

Stichera at "Lord, I Call..." (Prefeast)

Sunday before the Nativity of Christ December 18-24

Tone 6
Sticheron 1

Sedmiezersk Hermitage Chant
Model Melody: "Having placed all their hope"

♩ = 90

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

The nev - er - setting Sun presses for - ward to rise,
en-lightening all things under heav - en. Let us has - ten
with clean hands and pure deeds to meet Him; let us
prepare to be borne on high with Him in spir - it!
Let us beseech Him in His com-pas - sion, that, as He

[comes to His good...]

comes in His good pleasure to His own— strange birth, He may

lead us, who have become strangers to the path of life in

E - den, in - to Beth - le - hem // where He comes - *)

*)ALTERNATIVE ENDING:

to be born! where— He comes to be born!

Sticheron 2

The Word of God, up-borne on the shoulders of the

[cherubim,]

cher - u - bim, goes to dwell in a womb without blem -

ish. Though without passions, He is bound fast — to the

flesh; — He comes on earth as a man, born of the tribe of

Ju - dah. A cave becomes the palace of the King — of

all; the fiery throne is replaced by a manger, where the

[Virgin Mary lays...]

Virgin Mary lays Him as a babe, — for He comes to restore the

*)

first-cre - at - ed man, // as He is well - pleased so to do.

*) ALTERNATIVE ENDING:

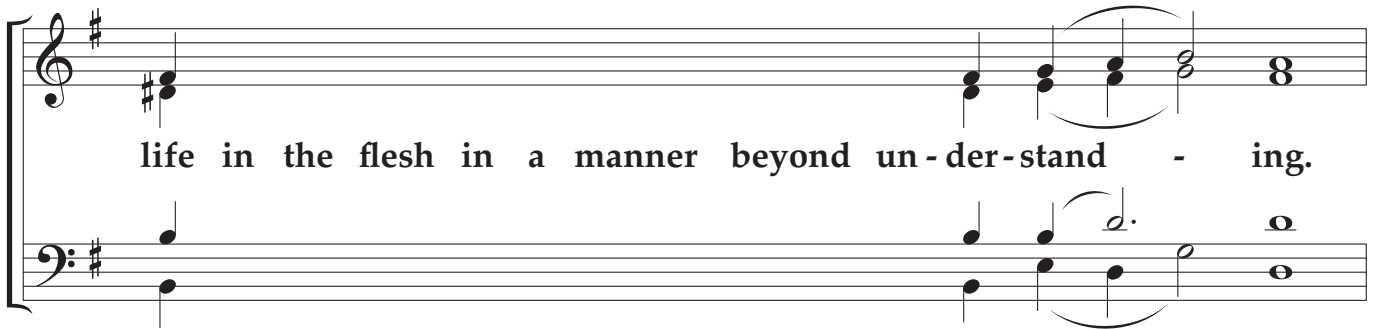
as He is well-pleased — so to do.

Sticheron 3

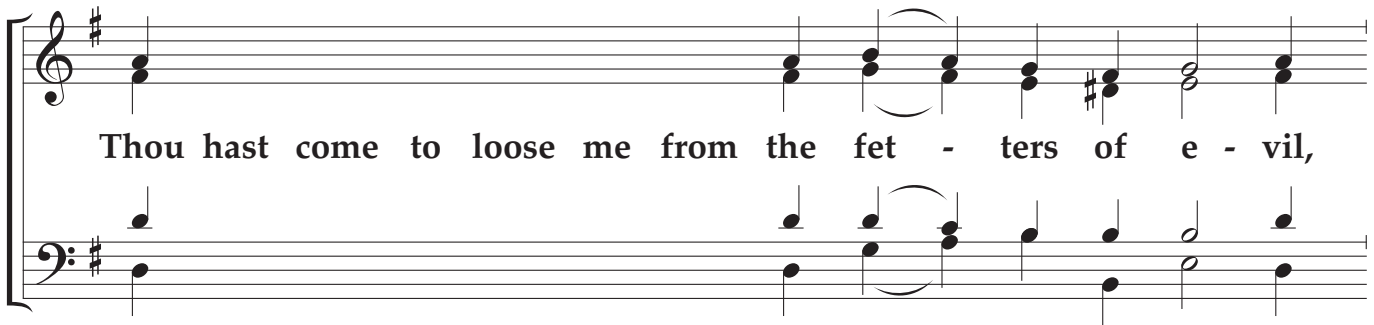
O Word of God with-out — be-gin - ning, the Vir-gin lays

Thee in a man-ger of dumb beasts. Thou dost choose to begin Thy

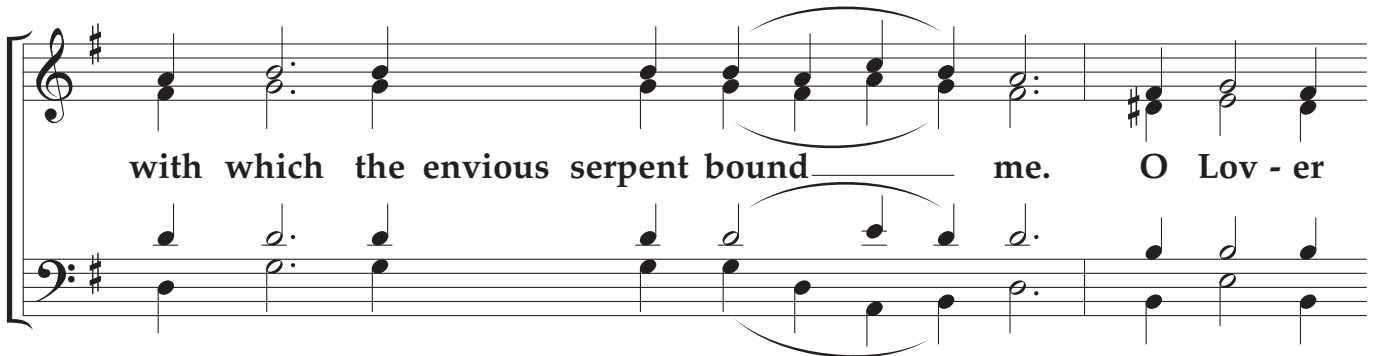
[life in the flesh...]



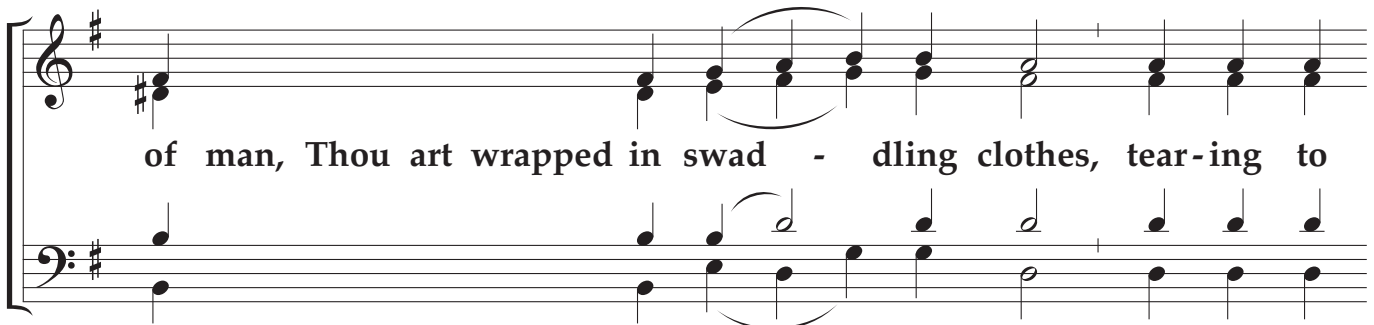
life in the flesh in a manner beyond un-der-stand - ing.



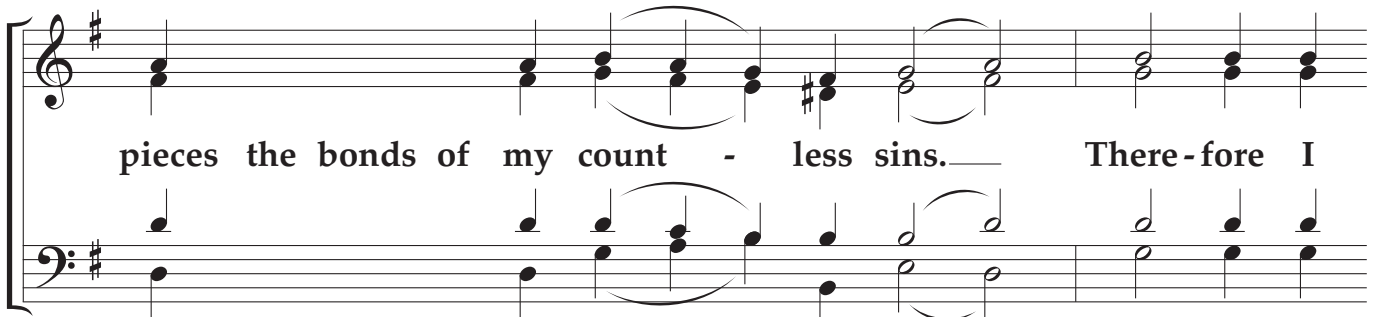
Thou hast come to loose me from the fet - ters of e - vil,



with which the envious serpent bound me. O Lov - er



of man, Thou art wrapped in swad - dling clothes, tear-ing to

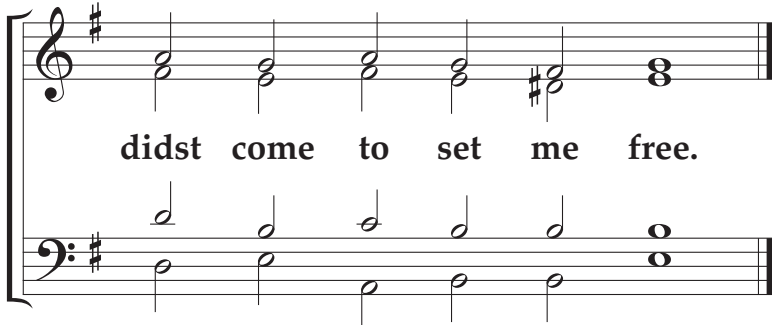


pieces the bonds of my count - less sins. — There-fore I

[joyfully praise and worship...]

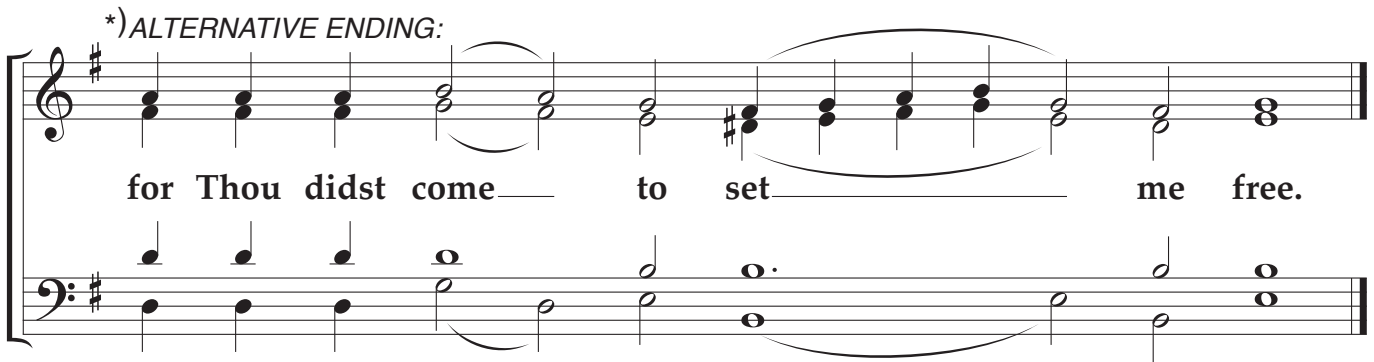


joyfully praise and worship Thy ho - ly birth, // for Thou



didst come to set me free.

**) ALTERNATIVE ENDING:*



for Thou didst come to set me free.