

December 20th - 23rd

# Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ

Apolytikion, hard chromatic\*

Byzantine Chant Tone 4  
Special melody: *Joseph was amazed*

Adapted by Rassem El Massih

Be thou read - y Beth - le - hem, E - den hath o - pened

Un. D  
un - to all. Eph - ra - tha, pre - pare — thy - self,

G D  
for now, be - hold, the Tree of Life hath blos - somed forth in the

cave from the ho - ly Vir - gin. Her womb — hath

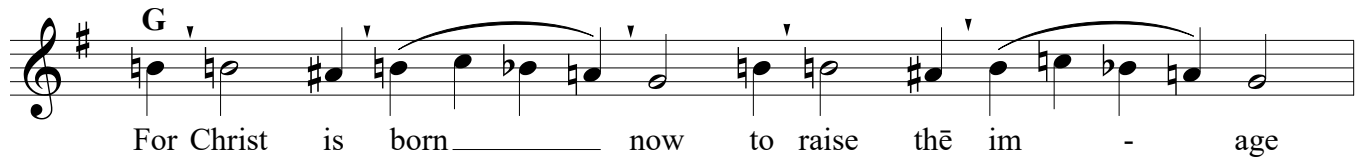
G Un. G  
proved a true spir - it - ual Par - a - dise, where - in

D  
the — di - vine and sav - ing Tree — is — found,

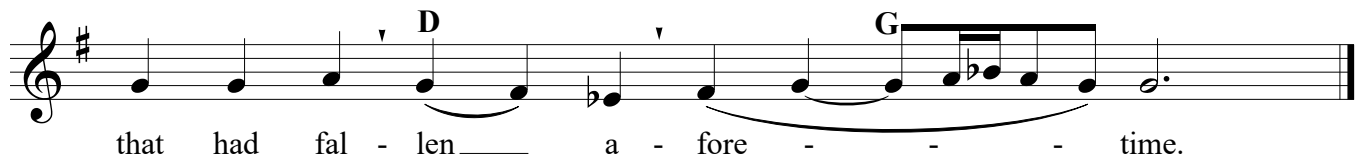
and as we eat there - of we shall — all live,

and shall not die — as did — Ad - am.

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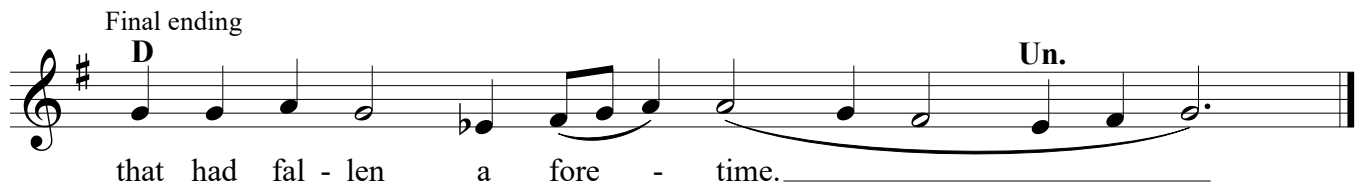


For Christ is born \_\_\_\_\_ now to raise thē im - age



that had fal - len \_\_\_\_\_ a - fore - - - time.

Final ending



that had fal - len a fore - time. \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Please note: In some places in the Antiochian Patriarchate, this hymn is sung using this hard chromatic version, or Palatine mode, of "Joseph was amazed." Properly, it should be done in the soft chromatic, Dismissal Hymn, version.*