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

for behold, the Mother and Virgin and vessel of God, foreordained

from ancient generations, comes to be born from a barren woman.

A flower from Jesse and a rod from his root has budded;
let Adam, our forefather, be glad, and Eve rejoice and delight, for behold, she who was formed from Adam's rib plainly calls her daughter and descendant blessed: “My deliverance has been born,” says Eve; “through her, I shall be freed from the bonds of Hades.”

Let David rejoice, striking his lyre, and let him bless God, for behold,
the Virgin comes forth from a barren rock // for the salvation of our souls!

Come, all you friends of virginity, and lovers of purity; come, and welcome with love the boast of virginity! She is the fountain of life that flows from the
solid rock; she is the bush that springs from the barren ground //

and burns with the immaterial fire that cleanses and enlightens our souls.

by Anatolios

What is this sound of feasting we hear? Joachim and Anna

mystically celebrate, saying: "Rejoice with us today, O Adam

and Eve; for if by your transgression you closed the gate of
Paradise to those of old, we have now been given a glorious fruit, //

Mary, the child of God, who opens its entrance to all!"

She who was foreordained Queen of all and the habitation of God, has come forth today from the barren womb of joyful Anna.

She is the divine sanctuary of the eternal Essence; shameless
Hades has been tram-pled down through her, and Eve with all her race is established se-cure in life. It is fit-ting and right that we should cry a-loud to her: // "Bless-ed are you a-mong wom-en, and bless-ed is the Fruit of your womb!"
Let us strike our spiritual harp on this solemn day of our feast, for today, from the seed of David, the Mother of Life is born, dispelling the darkness. She is the recreation of Adam, and the recalling of Eve. She is the source of incorruption

vs. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
and our release from corruption. In her we are made divine

and are given life. Through her we have been deified and delivered from death. So let us, the faithful, cry out to her with Gabriel:

“Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, granting us His great mercy through you!”