

December 24: Sunday of the Forefathers
Stichera of the Praises
Tone 5, Special Melody "Rejoice..."
Optina Hermitage Melody

(6) *Reader:* In the 5th Tone, Special Melody "Rejoice..."
 To do among them the judgement that is written.

I-descant
 II-chant
 melody

This glo - ry shall be to all His — saints.

Lift up, thy voice, O Si - - on, Thou tru - ly di-vine cit - - - - y,

and proclaim the di-vine mem - - - o - ry of the fa - - - - thers,

hon - or - ing A - braham, Isaac and the ever-memor - a - ble Ja - - - - cob;

for lo! we all mag-ni - fy Ju-dah and Le - - - - vi, the great

Moses and the won-drous Aa - - - ron, and we hon - or David, Joshua and

Sam - - u - el. And weav-ing di-vine hymns in - to god - ly praise

on the fore-feast of Christ's na-tiv - - - - i - ty, we ask that we

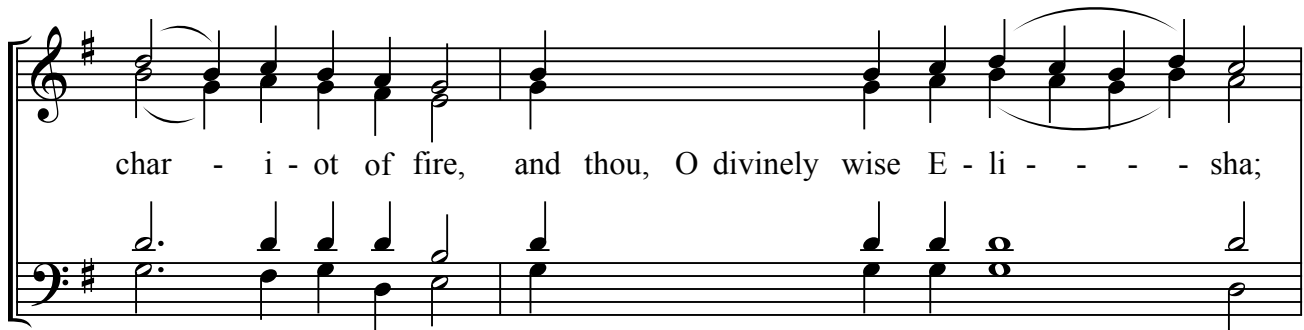
re-ceive grace— from Him, and that He grant the world great mer - cy.

(5) *Reader:* Praise ye God in His saints,

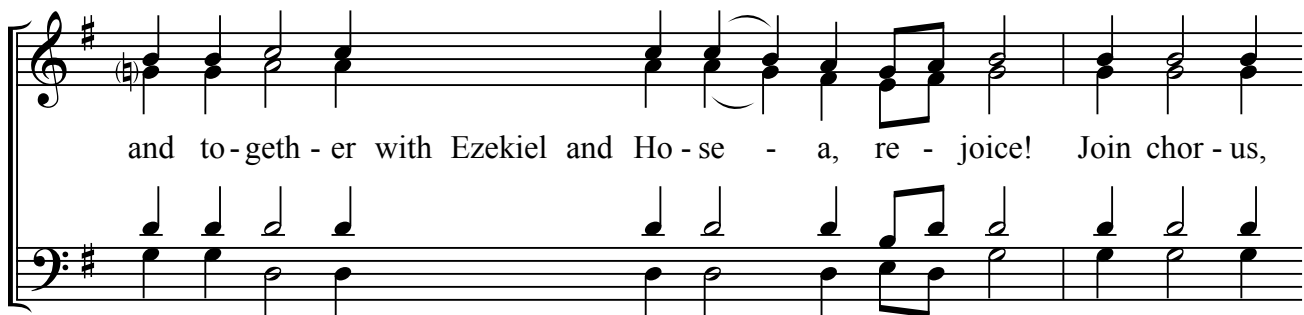

Praise Him in the fir - ma - ment of His pow - - - - er.



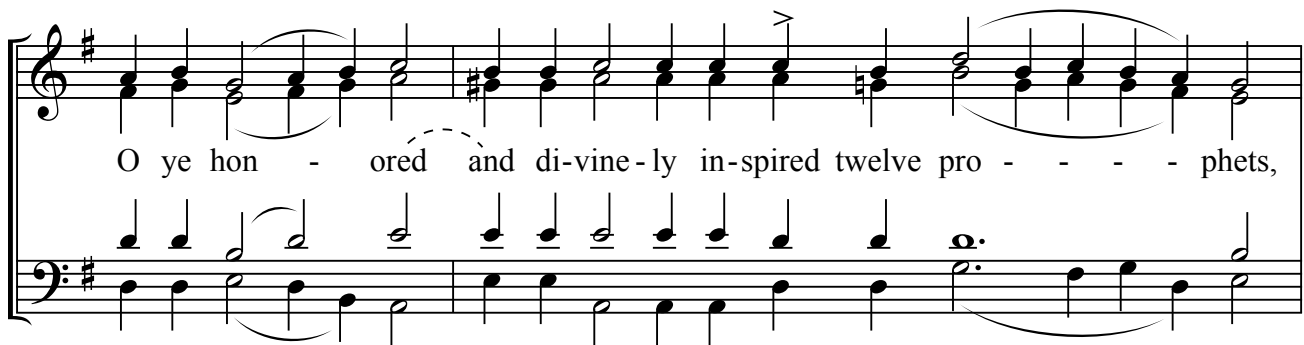
Come forth, O E - li - - - jah, who once rode up - on a di - vine



char - i - ot of fire, and thou, O divinely wise E - li - - - - sha;



and to - geth - er with Ezekiel and Ho - se - a, re - joice! Join chor - us,



O ye hon - ored and di - vine - ly in - spired twelve pro - - - - phets,

and all ye right-eous chant _____ in hymns un - to the na - tiv - i - ty

of Christ; ye most bless - ed youths who quenched the flame of the

furnace with the dew of the Spi - - - - rit, en - treat Christ in

our _____ be-half, that He send down upon our souls great mer - - - cy.

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

Praise Him ac - cord - ing to the mul - ti - tude of His great - - - ness.

The Vir - gin The - o - to - - kos, she who through the a - - - - ges


hath been preached on earth by the pro-phets in their ut - ter-an - ces,

she whom the wise patriarchs and the assemblies of the right - eous pro - claim,

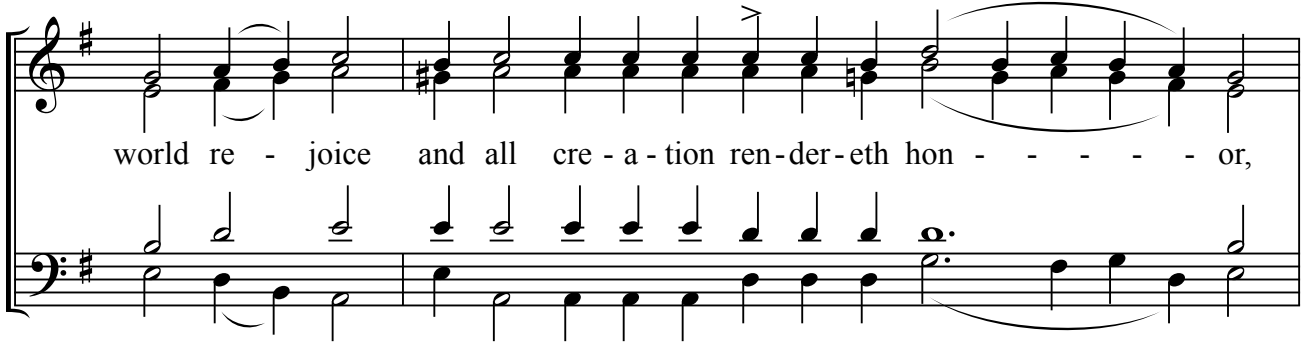
with whom the comeliness of women join - eth chor - - - - us -



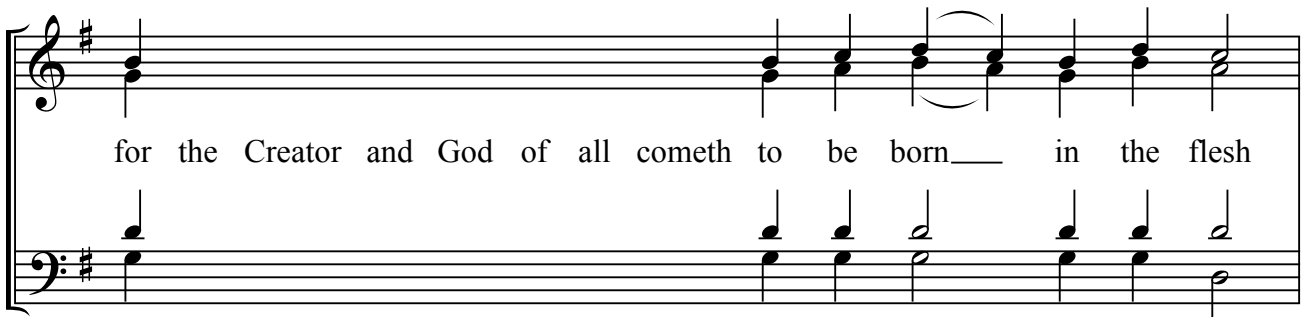
Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Han - - - nah, to- geth - er with the glorious



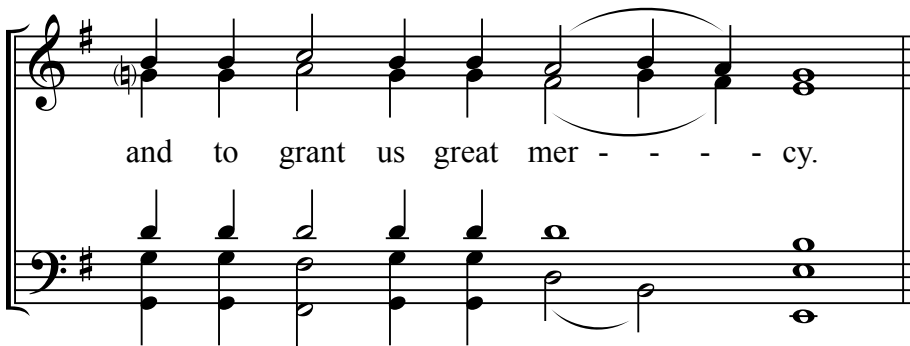
Miriam, the sister of Mos - - - es: With them all the ends of the



world re - joice and all cre - a - tion ren - der - eth hon - - - - or,



for the Creator and God of all cometh to be born in the flesh



and to grant us great mer - - - - cy.

English text adapted from the translation of Isaac E. Lambertsen, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol IV, ©1996, St. John of Kronstadt Press, The entire service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org

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