Matins on the Saturday of the Akathist
Stichera on the Praises
Tone 4, Special Melody "As one valiant among martyrs..."

(4) Reader: In the 4th Tone, Special Melody "As one valiant among the martyrs..."
Praise Him for His mighty acts,

Praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

The Archangel Gabriel confirmeth the mystery hidden and unknown even to the angels; and he is now come to thee.
who alone art incorrupt, the comely turtle dove, the

restoration of our race, and crieth out to thee, O all-holy one:

"Rejoice! Be thou made ready by my words

to receive in thy womb God the Word!"
(3) Reader: Praise Him with the sound of trumpet,

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Praise Him with psaltery and harp.}
\end{align*}
\]

+ Repeat first sticheron: "The archangel Gabriel..."

(2) Reader: Praise Him with timbrel and dance,

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Praise Him with strings and flute.}
\end{align*}
\]

A splendid palace hath been prepared for Thee, O

Mas - ter, the pure womb of the di-vine Maiden!
Come Thou and enter there-in, have pity on Thy creation

which in envy undertook to oppose Thee, is held in

thrall to the deceiver, hath lost its primal beauty

and awaiteth Thy saving descent.
(1) Reader: Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with the cymbals of jubilation.

Let every breath praise the Lord.

The Archangel Gabriel manifestly cometh to thee, O all immaculate one, and crieth out to thee: "Rejoice thou annulment of the curse,
res-to-ra-tion of the fal-len! Re-joice, thou

who a-lone hast been cho-sen by God! Re-joice, chariot of the Sun of

glo-ry! Re-ceive thou the In-cor-por-e-al One

Who desireth to make His a-bode with-in thy womb!"
Reader: Glory, both now, in the same tone.

Glory... both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

The Theotokos heard a tongue which she did not know; / for the archangel spake unto her words of annunciation. / And accepting his salutation with faith, / she conceived Thee, the pre-eternal God. / Wherefore, rejoicing, we cry out to Thee: / O God Who wast immutably incarnate of her, // grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls!

These texts for the Praises on the Saturday of the Akathist are identical to hymns found in the Menaion on March 24 and 25. 

English translation by Isaac E. Lamberten, ©1999, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol. VII, St. John of Kronstadt Press. The complete service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org

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