

# Sunday before Nativity. December 24

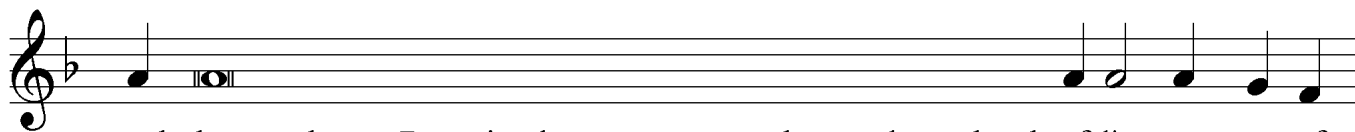
## Troparion to the Fathers, Tone 2



Great are the a - chieve - ments of faith! In the foun - tain of flame,



as in re - fresh - ing wa - - - - ter, the three ho - ly Youths re - joiced;

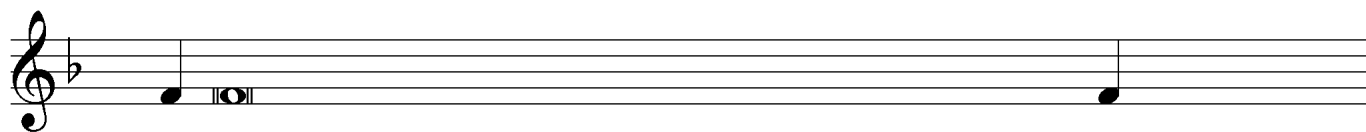


and the proph - et Dan - i - el was seen to be a shep - herd of li - ons, as of



sheep. Through their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

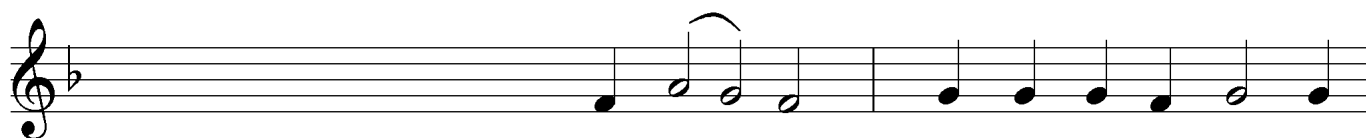
### Troparion of the Forefeast, Tone 4



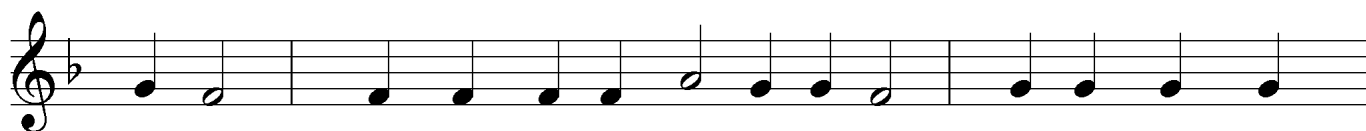
Mar - y once with a - ged Jo - seph went to be en - rolled in



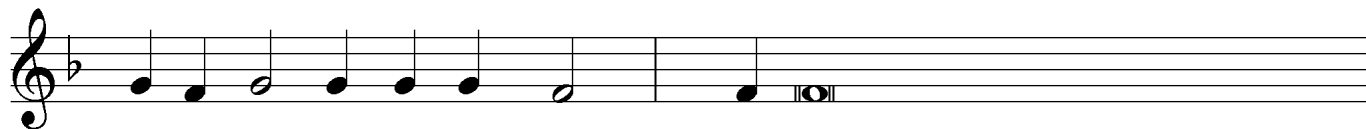
Beth - le - hem, for he was of the seed of Da - vid; she bore in her



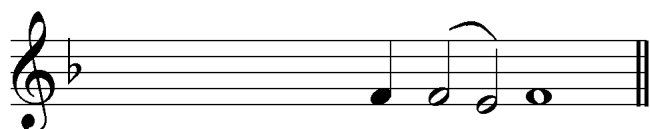
womb the one con - ceived with - out seed. The time for the birth was



at hand, and there was no room in the inn; but the Cave proved



a fair pal - ace for the Queen. Christ is born, to raise up the im - age



that be - fore had fall - - en.

### Kontakion of the Fathers, Tone 1



Beth - - le - hem re - joice; Eph - ra - ta pre - pare; for see, the Ewe - lamb,



bear - ing in her womb the great Shep - herd, hast - ens to give birth.



See - - ing him the God - bear - ing Fa - thers ex - ult as with the



shep - herds they hymn a Vir - gin who gives suck.

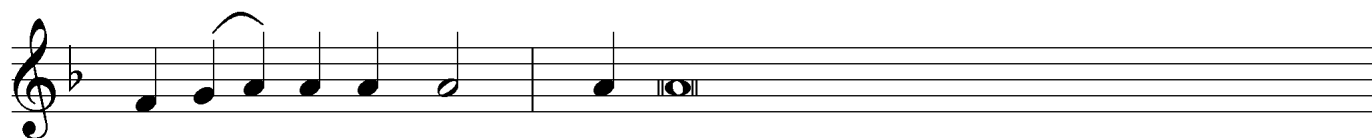
### Kontakion of the Forefeast, Tone 3



To - day the Vir - gin is com - ing to the Cave to give birth



in - ef - fa - bly to the pre - e - ter - nal Word. Hear - ing this, dance, O



in - hab - - it - ed world. With An - gels and the Shep - herds glo - ri - fy

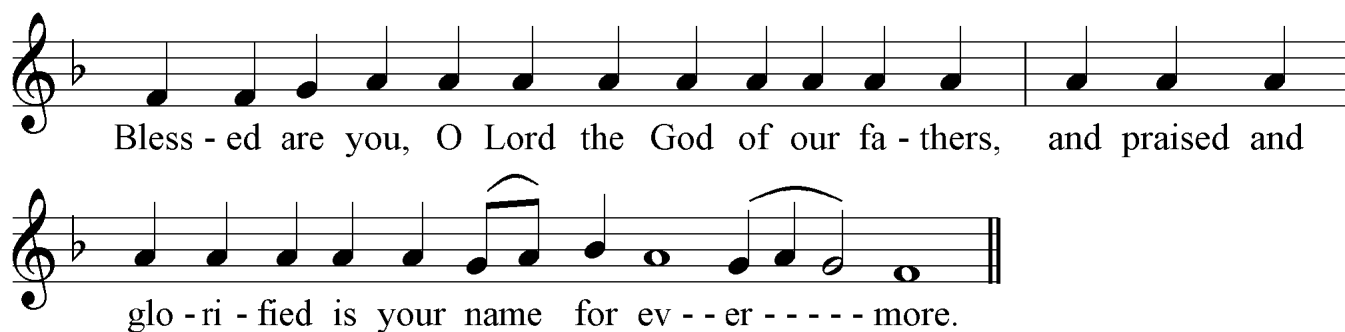


him who willed to be made man - i - fest, a young Child, God be - fore



the ag - - - - - es.

### Prokeimenon, Tone 4



Bless - ed are you, O Lord the God of our fa - thers, and praised and  
glo - ri - fied is your name for ev - - er - - - - - more.

*Verse:* For you are righteous in all things which you have done for us .

### Alleluia, Tone 4



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - - - le - lu - - - - - ia.

*Verse 1:* O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have told us, the work which you did in their days, in days of old.

*Verse 2:* You have saved us from those who afflicted us, and have put to shame those who hated us.

**Communion Chant:** Praise the Lord from the heavens, ...

**Second Communion Chant:** The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance....