

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 Dr. John El Massih

The musical notation consists of eight staves of Gregorian chant in G clef, common time. The notes are primarily quarter notes and eighth notes. The chant is in Byzantine Chant Tone 4. The lyrics are integrated directly onto the musical staff. The text is in English, referring to the conception of the Theotokos and the life of St. Anna.

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

The musical score consists of six staves of music in G clef, common time, with lyrics underneath each staff. The lyrics are as follows:

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.

Accents are marked above certain notes, and slurs are used to group notes together. The letters D, E, and G are placed above specific notes in the first, second, and fourth staves respectively, likely indicating different melodic sections or modes.

To - day have the bonds of bar-ren-ness been loos - ened, God, hav-ing

heard the pray'rs of Jo - a-chim and Anne, prom-ised them__ o - pen-ly that

they__ should give birth a - gainst__ hope to the Maid - en of

God, from whom__ he, thç in - fin - ite One,

was__ to be born, be - com-ing man, com - mand - ing thç

an - gel to shout to her, Hail, O full of grace, the

Lord _____ be with thee.

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Exapostilarion

Byzantine Tone 3

Special Melody: *While standing in the Temple's courts*

The Lord, be - ing com - pas - sion - ate, lent His ear to the

sigh - ing of An - na thē au - gust and chaste, and He gave

her the Vir - gin, her who a - lone knew not a

man and who made the light to shine on all the world past all

tell - ing; as for fa - mous and god - ly

Jo - a - chim, when he saw this,

he was a - mazed and ex - ul - tant.

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Byzantine Mode 3
Special Melody: *Thou who as God adornest*

F D
Now from a womb once bar - ren,

C F D Un.
the Ho - ly Wis - dom of our God

F D
doth build Him - self a di - vine house,

C F D Un.
the The - o - to - kos Mar - i - am;

F G
let us, the world's gen - er - a - tions,

C F
as is her due, call her bless - ed.

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Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 2
Special melody: *O house of Ephratha*

Adapted by Rassem El Massih

D C , D
1) Ad - am and Eve, re - joice and put a - side all sor - row;
for in a bar - ren wom - an, be - yond all hope the
Moth - er of Joy doth bud as fruit to - day.

4 D C , D
2) Fore - fa - ther A - bra - ham, all Pa - tri - archs and Fa - thers,
be filled with ju - bi - la - tion on see - ing that the
Moth - er of God doth spring forth from your root.

7 D C , D
3) Jo - a - chim, leap for joy; re - joice with him, O An - na;
for on this day ye bear fruit that is the cause of
joy and sal - va - tion for the world en - tire.

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10 **D** **C , D** ·
4) Ye of the Proph - ets' choir, make mer - ry; for, be - hold ye,
 , **Un.** , **D** ·
in An - na is be - got - ten a fruit through which your
 , **Un.** , **D** ·
proph - e - cies all shall ful - ly come to pass.

13 **D** **C , D** ·
5) O all ye tribes, re - joice with chaste and bar - ren An - na;
 , **Un.** , **D** ·
for past all ex - pec - ta - tion, she bear - eth, as the
 , **Un.** , **D** ·
fruit of her womb, the cause of life for us.

16 **D** **C , D** ·
6) To, from a fruit - less womb, the Moth - er of the Mak - er
 , **Un.** , **D** ·
of all things in cre - a - tion to - day hath been en -
 , **Un.** , **D** ·
- gen - dered; be glad, ye ut - most ends of earth.