

Stichera at the Litya

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

Tone 1
Sticheron 1

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

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

What shall we call thee, O Proph - et? Angel, apostle,

mar - tyr? An - gel, for thou hast spent thy life like those

who have no bod - y; apostle, for thou hast taught the

na - tions; and mar - tyr, for thy head has been

[cut off for the sake . . .]

cut off for the sake of Christ. // Pray to Him then that our

The first system of the Sticheron consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords and a whole note with a fermata. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature, also containing a series of chords and a whole note with a fermata. The lyrics are written between the staves.

souls may be granted great mer - cy!

The second system continues the musical notation. The upper staff ends with a whole note and a fermata. The lower staff also ends with a whole note and a fermata. The lyrics continue between the staves.

Sticheron 2

Let us cel - ebrate the memorial of the beheading of the

The first system of Sticheron 2 consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. It contains a series of chords and a whole note with a fermata. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature, also containing a series of chords and a whole note with a fermata. The lyrics are written between the staves.

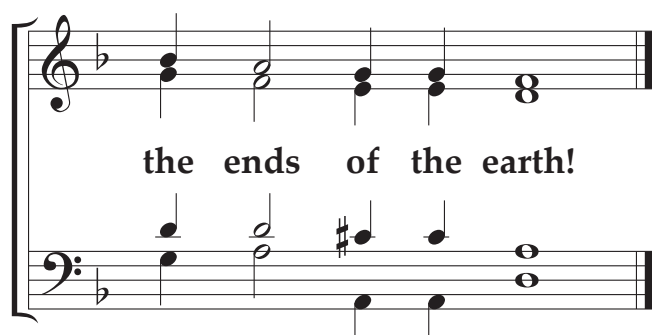
Fore - run-ner; at that time thou didst gush forth blood upon

The second system continues the musical notation. The upper staff ends with a whole note and a fermata. The lower staff also ends with a whole note and a fermata. The lyrics continue between the staves.

the plat - ter, // and now thou pourest forth healing to

The third system continues the musical notation. The upper staff ends with a whole note and a fermata. The lower staff also ends with a whole note and a fermata. The lyrics continue between the staves.

[the ends of the earth!]

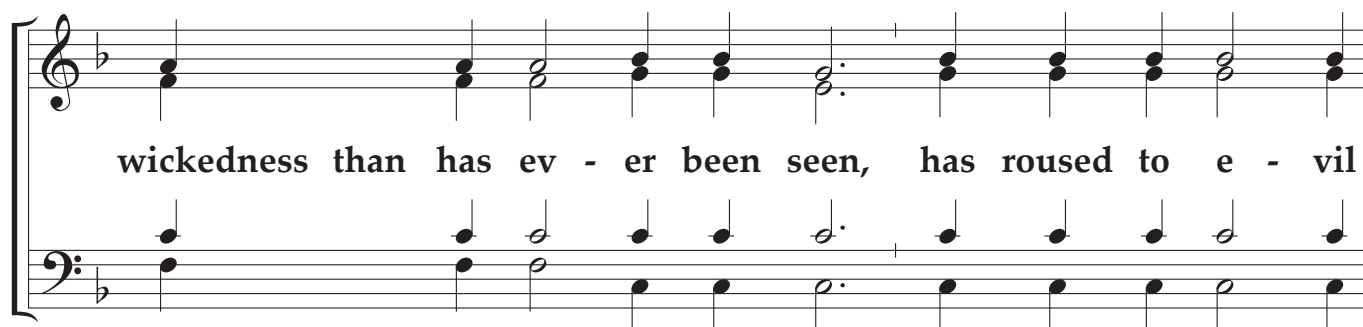


the ends of the earth!

Sticheron 3



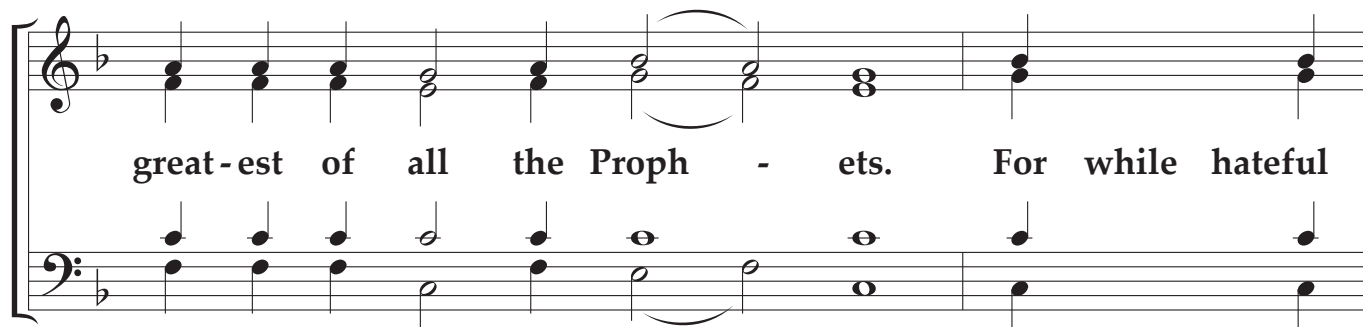
To - day the moth - er of mur - der, acting with more



wickedness than has ev - er been seen, has roused to e - vil

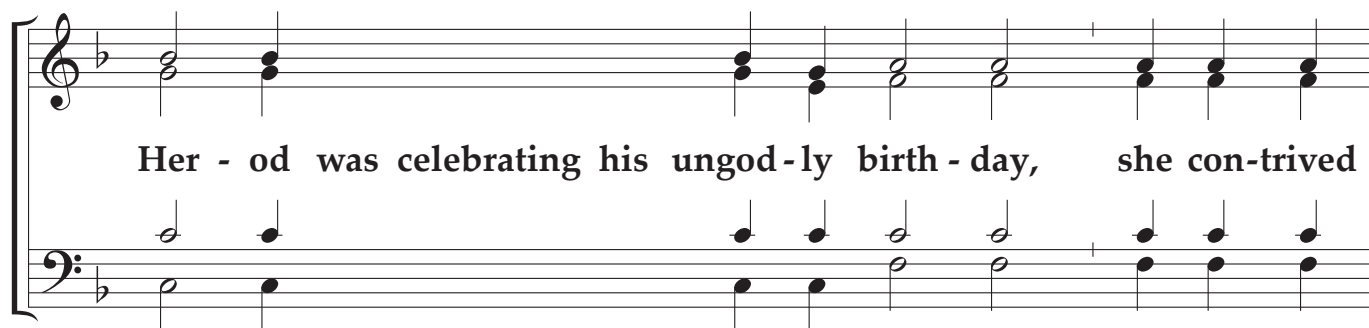


her utterly wanton daugh - ter against the divinely - chosen and

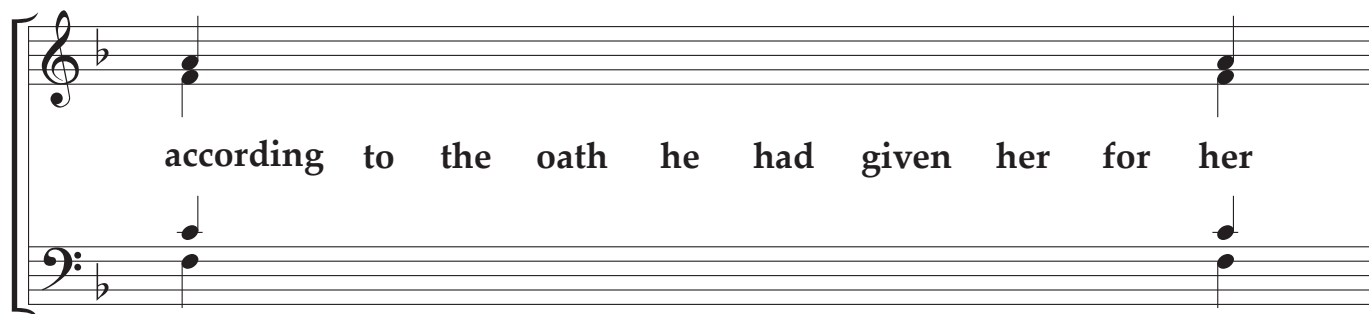


great - est of all the Proph - ets. For while hateful

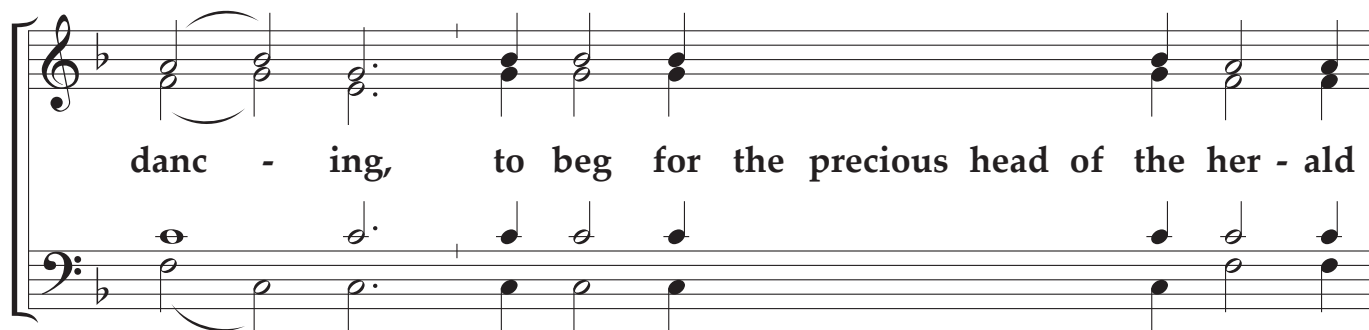
[Her-od was celebrating . . .]



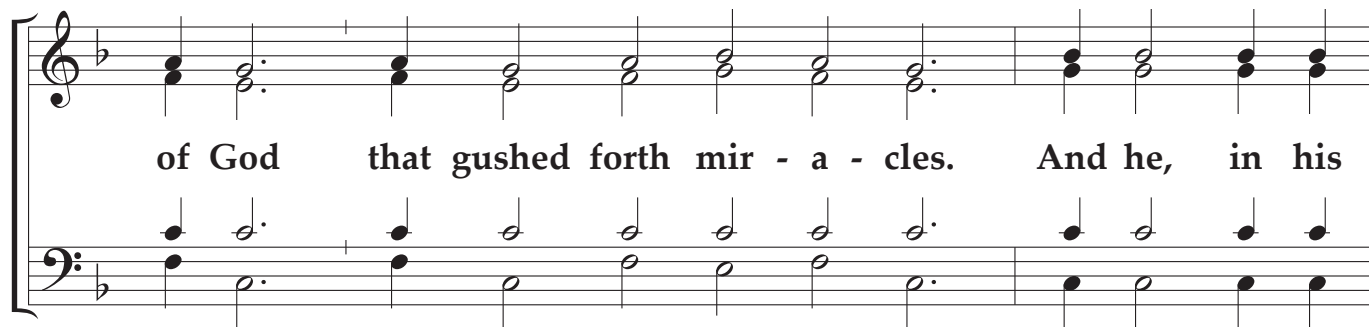
Her - od was celebrating his ungod - ly birth - day, she con-trived



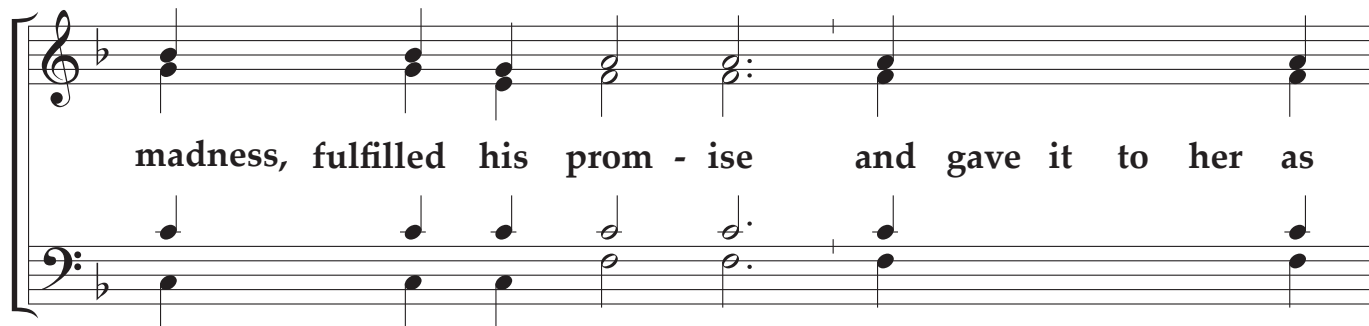
according to the oath he had given her for her



danc - ing, to beg for the precious head of the her - ald

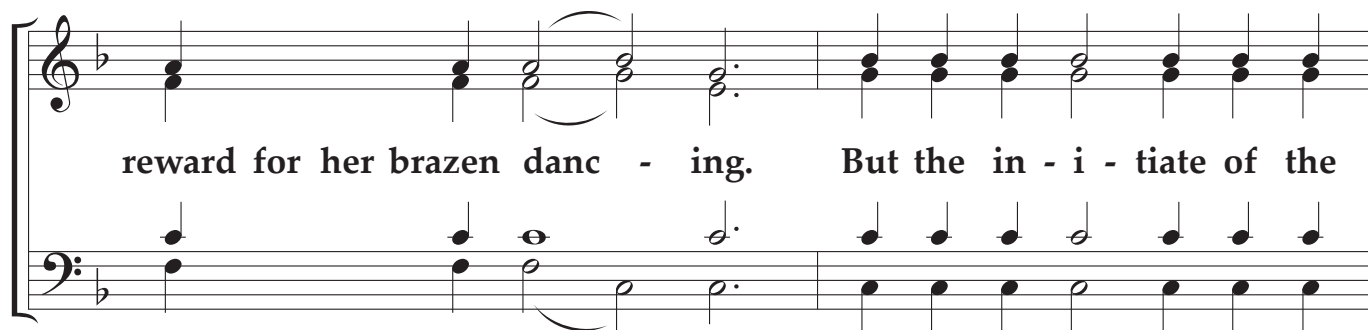


of God that gushed forth mir - a - cles. And he, in his

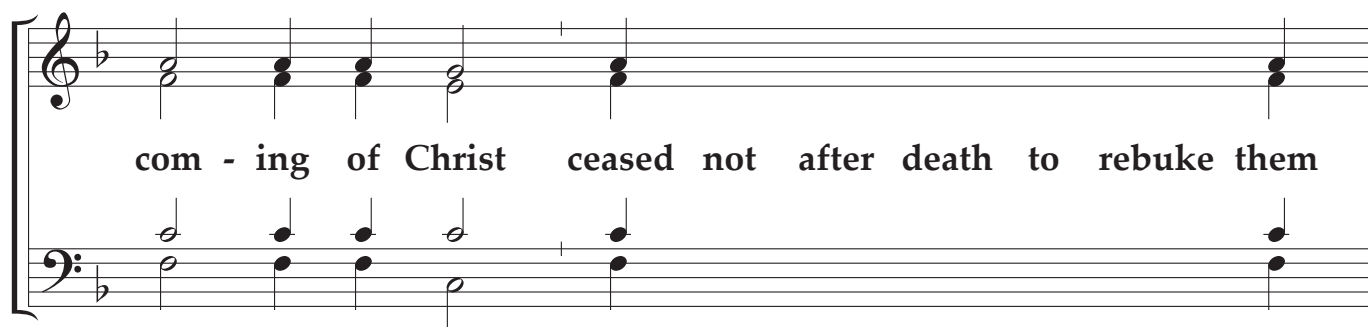


madness, fulfilled his prom - ise and gave it to her as

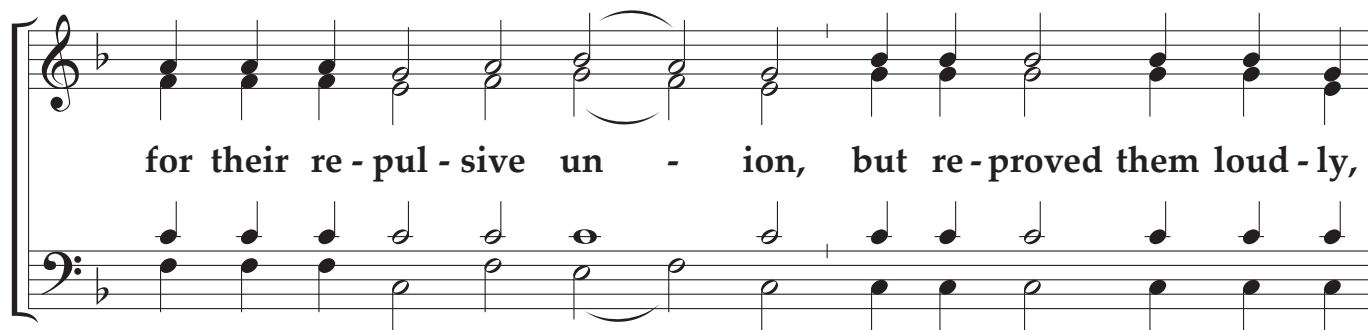
[reward for her brazen danc-ing.]



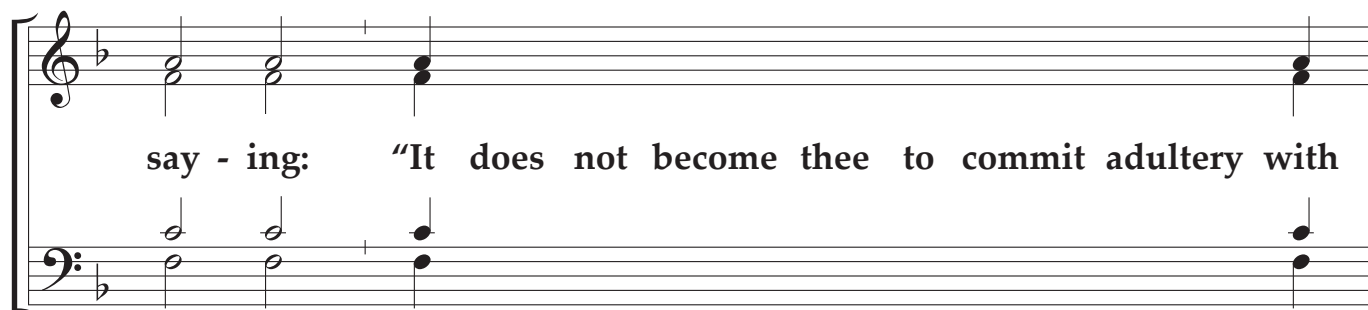
reward for her brazen danc - ing. But the in - i - tiate of the



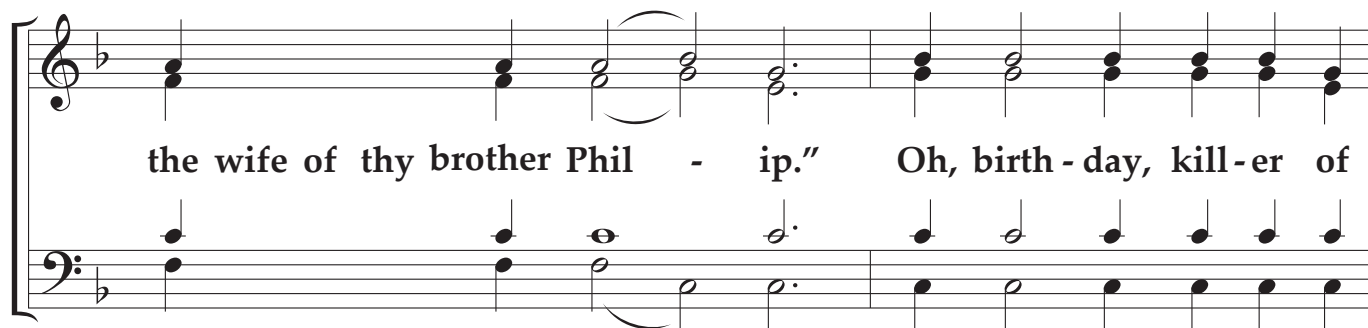
com - ing of Christ ceased not after death to rebuke them



for their re - pul - sive un - ion, but re - proved them loud - ly,

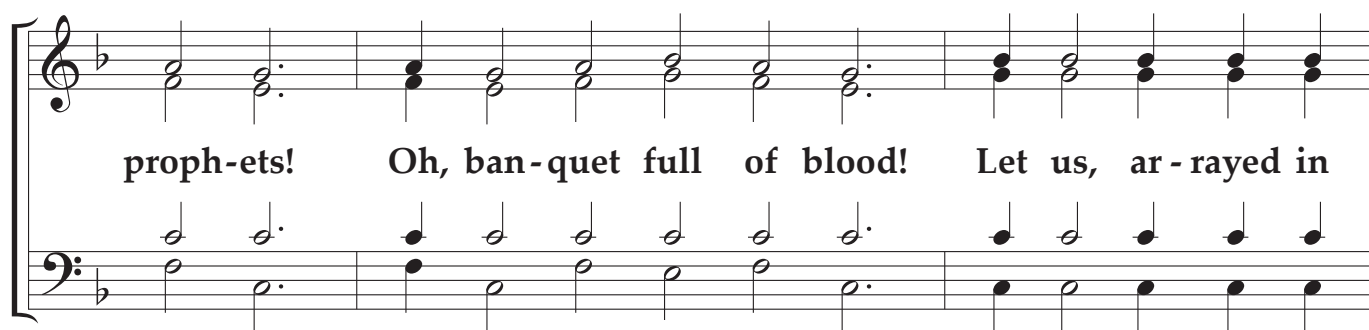


say - ing: "It does not become thee to commit adultery with

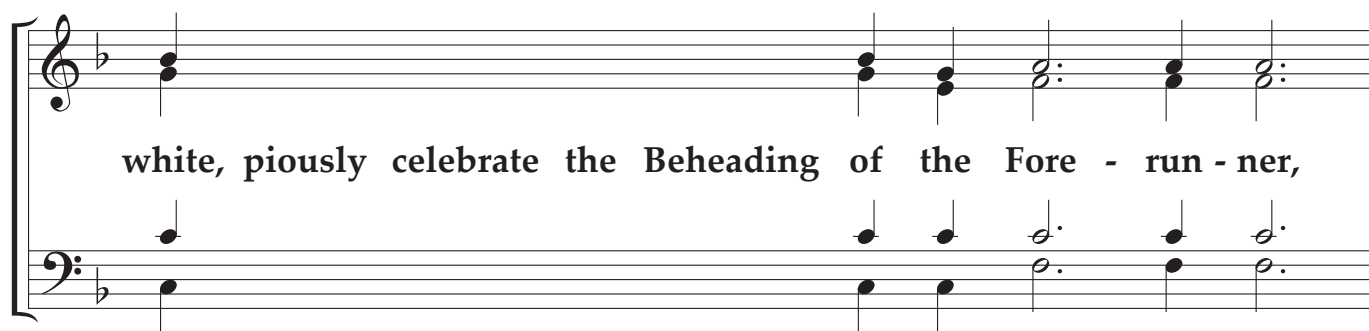


the wife of thy brother Phil - ip." Oh, birth - day, kill - er of

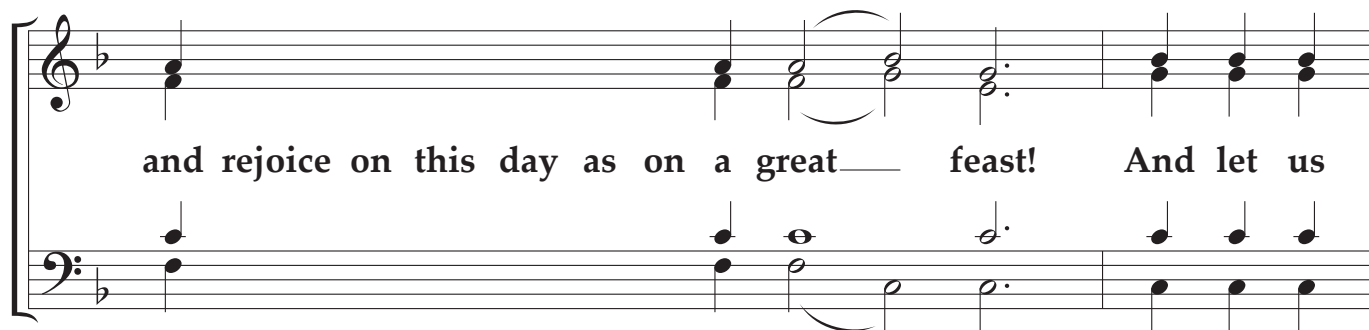
[proph-ets!]



proph-ets! Oh, ban-quet full of blood! Let us, ar-rayed in



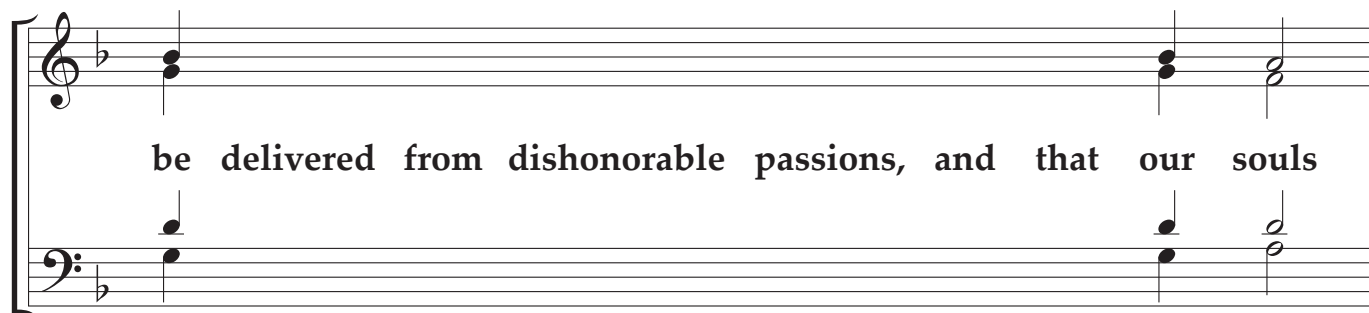
white, piously celebrate the Beheading of the Fore-run-ner,



and rejoice on this day as on a great feast! And let us



ask the Forerunner to beseech the Trin-i-ty for us, // that we



be delivered from dishonorable passions, and that our souls

[be saved!]

be saved!

This block contains a short musical phrase in G major, 4/4 time. The treble clef staff has a half note G4 and a whole note G4. The bass clef staff has a half note G2 and a whole note G2. The lyrics 'be saved!' are written below the notes.

Tone 4
Sticheron 4

Herod's birthday celebration was a lawless and shame-ful feast,

This block contains the first line of the Sticheron. The treble clef staff has a half note G4, a whole note G4, a half note G4, and a whole note G4. The bass clef staff has a half note G2, a whole note G2, a half note G2, and a whole note G2. The lyrics 'Herod's birthday celebration was a lawless and shame-ful feast,' are written below the notes.

for, spellbound by feminine li - cen - tious-ness and strick - en with

This block contains the second line of the Sticheron. The treble clef staff has a half note G4, a whole note G4, a half note G4, and a whole note G4. The bass clef staff has a half note G2, a whole note G2, a half note G2, and a whole note G2. The lyrics 'for, spellbound by feminine li - cen - tious-ness and strick - en with' are written below the notes.

madness by a woman's wan - ton - ness, he cut off the head of

This block contains the third line of the Sticheron. The treble clef staff has a half note G4, a whole note G4, a half note G4, and a whole note G4. The bass clef staff has a half note G2, a whole note G2, a half note G2, and a whole note G2. The lyrics 'madness by a woman's wan - ton - ness, he cut off the head of' are written below the notes.

the Fore - run - ner; but he did not cut out the Prophet's tongue,

This block contains the fourth line of the Sticheron. The treble clef staff has a half note G4, a whole note G4, a half note G4, and a whole note G4. The bass clef staff has a half note G2, a whole note G2, a half note G2, and a whole note G2. The lyrics 'the Fore - run - ner; but he did not cut out the Prophet's tongue,' are written below the notes.

[which had de-nounced ...]

which had de-nounced his fool - ish-ness. Spilling innocent blood,

he wished to conceal a law - less sin; but he could not

stop the voice of one who called all to re - pent - ance.

He joined in taking de-light in mur - der, but let us

join in celebrating with love the blessed slaying of John

the Bap - tist; for he was in hell in antici - pa - tion

to proclaim to those who sat in darkness and in the

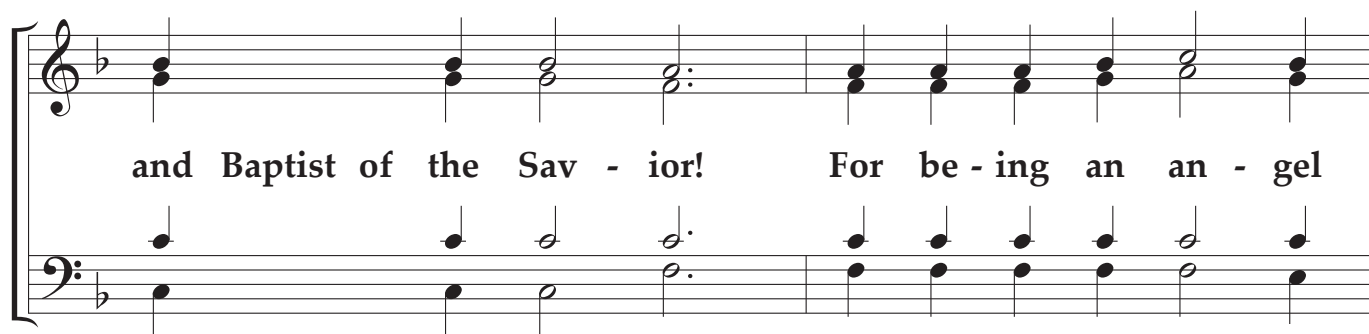
shad - ow of death the Life, the Day-spring from on high, //

Christ our God, Who alone is rich in mer - cy.

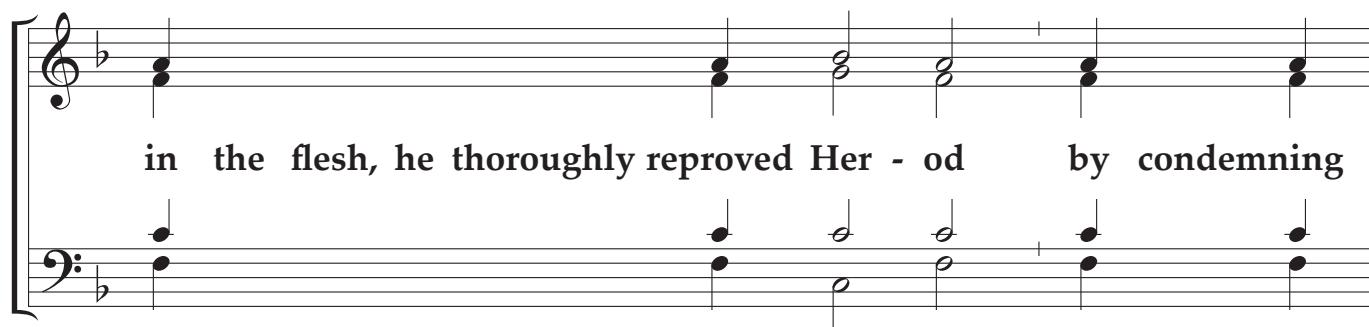
Sticheron 5

Come, O peo - ple, let us praise the Prophet and Martyr

[and Baptist of the Sav-ior!]



and Baptist of the Sav - ior! For be - ing an an - gel



in the flesh, he thoroughly reproved Her - od by condemning



his act of unlawful a - dul - ter - y; and through the impious dance,



he endured the cutting off of his pre - cious head, that



he might pro-claim to those in hell the good news of the Resur -

rec - tion from the dead; // and he earnestly intercedes with the

Lord, that our souls may be saved.

Sticheron 6

Come, O faith - ful, let us praise the Prophet, and Martyr,

and Baptist of the Sav - ior! Liv - ing in ex - ile, he dwelt in

the wil - der - ness, eating wild honey and lo - custs; and he

[reproved the king ...]

re-proved the king who trans - gressed — the Law. But he

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). It contains a series of chords and single notes, with a slur over the final two measures. The bass staff contains a series of single notes, with a slur under the final two measures. The lyrics are written below the staves.

comforted our faintheartedness by say - ing: // "Re - pent, for

The second system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). It contains a series of chords and single notes, with a repeat sign (double bar line with dots) after the first measure. The bass staff contains a series of single notes, with a repeat sign (double bar line with dots) after the first measure. The lyrics are written below the staves.

the King-dom of Heav - en is at hand!"

The third system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). It contains a series of chords and single notes, ending with a double bar line. The bass staff contains a series of single notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the staves.