Apostle Philip, One of the Seven Deacons
Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Chant Tone 4
Special melody: Thou who wast called from on high
Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) Chosen as one of the seven holy Deacons,
since thou didst abound in wisdom and the grace of God,
 thou wast anointed, O man most wise, to serve with Stephen,
minis't'ring unto the wants of all the Saints;
and when thou hadst seen him slain, thou wentest forth with haste
by God's command to Samaria, loudly proclaiming
the Word of God unto all, O glorious one,
iluminating them that formerly

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were in darkness and making them sons of day through the All-holy Spirit,

O Apostle Philip blest of God.

2) When at thy hand there were wrought many divine signs and the people saw the blind receive the gift of sight, the palsied standing restored to strength, and unclean spirits driven away out of those in whom they dwelt:

then were they amazed, O Philip, drawn from unbelief unto the cleansing that saveth souls, shown of a sudden
to be believers confirmed in upright faith.

Receiving word of this, the godly choir of Apostles rejoiced that a multitude was brought forth and presented unto God out of Samaria.

3) Beholding Candace's admirable eunuch riding in a chariot and searching Scripture out, thou, as the chariot of the Word, O God-proclaimer, didst overtake him and madest manifest...
unto him the explanation, in all clarity,
of all the things that he longed to know and didst persuade him
to ask the cleansing of holy Baptism.
When he received it, then Almighty God
made of him a proclaimer of things divine
and the first fruits of Martyrs
for the land of Ethiopia.