

December 9th

Conception of the Theotokos by Righteous Anna

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) Hav-ing past hope— borne as fruit the ho - ly Vir - gin,
who shall give birth in the flesh un - to the God of all,
once - bar - ren An - na is ra - di - ant with ju - bi - la - tion,
re - joic - ing, danc - ing, — and cry - ing might - i - ly:
All ye tribes of Is - ra - el, re - joice with me to - day,
who have con - ceived, cast - ing off the blame I had when child - less;
the Ben - e - fac - tor hath hear - kened to my prayer,
and in His good - ness, He hath been well pleased
to heal all of the pains of my griev - ing heart

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G

through the pangs of my child - - - birth,

E

- ven as of old He prom - ised me.

12 E

2) He that made wa - ter to well up from a dry — rock

G E

grant - eth now th Ev - er - vir - gin La - dy to thy womb

D

as fruit, O An - na, and it is she from whom the wa - ter

E

of our sal - va - tion — shall is - sue forth for us;

G E

no more dost thou so - journ on th earth as fruit - less earth;

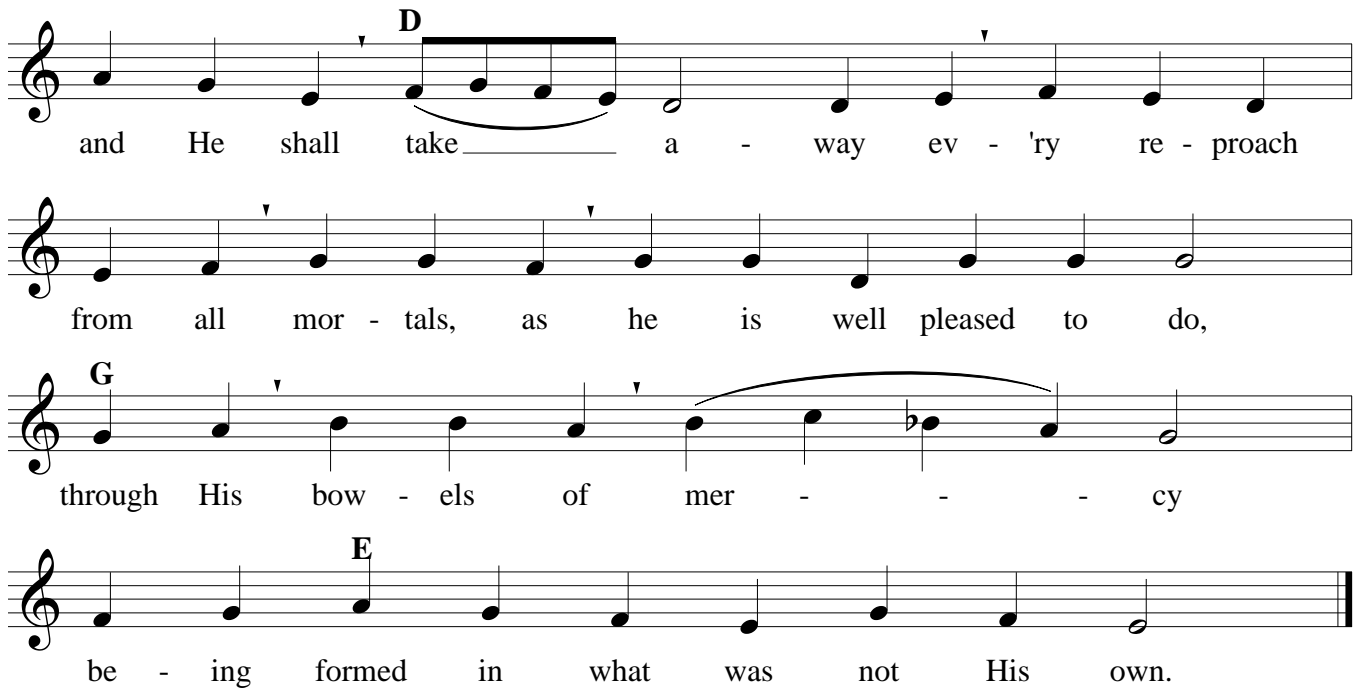
D

thou art es - tranged from re - proach hence - forth, for thou shalt bring forth

E

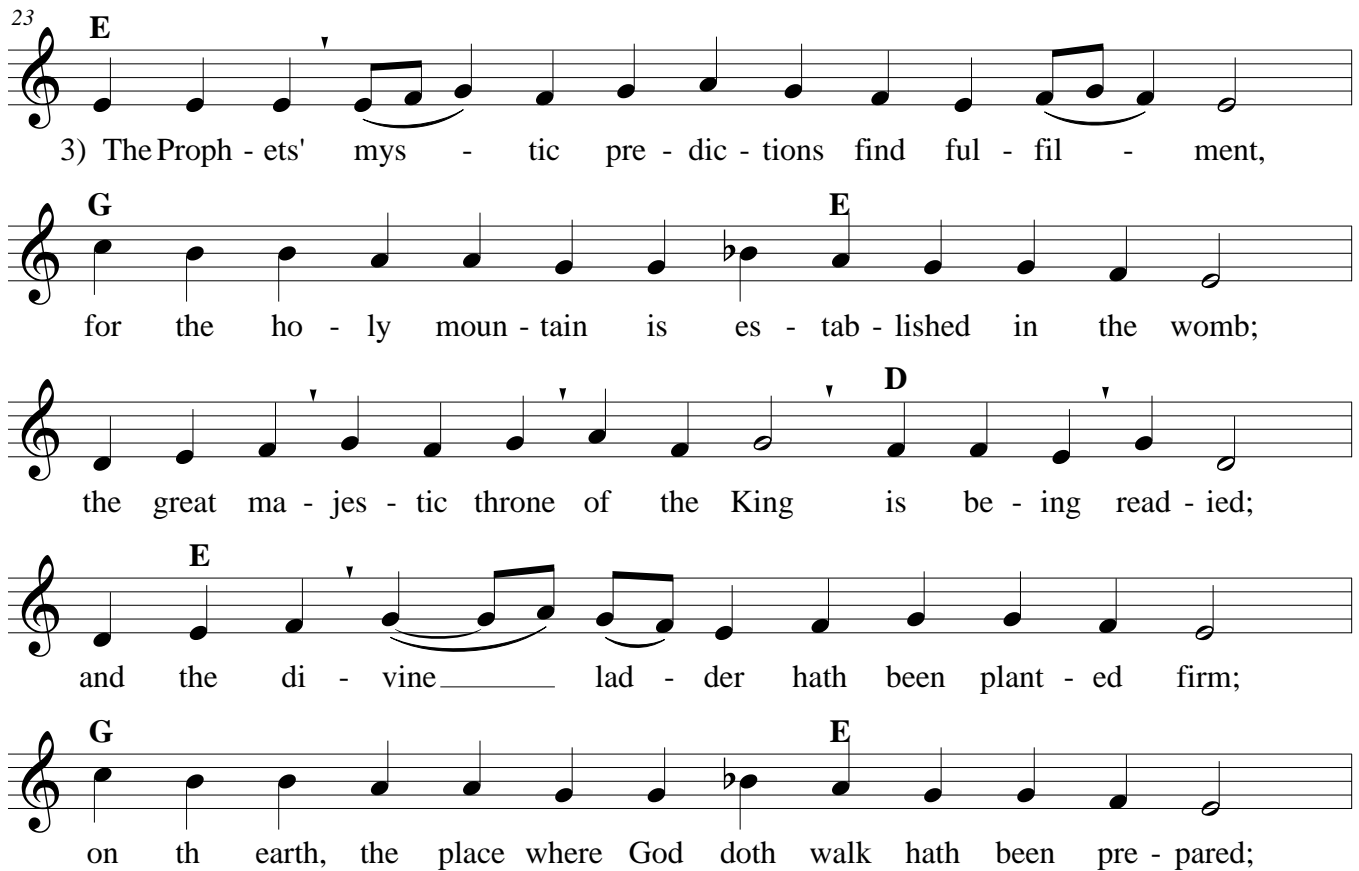
th earth that bear - eth the Wheat of Life Him - self,

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and He shall take a - way ev - 'ry re - proach
 from all mor - tals, as he is well pleased to do,
 through His bow - els of mer - - - cy
 be - ing formed in what was not His own.

23



3) The Proph - ets' mys - tic pre - dic - tions find ful - fil - ment,
 for the ho - ly moun - tain is es - tab - lished in the womb;
 the great ma - jes - tic throne of the King is be - ing read - ied;
 and the di - vine lad - der hath been plant - ed firm;
 on th earth, the place where God doth walk hath been pre - pared;

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the bush that burned not doth now be - gin to bud and sprout forth

and the myrrh - ves - sel of ho - li - ness doth now

well forth to check the streams of bar - ren - ness

of chaste An - na, th el - dress of god - ly mind;

let us all call her bless - ed,

while ex - toll - ing her with fer - vent faith.