

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of
Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness)
February 15, 2015**

The holy martyrs: the presbyter Pamphilius, Porphyry and their companions, who received the crown of martyrdom: Pamphilus the priest; Valens, a deacon of Jerusalem; and Paul, born in the city of Jamnia, who had passed two years in prison; and also Porphyry, a servant of Pamphilus; Seleucus the Cappadocian, who was of high rank in the military; Theodulus, an old man from the family of the governor Firmilian; and finally Julian the Cappadocian, who, coming from abroad that very same hour, when he kissed the bodies of the martyrs, was accused as a Christian and ordered by the governor to be burned over a slow fire. (309)

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, 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*.

Tone 3


Cantor: 

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


Stichera of Repentence - 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: 

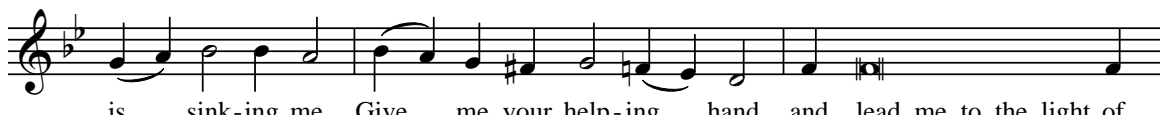
A - round me the just will assem-ble be-cause of your good - ness to me.

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!

⑧
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.

⑦
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.

(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.

Cantor: *(on 4)*

Let the watch-man count on daybreak and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

④

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 4



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 the holy martyrs Pamphilius, Porphyry and companions - *Tone 4 samohlasen*



Let Pamphilius and Se - leu - cus, to - gether with Va - lens and Paul,



Por - phiry, Theodu-lus and Ju - li - an, and the com - pany of the five E - gyp - tians,



be me - lo - di - ous - ly hymned with faith as a harp of twelve strings.



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



Ex - alted splendidly in the faith of Christ by divine glory, O glo - rious Pam - phi - li - us,



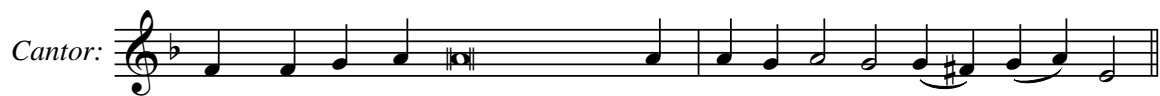
you were shown to be the adornment of Cae - sa - re - a be - ing a hier - arch beloved



by all, in accord - ance with your name, a most hon - ored ath - lete and a

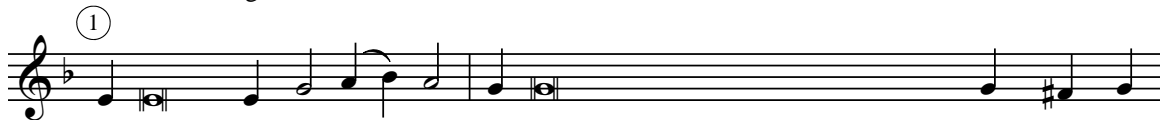


faith - - ful mar - - - tyr.



Cantor:

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



O mighty Pam - phi - li - us, you assembled a company of valiant ath - letes, twelve in



num - ber, who showed themselves to be a god - ly ar - my. And van - quishing the enemy



to - ge - ther, you were ta - ken to the Lord in va - ri - ous ways, re - po - sing a - mid your



mar - tyr - dom.

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.

Theotokion - Tone 4 samohlasen

With the staff of your in-ter - ces - - - sion, O pure The - o - to - kos,
 drive from my wretched soul the bes-tial pas-sions, guid-ing me peace-ful-ly toward life;
 and add me to the ho - ly flock of thy cho - sen sheep.

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

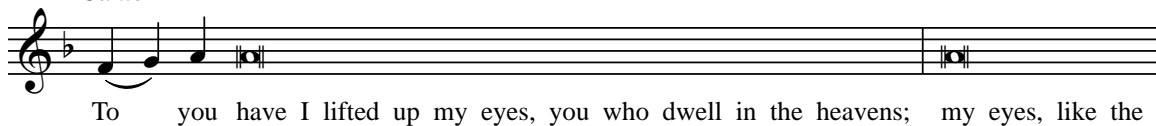


Resurrection on the third day with our Lord Je - sus Christ, the Sav - ior



of our souls.

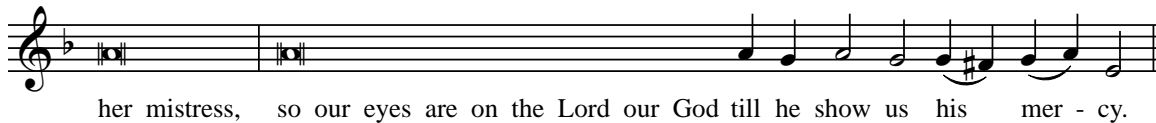
Cantor



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



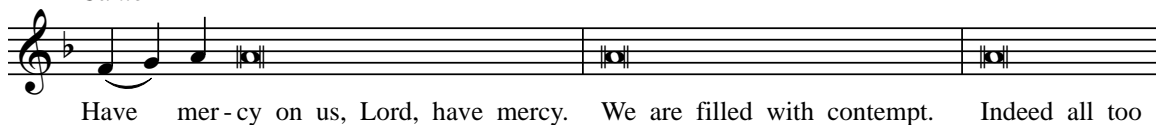
eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. Like the eyes of a servant on the hands of



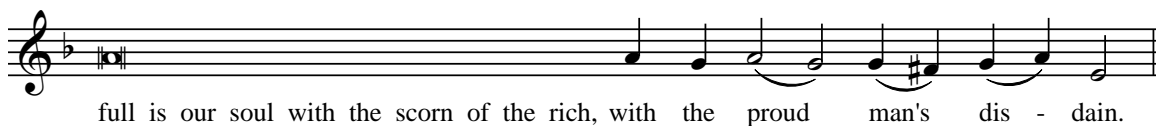
her mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God till he show us his mer - cy.

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

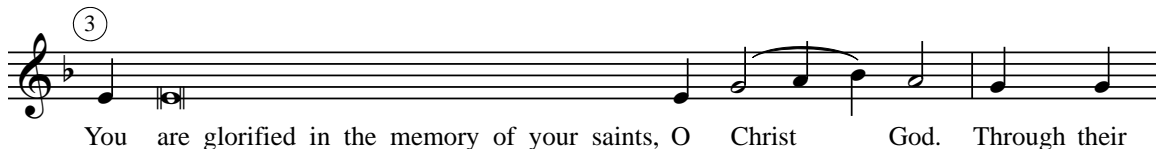
Cantor



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.