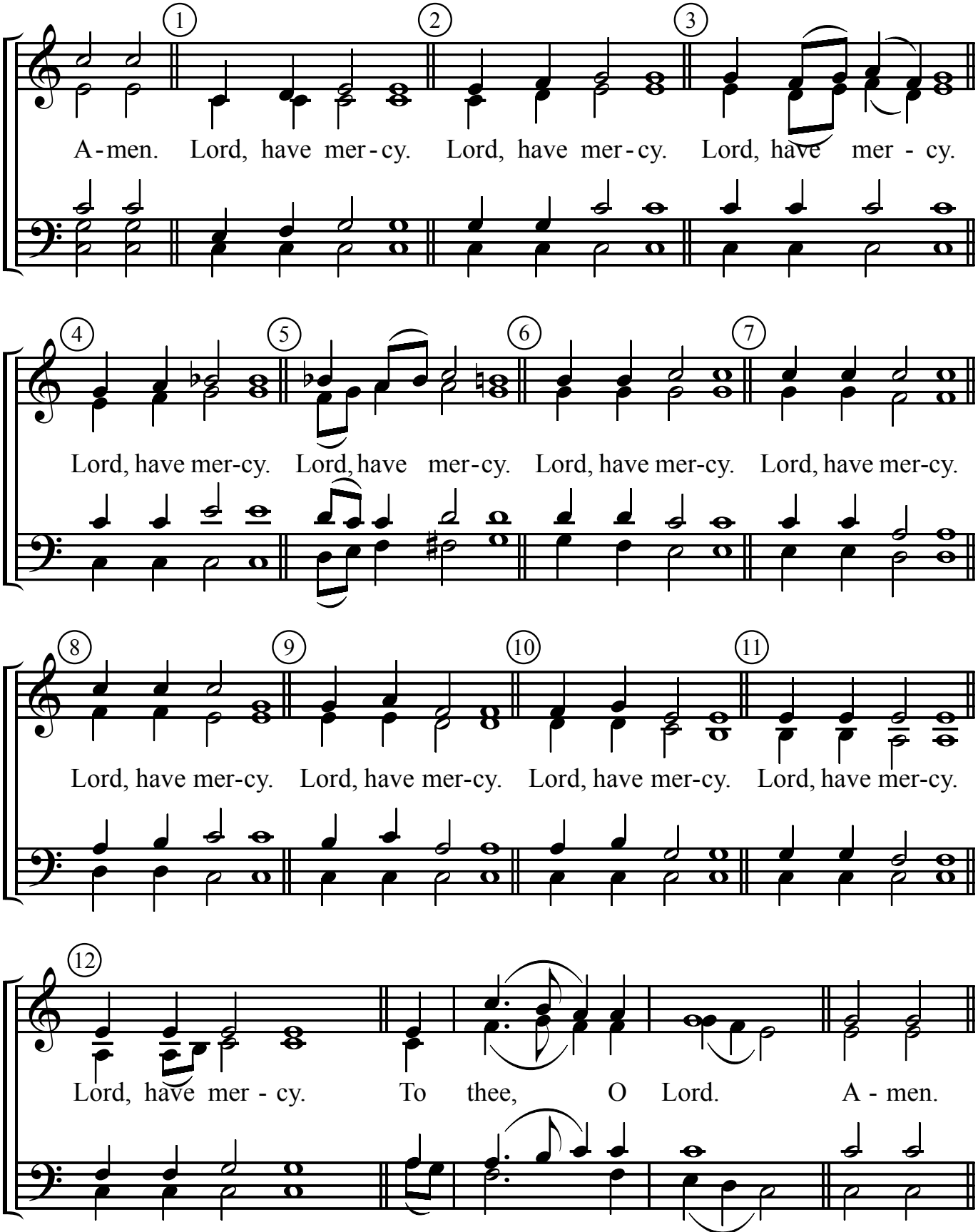
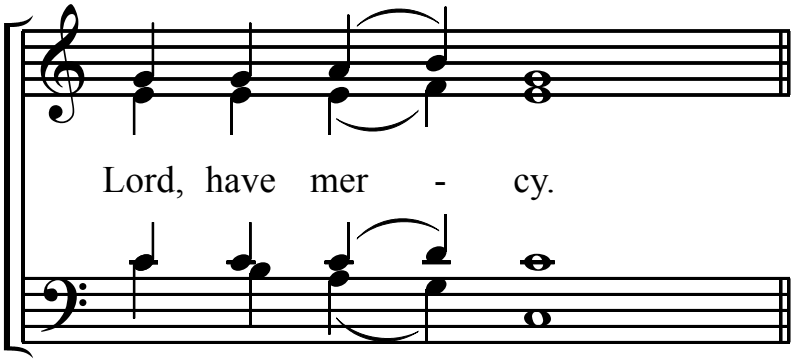
The Service of Betrothal

The Great Litany

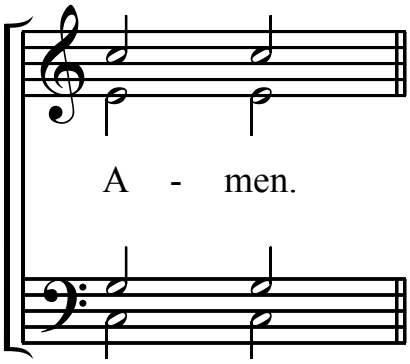
Archpriest James C. Meena (1924-1995)



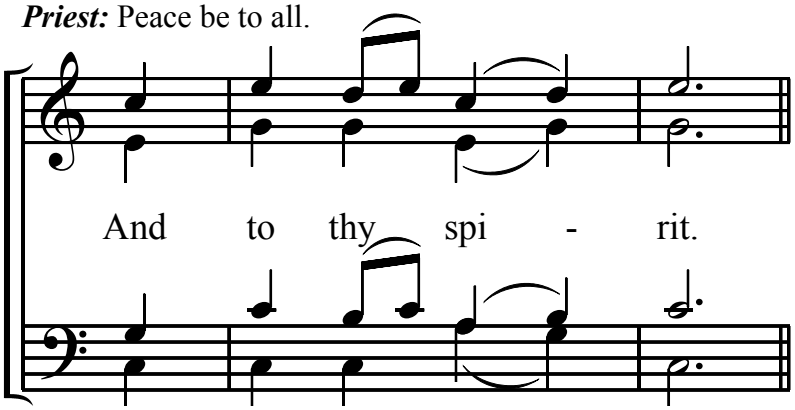
Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.



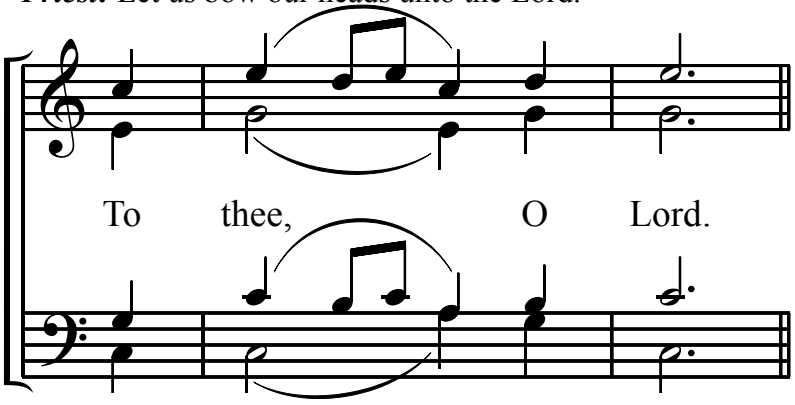
Priest: O eternal God, who hast brought into unity those who were sundered...
... now and ever and unto ages of ages.



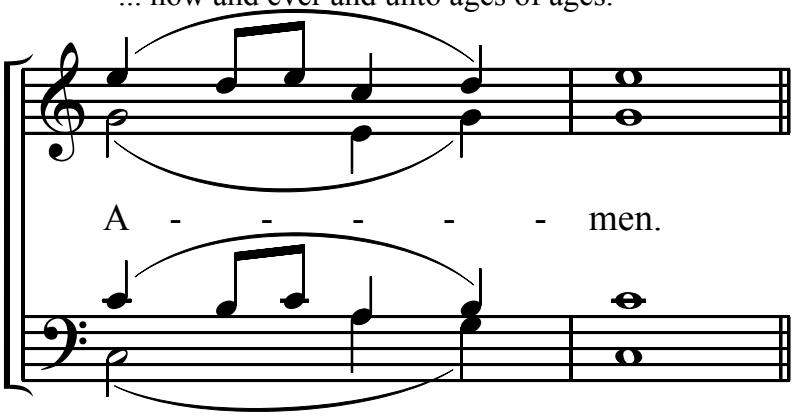
Priest: Peace be to all.



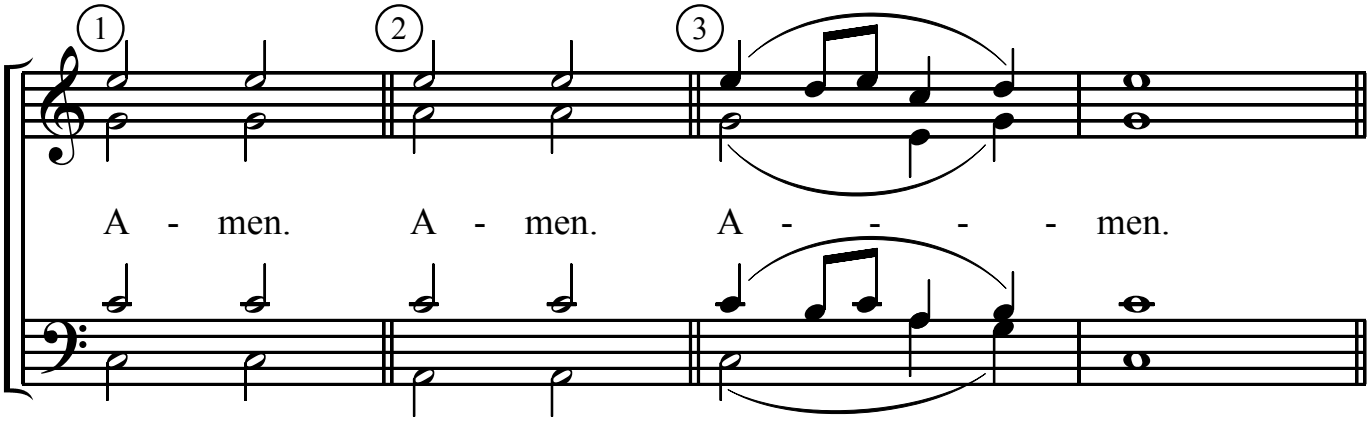
Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.



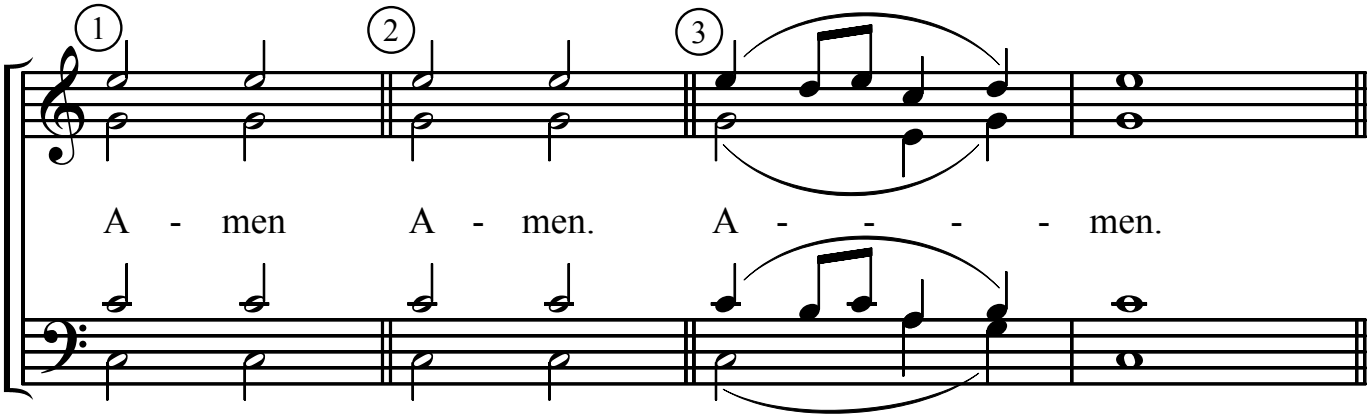
Priest: O Lord our God, who hast espoused the Church...
... now and ever and unto ages of ages.



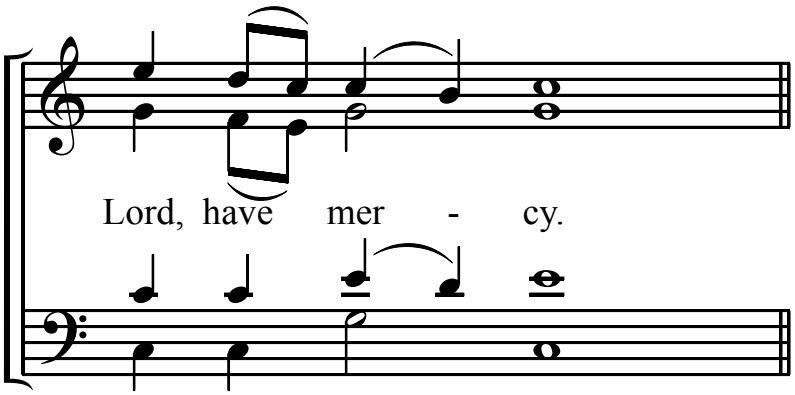
Priest: The servant of God, N., is betrothed... now and ever and unto ages of ages.



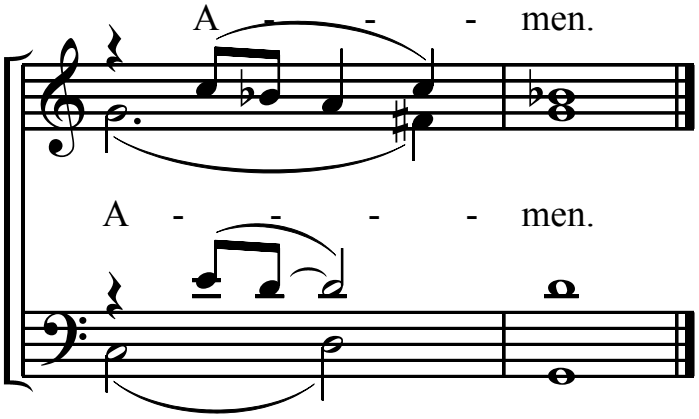
Priest: The handmaid of God, N., is betrothed... now and ever and unto ages of ages.



Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.



Priest: O Lord our God, bless the betrothal...
... now and ever and unto ages of ages.

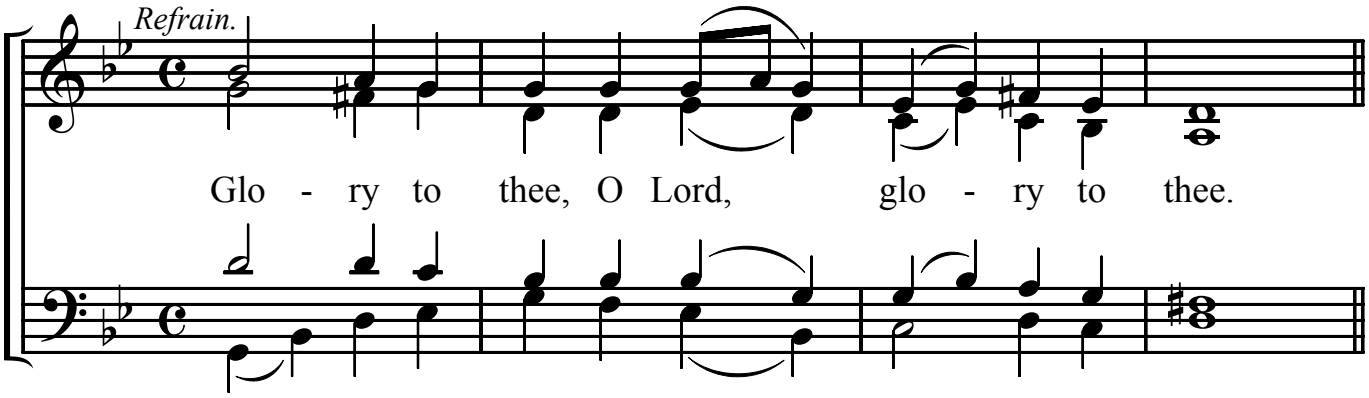


The Wedding Service

Verses at the Censing

Archpriest James C. Meena (1924-1995)

Priest: Blessed are all they that fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.



The above refrain is sung as the response to the following verses chanted by the priest:

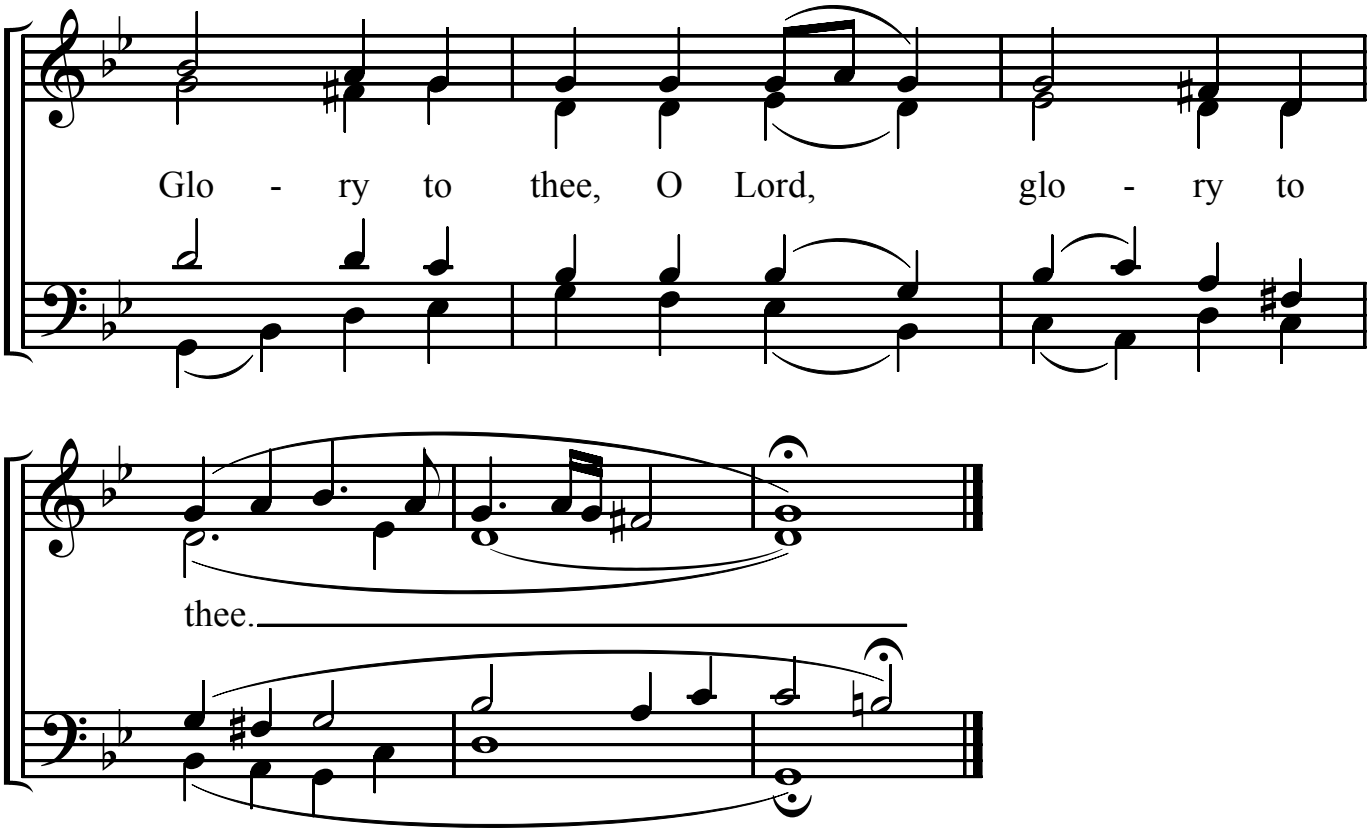
Priest: Thou shalt eat of the fruit of thy labors, O blessed art thou, and happy shalt thou be. *(Refrain)*

Priest: Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine uopn the walls of thy house, thy children like a newly-planted olive orchard round about thy table. *(Refrain)*

Priest: Lo, thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord: the Lord in Sion shall so bless thee, that thou shalt see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. *(Refrain)*

Priest: Yea, that thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel.

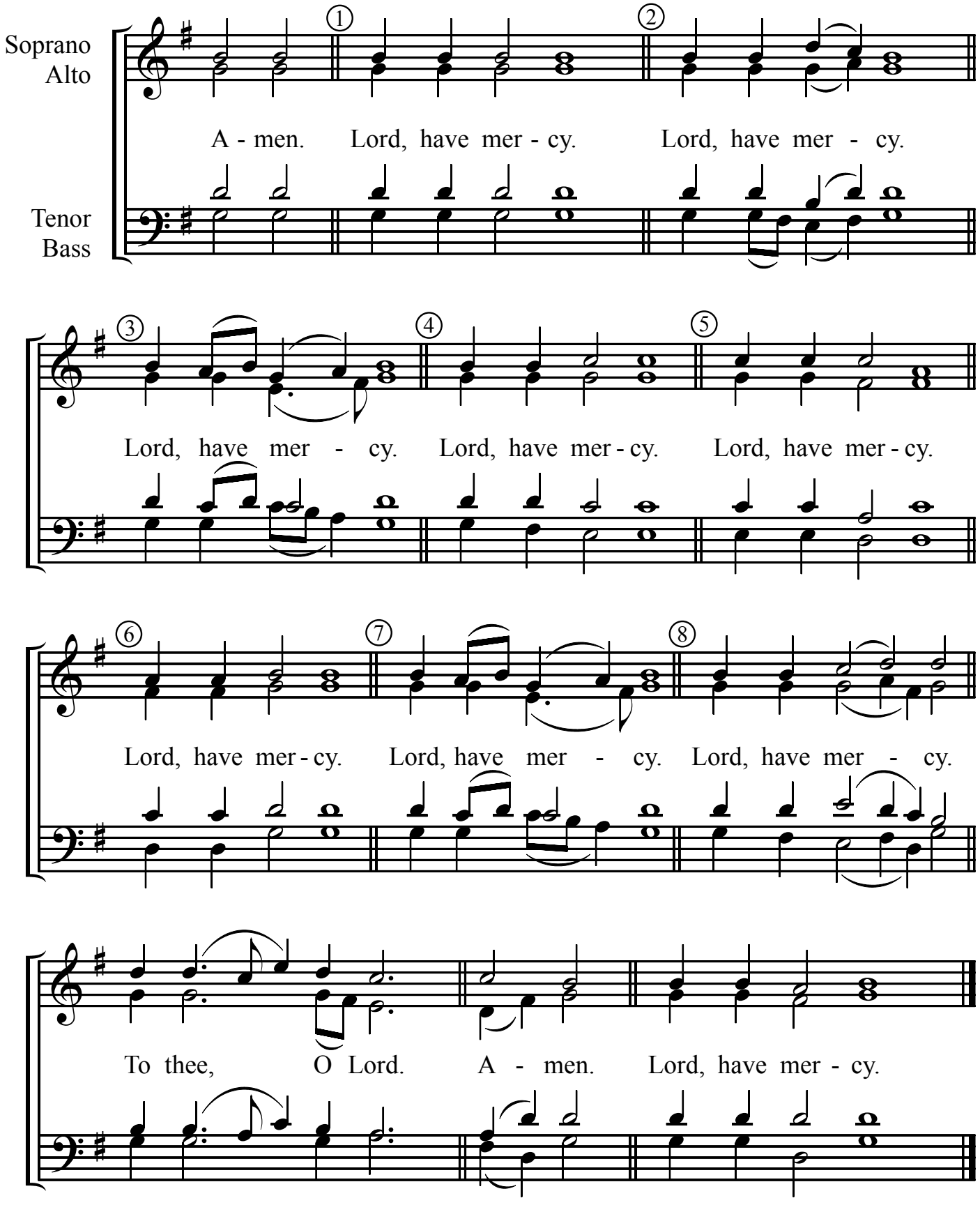
We respond to this last verse with the following refrain:



The Wedding Service

Opening Litany

Archpriest James C. Meena (1924-1995)

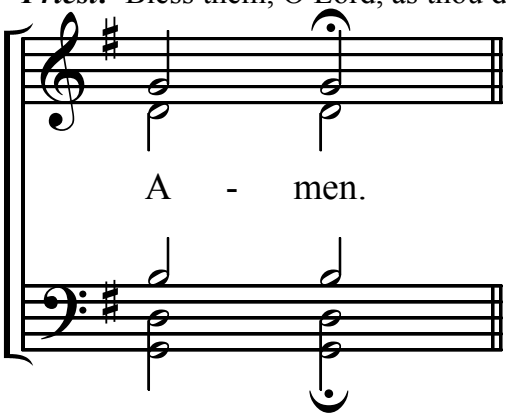


The Wedding Service

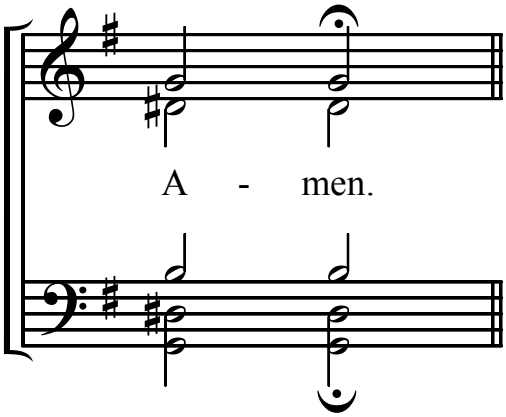
The Priestly Blessings

Archpriest James C. Meena (1924-1995)

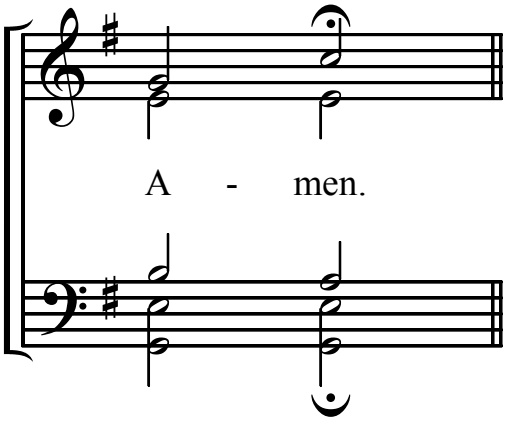
Priest: Bless them, O Lord, as thou didst bless Abraham and Sarah.



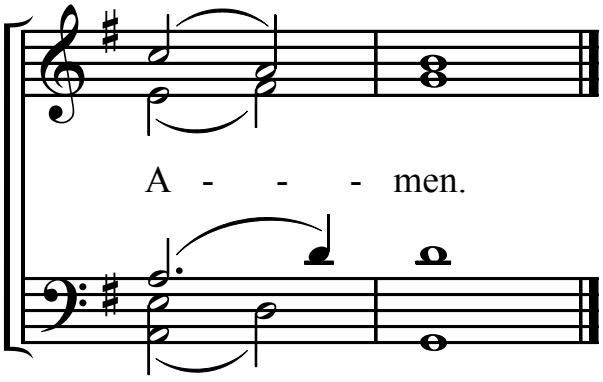
Priest: Bless them, O Lord, as thou didst bless Isaac and Rebecca.



Priest: Bless them, O Lord, as thou didst bless Joachim and Anna.



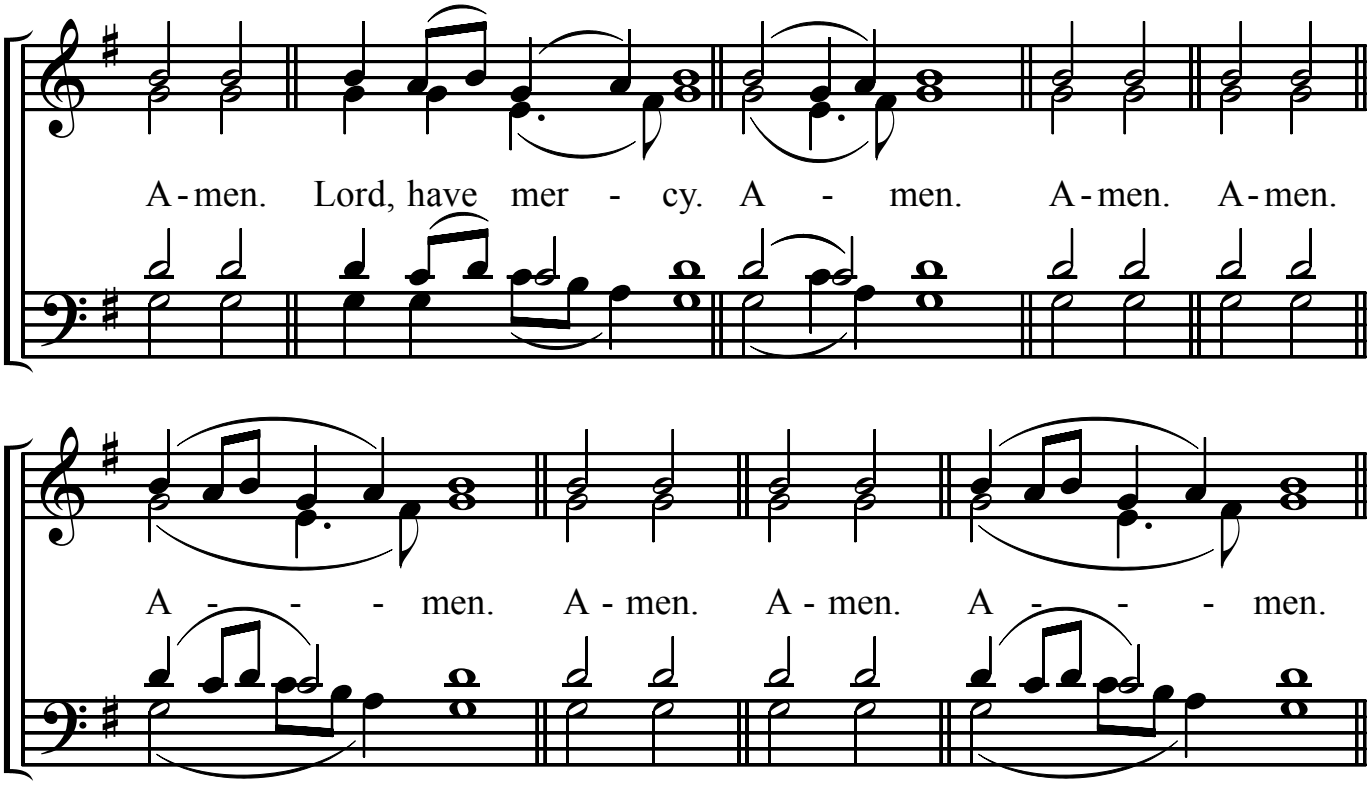
Priest: Bless them, O Lord, as thou didst bless Zacharias and Elizabeth.



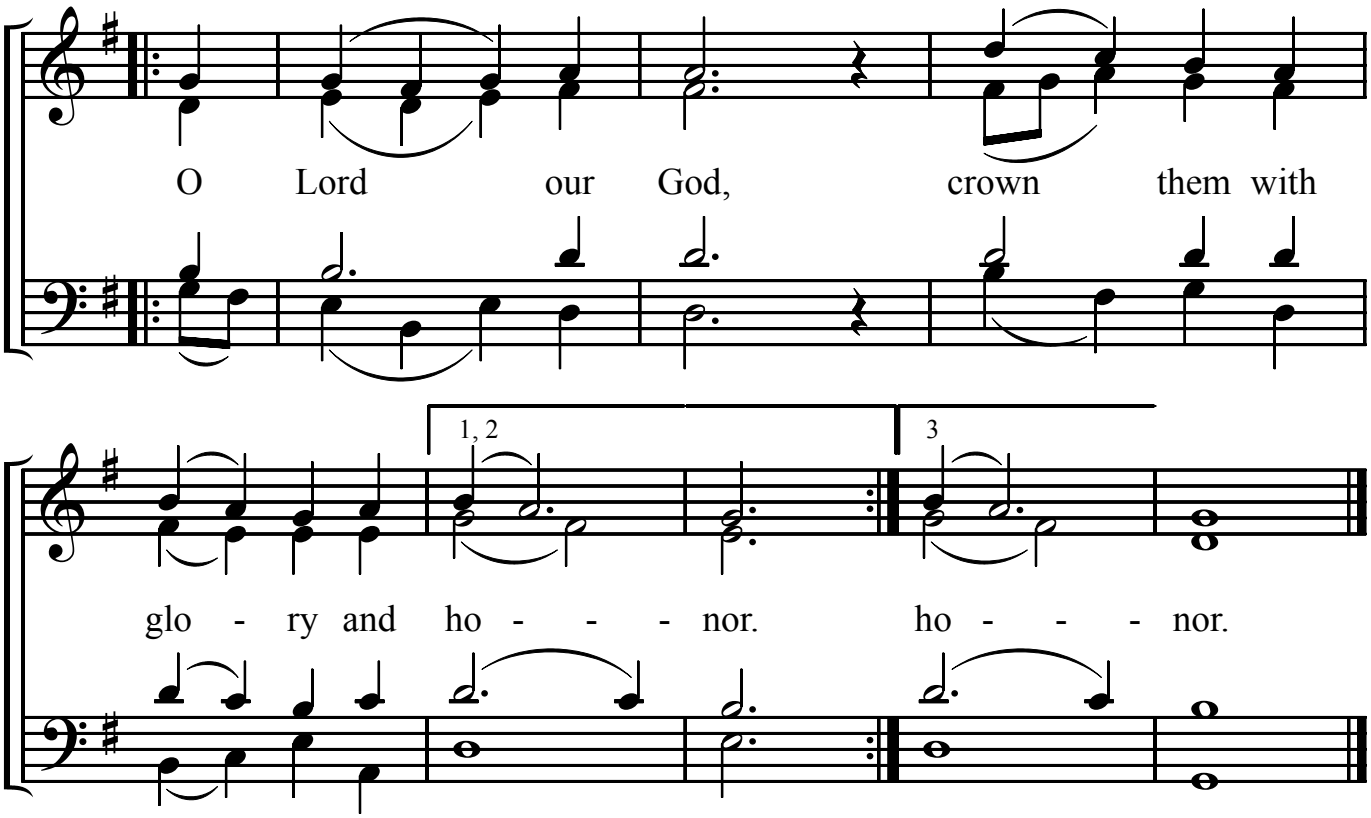
The Wedding Service

Responses at the Crowning

Archpriest James C. Meena (1924-1995)



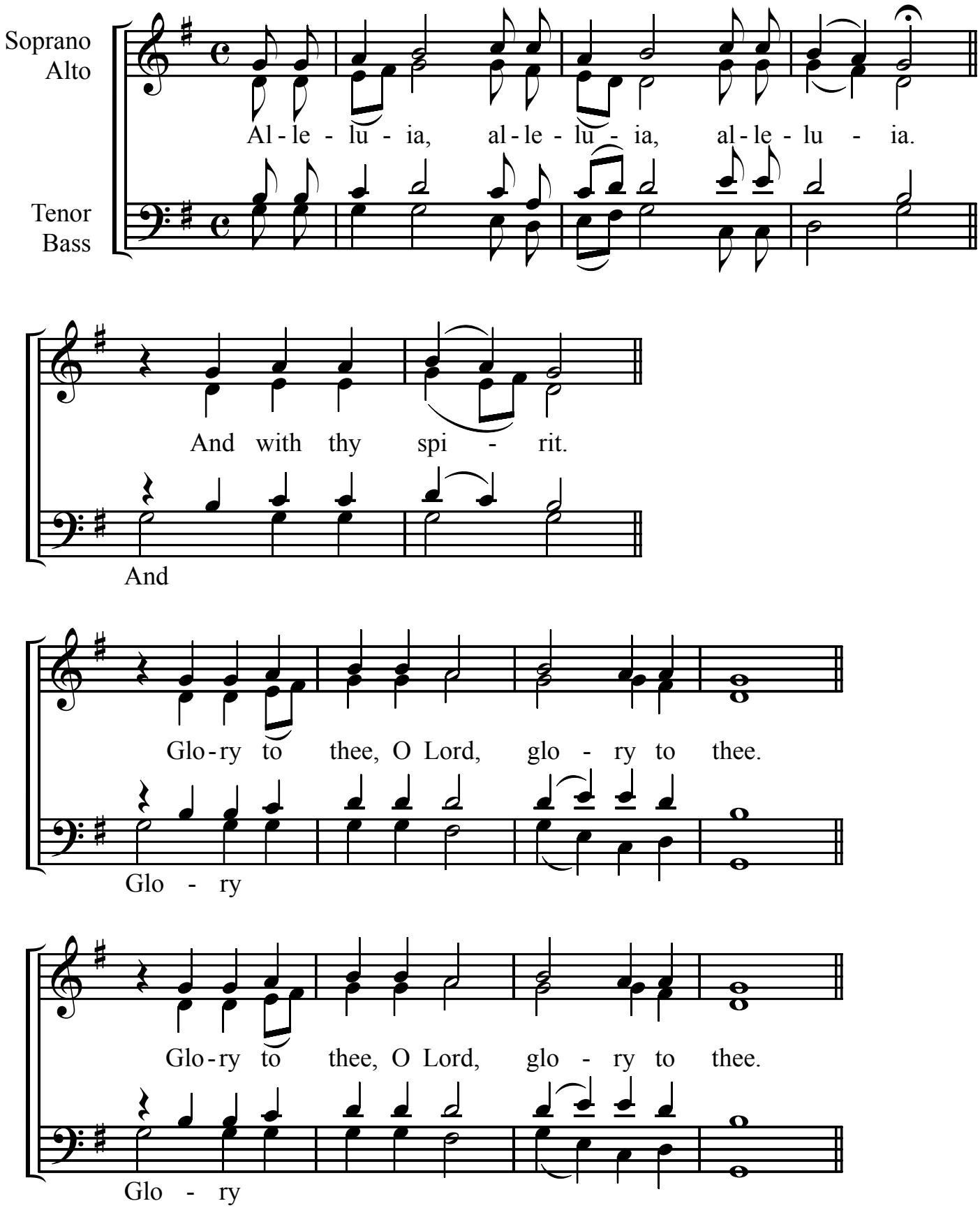
The priest then takes the Bridegroom's crown in his right hand, and the Bride's crown in his left, and exchanges them three times as the following hymn is sung:



The Wedding Service

Responses at the Epistle and Gospel

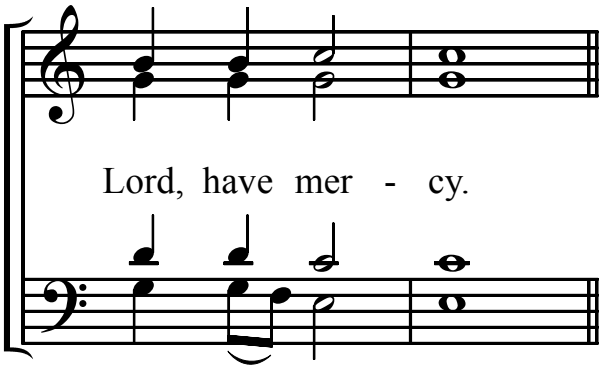
Archpriest James C. Meena (1924-1995)



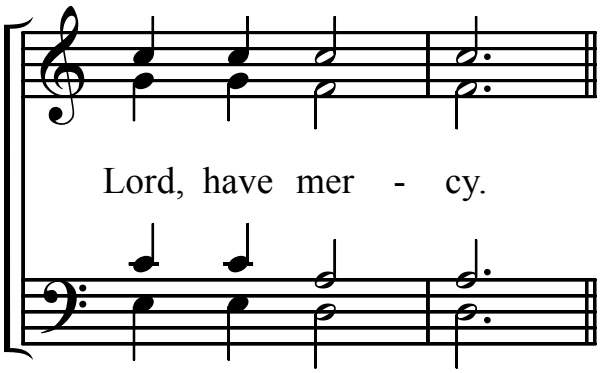
Responses after the Gospel

Archpriest James C. Meena (1924-1995)

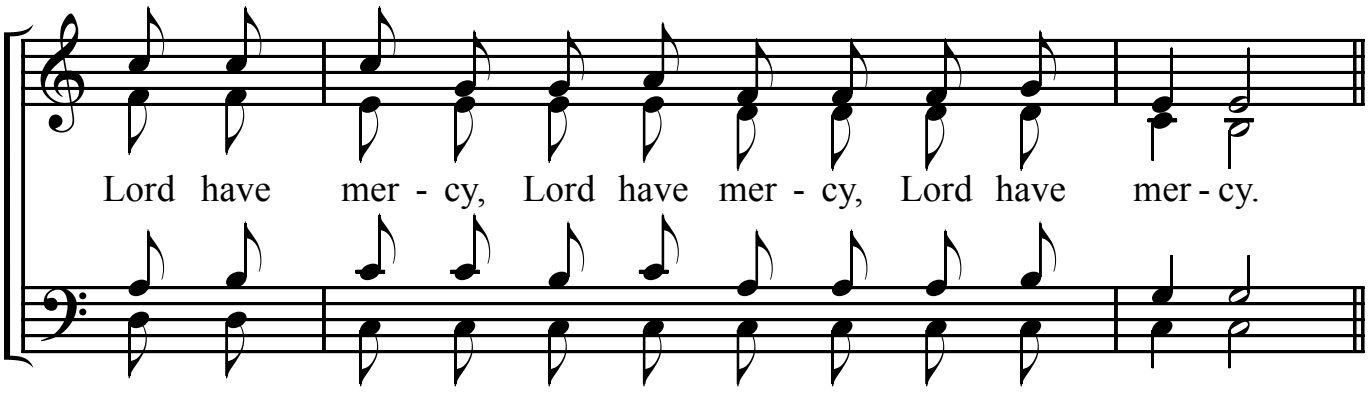
Priest: Let us say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us say:



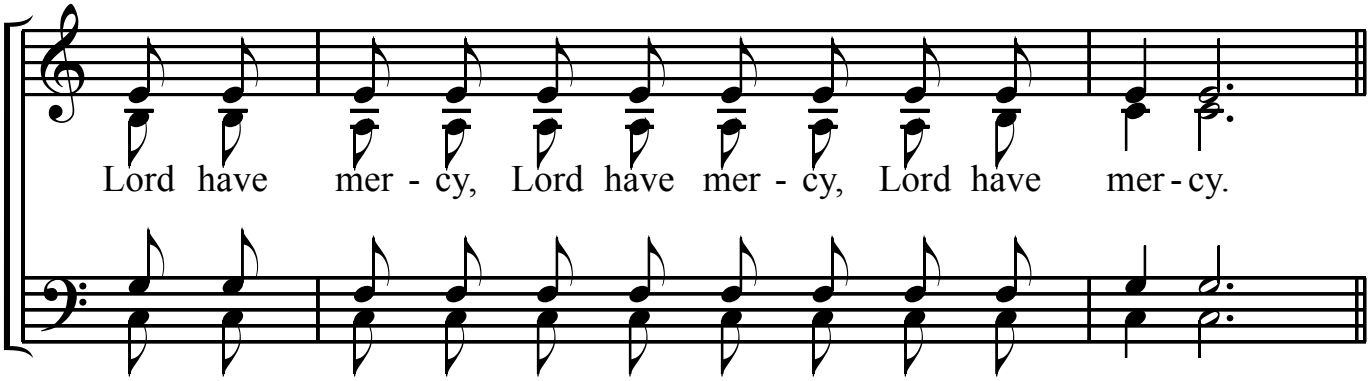
Priest: O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.



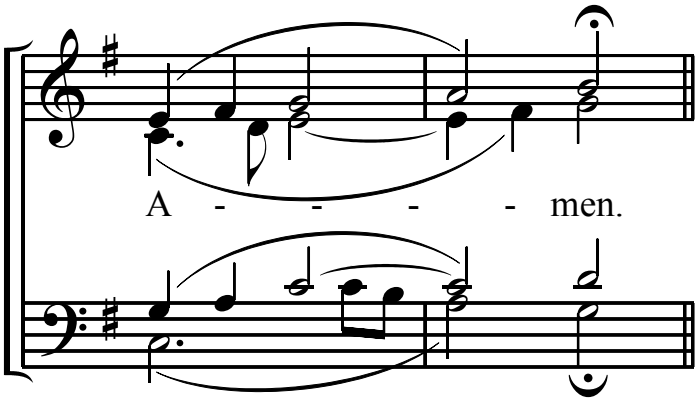
Priest: Have mercy upon us, O God, according to thy great mercy, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.



Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation for the servants of God *N.* and *N.*, and their parents, and their attendants, and all here present.



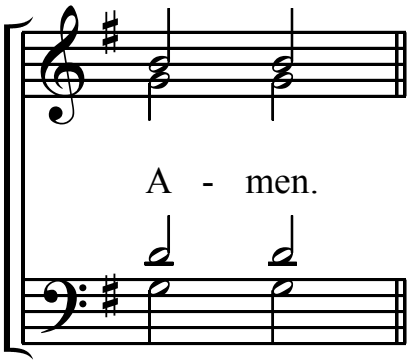
Priest: For thou art a merciful God who lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.



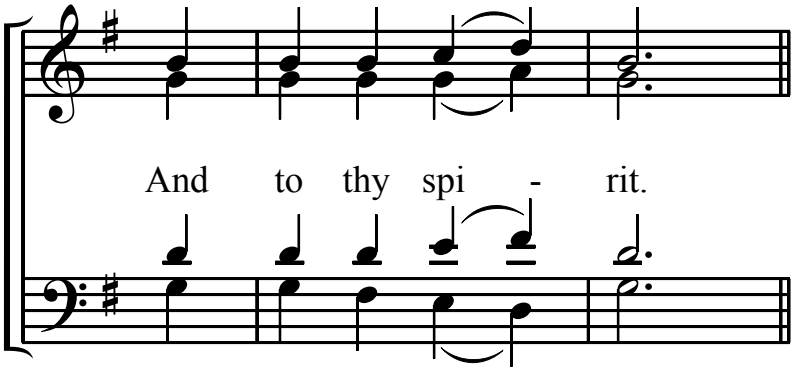
Priest: And account us worthy, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation we may dare to call upon thee, the heavenly God, as Father, and to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

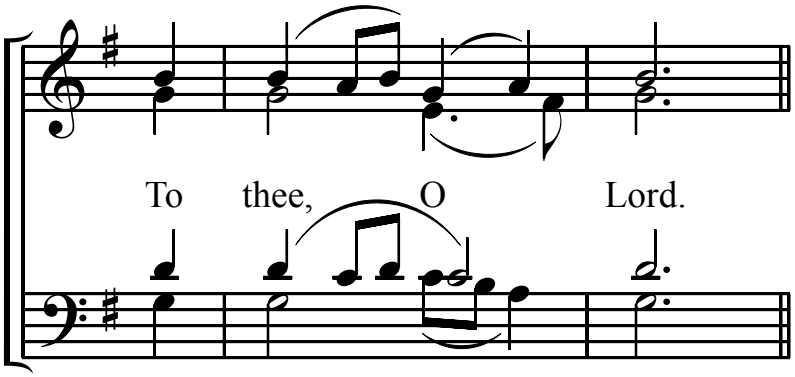
Priest: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.



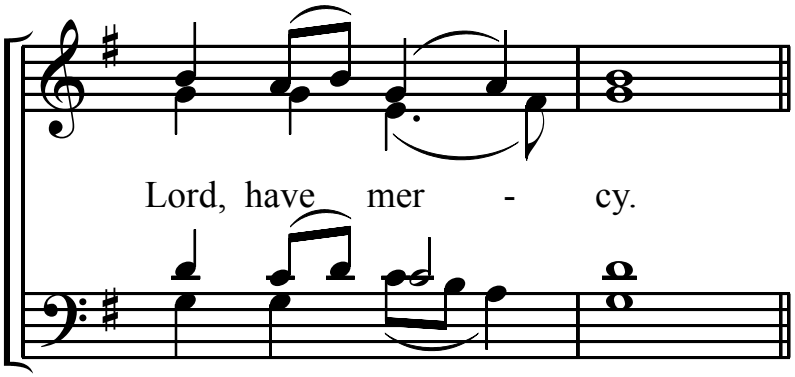
Priest: Peace be to all.



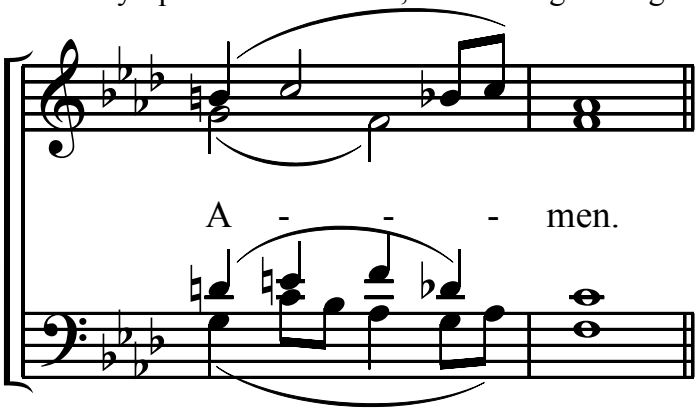
Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.



Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.



Priest: For blessed is thy name, and glorified is thy kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

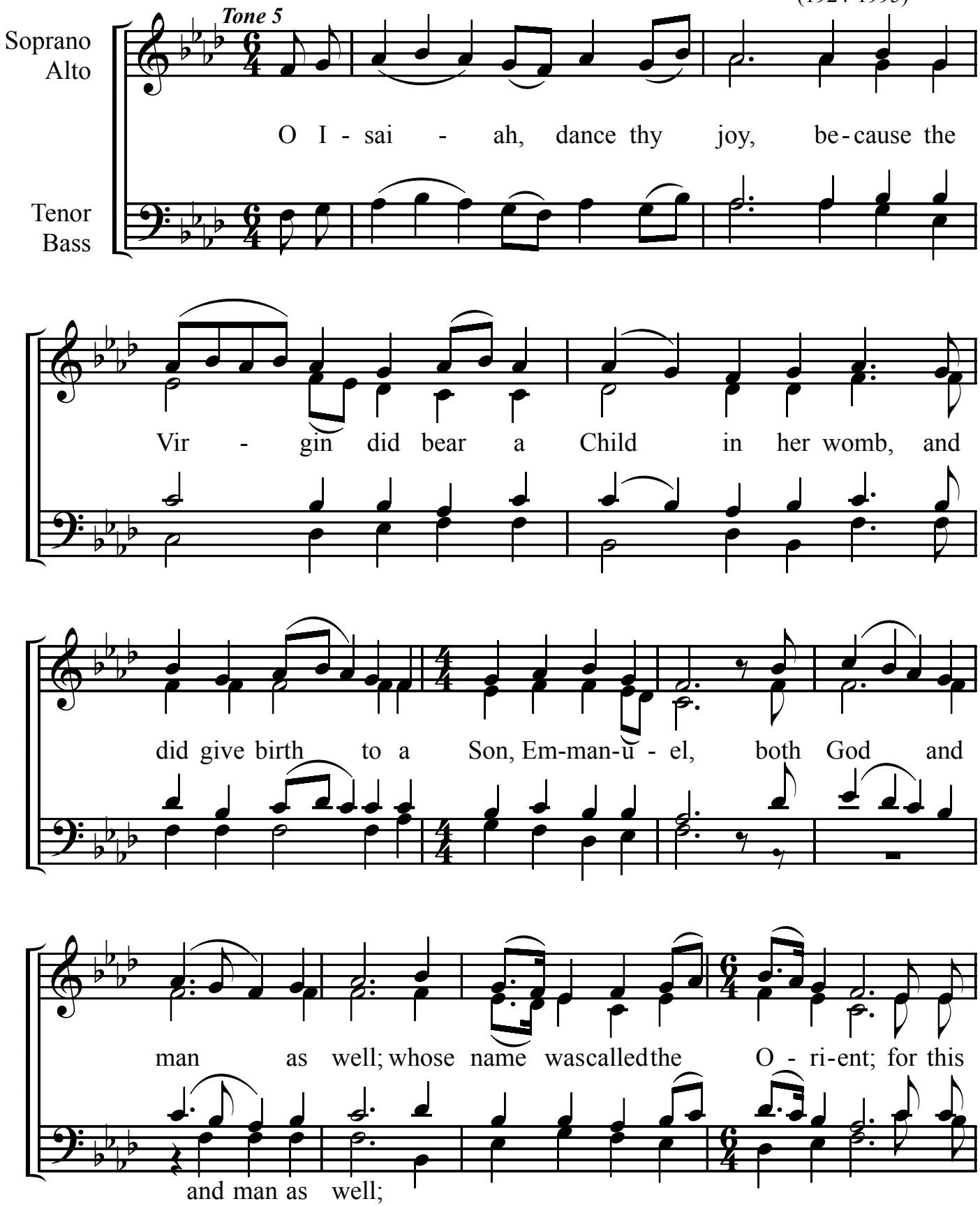


The Wedding Service

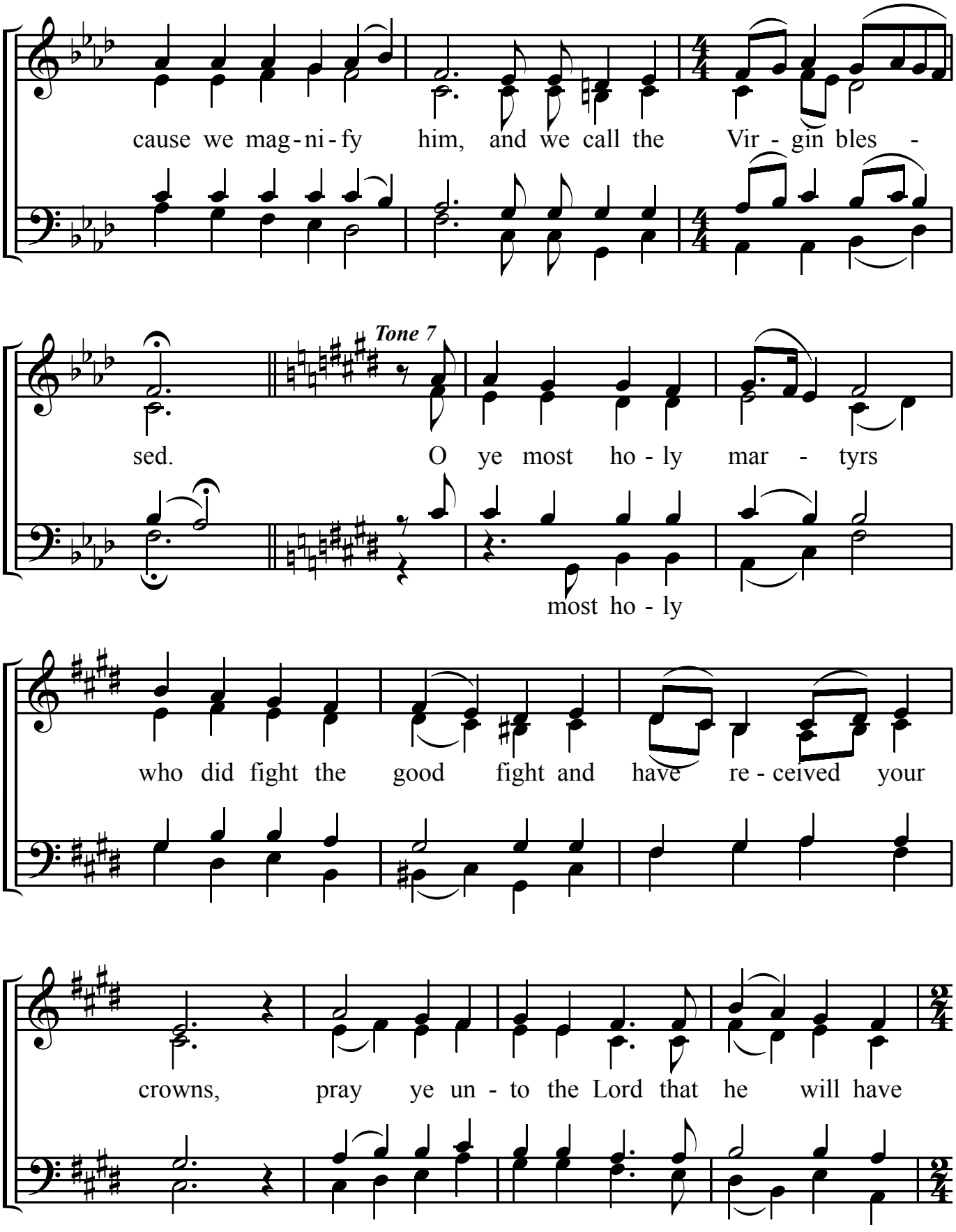
"O Isaiah, Dance Thy Joy"

Byzantine Chant

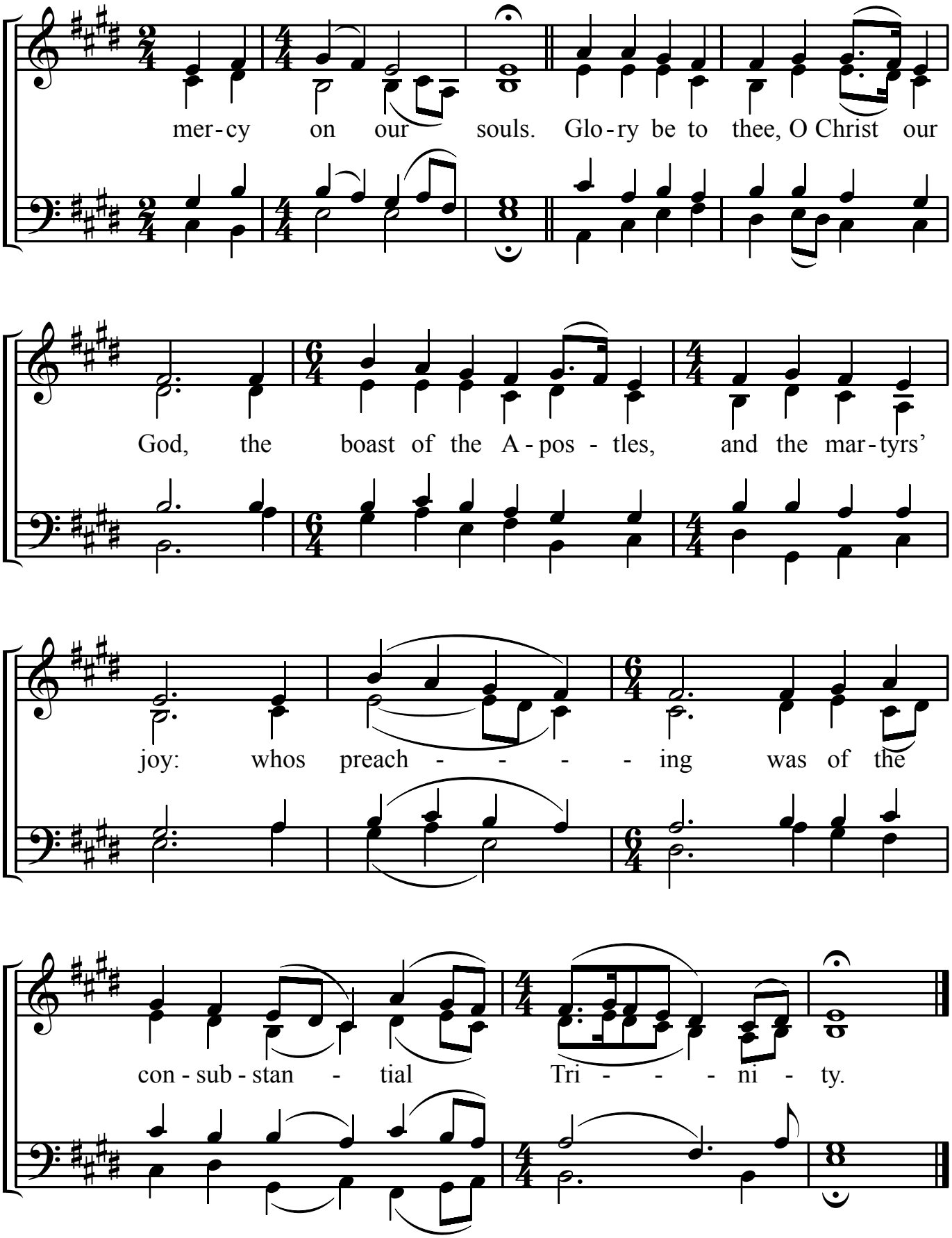
Archpriest James C. Meena
(1924-1995)



Meena
"O Isaiah Dance Thy Joy"



Meena
"O Isaiah Dance Thy Joy"

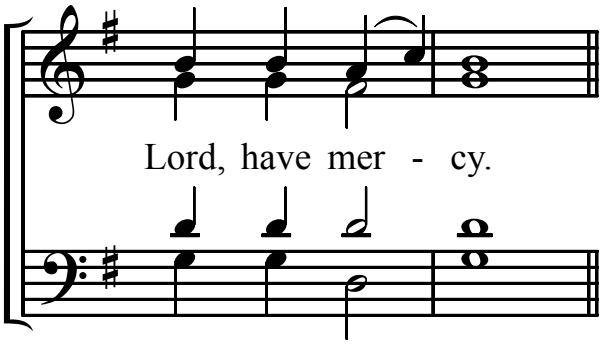


The Wedding Service

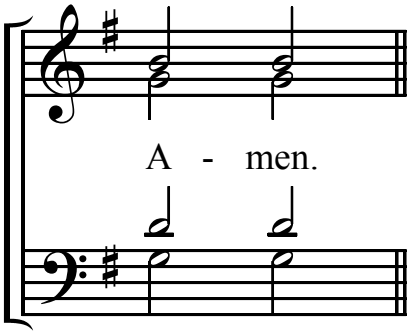
Responses after the Nuptial Blessing

Archpriest James C. Meena (1924-1995)

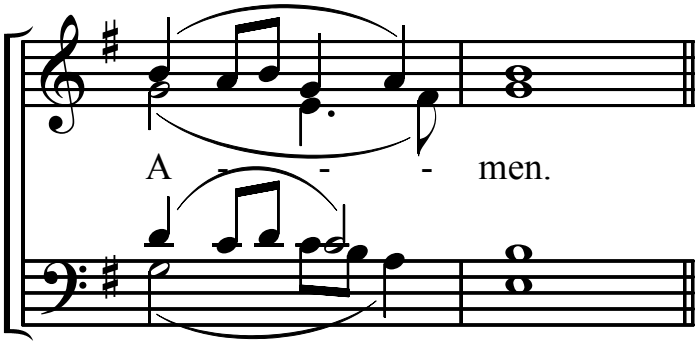
Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.



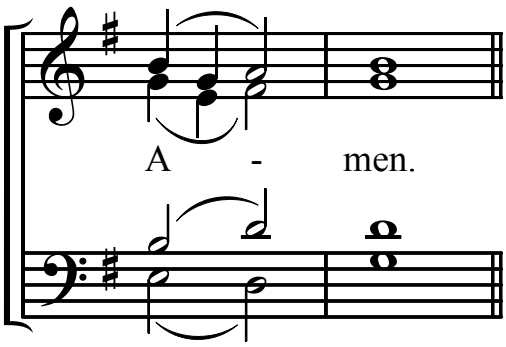
Priest: O God, our God, who didst come to Cana of Galilee...
... preserving themspotless, blameless, and without reproach, unto ages of ages.



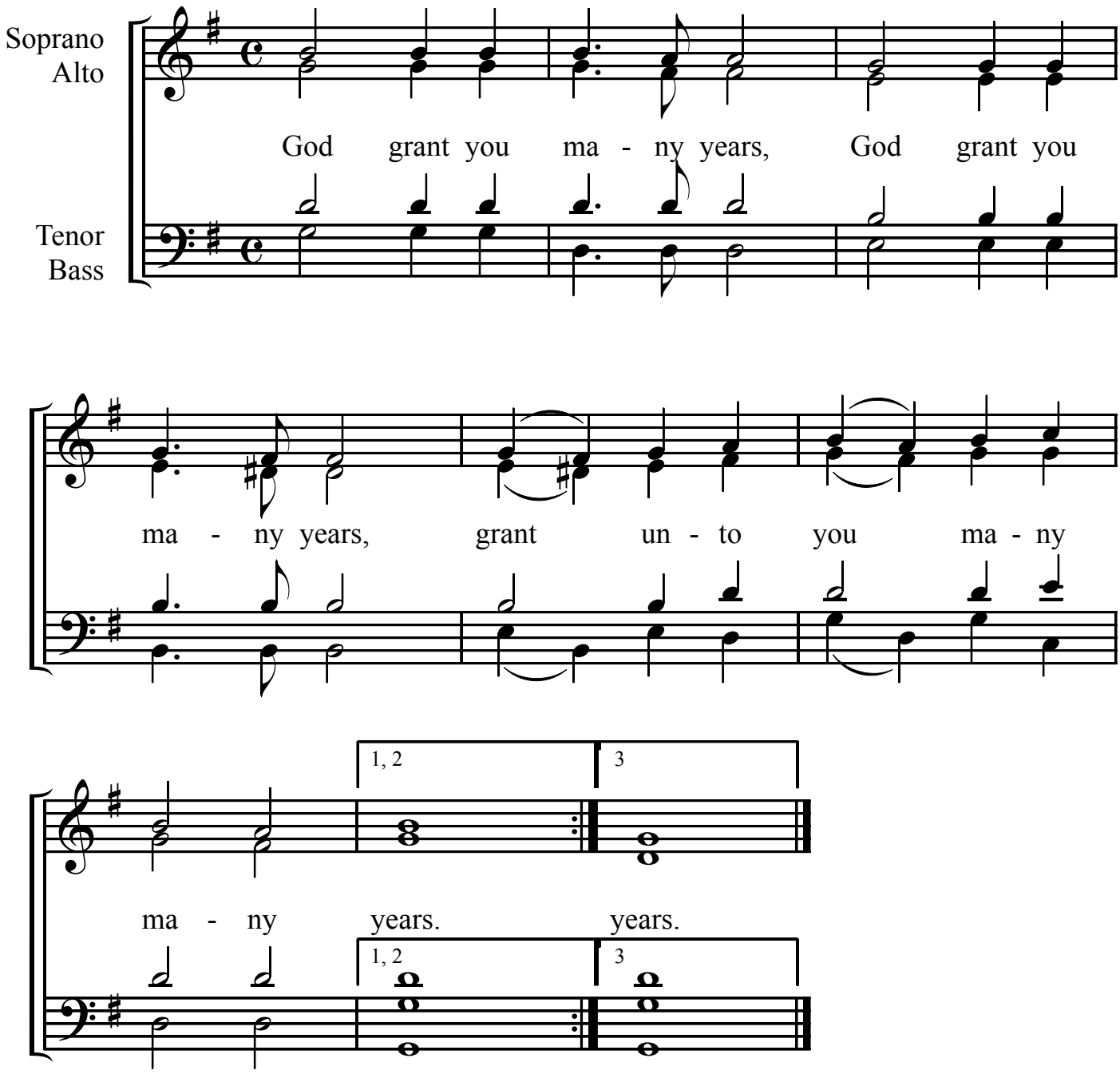
Priest: May the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit...
... through the prayers of the Theotokos, and of all the Saints.



Priest: May he who by his presence at the marriage feast in Cana of Galilee...
... Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.



The Wedding Service

“God Grant You Many Years”

Russian Traditional
Arranged by
Archpriest James C. Meena
(1924-1995)