Akathist Service

Our Lady of Sitka



Akathist to the Sitka Icon of the Mother of God

Deacon: Bless, (Most Blessed) Master!

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.



Reader: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

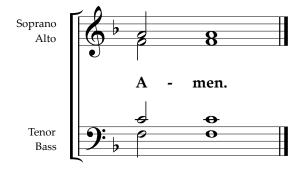
O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

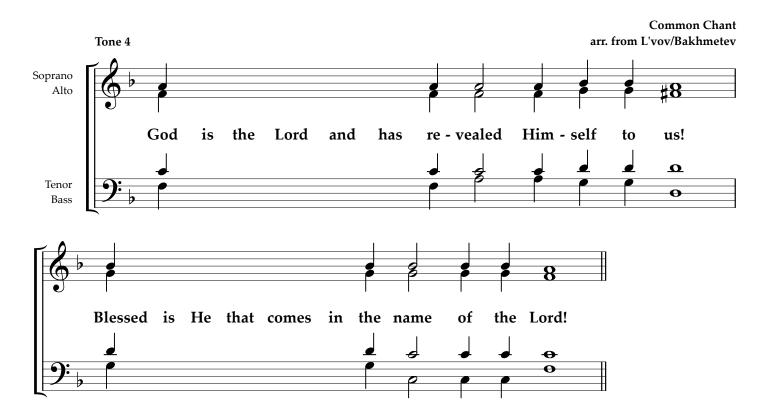
Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.



1

God is the Lord

Deacon: In the 4th Tone: God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His mercy endures forever!



Deacon: All nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I destroyed them.

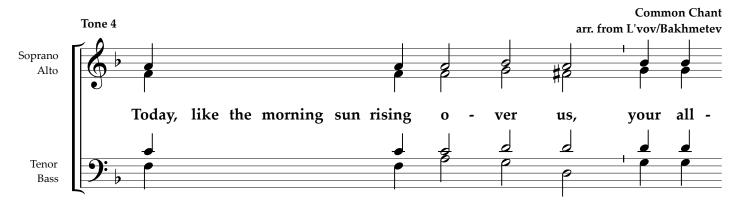
Choir: God is the Lord...

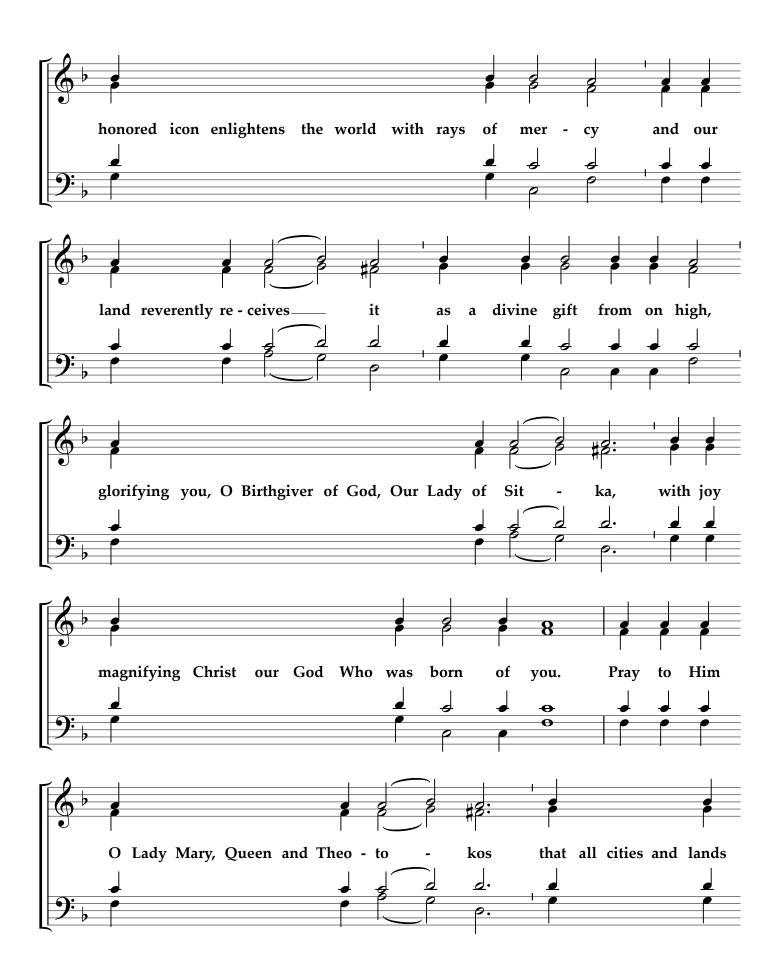
Deacon: I shall not die, but live and recount the works of the Lord.

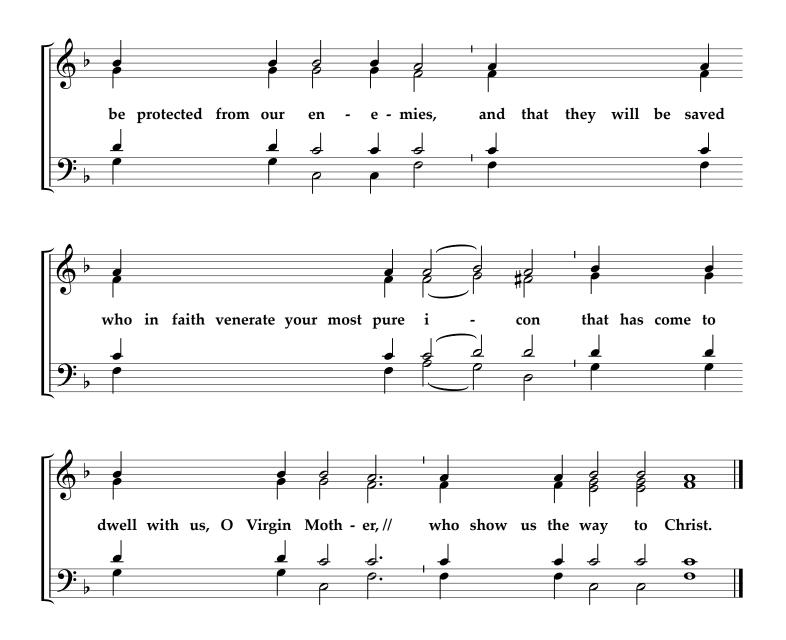
Choir: God is the Lord...

Deacon: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this is the Lord's doing and it is wonderful in our eyes.

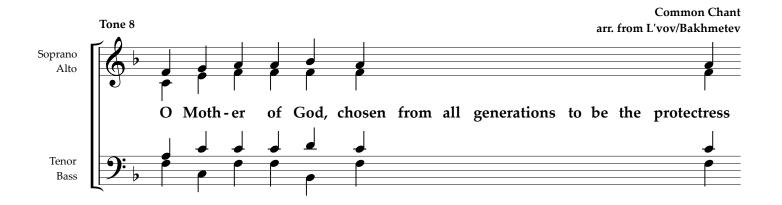
Choir: God is the Lord...

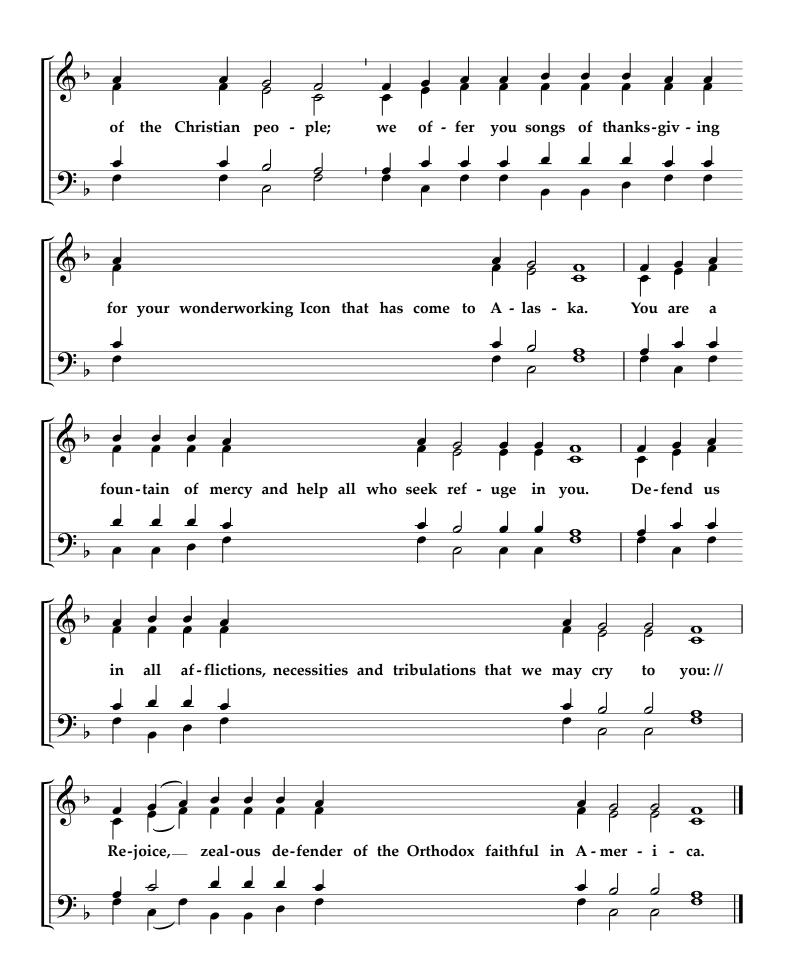






Kontakion 1 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

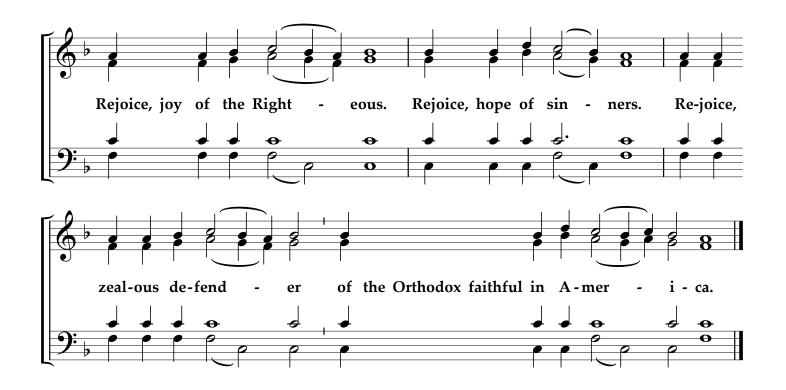




Ikos 1 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

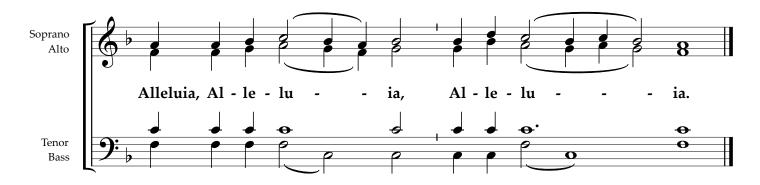
Priest: An Archangel was sent to greet the Holy Virgin: Rejoice, for God the Word shall be made flesh in your womb. And we sinners give glory to the wonderworking icon of the holy Virgin and the divine Infant, our Savior, Jesus Christ. And we cry to her, who is full of grace, from the depths of our hearts:





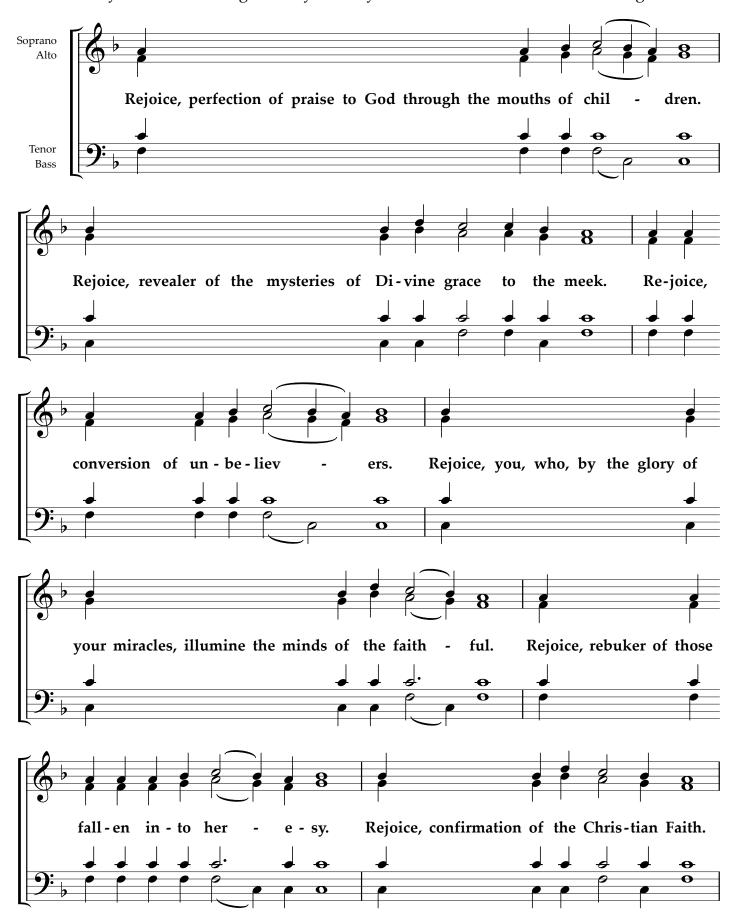
Kontakion 2 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: We recognize you as the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, the only true God. Your all pure face looks down from your holy icon on the glorious town of Sitka; and worshipping your Son with love and joy, we sing to God: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 2 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

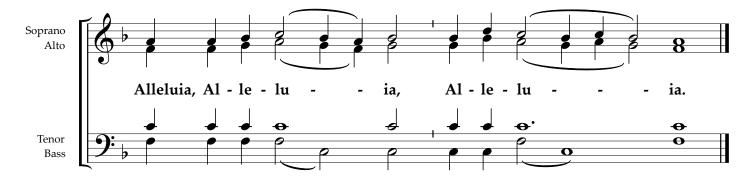
Priest: Burdened by many afflictions and sins, we have no other help or hope but you, O Lady. Therefore falling before your holy icon with hearts full of love we sing:





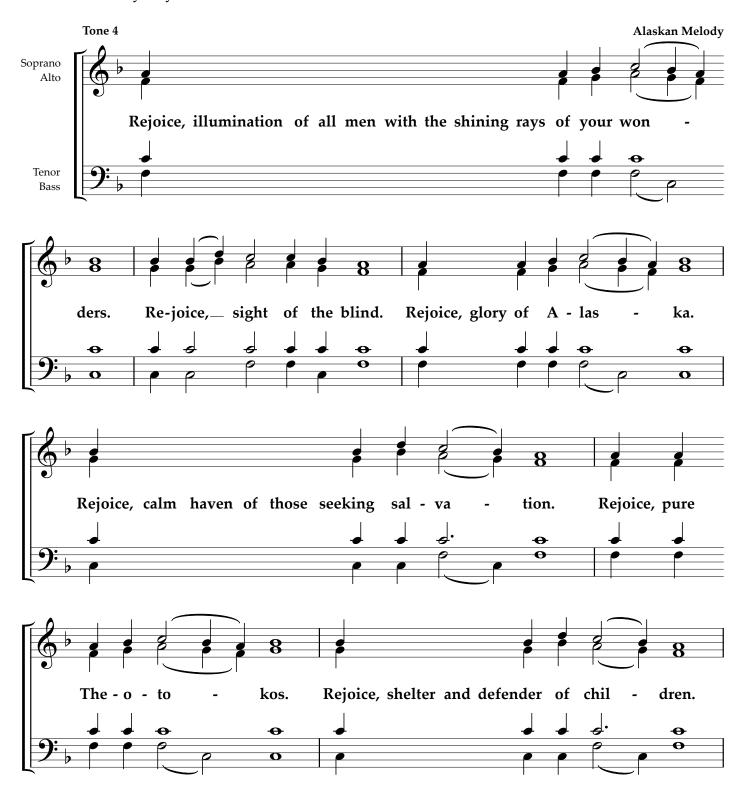
Kontakion 3 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

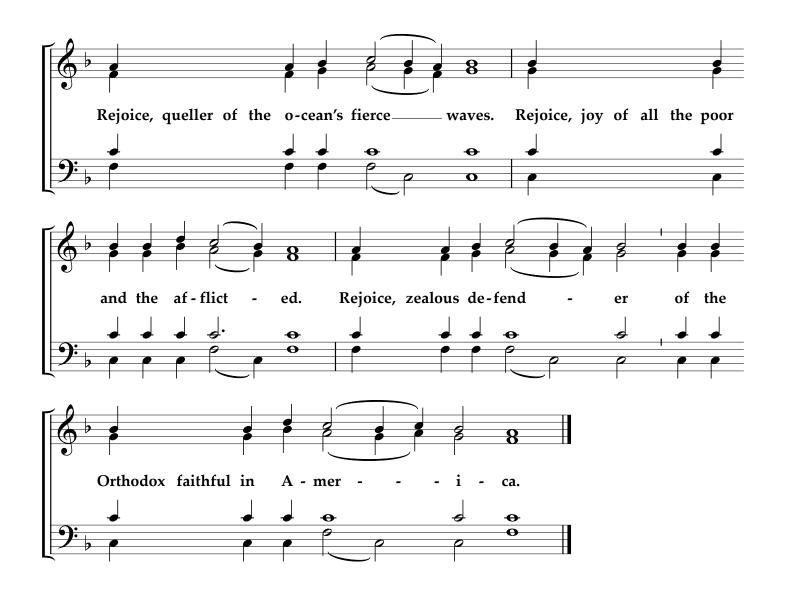
Priest: When the stormy seas engulf us and the rough waters fill our souls with fear, then does our holy Father Herman call from heaven upon your all powerful intercession, O Lady, and a deep calm envelops us all. Therefore, as we now gaze at your holy icon, we cry to God: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 3 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

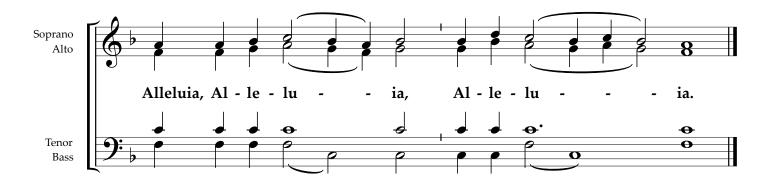
Priest: With compassionate forethought for your Alaskan people, you have sent forth from your icon in the Cathedral of Sitka a stream of wonders enlightening the minds and souls of those lying in ignorance of God. Granting a safe haven and good fishing to those on the seas you protect all on their paths, and for this, in love we cry to you:





Kontakion 4 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

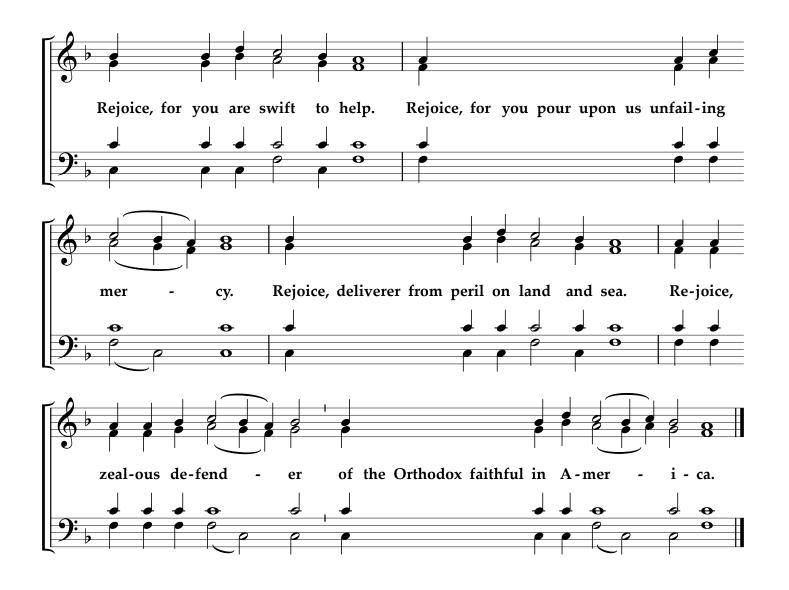
Priest: A storm of passions and sins rages against us and we know not where to turn. It is then that the holy Mother of God gives us her peace; and gazing at the icon she has sent us, we cry with thanksgiving to God: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 4 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: Beset by hardships in this far northern land, we are lifted up by the faith our Father Herman instilled in us, and by the prayers of Our Lady of Sitka we take upon ourselves, with hope and fortitude, the Cross our Lord has given to each one of us and sing to her:





Kontakion 5 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

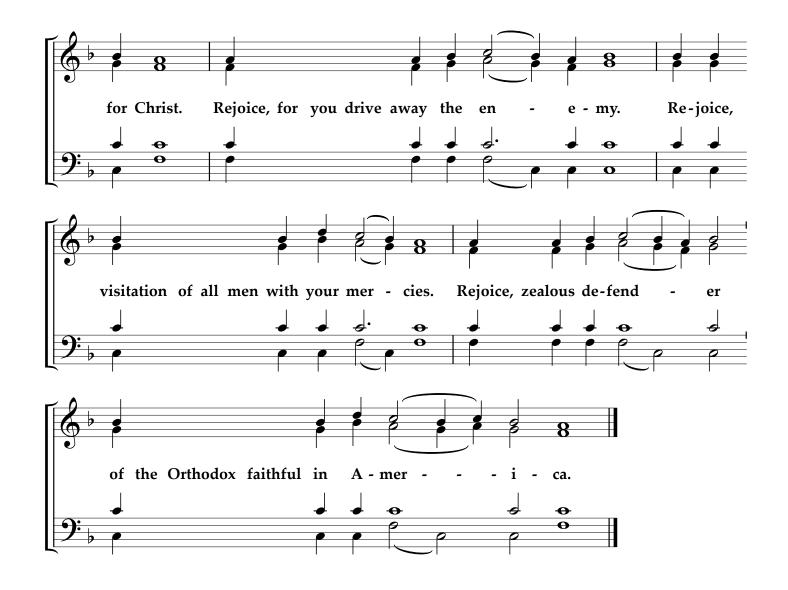
Priest: Your icon shines in our Cathedral like a bright star enlightening the whole land with its radiance. It guides all the Orthodox in America gone astray on the sea of life and overwhelmed by the waves of sorrow, tribulations and sickness, giving them peace and happiness as they take refuge in you and sing to God: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 5 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: Dark are the winters, and cold are the winds; but cheered by the beauty of your face, we find warmth of soul and body as we raise our prayers to you, singing:





Kontakion 6 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

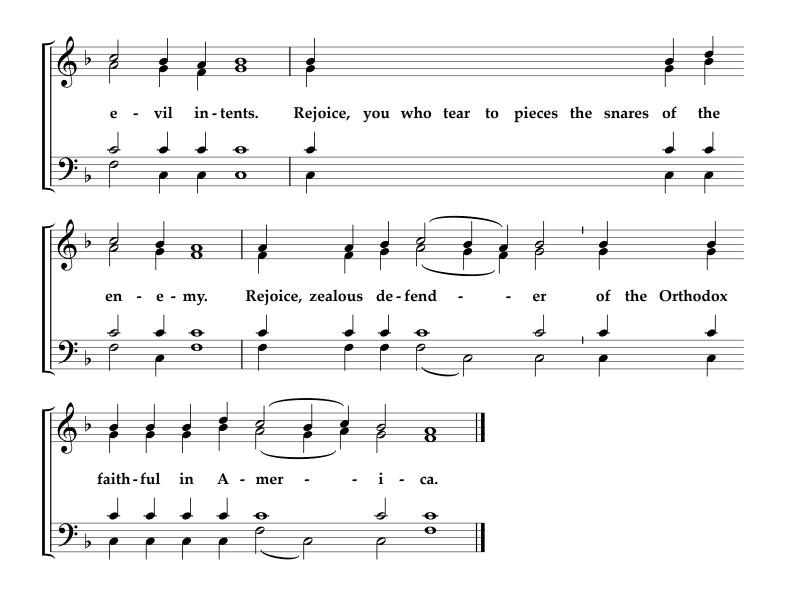
Priest: Standing before your all pure icon the assembly of bishops, priests and faithful people proclaims your great mercy, O Mother of God, for you protect our cities and lands against floods and storms, and we truly know you to be our helper. We offer you our love and tears, begging you to stretch out your hand to your Son asking Him to deliver us from all evil that we may thankfully sing to God: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 6 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: Who can worthily praise you and thank you for sending us your wonderworking icon? Our tongues fail before this miracle and we beg you to help us sing to you:





Kontakion 7 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

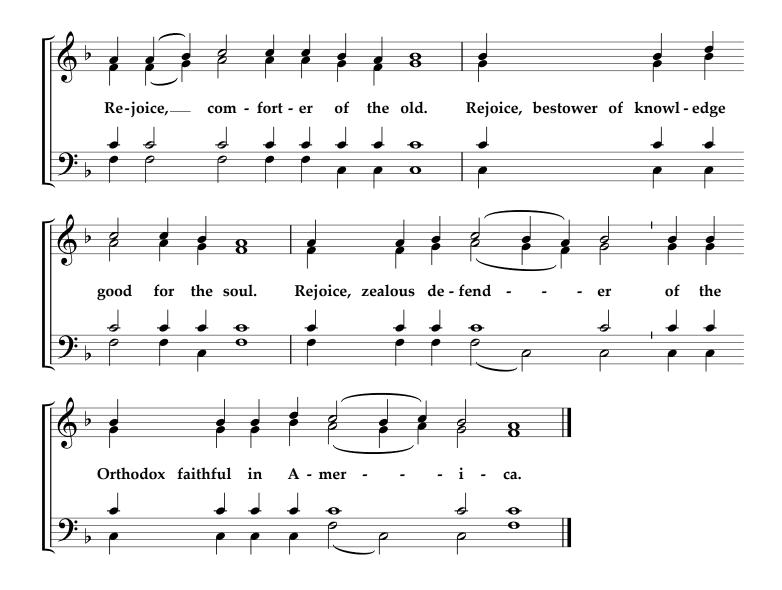
Priest: Your icon has come to us as dew upon the fleece confirming the power given to you by God. As we praise Him for His boundless mercies, we cry: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 7 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

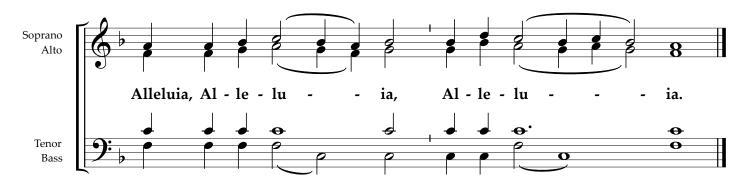
Priest: To your icon we Orthodox run when about to embark on a new enterprise or to set out on a journey by sea, land or air, offering you a prayer of thanksgiving and asking for your blessing and your help and our deliverance from tribulation and assault; for we know you to be a strong protectress and defender, and we therefore sing to you:





Kontakion 8 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

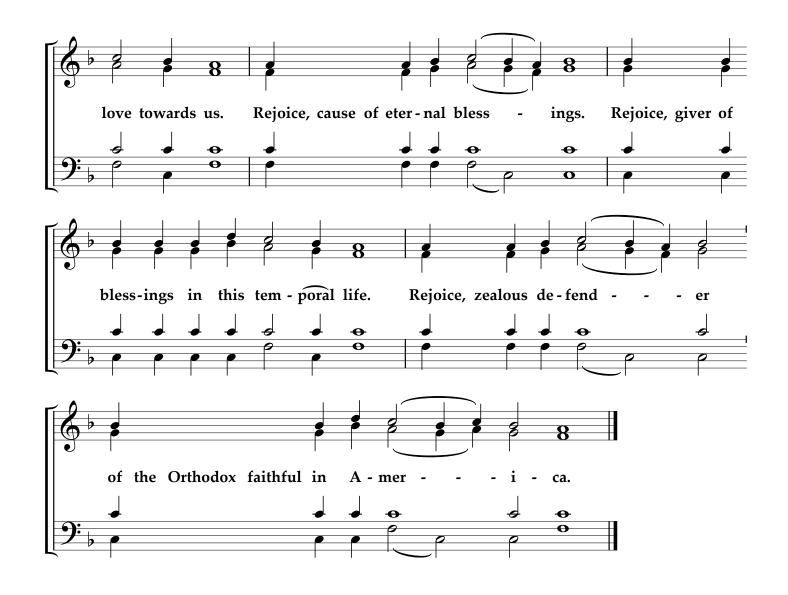
Priest: Doubters and unbelievers are amazed to hear that streams of divine grace flow through your icon, while we know that this is so with this icon of Sitka and that God's grace will abide with it forever. Therefore, standing reverently before it, we kiss it and venerate it as we would your very self; for the honor paid to icons passes to their prototype, and God's grace acts through this icon in wonders and signs for those who run to you with faith and cry to God: Alleluia.



Ikos 8 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

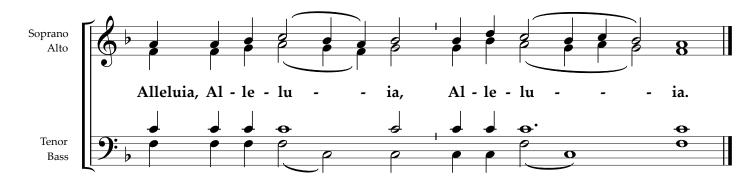
Priest: We praise you O burning bush, unhewn mountain, royal throne, daughter of the King, and unwedded bride who has given us God's grace through your icon in Sitka, and raising our voices in songs and hymns, we cry to you:





Kontakion 9 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

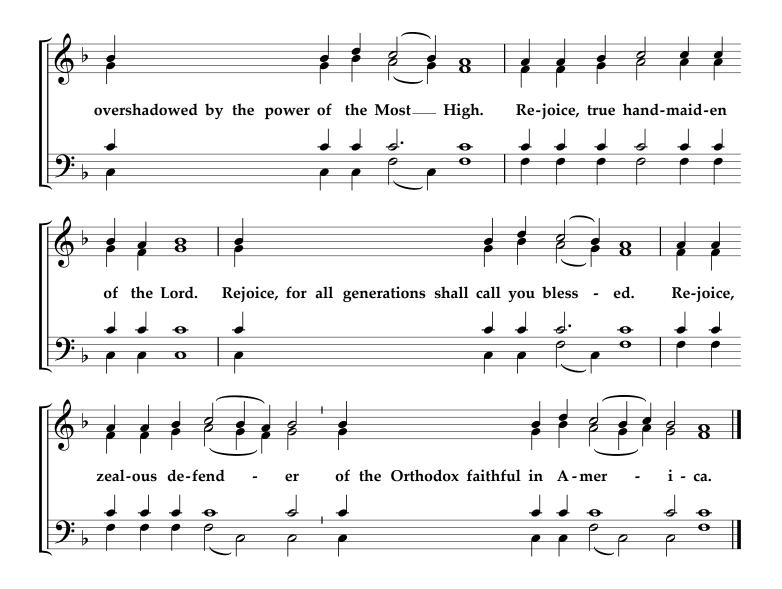
Priest: You have shown yourself above every angelic rank, O Virgin, for you have conceived in the flesh Him Who cannot be circumscribed. And you have carried in your arms Him Who holds the whole world in the palm of His hand. Therefore, as you are greater in honor than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim we glorify you and sing to God on your account: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 9 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: O Mother of God, we see most eloquent orators silenced before you, for every tongue is at a loss to praise you worthily. Our minds have not the strength to extol you. Therefore, O you who are gracious, accept from us the salutation of the Archangel as we cry to you:





Kontakion 10 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

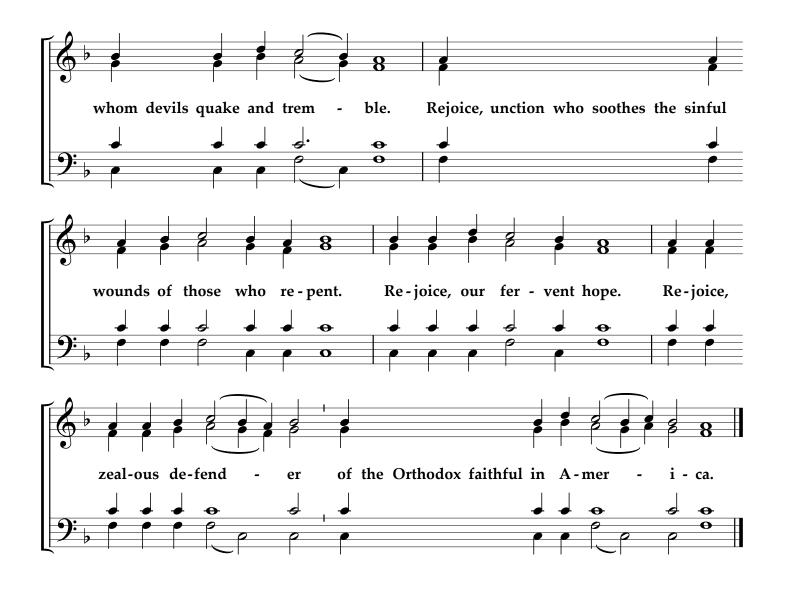
Priest: Wishing to save many from the evils, afflictions and sicknesses which afflict mortal men, you have given Sitka this holy icon before which we pray that the drowning be saved, those possessed of the devil be freed, our boats be filled with fish and our hunting be blessed and our villages and homes be protected from flood, fire and earthquake. Therefore, glorifying God, Who has bestowed on us such mercy, we cry to Him: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 10 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: You are the wall of protection guarding the land of Alaska. You are the glory and joy of Sitka and strengthen the Orthodox to withstand their enemies. Therefore in thanksgiving we cry to you:





Kontakion 11 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

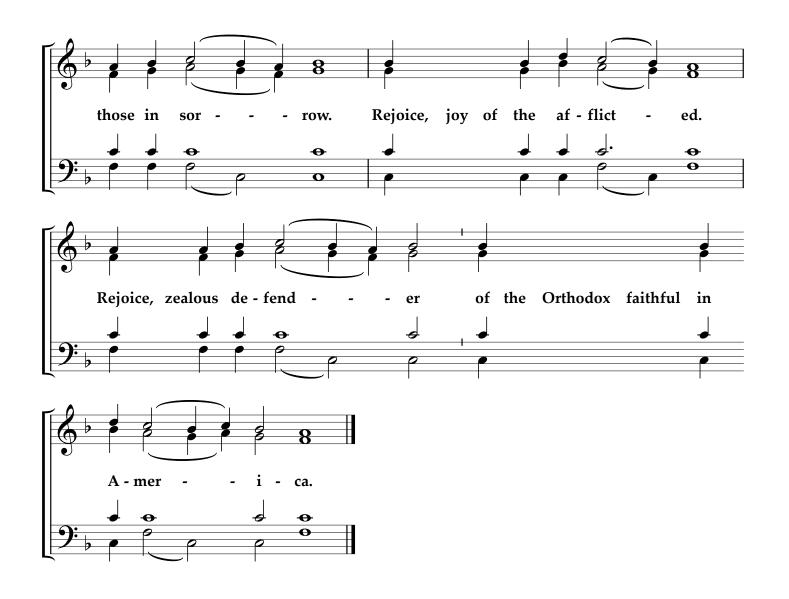
Priest: Choirs of young maidens offer you, O Lady, hymns of praise and thanksgiving. Leading a pure life under your protection and setting all their hope on you they cry to your Son: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 11 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: O all holy Lady, as a candlestick that has received the Light, we look upon your holy icon, for having taken the spiritual fire of your grace it kindles new lamps in its likeness, and they also participate in this same grace and shine bright with wonders, guiding upon the path of salvation all those who cry to you:





Kontakion 12 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

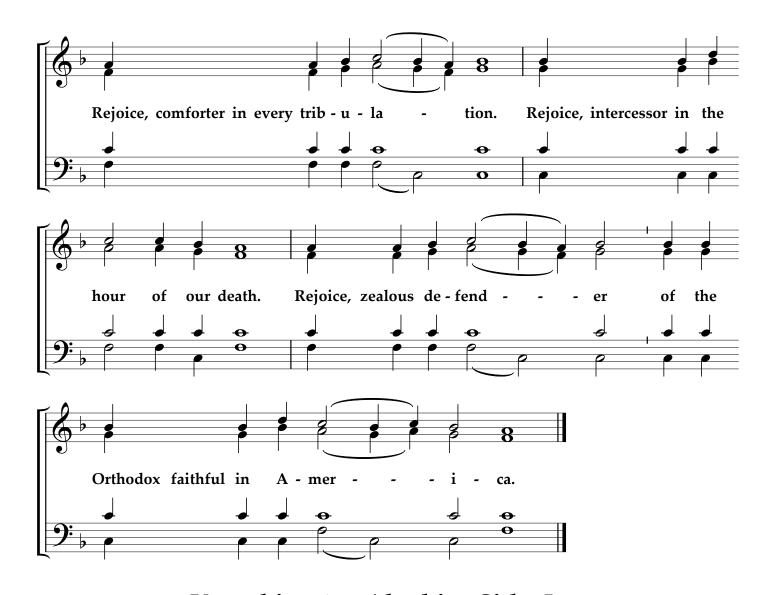
Priest: Wishing to give your grace to those venerating you with love, you, O Mother of God, have left in your holy icons the power of your grace. For this same divine grace remaining with these holy icons ever bring about signs and wonders, and by your unceasing supplications to God you give healing of body and soul to those who approach you with faith and love and who sing to Him: *Alleluia*.



Ikos 12 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: Singing the praises of your wonders both past and present, we laud you as a life-bearing fount of grace, as an unfailing river of miracles, as a fountain of mercy and compassion. Setting all our hope on you after God in both this and in the world to come, we sing to you:





Kontakion 13 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

Priest: O Most pure Lady, in whom all creation rejoices, and Mother of the Word holier than all the saints, accept now this supplication of your faithful servants. And for the sake of your great goodness and the depth of your mercy bring not to mind the multitude of our sins, but fulfill our prayers, giving health to our bodies and salvation to our souls. Deliver us from all sorrow and necessity, and make heirs of the heavenly Kingdom all those who faithfully sing to God: *Alleluia*.

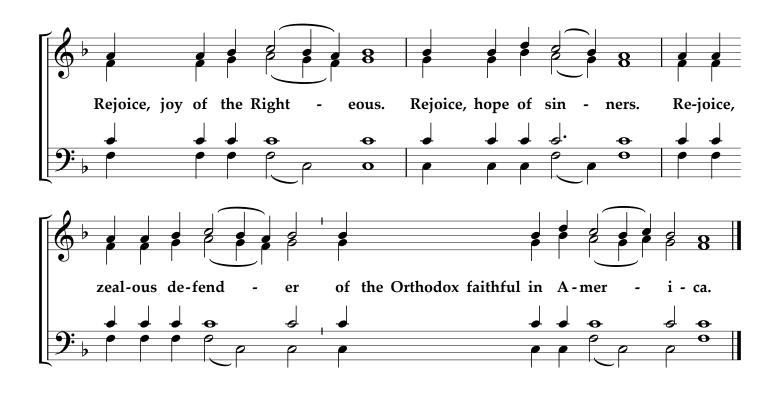


Kontakion 13 is repeated three times

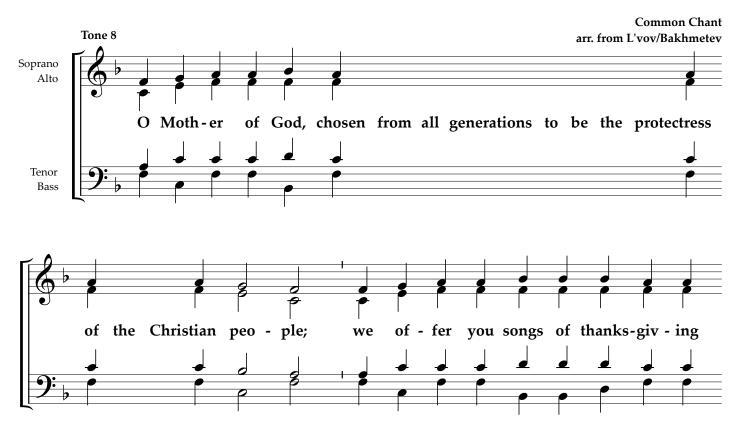
Ikos 1 - Akathist, Sitka Icon

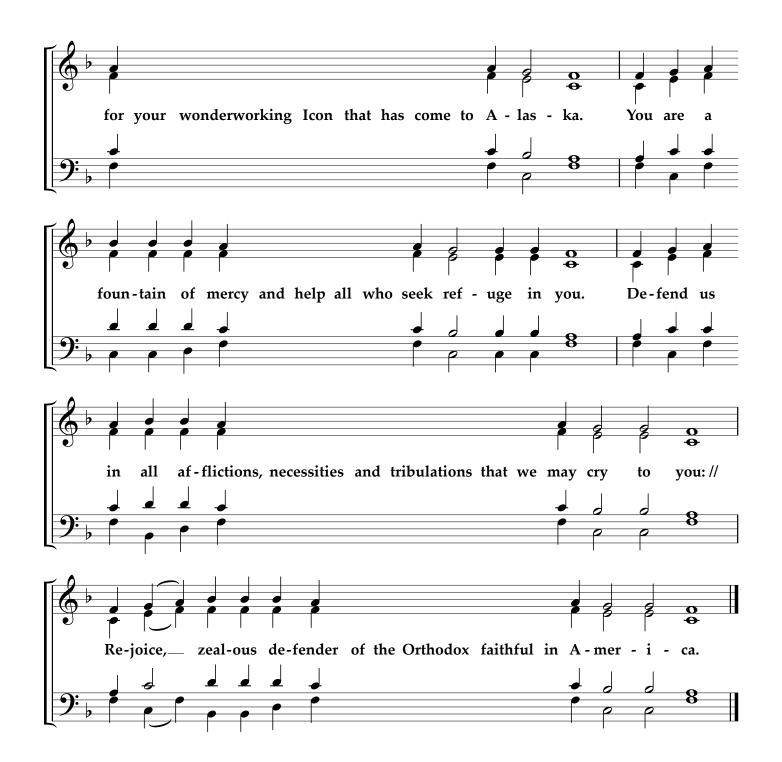
Priest: An Archangel was sent to greet the Holy Virgin: Rejoice, for God the Word shall be made flesh in your womb. And we sinners give glory to the wonderworking icon of the holy Virgin and the divine Infant, our Savior, Jesus Christ. And we cry to her, who is full of grace, from the depths of our hearts:





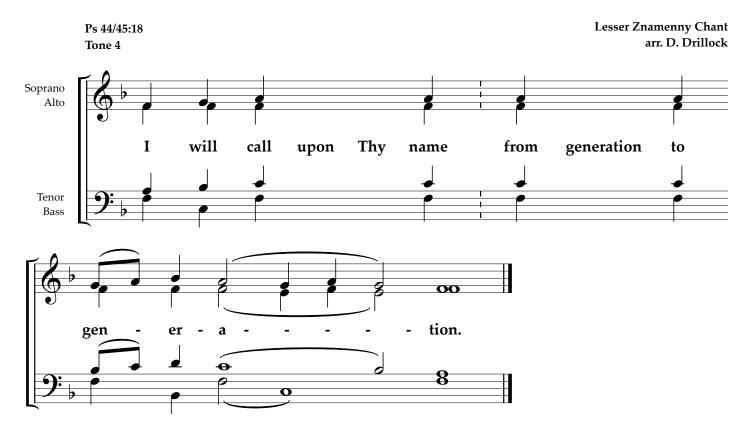
Kontakion 1 - Akathist, Sitka Icon





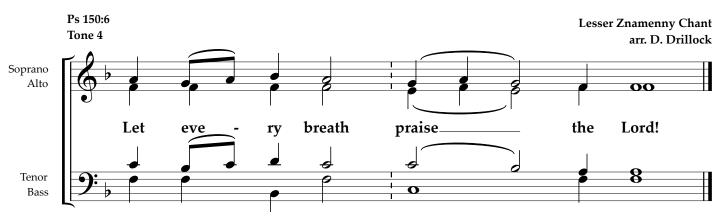
Then, the "Little Litany"

Prokeimenon - Akathist, Sitka Icon



v: Hearken O Daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear. $(Ps\ 44/45:11)$

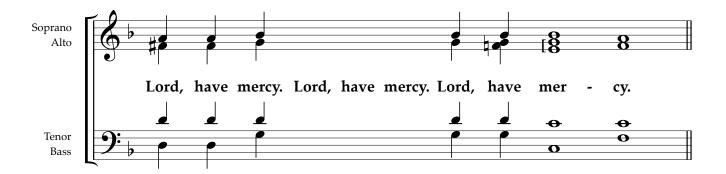
Let Every Breath



v. Praise God in His sanctuary! Praise Him in His mighty firmament! (Ps 150:1)

At the Gospel

Deacon: And that we may be accounted worthy of hearing the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.



Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.



Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.



after the Gospel Reading, repeat "Glory to Thee..."

Most Holy Theotokos

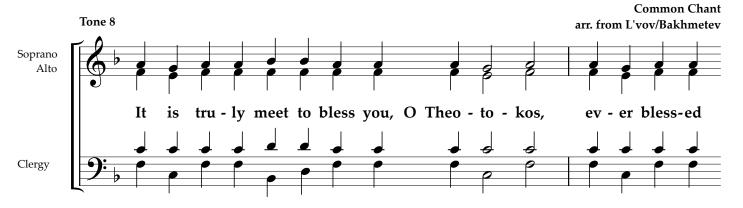




Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.



It Is Truly Meet

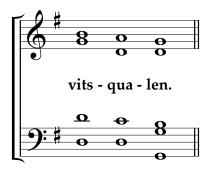




Litany of Fervent Supplication

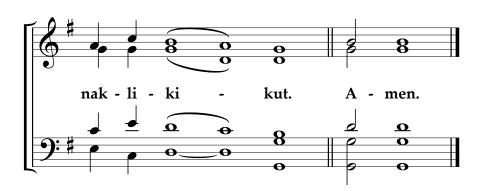






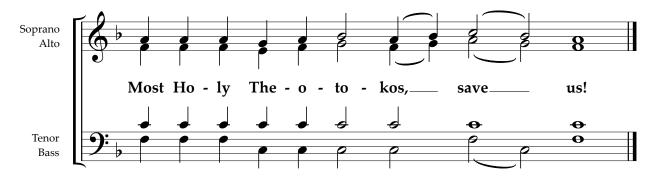
9. Yupik



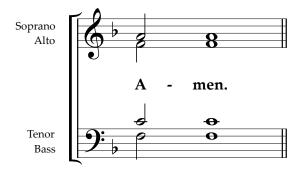


Prayer before the Sitka Icon of the Mother of God

Deacon: Again and again on bended knees let us pray to the Most Holy Theotokos!



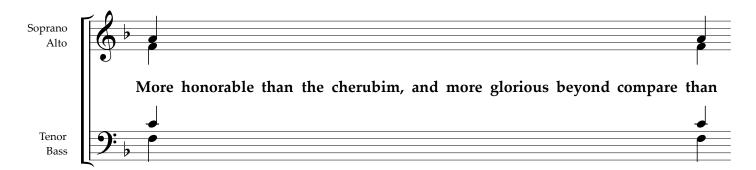
Priest: O Lady, Mother of God Most High, look down upon your faithful servants praying before your holy icon and serving your Son. Receive our humble prayer and visit us in our unworthiness. Help us to keep pure the Orthodox Faith and to walk in the ways of our Savior, Jesus Christ. By your intercessions entreat Him to grant us health of soul and body and the forgiveness of our sins in this life, and in the world to come, life everlasting.

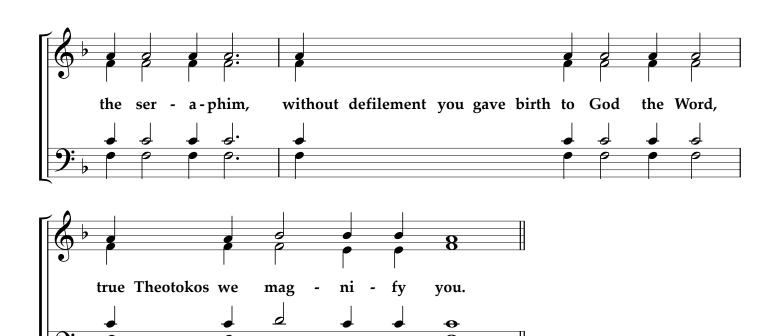


Dismissal

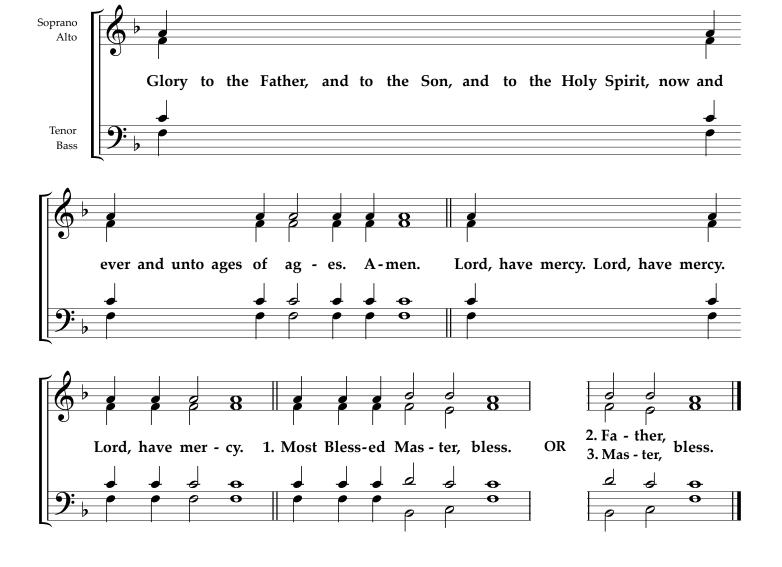
Deacon: Wisdom!

Priest: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!





Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee!



Priest: May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His Most Pure Mother, the Birth-giver of God; of Saints ______ (of the day), through the prayers of our fathers among the saints, Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts; Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow, Enlightener of North America, the Confessor; John of Shanghai and San Francisco, the Wonderworker; Nikolai of South Canaan, Bishop of Zhicha; Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn; the holy Hieromartyrs, Juvenal of Iliamna, Alexander and John; Peter the Aleut, Martyr of San Francisco; the Venerable Herman of Alaska and all America, the Wonderworker; the holy and Righteous Alexis of Wilkes-Barre and Minneapolis; and Jacob, enlightener of the native peoples of Alaska; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is a good God and lovest Mankind.

