November 21st

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Stichera at the Aposticha of Vespers

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

Byzantine Chant Tone 5
Special Melody: Rejoice

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shall straight-way come manifest ly, and that from thee shall the Word of God be truly be got ten,
even He that grant-eth peace and Great Mer cy to the world.

2) Anna, being the name sake of grace,
doth lead the pure and Ever virgin, the Full of Grace,
with glad ness in to God's tem ple, and she doth bid her young maids that they go before with lamps; and she doth say:
Depart child, and be thou His Who hath given thee un to me;
become a gift and an ob- la tion made un to Him,
and the pleasant smell of sweet incense unto the Lord.

Enter the inmost sanctuary; learn thou its mysteries;

enter and make thyself ready to be the

fair and delightful house and dwelling of Jesus,

Who doth graciously bestow His Great Mercy on the world.

3) Lo, now, within the temple of God

is dedicated the pure temple containing God,

the pure and all-holy Virgin, while youthful maidens precede,

bearing shining torches, leading her therein.

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The excellent couple of her august parents skip for joy:

wise Joachim and Anna dance, for they have brought forth

her that hath conceived the Creator and God of all.

She doth herself exult in the divine tabernacle now,

and by an Angel is nourished she who is

wholly without reproach, the Mother of Christ God,

even Him that granteth peace and Great Mercy to the world.