The Nativity of our Lord
First Canon, Tone 1

Ode 1

Christ is born, give ye glory! Christ cometh from heaven

meet ye Him! Christ is on earth, be ye exalted!

O all the earth, sing ye unto the Lord, and chant with gladness,

O ye people, for He hath been glorified.

Carol Surgant ~ music.russianorthodox-stl.org ~ 12/3/07
To the Son, Who was be-got-ten of the Fa-ther with-out cor-rup-tion

be-fore time be-gan, and in lat-ter times with-out seed be-came

in-car-nate of the Vir-gin, un-to Christ, our God, let us cry a-loud:

Thou Who lift-test up our horn, ho-ly art Thou, O Lord.
First Canon of the Nativity of our Lord - Tone 1

Ode 4

A rod from the root of Jesse, and blossom

therefrom, O Christ, Thou didst spring forth from the Virgin,

from the mountain over shadowed and densely wooded

hast Thou come, incarnate of her who knew not man, O Thou

praised and immaterial God. Glory to Thy power, O Lord!
As God of peace and Fa-ther of com-pas-sion, Thou didst send Thine an-ge-l of Great Coun-sel, Who grant-eth us peace. There-fore guid-ed to the light of know-ledge di-vine, and wak-ing at dawn out of the night, we glo-ri-fy Thee, Who lov-est man-kind.
The sea monster thrust forth, like a babe from the womb, Jo-nah

whom it had swallowed; and the Word, Who dwelt within

the Virgin and took flesh of her, issued forth, preserving her

in-corrupt, He kept her Who gave Him birth unharmed,

for He Himself was not subject to corrup-

tion.
The children raised together in piety, disdaining the ungodly command, feared not the threat of the fire, but standing in the midst of the flame they chanted:

O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.
We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him.

The dew-bearing furnace showed forth the image of a supernatural wonder, for it burned not the youths whom it had received.
Even as the fire of the God-head burned not the Virgin whose womb it entered. Wherefore in praise let us sing:

Let all creation bless the Lord and exalt Him supremely for all ages.
A strange and most glorious mystery do I behold;

the cave is heaven, the Virgin the throne of the Cherubim,

the manager, the place wherein is laid the uncontainable Christ God, Whom praising we magnify.

From the music arrangement in Church Slavonic (service to St. Herman)
by Dcn. Serge Arlievsky: www.travelingtreby.org

Adapted from the English translation by Isaac E. Lambertsen, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol. IV, St. John of Kronstadt Press, ©1999. The entire service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org

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