

# As Shepherds in Their Fields

Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ, Matins  
Second Sessional Hymn  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Gently, joyfully**

1. As shep-herds in their fields — were pip-ing songs a - loud, A  
2. "O cease your pip - ing now — A - bid-ing in — the fields, And  
3. O join our choir and sing, — Of bles-sed ho - ly grace, For

The first system of the musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features a treble and bass staff with lyrics for three different parts. The melody is simple and pastoral, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 1. As shep-herds in their fields — were pip-ing songs a - loud, A; 2. "O cease your pip - ing now — A - bid-ing in — the fields, And; 3. O join our choir and sing, — Of bles-sed ho - ly grace, For.

host of an - gels stopp'd them there, And, voi - ces strong, call'd out  
cry and sing that Christ is born, The Lord on earth re - vealed.  
God is born who comes to save, The hum - ble hu - man race."

The second system of the musical score continues the melody from the first system. The lyrics are: host of an - gels stopp'd them there, And, voi - ces strong, call'd out; cry and sing that Christ is born, The Lord on earth re - vealed.; God is born who comes to save, The hum - ble hu - man race." The music concludes with a final cadence in the bass staff.

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*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev.0, 10/12/05.*

# When Christ was of the Virgin Born

Vespers of the Nativity of Christ  
Second Sticheron on "O Lord, I have cried"  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

Simply, joyously

1. When Christ was of the Vir - gin born the world was  
2. For God in flesh has now ap - pear'd, the Sa - vior

fill'd with light; The shep - herds watch'd in  
of our souls; And He who made and

lone - ly fields il - lu - min'd pure and bright. The  
holds the world is come to save us all.

Ma - gi kneel'd, a - dor'd the Son, the An - gels prais'd in song, But

He - rod's mind was troub - led sore, And trem - bled all night long. For

*p*

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## When Christ was of the Virgin Born

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "When Christ was of the Virgin Born". It consists of two staves, a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music is written in a homophonic style with chords. The lyrics are: "Christ is born, Christ is born, Come and glo - - ri - fy Him!". The score includes dynamic markings: *cresc.* at the beginning of both staves and *f* (forte) in the middle of both staves. There are also phrasing slurs over the final notes of the first and last phrases.

*cresc.* *f*

Christ is born, Christ is born, Come and glo - - ri - fy Him!

*cresc.* *f*

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 1, 10/30/05.

# What Shall We Call You

First Royal Hour of the Nativity  
Theotokion after the Troparion of the Forefeast  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

Simply, not too fast

S 1  
S 2

1. What shall we call \_\_\_\_\_ you, full of grace? Shall  
2. Or shall we name \_\_\_\_\_ you "Pa - ra - dise," For  
3. "Pure Mo - ther" shall \_\_\_\_\_ we call you then, Who

A

"Hea - ven" \_ be your \_ name? \_\_\_\_\_ For shin - ing  
God's \_\_\_\_\_ im - mor - tal \_\_\_\_\_ Flow'r? \_\_\_\_\_ Or shall \_\_\_\_\_ "The  
held \_\_\_\_\_ the \_ Ho - ly \_\_\_\_\_ Son? \_\_\_\_\_ O pray \_\_\_\_\_ to

forth from \_ You has come The right - eous  
Vir - gin" \_ be your name? All - pure \_\_\_\_\_ by  
Him, the \_ God of all, To save \_\_\_\_\_ us

Son \_\_\_\_\_ the same.  
God's \_\_\_\_\_ own pow'r.  
ev' - - - - - ry - - - - - one.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 1, 12/16/08.

# The Rod of Jesse's Root Has Bloomed

Matins of the Nativity of Christ  
Canon I, Cantic IV  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

Not too fast (♩ = 50)

S 1  
S 2

1. The rod of Jesse's root has bloom'd, Has  
2. For from the mount of shadow dark, You  
3. O im - ma - ter - ial, spirit - ual One, The

A

bud - ded from a Vir - gin's womb, For You have come, O  
come as from a ho - ly ark, In - car - nate of a  
One - be - got - ten God the Son, All glo - ry to your

Christ our Lord, All - prais'd and blest and  
Vir - gin Maid, O Lord of glo - ry  
might, O Lord, All glo - ry, Christ, the

all - a - dor'd. All prais'd and blest and all - a - dor'd.  
hu - man made, O Lord of glo - ry hu - man made.  
all - a - dor'd, All glo - ry, Christ, the all - a - dor'd.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 2, 9/22/05.

# The Desert, as a Lily, Bloomed

Matins for the Forefeast of the Nativity  
Canticle III, Irmos and Sessional Hymn  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

1. The des - ert, as a li - ly, bloom'd When You were  
2. Re - joice, O Zi - on, lift your - hymn, Make rea - dy,  
3. Be - fore Him all the po - w - ers - shake, But He a

born from Ma - ry's womb. The bar - ren Gen - tile  
too, O Beth - le - hem, The One who holds and  
low - ly form will take. The on - ly God of

church, as well, With burst - ing buds be -  
keeps all things, A star be - fore His  
sky and sea, Un - changed in ho - ly

gan to swell. And when You came a - mong them all My  
com - ing brings. He makes His con - de - scen - sion known, His  
de - i - ty, Is tru - ly of the Vir - gin - born, And

heart was found ed, pure and whole.  
bow - ing down to with save His own.  
hu - man flesh to with grace a - dorns.

Music © Richard Toensing, 2005.

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# Once Sorrow had Silenced Zion's Harps

Matins of the Nativity of Christ  
Canon I, Canticle VIII, Stanzas 3 and 4  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

Not too slow  $\text{♩} = 60$

Once sor - - - row had si-lenced Zi - on's harps, Whose  
chil - - - dren kept them - selves a - part, A - mong the  
strang - ers did not sing, Nor hymns of joy - ful  
praise - - - es bring. But shin - ing forth in  
Beth - le - hem, the Lord de-roys all Ba - by -

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor). The time signature is 2/2. The tempo is marked 'Not too slow' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The lyrics are: 'Once sorrow had silenced Zion's harps, Whose children kept themselves apart, Among the strangers did not sing, Nor hymns of joyful praise - - - es bring. But shining forth in Beth - le - hem, the Lord de-roys all Ba - by -'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings.

NOT FOR USE IN THE MATINS SERVICE - FOR PARALITURGICAL USE ONLY.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 1, 12/16/08.

## Once Sorrow had Silenced Zion's Harps

lon. Her er - ror\_ and her mu - sic\_ there, Re - leas - ing

Zi - on's prais - es\_ there. So let\_ us\_ lift our

song\_ of\_ praise And ev' - ry - one our voi - ces\_

raise, "Let all\_ cre - a - tion praise\_ the\_ Lord, Ex -

alt - ing\_ Him\_ for - ev - - - er - more."



# O Nations, Let Us Now Prepare

Vespers, Sunday before the Nativity of Christ  
Stichera I at "O Lord, I have cried"  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

## Simply

1. O na-tions, let us now pre-prepare, And lay \_\_\_\_\_ a -  
side all earth-ly care, To cel - e - brate the birth \_\_\_ of \_\_\_  
S 1 Christ With all \_\_\_\_\_ the wor - thy, good, \_\_\_\_\_ and wise 2. Our  
S 2  
A  
minds lift up to Beth-le-hem, And with \_\_\_\_\_ our con - scien-ces as -  
cend, May we with - in our hearts be - hold, The

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*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT. Rev. 0, 9/19/05.*

Vir - gin com - ing through the cold. 3.For Ma-ry now draws

near the cave, To give birth there to Him who saves; Our

God and ho - ly Lord of all, The migh - ty Sa - vior

of our souls. 4.And Jo-seph all these things be-held, But

Hmm \_\_\_\_\_

thought a hu - man child he held, Not know - ing

(hmm) \_\_\_\_\_

what would lat - er come, Through this the Vir - gin Ma - ry's

(hmm) \_\_\_\_\_ (hmm) \_\_\_\_\_

Son 5. But then, in lat - er years a - maz'd Good Jo - seph,

through His works of grace, Knew Je - sus as the Lord of

all, Who grants great mer - cy to our souls.

# O Master, Risen as a Star

Matins of the Nativity of Christ

Canon I, Canticle IV, Stanza 3

Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Joyfully**

1. O Mas - ter, ri - - - sen as a star, From  
2. They came to You \_\_\_\_\_ in search of truth, The

Ja - cob, an - cient pa - tri - arch; You fill'd the  
first of all \_\_\_\_\_ the Gen - tile fruits; They came to

watch - - - ers of the stars with joy, \_\_\_\_\_ when  
You \_\_\_\_\_ in pen - i - tence, With gold, \_\_\_\_\_ and

com - ing from a - far, Who, search - ing Ba - laam's pro - phe -  
myrrh, \_\_\_\_\_ and frank - in - cense; All glo - ry to your pow'r, O

cies, Dis - cov - - - ered and You, \_\_\_\_\_ the hope \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ peace.  
Lord, In earth \_\_\_\_\_ and hea - ven, all \_\_\_\_\_ a - dored.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 1, 9/22/05.

# Lift Up, My Soul

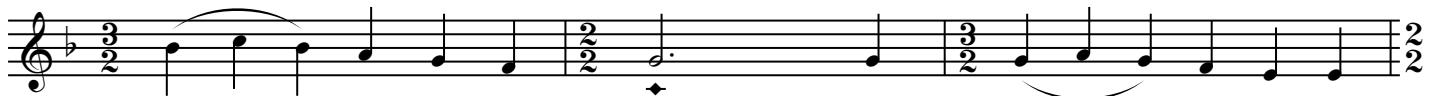
Matins of the Nativity of Christ  
Megalynaria  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Meditatively, joyfully**



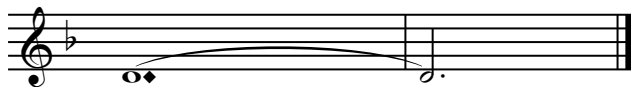
1. Lift up, my soul, and mag - ni - fy The La - dy  
2. O soul of mine, now mag - ni - fy The God we  
3. O soul of mine, now mag - ni - fy The King who  
4. O soul of mine, now mag - fi - fy Our God whose  
5. O soul of mine, now mag - ni - fy The One re -  
6. O soul of mine, now mag - ni - fy The Vir - gin  
7. The Ma - gi and the shep - herds came To wor - ship



hon - or'd o - ver all, More glo - ri - ous than  
ev - er glo - ri - fy, Who from the bles - sed  
comes from hea - ven high, And in a low - ly  
star was shin - ing high, The Ma - gi led to  
vealed as King on high Whose way was point - ed  
pure and un - de - fil'd Who in a sta - ble  
Christ and praise his name, Who in the town of



all the hosts Who serve the Lord on  
Vir - gin born, Ap - pears in hu - man flesh and  
sta - ble cave, Is born to save the hu - man  
Beth - le - hem, Who bro't their gifts and save the hu - man  
by a star, To Ma - gi - trav' - ling from a -  
cave on earth Has gi - ven Christ the King his  
Beth - le - hem, Was born to draw us all to



high. \_\_\_\_\_  
form. \_\_\_\_\_  
race. \_\_\_\_\_  
Him. \_\_\_\_\_  
far. \_\_\_\_\_  
birth. \_\_\_\_\_  
Him. \_\_\_\_\_

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Antiochian Christian Orthodox Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 9/17/05.

# Let Clouds Drop Water from on High

Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ, Matins  
Canticle VII, Stanza II  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Meditatively - moderate tempo**

(optional solo)

1. Let clouds \_\_\_\_\_ drop wa - ter from on high, And  
2. For He \_\_\_\_\_ the ey - er - last - ing Light, That

(optional solo) *mf* *tutti p*

all the hosts of hea - ven cry; For He \_\_\_\_\_ who  
knows no ev' - ning, dark, \_\_\_\_\_ or night, Has come \_\_\_\_\_ on

(optional solo)

clouds his cha - riot makes, Comes on a cloud \_\_\_\_\_ as hea - ven  
hum - ble earth to shine, Il - lu - min - ing with light \_\_\_\_\_ di -

*tutti p*

shakes; For by the Vir - - - gin He was borne, En -  
vine. The ones who lived \_\_\_\_\_ in dark - ness here, In

(optional solo) *tutti*

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 1, 10/13/05.

## Let Clouds Drop Water from on High

com - pass'd in a ba - by's form.  
pe - ril and in hope - - - less fear.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (one sharp). The piece begins in 4/4 time and changes to 3/2 time at the second measure. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some longer notes in the final measure. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The final measure of the piece features a long note with a fermata, suggesting a sustained or held note.

# Isaiah, as He Watched by Night

Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ, Compline

Richard Toensing

Canticle V, Irmos

Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks, altered, R.T.

**With joyful dignity**

1. I - sai - - - ah, as he watched by night, Be - held the  
2. I - sai - - - ah cried a - loud, "Be - hold, A Vir - gin

ev - er - last - ing Light That knows no ev' - ning pov - er -  
shall - - - con - ceive and hold The Word in - car - nate in her

ty, The Light of Your The - o - pha - ny, That  
womb, From which, a Ba - by, He shall come, And

came to pass through ten - der love To us from You, O  
earth with all her fam - i - ly Shall then re - joice ex -

Christ a - bove. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.  
ceed - ing - ly."

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems of music. The first system has a 2/2 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second system has a 3/2 time signature. The third system has a 2/2 time signature. The fourth system has a 6/4 time signature. The fifth system has a 2/2 time signature. The lyrics are written below the vocal line, with some words underlined. The piano accompaniment is written in the bass clef.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese. RT, rev.1, 9/11/05.



# In Bethlehem

Matins of the Nativity of Christ  
Ikos following the Kontakion after Canticle 6  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Sweetly, not too fast**

S 1  
S 2  
A

1. In Beth - le - hem is o - pen'd wide, the gates of  
2. The Root \_\_\_\_\_ un - wat - er'd there ap - pears, from which for -  
3. So let \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_ has - ten to the place, Where now a

E - den's pa - ra - dise O come \_\_\_\_\_ and let us look and  
give - ness flow - ers here, And there \_\_\_\_\_ is found the un - dug  
Babe \_\_\_\_\_ is born by grace, The pre - e - ter - nal God \_\_\_\_\_ of

see, In se - cret that great joy \_\_\_\_\_ to be. O  
well, Where Da - vid long'd to drink \_\_\_\_\_ as well. For  
all, Whose love \_\_\_\_\_ will lift us from the fall. O

come, and let us take in hand That \_\_\_\_\_ pa - ra - dise that ev - er  
there a Vir - gin bears a Child, The \_\_\_\_\_ Maid o - be - di - ent and  
come, and let us take in hand, That \_\_\_\_\_ pa - ra - dise that ev - er

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 9/30/05.

## In Bethlehem

stands, And now \_\_\_\_\_ is found with - in the cave, In  
 mild, The thirst \_\_\_\_\_ of A - dam now shall cease, And  
 stands, And now \_\_\_\_\_ is found with - in the cave, In

Him \_\_\_\_\_ who comes \_\_\_\_\_ to earth to save.  
 Da - - - vid's, too, \_\_\_\_\_ shall find re - lease.  
 Him \_\_\_\_\_ who comes \_\_\_\_\_ to earth to save.