

Royal Hours

Christmas

First Hour

Theotokion -- Tone 4 (Tropar)

What shall we call thee, O full of grace?

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staves.

For thou hast made the Sun of Righteousness shine forth.

The second line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. It begins with a '2' above the treble staff, indicating a second ending or a specific rhythmic pattern. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Paradise? For thou hast put forth the flower of immortality.

The third line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. It begins with a '3' above the treble staff, indicating a third ending or a specific rhythmic pattern. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Virgin? For thou hast remained without corruption.

The fourth line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. It begins with a '4' above the treble staff, indicating a fourth ending or a specific rhythmic pattern. The lyrics are written below the staves.

5

Pure Mother? For thou hast held

6

in thy holy embrace a Son who is God of all.//

7

Pray unto Him to save our souls.

Tone 8

Idiomela of the First Hour

Kievan

8

Pre - pare, O Beth - - - le - hem,

9

and let the man-ger make read - y and the cave re - ceive;

10

for truth hath come, and sha - dow hath passed.

11

And God hath appeared to mankind from the Vir - gin,

12

tak - ing our like-ness and de - i - fy - ing our na - - - ture.

13

Where - fore, Adam and Eve are made new, //

14

cry - ing, Goodwill hath ap-peared on earth to save our race.

God cometh from Teman, the Holy One from the mountain overshadowed by the forest. O Lord, I have heard of the report of Thee and was afraid; I considered Thy works and was amazed.

Tone 3

15
Now the proph - e - cy draws near to its ful - fill - - - ment,

16
which _____ mys - - - ti - c'lly said:

17
'And thou, Beth - le - hem, in the land of Ju - - - dah,

18
who dost pre - pare the cave,

19
are not the least a - mong the prin - - - - ces:

20

for out of thee shall come forth un - to me

21

in the flesh a Governor of the Na - - - tions,

22

Christ our God born of a Vir - gin Mai - - - den,

23

and as a Shep - herd He shall tend His people, the new Is - ra-el.'//

24

Let us all give Him glo - - - ry.

Glory...Now and ever...

25 Tone 8

Jo - seph spoke thus to the Vir - - - gin:

This system contains measures 25 and 26. Measure 25 is marked with a '25' and 'Tone 8'. The lyrics are 'Jo - seph spoke thus to the Vir - - - gin:'. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. There are rests in the bass line for measures 25 and 26.

26

'What is this do - ing, O Ma - ry, that I see in thee?

This system contains measures 26 and 27. Measure 26 is marked with a '26'. The lyrics are ''What is this do - ing, O Ma - ry, that I see in thee?'. The music continues from the previous system. There are rests in the bass line for measures 26 and 27.

27

I fail to un - der-stand, and am a - mazed,

This system contains measures 27 and 28. Measure 27 is marked with a '27'. The lyrics are 'I fail to un - der-stand, and am a - mazed,'. The music continues from the previous system. There are rests in the bass line for measures 27 and 28.

28

and my mind is struck with dis - may.

This system contains measures 28 and 29. Measure 28 is marked with a '28'. The lyrics are 'and my mind is struck with dis - may.'. The music continues from the previous system. There are rests in the bass line for measures 28 and 29.

29

Go from my sight, there - fore, with all speed.

This system contains measures 29 and 30. Measure 29 is marked with a '29'. The lyrics are 'Go from my sight, there - fore, with all speed.'. The music continues from the previous system. There are rests in the bass line for measures 29 and 30.

30

What is this do - ing, O Ma - ry, that I see in thee?

31

In - stead of hon - or, thou hast brought me shame;

32

in - stead of glad - ness, sor - - - row;

33

and in - stead of _____ praise, re - proof.

34

No further shall I bear the re - proach of men,

35

I re - ceived thee from the priests of the tem - - - ple,

36

as one blame - less be - fore the Lord.//

37

And so what is this that I now see?'

Third Hour

Theotokion -- Tone 4 (Tropar)

Kievan

38

O Theotokos, thou art the true vine,

39

that has put forth the fruit of life.

40

We pray thee, O La - - - dy,

41

pray together with the apostles and all the saints, //

42

that mercy may be grant - ed to our souls.

Tone 6 (Stichera)

Idiomela of the Third Hour

Kievan

43

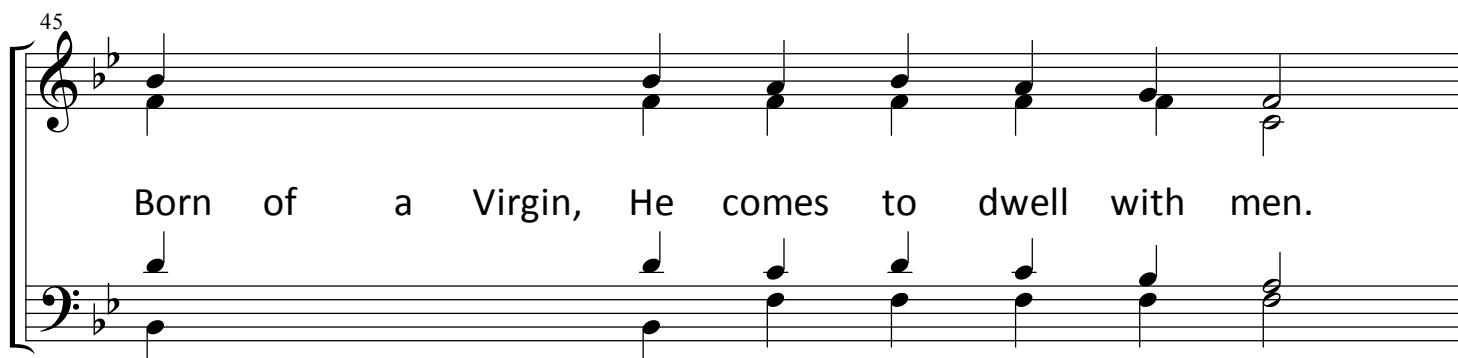
This is our God, and there shall be none oth - er

44



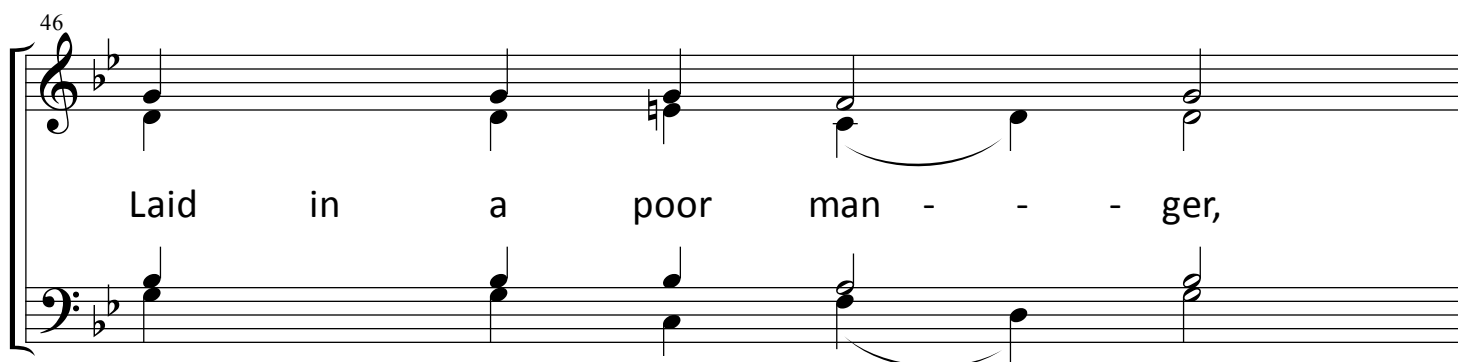
ac - count - ed of in com - par - i - son with _____ Him.

45



Born of a Virgin, He comes to dwell with men.

46



Laid in a poor man - - - ger,

47



the Only-begotten Son ap - pears as mor - tal man

48



and the Lord of glory is wrapped in swad - dling clothes.

49

A star guides the Magi to come and wor - ship Him; /

50

O Ho - ly Tri - ni - ty, save our souls.

*God shall come from Teman, and the Holy One from the mountain overshadowed by the forest.
O Lord, I have heard the report of Thee and was afraid.*

Tone 8

Be - fore Thy birth, O Lord,

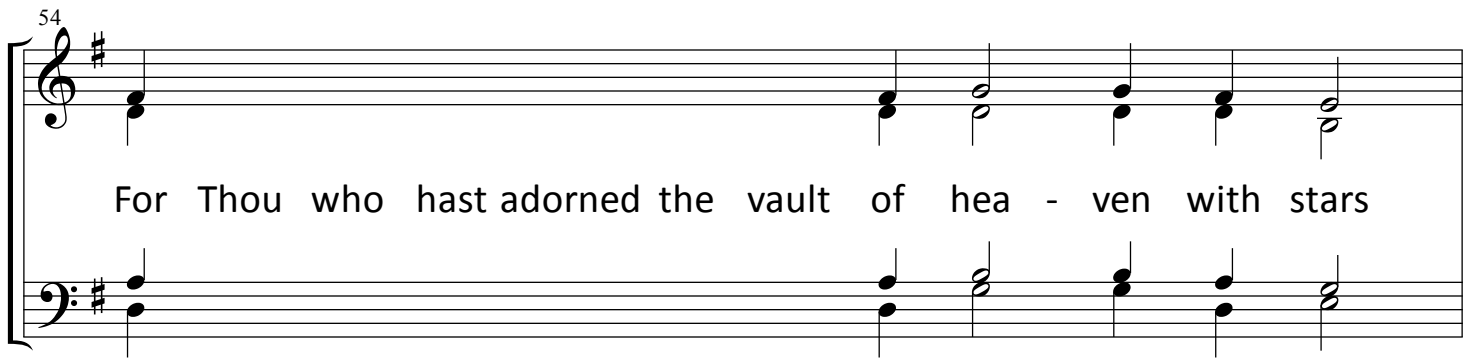
52

the an - gels looked with trem - bling on this mys - ter - y

53

and were struck with won - - - der:


54



For Thou who hast adorned the vault of hea - ven with stars

This block contains the musical notation for measure 54. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble staff consists of half notes: D5, E5, F#5, G5, and A5. The bass line consists of half notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, and A4. The lyrics are "For Thou who hast adorned the vault of hea - ven with stars".

55



hast been well pleased to be born as a babe;

This block contains the musical notation for measure 55. The treble staff melody continues with half notes: B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, and A6. The bass line continues with half notes: B3, C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, and A4. The lyrics are "hast been well pleased to be born as a babe;".

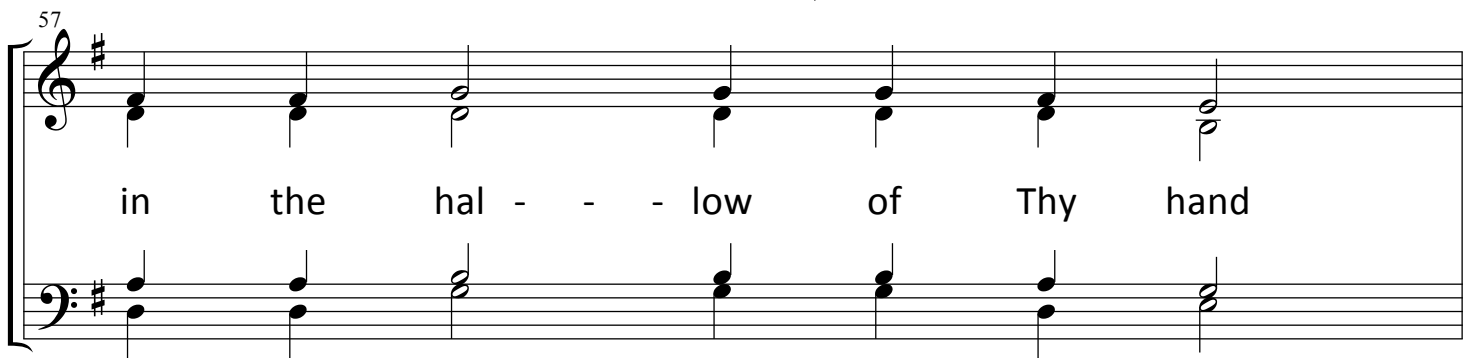
56



and Thou who hold - est all the ends of the earth

This block contains the musical notation for measure 56. The treble staff melody continues with half notes: B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, and A6, followed by a whole note chord of B5 and D6. The bass line continues with half notes: B3, C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, and A4, followed by a whole note chord of B3 and D4. The lyrics are "and Thou who hold - est all the ends of the earth".

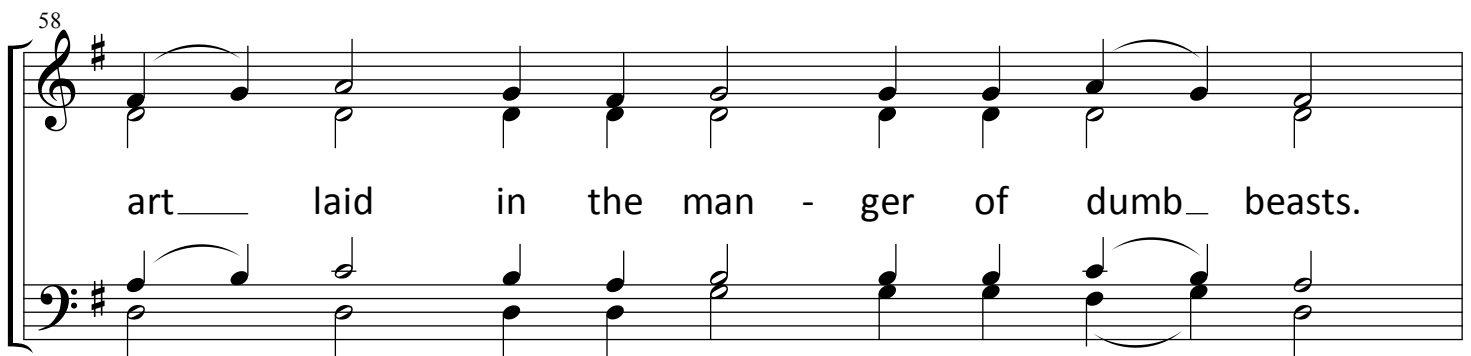
57



in the hal - - low of Thy hand

This block contains the musical notation for measure 57. The treble staff melody continues with half notes: B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, and A6. The bass line continues with half notes: B3, C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, and A4. The lyrics are "in the hal - - low of Thy hand".

58



art_ laid in the man - ger of dumb_ beasts.

This block contains the musical notation for measure 58. The treble staff melody continues with half notes: B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, and A6, followed by a whole note chord of B5 and D6. The bass line continues with half notes: B3, C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, and A4, followed by a whole note chord of B3 and D4. The lyrics are "art_ laid in the man - ger of dumb_ beasts.".

59

For by such a dis - pen - sa - - - - tion

has Thy compassion been made known, O Christ, //

and Thy great_ mer - cy: glo - ry to Thee.

Glory...Now and ever...

Tone 3

62

Tell us, Joseph, how it is that thou bring-est to Beth - le - hem,

great with child, the Maiden whom thou hast received from the sanc-tu-a-ry?

64

'I have searched the Proph - ets,' said he,

65

'and have been warned by an an - - - gel:

66

and I am per-suad - ed that Mary shall give birth to God,

67

in ways sur - pas - sing all in - ter - pre - ta - - - tion.

68

Ma - gi from the east shall come to worship Him with pre - cious gifts.'//

69

O Lord, who for our sake hast tak-en flesh: glo - ry to Thee.

Theotokion
Tone 2

Sixth Hour

Kievan (ROCOR)

As we have no boldness on account of our ma - ny of-fens-es,

71

do thou, O Virgin The - o - to - - - kos,

72

in - ter - cede with the Son whom thou hast born,

73

for the prayers of a mother availeth much to win the Mas-ter's fa - vor.

74

Dis - dain not the prayers of us sin - ners, O all - pure One, //

for merciful is He Who didst deign to suf - fer for_ our sake.

Tone 1

Idiomela for the Sixth Hour

Kievan

Come, O ye faith - - - ful,

in - spired by God let us a - - - rise

77

and be - hold the di - vine con - des - cen - sion from on high

79

that is made man - i - fest to us in Beth - le - hem.

80

Cleans - - - ing our minds, let us off - er

81

through our lives vir - tues in - stead of myrrh,

82

pre-par-ing with faith our entry into the feast of the Na - ti - vi - ty,

83

stor-ing up trea - sure in our souls and cry - - - ing:

84

Glo - - - ry in the high - est to God the Trin - i - ty,

85

whose good plea - sure is now re - vealed to men,

86

that in His love for man - kind//

87

He may set A - dam free_ from the an - ces - tral curse.

*God shall come from Teman, and the Holy One from the mountain overshadowed by the forest.
O Lord, I have heard the report of Thee and was afraid.*

88

Tone 4

Heark - en, O hea - ven, give ear, O earth.

89

Let the founda-tions be sha-ken,

90

and let trem-bling lay hold up-on the neth-er-most parts of the world.

91

For our God and Cre-a-tor has clothed Him-self in cre-a-ted flesh,

92

and He who with His strong arm fash-ioned the cre-a-tion

93

re-veals Him-self in the womb of her that He formed.

94

O the depth of the rich - - - es

95

of the wis - dom and know - ledge of God.//

96

How un - search - a - ble are his judg - ments,

97

and His ways past find - - - ing out.

Glory...Now and Ever...

98 Tone 5

Come ye peo - ple, bear - ers of Christ,

99

let us be - hold won - ders that strike

100

and hold fast ev - 'ry mind with a - maze - - - ment:

101

and in rev - 'rent wor - ship let us sing prais - es with faith.

102

To - day a Mai - den great with child

103

comes to Beth - le - hem to give birth_ to the Lord:

104

and choirs of an - gels go be - fore her.

105

see - ing these things Jo - seph, her be - trothed cried a - loud:

106

'What is this strange mys - te - ry in thee, O Vir - gin?

107

And how shalt thou bring forth child,/'

108

Calf up - on whom the yoke has nev - - - er come.

Ninth Hour

109

Thou who for our sake was born of a Vir - gin,

110

and dist suf - fer cru - ci - fi - xion, O good One,

111

and didst des-poil death by death, and as God didst re-veal the res-ur-rec-tion;

112

des-pise not those whom Thou hast fash-ioned with Thine own hand.

113

show forth Thy love for man - kind, of mer - ci - ful One;

114

ac-cept the prayers of Thy Moth-er, the The-o-to-kos, for us; //

115

and save Thy des-pair-ing peo-ple, O our Sav - - ior.

Tone 7

Idiomela for the Ninth Hour

Kievan

116

Her - od was struck with a - maze - ment

117

on be - hold - ing the pi - e - ty of the Ma - gi;

118

and ov - er - come by wrath, he in - quir - ed close - ly

119

when the child was born.

120

Moth - ers were be - reft of their in - fants,

121

and by an un-time-ly death their babes were bit-ter-ly har - vest-ed.

122

Paps grew dry and sourc - es of milk were stopped.

123

Great was this ca - la - - - mi - ty.

124

There-fore let us, the faith - ful, gath - ered in god - li - ness, //

125

wor-ship the Na - ti - vi - ty of Christ.

*God shall come from Teman, and the Holy One from the mountain overshadowed by the forest.
O Lord, I have heard the report of Thee and was afraid.*

Tone 2 (Kievan ROCOR)

126

When Jo - - - seph went up to Beth - le - hem__

127

wound - ed by sor - - - - row,

128

O _____ Vir - gin thou didst cry to him:

129

'Why art thou down - cast and trou - - - bled,

130

See - - - ing me great with child?

131

Why art thou whol - ly ig - nor - ant of the fear - ful mys - te - ry

132

that comes to pass in me?

133

Hence - forth cast ev - 'ry fear a - side

134

and un - der - stand this strange mar - vel:

135

for in my womb God now de - scends

136

up - on earth for mer - - cy's sake,

137

and He has tak - - - en flesh.

138

Thou shalt see Him ac-cord-ing to His good plea-sure, when He is born;

139

and filled with joy thou shalt wor-ship Him as Thy Cre - a - tor,

140

Him the an - gels praise with - out ceas - ing in song//

141

and glo - ri - fy with the Fa - ther and the Ho - ly Spi - rit.

Glory...Now and Ever...

Obikhod

142

Tone 6

He who holds the whole cre - a - tion in the hal - low of His hand

143

to - day is born of the Vir - - - gin.

144

He who holds the whole cre - a - tion in the hal - low of His hand

145

to - day is born of the Vir - - gin.

146

He who holds the whole cre - a - tion in the hal - low of His hand

147

to - day is born of the Vir - - - - gin.

148

He whom in es - sence none can touch

149

is wrapped in swad-dling clothes as a mor - - - tal.

150

God who in the be - gin - - - - - ning

151

found-ed the hea - vens lies in a man - ger.

152

He who rained down man-na on the peo-ple in the wil - der - ness

153

is fed on milk from his Mo - ther's breast.

154

He who is the Bride - groom of the Church

155

calls to Him - self the Ma - - - gi.

156

The Son of the Vir - gin ac - cepts_ their gifts.

157

We wor - ship Thy birth, O Christ.

158

We wor - ship Thy birth, O Christ.

159

We wor - ship Thy birth, O Christ.//

160

Show us al - so Thy di - vine E - pi - pha - ny.