December 20th
Forfeast of the Nativity of our Lord Christ
Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Tone 6
The original melody

C

1) Ye angelic hosts, go ye on the way before us;
2) In the lowly cave doth arise the star of Jacob.
3) Let the hills and mountains drop sweetness; for behold ye,

ye that be in Bethlehem, make the manger ready.
Come, let us observe the Prefestival, ye faithful.
God doth come from Te man; ye nations, be ye vanquished.

G

The Word of God is born; the Holy
and hasten with the Magi and with
Rejoice, be glad, ye Prophets; O ye

Wisdom now cometh forth. Church, receive the greeting;
Shepherds join company; let us look on God Who
Patriarchs, leap for joy; mankind, dance together

and upon this rejoicing of the Theotokos,
hath been swaddled and on the Virgin that doth suckle;
in divine joy; the great and mighty Prince and Ruler

E

let us_____people_____cry:
O dread_____spec tackle!
is born_____in_____the_____flesh.

Un. G

Blessed art Thou Who art now come;
For now the King of Israel
The King of Heaven, even Christ,

our God, glory be to Thee.
is come to us, even Christ.
is come on the earth to us.

(continue on with v. 4)

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4) Raising mortals up from the earth, the Maker cometh

and again reneweth His fair and royal image.

Rejoice, ye hosts of Heaven; O ye powers, sing hymns of praise. Broken is the middle wall of enmity; He is come to what was laid up for Him;

for Christ now come; God is become a mortal man, the great King of Israel.

(continue on with v. 5)
5) Let us go to meet our Creator, O ye faithful, coming to the earth to dawn brightly from the Virgin.

With virtues let us sparkle and with purity let us shine, readying ourselves in joy and trembling to look on Christ become an infant with the eyes of our mind;

for He doth deify us men, abounding in kindness to us.