

March 25: The Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos Canon, Tone 4

Obikhod

Ode 1

S
A

I shall o - pen my mouth, and the Spi - rit will in - spire — it,

T
B

Detailed description: This system contains the first line of music. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and two bass staves (Tenor and Bass). The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "I shall o - pen my mouth, and the Spi - rit will in - spire — it,". The Soprano and Alto parts are written in treble clef, while the Tenor and Bass parts are in bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the vocal staves.

and I shall ut - ter the words of my song to the Queen and Mo - ther;

Detailed description: This system contains the second line of music. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and two bass staves (Tenor and Bass). The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "and I shall ut - ter the words of my song to the Queen and Mo - ther;". The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef, and the Tenor and Bass parts are in bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the vocal staves.

I shall be seen radiant - ly keep - ing feast

Detailed description: This system contains the third line of music. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and two bass staves (Tenor and Bass). The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "I shall be seen radiant - ly keep - ing feast". The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef, and the Tenor and Bass parts are in bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the vocal staves.

and joyfully praising her con - ceiv - - - ing.

Detailed description: This system contains the fourth line of music. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and two bass staves (Tenor and Bass). The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "and joyfully praising her con - ceiv - - - ing.". The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef, and the Tenor and Bass parts are in bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the vocal staves.

Ode 3

O Mo - ther of God, thou liv - ing and plen - ti - ful fount,

give strength to those united in spirit-tu - al fel - low-ship, who sing hymns of

praise to thee; and on this feast of thy holy con - ceiv - ing

vouchsafe unto them crowns of glo - ry.

Ode 4

He Who sits in glo - ry, up - on the throne of the God - head,

Je - sus the true God, is come in a swift — cloud,

and with His pure hand he has saved those who cry:

Glo - ry to Thy pow - er, O Christ.

Ode 5

The whole world was amazed at thy divine glory,

for thou, O Virgin who hast not known wed-lock, has held in thy womb the

God of all, and hast given birth to an eternal Son,

Who rewards with salvation all who sing thy praises.

Ode 6

Pre - fig - ur - ing Thy three - day bur - i - al,

the prophet Jonah cried out from the bel - ly of the whale:

'De - liv - er me from cor - rup - tion, O Jesus, King and Lord of hosts.'

Ode 7

The ho - ly children bravely trampled upon the threat - en - ing fire,

pre - ferring not to worship created things rather than the Cre - a - tor,

and they sang in joy: 'Blessed art Thou and praised above all,

O Lord God of our fa - - - thers.'

Ode 8

Heark-en, O pure Vir-gin Maid: let Gabriel tell thee the counsel of the

Most High that is an-cient and true. Make read-y to re-ceive God:

for through thee the Incomprehensible comes to dwell with mor-tal men.

Therefore I cry re-joic-ing: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord.

Ode 9

Let no pro - fane — hand touch the liv - ing Ark of God,

but let the lips of the faithful singing with - out ceas - ing

the words of the Angel to the The-o - to - kos, cry a-loud in great joy:

'Re-joice, thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with — thee.'

English text from "The Festal Menaion", translated by Mother Mary and Archimandrite Kallistos Ware ©1969
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Note: The Text of the Irmosi have been adjusted to concur with the Slavonic Menaion at Odes 6, 8 and 9.

Music transposed for mixed choir from: "All-night Vigil", edited by D. Bolgarsky,
Holy Trinity-Jonah Monastery Press, Kiev, 2000.