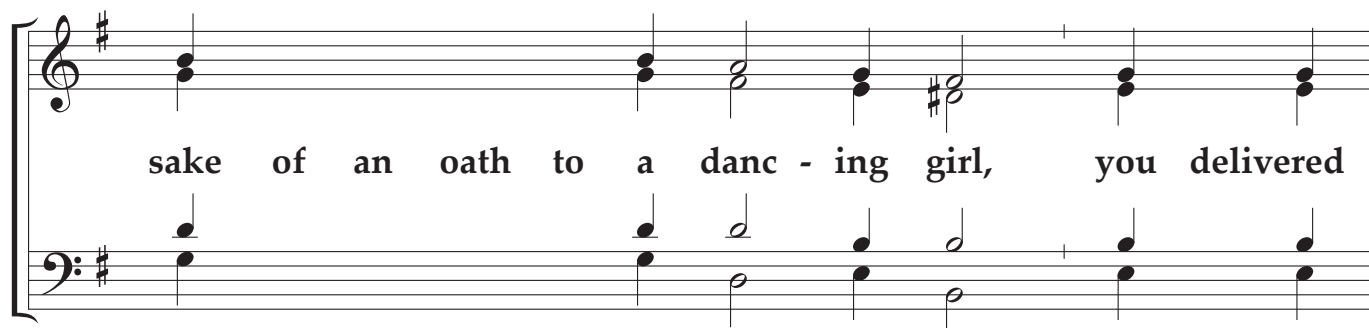
due, // and honor him as the greatest born of wom - en!

Sticheron 3

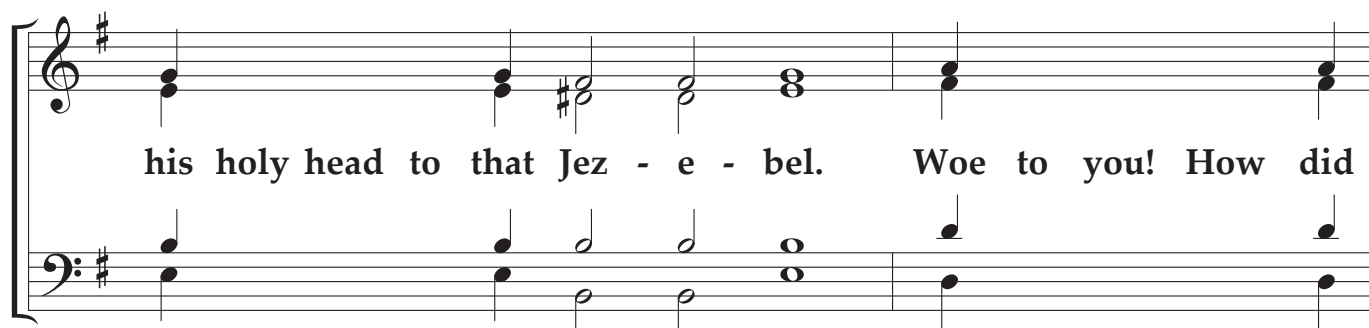
In demonic love and fiery passion, O Her - od, you

condemned him who reproved your a - dul - ter - y. For the

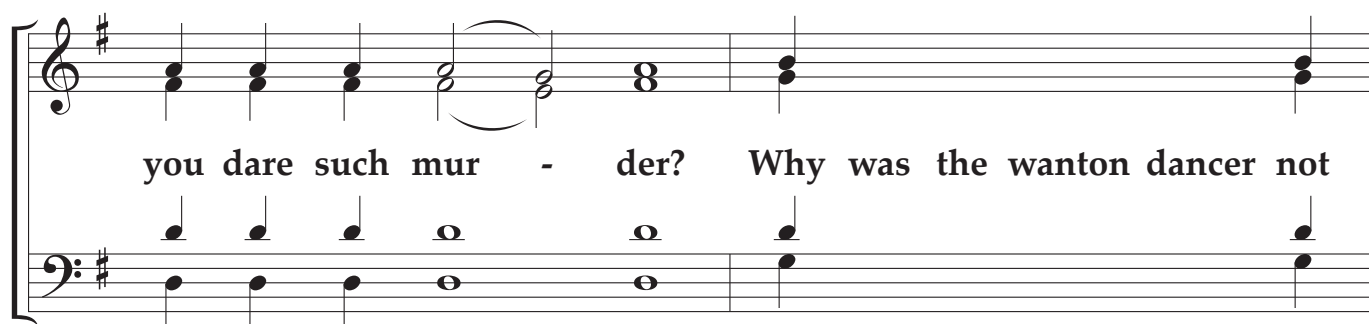
[sake of an oath . . .]



sake of an oath to a danc - ing girl, you delivered



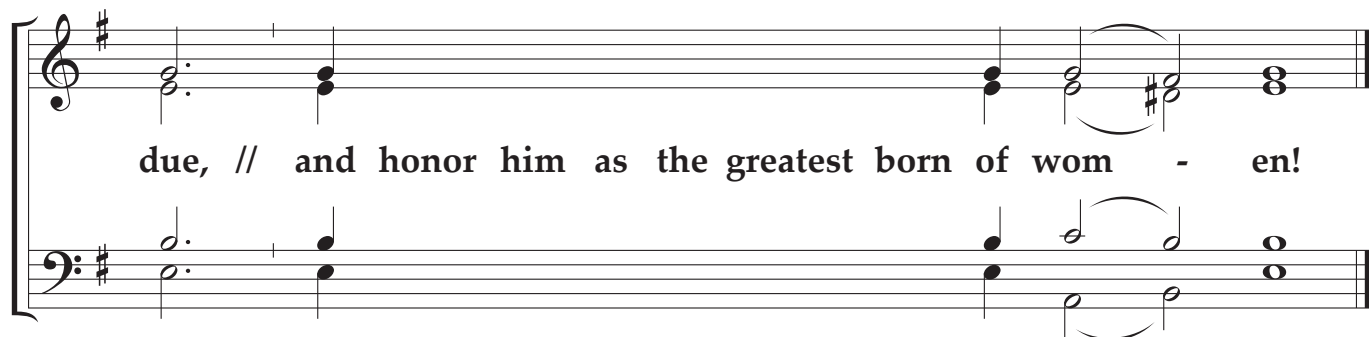
his holy head to that Jez - e - bel. Woe to you! How did



you dare such mur - der? Why was the wanton dancer not



con-sumed by fire? But let us bless the Bap - tist as is his



due, // and honor him as the greatest born of wom - en!

Sticheron 4

Again Heródias raves with rag - ing lust. Oh, dance of deceit

and feast of mur - der! The Baptist is beheaded, and Herod

is trou - bled. // Through the prayers of Your Forerunner,

O Lord, grant peace to our souls!