The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth at the message with the angels and shepherds give glory to him who shall appear by his own will as a young child, he who is from eternity God.
The Virgin cometh to-day to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth at the message.

Kontakion (B)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 3
The Original Melody

Arranged by Frederick Karam (1926-1978)
with the angels and shepherds give glory to him

who shall appear by his own will as a young child,

he who is from eternity God.

PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST - Kontakion (B) - 2
Thou hast justified by faith the ancient forefathers and through them thou hast gone before and betrothed unto thyself the Church of the Gentiles.

Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory;

for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it was who gave birth to thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.
SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS

Troparion (B)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 2

Harmony & adaptation by Christopher Holwey
from the melody of Basil Kazan (1915-2001)

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient forefathers and through them thou hast gone before and betrothed unto thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory;
for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it was

who gave birth to thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.
Great are the accomplishments of faith;
for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest.
And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep.
Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God have mercy upon us.
December 17th
(Also sung on the Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord, December 18th - 24th)

PROPHET DANIEL & THE HOLY THREE CHILDREN

Troparion (B)

Byzantine Chant - Tone 2

Harmony by Christopher Holwey
from the melody of Basil Kazan (1915 - 2001)

Great are the accomplishments of faith;

for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest.

And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd
to the lions as though they were sheep.

Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God have mercy upon us.

rit.
Make ready, O Bethlehem; for Eden hath been opened for all.

Prepare, O Ephraetha; for the Tree of life hath blossomed forth in the cave from the Virgin; for her womb did appear as a supernatural paradise, in which is planted the divine Plant, whereof eating we shall live and not die as Adam. Verily, Christ shall be born, raising the likeness that fell of old.
December 20 – 23

PREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Troparion

Byzantine Chant, Tone 4
Special Melody: Joseph was amazed

Melodic setting: Christopher Holwey
Harmonization: Kevin Lawrence

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Make ready, O Bethlehem, for Eden hath been opened for all.
Prepare, O Ephraim, for the Tree of life hath blossomed forth
in the cave from the Virgin;
for her womb did appear

as a supersonual paradise,

in which is planted the divine Plant,

where of eating we shall live

and not die as Adam.
Verily, Christ shall be born, raising the likeness that fell of old.
And it came to pass that Mary was enrolled with Joseph the old man, in Bethlehem, since she was of the seed of David, and was great with the Lamb, without seed.

And when the time for delivery drew near, and they had no place in the village, the cave did appear to the queen as a delightful palace. Verily, Christ shall be born, raising the likeness that fell of old.