Chanting in Hard Chromatic Tones

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Course Outline

- What is a Chromatic Scale?
- The Hard Chromatic Scale
- Tone 6 Hard Chromatic examples
- Simple analysis of Tone 6 syllabic patterns
- Modulation to Diatonic from Hard Chromatic
- Ison in Hard Chromatic
- Tone 2 Hard Chromatic examples
- Tone 4 Hard Chromatic example

What is a Scale?

A *scale* in Byzantine music is typically composed of eight notes. The steps between notes can be of varying degrees: semitone, whole tone, and tone-and-a-half. Each scale is composed of two tetrachords separated by a whole tone. A *tetrachord* is a scale of four notes, with the first and last note of the tetrachord being in the interval of a fourth. The Western D Major Scale is an example of a familiar scale comprised of two tetrachords separated by a whole tone:

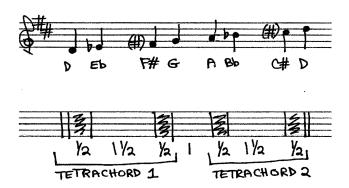
The D Major Scale



What is a Chromatic scale?

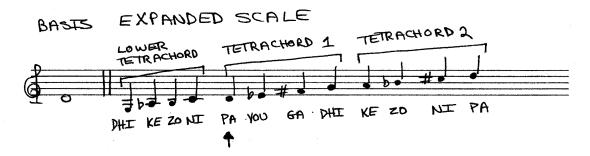
In Byzantine music, the defining characteristic of a *Chromatic* scale is that the tetrachords are made up of the following three intervals: semitone, tone-and-a-half, semitone (short, wide, short):

Chromatic Scale based on D



The Chromatic scale can be derived from the Major scale by flatting the 2nd and 6th notes. The wide intervals of a tone-and-a-half give this scale an Eastern or Middle Eastern quality not found in Western music.

Hard Chromatic - Tone 6



Sticherarikon and Papadikon (Hard Chromatic Scale)



did I make my sup-pli-ca-tion

Tone 2/Mode 2 (hard chromatic) - antiphona*, and "quick" kanons*, sticheraric hymns and doxologies*. Tone 6/Mode 2 Plagal -"slow" kekragaria (Lord, I Call) and pasapnoaria (Let Everything That Breathes) also use this tuning (with different formulae), as is the case for Tone 2 "slow" kanons*.



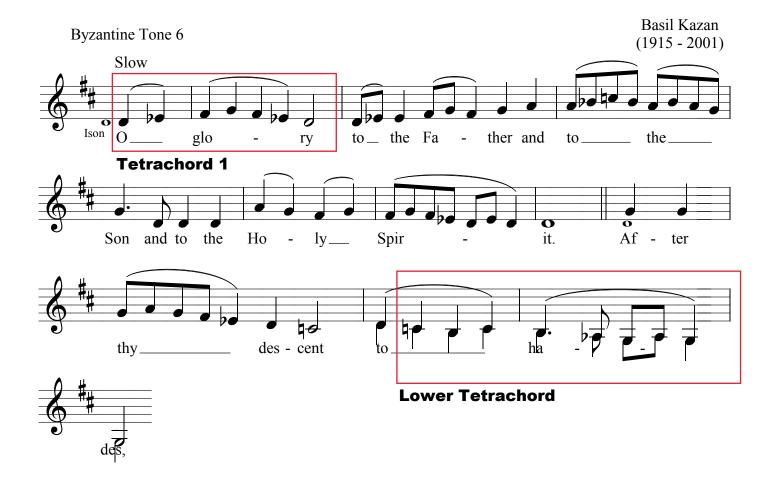
did I make my sup-pli-ca-tion



Verses on Psalm 140

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

10th Doxastikon and Theotokion



HARD CHROMATIC MODULATIONS



GREAT COMPLINE O Lord of Hosts

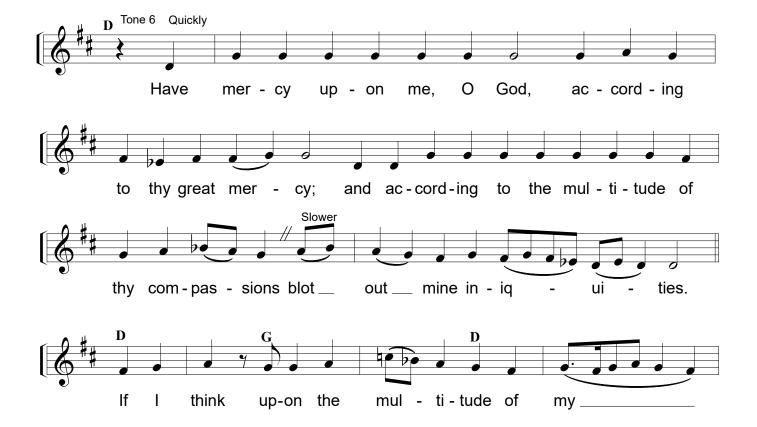


Pentecostarion

The Feast of Pentecost

Sung as the 3rd stichera of the Aposticha, after Psalm 50 (Have mercy), and the Glory at the Praises







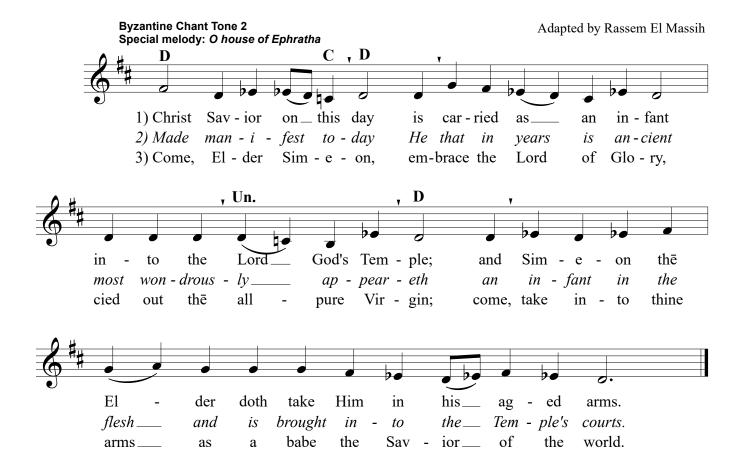
Byzantine Tone 2



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February 3rd

After-Feast of the Presentation (Meeting) of our Lord in the Temple Stichera at the Aposticha at Vespers



Verses:

- 1) Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people.
 - 2) A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Canon for Bridegroom Matins

Sunday: Ode Nine



Third Ode - First Canon

Second Mode (hard chromatic)

Ίσχὺν ὁ διδούς



The Lord, Who grant - eth strength un - to our kings and ex - alt





gin and com - eth un - to bap - tis - m. Where-fore, let us cry

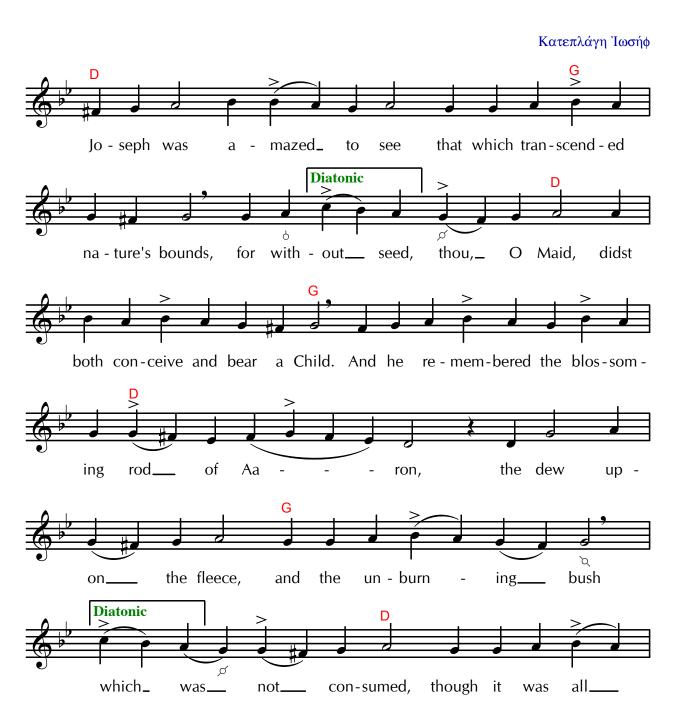


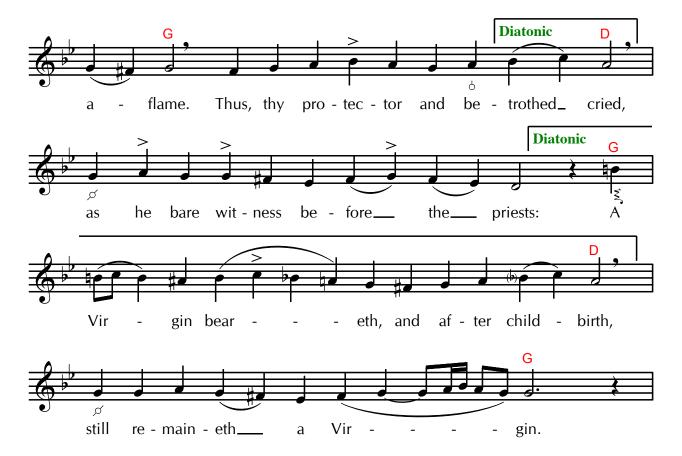


God, and there is none right - eous save Thee, O Lord.

Fourth Mode - Kathismata (hard chromatic)

"Joseph was Amazed" (the Original melody)





Plagal Second Mode (Tone 6)



