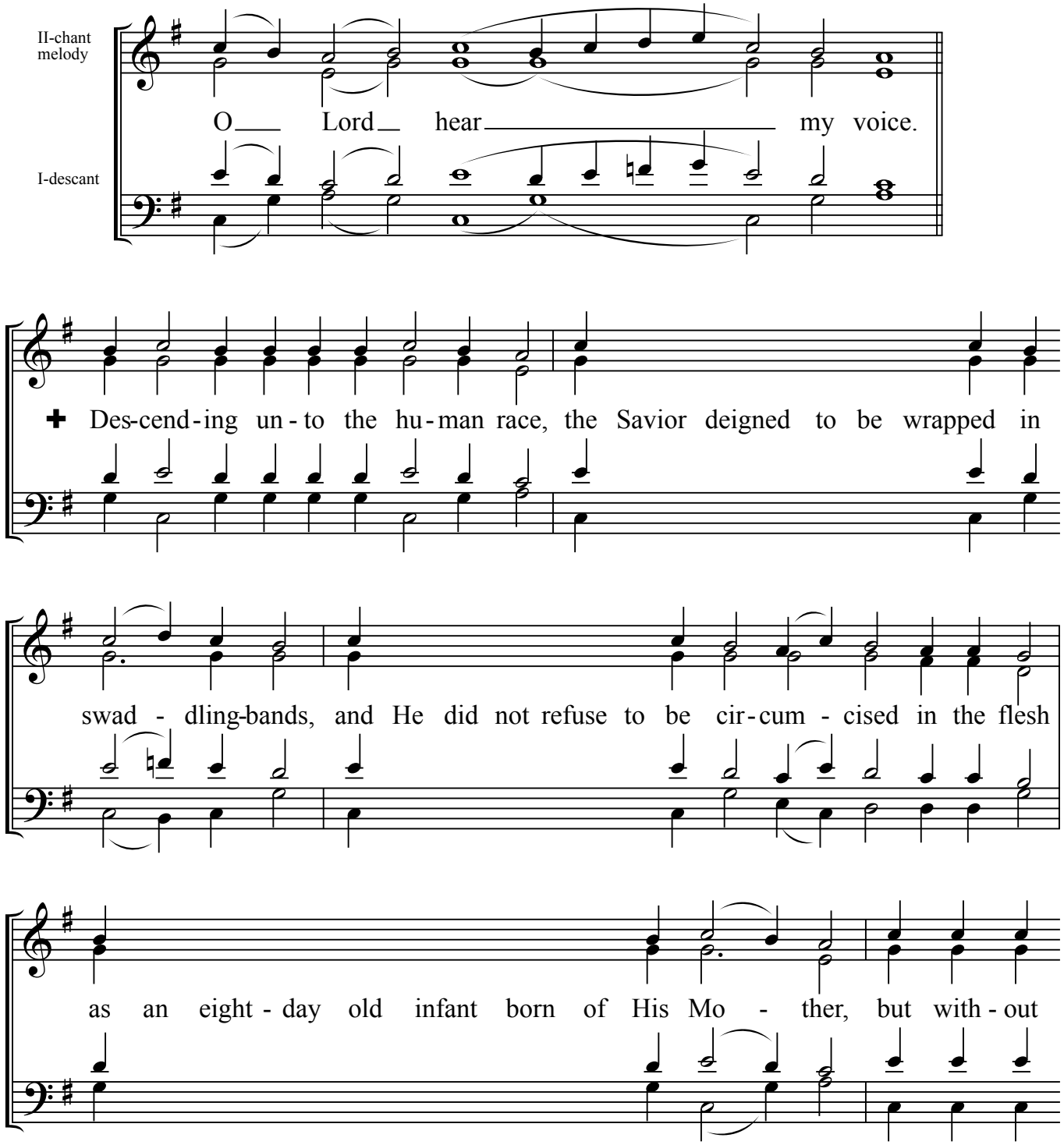
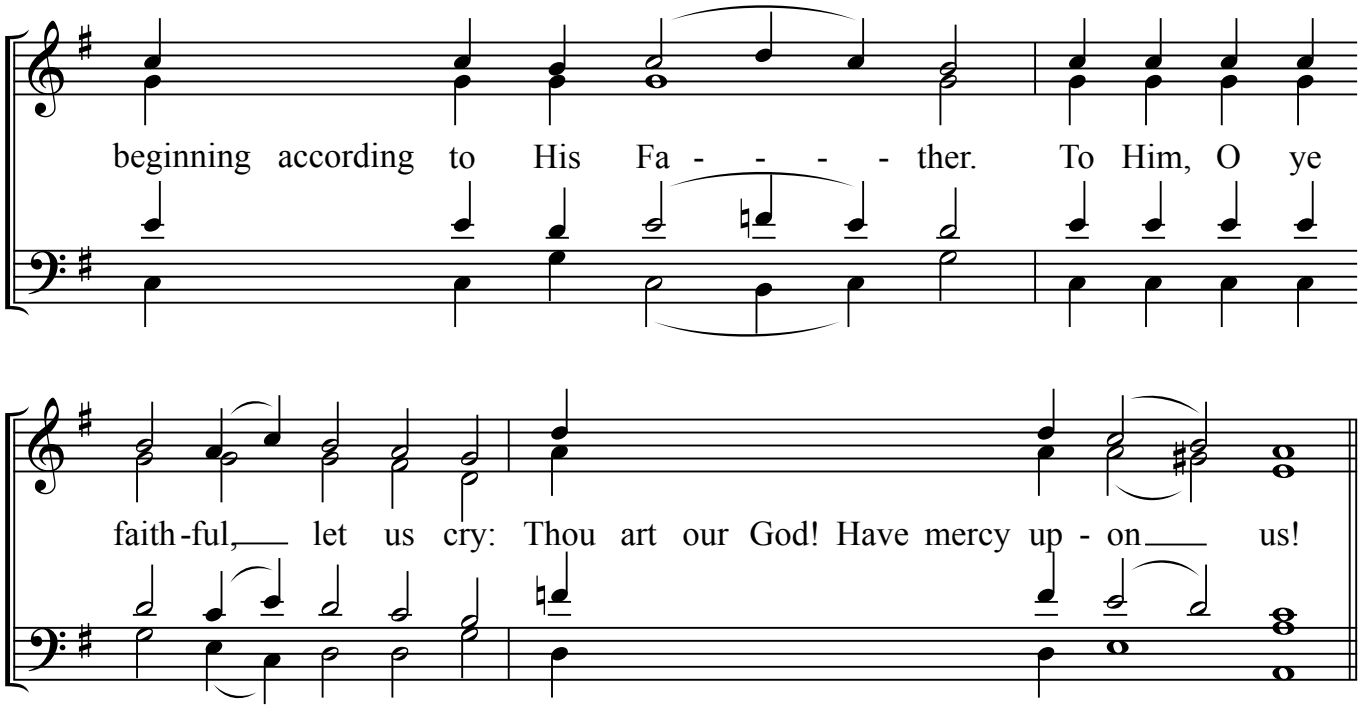
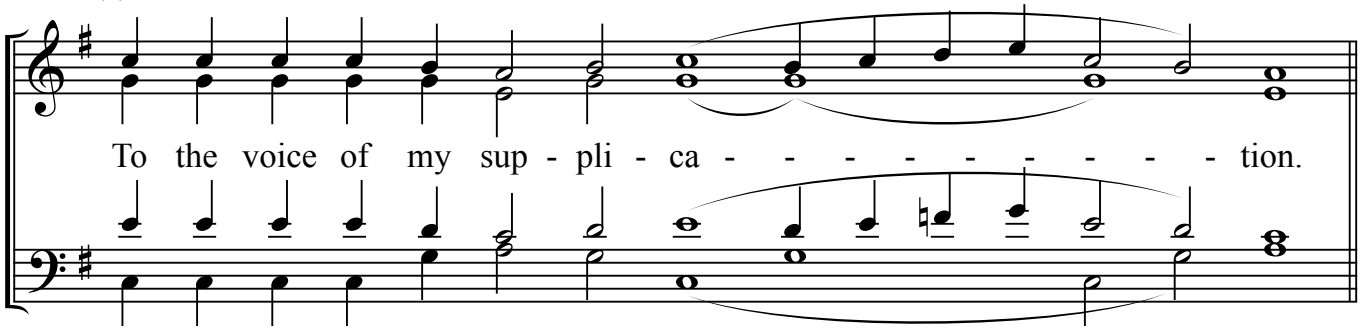
January 1: Circumcision of our Lord; St. Basil the Great (on a Weekday)
Great Vespers

Stichera on "Lord I have cried"
Tone 8, Kievan

(8) *Reader:* Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord;

English text: "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol V, translated by Isaac E. Lambertsen, St. John of Kronstadt Press, ©2000. The entire service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org

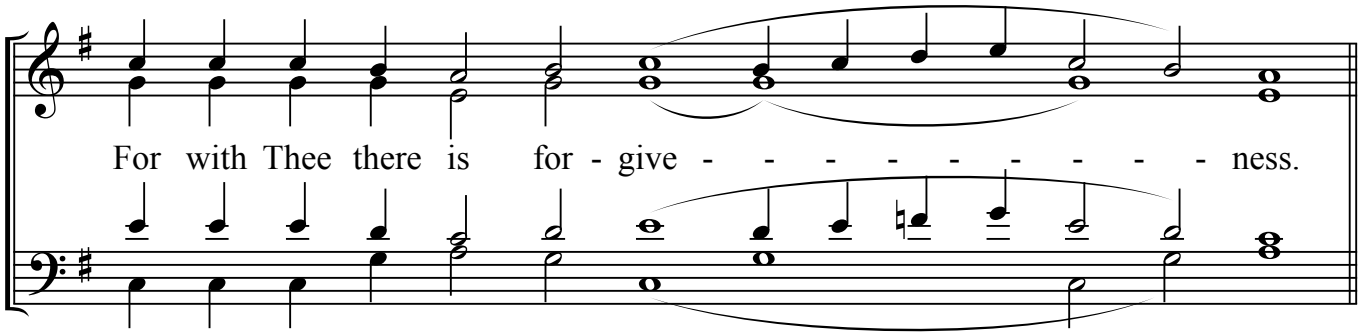


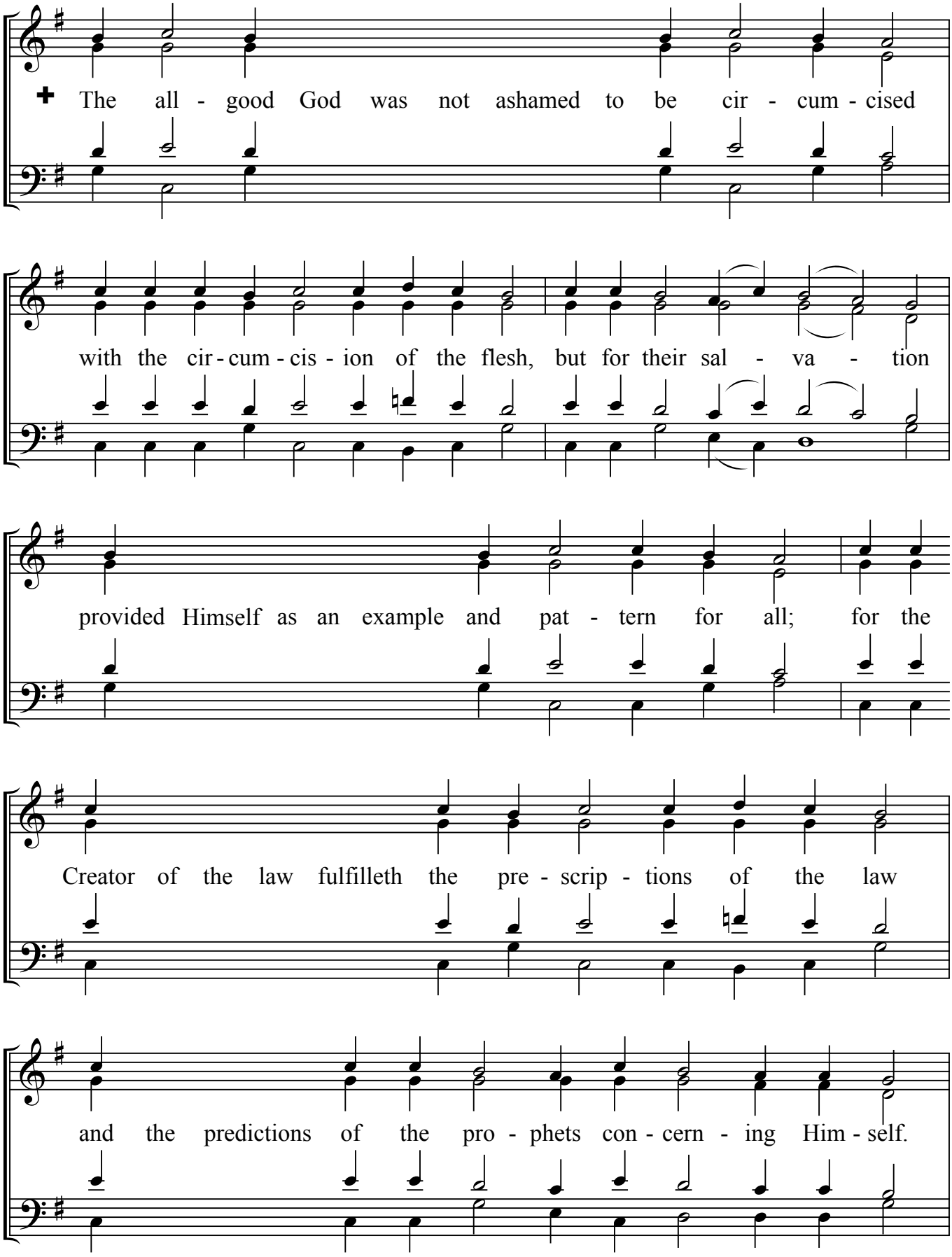
(7) *Reader:* Let thine ears be attentive

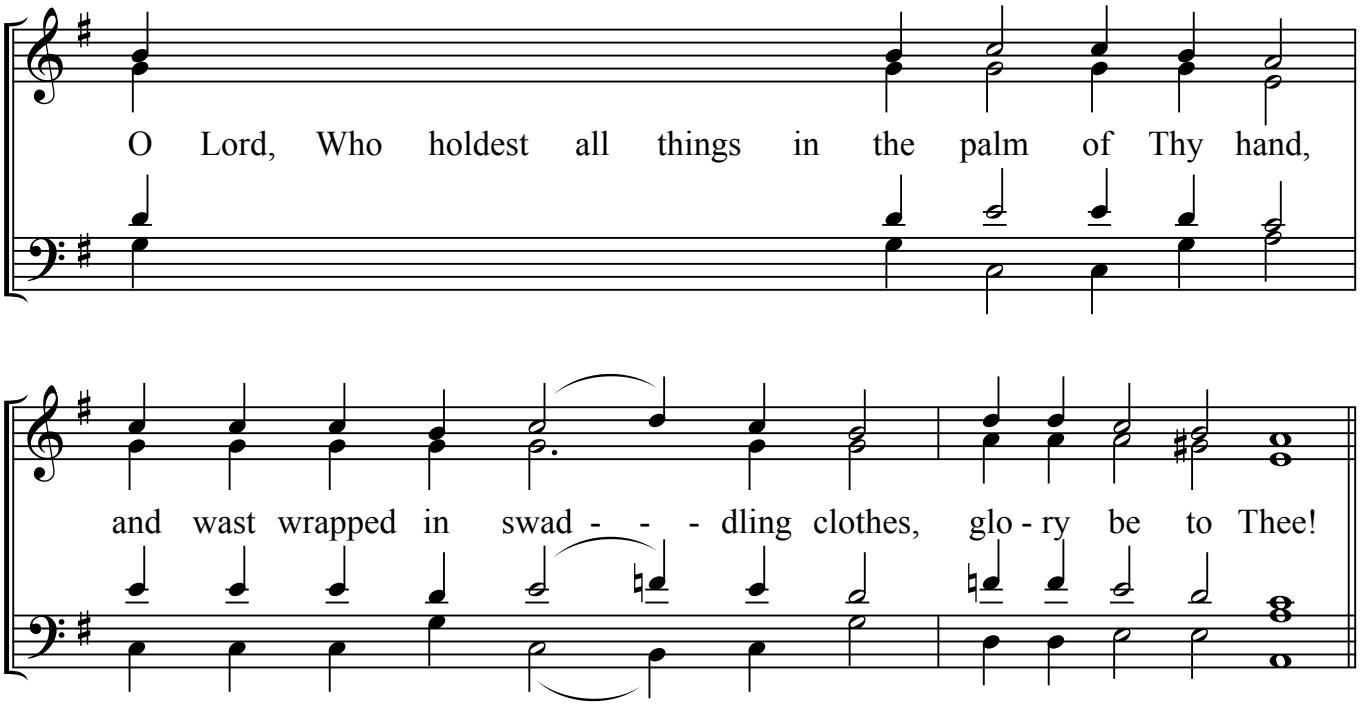


<= ***Repeat 1st Sticheron:*** **"Descending unto the human race..."**

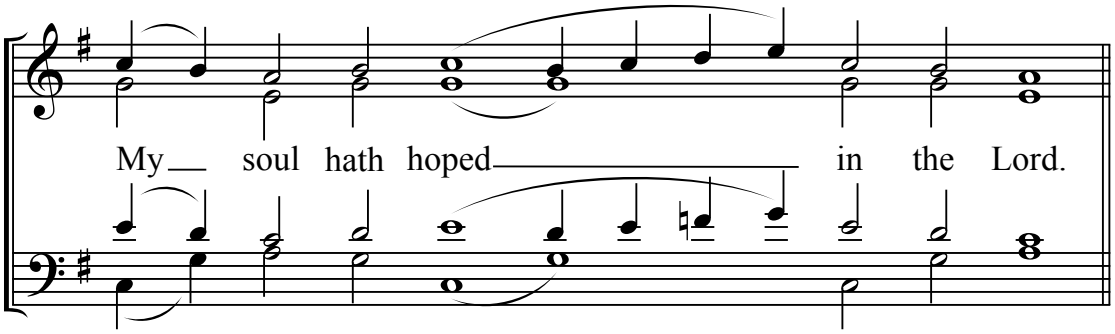
(6) *Reader:* If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand?



2nd Sticheron: **"The all-good God was not ashamed..."** =>

✝ The all - good God was not ashamed to be cir - cum - cised
with the cir - cum - cis - ion of the flesh, but for their sal - va - tion
provided Himself as an example and pat - tern for all; for the
Creator of the law fulfilleth the pre - scrip - tions of the law
and the predictions of the pro - phets con - cern - ing Him - self.



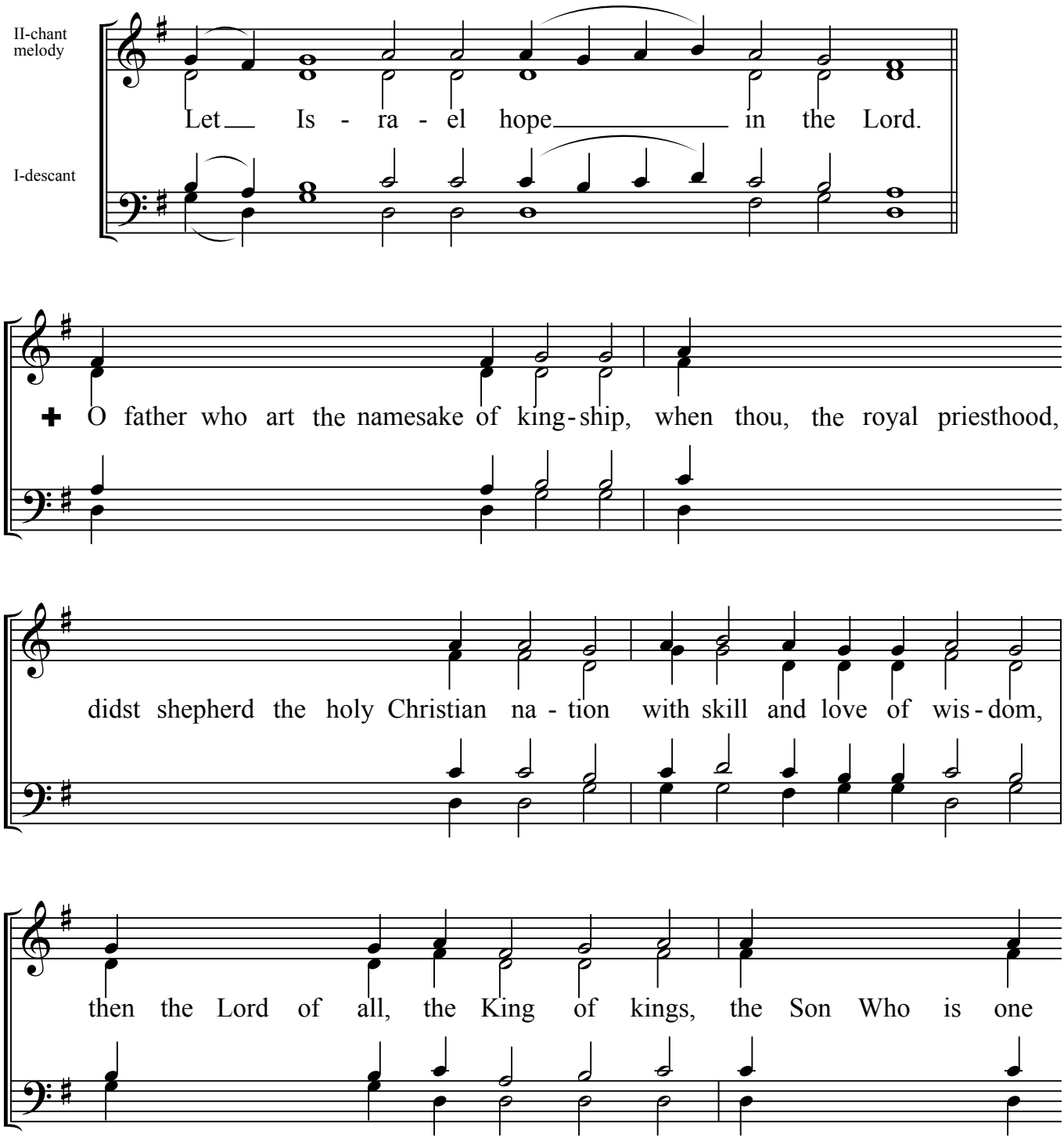
(5) *Reader:* For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee,
O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word,

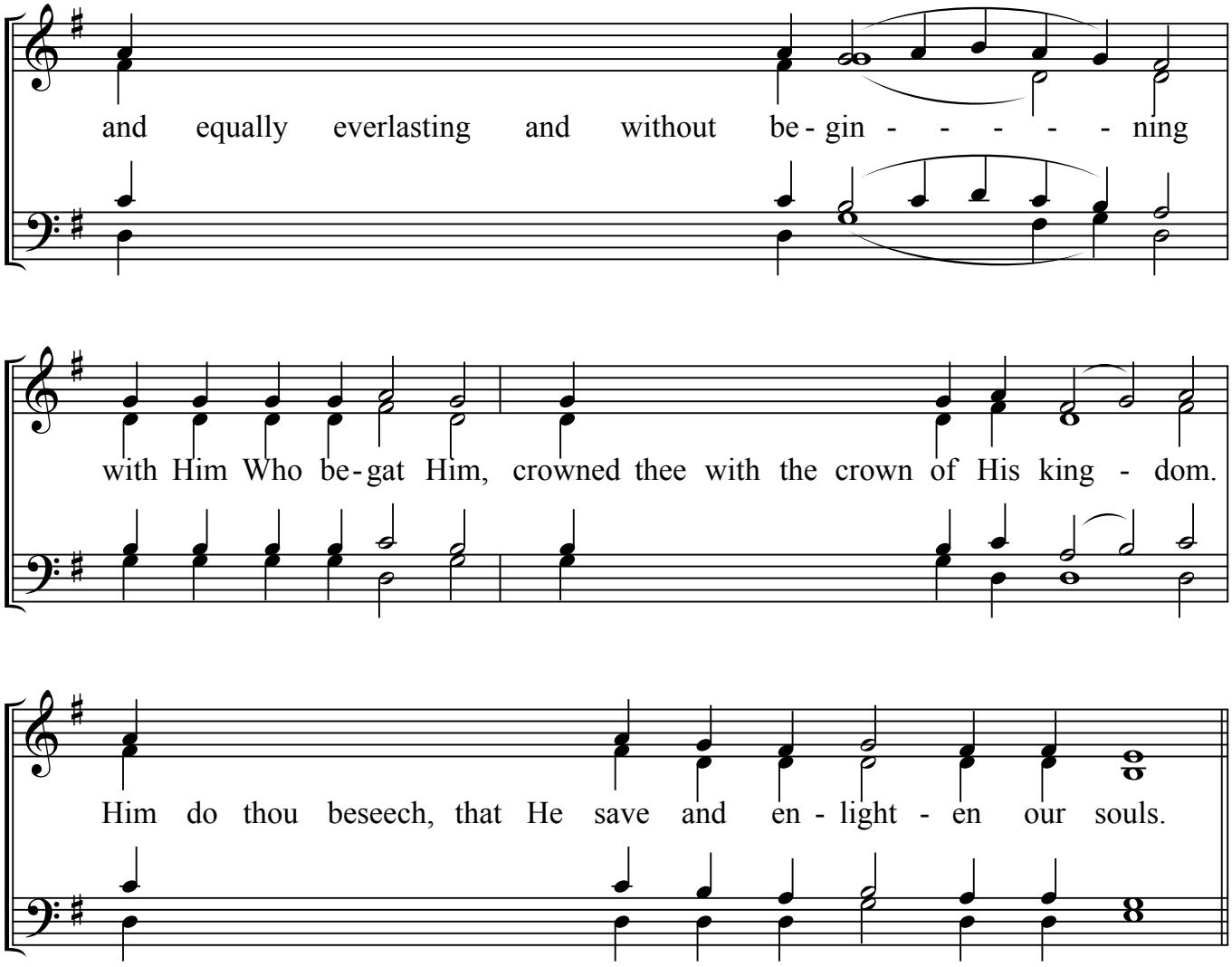


<= ***Repeat 2nd Sticheron:*** ***"The all-good God was not ashamed..."***

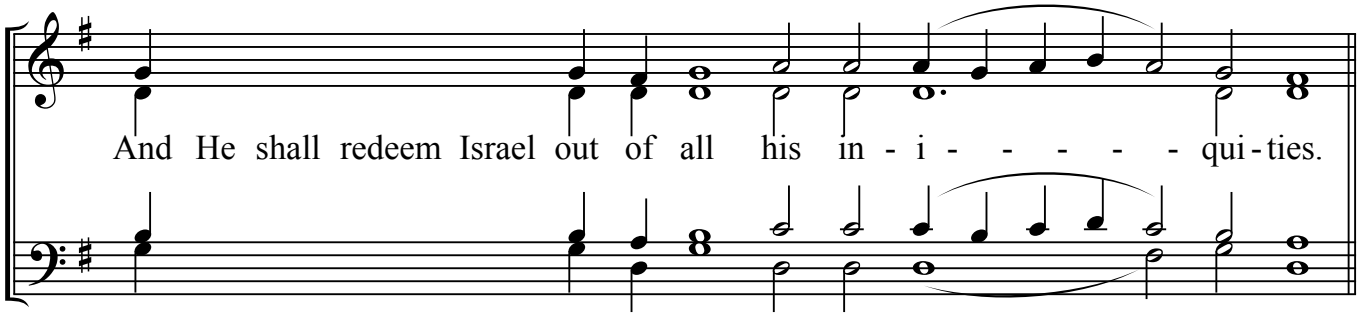
Stichera of St. Basil

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



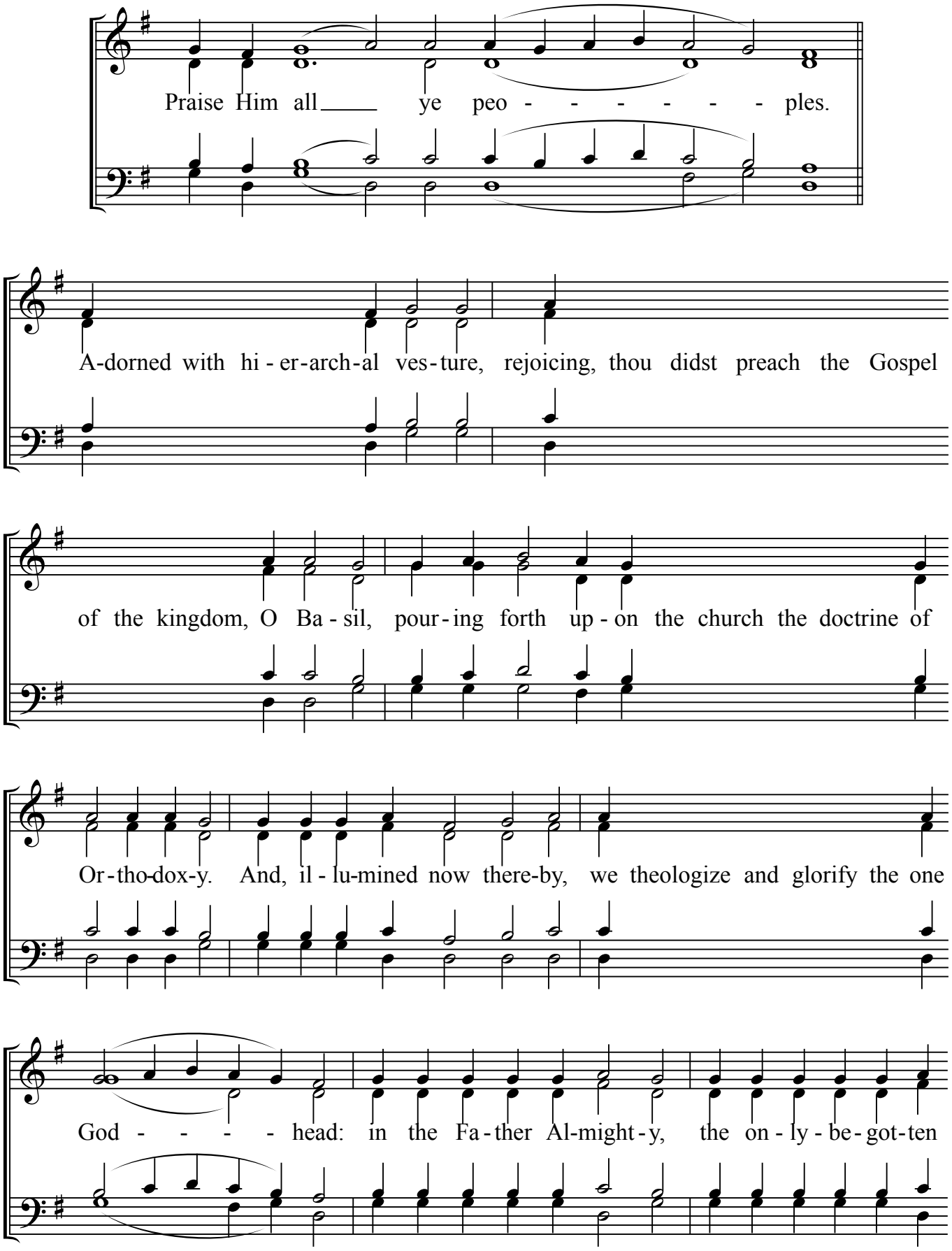


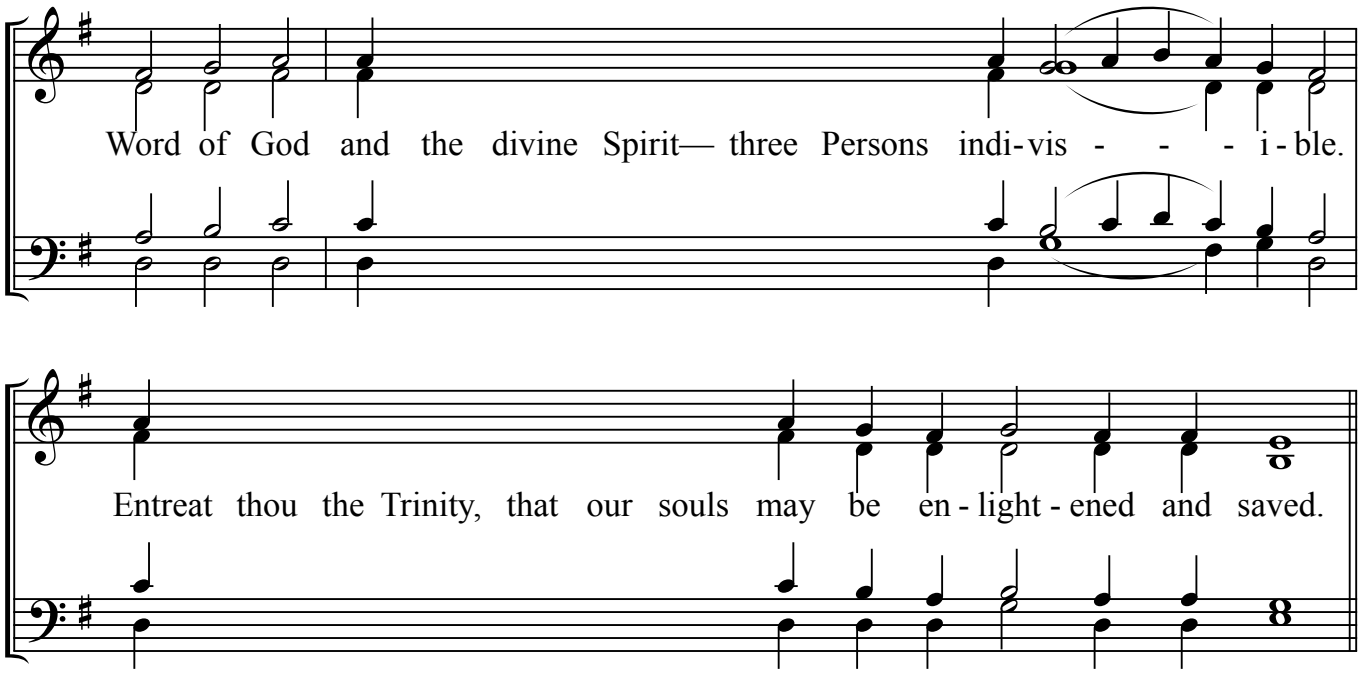
(3) *Reader:* For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption;



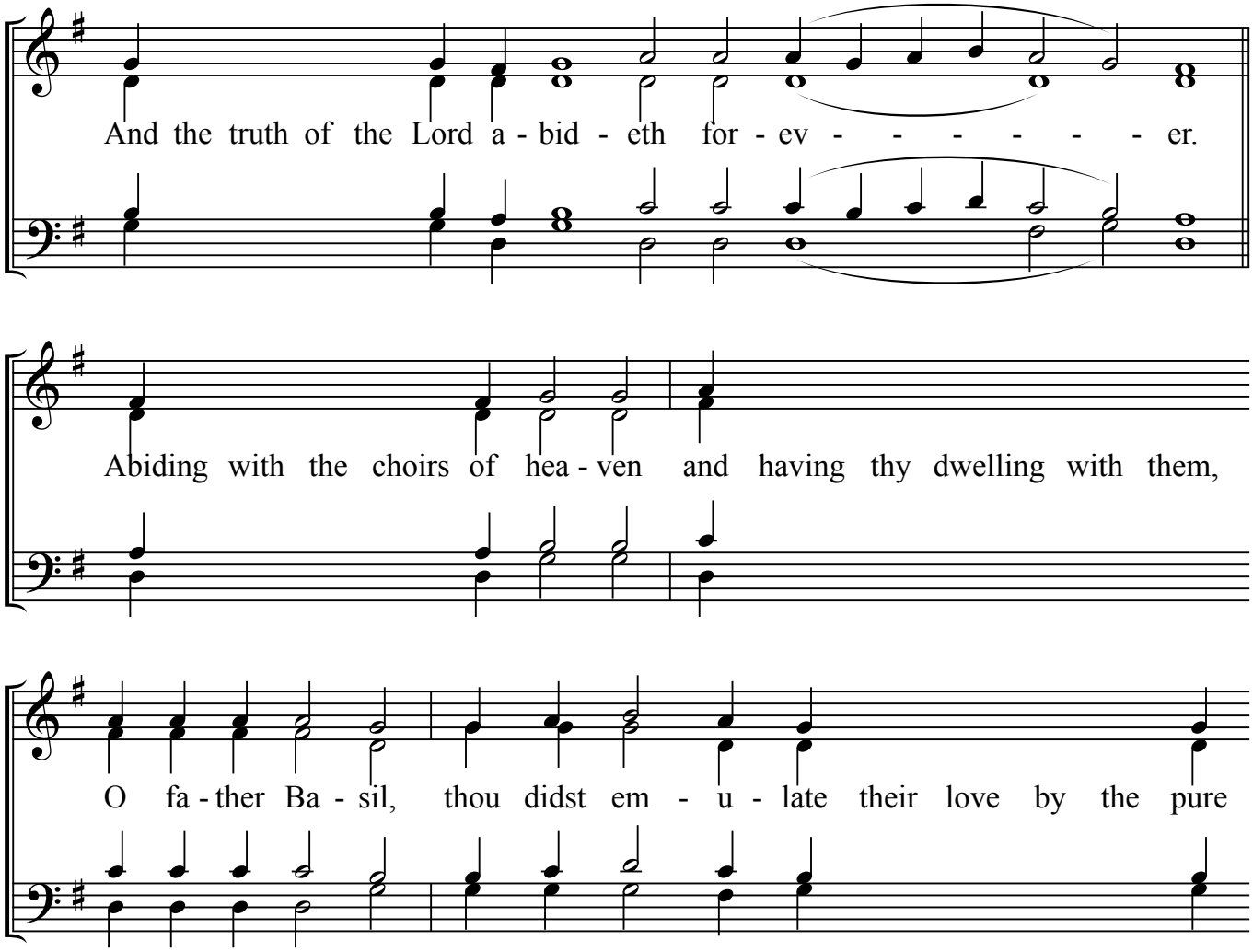
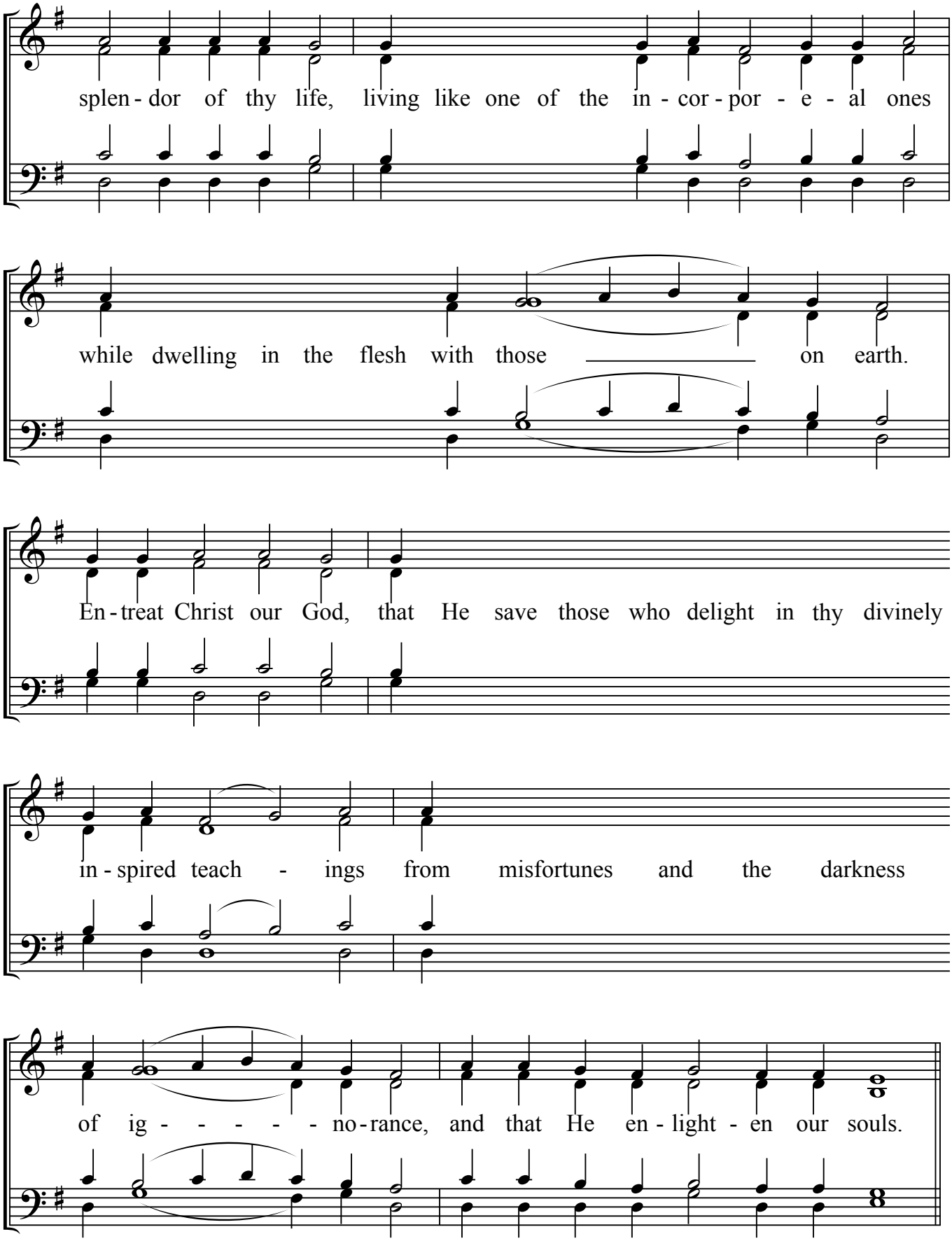
<= *Repeat Sticheron:* "O father who art the namesake of kingship..."

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

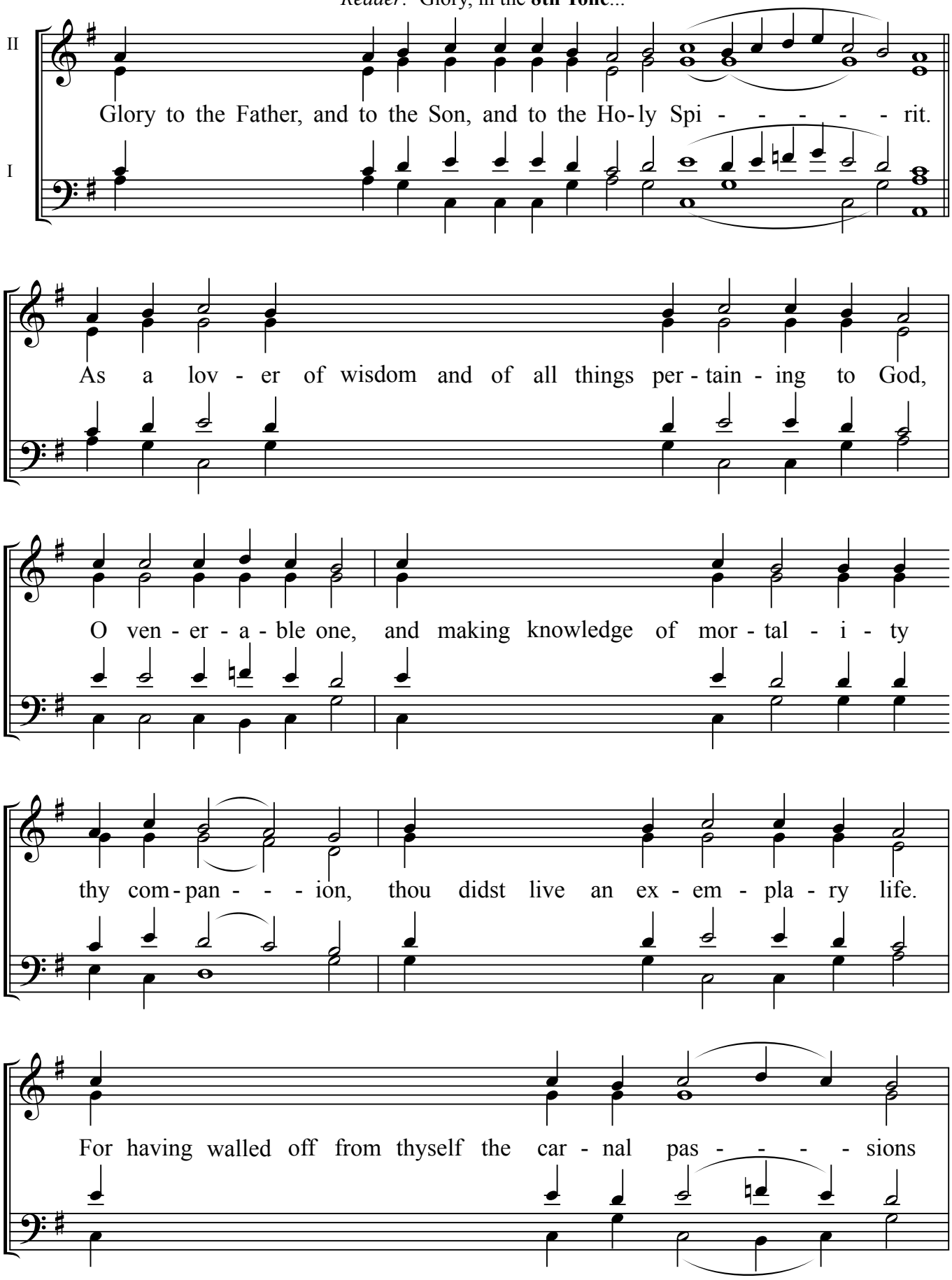
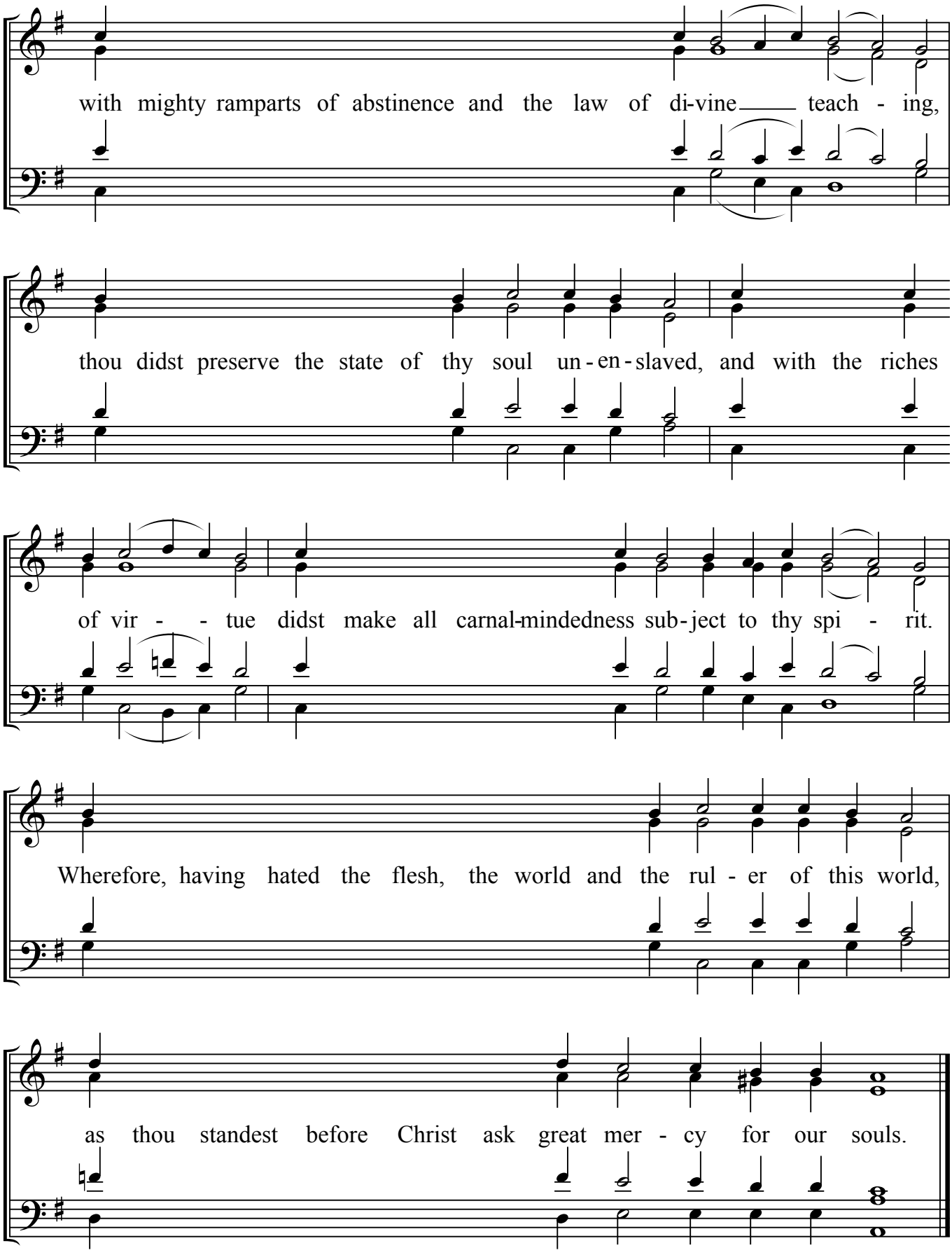


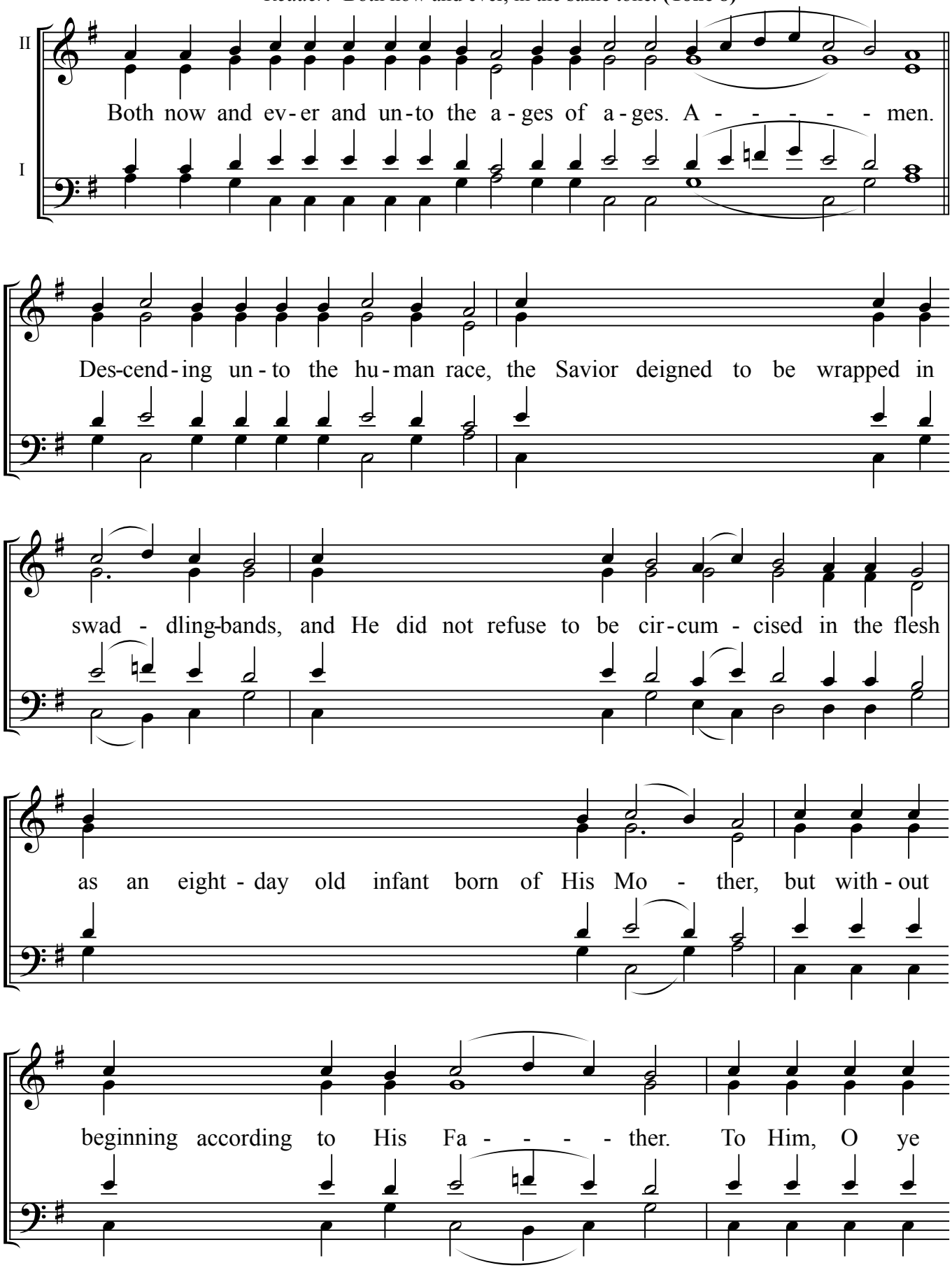
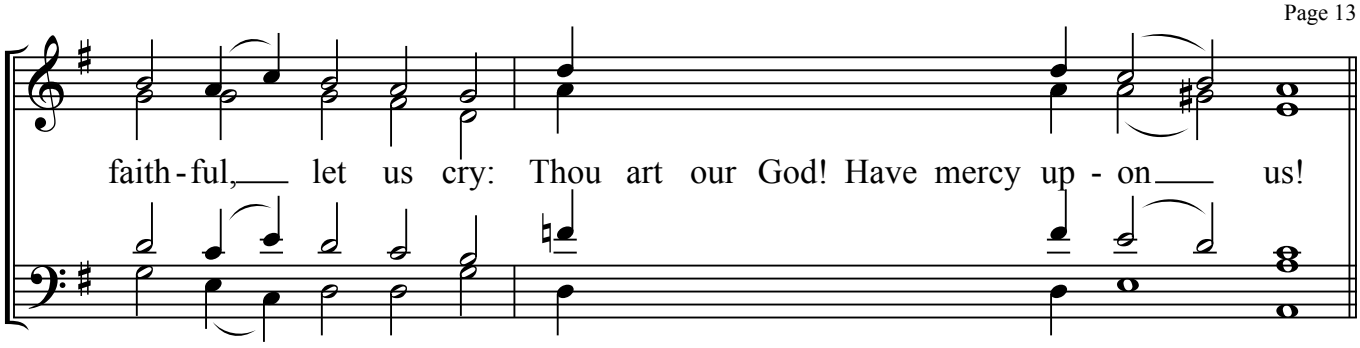


(1) *Reader:* For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us,



splen - dor of thy life, living like one of the in - cor - por - e - al ones
while dwelling in the flesh with those on earth.
En - treat Christ our God, that He save those who delight in thy divinely
in - spired teach - ings from misfortunes and the darkness
of ig - - - - - no - rance, and that He en - light - en our souls.

Reader: Glory, in the **8th Tone**...

with mighty ramparts of abstinence and the law of di-vine teach - ing,
thou didst preserve the state of thy soul un - en - slaved, and with the riches
of vir - - tue didst make all carnal-mindedness sub - ject to thy spi - rit.
Wherefore, having hated the flesh, the world and the rul - er of this world,
as thou standest before Christ ask great mer - cy for our souls.

Reader: Both now and ever, in the same tone. **(Tone 8)**



Entrance. Prokeimenon of the day. Three readings:

A Reading from Genesis

God appeared unto Abram and said to him: "I am thy God. Be well-pleasing before Me, and be blameless. And I will establish My covenant between Me and thee, and I will multiply thee exceedingly. Thou shalt be the father of a multitude of nations. And thy name shall no more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham, for I have made thee a father of many nations. And I will increase thee very exceedingly, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. And I will establish My covenant between thee and thy seed after thee, to their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be thy God, and the God of thy seed after thee." And Abraham fell upon his face, and worshipped the Lord. And the Lord said unto Abraham: "Thou shalt also fully keep My covenant, thou and thy seed after thee for their generations. And this is the covenant which thou shalt fully keep between Me and you, and between thy seed after thee for their generations: every male of you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between me and you, and between thy seed after thee for their generations. And the child of eight days old shall be circumcised by you, every male throughout your generations. And the uncircumcised male, who shall not be circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin on the eighth day, he shall be utterly destroyed from his family, for he hath broken My covenant."

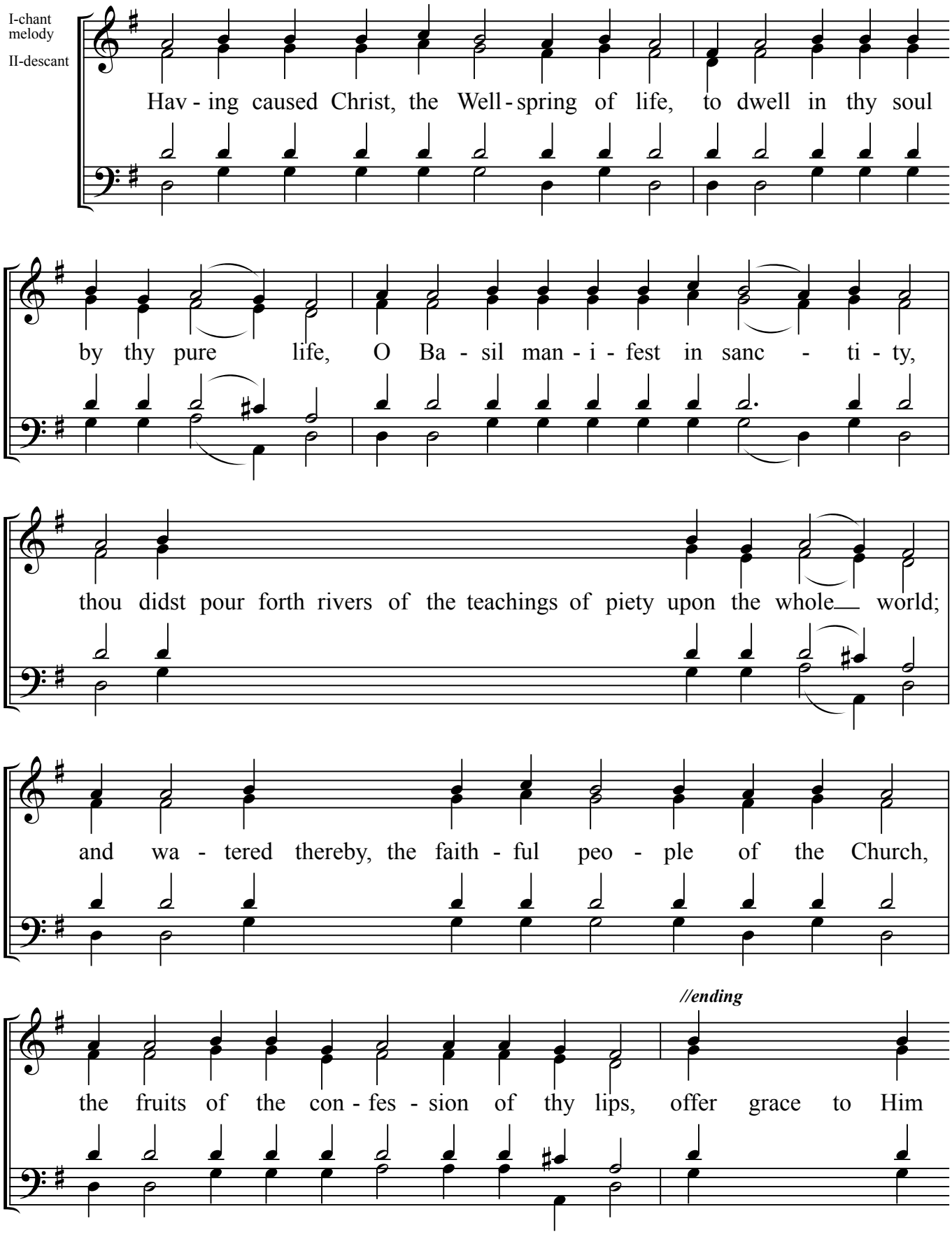
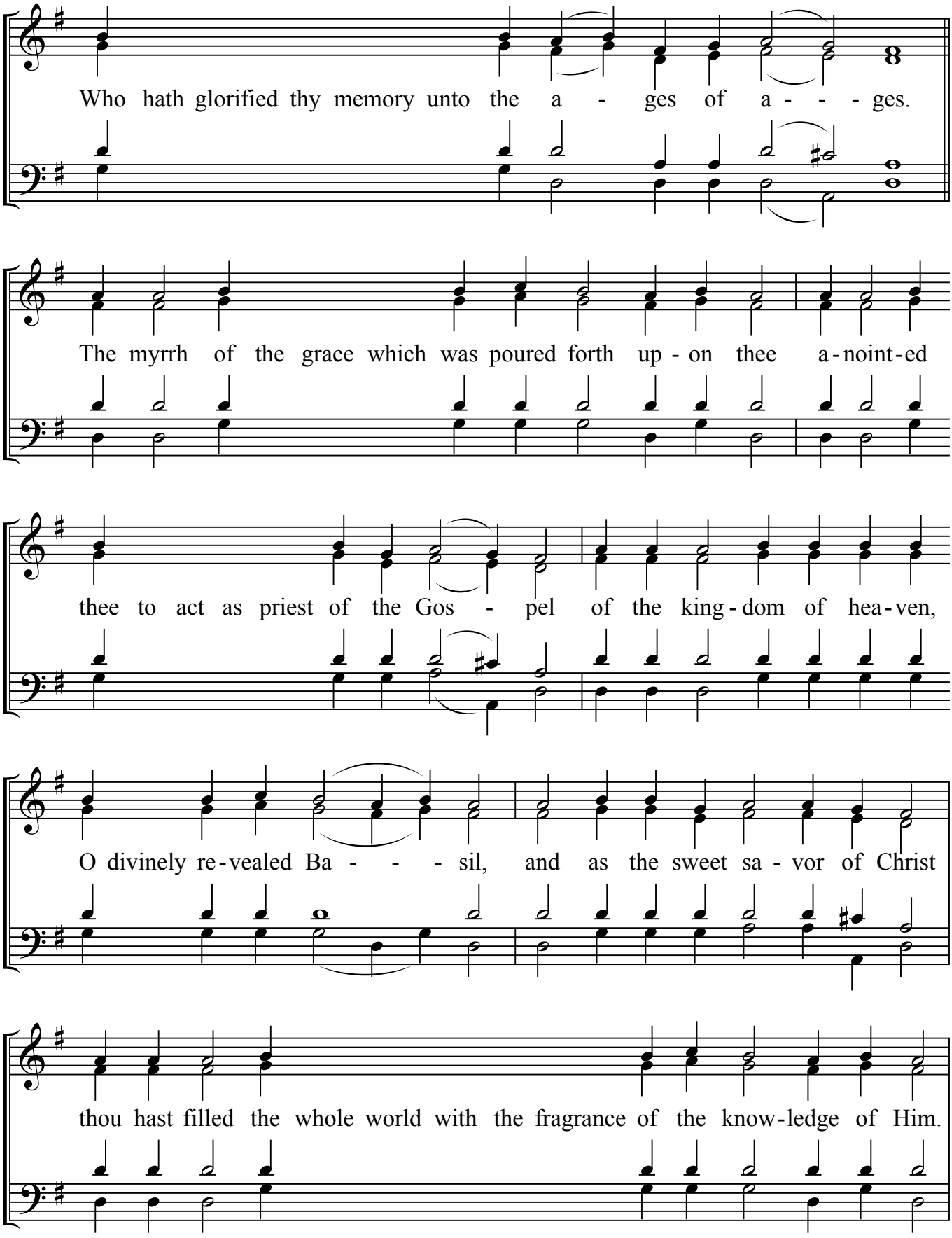
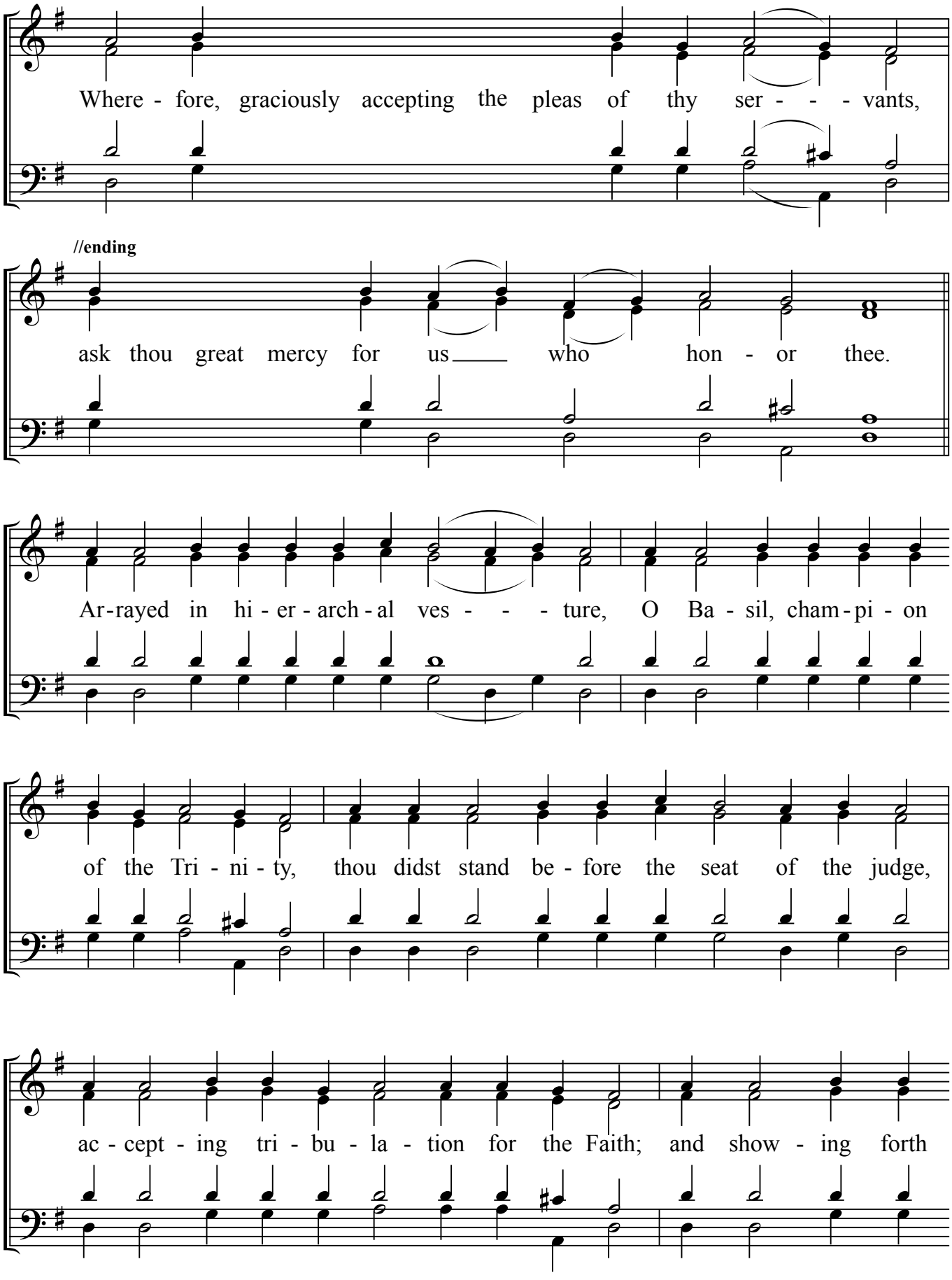
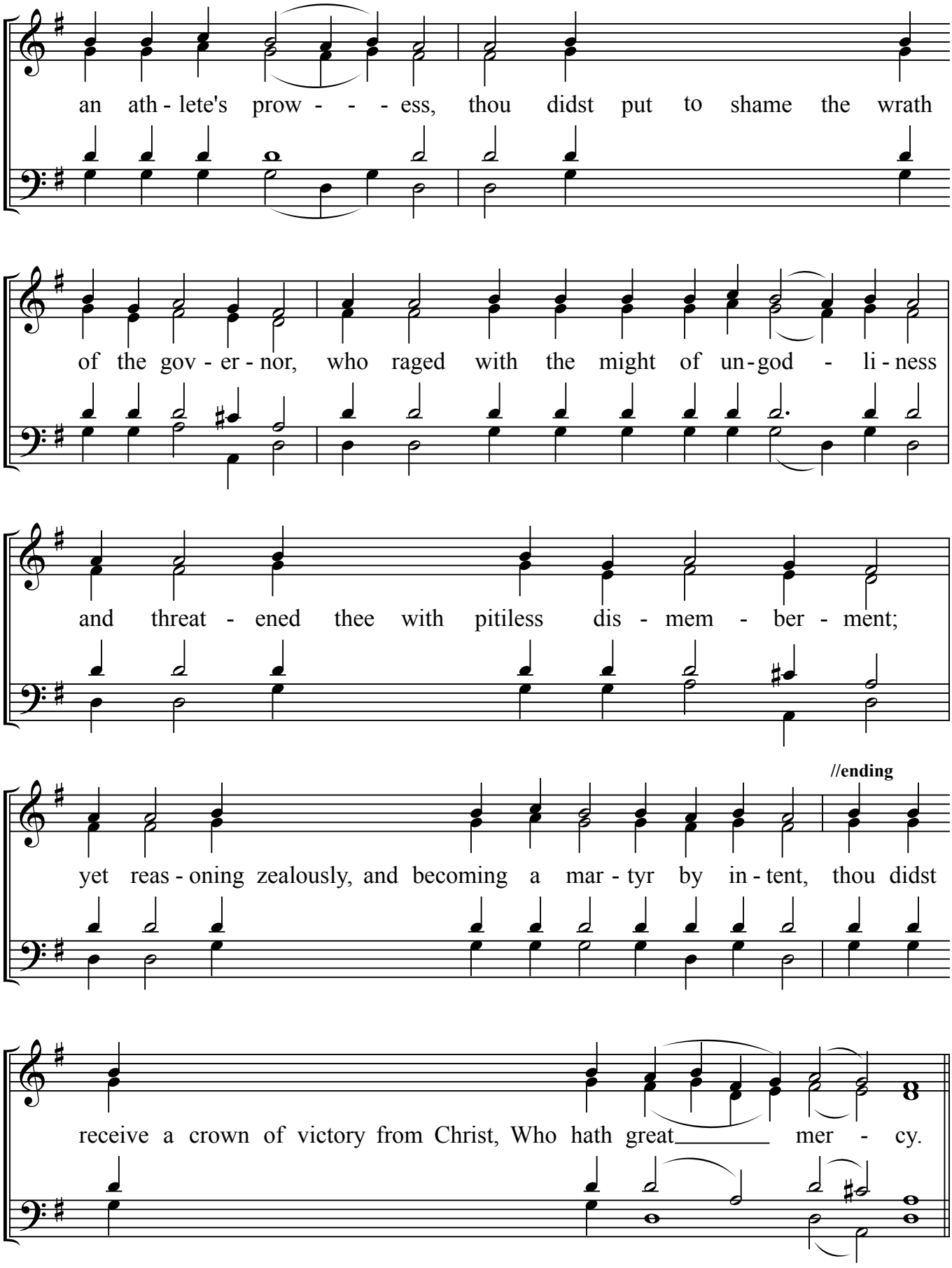
A Reading from Proverbs

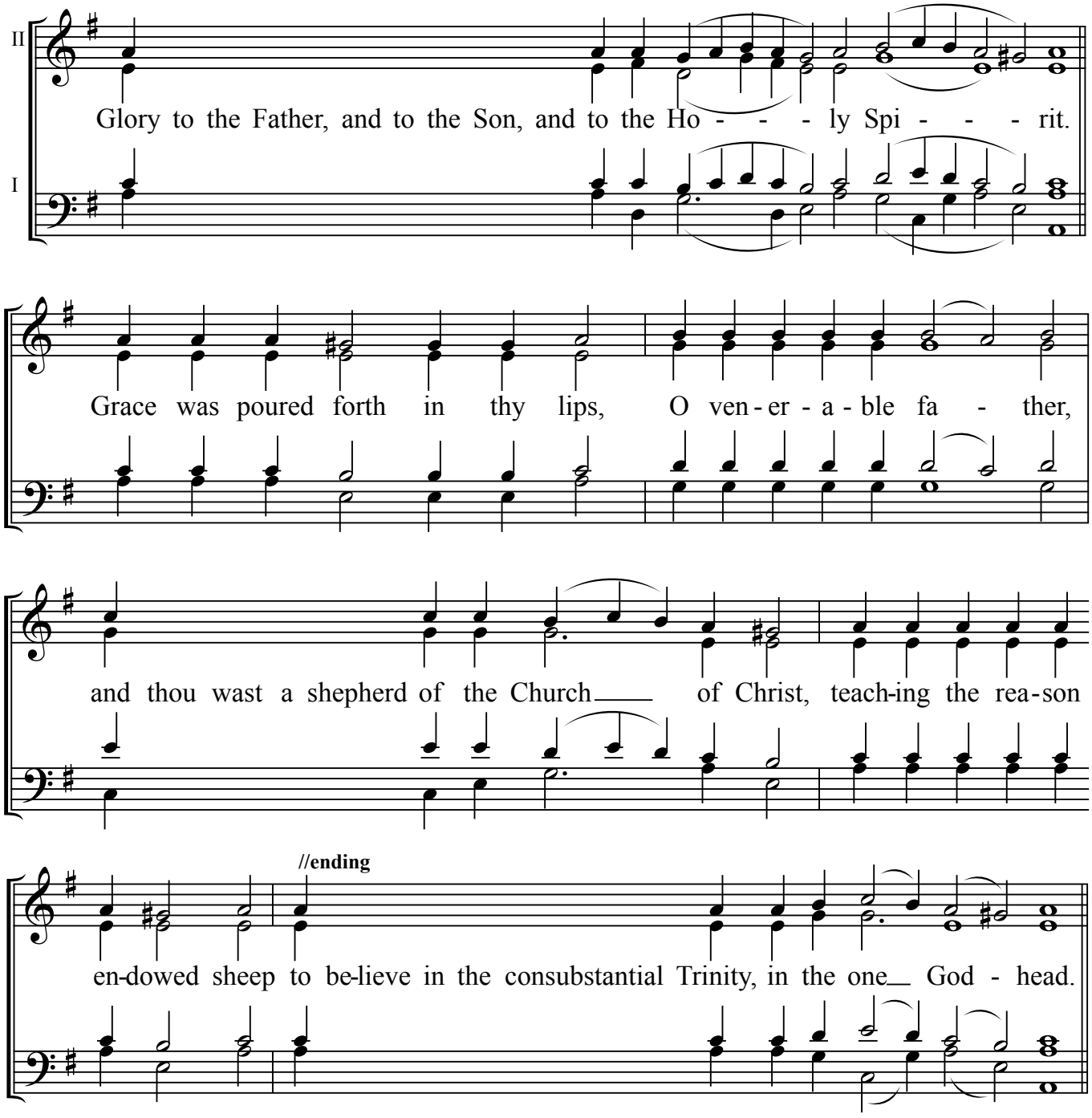
The Lord made me the beginning of His ways for His works. He established me before time was, in the beginning, before He made the earth; even before He made the depths; before the fountains of water came forth, before the mountains were settled, and before all the hills, He begat Me. The Lord made countries and uninhabited tracts, and the highest inhabited parts of the world. When He prepared heaven, I was present with Him; and when He prepared His throne upon the winds, and when He strengthened the clouds above, and when He secured the fountains of the earth, and when He strengthened the foundations of the earth: I was like unto Him. I was that wherein He took delight, and daily I rejoiced in His presence continually.

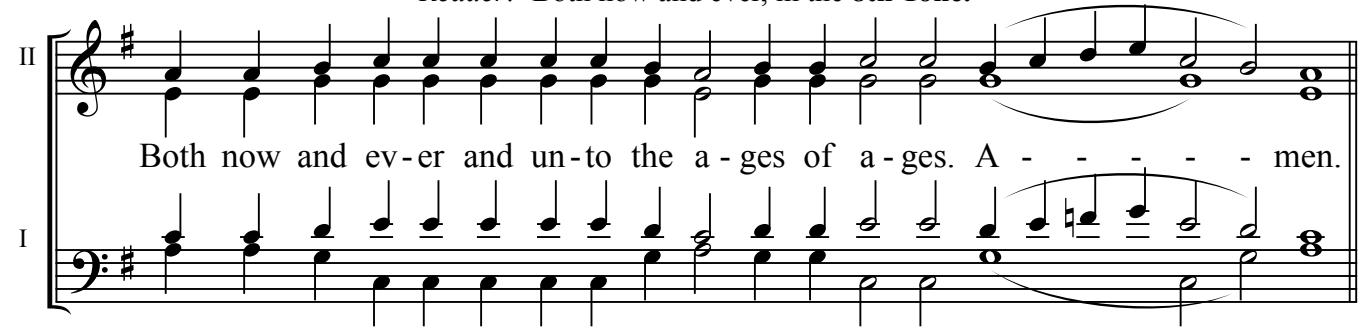
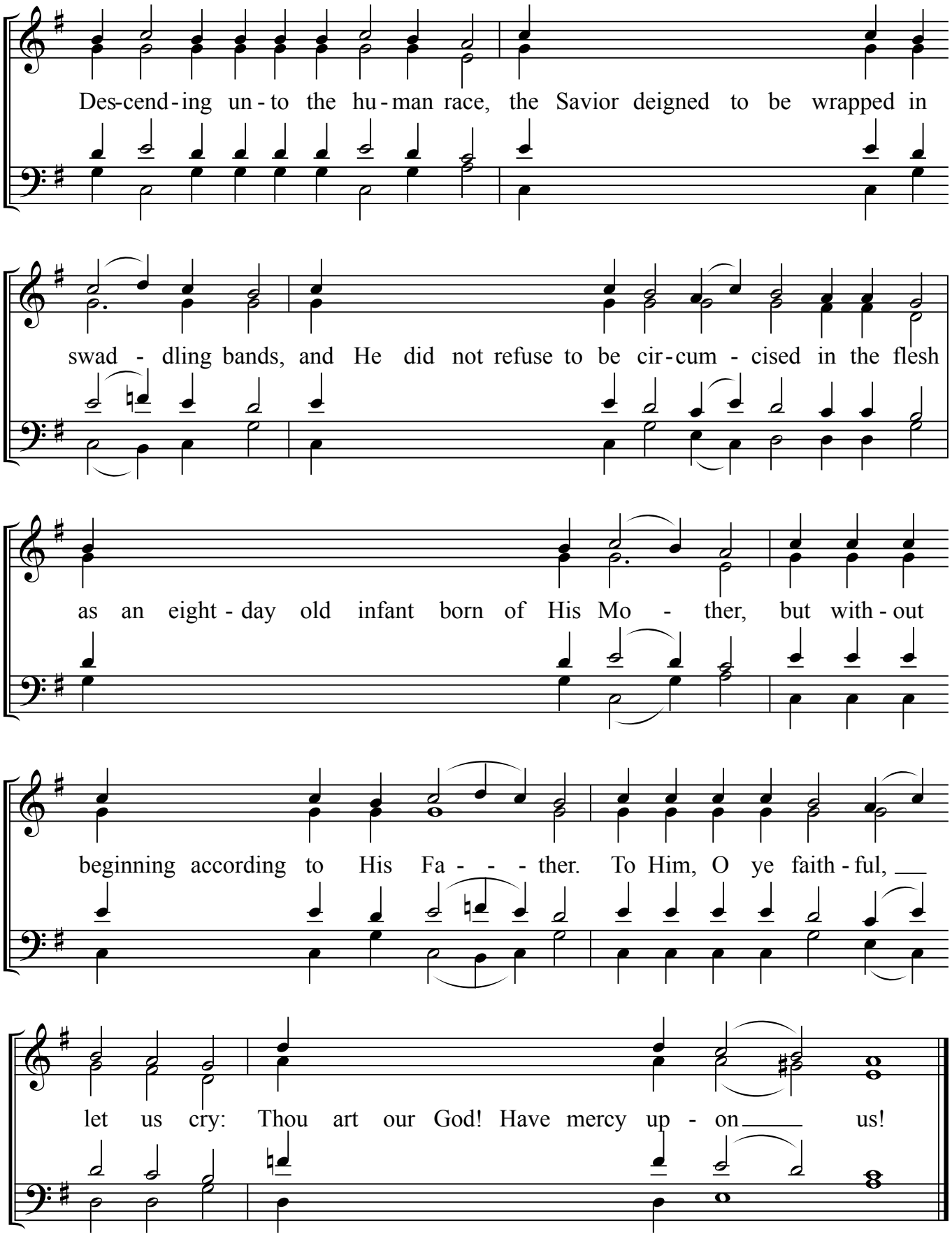
A Reading from Proverbs

The mouth of the righteous droppeth wisdom: but the tongue of the unjust shall perish. The lips of just men drop grace: but the mouth of the ungodly is perverse. False balances are an abomination before the Lord: but a just weight is acceptable unto Him. Wherever pride entereth, there will also be disgrace: but the mouth of the humble doth meditate wisdom. The integrity of the upright shall guide them, but the overthrow of the rebellious shall spoil them. Possessions shall not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness will deliver from death. When a just man dieth, he leaveth regret: but the destruction of the ungodly is speedy and causeth joy. Righteousness traceth out blameless paths: but ungodliness encountereth unjust dealing. The righteousness of upright men delivereth them: but transgressors are caught in their own destruction. At the death of a just man his hope doth not perish: but the boast of the ungodly perisheth. A righteous man escapeth from a snare, and the ungodly man is delivered up in his place. In the mouth of ungodly men is a snare for citizens: but the understanding of righteous men is prosperous. In the prosperity of righteous men a city prospereth, but at the destruction of the wicked there is exaltation. At the blessing of the upright a city shall be exalted, but by the mouths of ungodly men it is overthrown. A man void of understanding sneereth at his fellow citizens: but a sensible man is quiet.

Stichera of the Litia

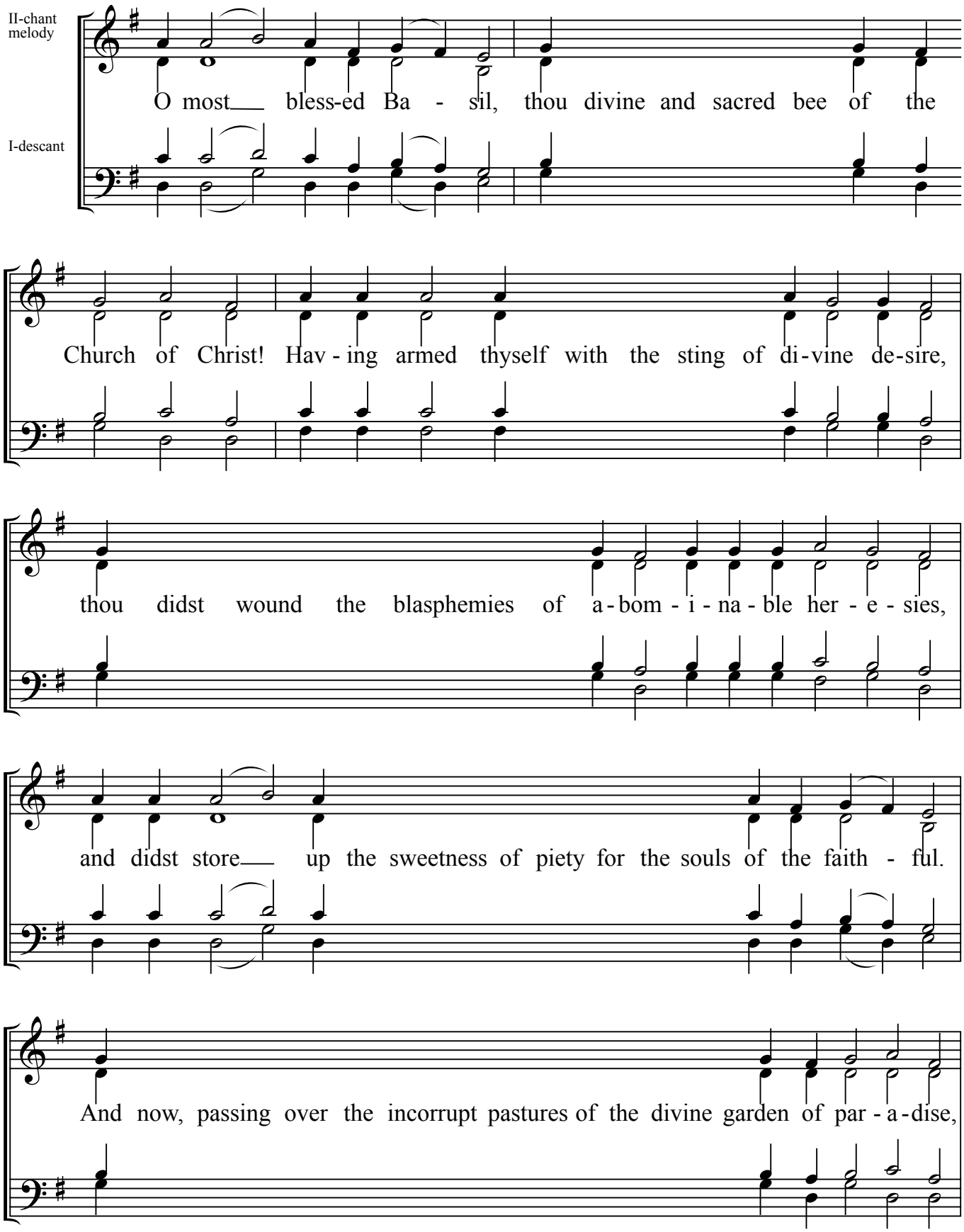
Reader: In the **3rd Tone**, Having caused Christ, the Well-spring of life...

Who hath glorified thy memory unto the a - ges of a - - - ges.
The myrrh of the grace which was poured forth up - on thee a - noint - ed
thee to act as priest of the Gos - pel of the king - dom of hea - ven,
O divinely re - vealed Ba - - - sil, and as the sweet sa - vor of Christ
thou hast filled the whole world with the fragrance of the know - ledge of Him.

Where - fore, graciously accepting the pleas of thy ser - - - vants,
//ending
ask thou great mercy for us who hon - or thee.
Ar-rayed in hi - er - arch - al ves - - - ture, O Ba - sil, cham - pi - on
of the Tri - ni - ty, thou didst stand be - fore the seat of the judge,
ac - cept - ing tri - bu - la - tion for the Faith; and show - ing forth

an ath - lete's prow - - - ess, thou didst put to shame the wrath
of the gov - er - nor, who raged with the might of un - god - li - ness
and threat - ened thee with pitiless dis - mem - ber - ment;
//ending
yet reas - oning zealously, and becoming a mar - tyr by in - tent, thou didst
receive a crown of victory from Christ, Who hath great_____ mer - cy.

Reader: Glory, in the **6th tone**.

Reader: Both now and ever, in the **8th Tone.**



Des-cend-ing un-to the hu-man race, the Savior deigned to be wrapped in
swad - dling bands, and He did not refuse to be cir-cum - cised in the flesh
as an eight - day old infant born of His Mo - ther, but with - out
beginning according to His Fa - - - ther. To Him, O ye faith - ful,
let us cry: Thou art our God! Have mercy up - on us!

The Aposticha

Reader: In the **1st tone**, O most blessed Basil...

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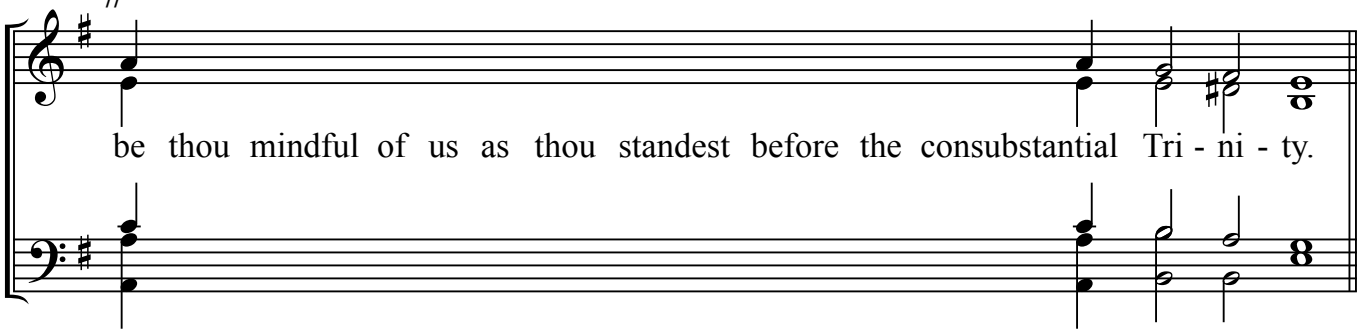
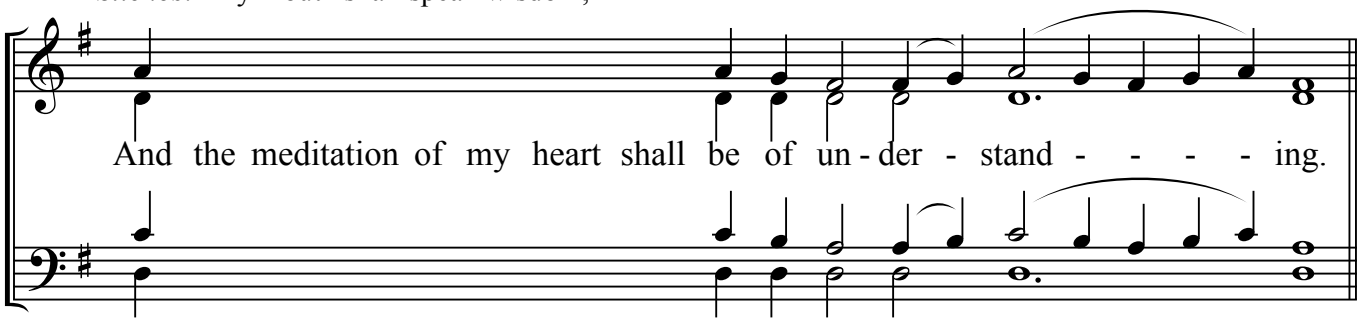
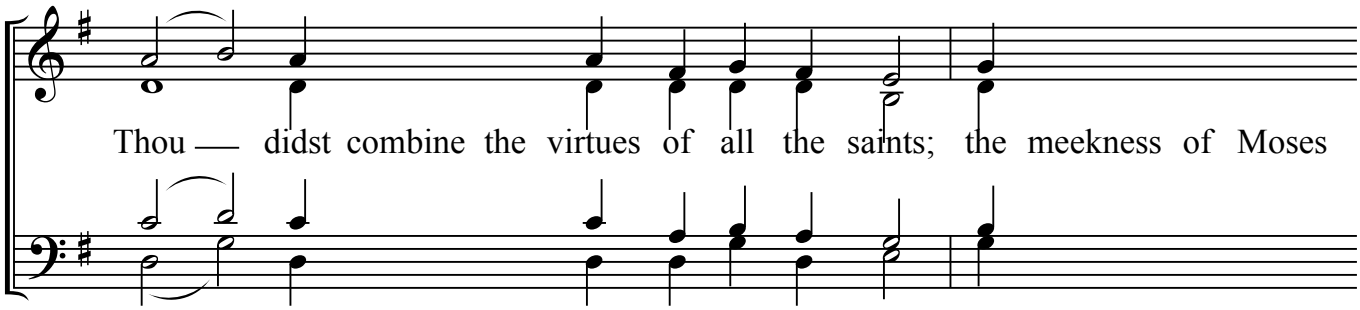
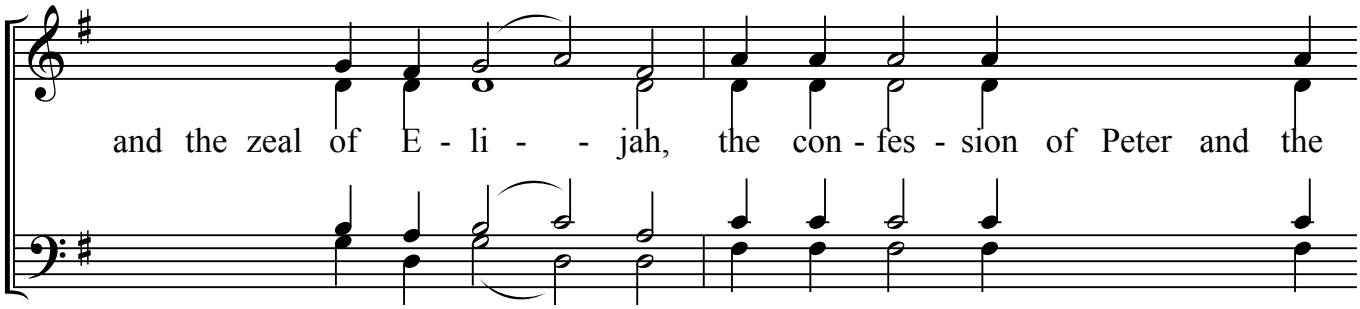
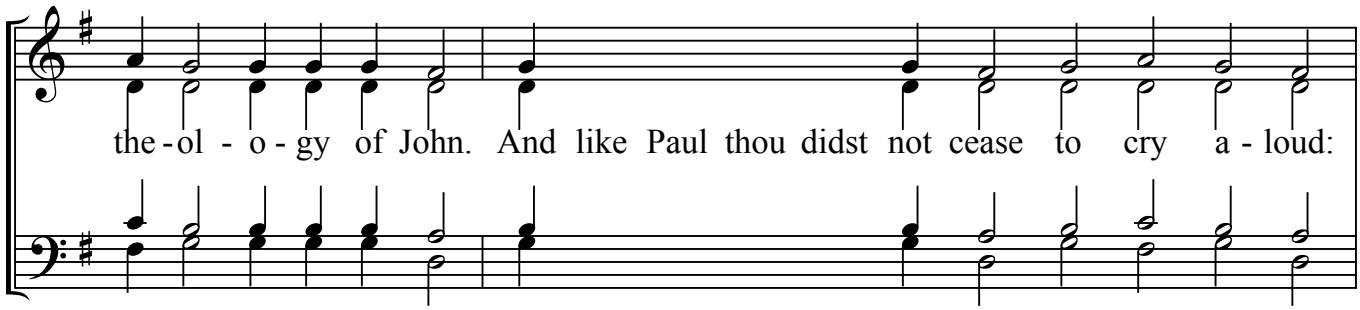
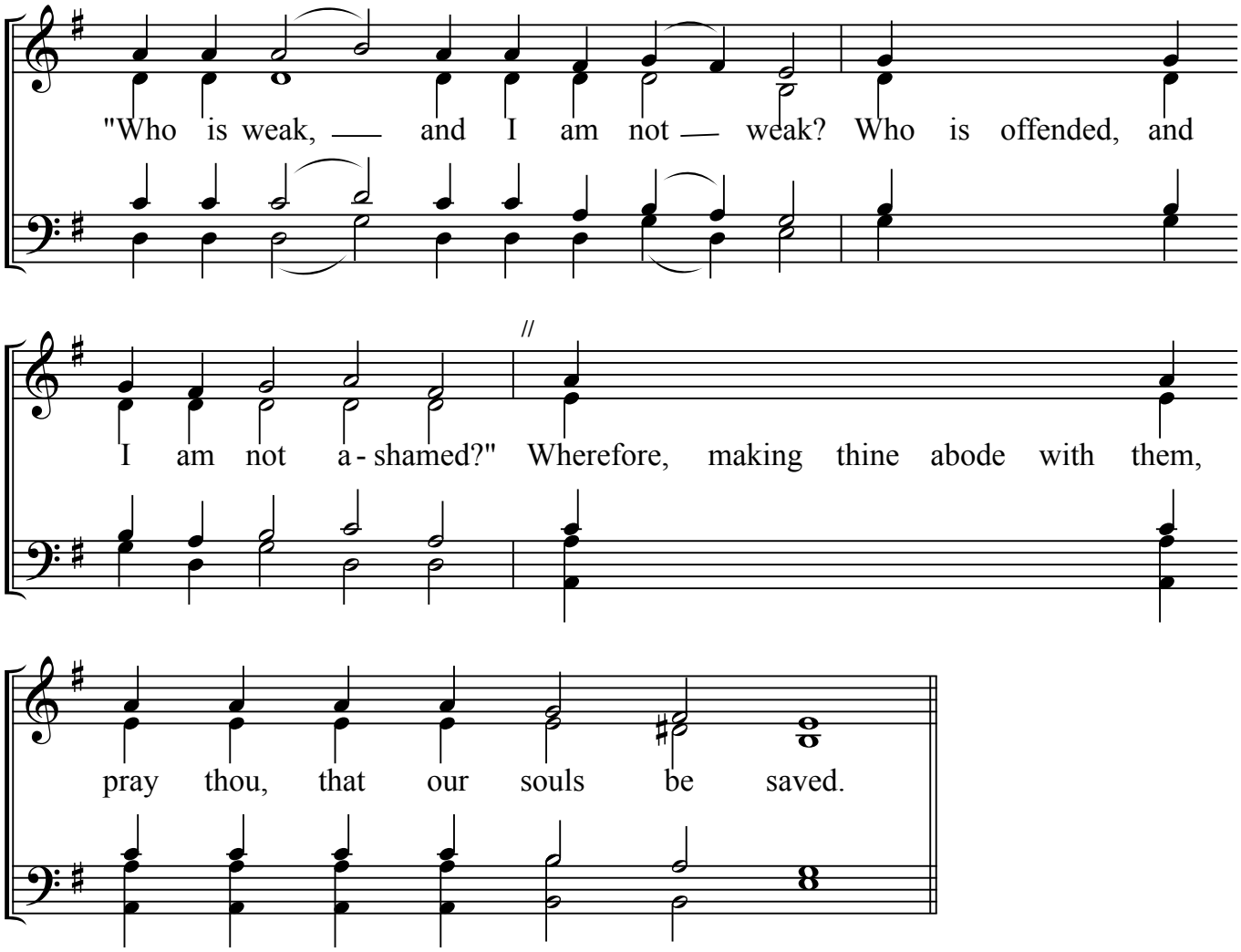


Stichos: My mouth shall speak wisdom,

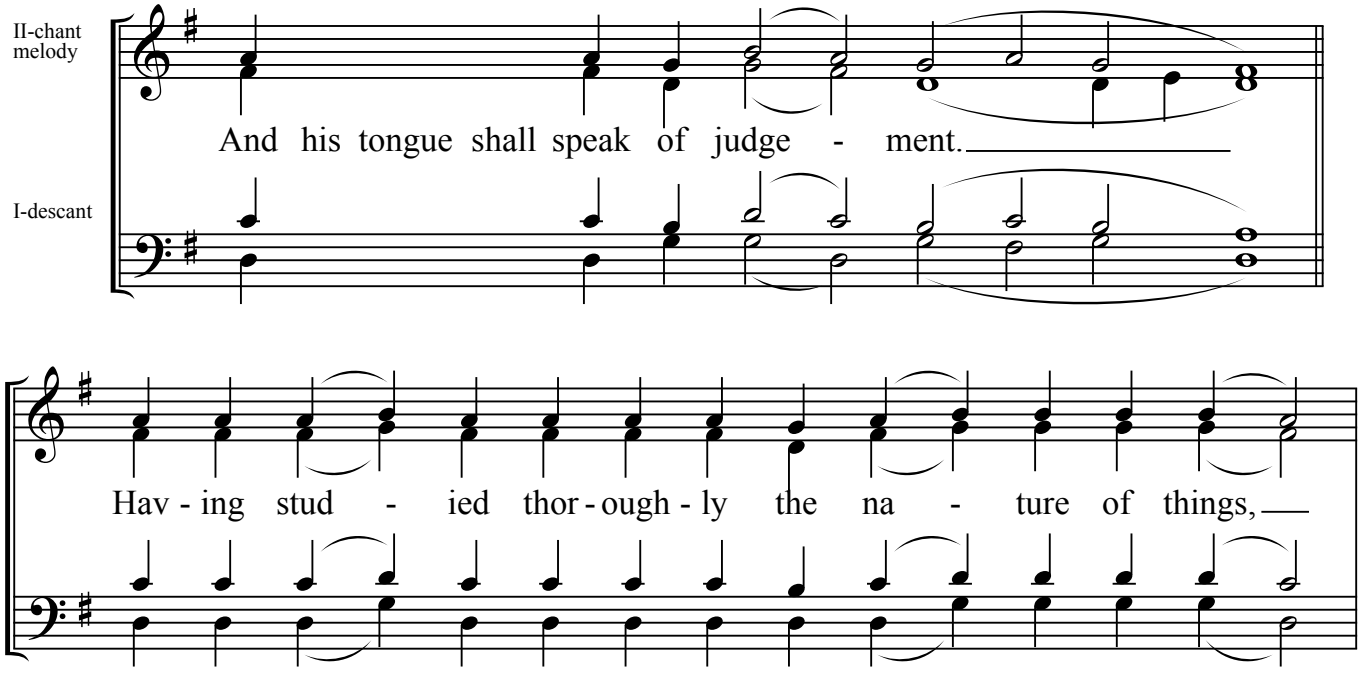
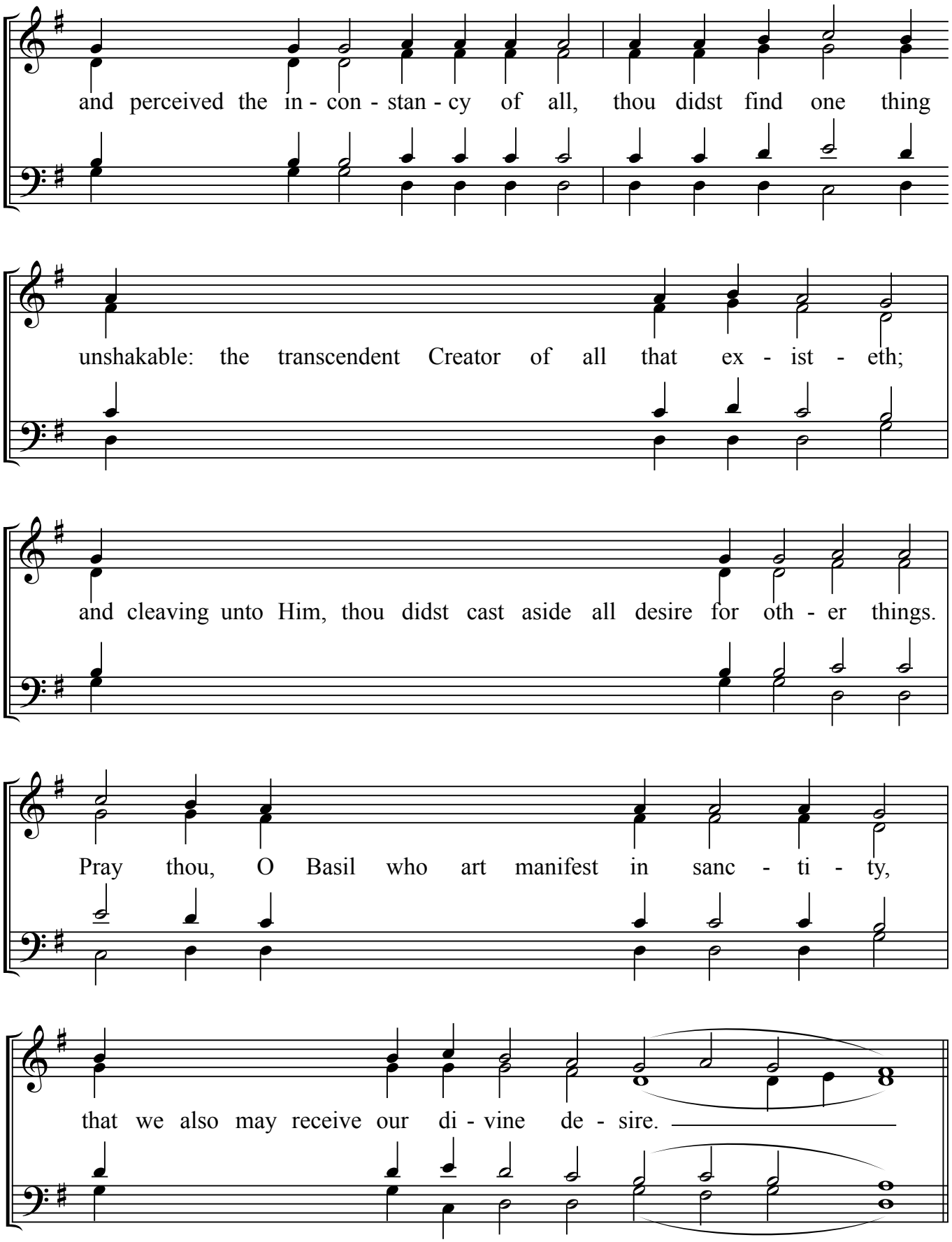




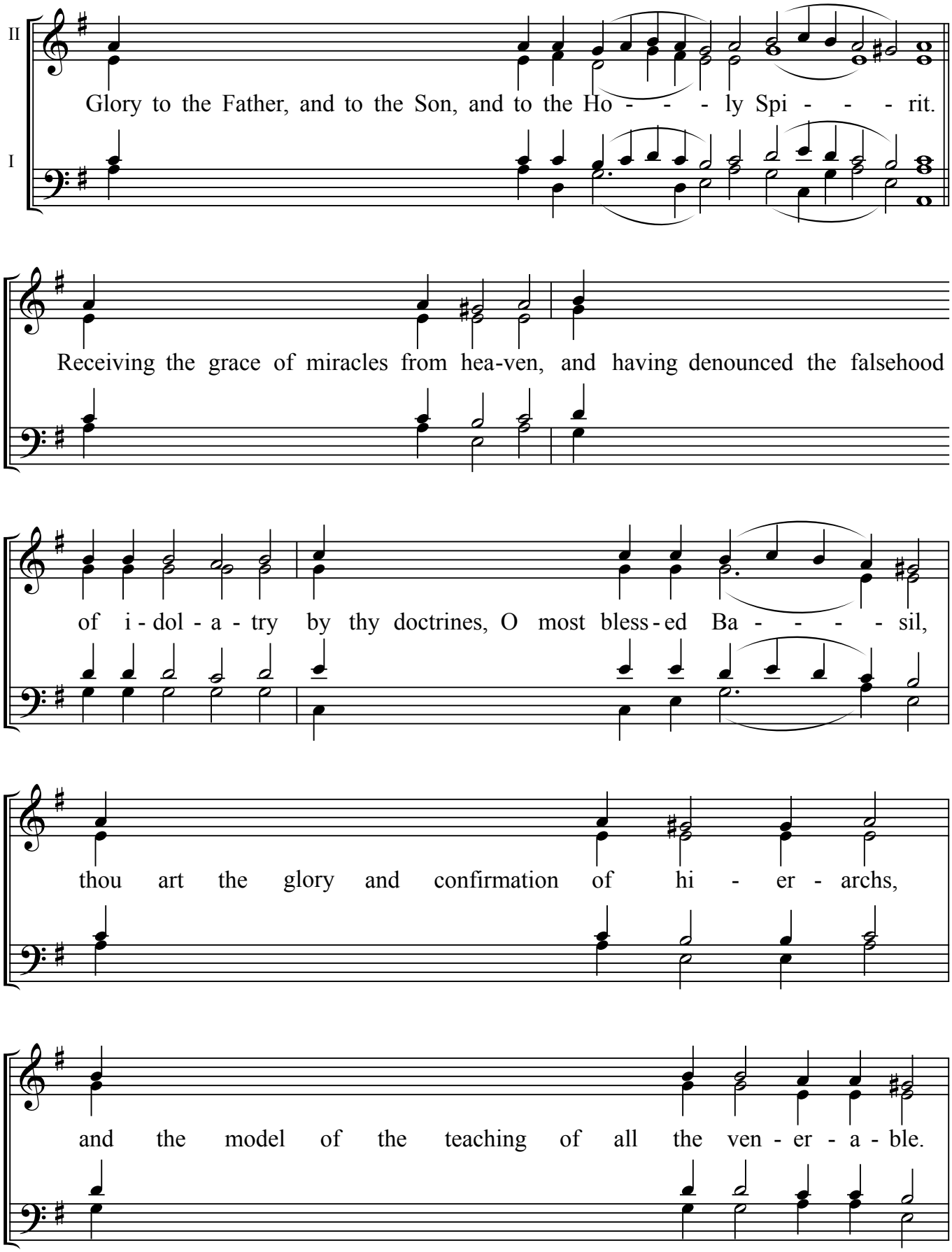
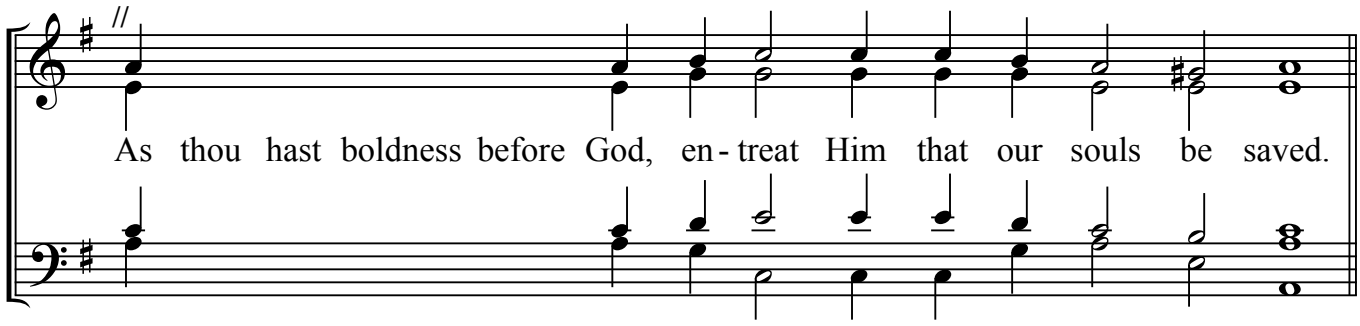


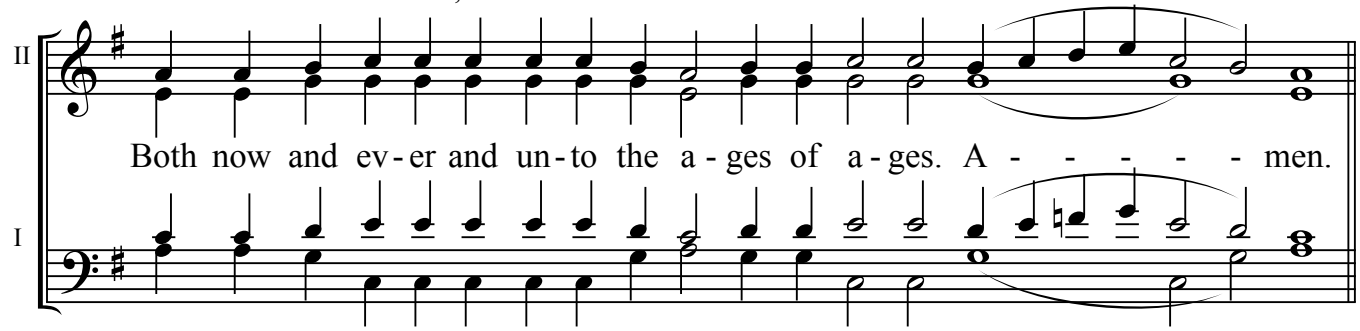


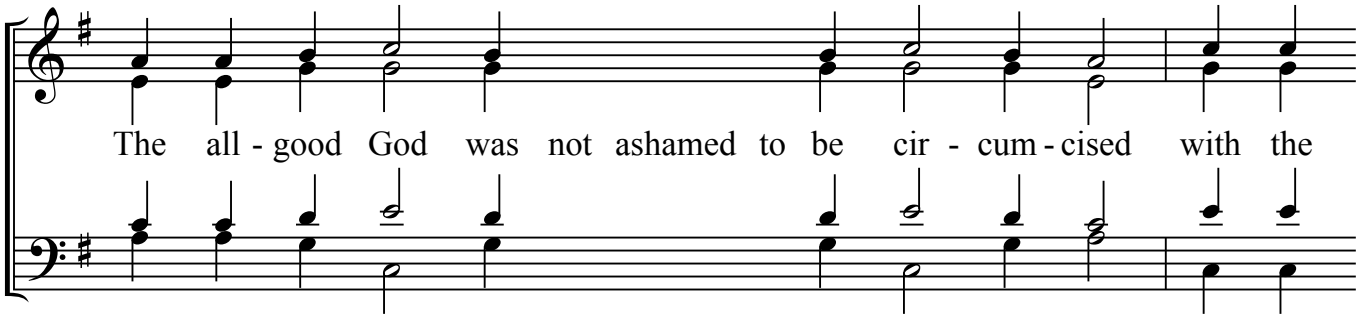
Stichos: In the **2nd Tone**, The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom,

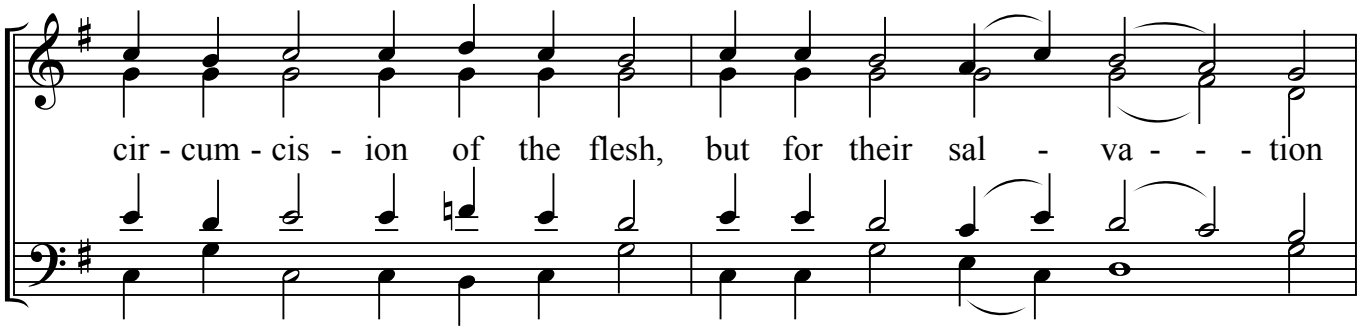


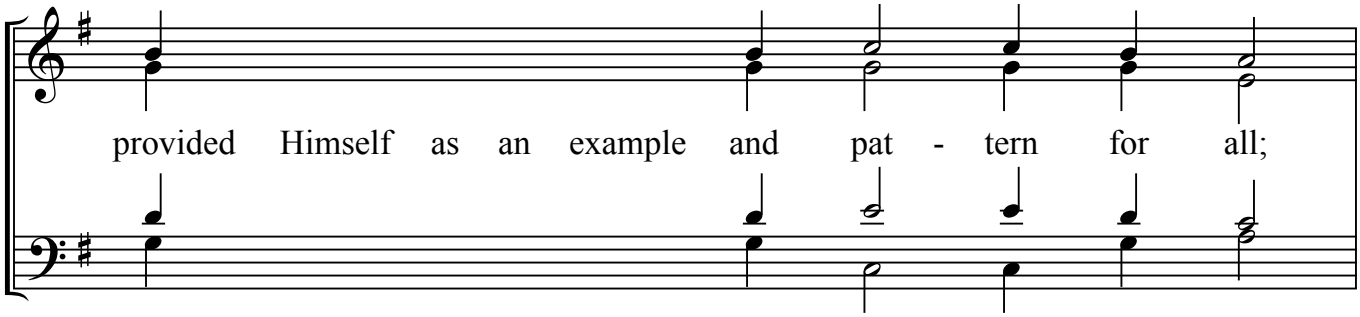
and perceived the in - con - stan - cy of all, thou didst find one thing
unshakable: the transcendent Creator of all that ex - ist - eth;
and cleaving unto Him, thou didst cast aside all desire for oth - er things.
Pray thou, O Basil who art manifest in sanc - ti - ty,
that we also may receive our di - vine de - sire.

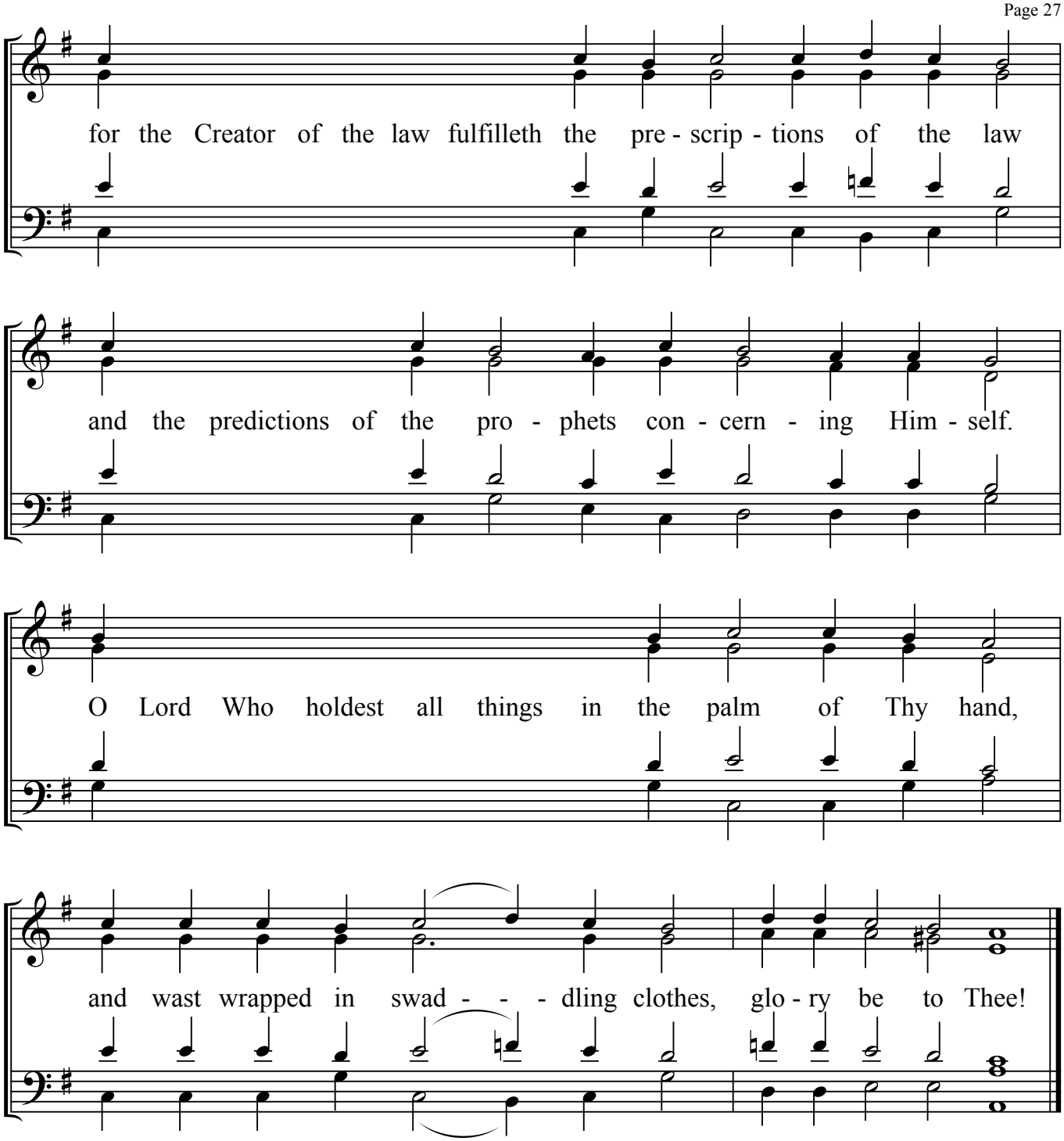
Reader: Glory, in the **6th tone.**

Reader: Both now and ever, in the **8th Tone.**











Now lettest Thou Thy servant...

Trisagion Prayers

At the Blessing of the Loaves, the troparion of the Hierarch,2x, and Circumcision, 1x.

If Great Vespers is served alone, (not part of a Vigil):
Troparion of the Hierarch; Glory...Both Now... Troparion of the Circumcision.

English translation by Isaac E. Lambertsen, ©2000, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol. V.,
St. John of Kronstadt Press. The complete service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org