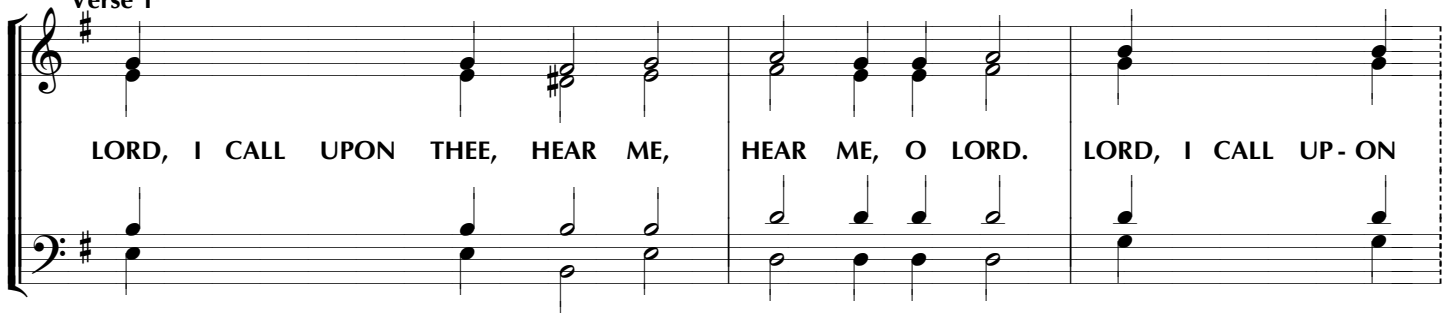


ANNONCIATION

Eve of Annunciation - Vespers

The service for the Feast of Annunciation is very complex and depends on what day it falls. Please consult the Rubric Book for further instructions.

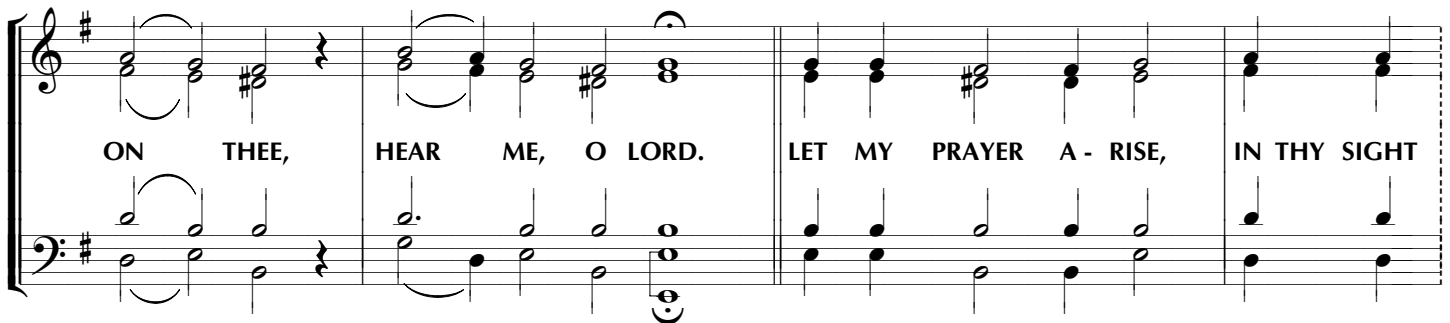
Tone 6
Verse 1



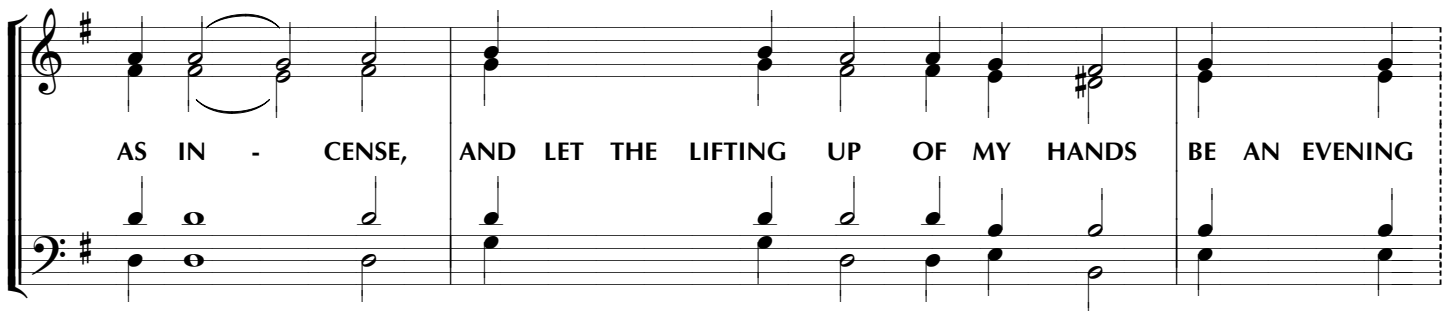
LORD, I CALL UPON THEE, HEAR ME, HEAR ME, O LORD. LORD, I CALL UP - ON



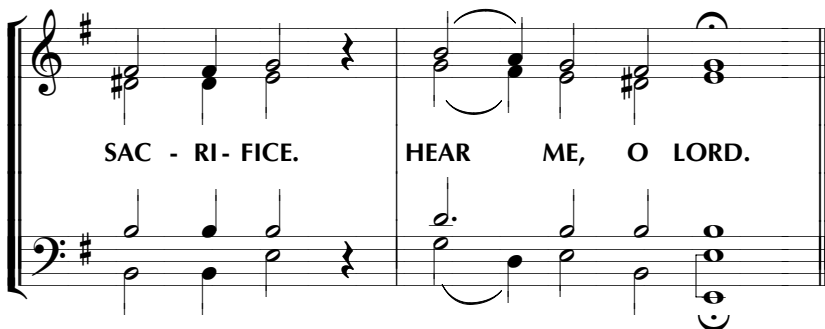
THEE, HEAR ME RE - CEIVE THE VOICE OF MY PRAYER; WHEN I CALL UP -



ON THEE, HEAR ME, O LORD. LET MY PRAYER A - RISE, IN THY SIGHT

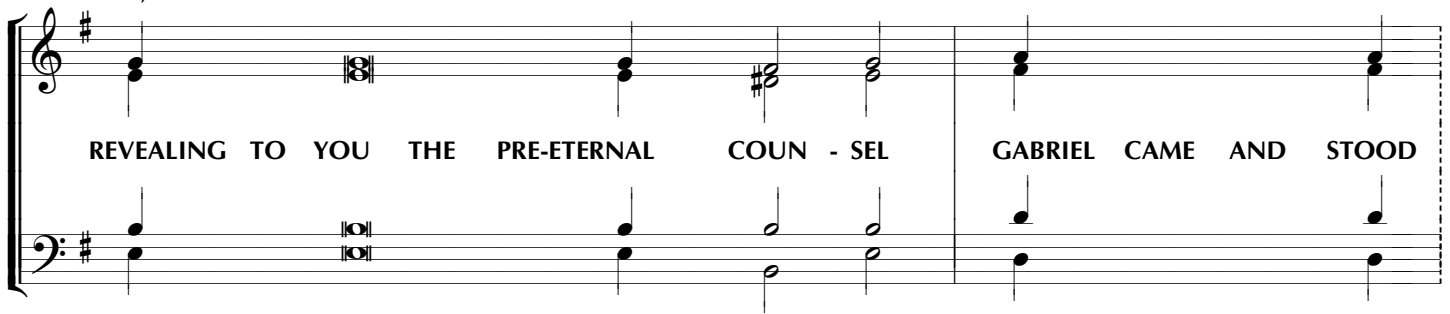


AS IN - CENSE, AND LET THE LIFTING UP OF MY HANDS BE AN EVENING



SAC - RI - FICE. HEAR ME, O LORD.

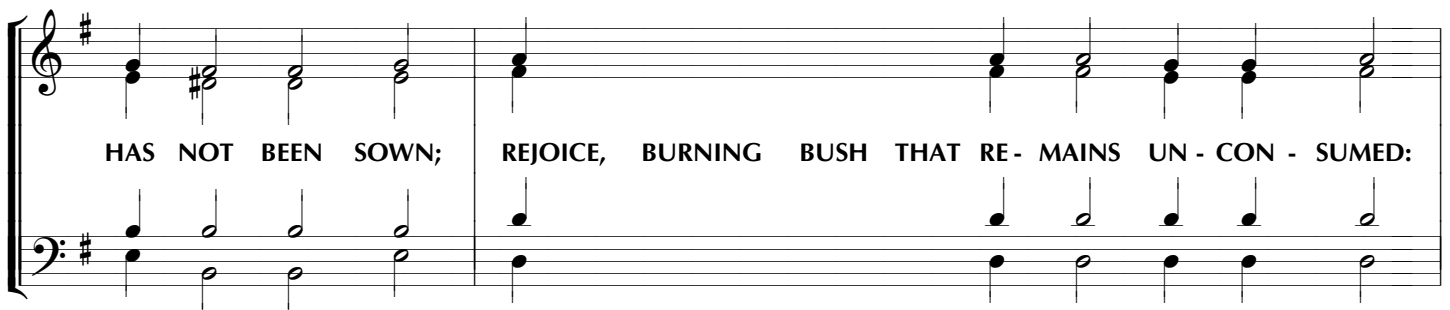
Verses 1,2



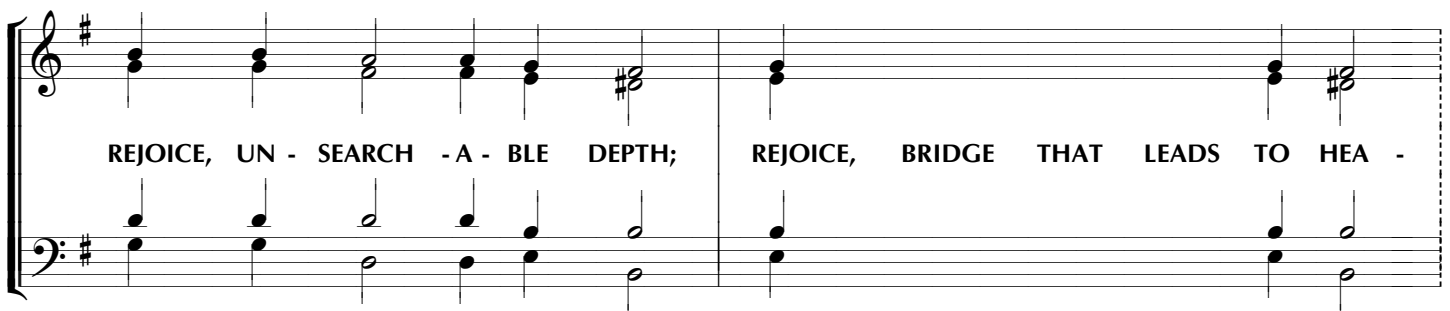
REVEALING TO YOU THE PRE-ETERNAL COUN - SEL GABRIEL CAME AND STOOD



BE - FORE YOU, O MAID; AND GREET - ING YOU, HE SAID: REJOICE, EARTH THAT



HAS NOT BEEN SOWN; REJOICE, BURNING BUSH THAT RE - MAINS UN - CON - SUMED:



REJOICE, UN - SEARCH - A - BLE DEPTH; REJOICE, BRIDGE THAT LEADS TO HEA -



VEN, AND LADDER RAISED ON HIGH THAT JA - COB SAW; REJOICE, DIVINE

JAR OF MAN - NA; REJOICE, DE - LIV - ER - ANCE FROM THE CURSE RE - JOICE,

RESTORATION OF A - DAM, THE LORD IS WITH YOU. Twice

Verses 3,4

YOU APPEARED TO ME IN THE FORM OF A MAN, SAID THE UNDEFILED MAID

TO THE CHIEF OF THE HEA - VEN - LY HOSTS: HOW DO YOU SPEAK TO ME

OF THINGS THAT PASS MAN'S POW - ER? FOR YOU HAVE SAID THAT GOD

SHALL BE WITH ME, AND SHALL TAKE UP HIS DWELL - ING IN MY WOMB; TELL ME

HOW SHALL I BECOME THE SPACIOUS HAB - I - TA - TION AND THE HOLY

PLACE OF HIM THAT RIDES UPON THE CHE - RU - BIM? DO NOT BE - GUILE ME WITH

DE - CEIT; FOR I HAVE NOT KNOWN PLEA - SURE, I HAVE NOT ENTERED IN -

TO WED - LOCK, HOW SHALL I BEAR A CHILD? Twice

Verses 5,6

WHEN GOD SO WISHES, SAID THE BODILESS AN - GEL, THE ORDER OF NA - TURE IS

OV - ER - COME, AND WHAT IS BEYOND MAN COMES TO PASS, BE - LIEVE THAT

MY SAY - INGS ARE TRUE, O ALL - HOLY LADY, UTTERLY WITH - OUT SPOT. AND

SHE CRIED A - LOUD, LET IT BE TO ME AC - CORD - ING TO THY WORD: AND I

SHALL BEAR HIM THAT IS WITH - OUT FLESH, WHO SHALL BOR - ROW FLESH FROM

ME, THAT THROUGH THIS MINGLING HE MAY LEAD MAN UP TO HIS

AN - CIENT GLO - RY, FOR HE ALONE HAS THE POW - ER SO TO DO.

Glory, now and ever in the 6th tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL WAS SENT FROM HEA - VEN TO ANNOUNCE TO THE VIR -

GIN THE GLAD TIDINGS OF HER CON - CEIV - ING; AND COMING TO NAZARETH

HE PONDERED IN AMAZEMENT ON THIS WON - DER. HOW SHALL HE WHO DWELLS

IN THE HEIGHTS, WHOM NONE CAN COMPREHEND, BE BORN OF THE VIR -

GIN? HOW SHALL HE WHOSE THRONE IS HEAVEN AND WHOSE FOOT - STOOL IS THE

EARTH BE HELD IN THE WOMB OF A WO - MAN? HE UPON WHOM THE SIX - WINGED

SERAPHIM AND THE MANY EYED CHE - RU - BIM CAN - NOT GAZE HAS BEEN PLEASED

AT A SIN - GLE WORD TO BE MADE FLESH OF THIS CREA - TURE. IT IS THE WORD

OF GOD WHO DWELLS WITH - IN HER. WHY DO I STAND HERE, AND

NOT SAY TO THE MAID - EN: REJOICE, YOU WHO ARE FULL OF GRACE: THE LORD

IS WITH YOU. REJOICE, O PURE VIR - GIN; REJOICE, BRIDE UN - WED - DED.

RE - JOICE, MO - THER OF LIFE: BLESS - ED IS THE FRUIT OF YOUR WOMB.

O GLADSOME LIGHT
 PROKIMENON OF THE DAY
 READINGS

Consult the Rubrics for further information.

ANNUNCIATION (Eve)

The Reading from Genesis (28:10-17)

And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran. And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. And, behold, the Lord stood above it, and said, I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; and thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of. And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not. And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

The Reading from the Prophecy of Ezekiel (43:27-44:4)

And it shall be, that upon the eighth day, and so forward, the priests shall make your burnt offerings upon the altar, and your peace offerings; and I will accept you, saith the Lord God. Then He brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary which looketh towards the east; and it was shut. Then said the Lord unto me, This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the Lord, the God of Israel, had entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut. It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the Lord; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by way of the same. Then brought He me the way of the north gate before the house: and I looked, and, behold, the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.

The Reading from Proverbs (9:1-11)

Wisdom hath built her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars: she hath killed her beasts; she had mingled her wine; she hath also furnished her table. She hath sent forth her maidens: she cried upon the highest places of the city, Who so is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him, Come eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled. Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding. He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot. Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he

will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.

If the feast falls on Saturday or Sunday, or during Easter Week, the following two lessons are added:

The Reading from Exodus (3:1-8)

Moses came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And He said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. Moreover, He said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God. And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of My people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrow; and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto to a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

The Reading from Proverbs (8:22-30)

The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: while as yet He had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When He prepared the heavens, I was there: when He said a compass upon the face of the depth: when He established the clouds above: when He strengthened the fountains of the deep; when He gave to the sea His decree, that the waters should not pass His commandment: when He appointed the foundations of the earth: then was I by Him, as one brought up with Him: and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.

**Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary
The Readings are taken from "The Festal Menaion" by
Mother Mary and Archimandrite Kallistos Ware**