

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of  
Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness)  
February 10, 2013**

**The holy martyr Blaise, bishop of Sebaste, who suffered martyrdom at Sebaste in the power-struggle between Licinius and the Emperor Constantine. (316)**

*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 4 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 ascend to you like in - cense  
and the lifting 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

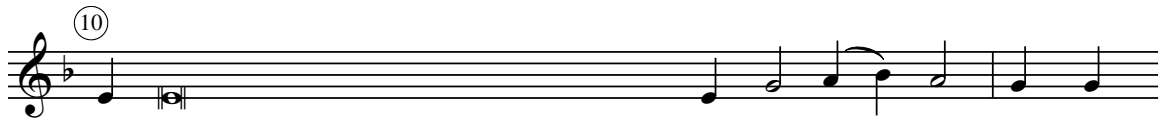
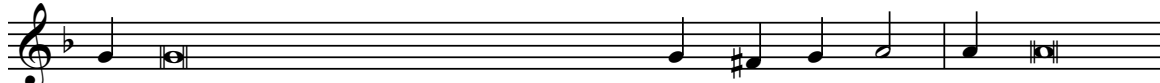


for I am in the depths of *distress*.


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 Repentence in the tone of the week - Tone 4 samohlasen**

<sup>10</sup>   
 With my tears I desire to wash away the mark of my sins, O Lord, and through  
  
 pen - ance, I long to make the rest of my life pleas - ing to you; but the enemy  
  
 deceives me and struggles with my soul. Save me before I com - plete - ly  
  
 per - ish, O Lord.

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

<sup>9</sup>   
 Who is there among the storm - tossed who hastens to your harbor and is not saved,  
  
 O Lord? Who is ill and seeks your healing and is not cured? O Cre - a - tor  
  
 of everyone and Heal-er of the sick, save me before I com - plete - ly

per - ish, O Lord.

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

⑧   
Wash me with my tears, O Sav - ior, for I am blemished because of my

man - y sins. And so I bow be - fore you; I have sinned, O God;


have mer - cy on me.

*Cantor:*   
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my plead - ing.


⑦   
I am the lost sheep of your mys - ti - cal flock, and I take refuge in you, O

good Shep - herd. Have mer - cy on me, O God.

(on 6)

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

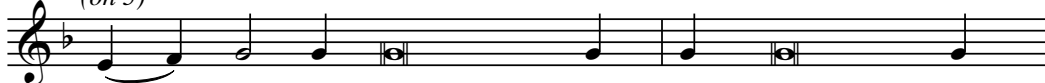


you saved the Nin - e - vites of old, and in your good - ness, grant us a share in the



King - dom of Heav - en.

(on 5)

Cantor: 

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

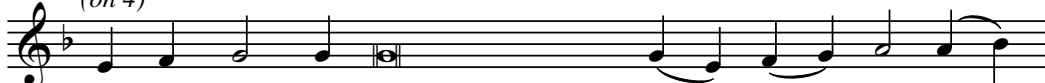


by fast - ing and prayer, O Sav - ior full of good - ness;



do not re - ject me, O Ben - e - fac - tor of the u - ni - verse.

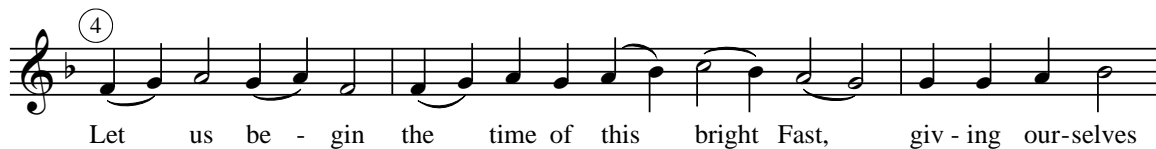
(on 4)

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



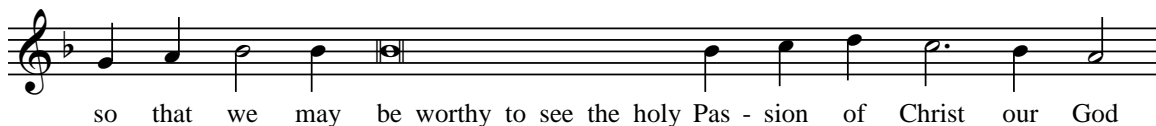
pur - i - fy our flesh. Let us not on - ly fast from food; let us al - so



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.

*Tone 1 samohlasen*

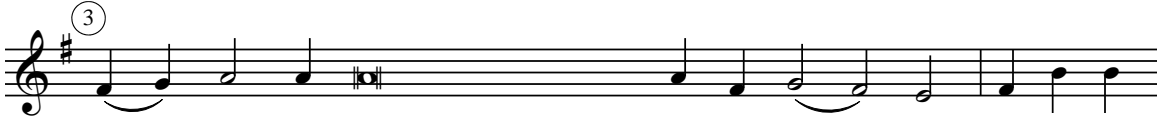


Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp - tion,



Is - ra - el indeed he will re-deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

**Stichera of the Bishop-Martyr Blaise - Tone 1 samohlasen**



The height of the virtues and foundation of the faith - ful, the glo - ry



of bishops and boast of the mar - tyrs sum - mons all the faithful to his holy



memori-al with splen - dor that they may sing to him as a vic - tor who



glo - ri - fied God on earth!



Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!



You were moved by a vis - ion of Christ, the an - gel of great coun - sel,



as you be - held the evil assembly, wise mar - tyr. You went at once to



the tri - bu - nal. You took the trophies of vic - to - ry in your hand!



Now you dwell in the heav-ens, all - ho - ly one.

*Cantor:*

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

<sup>①</sup>

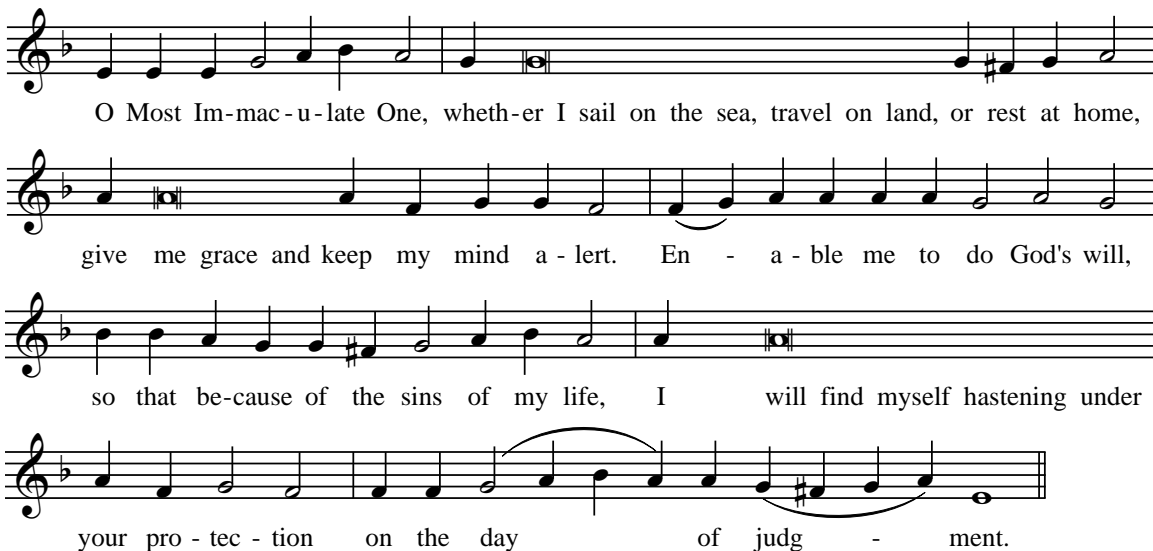
With the drops of your blood, mar - tyr Blaise, you wove a beau - ti - ful robe  
for the church. Em - broid - ered by your well-a-noint - ed fin - gers  
and dyed with your man-i-fold suf - fer - ings, she wears it as a beau-ti - ful bride,  
sing - ing hymns to Christ the bride - groom!

*Tone 4 samohlasen*

*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 4 samohlasen*



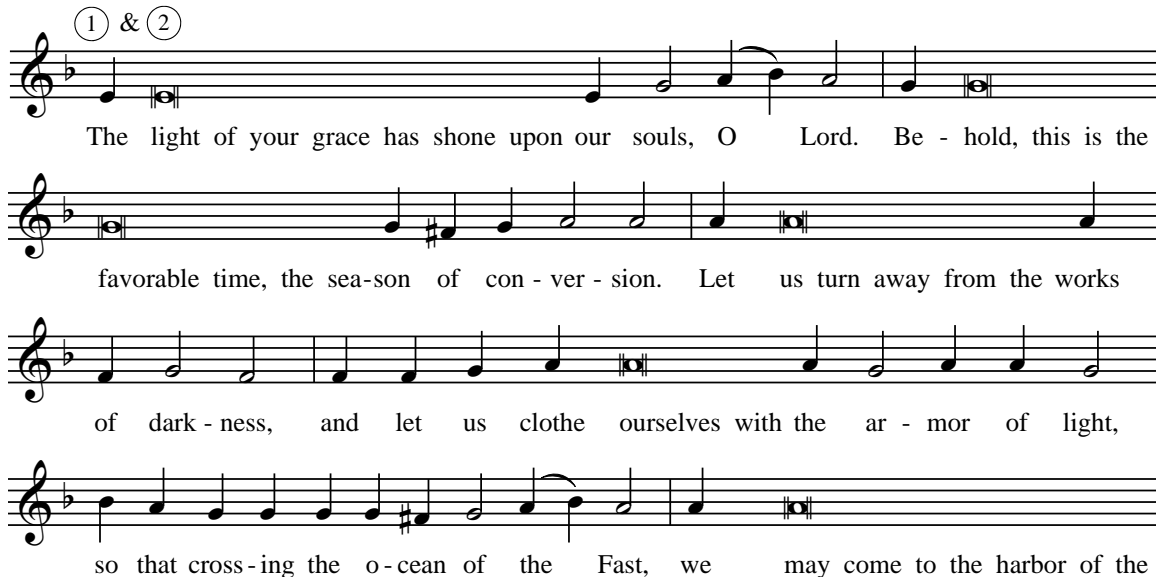
O Most Im-mac-u-late One, wheth-er I sail on the sea, travel on land, or rest at home,  
give me grace and keep my mind a - lert. En - a - ble me to do God's will,  
so that be-cause of the sins of my life, I will find myself hastening under  
your pro - tec - tion on the day of judg - ment.

*The service continues 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

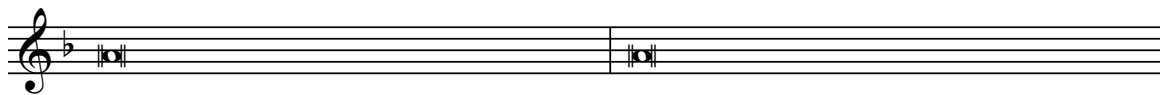


of our souls.

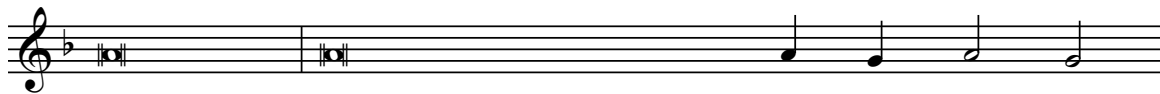
*Cantor*



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 has shown upon our souls..."*

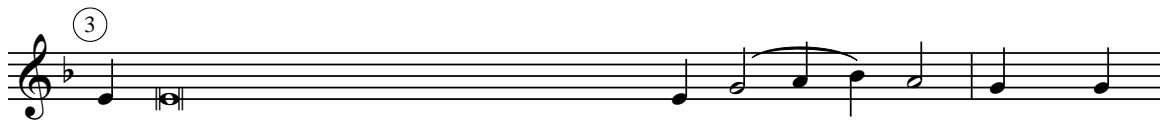
*Cantor*



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.



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 Father 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.*