

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

The heav - ens sing your praise, O spouse - less Moth - er, and we glo - ri - fy
your giv - ing birth in a man - ner be - yond all words; O Theotokos,
intercede for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

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

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of the
Second Sunday of the Great Fast
March 16, 2014**

Our venerable father Alexis, Man of God. Today we remember the man of God celebrated under the name of Alexius, at Rome in the church on the Aventine Hill, who, as tradition relates, left his rich home that he might become poor and beg alms incognito. (411)

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 2 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 *un*harmed.

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.

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

All repeat, "I foolishly threw off my paternal guidance..."

Cantor

Have mercy 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.

O mar-tyrs of the Lord, you sanc-tify all places and heal all dis-eas - es.
There-fore, we ask of you: Pray that our souls be de - liv - - - ered
from the snares of the En - e - my.

Aposticha

Aposticha of the second Sunday of the Great Fast - Tone 8 samohlasen

①&②

I fool-ishly threw off my pa-ter-nal guid-ance, and I have grazed my
flock a-mid un-rul-y thoughts. I have wast-ed all my life in reck-less-ness;
A-las! Woe is me! De-priv-ed of the food that strength-ens the heart,
I have tast-ed the pleasures that satisfy for but a mo-ment in time. O Fa-ther,
in your goodness, do not close the door of your heart to me; o-pen it
to me, re-ceive me as the Prod-i-gal and save me!

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 hand of

Cantor:

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

Stichera of Repentance - Tone 2 samohlasen

⑩


Like the Prod-igal, I have sinned a-against you, O Sav-ior. Re-ceive
me, O Father, for I am re-pent-ant; and have mer-cy on me, O God.


Cantor:

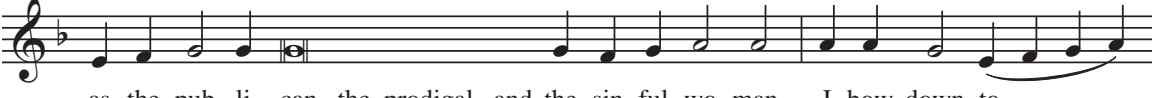
A-round me the just will assem-ble be-cause of your good-ness
to me.

⑨

I cry out to you, O Christ my Sav-ior, with the voice of the Pub-li-can.
Be mer-ci-ful to me as you were to him, and have mer-cy on me, O God.

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

 When I con-sid - er my fool-ish deeds, I take ref-uge in your com-pas - sion;

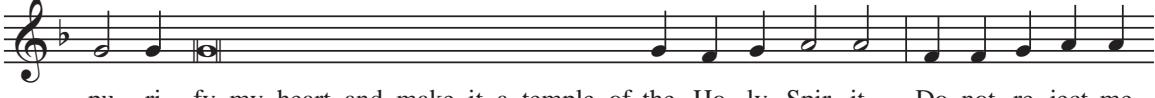
 as the pub-li - can, the prodigal, and the sin-ful wo-man, I bow down to


 you. Be - fore con-demn - ing me, O my God, in your good - ness

 spare me and save me.

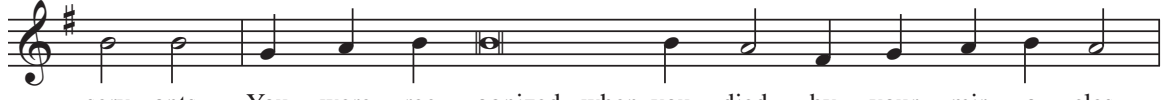
Cantor:  Let your ears be at - ten - tive to the voice of my plead - ing.

 O Lord, born of a Vir - gin, do not look at my sins, but

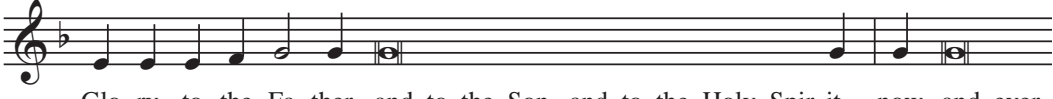

 pu - ri - fy my heart and make it a temple of the Ho - ly Spir - it. Do not re-ject me

 far from your sight; for with you is the a-bun - dance of sal - va - tion.

 bless - ed fa - ther, long op - pressed and mistreated by your own

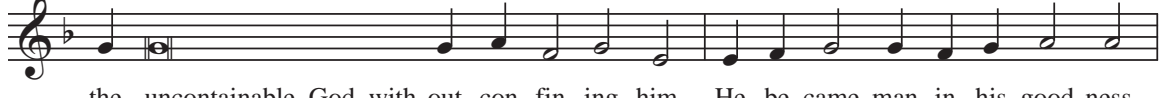
 serv - ants. You were rec - ognized, when you died, by your mir - a - cles,

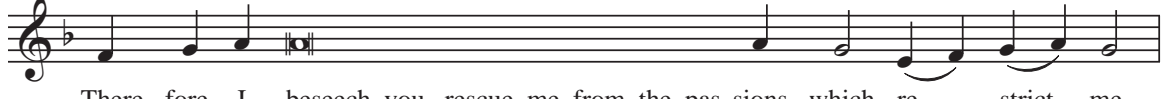
 ban - ishing the destructive spir - its and heal - ing mal - a - dies.


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

Theotokion - Tone 2 samohlasen

 In your womb, O all - ho - ly Bride of God, you a - lone bore

 the uncontainable God with-out con-fin-ing him. He be-came man in his good-ness.

 There - fore, I beseech you, rescue me from the pas-sions which re - strict me,

 that, hav-ing trod the straight and nar-row path, I may at-tain that which leads to

 life, O Vir - gin.

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

great mer - cy.

Cantor:

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

②

With the dew of di - vine love, O A - lex - is, you ex - tin - guished the

burn - ing lusts of the flesh. For you ex - changed your marriage bed for the dwell - ing

of the Bride - groom, and bod - ily pleasures for the resemblance to the bodi - less

an - gels of God. To - geth - er with them, in - ter - cede

that our souls be grant - ed peace and great mer - cy.

Cantor:

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

①

You lived un - known at the threshold of your no - ble par - ents' house, O

Cantor:

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

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

Stichera of the Second Sunday of the Great Fast - Tone 8 samohlasen

⑥

I have sinned against you with - out meas - ure, and my pun - ish - ment will be

great in - deed: the sigh - ing without comfort and the gnash - ing of teeth;

the fire of Hades and the dark - ness of the damned. Give me tears of repentance,

O most just Judge, that, by fast - ing, I may obtain forgive - ness of my sins

as I cry to you, O Christ my Lord; have mer - cy on me,

in your great good - ness.

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

Come, O Word, up-on the moun - tain where my sins have made me wan - der,

seek me out and call me back to you; chase the e - vil thoughts far

from me and bring me back to life, for I am giv-en o - ver to death.

So pu - ri - fy me through fast - ing, that I may cry out to you in unending

tears, O Christ my Lord: Have mer-cy on me, in your great good - ness.

Cantor:

Let the watchman count on day-break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

4

As we begin the third week of this ho - ly Fast, O faith - ful, let us praise the

Ho-ly Trin-i - ty! Let us spend the rest of the sea-son filled with joy, and let

the pas-sions of our flesh fade a-way. Let us gath - er the divine flow - ers of

our souls and weave a crown for that Sunday, the queen of days. With crowns

up - on our heads, we shall praise the vic - to - ry of Christ.

Tone 2 samohlasen

Cantor:

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

in - deed he will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

Stichera of our venerable father Alexis, Man of God - Tone 2 samohlasen

3

In you we recognize "the man of God" both by your name and by your deeds,

for you were outstanding in your vir - tues, as you sought

both hardship and profound pov-er - ty on earth. Your mir - acles have strengthened

be-liev - ers in the Faith. In - ter - cede that our souls be grant-ed peace and