

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of
Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness)
February 19, 2012**

**Our venerable father Leo, bishop of Catania in Sicily, who diligently cared for the poor.
(c.787)**

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

Lamp-lighting Psalms

Psalm 140 - Tone 3 samohlasen

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re-ceive the voice of my pray'r when I

call up - on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r

as - cend to you like in - cense, and the lift - ing up of my hands like an

eve - ning sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth
and set a seal on the door of *my* lips.
Let not my heart be inclined to evil,
nor make excuses for sins I *commit*.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.
If a just man strikes or reproves me it *is* kindness
but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.
Let my prayer be ever against *their* malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;
then they understood that my words *were* kind.
As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of *the* grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;
in you I take refuge; spare *my* soul!
From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;
keep me from the snares of those who *do* evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
while I pursue my way *unharmed*.

Psalm 141

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,
with all my voice I entreat *the* Lord.
I pour out my trouble before him;
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints *within* me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *entrap* me.
Look on my right and see:
there is no one who takes *my* part.

I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for *my* soul.
I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."


Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths of *distress*.
Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger *than* I.

Cantor:  Bring my soul out of this pris-on and then I shall praise your name.

Stichera of Repentance - Tone 3 samohlasen


¹⁰  We of - fer you our eve - ning hymn, O Christ, with in - cense and

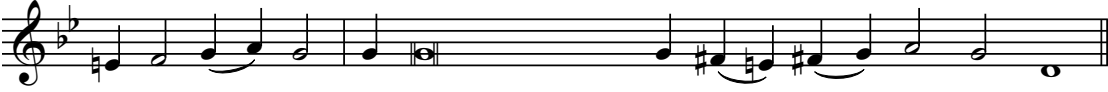
 spir - it - ual song. Have mercy upon our souls, O Sav - ior.

Cantor:  A - round me the just will assem-ble be-cause of your good - ness to me.

⁹  Save me, O my Lord God, for you are the Sav - ior of all.

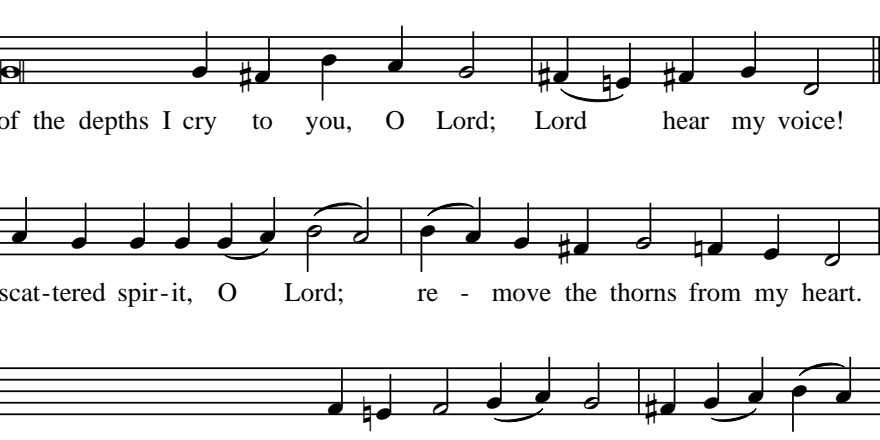
 A storm of passion is toss-ing me a - bout, and the weight of transgression

 is sink-ing me. Give me your help-ing hand, and lead me to the light of

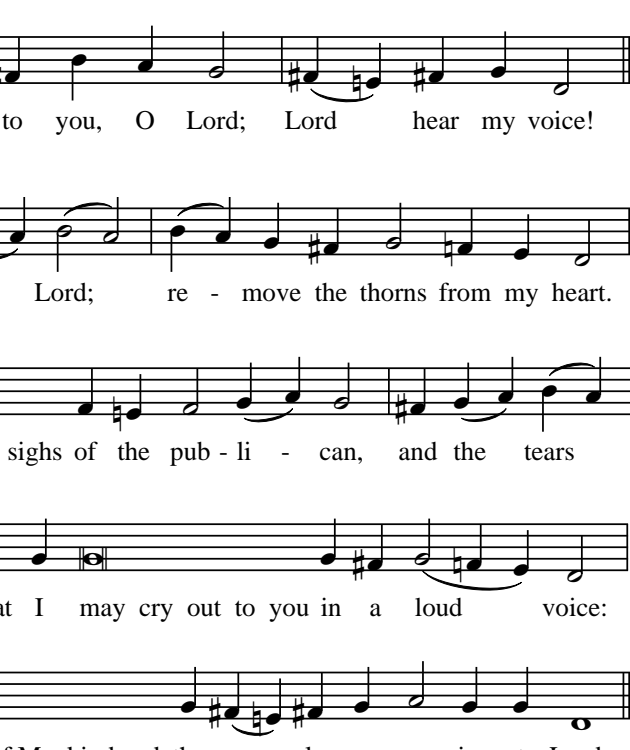
 hu-mil - i - ty; for you alone are merci-ful and you love man - kind.

Cantor: 
Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord hear my voice!


Col-lect my scat-tered spir-it, O Lord; re - move the thorns from my heart.

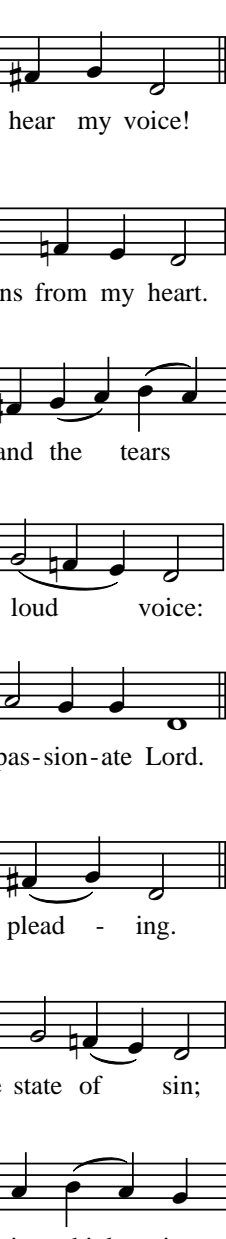

Give me the repenance of Peter, the sighs of the pub - li - can, and the tears


of the sin - ful wo-man, so that I may cry out to you in a loud voice:


Save me, O my God, the Lover of Mankind and the on - ly com-pas-sion-ate Lord.

Cantor: 
Let your ears be at-ten - tive to the voice of my plead - ing.


Of-ten when I am prais-ing you, I find my-self in the state of sin;


and when my lips are sing - ing hymns to you, my soul is think ing

of van - i - ties. Through re - pent - ance, perfect me com - plete - ly,

O Christ our God, have mercy on me and save me.

(on 6) Tone 2

Cantor:

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would sur-vive?

But with you is found for - give - ness: for this we re - vere you.

Stichera of Cheesefare Sunday - Tone 2 podoben: Jehda ot dreva

⑥

En - ter - ing in - to the a - re - na of the ho - ly Fast, let us

make ev - 'ry ef - fort to hum - ble our flesh by ab - sti-nence;

in prayer and with tears let us seek the Lord our Sav - ior, and, that

we might turn a - way from our e - vil deeds, let us say to him:

We have sinned a - gainst you, O Christ our King, save us as

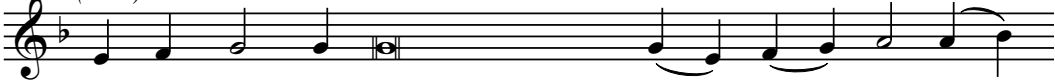

you saved the Nin - e - vites of old, and in your good - ness, grant us a share in the
King - dom of Heav - en.

Cantor: *(on 5)*

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord, more than watch - man for day - break.

⑤

When I see my deeds that de - serve such pun - ish - ment, I
am with - out hope, O Lord, for I have dis - o - beyed
your ho - ly com - mand - ments, and I have led a fool - ish life.
There - fore I be - seech you: Pur - i - fy me in the wa - ters of re - pent - ance
by fast - ing and prayer, O Sav - ior full of good - ness;
do not re - ject me, O Ben - e - fac - tor of the u - ni - verse.

(on 4)
Cantor: 
Let the watch - man count on daybreak and Is - ra - el on

the Lord.


Let us be - gin the time of this bright Fast, giv - ing our - selves

to spir - it - ual strug - gle. Let us san - cti - fy our soul and

pur - i - fy our flesh. Let us not on - ly fast from food; let us al - so

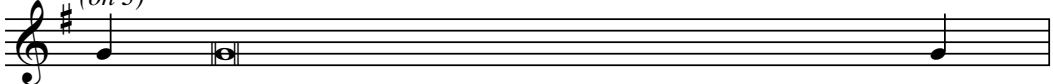

ab - stain from ev - 'ry pas - sion and cul - ti - vate spir - it - ual vir - tues.

And let us faith - ful - ly per - se - vere in this,

so that we may be worthy to see the holy Pas - sion of Christ our God





and the joy of his ho - ly Res - ur - rec - tion.

(on 3)




Cantor:  

Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion,
 Is - rael indeed he will re-deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

Stichera of our venerable father Leo of Catania - Tone 8 samohlasen

³    

O Lord, in the world you re-vealed the ho - ly bi - shop to be a successor
 of the apos-tles in word and deed, and a prea - cher of cor-rect doc - trine.
 There - fore you made him an instruc-tor of bi - - - shops and a partaker
 of your in - cor-rupt glo - - - ry.

Cantor:   

Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!
² Ha-ving you as a liv-ing pil - lar and a pro - claim - er of the right teachings
 of the Word, O Le - o, the Church of Christ remains always un - sha - ken,

be - hold - ing the truth and glo - ri - fy - ing the Lord, the Mas - ter of All, who

glo - ri - fied you.

Cantor:

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith - ful for - ev - er.

①

Lord and Word, you re - vealed the ho - ly bi - shop to be a sharp sword a - gainst the

im - pi - ous, and for your or - tho - dox Faith. Cut - ting down false tea - chings

with it, you increased pious teach - ings in the world, O Mas - ter.

Cantor:

Glo - ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it, now and ev - er

and for - ev - er. A - men.

Theotokion - Tone 8 samohlasen

Re - joyce, O Death to De - mons! Re - joyce, O Daugh - ter of Ad - am,

most flour-ishing and un-wilt-ing Flow'r! Re-joyce, O Glory of your ser - vants!

Re-joyce, Most Im - mac - u - late, and For-give-ness of wick - ed ones!

Re-joyce, O Gift of Sal - va - - - tion grant-ed to the world by God!

Re - joyce, O Precious One of those who call up - on you! Re - joyce, O Moth-er,

Glo - ry for those who ex - tol you!

The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, "O joyful light," on page 8.

Aposticha

Aposticha of Cheesefare Sunday - Tone 4 samohlasen

① & ②

The light of your grace has shone upon our souls, O Lord. Be - hold, this is the

favorable time, the sea-son of con - ver - sion. Let us turn away from the works

of dark - ness, and let us clothe ourselves with the ar - mor of light,



so that cross - ing the o - cean of the Fast, we may come to the harbor of the

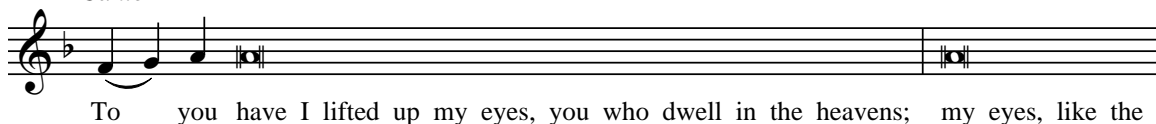


Resurrection on the third day with our Lord Je - sus Christ, the Sav - ior



of our souls.

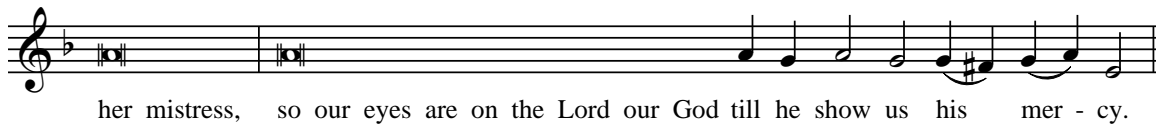
Cantor



To you have I lifted up my eyes, you who dwell in the heavens; my eyes, like the



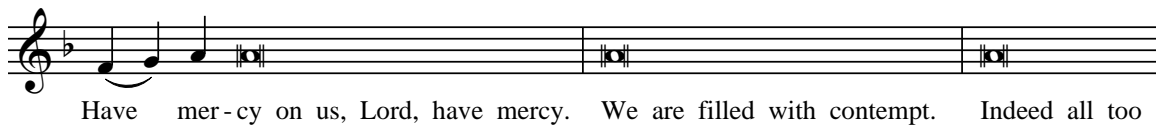
eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. Like the eyes of a servant on the hands of



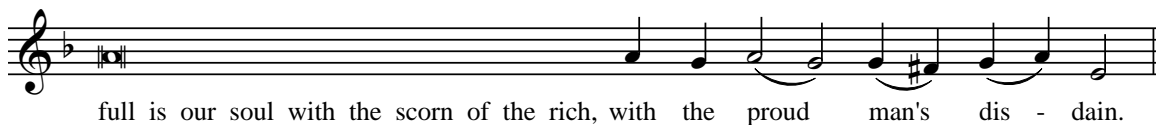
her mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God till he show us his mer - cy.

All repeat, "The light of your grace..."

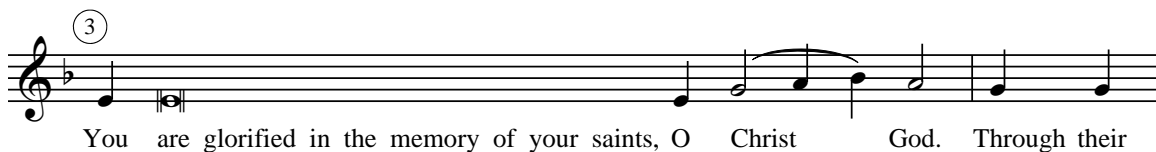
Cantor



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, have mercy. We are filled with contempt. Indeed all too



full is our soul with the scorn of the rich, with the proud man's dis - dain.



③
You are glorified in the memory of your saints, O Christ God. Through their

in - ter - ces - sions, send up - on us great mer - cy.

Cantor:

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it,
now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Aposticha theotokion - Tone 4 samohlasen

The choir of angels glorifies you, O most pure Vir - gin, for you have given
birth to our God, co - eternal with the Father and the Ho - ly Spir - it, through
whom the angelic armies were brought forth from noth - ing - ness. Be - seech
him to send the light of sal - va - tion up - on the souls who pro - fess
the true faith, prais - ing you as the Moth - er of our God.

The service continues with the Prayer of St. Simeon on page 13.