Revealing to you the pre-etal coun sel, Gabriel came and stood before you, O Maid en, and greeting you, he said:

"Rejoice, earth that has not been sown! Rejoice, burning bush that remains unconsumed! Re joice, un-search - a - ble depth! "
Rejoice, bridge that leads to Heaven! Rejoice, ladder raised on high

that Jacob saw! Rejoice, divine jar of manna! Rejoice,

de-liv-erance from the curse! Rejoice, restoration of Adam;

the Lord is with you!"

“You appear to me in the form of a man,” said the undefiled
Maid to the chief of the Heavenly Hosts. “How then do you speak to me of things that pass man’s power? You have said that God shall be with me and shall take up His dwelling in my womb.

How shall I become the spacious habitation and the holy place of Him Who rides upon the Cherubim? Do not deceive me.
with trick-ery; for I have not known plea-sure, I have not entered into wedlock.// How then shall I bear a Child?"

Then the bodiless Angel replied: "When God so wills, the order of nature is over-come, and what is beyond man comes to pass.

Believe that my say-ings are true, O all-holy and immaculate
Lady!” And she cried aloud: “Let it be to me according to your word, and I shall bear Him Who is without flesh! He shall borrow flesh from me, that through this mingling He may lead mankind up to its ancient glory, for He alone has power so to do.”