

CHRIST MASS

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMASS CRÉCHE

*The Blessing of the Creche occurs prior to the Processional Hymn.
The Celebrant, vested in cope, enters with the clergy from the Sacristy.*

HYMN + A SOLIS ORTUS CARDINE

MODE III (New English Hymnal # 20)



From east to west, from shore to shore
Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears
He shrank not from the ox - en's stall,
All glo - ry for that bless - éd morn



Let ev - ery heart a - wake and sing
The form and fash - ion of a slave,
He lay with - in the man - ger bed,
To God the Fa - ther ev - er be,



The ho - ly Child whom Ma - ry bore,
Our ver - y flesh our Ma - ker shares,
And He whose boun - ty feed - eth all,
All praise to Thee, O Vir - gin born,



The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing King.
His fall - en crea - ture, man, to save.
At Ma - ry's breast Him - self was fed.
And praise, blest Spir - it, un - to Thee. A - men

THE BLESSING PRAYER

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who on this night caused Your only-begotten Son to be born of the blessed and glorious ever virgin Mary for our salvation: vouchsafe, we beseech You, to hal~~l~~ow and bl~~l~~ess this Creche which shows the wonders of that sacred birth; so that all who behold it may ponder and adore the mystery of His holy incarnation, and may be joyfully partake in His divine grace unto life eternal, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit: one God, now and forever.

The Creche is blessed with incense.

After the blessing, while the Processional Hymn is sung, the clergy process down the North aisle to the Narthex and then up the center aisle to the Altar. The Preparatory Rite is omitted.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

At Midnight

FIRST CLASS

25 DECEMBER

SILVER

The Crèche may be blessed immediately prior to the Mass.

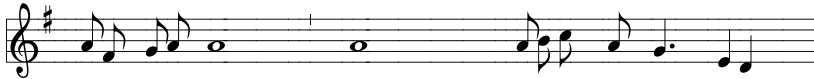
INTROIT + PSALM 2.7, 1

TONE VII

ANTIPHON



The Lord has said un-to Me:



You are My Son, today I have be - got-ten You.

PSALM

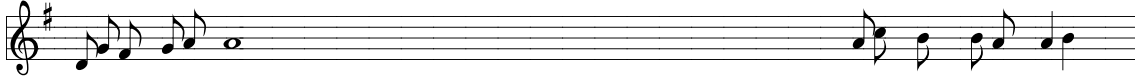


Why do the na-tions rage,



And the people plot a vain thing?

GLORIA PATRI:



Glo - ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now; and will be for - ev-er. A-men

ANTIPHON

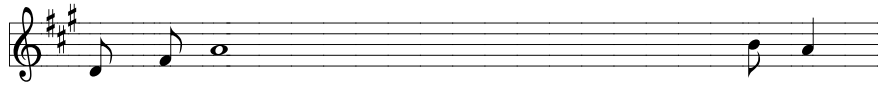


The Lord has ... *(to the end of the Antiphon)*

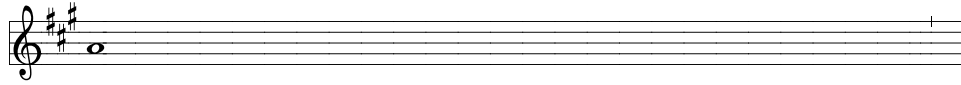
*The Gloria in Excelsis is sung.
The church bells may be rung throughout.*

GRADUAL + PSALM 110.3, 1

TONE V



Your peo-ple shall be willing in the day of Your po-wer:



In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning,



You have the dew of Your birth.



The Lord said to my Lord:



Sit at My right hand till I make Your en- e-mies Your foot-stool.

ALLELUIA + PSALM 2.7

TONE VI



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



The Lord has said un- to Me:



You are My Son, today I have be-got- ten You.



Al - le - lu - ia.

OFFERTORIUM + PSALM 96.11,12,13

TONE II



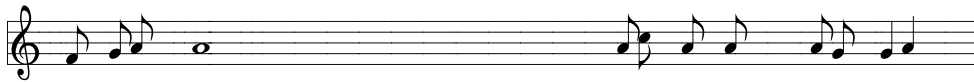
Let the heav- ens rejoice, and let the earth be glad:



Be- fore the Lord, for He is com- ing.

COMMUNIO + PSALM 110.3

TONE I



In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morn - ing:



You have the dew of Your youth.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

At Dawn

25 DECEMBER

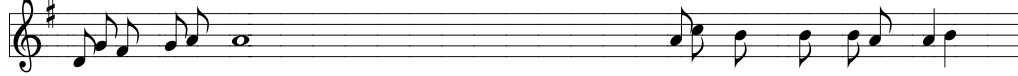
FIRST CLASS

SILVER

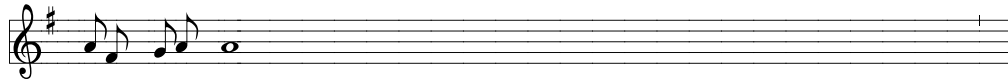
INTROIT + ISAIAH 9.2,6; PSALM

TONE VII

ANTIPHON



Up - on us a light has shined; for unto us the Lord is born:

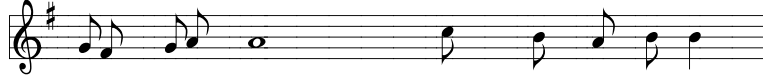


And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,



Everlasting Fa-ther, Prince of Peace.

PSALM



The Lord reigns, He is clothed with ma-jes-ty:



The Lord is clothed, He has gird-ed Him-self with strength.

GLORIA PATRI:



Glo - ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now; and will be for - ev- er. A- men

ANTIPHON



Up - on us ... *(to the end of the Antiphon)*

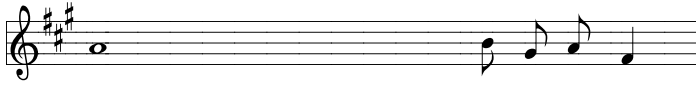
The Gloria in Excelsis is sung.

GRADUAL + PSALM 118.26, 27, 23

TONE V



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord:



God is the Lord, and He has giv-en us light.



This was the Lord's do-ing:



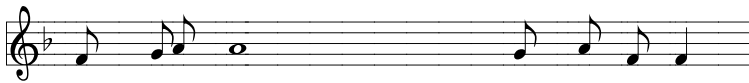
It is mar-velous in our eyes.

ALLELUIA + PSALM 93.1

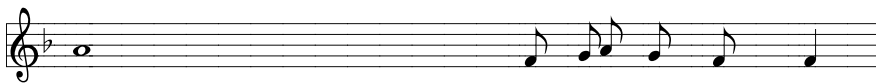
TONE VI



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



The Lord reigns, He is clothed with ma-jes- ty:



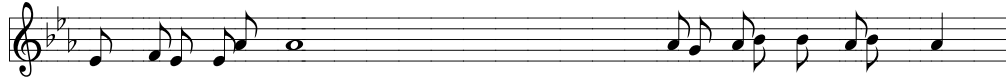
The Lord is clothed, He has gird-ed Him-self with strength.



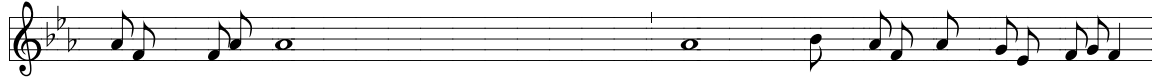
Al - le - lu - ia.

OFFERTORIUM + PSALM 93.1-2

TONE II



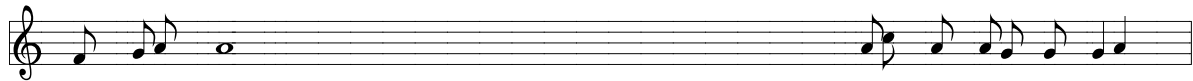
Sure-ly the world is established, so that it can- not be moved:



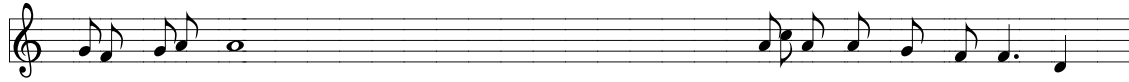
Your throne is established from of old; You are from ev - er - last - ing.

COMMUNIO + ZECHARIAH 9.9

TONE I



Re-joice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jer- u - sa-lem:



Be - hold, your King is coming to you; He is just and hav-ing sal-va- tion,

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

During the Day

FIRST CLASS

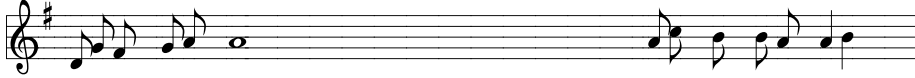
25 DECEMBER

SILVER

INTROIT + ISAIAH 9.6; PSALM 98.1

TONE VII

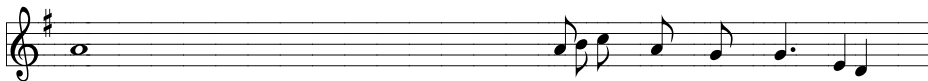
ANTIPHON



Un - to us a Child is born, unto us a Son is giv - en:

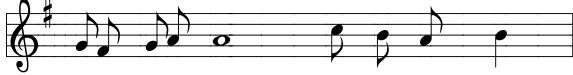


And the government will be upon His shoulder;



and His name will be called Angel of might-y Coun-sel.

PSALM



Oh, sing to the Lord a new song!



For He has done mar-velous things.

GLORIA PATRI:



Glo - ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now; and will be for - ev- er. A- men

ANTIPHON

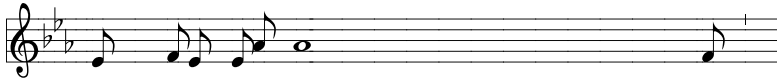


Un - to us a Child ... *(to the end of the Antiphon)*

The Gloria in Excelsis is sung.

OFFERTORIUM + PSALM 89.11,14

TONE II



The heav- ens are Yours, the earth also is Yours;



the world and all its full-ness, You have found- ed them:



Right-eous-ness and justice are the foun-da- tion of Your throne.

COMMUNIO + PSALM 98.3

TONE I



All the ends of the earth:



Have seen the sal - va-tion of our God.

ST. STEPHEN

Protomartyr

SECOND CLASS

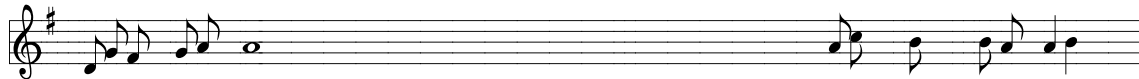
26 DECEMBER

RED

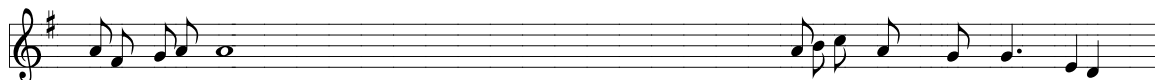
INTROIT + PSALM 119.23, 86, 1

TONE VII

ANTIPHON

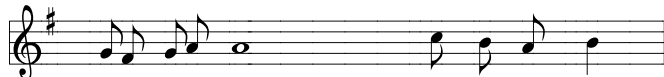


Prin - ces sit and speak against me, they persecute me wrong-ful - ly:



Help me, O Lord my God, for Your servant medi-tates on Your sta-tutes.

PSALM

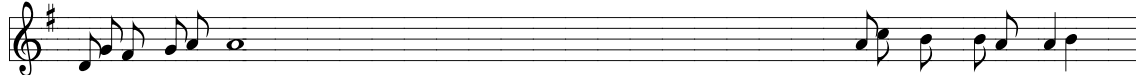


Bless- ed are the unde-filed in the way:



Who walk in the law of the Lord.

GLORIA PATRI:



Glo - ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now; and will be for - ev-er. A-men

ANTIPHON



Prin - ces sit ... *(to the end of the Antiphon)*

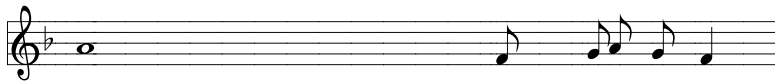
The Gloria in Excelsis is sung.

GRADUAL + PSALM 119.23, 86; 6.4

TONE V

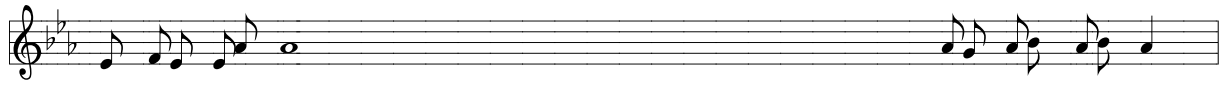
**Prin-ces sit and speak a-gainst me:****They per-se-cute me wrong-ful-ly.****Help me, O Lord my God:****Save me for Your mer-cies' sake.****ALLELUIA + ACTS 7.56**

TONE VI

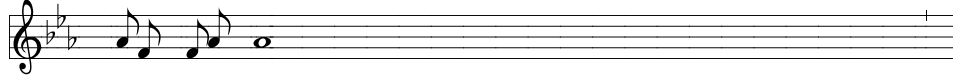
**Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.****I see the hea-vens o-pened:****And the Jesus standing at the right hand of God.****Al - le - lu - ia.**

OFFERTORIUM + ACTS 6.5; 7.59

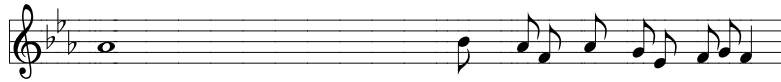
TONE II



The A - pos- tles chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Ho - ly Spir - it:



Whom the Jews stoned as he was calling on God and saying,



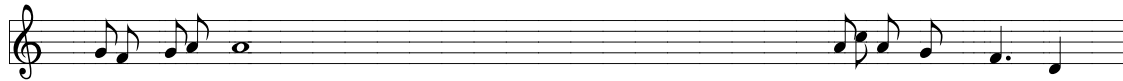
“Lord Jesus, receive my spir-it.” Al - le- lu - ia.

COMMUNIO + ACTS 7.56, 59, 60

TONE I



I see the heavens opened and Jesus standing at the right hand of God:



Lord Je - sus, receive my spirit, and do not charge them with this sin.

ST. JOHN

Apostle & Evangelist

SECOND CLASS

27 DECEMBER

WHITE

INTROIT + ECCLESIASTICUS 15.5, [39.6], 45.7; PSALM 92.1

In the midst of the congregation he opened his mouth.

And the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding; He clothed him with a robe of glory.

Ps. It is good to give thanks to the Lord:

And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

In the midst of the congregation he opened his mouth.

And the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding; He clothed him with a robe of glory.

The Gloria in Excelsis is sung.

GRADUAL + ST. JOHN 21.23,22

Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die:

Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die.

But if I will that he remain till I come:

You follow Me.

ALLELUIA + ST. JOHN 21.24

Alleluia. Alleluia. This is the disciple who testifies of these things:

And we know that his testimony is true. Alleluia.

OFFERTORIUM + PSALM 92.12

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree:

He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

COMMUNIO + ST. JOHN 21.23

Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die:

Yet Jesus did not say that he would not die, but that I will that he remain till I come.

THE HOLY INNOCENT MARTYRS

SECOND CLASS

28 DECEMBER

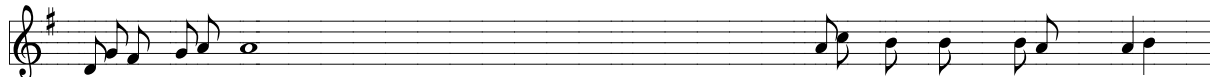
PURPLE/RED

When this Feast is celebrated on a Sunday, the color is Red.

INTROIT + PSALM 8.2, 1

TONE VII

ANTIPHON



Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have or-dained strength:

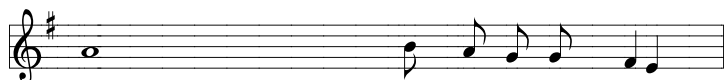


Be-cause of Your en- e-mies.

PSALM

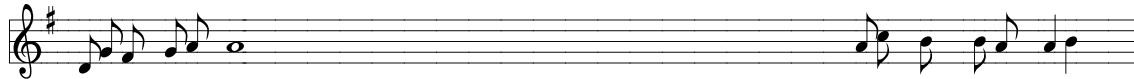


O Lord, our Lord:



How excellent is Your name in all the earth.

GLORIA PATRI:



Glo - ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now; and will be for - ev- er. A- men

ANTIPHON



Out of the mouth ... *(to the end of the Antiphon)*

The Gloria in Excelsis is sung only when this feast falls on a Sunday.

GRADUAL + PSALM 124.7-8

TONE V



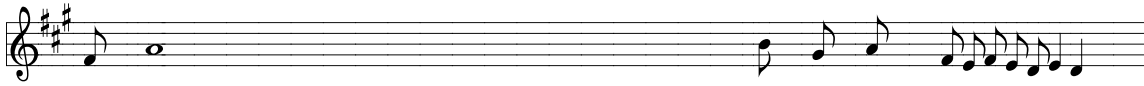
Our soul has escaped as a bird:



From the snare of the fowl-ers.



The snare is broken, and we have es-caped:



Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heav-en and earth.

The Alleluia is sung only when this feast falls on a Sunday. Otherwise, the Tract is said.

ALLELUIA + PSALM 113.1

TONE VI



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Praise the Lord,, you child-ren:



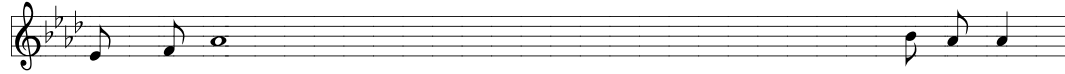
Praise the name of the Lord!



Al - le - lu - ia.

TRACT + PSALM 79.3,10

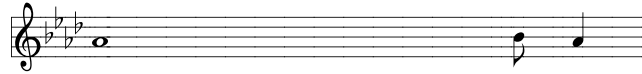
TONE II



The blood of Your saints they have shed like water all around Jer-u- sa- lem:



And there was no one to bu-ry them.



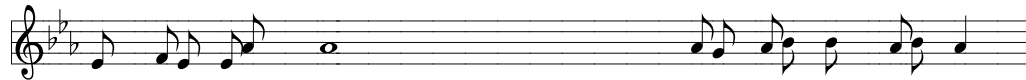
Avenge, O Lord, the blood of Your ser-vants:



Which has been shed on the earth.

OFFERTORIUM + PSALM 124.7

TONE II



Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowl- ers;



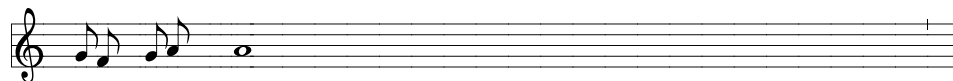
The snare is broken, and we have es-cap - ed.

COMMUNIO + ST. MATTHEW 3.18

TONE I



A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourn-ing:



Ra- chel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted,



because they are no more.

THE SUNDAY IN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY

SECOND CLASS

SILVER

INTROIT + WISDOM 18.14-15; PSALM 93.1

When all the world was in quiet silence, and night was in the midst of her swift course,
Your Almighty word leaped down from heaven out of thy royal throne.

Ps. The Lord reigns, He is clothed with majesty;
The Lord is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

When all the world was in quiet silence, and night was in the midst of her swift course,
Your Almighty word leaped down from heaven out of thy royal throne.

The Gloria in Excelsis is sung.

GRADUAL + PSALM 45.2, 1

You are fairer than the sons of men:

Grace is poured upon Your lips.

My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King:

My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

ALLELUIA + PSALM 93.1

Alleluia. Alleluia. The Lord reigns, He is clothed with majesty:

The Lord is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength. Alleluia.

OFFERTORIUM + PSALM 93.1-2

Surely the world is established, so that it cannot be moved.

Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.

COMMUNIO + ST. MATTHEW 2.20

Take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel:

For those who sought the young Child's life are dead.

THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD

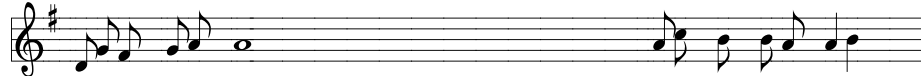
FIRST CLASS

WHITE

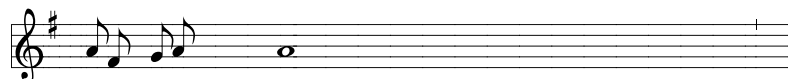
INTROIT + ISAIAH 9.6; PSALM 98.1

TONE VII

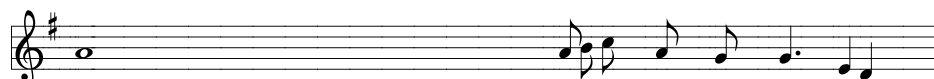
ANTIPHON



Un - to us a Child is born, unto us a Son is giv - en:

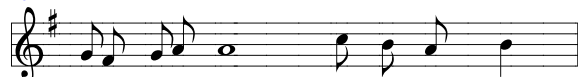


And the government will be upon His shoulder;



and His name will be called Angel of might-y Coun-sel.

PSALM

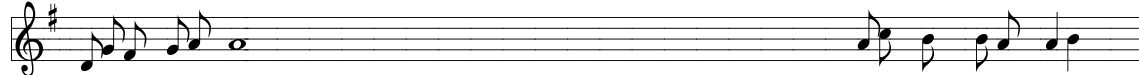


Oh, sing to the Lord a new song!



For He has done mar-velous things.

GLORIA PATRI:



Glo - ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now; and will be for - ev-er. A-men

ANTIPHON

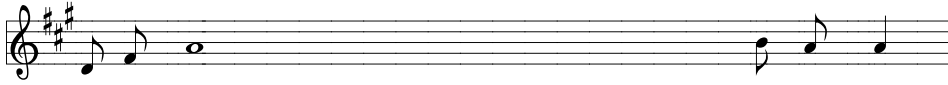


Un - to us a Child ... *(to the end of the Antiphon)*

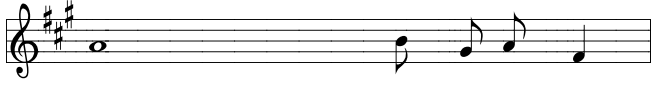
The Gloria in Excelsis is sung.

GRADUAL + PSALM 98.3, 4, 2

TONE V



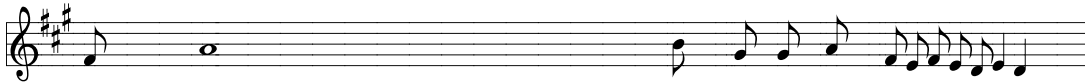
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God:



Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth.



The Lord has made known His sal-va-tion:



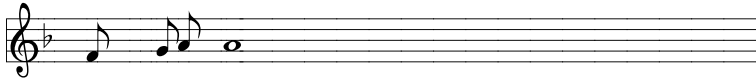
His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the na-tions.

ALLELUIA + HEBREWS 1.1-2

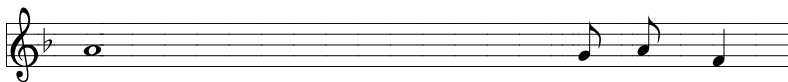
TONE VI



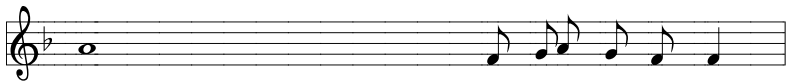
Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



God, who at various times and in various ways



spoke in time past to the fathers by the pro-phets:



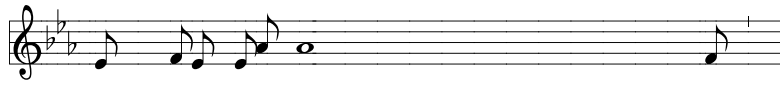
Has in these last days spoken to us by His Son.



Al - le - lu - ia.

OFFERTORIUM + PSALM 89.11,14

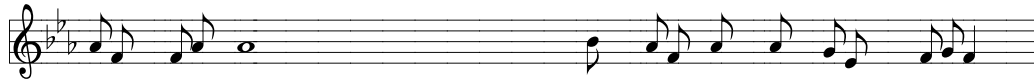
-tone II



The heav- ens are Yours, the earth also is Yours;



the world and all its full-ness, You have found- ed them:



Right-eous-ness and justice are the foun-da- tion of Your throne.

COMMUNIO + PSALM 98.3

-tone I



All the ends of the earth:



Have seen the sal - va-tion of our God.

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

SECOND CLASS

WHITE

This Feast is celebrated on the Sunday between the Circumcision and the Epiphany, or on January 2.

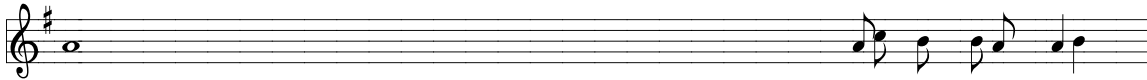
INTROIT + PHILIPPIANS 2.10-11; PSALM 8.1

TONE VII

ANTIPHON



At the name of Jesus every knee should bow,



of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those un - der the earth:



And ev - ery tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,



to the glory of God the Fa-ther.

PSALM

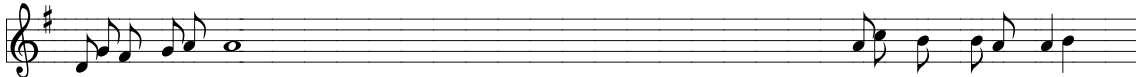


O Lord, our Lord:



How excellent is Your name in all the earth.

GLORIA PATRI:



Glo - ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now; and will be for - ev-er. A-men

ANTIPHON

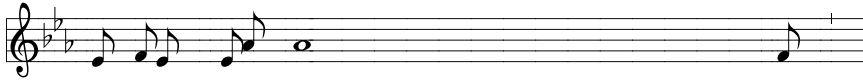


At the name of Jesus ... *(to the end of the Antiphon)*

The Gloria in Excelsis is sung.

OFFERTORIUM + PSALM 86.12,5

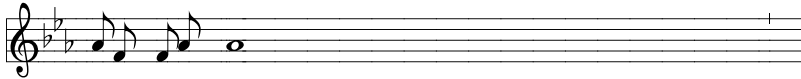
TONE II



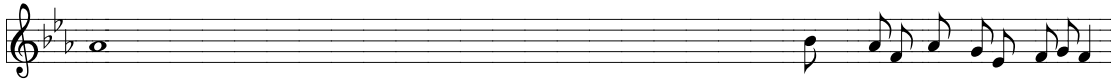
I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart,



And I will glorify Your name for - ev - er- more:



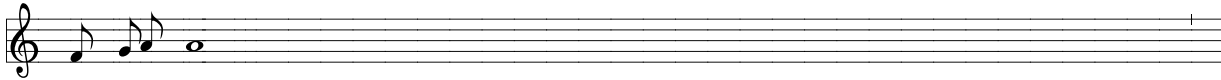
For You, O Lord, are good, and ready to forgive,



and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You. Al - le-lu - ia.

COMMUNIO + PSALM 86.9-10

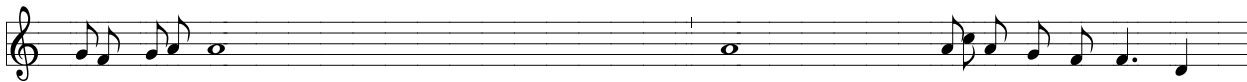
TONE I



All na - tions whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord,



and shall glo - ri- fy Your name:



For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God. Al- le- lu- ia.