November 20: The Forefeast of the Entry of the Theotokos
Stichera on "Lord I have cried"
Tone 1, Special Melody, "Joy of the ranks of heaven..."
Seven Lakes Hermitage Melody

(6) Reader: In the 1st Tone, Special Melody "Joy of the ranks of heaven..."
If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand?

For with Thee there is for-give-ness.

The vir-gins bear-ing lamps, who with their light accompany the ev-er-

Vir-gin,_ ver-ily prophesy the future in Spi-rit.

for the Temple of God, the The-o-to-kos,_ en-ters with

virginal glory
vir-gin-al glo-ry as a little child into the tem-ple.

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

My soul hath hoped in the Lord.

The The-o-to-kos, glorious fruit of a sa-cred prom-ise,

is truly revealed unto the world as higher than all cre-a-tion.
Pi-ously led into the house of God, she fulfills the vow of her parents and she is preserved by the Holy Spirit.

(4) Reader: From the morning watch until night from the morning watch

Let Israel hope in the Lord.

O Virgin, fed in faith by heavenly bread in the temple of the Lord,
thou hast brought forth unto the world the Bread of life that is the Word; and as His chosen temple without spot, thou wast betrothed mystically through the Spirit to be the Bride of God the Father.

Psalm translation from "The Psalter according to the Seventy", Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, MS, ©1986.

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