

# The Desert, as a Lily, Bloomed

Matins for the Forefeast of the Nativity  
Canticle III, Irmos and Sessional Hymn  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

1. The des - ert, as a — li - ly, — bloom'd When You were  
2. Re - joice, O Zi - on, — lift — your — hymn, Make rea - dy,  
3. Be - fore Him all the po - - - wers — shake, But He a

born — from Ma - ry's — womb. The bar - ren Gen - tile —  
too, — O Beth - le - hem, The One who holds — and  
low - - - ly form will take. The on - ly God of —

church, — as — well, With burst - - - ing buds — be -  
keeps — all — things, A star — be - fore — His  
sky — and — sea, Un - changed — in ho - ly

gan to — swell. And when You came — a - mong them all My  
com - ing brings. He makes His con - de - scen - sion known, His  
de - i - - ty, Is tru - ly of — the Vir - gin — born, And

heart was found - ed, pure — and whole.  
bow - ing down — to save — His own.  
hu - man flesh — with grace a - dorns.

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