

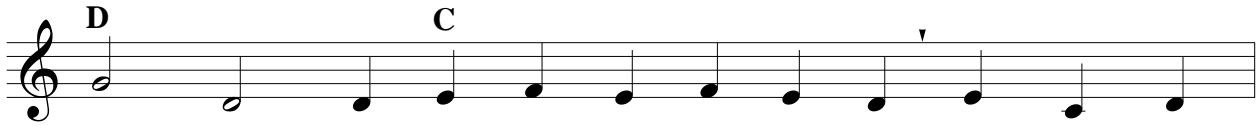
June 24th

The Nativity of John the Baptist

Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 8
The Original melody

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih
from various sources



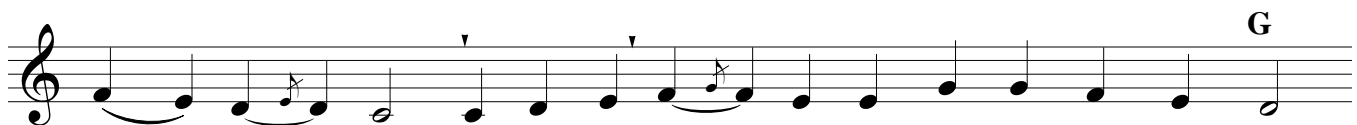
- 1) O strange won - der! John, the mes - sen - ger sent forth be -
- 2) *O strange won - der! He who is a - bove the Proph - ets,*
- 3) O strange won - der! He that her - ald - ed Christ's self - a -
- 4) *O strange won - der! Lo, the mes - sen - ger preach - ing Christ's*



- fore___ God the Word, mak - eth haste___ to come forth to - day
be - ing more great than all those___ born of wom - an - kind
- base - ment to men is de - clared___ high - er than all men
com - ing on earth, who had leapt___ in his moth - er's womb,



from a moth - er full of years, who is strick - en and
doth un - do the sore re - proach of his own moth - er's
by the voice of Christ Him - self; and with pow - er be -
John the Proph - et of the Lord and His For - run - ner,



gray___ with___ age; and by his birth,___ he doth make the fet - tered tongue
bar - ren - ness; for he doth come___ in the spir - it and the pow'r
- stowed by___ God, to - day he end - eth his moth - er's bar - ren - ness
hath___ been___ shown to be the high - est of all the Proph - ets' choir



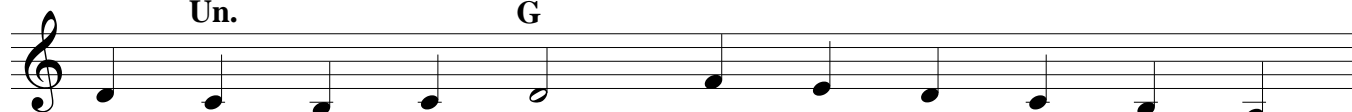
to speak dis - tinct - ly with sweet - est el - o - quence.
of great E - li - as, pre - par - ing the Lord's way.
and set - teth loose___ Zach - a - rias' - s bound - en voice.
and great - er far___ than all those of wom - en born.



O _____ Thine in - ef - fa - ble care and prov - i - dence for
How - in - ex - press - i - ble is Thy ten - der mer - cy,
 O _____ Thy great works, O Christ, and Thy might - y won - ders,
 O _____ Thy ma - jes - tic gifts, O Thou Friend of man! Where -

Un.

G



us, O Mas - ter Christ! Where - by save our souls, since
O our Mas - ter Christ! Where - by save our souls, since
 O our Sov - 'reign Lord! Where - by save those hon - or -
 - by, O Christ, do Thou save our souls, O Mas - ter,

C



Thou a - lone art mer - ci - ful.
Thou a - lone art mer - ci - ful.
 -ing Thy great Fore - run - ner John.
since Thou art om - nip - o - tent.