January 5th
Paramon (Eve) of Theophany
Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Tone 6
Special Melody: Ye angelic hosts

C

1) Why, O Baptist John, dost thou doubt the dispensation

which I now perform for humanity's salvation?

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Leave off, therefore, the old things and consider that which is new; come, believe in God Who

condescendeth; draw thou nigh unto Me and serve Me,

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for I, God, am come

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that in My mercy I might purge

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and cleanse Adam of his fall.

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2) Taking up our sins on Thy shoulders, Thou, O Jesus,

verily art come to the streams of River Jordan;

yet dreadful I Thy coming, and it

maketh me sore afraid. How dost Thou command me

then to baptize Thee, Who Thyself art come to cleanse me?

And how dost Thou ask

Baptism at my hand, Who art

the cleansing of all mankind?
3) Past all understanding in Mine unfathomed nature;

yet clothed in the form of a servant, I am come forth to River Jordan. Wherefore, do not doubt Me in any wise. Come thou hither and be not afraid; draw nigh to Me and stretch out thy right hand on My head and cry:

Blessed art Thou Who hast appeared, our God, glory be to Thee.
4) Word of God, Thy poverty passeth thought and measure!

For I know that Thou, in behalf of me, the fallen,

because of Thy compassion hast with

Adam thus clothed Thyself, making new again all

sprung from Adam; and I, obeying Thy commandment,

with faith cry to Thee:

Blessed art Thou Who hast appeared,

our God, glory be to Thee.