

The Nativity of our Lord

First Canon, Tone 1

Ode 1

S
A
T
B

Christ is born, give ye glo - ry! Christ com-eth from hea - ven

meet ye Him! Christ is on earth, be ye ex - alt - ed!

O all the earth, sing ye un - to the Lord, and chant with glad - ness,

O ye peo - ple, for He hath been glo - ri - fied.

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Ode 3

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.

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Ode 4

A rod from the root of Jesse, and blossom there-from, 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 immortal God. Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

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Ode 5

As God of peace and Fa-ther of com-pas - sion, Thou didst send Thine an - gel

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.

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Ode 6

The sea mon-ster thrust forth, like a babe from the womb, Jo-nah whom it

had swal - lowed; and the Word, Who dwelt with-in the Vir-gin and took flesh of her,

is-sued forth, pre-serv - ing her in - corrupt, He kept her Who gave Him

birth un-harmed, for He Him-self was not sub-ject to cor-rup - tion.

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Ode 7

The chil-dren raised to - geth - er in pi - e - ty, dis - dain - ing the

un - god - ly com - mand, feared not the threat of the fire,

but stand - ing in the midst of the flame they chant - ed:

O God of our fa - thers, bless - ed art Thou.

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Before the Katavasia of the 8th Ode:

We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him

un - to all the a - ges.

Ode 8

The dew-bearing furnace showed forth the image of a super-natural

won - der, for it burned not the youths whom it had received,

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8th Ode (continued)

e - ven as the fire of the God - head burned not the Vir - gin

This system of musical notation consists of a treble and a bass staff. The treble staff contains a melody with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

whose womb it en - tered. Where-fore in praise let us sing:

This system continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Let all cre - a - tion_ bless the Lord and exalt Him supremely

This system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

for all a - - - ges.

This system concludes the 8th Ode. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

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Ode 9

A strange and most glo - ri - ous mys - ter - y do I be - hold;

the cave is__ hea - ven, the__ Vir - gin the throne of the Che - ru - bim,

the__ man - ger, the place where - in is laid the un - con - tain - a - ble

Christ God, Whom prais - ing we mag - ni - fy.

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

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