

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Kontakion - Tone 3: Original Melody

Bulgarian Chant
arr. W.G. Obleschuk

$\text{♩} = 108$

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

To-day the Vir - gin gives birth to the

Tran - scen - dent One,

and the earth of - fers a cave to the

Un - ap - proach - a - ble One!

An - gels with shep-herds glo - ri - fy Him, the

wise men journey with a

star, since for our sake

the E - ter - nal God is born as a

Ikos Ending:*

Lit - tle Child! Where the E - ter - nal

God was born as a Lit - tle Child!

* At matins, the ikos is chanted after the singing of the *kontakion*. When the reader reaches the end of the *ikos*, the final phrase is chanted in a raised (louder) voice. The choir and the people repeat the concluding verse, singing it according to the cadential formula of the *kontakion*.

“Glory...” & “Now and ever...”

as sung before Tone 3:

“Today the Virgin...”

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1. “Glory...” alone.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the

This system contains the first two staves of the musical score for the first part. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music is written in a style characteristic of Bulgarian Chant, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and dotted notes, often beamed together. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

This system contains the next two staves of the musical score. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system, with the lyrics 'Son, and to the Holy Spirit.' written below the notes.

2. “Now and ever...” alone.

Now and ev - er and un - to a - ges

This system contains the first two staves of the musical score for the second part. The notation and style are consistent with the first part. The lyrics 'Now and ever and unto ages' are written below the notes.

of a - ges. A - men.

This system contains the final two staves of the musical score for the second part. It concludes with the lyrics 'of ages. Amen.' written below the notes.

3. “Glory...” & “Now...” together: sing #1 followed by #2.

Note: “Glory...” and/or “Now and ever...” is sung in the Tone and melody that follows.