

CHRIST IS BORN! GIVE GLORY!

Hymns, Chants and Carols

Recorded by Archangel Voices (2005)

Dr. Vladimir Morosan, Artistic Director

1) TROPARION – Entrance of the Theotokos

~Abbreviated Russian “Greek” Chant, Tone 4,
arr. Dmitry Yaichkov (1882–1953)

Today is the preview of the good will of God, of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. The Virgin appears in the Temple of God, in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. Let us rejoice and sing to her: “Rejoice, O fulfillment of the Creator’s dispensation!”

2) KONTAKION – Entrance of the Theotokos

~Byzantine Chant, Tone 4, arr. Kevin Lawrence

Behold the Temple of the Savior, His precious bridal chamber. Behold the virginal and sacred vessel of God’s glory. Today she enters into the house of the Lord, bearing within her the grace of the Holy Spirit. For this, the angels exclaim: “She is indeed the heavenly dwelling!”

3) STICHERA AT LORD, I CALL – Entrance of the Theotokos

~Galician Chant, Tone 4, Model: “As one noble among martyrs,” arr. Walter G. Obleschuk, Vladimir Morosan

Led by the Holy Spirit, the holy Maid without spot is taken to dwell in the Holy of Holies. She who is fed by an angel, is in truth the most holy temple of our Holy God. He has sanctified all things by her entrance and has made godlike the fallen nature of mortal men.

The young girls rejoice today, and with their lamps in hand they go in reverence before the Spiritual Lamp, as she enters the Holy of Holies. They foreshadow the brightness past speech that is to shine forth from her and to give light by the Spirit to those that sit in the darkness of ignorance.

The all-blessed Anna cried out rejoicing: “Zachariah, take her whom the Prophets proclaimed in the Spirit, and lead her into the holy temple, there to be brought up in reverence, that she may become the divine throne of the Master of All, His palace, His resting place, and His dwelling filled with light!”

4) STICHERA AT THE APOSTICHA – Entrance of the Theotokos

~Optina Hermitage Melody, Tone 5, Model: “Rejoice, Life-bearing Cross”, arr. Walter Obleschuk, Vladimir Morosan

Heaven and earth rejoice beholding the spiritual Heaven—the only Virgin without blemish—enter the house of God, there to be reared in reverence. To her Zachariah cried in amazement: “Gate of the Lord! To you I open the gates of the temple; rejoice and go round it in gladness. For I know and believe that the deliverance of Israel shall now come openly to dwell in our midst, and that from you shall be born God the Word, who grants the world great mercy!”

Anna, truly blessed by God’s grace, led with gladness into the temple of the Lord the pure and ever-Virgin full of grace, calling the young girls to go before her, lamps in hand. She said, “Go, child, to Him who gave you to me; be to Him an offering and a sweet smelling incense. Go into the place which none may enter; learn its mysteries and prepare yourself to become the pleasing and beautiful dwelling-place of Jesus, Who grants the world great mercy!”

5) CANON ODES 1, 3, 6 – Entrance of the Theotokos

~Solovetsk Monastery Melody, Tone 4, arr. Dcn. Sergei Trubachov (1919-1995), English adaptation by V. Morosan

Ode 1 – Heirmos

I will open my mouth and it will be filled with the spirit, and I will utter a word for the Queen and Mother, and I will be seen keeping radiant festival, and rejoicing I will sing her entrance.

Refrain: Most Holy Mother of God, save us.

Ode 3 – Heirmos

O Mother of God, as living and ungrudging source, establish those united in a spiritual company who sing you hymns of praise, and on this day of your venerable entrance, grant them crowns of glory. R.

Ode 6 – Heirmos

As we celebrate this divine and honored feast of the Mother of God, come, godly minded people, let us clap our hands as we glorify God who was born of her. R.

6) HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS – Entrance of the Theotokos

~Znamenny Chant, arr. Vladimir Morosan

Refrain and Heirmos

The Angels beheld the entrance of the Pure

One and were amazed, how has the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies.

As you are a living temple of God, let no impure hand touch you, O Theotokos. But let the lips of all believers sing, constantly magnifying you in joy with the angelic salutation: "Truly you are above all creatures, O Pure One."

7) STICHERA AT THE PRAISES – Prefeast of the Nativity of Christ

~Galician Chant, Model: "Proceed, O Angelic Powers," arr. Fr. Stephan Meholic

Proceed, O angelic powers! Go to Bethlehem. Prepare the manger, for the Word comes to be born. Wisdom proceeds from the mouth of the Most High! Receive, O Church of God, the announcement of salvation; enter into the joy of the Theotokos. Let us sing with gladness, O people: "Blessed is He that comes! O our God, glory to Thee!"

Out of Jacob the star arises, illumining the cave. Come, let us celebrate in anticipation! Let us run with the Magi, let us assemble with the shepherds; let us see God wrapped in swaddling clothes; let us behold the Virgin giving milk to the Lord! O fearful sight! Christ, the King of Israel, draweth nigh!

8) STICHERA AT THE APOSTICHA – Prefeast of the Nativity of Christ

~Kievan Caves Monastery Melody, Model: "O House of Ephratha", arr. Archimandrite Matfei (Mormyl), English setting by V. Morosan

O House of Ephratha, the holy city, the glory of the holy prophets, beautify the house in which the Divine One is born.

The sayings of all the Prophets are fulfilled, for Christ is born in the city of Bethlehem from the pure Child of God.

Glory of those born on earth, their boast and fame, honored Bethlehem, divine metropolis, receive your Creator!

The Word of the Father, through Whom the universe came to be without suffering, and without change appears as one substance from two natures.

City of Bethlehem, make ready the Cave and the Manger, the swaddling clothes for the Creator; for He is at hand to be brought to birth in you.

9) TROPARION – Prefeast of the Nativity of Christ

~Holy Trinity–St. Sergius Lavra Melody, Tone 4

Prepare, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened to all! Adorn yourself, O Ephratha, for the Tree of Life blossoms forth from the Virgin in the cave! Her womb is a spiritual paradise planted with the divine Fruit; if we eat of It, we shall live forever and not die like Adam. Christ comes to restore the image which He made in the beginning.

10) KONTAKION – Prefeast of the Nativity of Christ

~Byzantine Chant, Tone 3, arr. Frederick Karam (1926–1978)

The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth, at the message; with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him Who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God.

11) GOD IS WITH US

~Valaam Chant, Tone 8, arr. Vladimir Morosan
Chanter: Fr. Sergius Halvorsen

Chanter: God is with us! Understand, all you nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

Choir: God is with us! Understand, all you nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

Chanter: Hear this, all you ends of the earth!

Refrain: For God is with us!

Chanter: Submit yourselves, you mighty ones! *R.*

Chanter: Even if your strength returns, you shall be over-thrown once more. Take counsel together, if you wish, but it will come to nothing! Make your plans, if you wish, but they will never stand, even among yourselves. *R.*

Chanter: We do not fear your threats, nor are we troubled. For the Lord our God is holy, and Him we will fear. *R.*

Chanter: If I trust in Him, He will be my sanctification. I will wait for Him, He will save me. *R.*

Chanter: Behold, I and the children whom God has given me are signs and portents in Israel from the Lord of Hosts. *R.*

Chanter: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. To those who dwell in the land of the shadow of death, a light is risen. *R.*

Chanter: For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. And the government shall be upon His shoulder. And of His peace there shall be no end. *R.*

Chanter: And His Name shall be called the Angel of Great Counsel. Wonderful, Counsellor. Mighty God, Eternal Ruler, Prince of Peace. The Father

of the World to Come. *R.*

Choir: God is with us! ...

Chanter: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: God is with us! ...

12) TROPARION – Nativity of Christ

~Byzantine Chant, Tone 4, arr. Kevin Lawrence

Your birth, O Christ our God, shines forth with the light of knowledge on the world; for at Your birth those who had adored the stars were taught by a star to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Dawn from on High. O Lord, glory to You!

13) KONTAKION – Nativity of Christ

~Byzantine Chant, Tone 3, arr. Kevin Lawrence

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth presents a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds give Him glory; wise men follow a star as they journey to Him who is God from all ages, yet for our sake is born as a little child.

14) GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH (Verses before the Six Psalms)

~Alexander Kastalsky (1856–1926), English setting by V. Morosan

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will to all mankind.

Lord, now open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise.

15) PRAISE THE NAME OF THE LORD

~Russian Monastic Chant “from Mt Athos”

Praise the name of the Lord. Give praise, O servants of the Lord. Alleluia!

You that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. Alleluia!

Praise the Lord for the Lord is good; sing to His name for He is gracious! Alleluia!

For I know that the Lord is great, and that the Lord is above all gods. Alleluia!

Whatever the Lord pleases He does, in heaven and on earth, in the sea, and all deeps. Alleluia!

Blessed be the Lord from Zion, He who dwells in Jerusalem. Alleluia!

O give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever!

Refrain: Alleluia, Alleluia, for His mercy en-

dureth forever. Alleluia!

O give thanks to the God of gods, for His mercy endureth forever. *R.*

To Him Who alone does great wonders, for His mercy endureth forever. *R.*

To Him Who by understanding made the heavens, for His mercy endureth forever. *R.*

To Him Who led His people through the wilderness, for His mercy endureth forever! *R.*

It is He Who remembered us in our low estate, for His mercy endureth forever! *R.*

O give thanks to the God of heaven, for His mercy endureth forever! *R.*

16) FROM MY YOUTH

~Russian “Greek” Chant, Tone 4, arr. Boris Ledkovsky (1898–1975)

From my youth many passions have fought against me, but protect me and save me, O my Savior. All who hate Zion shall be put to shame by the Lord. You shall be withered up like grass by the fire.

Glory to Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Every soul is enlivened by the Holy Spirit and is exalted in purity, illumined by the Triune Unity in a sacred mystery.

17) STICHERA AFTER THE MATINS GOSPEL

~Lesser Znamenny Chant, harmonized by Johann von Gardner (1898–1984); Chant from New Skete based on Lesser Znamenny Chant

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Today all things are filled with joy, for Christ is born of the Virgin!

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Today all things are filled with joy, for Christ is born of the Virgin!

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, for today, Bethlehem receives Him who never leaves His Father’s side. Today the angels offer hymns of praise to the Infant in the manger. Oh glory, glory to God on high; on earth peace, good will to all!

18) CANON ODE 1 – Nativity of Christ

Byzantine Chant, Tone 1, by Jessica Suchy-Pilalis; Russian “Greek” Chant, arr. Vladimir Morosan
Heirmos

Christ is born, give glory! Christ comes from heaven, go to meet Him! Christ is upon earth, be exalted! Sing to the Lord all the earth; and all you

peoples raise the hymn with joy, for He has been glorified.

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Ruined through transgression, the one made in God's image became wholly subject to corruption, and fell stumbling from a better and divine life. Him the wise Creator now refashions, for He has been glorified.

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

The Creator, seeing humanity that He had made with His own hands perishing, bowed the heavens and came down; but He took its whole being from a divine, pure Virgin, being made truly flesh; for He has been glorified.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Katavasia

Christ is born, give glory! Christ comes from heaven, go to meet Him! Christ is upon earth, be exalted! Sing to the Lord all the earth; and all you peoples raise the hymn with joy, for He has been glorified.

19) CANON ODE 3 – Nativity of Christ

Byzantine Chant, Tone 1, by Jessica Suchy-Pilalis; Russian "Greek" Chant, arr. Vladimir Morosan
Heirmos

To the Son begotten of the Father and without change before the ages, and in these last times without seed made flesh from a Virgin, to Christ God let us cry aloud: "You have raised up our horn. Holy are You, O Lord!"

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Adam, formed of dust, who had shared in a better breath of life and slipped down to corruption through a woman's deception, seeing Christ born from a woman cries out: "For me You have become as me; glory to You, O Lord!"

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

You have made yourself, O Christ, one in form with a molding of vile clay, and by sharing in what is worse, our flesh, You grant a share in divine stock, becoming mortal, yet remaining God, and raising up our horn. Holy are You, O Lord!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Katavasia

To the Son begotten of the Father and without change before the ages, and in these last times without seed made flesh from a Virgin, to Christ God let us cry aloud: "You have raised up our horn. Holy are You, O Lord!"

20) KONTAKION and OIKOS – Nativity of Christ

~Russian "Greek" Chant, arr. Fr. Sergei Glagolev

Solo Chanter: Stacey S. Grimaldi

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels give glory with the shepherds, and the Magi journey with a star, and for our sake He is born as a new child: He who from eternity is God.

Bethlehem has opened Eden. Come let us see! We have found joy in a secret place. Come, let us grasp Paradise hidden in the cave! There the unwatered Root has appeared, blossoming with forgiveness. There is found the undug Well, from which David longed to drink of old. There the Virgin has borne a child, quenching Adam's and David's thirst. Let us hurry to this place, where is born as a new child He who from eternity is God.

21) CANON ODE 8 – Nativity of Christ

Byzantine Chant, Tone 1, by Jessica Suchy-Pilalis; Russian "Greek" Chant, arr. Vladimir Morosan
Heirmos

The furnace moist with dew was the image and the figure of a wonder past nature; for it did not burn those it had received; even as the fire of the God-head did not consume the Virgin's womb into which it has descended. Therefore in praise let us sing: "Let all creation bless the Lord, and highly exalt Him to all the ages!"

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

The daughter of Babylon once dragged to herself from Zion David's children, taken by the spear; while she sends Magi, her children, bearing gifts, to entreat David's daughter, who received God. Therefore in praise let us sing: "Let all creation bless the Lord, and highly exalt Him to all the ages!"

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Sorrow silenced the instruments of song, for Zion's children did not sing among strangers; but Christ, shining forth from Bethlehem, abolishes all the error of Babylon and the harmony of her musicians. Therefore in praise let us sing: "Let all creation bless the Lord, and highly exalt Him to all the ages!"

Let us bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

We praise, bless and worship the Lord, sing-

ing and exalting Him through all the ages!
Katavasia

The furnace moist with dew was the image
and the figure of a wonder past nature; for it did
not burn those it had receive; even as the fire
of the God-head did not consume the Virgin's
womb into which it has descended. Therefore
in praise let us sing: "Let all creation bless the
Lord, and highly exalt Him to all the ages!"

22) CANON ODE 9 – Nativity of Christ

~Byzantine Chant, Tone 1, arr. Frederick
Karam

Refrain and Heirmos

O my soul, magnify Her, Who is more honor-
able and Who is more glorious than the Heavenly
Hosts.

A mystery I behold which is strange and
wondrous. The Cave is Heaven, and the Virgin
is the Throne of the Cherubim; in the confines
of the manger is laid the Infinite Christ our God,
Whom we praise and magnify.

23) EXAPOSTELARION – Nativity of Christ

~Byzantine Chant, Tone 3; Vladimir Morosan;
Mark Bailey

Our Savior, the Dayspring from the East, has
visited us from on high, and we who were in
darkness and shadow have found the Truth, for
the Lord is born of the Virgin!

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy
Spirit.*

Our Savior, the Dayspring from the East...
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Savior, the Dayspring from the East...

24) THIRD ANTIPHON – Nativity of Christ

~Russian "Greek" Chant, arr. Vladimir Mo-
rosan

*Solo Quartet: Mary Ann Sporcic, Margaret Tyler, Fr.
Sergius Halvorsen, Thomas Cooke*

*Verse: The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my
right hand until I make Thine enemies Thy foot-
stool."*

Thy Nativity, O Christ, our God, has shone
to the world the light of wisdom, for by it those
who worshipped the stars were taught by a star
to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and
to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord,
glory to Thee!

*Verse: The Lord will send Thee the scepter
of power from Zion: "Rule in the midst of Thine
enemies."*

Thy Nativity,...

*Verse: With Thee is the dominion on the day of
Thy birth, in the radiance of holiness.*

Thy Nativity,...

25) TROPARION and KONTAKION – Nativity of Christ

~Fr. Sergei Glagolev

Celebrant: Out of the womb before the morning
star have I begotten thee. The Lord has sworn
and will not change His mind: Thou art a priest
forever, according to the order of Melchize-
dek.

Thy Nativity, O Christ, our God, has shone
to the world the light of wisdom, for by it those
who worshipped the stars were taught by a star
to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and
to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord,
glory to Thee!

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Amen.*

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Tran-
scendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the
Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds
glorify Him! The wise men journey with a star!
Since for our sake, the eternal God was born as a
little child.

26) COMMUNION HYMN – Nativity of Christ

~Fr. Sergei Glagolev

Solo Chanter: Vladimir Morosan

Chanter: The Lord has sent redemption to His
people!

Choir: The Lord has sent redemption to His
people!

Chanter: He has commanded His covenant for
ever. Holy and terrible is His name.

Choir: The Lord has sent redemption...

Chanter: The fear of the Lord is the beginning
of wis-dom, and all who practice it have a good
understanding.

Choir: The Lord has sent redemption...

Chanter: His praise continues throughout the
ages.

Choir: The Lord has sent redemption to His
people! Alleluia.

27) WONDROUS NEWS IS GIVEN

~Ukrainian Carol, arr. Kyrylo Stetsenko (1882-
1922), English lyrics by Nancy McKibben

Wondrous news is given, told to us from
heaven! In the village of Bethlehem, Christ is
born of a Virgin!

In a stable lowly, God is born, all-Holy. He has
come to save His people, and to set the captives

free.

God whose love is boundless! Wisdom far beyond us! Sleep, O Infant, Lord and Savior, with Your peace surround us.

Lord we pray now as then may our hearts be open. May we dwell, Lord, in Your kingdom, ever with You, amen.

28) JOY IS ALL AROUND US

~Ukrainian Carol, arr. K. Stetsenko, English lyrics by Nancy McKibben

Joy is all around us! Now has God's love found us! Star and manger, tiny stranger, signs and wonders to astound us!

Now is God become Man, wrapped in swaddling bands. Baby sleeping, promise keeping, born according to God's plan.

Shepherds with their lambs praise the great I AM. They adore Him, kneel before Him, infant Savior, Son of Man.

King of all Creation! God of every nation! Lord, we hail Thee, praise Thy mercy, and Thy great salvation.

29) ANGEL CHOIRS IN HEAVEN ,REJOICE!

~Ukrainian Carol, arr. K. Stetsenko, English lyrics by Nancy McKibben

Angel choirs in heaven rejoice praising God with one great voice, now ye people near and far, sing to Christ, our morning star.

Kings, strike the harp and sound the horn, a greater King to us is born. Christ is born! Men and angels, glorify! Nations, raise your voices high! God with us, alleluia, God with us!

Unto us the angel came, bringing news in God's good name. News like this was never heard, God made flesh in Christ the Word.

30) SING, EARTH AND HEAVEN

~Ukrainian Carol, arr. K. Stetsenko, English lyrics by Nancy McKibben

Sing, earth and heaven, sing, earth and heaven, now join in celebration. Sing, men and angels, sing, men and angels, raise songs of jubilation.

Refrain: Christ God is born this blessed morn. Angels singing now Kings before Him bow. As day is breaking shepherds, merry-making, bring Good News to those awaking.

News of a Savior, news of a Savior to Bethlehem has come. Born of the Virgin, born of the Virgin, Jesus, our Lord and God's Son. *R.*

Praise God in heaven, and on earth praise Him. We humbly bow before Him. As did the angels, as did the Wise Men, we bless and adore Him. *R.*

31) GOD'S SON IS BORN THIS NIGHT

~ Ukrainian Carol, arr. James E. Clemens, English lyrics by Nancy McKibben

God's Son is born this night, night unlike all others. Jesus we call Him, Mary is His Mother.

Refrain: Wonderstruck the angels sing, caroling the newborn King. Ox and ass before Him fall, honoring the Lord of all! Shepherds are exclaiming, who can they be naming? Jesus! Jesus! Jesus Christ the Lord!

Mary is singing, "Come, behold God's blessing!" With her the angels Jesus' name confessing. *R.*

Joseph, the Elder, charged with Jesus' keeping, watches the manger where God's Son is sleeping. *R.*

God sends a new song, humble shepherds hear it: "Come, worship Jesus, come, ye poor in Spirit." *R.*

Wise Men come also, bearing golden coffers. Not only treasure, but themselves they offer. *R.*

So let us also hasten to the stable, offering our lives to God who makes us able. *R.*

32) TODAY THE VIRGIN (A Carol)

~Fr. John Finley

Today the Virgin bears the One, above all being, God the Son; and earth presents a cave to Him whom none can touch in Bethlehem.

The angels with the shepherds sing, and glory to the Savior bring; the Magi journey from afar, their journey guided by a star.

For unto us is born a Child, from Mary, Virgin Mother mild; the pre-eternal God of all, who comes to us to save our souls. Who comes to us to save our souls.

33) THE LORD HATH SENT REDEMPTION

~Melody from Lebanon, arr. by Michael G. Farrow

Alto Solo: Margaret Tyler

Baritone Solo: Peter Perkins

The Lord hath sent redemption unto all of His people. Alleluia, alleluia. Christ is born. Alleluia.

Christ our Savior today is born in a lowly manger, in a cave. Alleluia, alleluia. Wali da'l Mas-eeh. Alleluia.

The angels and the shepherds sing: Glory and hosanna to their King. Alleluia, alleluia. Khristos rodilsia. Alleluia.

The wise men bring their gifts from far: gold and frankincense and myrrh. Alleluia, alleluia. Christos yennate. Alleluia.

God fulfilled His covenant and word: sent our
Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
Christ is born....

34) CHRIST OUR SUN

*~Ukrainian Carol, arr. with English lyrics by
Fr. Paul Harrilchak*

Christ our sun shines out today with God's
own warmth and healing rays:

*Refrain: Christ is born! People everywhere,
rejoice and with full voice glorify Him!*

Shining o'er a stable, a star declares an end
to fables: *R.*

Wise men sent to Bethlehem bow down low
and show all men: *R.*

Immanuel of prophecy, Star of Judah, Flower
of Jesse: *R.*

David's Scion, Mariam's Son, Prince of Peace,
God's Holy One: *R.*

Christ from heaven, Christ on earth: Destined
meeting Wondrous birth! *R.*

Lord before the world began, He brings the
Father's love to man: *R.*

35) CHRIST IS BORN (A Festal Shout)

~Fr. Sergei Glagolev

Christ is born! Glorify Him! Alleluia!