

# Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

## Stichera for Lord I Call

Tone 1

*Verse 4: From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord.*

The mystic rays of resplendant and un- i- ver- sal joy are ri- sen

on the whole world, and to all they now herald the dawning Sun of Glory,

Christ Je- sus our God, at thy birth, O all spot- less Maid;

for thou hast proven to be the august mediatrix of divine grace and true glad - ness.

*Verse 3: For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.*

The mystic rays of resplendent... (repeat above)

*Verse 2: O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye peoples.*

O spot- less Vir- gin, this glory of thy pre- fest- i- val now maketh known

beforehand unto all the earth's peo- ples thy gra- cious benefactions and

fa - vours, for thou art the cause of the pre- sent joy;

thou art our source of the gladness to come as well, and the pleasure of di- vine de- light.

*Verse 1: For he hath made his mercy to prevail over us,  
and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.*

The The- o- to- kos, the pure Maiden in whom God was con- tained,

the Prophets' boast and glo- ry, and the daugh- ter of Da - vid,

from Joachim the prudent and Anne the chaste now is born on this holy day

and by her birth overturneth the ancient curse which through Adam

came up on our race.

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

Tone 4

The multitude of Angels in heaven, and we the race of men on earth,

bless thine all-holy nativity, O pure and all-holy Virgin;

for thou becamest the mother of Christ our God, the Cre- a - tor of all,

cease not to en- treat Him, we pray, for us who after God have set our hopes on thee,

O all-hymned and unwedded The- o- to - kos.

*Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

And we sing the dogmatikon of the tone.