

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of  
Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness)  
February 11, 2024**

**Our holy father Meletius, archbishop of Antioch**, was elected to the patriarchal see in 360, but within a month he was sent into exile by Emperor Constantius. Reinstated in 379, he held a council of 150 bishops and took a prominent role in the Ecumenical Council of Constantinople (381). He was persecuted on account of the Nicene faith with frequent exile and soon after presiding over the First Ecumenical Council of Constantinople departed to the Lord. His virtues were celebrated with the highest praises by Saints Gregory of Nyssa and John Chrysostom (381)

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers on the Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sunday) and the Sundays of the Great Fast.*

*Psalm 140 and Stichera of Forgiveness in the tone of the week (Tone 4, p. 35)*

*Stichera of Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness), p. 57*

**Cantor:**        (Tone 4) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.  
(on 3)                Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

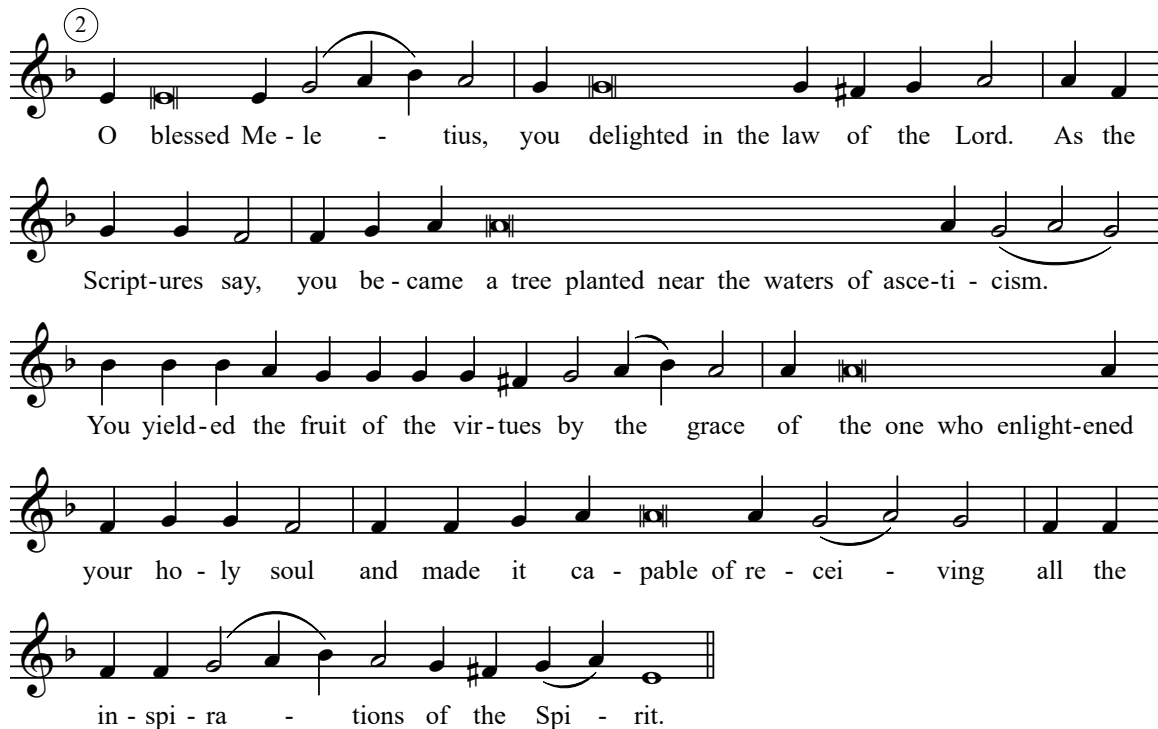
**Stichera of our holy father Meletius - Tone 4 samohlasen**

③

You wise - ly taught that the Word, co - eternal with the Fa - ther, and bo - di - less,  
was united to his flesh in his Per - son with - out un - dergoing change or con -  
fu - sion. He may be con - templated in two natures and in two en - er - gies,  
which may not be separated from one an - o - ther be - cause of their real u - nion.

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations; **Psalm 116**  
(on 2) acclaim him, all you peoples!

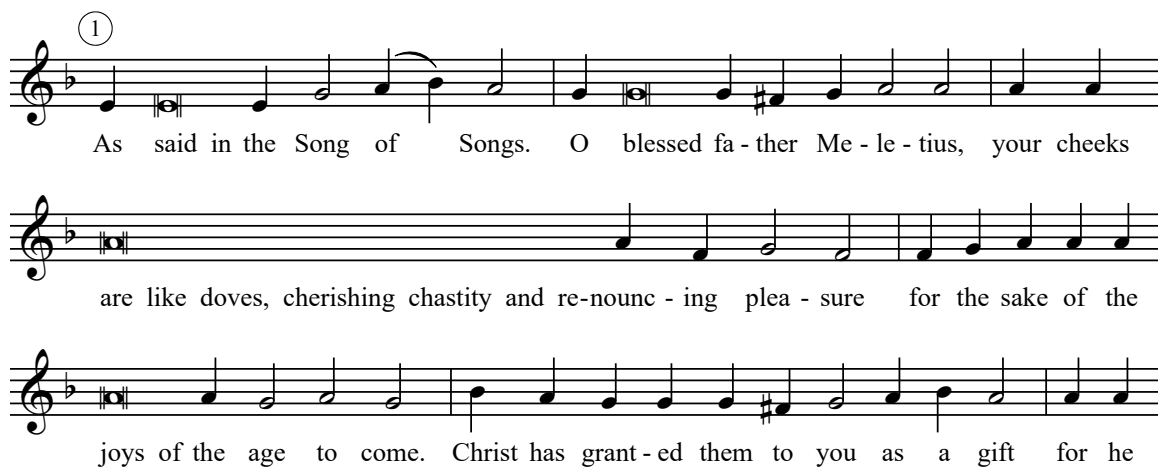
②



O blessed Me - le - tius, you delighted in the law of the Lord. As the  
Script-ures say, you be - came a tree planted near the waters of asce - ti - cism.  
You yield - ed the fruit of the vir - tues by the grace of the one who enlight - ened  
your ho - ly soul and made it ca - pable of re - cei - ving all the  
in - spi - ra - tions of the Spi - rit.

**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

①



As said in the Song of Songs. O blessed fa - ther Me - le - tius, your cheeks  
are like doves, cherishing chastity and re - nounc - ing plea - sure for the sake of the  
joys of the age to come. Christ has grant - ed them to you as a gift for he

accepted your count - less strug - gles and your flam - ing zeal, with which you  
 con - front - ed all dan - gers to the Faith.

**Cantor:** Glory...now and ever...

**Theotokion** - *Tone 4 samohlasen*

O Most Im-mac-u-late One, wheth-er I sail on the sea, travel on land, or rest at home,  
 give me grace and keep my mind a - lert. En - a - ble me to do God's will,  
 so that be-cause of the sins of my life, I will find myself hastening under  
 your pro - tec - tion on the day of judg - - - ment.

*The service continues on page 9.*

*Prokeimenon for Cheesefare Sunday, p.10*

*Aposticha of Cheesefare Sunday, p. 60*