

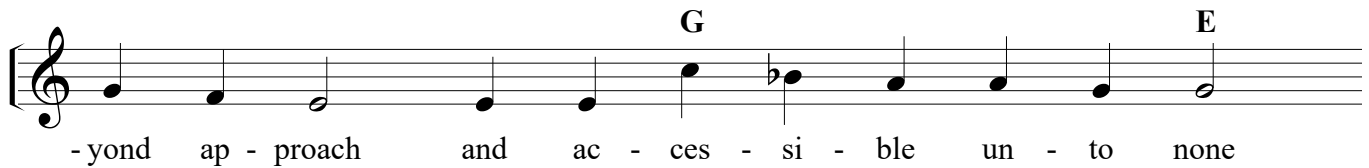
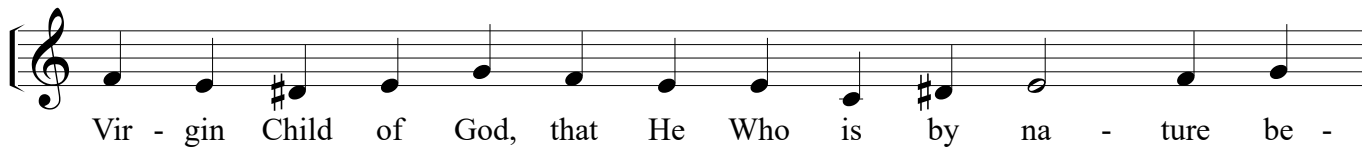
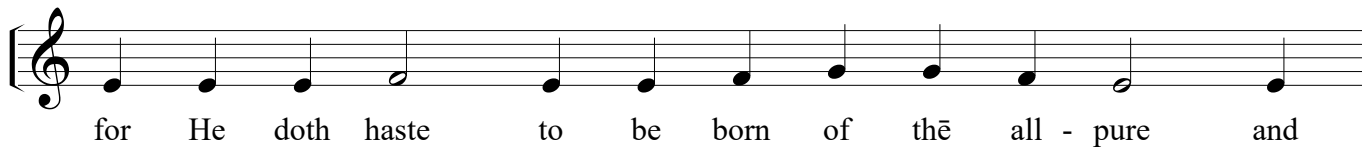
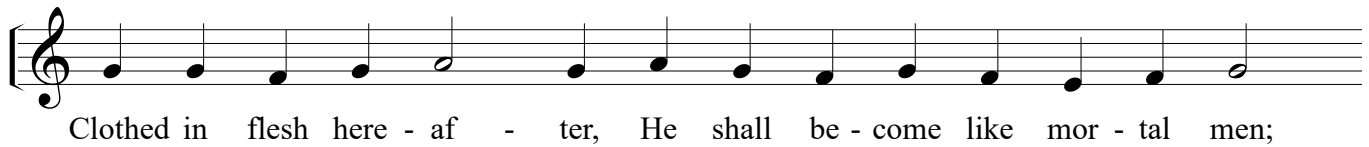
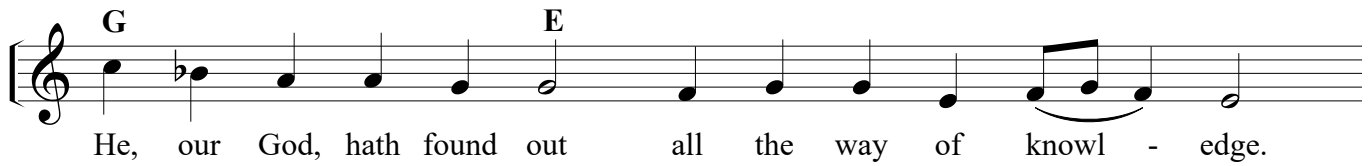
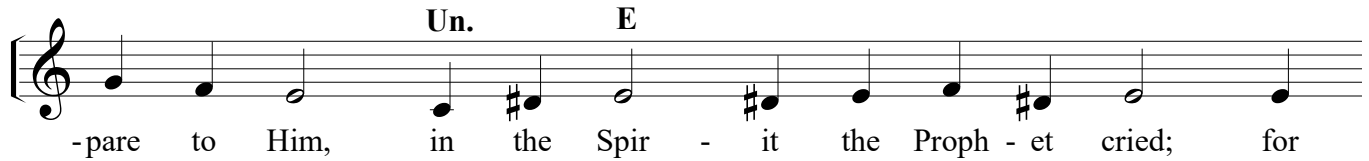
December 21st

The Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Chant Tone/Mode 4
Special Melody: *Unto them that fear thee*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih




December 21st - Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ - Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried" - 2

E Un. E



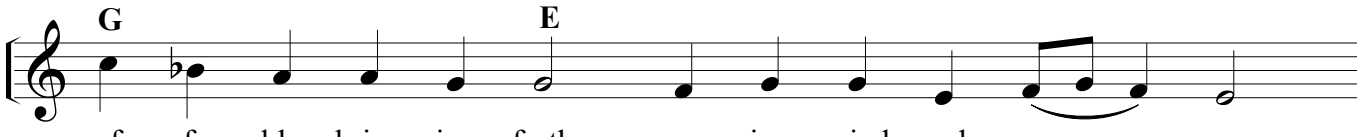
2) Thy womb is a thresh - ing - floor heaped high with grain, O im -

Un. E




- mac - u - late The - o - to - kos and Bride of God, in -


G E




- ef - fa - bly bring - ing forth pass - ing mind and rea - son,



that pure Ear of Wheat with - out hus - band - ry, Whom thou shalt bear




with - in a cave in the town of Beth - le - hem; and




He shall nour - ish all cre - a - tion with di - vine knowl - edge

G E



by His grace and shall res - cue the race of man



from the fam - ine that slay - eth souls.

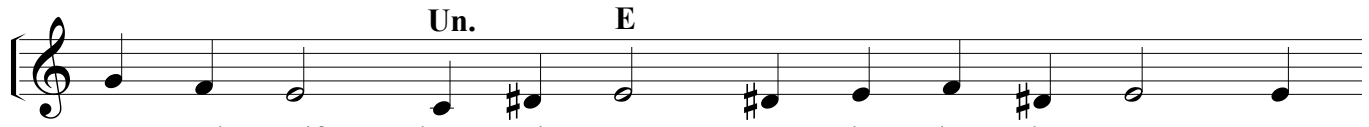
December 21st - Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ - Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried" - 3

E Un. E



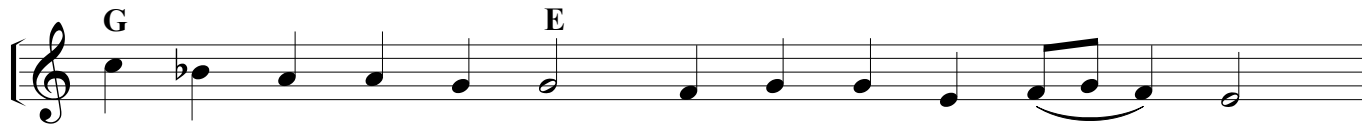
3) Now the blame - less Heif - er, bear - ing in her pure womb the

Un. E



Fat - ted Calf, draw - eth near to the ho - ly cave, to

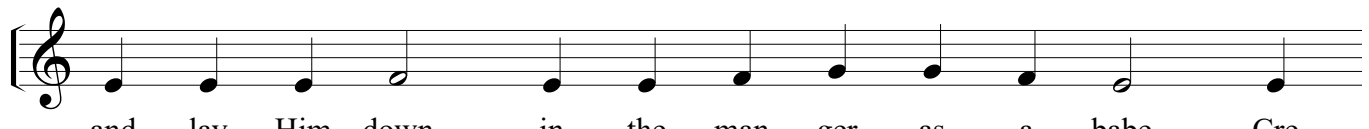
G E



give Him birth as a child in a won - drous man - ner;



and to swathe Him round with the swad - dling clothes as mor - tal man




and lay Him down in the man - ger as a babe. Cre -




- a - tion, cel - e - brate be - fore - hand, and with bound - less de -

G E



-light and joy mag - ni - fy Him that bring - eth forth



such strange mar - vels up - on thē earth.