

March 25: The Annunciation of the Most Pure Theotokos
Stichera on "Lord I have cried"
 (also sung at Vespers, Friday Evening for the Saturday of the Akathist)

Znamenny Chant

S
A

1. Re-veal - ing to ___ thee the pre - e - ter - nal coun - - - sel,

T
B

Ga - bri - el came and stood be - fore ___ thee, O ___ Maid, and greet - ing

thee, ___ he said: Re - joice, thou ___ earth that has not ___ been ___ sown;

re - joice, thou burn - ing bush that re - mains un - con - - sumed; re - joice,

thou un-search - a - ble depth; — re - joice, thou — bridge that leads to

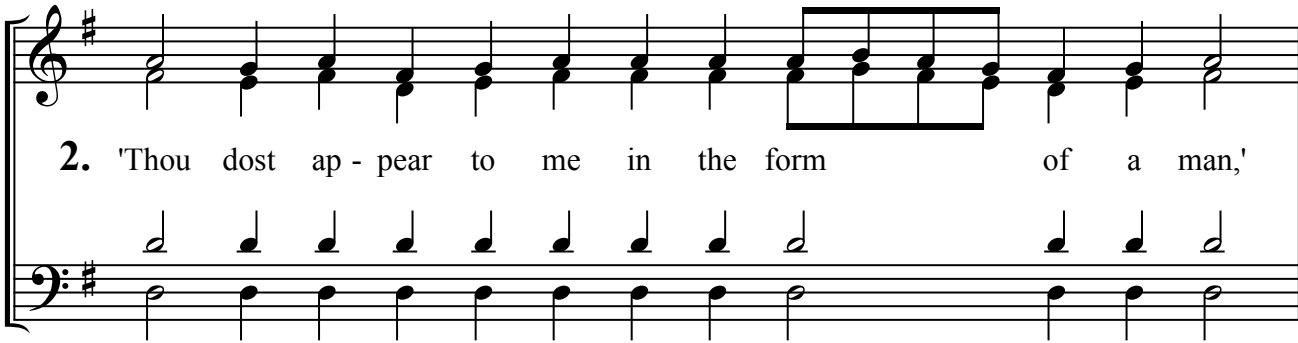
hea - - - ven, and — lad - - - der raised — on high that

Ja - cob saw; re-joyce, thou di - vine — jar of — man - na;

re - joice, thou de - liv - er - ance from — the — — — — — curse;

re - joice, thou res - tor - a - tion of A - - - dam:

the Lord _____ is with_ thee.



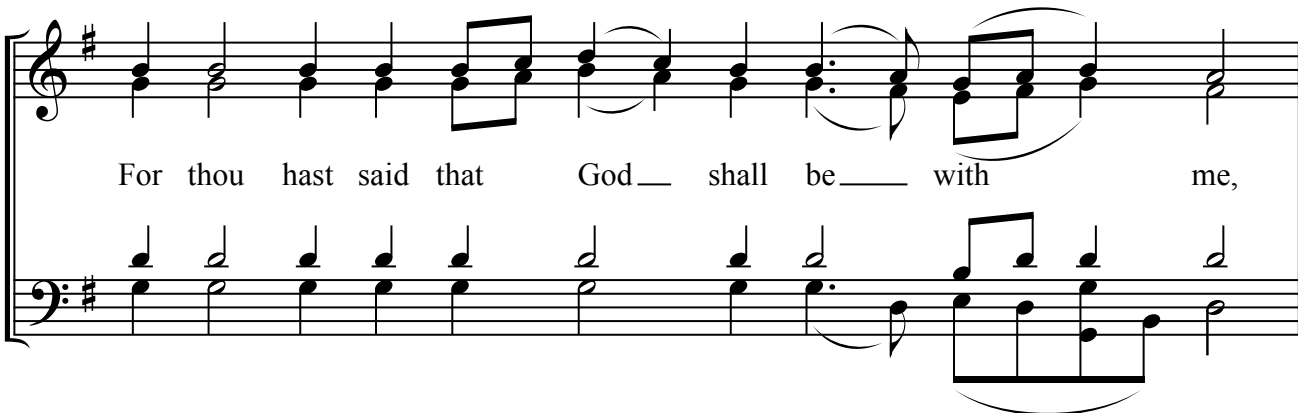
2. 'Thou dost ap - pear to me in the form of a man,'



said the un - de - filed Maid to the chief of the hea - ven - ly hosts:



'how then dost thou speak to me of things that pass men's power?



For thou hast said that God shall be with me,

and shall take up His dwell-ing in my womb; and how

tell me shall I be-come the spa-cious hab - i - ta - tion and the

ho - ly place of Him that rides upon the che - ru - bim?

Do not be-guile me with de-ceit: for I have not known sensual plea-sure,

Stichera of the Theotokos

"Revealing to thee the pre-eternal counsel..."

Page 6

I have not en - tered in - to wed - lock. —

The first system of music consists of a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), indicating G major. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines in both hands.

How then shall _____ I bear a _____ child?'

The second system continues the musical piece. The vocal line features a dotted half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The piano accompaniment continues with harmonic support, including a final cadence with a whole note chord in the right hand.

3. 'When God so _____ wish - es,' said the bod - i - less an - - - gel,

'the or - der of nature is o - ver - come, and what is be - yond

man comes to pass. — Be - lieve that my say - ings are _____ true,

O all - ho - ly Lady utterly with - out _____ spot.' And she cried _____

a - loud, Let it be un - to me ac - cord - ing to thy word:

and I shall bear Him that is with - out flesh,

Who shall bor - row flesh from me, that through this ming - ling

He may lead man up unto His ancient glo - - - ry, for He a - lone

has pow - er so to do.'

English text adapted from "The Festal Menaion",
translated by Mother Mary and Archimandrite
Kallistos Ware, ©1969, Faber and Faber, London.

Music from the Slavonic: "Tserkovno-Pevsheskiy
Sbornik", St. Petersburg, 1911.

Carol Surgant ~ music.russianorthodox-stl.org
4/6/06