

Stichera at the Litya

The Holy Theophany, the Baptism of Our Lord - January 6

Tone 4

Sticheron 1

Russian Imperial Court Chant

arr. by L'vov/Bakhmetev

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

He who covers Himself with light as with a gar - ment

for our sake saw fit to be - come like us. To - day He

covers Himself with the streams of the Jor - dan. He has no

need of their cleans - ing, but He se - cures new — birth for

[us.]

us. Oh, the won - der! Without fire He re - for - ges,

with - out break - ing He re - forms. He saves those en -

light - ened in Him: // Christ God, the Sav - ior of our souls.

Sticheron 2

By fire and the Spir - it, Thou dost wash away the sin of the

world. When the Bap - tist saw Thee coming, he was a - fraid,

[He trembled and cried out . . .]

He trembled and cried out say - ing: "I dare not

hold — Thy spot-less head. // Sanctify me with Thine Epiphany,

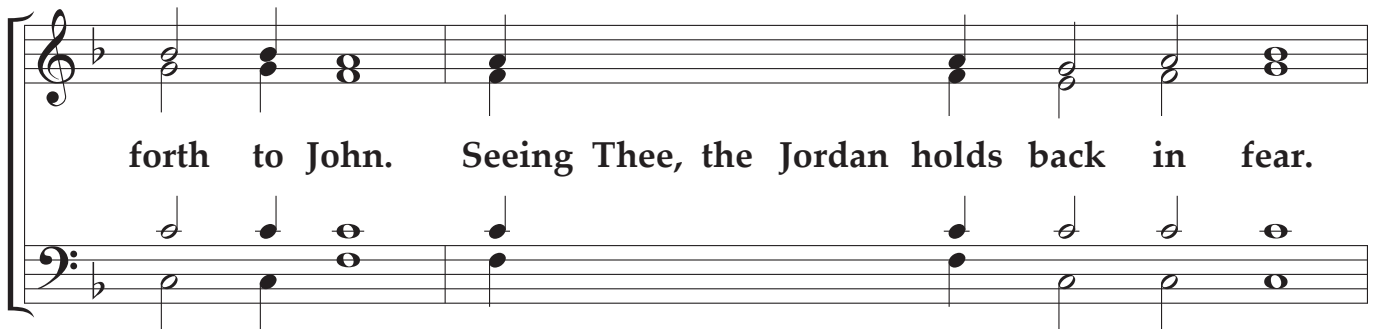
O Mas-ter Who lov - est man-kind!"

Sticheron 3

Let us imitate the wise vir - gins, let us go and meet the

Mas - ter Who ap - pears; like a bride - groom He comes

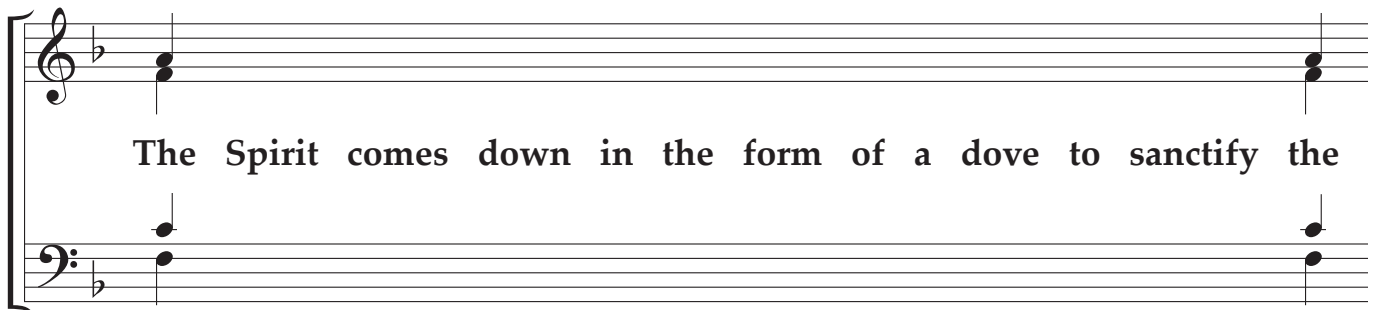
[forth to John.]



forth to John. Seeing Thee, the Jordan holds back in fear.



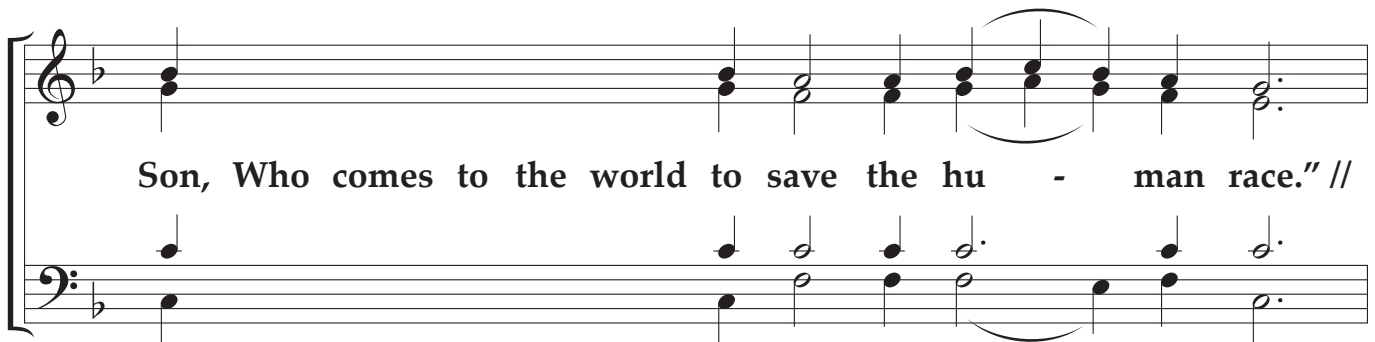
John cries out: "I dare not hold Thine im - mor - tal head."



The Spirit comes down in the form of a dove to sanctify the



wa - ters. And a voice from heav - en re-sounds: "This is my



Son, Who comes to the world to save the hu - man race." //

[O Lord, glo-ry to Thee!]

O Lord, — glo - ry to Thee!

Sticheron 4

Christ is bap-tized. He comes up from the wa - ter. With Him-

self He rais - es up the world. He sees the heavens opened

which Ad - am had shut a - gainst Him-self and His pos-ter - i -

ty. The Spirit affirms the di - vin - i - ty, since He

[rushes to join Him . . .]

rushes to join Him Who is al - so di-vine. A voice comes from

heav - en, for from heaven comes He Whom the

Spir - it af-firms: // He is the Sav - ior of our souls.

Sticheron 5

Touching Thy spotless head, the hand of the Baptist trem-bled.

Not daring to minister to Thee, the River Jor - dan turned back.

[Since it stood in awe . . .]

Since it stood in awe of Joshua, the son of Nun, how could

it not fear Thee, his Mak - er? But Thou, our Savior,

didst fulfill Thy plan to save the world by Thine E-piph-a - ny, //

O God, Who lov - est - man - kind.