

June 24: Nativity of the Forerunner
Stichera on the Praises
Tone 8, Special Melody "O most glorious wonder..."
Optina Hermitage Melody

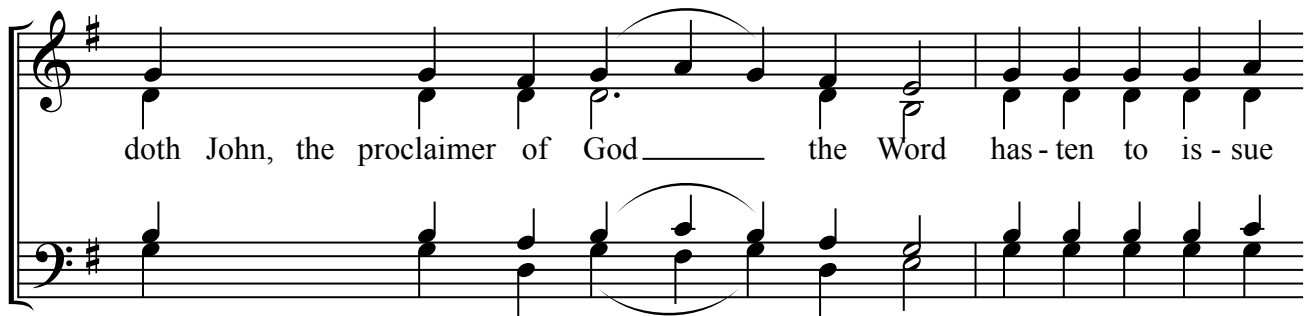
(4) *Reader:* Praise Him for His mighty acts,



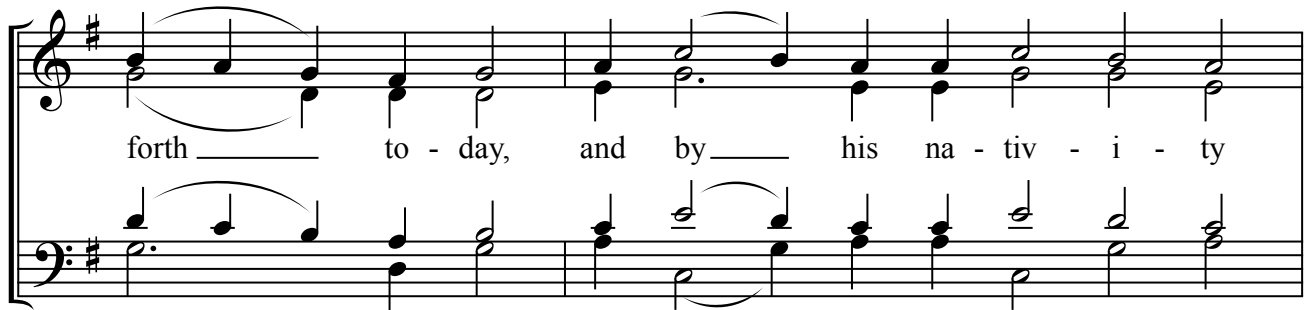
Praise Him according to the mul - ti - tude of His great - ness.



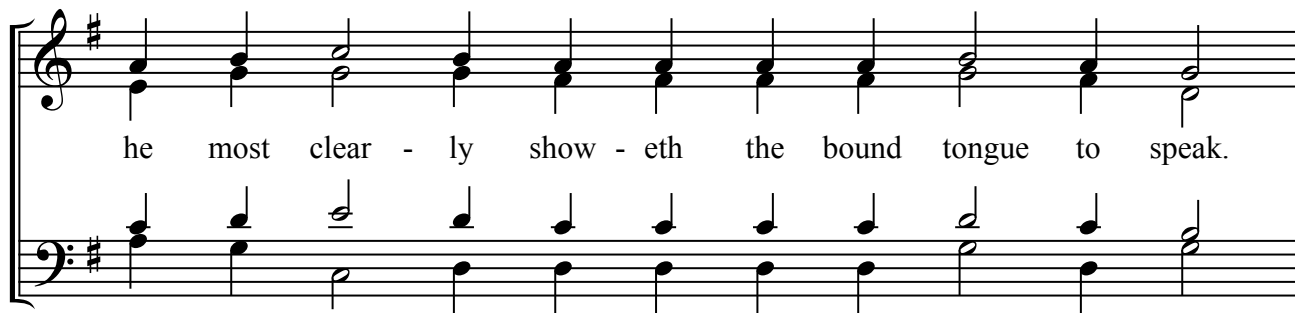
O all-glo - ri - ous won - der! From a mo - ther ad - vanced in age



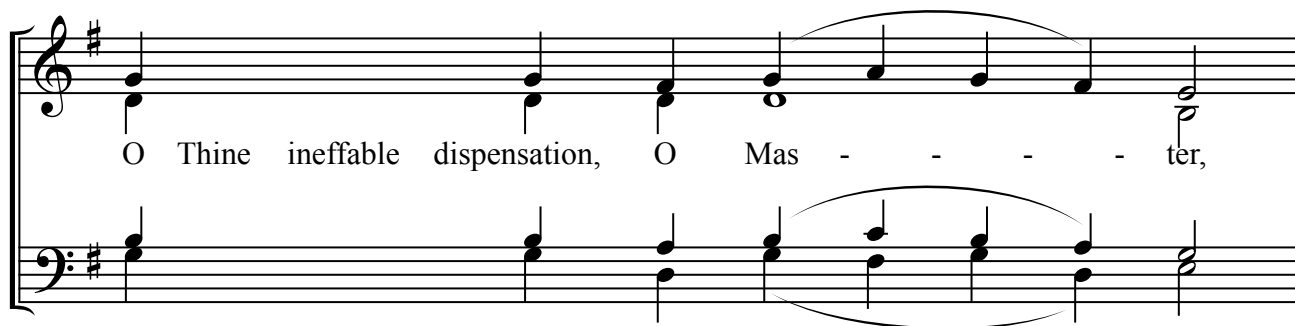
doth John, the proclaimer of God the Word has - ten to is - sue



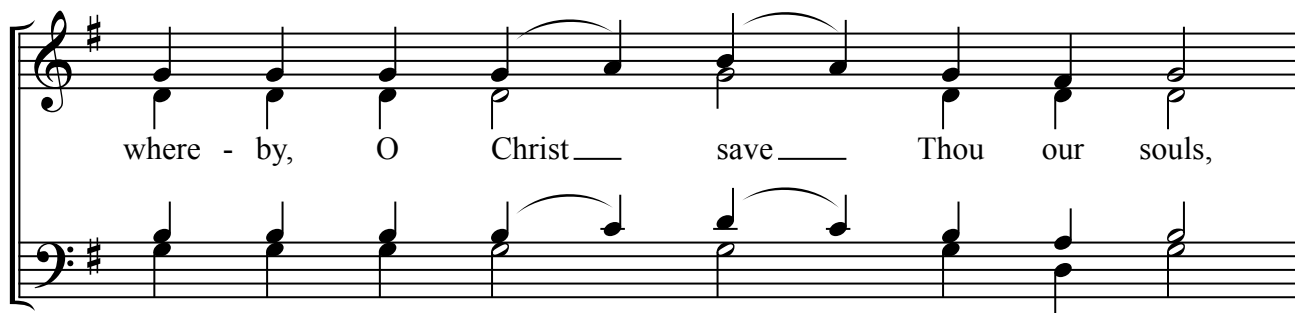
forth to - day, and by his na - tiv - i - ty



he most clear - ly show - eth the bound tongue to speak.



O Thine ineffable dispensation, O Mas - - - - ter,

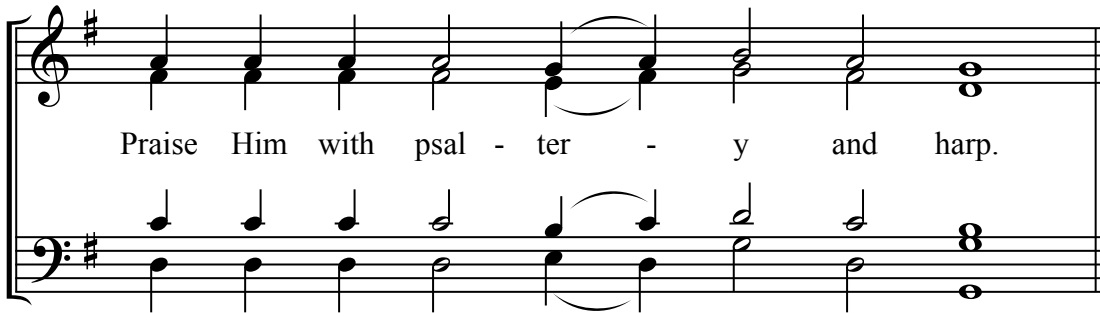


where - by, O Christ___ save___ Thou our souls,



in that thou a - lone art mer - - - ci - ful.

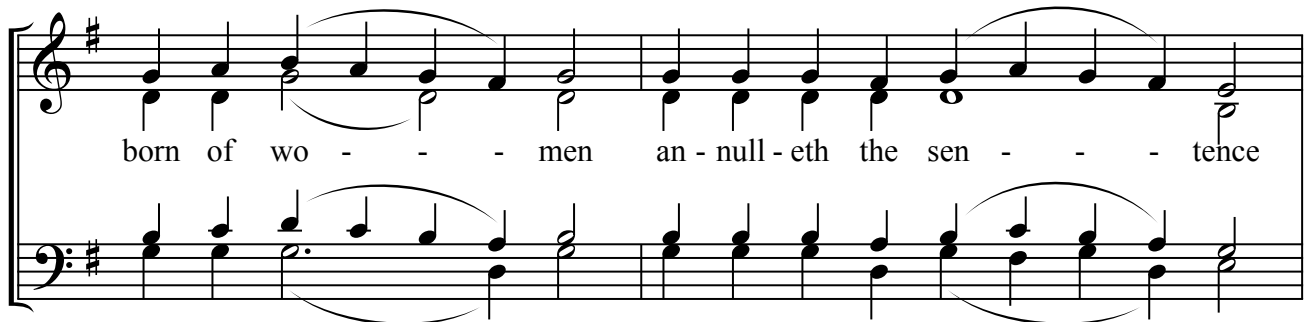
(3) *Reader:* Praise Him with the sound of trumpet,



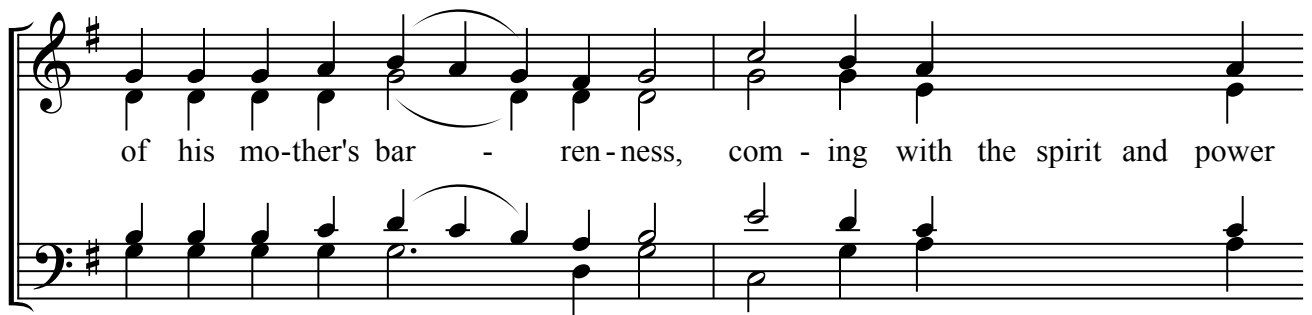
Praise Him with psal - ter - y and harp.



O all - glo - ri - ous won - - - der! The prophet who is the greatest



born of wo - - - men an - null - eth the sen - - - tence



of his mo-ther's bar - ren-ness, com - ing with the spirit and power

of Elijah /

of E - li - jah to make straight the way of the Lord.

O thine ineffable loving-kindness, O Mas - - - - ter,

where - by, O Christ save Thou our souls,

in that thou a - lone art mer - - - ci - ful.

(2) *Reader:* Praise Him with timbrel and dance,

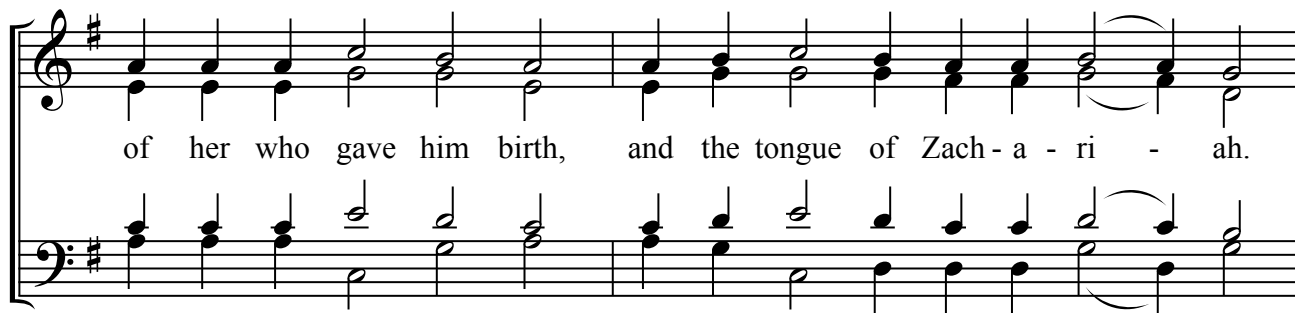
Praise Him with strings and flute.

O all-glorious wonder! He Who preached to men the

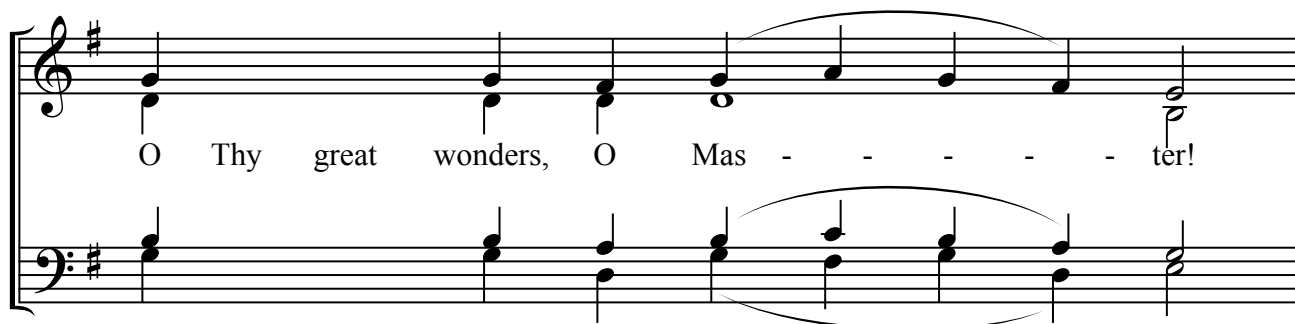
con-descention of Christ with his voice doth indicate

Him Who transcendeth all, and with power divine looseth the barrenness

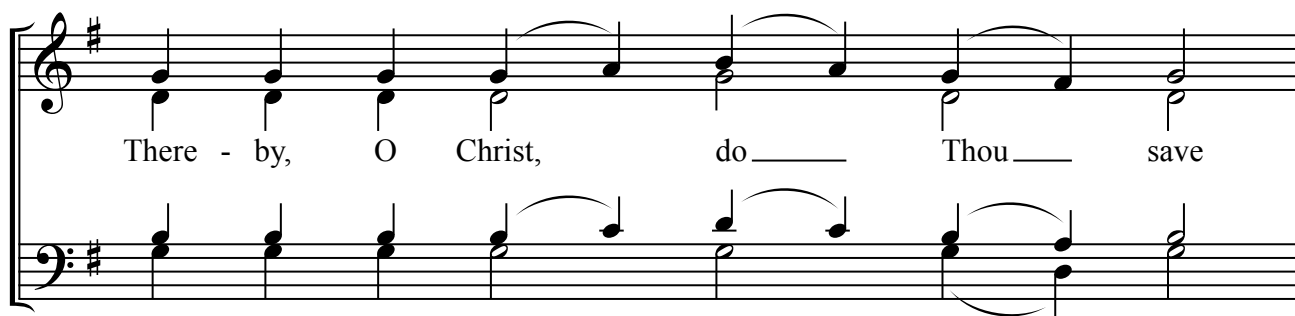
of her who gave him birth /



of her who gave him birth, and the tongue of Zach - a - ri - ah.



O Thy great wonders, O Mas - - - - - ter!

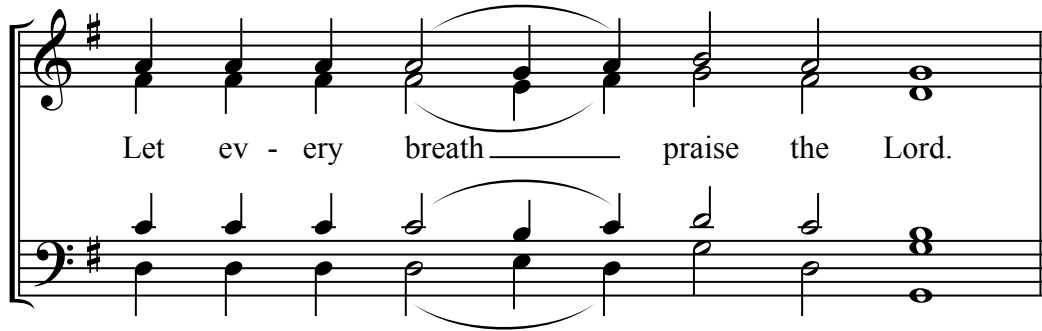


There - by, O Christ, do _____ Thou _____ save

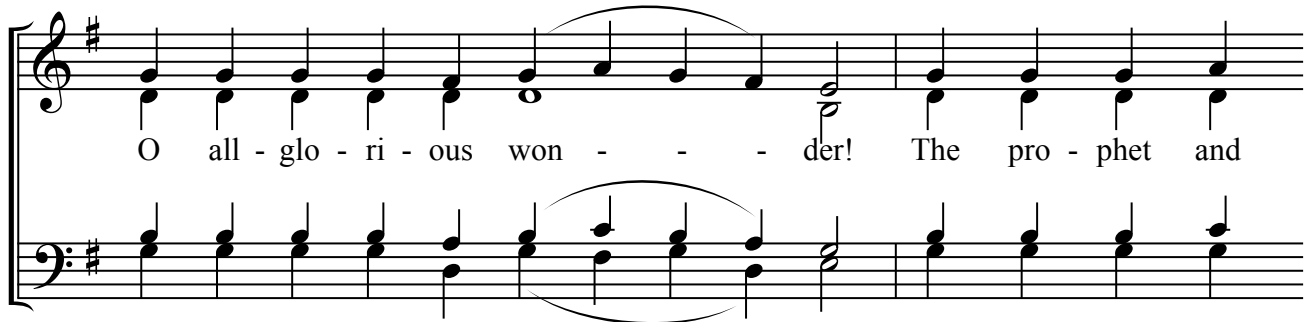


those who hon - or Thy great Fore - - - - - run - ner.

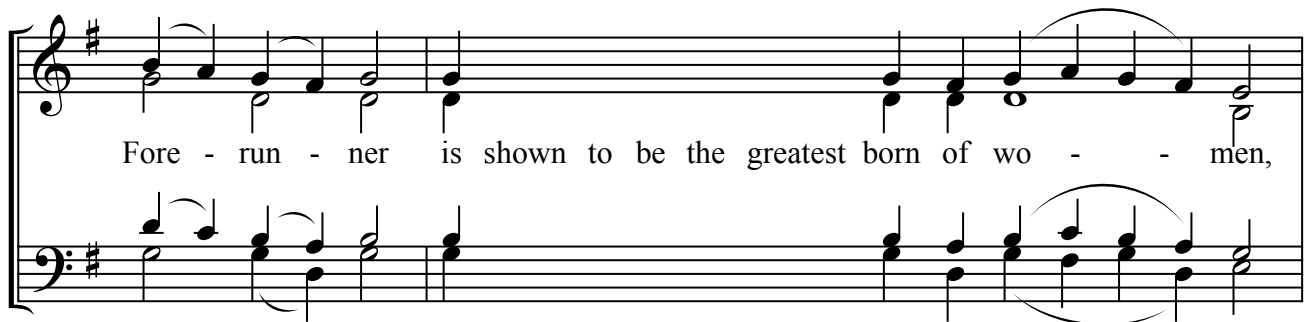
(1) *Reader:* Praise Him with tuneful cymbals,



Let ev - ery breath ———— praise the Lord.



O all - glo - ri - ous won - - - der! The pro - phet and



Fore - run - ner is shown to be the greatest born of wo - - - men,



and the most sub - lime ———— pro - - - phet and her - ald of the

coming of Christ /

com - ing of Christ, leap - ing up in his mo - ther's womb.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.

O Thine exceeding great gifts, O Thou who lov - est man - kind!

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a melodic line with some slurs, and the bass staff continues with harmonic support.

There - by, O Christ, save — Thou our souls,

The third system features a melodic line with a long horizontal line under the word "save" in the treble staff, indicating a sustained note. The bass staff continues with the accompaniment.

in that Thou art al - might - - - - y.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The treble staff has a melodic line that ends with a final chord, and the bass staff provides a concluding accompaniment.

English text: Isaac E. Lambertsen, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol X,
St. John of Kronstadt Press, ©1999. The complete service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org