

Forefeast of Theophany

Matins

For the Praises ** *Ye angelic hosts* ** (Αἱ ἀγγελικαὶ)

Ἄγγοις λαβεῖτε Βράχοντα

Ye an - gel - ic hosts, go ye on the way be - fore_ us; make your
 way from Beth - le - hem to the Riv - er Jor - dan; and come
 forth, O thou Bap - tist John, a - ban - don the wil - der - ness. Make
 read - y, O riv - er, and re - joice, and let all the earth be filled_ with
 glad - ness, for Christ com - eth now and purg - eth Ad - am's sin_ a -
 way, since He_ is com - pas - sion - ate.

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6

Come ye, with pure mouths and with souls made clean, and let us
 mys - tic'l - ly leave Beth - le - hem, tak - ing forth our jour - ney; and
 as we go with Christ un - to the Jor - dan with ea - ger haste,
 let us sing to Him now, O ye tribes of thē earth, with joy and ju -
 bi - la - tion, as we say in faith: Bless - ed art Thou Who art now
 come, our God, glo - ry be to Thee. —

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Dread - ful is the mys - t'ry and great be - yond all tell - ing! ⁶ For the
 Most High God ⁷ is be - come like un - to man - kind; ⁸ and now
 He Who is in - no - cent and know - eth no sin at all ⁶ com - eth
 forth and ask - eth to ⁹ be bap - tized of John with - in the Jor - dan Riv -
 er ⁶ on this ho - ly day. ¹⁰ Bless - ed art Thou Who hast ¹¹ ap - peared; our
 God, - glo - ry be to ¹² Thee. ⁶



O f a Vir - gin born as the Flow - er sprung from Da - vid, Christ our
 God is come to the wa - ters of the Jor - dan, to wash a -
 way with - in its floods the sins of our an - ces - tor. Dance for
 joy, O Ad - am; Eve, be glad; and let Heav - en now de - light and glo -
 ry; let us na - tions say: Bless - ed art Thou Who art now come; our
 God, glo - ry be to Thee.