

December 25th

The Nativity of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ in the Flesh

Kathismata: Sessional Hymns following the readings of the Psalter

Byzantine Chant Tone 4

Special melody: Joseph was amazed

Adapted by Rassem El Massih

A musical score for the Nativity Hymn in Byzantine Chant Tone 4. The score consists of ten staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is written in common time. The lyrics are in English, following the traditional narrative of the Nativity. The score includes several melodic formulas labeled with letters: D, G, Un., and a short melodic pattern between two G's. The lyrics are as follows:

1) Come, ye faith - ful let us see where Christ the Sav - ior
hath been born; let us fol - low with the kings,
e - ven the Ma - gi from thē East, un - to the place where the
star doth di - rect their jour - ney. For there, thē
An - gels' hosts sing prais - es cease - less - ly; shep - herds
in the field of - fer a fit - ting song,
while say - ing, Glo - ry in the high - est to
Him this day born with - in the cave
from the pure Vir - gin and The - o - to - kos
in Beth - le - hem of Ju - de - a.

December 25th - Nativity of Christ - Kathismata following the Psalter - 2

D
2) Why, O Mar - y, marv' - lest thou, a - mazed at that which

Un. D
is in thee? Be - cause I have giv - en birth

G D
in time un - to the time - less Son, yet none hath taught me con -

- cern - ing my Child's con - cep tion: with - out a

G Un. G
man am I, how shall I bear a Son? Who hath

D
ev - er seen a birth with - out man's seed?

But, as is writ - ten, where God will - eth, the

or - der of na - ture is o - ver - come.

G
Lo, Christ is born now of the pure Vir - gin

D G
in Beth - le - hem of Ju - de a.

3) He Whom noth - ing can____ con - tain, how is He held with -

Un. D - in a womb? And while in His Fa - ther's arms,

G how in His Moth - er's pure em - brace? Such is His will and good

pleas - ure, and as____ He know eth. For be - ing

D G Un. G with - out flesh, He took flesh will - ing - ly; for____ us,

He Who Is be - came what He was not.

With - out for - sak - ing His own na - ture, He

hath par - tak - en of what we are.

G For Christ is born now, two-fold in na - ture,

D G to fill Heav - en with man - kind.