

# Stichera at the Aposticha

Entrance into the Temple - November 21

Common Chant  
arr. from L'vov/Bakhmetev

Tone 5

Soprano  
Alto

Heav - en and earth re - joice, beholding the spiritual Heaven,

Tenor  
Bass

the only Virgin with - out blem - ish, as she en - ters the

house of God, there to be reared in rev' - rence. Zach - a - ri -

ah cried to her in a - maze - ment: "Gate of the Lord, to

you I open the gates of the Tem - ple; re - joice and go a - round

it danc - ing. For I know and believe that the deliverance of

Is - ra - el will now come to dwell o - pen - ly in our midst,

and that from you shall be born— God the Word, Who grants

the world His great mer - - - cy.

**Tone 5**

Soprano  
Alto

An - na, being the name - sake of grace, joy - ful - ly brings

Tenor  
Bass

in - to the Tem - ple of God the pure and ever - Vir - gin who

is full of grace, and calls young girls to go before her with

lamps in hand. She says: "Go, child, to Him Who gave you to me;

to be an of - fer - ing and a sweet smell - ing in - cense. Go in - to

the inner sanctuary which none may en - ter: learn its mys - ter - ies,

and pre-prepare yourself to become the pleasing and fair dwelling place

of Je - sus, Who grants the world His great mer - cy!"

**Tone 5**

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

The most ho - ly Virgin, the Temple that is to con -

tain God, is dedicated within the Tem-ple of God; and young girls,

bearing lamps, now go be - fore— her. Her no-ble par - ents, Joachim

and Anna, leap for joy and dance, for they have borne her, who is

to bear the Cre - a - tor. And she who is all-pure dances around

the divine hab - i - ta - tions and is fed by the hand of an

An - gel. She has been revealed as the Moth - er of Christ,

Who grants the world His great mer - - - cy.

*In the 6th tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

## Tone 6

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

Today let us the crowds of the assembled faith - ful

celebrate a spir - it - ual feast: let us reverently praise the Virgin

Theotokos and child of God, as she is brought into the Tem - ple

of the Lord. She was forechosen from all gener - a - tions

to be the dwelling-place of Christ, the Lord and God of all.

The musical score is written for four voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. It is set in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Today let us the crowds of the assembled faith - ful celebrate a spir - it - ual feast: let us reverently praise the Virgin Theotokos and child of God, as she is brought into the Tem - ple of the Lord. She was forechosen from all gener - a - tions to be the dwelling-place of Christ, the Lord and God of all." The score consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano accompaniment is primarily chordal, supporting the vocal lines.

O Virgins, bearing lamps, go be-fore her, honoring the majestic progress

of the ever - Vir - gin. Mothers, lay aside every sorrow and ac -

com - pa - ny them with joy, singing the praises of her who became

the Moth - er of God, the cause of joy for the world.

Therefore, let us all join with the An - gel,

and joyfully cry out: "Rejoice!" to her that is full of grace,

and who ev - er in - ter - cedes for our souls.