

March 25: Vespers of the Annunciation
Stichera on "Lord I have cried", Tone 6
Kievan Chant

(7) Reader: In the 6th Tone, Let Thine ears be attentive

To the voice of my sup - pli - ca - tion.

Gabriel stood before thee, O Maiden, /
revealing the pre-eternal counsel, /
saluting thee and exclaiming: /
"Rejoice, O earth unsown! /
Rejoice, O bush unburnt! /
Rejoice, O depth hard to fathom! /
Rejoice, O bridge leading to the heavens /
and lofty ladder, which Jacob beheld! /
Rejoice, O divine jar of Manna! /
Rejoice, annulment of the curse! /
Rejoice, restoration of Adam: //
the Lord is with thee!"

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

(6) Reader: If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand?

For with Thee _____ there is for - give - ness.

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef and features a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff, with a long horizontal line under "Thee" and "there" indicating a sustained note. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Repeat: "Gabriel stood before thee, O Maiden..."

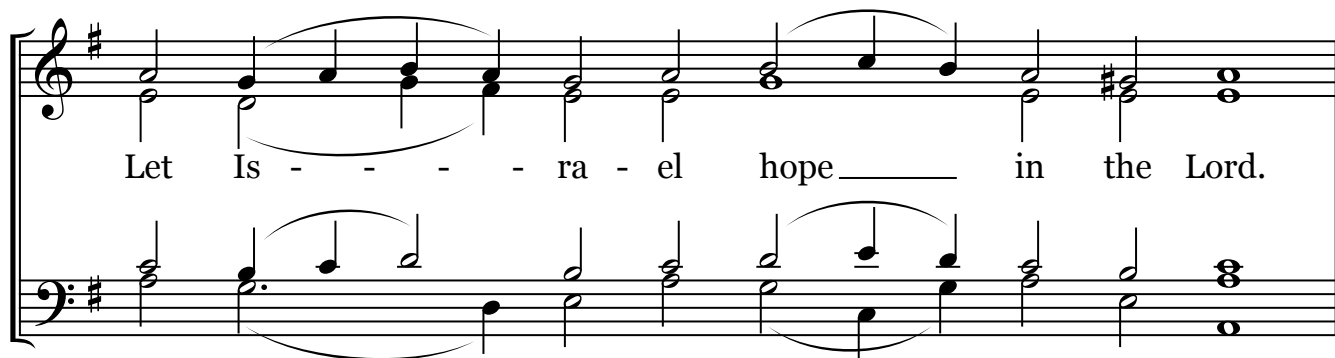
(5) Reader: For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word,

My soul _____ hath hoped _____ in the Lord.

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef and features a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff, with long horizontal lines under "soul" and "hoped" indicating sustained notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Repeat: "Gabriel stood before thee, O Maiden..."

(4) *Reader:* From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch



Let Is - - - - ra - el hope in the Lord.

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef and the bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The text is: "Let Is - - - - ra - el hope in the Lord." The word "Is" is followed by four dashes, and "ra" is followed by a dash.

"Thou appearest to me as a man," /
the incorrupt Maiden saith to the supreme commander; /
"yet how is it that thou announcest words which are beyond man? /
For thou hast said that God is with me, /
and that He will dwell in my womb. /
Tell me, how shall I become so spacious a dwelling /
and a place of sanctity which surpasseth the cherubim? /
Deceive me no more with falsehood, /
for I have not known pleasure, I have not partaken of marriage. //
How then shall I give birth to a Child?"

(3) *Reader:* For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption;



And He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef and the bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The text is: "And He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities." The word "iniquities" is split as "in iq - - ui-ties."

Repeat: "Thou appearest to me as a man..."

(2) *Reader:* O praise the Lord, all ye nations;

Praise Him all ye peo - - - ples.

"When God desireth, the order of nature is overcome," /
said the incorporeal one; /
"and things beyond man are wrought. /
Believe thou my true words, /
O most holy and all immaculate one!" /
And she cried aloud: /
"Be it now with me according to thy words: /
I shall give birth to the Incorporeal One, /
Who will borrow flesh from me, /
that through this mingling /
He might lead man up to his primal dignity, //
in that He alone is mighty!"

(1) *Reader:* For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us,

And the truth of the Lord a - bi - - - deth for - ev - - - er.

Repeat: "When God so desireth ..."