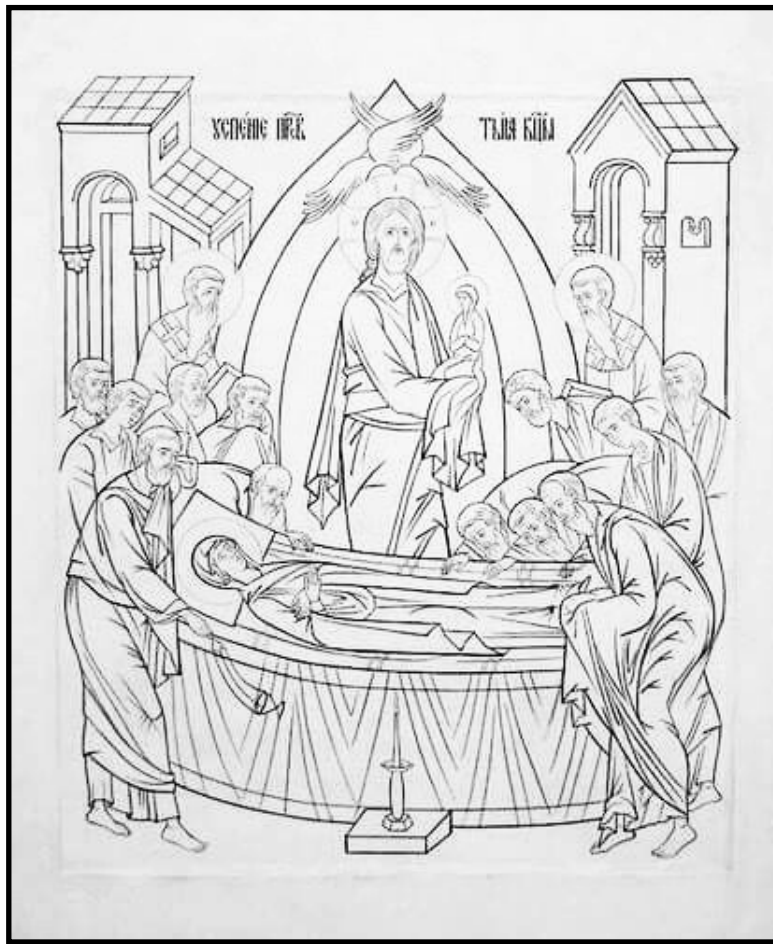


The Lamentations for the Dormition of the Theotokos

August 15



In Modern English

Byzantine Chant Melodies from Metropolitan Maximos


Translation by N. Takis, Edited by John Michael Boyer




Dedicated to Mother Gabriella of the Dormition Monastery, Rives Junction

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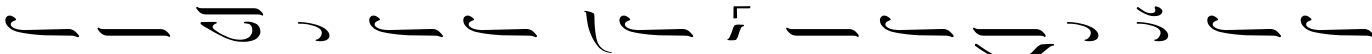
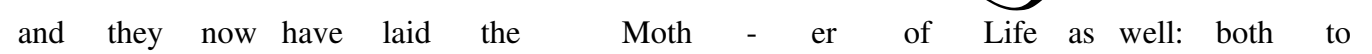
The Lamentations of the Dormition - 1st Stasis

Tone pl. 1.



Pa. 

1   

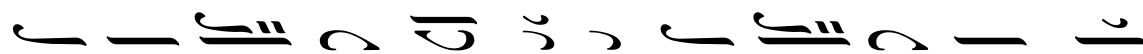


In a grave they laid you yet, O Christ, you are life


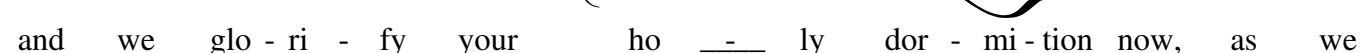
and they now have laid the Mother of Life as well: both to



an - gels and to men a sight most strange!

2   




We ex - alt you great - ly, The - o - to - kos most pure,


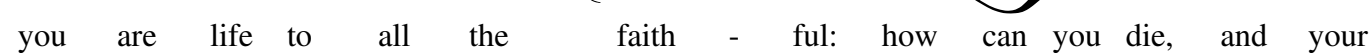
and we glo - ri - fy your ho - ly dor - mi - tion now, as we



bow be - fore your hon - ored pre - cious tomb.

3   

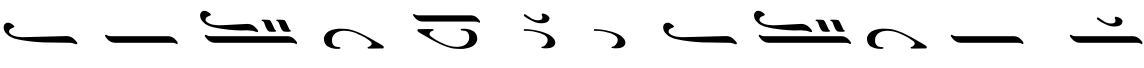
In your womb you held him who can - not be con - tained;

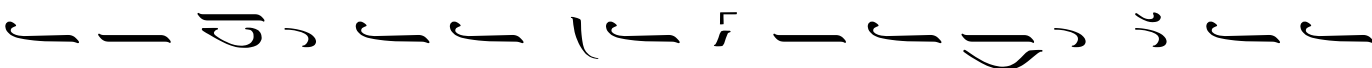
 

you are life to all the faith - ful: how can you die, and your

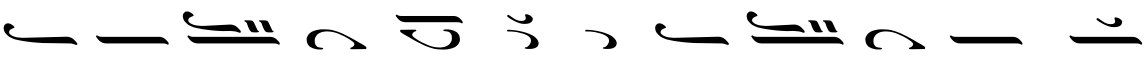
 

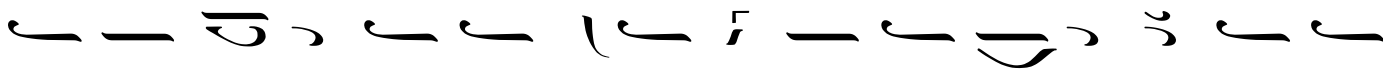
bod - y be con - tained with - in a tomb?


4 You brought forth, Pure Maid - en, God the heav - en - ly King, 

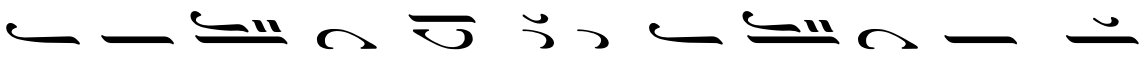
and to - day in man - ner roy - al are car - ried forth to the 

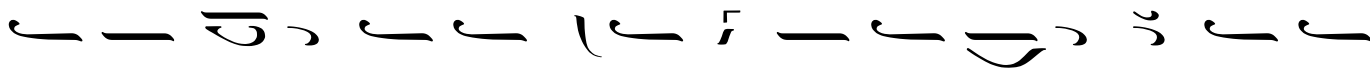
King - dom of the Heav - ens as a Queen. 


5 Ho - ly The - o - to - kos, You have passed from this world, 

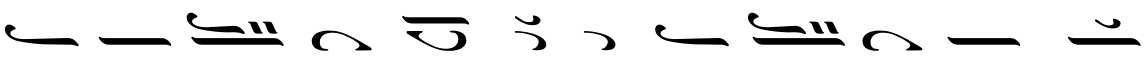
in de - part - ing not for - sak - ing those left on earth, but de - 

liv - er - ing this world from eve - ry ill. 

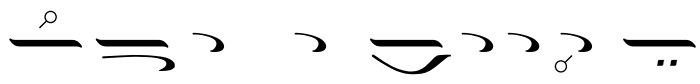
6 All the earth sings glo - ry at your grave side, O Christ, 

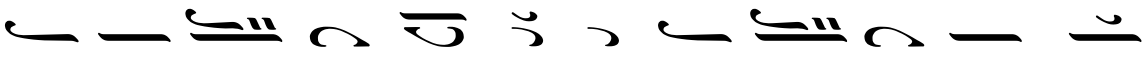
with all rev - er - ence, O Mas - ter, we al - so praise the en - 

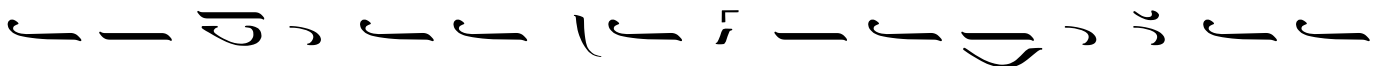
tomb - ment of your Moth - er, ev - er Pure. 


7 O - ver - come with won - der, are the an - gels in awe 

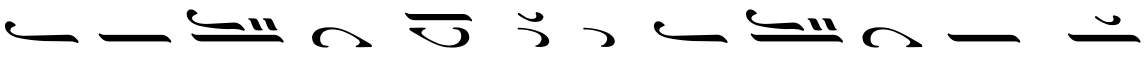
in be - hold - ing you, Pure Maid - en, laid out as dead, for from 


you has Light beamed forth to all the world. 


8 Maid - en Pure and Spot - less, and our Heav - en - ly Queen, 

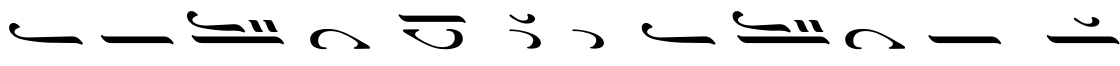
once a - gain has God sent Ga - bri - el down to earth with the 

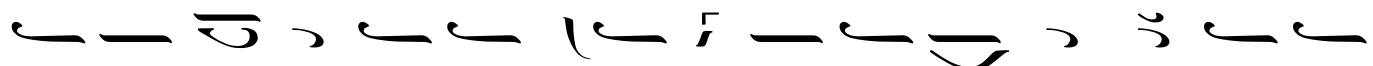
joy - ful news that you have left this life. 


9 Now the Bride - groom calls you, to re - jice, Bride of God. 

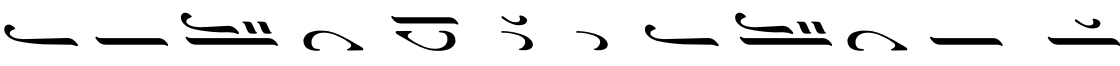
in a man - ner both di - vine — and most beau - ti - ful in the 

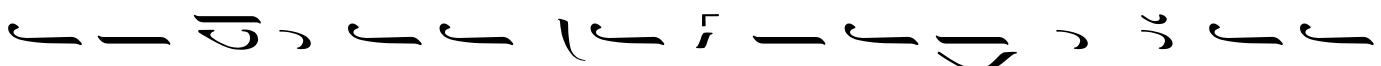
Brid - al Cham - ber, ho - ly and di - vine. 

10 You, O Vir - gin, come now to the throne seat of God 


where the awe - some un - ap - proach - a - ble Light shines forth from the 

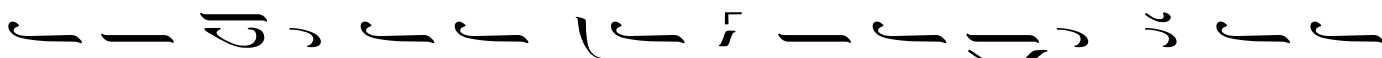
Trin - i - ty, and lights where you re - pose. 


11 From the earth de - part - ing, You ap - peared be - fore God. 


You were not, O The - o - to - kos, re - moved from God, nor has 


God been part - ed from His moth - er's heart. 

12 Your most hon - ored Bod - y, The - o - to - kos, re - mained 


un - cor - rupt - ed by de - cay as you lay en - tombed but it 


passed with you to heav - en from the earth. 

13 Your all - ho - ly face shines Pur - est Maid - en, in death, 


and your coun - te - nance ap - pears now as Par - a - dise, breath - ing 


forth to all be - liev - ers grace and life. 


14 We your chil - dren of - fer lam - en - ta - tions and love 

un - to you who are our Moth - er: ac - cept our gift which we 

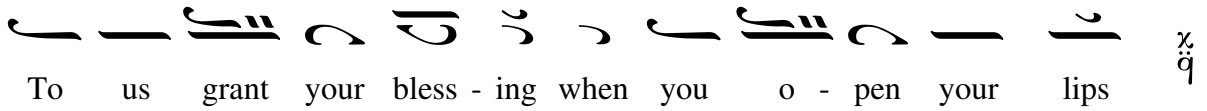
of - fer from the deep - ness of our souls. 

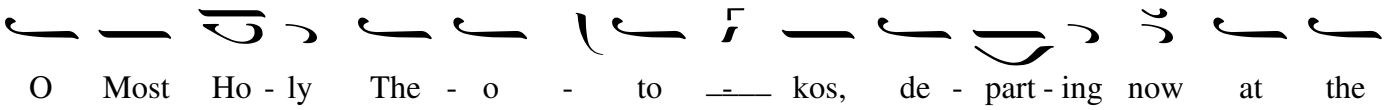
15 Look up - on your chil - dren who are gath - ered this day: 

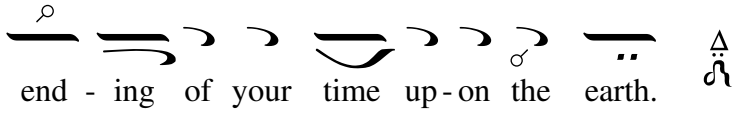
may your hon - ored eyes be o - pen that you be - hold those who 

glo - ri - fy with hon - or your re - pose. 

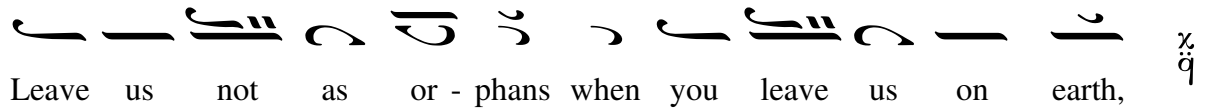
16

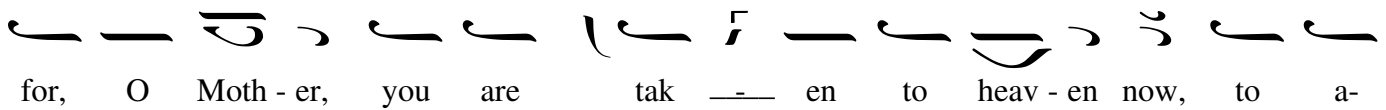
To us grant your bless - ing when you o - pen your lips 

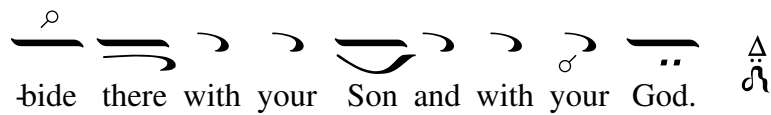
O Most Ho - ly The - o - to - kos, de - part - ing now at the 

end - ing of your time up - on the earth. 

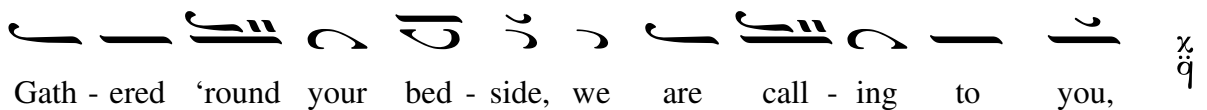
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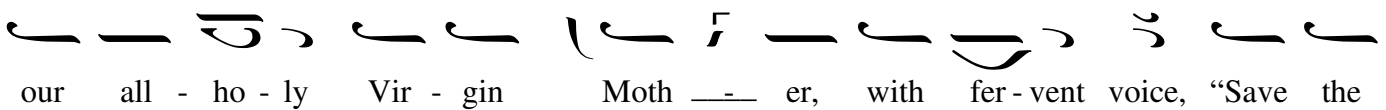
Leave us not as or - phans when you leave us on earth, 

for, O Moth - er, you are tak - en to heav - en now, to a - 

bide there with your Son and with your God. 

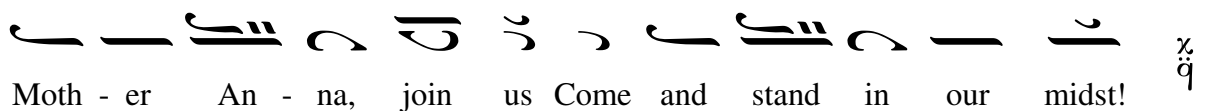
18

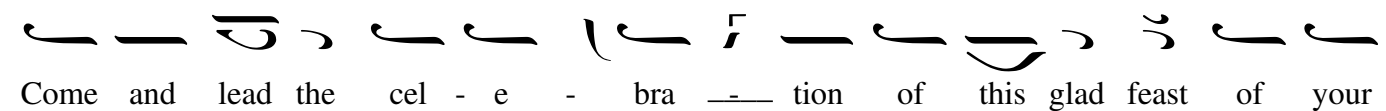
Gath - ered 'round your bed - side, we are call - ing to you, 

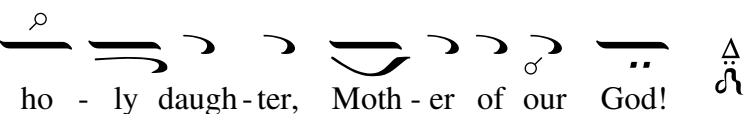
our all - ho - ly Vir - gin Moth - er, with fer - vent voice, "Save the 

faith - ful and have mer - cy up - on us!" 

19

Moth - er An - na, join us Come and stand in our midst! 

Come and lead the cel - e - bra - tion of this glad feast of your 

ho - ly daugh - ter, Moth - er of our God! 

20

Come and let us raise up praise and glo - ry to God

who has sum - moned to the Ho - ly of Ho - lies now one yet

great - er than the Ho - li - est of Saints.

21

Filled with glad - ness, Heav - en is re - ceiv - ing her Queen

for the Moth - er of cre - a - tion in glo - ry comes and ap -

pears in glo - ry, reign - ing with her God.

22

Now the God of Glo - ry takes His moth - er to Him

and the Son who has re - ceived you, O my Pur - est One, has

pre - pared for you a seat at His right

Glory. *(On Dhi.)*

23


Hand. Now un - to the Fa - ther and the Ho - ly Spir -


-it we with glad - ness sound forth hymns, Word and God of all, and we


glo - ri - fy your coun - te - nance di - vine.

Both now. *(On Dhi.)*


24

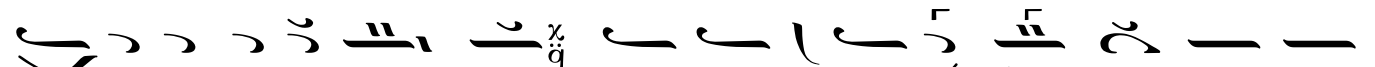
Eve - ry gen - er - a - tion comes to know you as blest, 


and your ho - ly pure dor - mi - tion we glo - ri - fy The - o - 


to - kos, ev - er - Vir - gin, Sov - ereign Queen! 

1

In a grave _____ they laid _____ you yet, O 

Christ, _____ you are life and they now have laid the 

Moth - er _____ of Life _____ as well:  both to an - gels _____ and to

men _____ a _____ sight most strange! _____ 

The Lamentations of the Dormition - 2nd Stasis

Tone pl. 1.

Pa.

1 Tru - ly it is right that we mag - ni - fy you who be-
 -stows life, just as your pure Moth - er you mag - ni - fy
 for her life - cre - at - ing fall - ing in - to sleep.

2 Tru - ly it is right that we mag - ni - fy you, The - o-
 to - kos, you took your di - vine and all - blame-less soul
 and en - trust - ed it in - to the Hands of God.

3 Won - der strange and new! For the Door now pass - es through the
 Door - way, Heav - en en - ters Heav - en! We stand in awe
 as the Throne of God as - cends the Throne of God!

4 All an - gel - ic hosts stood and mar - veled when be - hold - ing

Christ God, who is un - ap - proach - a - ble now ap - proach

to give hon - or to His moth - er as a Son.

5 An - gels shook with fear to be - hold their God a - gain de -

- scend - ing; with His moth - er's soul car - ried in His hands,

He a - rose a - gain in glo - ry most di - vine.

6 Heav - en shall be awed, and the earth un - to these words shall

heark - en; God a - bove all things, who did once come down,

for His moth - er's sake a sec - ond time de - scends!

7 Wis - dom now has moved from her dwell - ing place on earth to

heav - en. and has filled her heav - en - ly man - sion there

with the glo - ry that has come from God a - bove.

8 Vir - gin Bride of God, who did not de - scend to us from

Heav - en, by her giv - ing birth un - to heav-en's King

from this world un - to the heav - ens now as - cends

9 Man - kind now may pass in - to heav - en for the Way is

o - pen. Come there - fore, all Chris - tians who bear His name:

Let us rise up with the Moth - er of our God.

10 Down in - to the earth You, the Lord's un - plant - ed land, de -



-scend - ed, Out of you has sprung forth the Grain of Life,



and un - to the Land of Heav - en you a - rise.



11 Moth - er of the Light! Now the sun which once be - held the



set - ting of the Sun of Right - eous - ness now be - holds



You, O Vir - gin, as the set - ting of the moon.



12  Dark - ness of the tomb  now con - ceals the Lord's light - bear - ing

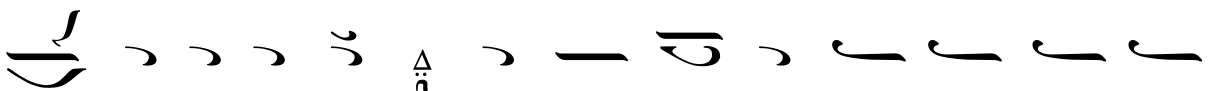

 Moun - tain  which once cov - ered Heav - en with Vir - tue's light,



 but now lies be - neath the shad - ows of its shroud. 

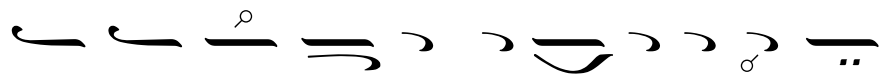

13  Tak - en from the earth  you a - rose to be with God in

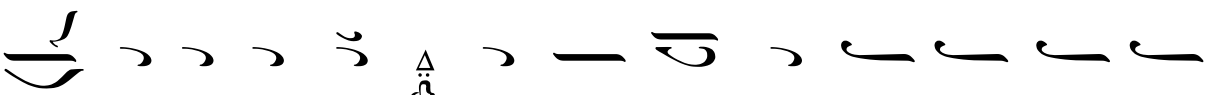

 heav - en.  All the earth re - joic - es a - long with you



 and it glo - ri - fies, O Vir - gin, your re - pose. 



14  Pure and in - cor - rupt,  now your bod - y lies en - closed in

 Heav - en  while your grace, O Vir - gin, is pour - ing forth

 and il - lu - mi - nates the face of all the earth. 

15  Fill - ing up your days  sing - ing hymns to God with prayer and

 fast - ing  You, O Vir - gin Maid - en, a - wait the time

 when you come be - fore the Lord in your re - pose. 

16 Faith - ful souls re - joice, and their fac - es are a - light and

shin - ing, Our all - ho - ly La - dy, be - cause of you,

who, de - part - ing now from us, will join the Lord.

17 See be - fore your tomb stand - ing pi - ous - ly the true be -

liev - ers; hear the lam - en - ta - tions our voic - es raise

un - to you, who are the Au - thor of our Life.

18 Ear - ly in the dawn we the faith - ful rise to sing your

glo - ry prais - ing your dor - mi - tion, with all our love,

Sov - ereign Vir - gin Maid - en, free from an - y sin.

19 Vir - gin Bride of God! When you en - ter in - to heav - en's

king - dom, Grant that you re - mem - ber the faith - ful here

who now hon - or your dor - mi - tion with our hymns.

20 As you once fore-told, you are mag-ni-fied now, most pure

Vir-gin, by the ver-y pow-er which did cre-ate

both the heav-ens and the earth and all there-in.

21 Stand-ing face to face where the Ser-a-phim their fac-es

cov-er, you be-hold the Trin-i-ty that is God

one in es-sence, and which noth-ing can di-vide.

22 All the earth is glad and the heav-ens sing in cel-e-

-bra-tion; an-gels raise their voic-es to join with men

and as you as-cend to heav-en they re-joice! Glory.(On Dhi.)

23 God be-yond all time, with the Word and Spir-it ev-er-

-last-ing, in that You are God, mer-ci-ful and good,

let the clar-i-on of Chris-tians be ex-tolled! Both now.(On Dhi.)

24 Life was born of you, who are ho - ly and most pure, O

Vir - gin, as you now de - part from this world to Life,

grant true life to us who faith - ful - ly be - lieve.

1 Tru - ly it is right that we mag - ni - fy you

who be - stows life, just as your pure Moth -

-er you mag - ni - fy for her life - cre - at - ing

fall - ing in - to sleep.

The Lamentations - Third Stasis

Tone 3.

Gha.

1 Eve - ry gen - er - a - tion of - fers hymns, O Vir - gin,
to hon - or your — en - tomb - ment.

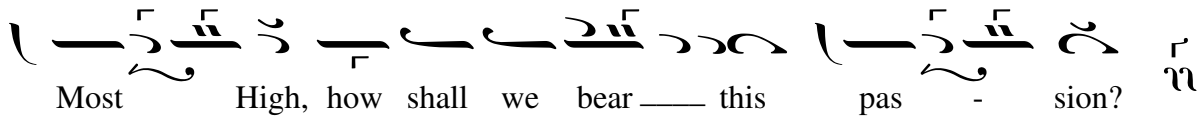
2 Come with all cre - a - tion to sing the hymns of part -
ing as you are raised, — O Vir — gin.

3 Dis - ci - ples of my Lord Christ, ar - rive to tend the
bod - y of my God's pur - est Moth - er.

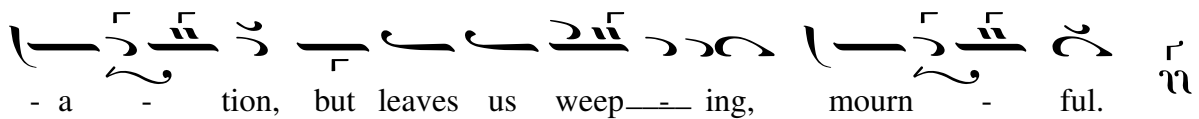
4 In - vis - i - bly at - tend - ing, the arch - an - gels and
an - gels in ranks sing hymns — to praise you.

5 The wom - en high in hon — or a - long with the a -
- pos - tles are cry - ing out — and weep - ing.

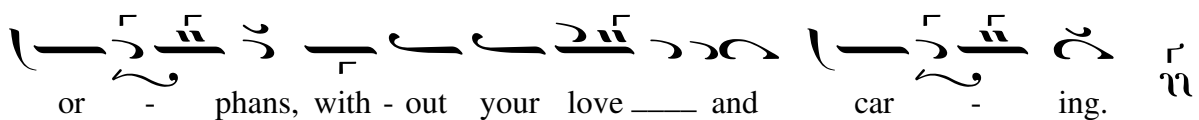
6 O Vir - gin nev - er - wed - ded, the Moth - er of the

Most High, how shall we bear — this pas - sion? 

7 The time of your de - part - ing holds joy for all cre-

- a - tion, but leaves us weep - ing, mourn - ful. 

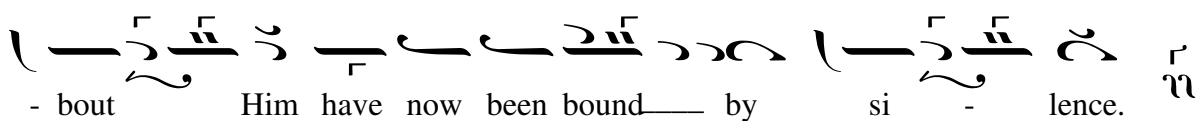
8 O Moth - er, do not leave — us be - hind you now as

or - phans, with - out your love — and car - ing. 

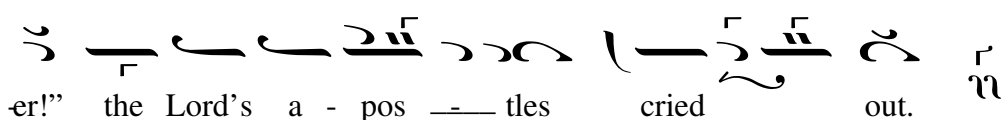
9 Our Light are you, O Vir - gin, how then shall we bear

this: no more to see — your sweet eyes? 

10 A - las! Your lips which loved — God and ev - er spoke a-

- bout Him have now been bound — by si - lence. 

11 “We shall not a - ban - don the Moth - er of our Teach-

er!” the Lord’s a - pos - tles cried out. 

12 On up - borne clouds, O Vir - gin, a - gain we go be -
fore — you un - to the gates of Heav - en.

13 The ho - ly staff is laid down in - side the tomb and
hid - den and from it Life has blos - somed.

14 By giv - ing birth she raised up the dead from their en -
tomb — ment, and yet, she lies en - tombed now.

15 “Where, Vir - gin, are you go - ing?” her loved one and de -
fend — er calls out as Son to Moth - er.

16 You, who are God’s Moth - er with joy - ful heart now
en - ter in - to your Son’s — glad pres - ence.

17 Called with the a - pos - tles are you a - gain at -
tend - ing the wed - ding feast — at Ca - na?

18 Take me, your child, O Vir - gin to - day as you are

raised up to be with your — di - vine — Son.

19 To Heav - en you are tak - en, and with your Son are

liv - ing: Let me be al - so tak - en.

20 To - geth - er in the Heav - ens, may we now stand in

glo - ry who at your cross — in pain stood.

21 Geth - sem - a - ne, be joy - ful! Great hosts en - dowed with

rea - son de - scend now with — the Mas - ter.

22 Be ju - bi - lant, be joy - ful, O Cho - rus of Dis -

- ci - ples, Be - hold the Lord — in glo - ry!

23 Once more is God de - scend - ing! To - day let all cre -

- a - tion be - hold - ing Him make mer - ry.

24 Let us go forth, O peo - ple, in haste to greet the

Lord, who is once a - gain de - scend - ing.

25 This day may we all lis - ten to God as He is

speak - ing with His all - spot - less Moth - er.

26 Come now, sweet - est Moth - er, and en - ter with re-

- joic - ing your sweet - est Son's glad pres - ence.

27 Let your eyes be - hold now your Son who comes to

take you un - to His own, O Moth - er.

28 "I come to see the glo - ry of my Moth - er

shin - ing be - fore my Fa - ther's glo - ry."

29 "My God," a - vows your Moth - er, "I glo - ri - fy your

mer - cy, and ut - ter lov - ing kind - ness."

30 "I glo - ri - fy you, kneel - ing bowed down, my Son, in
wor - ship of your ma - jes - tic glo - ry."

31 Since You, who are the near - est to me, from earth have
ris - en un - to my Fa - ther draw near.

32 En - closed are you, O Gar - den, in which we will dis -
- cov - er The Tree of Life Un - end - ing.

33 Sealed are you, O Foun - tain, from which the streams of
life — pour most won - drous - ly with sweet - ness.

34 "My lips shall sing the prais - es of your di - vine do -
- min - ion My son and sov - ereign God - head." *Glory.(On Ke.)*

35 My God, who are three per - sons, Fa - ther, Son, and
Spir - it, on all the world — have mer - cy! *Both now.*

36 Deem your ser - vants wor - thy to en - ter in the

King - dom that is your Son's, O Vir - gin.

1 Eve - ry gen - er - a - tion _____

of - fers hymns, O Vir - gin, to hon - or your _____

en - tomb - ment. _____