November 21 (on a weekday): The Entry of the Theotokos

Stichera on "Lord I have cried"
Tone 4, Special Melody, "As one valiant among martyrs..."
Optina Hermitage Melody

(4) Reader: In the 4th Tone, Special Melody Ās one valiant among the martyrs...
From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch

Let Israel hope in the Lord.

Into the Holy of Holies is the holy and immaculate one led by the Holy Spirit;

and she is fed by a holy angel, in that she is the most holy
tem - - - - ple of our ho - ly God,

Who hath sanctified all things by her en - - - - try and hath

des - i - fied the nature of mortal men who had fal - len.

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

And He shall redeem Israel out of all his in - q - - ui - ties.

Repeat 1st sticheron "Into the Holy of holies..."
Praise Him all ye peoples.

Rejoicing today and bearing candles,

the maidens precede the noetic lamp and escort her with sanctity to the Holy of holies,
revealing beforehand the Fulgence which would shine forth from her to illumine with the Spirit those who sit in the darkness of ignorance.
(1) **Reader:** For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us,

And the truth of the Lord abideth for ever.

The most lauded Anna cried out: "O Zachariah, in gladness receive her whom the prophets of God proclaimed in the Spirit, and escort her to the holy temple,
there to be raised in sanctity, that she may become the divine throne, the palace and bowser, and the radiant abode of the MASTER of all!"

English translation by Isaac E. Lambertsen, "Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol. III, St. John of Kronstadt Press, ©1998. The complete service may be purchased at: sjkp.org

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