

**Matins Propers**  
**Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

*Supplement for The Order of Matins: Sunday and Feasts, 2006*

*Polyeleos, p. 16*

*The Polyeleos is followed by the singing of Psalm 136, "By the Waters of Babylon", p. 314.*

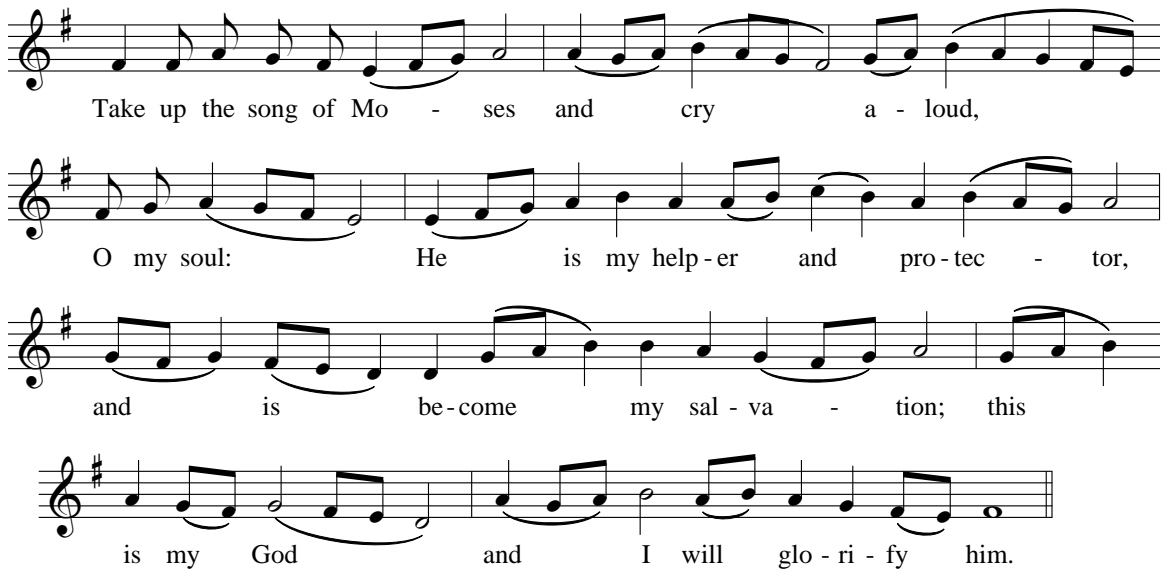
*In place of the usual Sunday stichera after Psalm 50, the Stichera of Repentance (p. 317) are sung.*

*The service continues with the litany, "Save your people, O Lord", on p. 30*

**Canon of the Prodigal Son**

**Ode 1**

**Irmos - Tone 2 samopodoben**



Take up the song of Mo - ses and cry a - loud,  
O my soul: He is my help - er and pro - tec - tor,  
and is be - come my sal - va - tion; this  
is my God and I will glo - ri - fy him.

*Refrain*



Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

O Jesus, now receive my repentance, for I have sinned as the Prodigal Son; I have spent my life in carelessness, thus provoking the anger of my God. *Refrain*

I have foolishly wasted the divine treasure of the heritage you once gave me. By my senseless life I have separated myself from you. Accept me, O Father, in your goodness, as I now return to you. *Refrain*

Receive me now, Lord, as you once received the Prodigal. Open to me your fatherly arms, and in thanksgiving I will sing of your glory and goodness.

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.

Through the intercession of the Theotokos, show me your favor, O Lord, and multiply the signs of your goodness by washing away the multitude of my sins.

*The Irmos of the Triodion is repeated as katavasia.*

### Ode 3

**Irmos** - *Tone 2 samopodoben*

O God, the hus-band - man of all good trees and fruit,  
make fruit - ful my bar - ren mind  
in your com - pas - sion.

*Refrain*

Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Having lost my right reason, I have followed the force of my passions; but deign to accept me, O Lord, as the Prodigal. *Refrain*

As the Prodigal, I cry to you: O Father, I have sinned. Embrace me as you did him, and do not drive me far from you. *Refrain*

Open wide your arms, O Christ, and in your compassion receive me; for I am returning from a distant country, the land of passions and sin.

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.

O immaculate Virgin, fairest of all, enrich my heart which has been impoverished by sin. Grant that it may contemplate all that is beautiful, so that I may glorify you.

*The Irmos of the Triodion is repeated as katavasia.*

*Small Litany. p. 32*

**Sessional Hymn - Tone 1 troparion melody**

Make haste to o - pen your fatherly arms, O Lord, for I have fool - ish - ly  
was - ted my whole life. In the in - ex - haus - ti - ble treasure of your mercy,

O Sav - ior, do not des-pise the pov - er - ty of my heart. I cry  
to you, O Lord, full of compunction: Fa-ther, I have sinned a-against heav-en  
and a - gainst you.

**Cantor:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever and forever. Amen.

O Spouse - less Vir-gin and holy The-o - to - kos, you a-lone pro-tect us  
and de-fend us. De-liv - er the faith - ful people who hope in you,  
from ev -'ry threat and danger which weighs up-on them. O Vir - gin, intercede  
with God for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

**Ode 4**

**Irmos - Tone 2 samopodoben**

Fore-see-ing your birth from a Vir - gin, the proph - et cried  
a - loud: I have heard the re - port of you and was

a - fraid; for from Te - man and the o - ver-shad - owed  
 moun - tain have you come, have you come,  
 have you come, O Christ.

*Refrain*

Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

O heavenly Father, I have shamefully wasted the treasury of goods that you have given me. Having become a slave among foreigners, as the Prodigal I cry out: I have sinned against you, but receive me as you did him and embrace me in your arms. *Refrain*

I have made myself a slave of my evil desires, and in my wretchedness I became a servant of evildoers. My carelessness made me lose my power to think. Forgive me, O heavenly Father and Savior, for I take shelter in your rich mercy. *Refrain*

Filled with shame for my sins, I dare not raise my eyes to heaven. I have foolishly become the servant of evil; but I now return to you, and in my compunction I cry out: I have sinned; but you receive me, O my King.

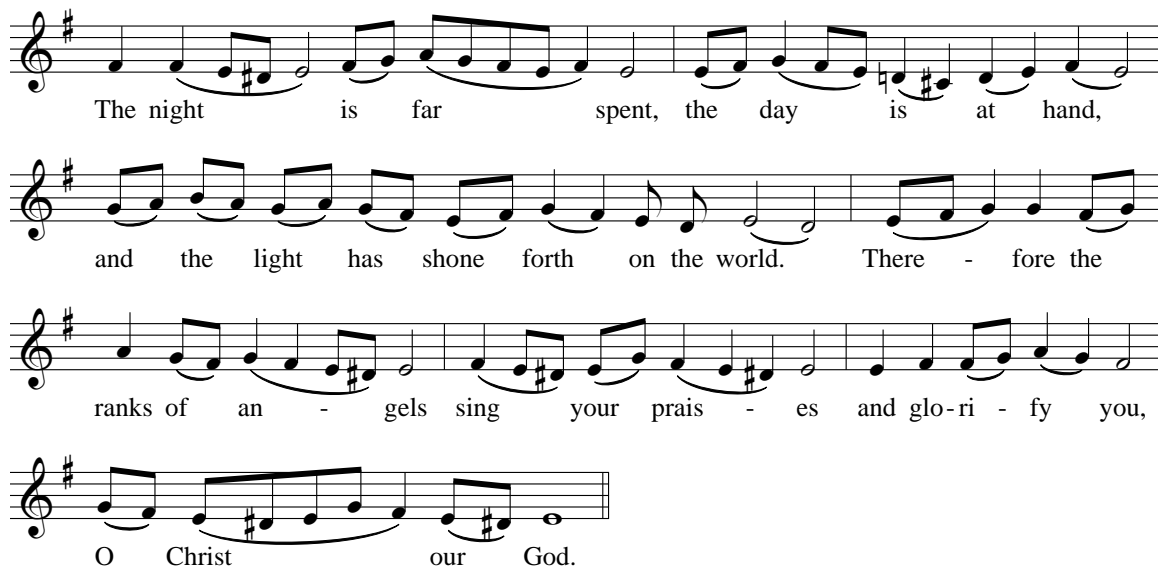
Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it;  
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

You are the helper of all humanity and the sure hope of Christians, the most pure refuge of those who find salvation; O Virgin, by your intercession, obtain salvation for me and life in the world to come.

*The Irmos of the Triodion is repeated as katavasia.*

## Ode 5

**Irmos** - Tone 2 samopodoben



The night is far spent, the day is at hand,  
and the light has shone forth on the world. There - fore the  
ranks of an - gels sing your prais - es and glo-ri - fy you,  
O Christ our God.

### *Refrain*



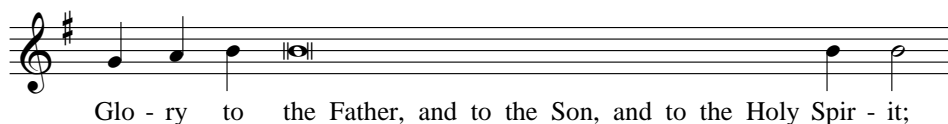
Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

As a slave I have served strangers. I have traveled in the land of corruption, and I am filled with shame. But now I return to you and cry out: O God of tenderness, I have sinned.

*Refrain*

Now open to me your fatherly heart, for I am renouncing evil and returning to you. O heavenly Father, there is no limit to your mercy; do not turn me away. *Refrain*

I dare not lift my eyes to heaven, O Christ, for I have angered you beyond measure; but I also know of your mercy. Therefore, I cry out to you: I have sinned; forgive me and save me.



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.

O holy Virgin, you have given birth without pain to the Redeemer of us all. O Full of Grace, lift off the heavy burden of my evil desires by your holy intercessions.

*The Irmos of the Triodion is repeated as katavasia.*

## Ode 6

**Irmos** - Tone 2 samopodoben



I am held fast, O Sav - ior, in the depths of sin and



o - ver - whelmed by the sea of life: but, as you have



brought out Jo - nah from the bel - ly of the whale, bring me



out from the pas - sions and save me.

### *Refrain*



Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

The abyss of my sins unceasingly encircles me, and I am drowning beneath the rage of their torrents. Lead me to the harbor of life, O Christ our God, and save me, O King of glory. *Refrain*

I have wasted the treasure of my Father, and now I am ashamed of my poverty. I have become the slave of fruitless thoughts. Therefore, O Lord and Lover of us all, I cry out: Save me, O God of mercy. *Refrain*

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.

*The Irmos of the Triodion is repeated as katavasia.*

*Small Litany, p. 33*

**Kontakion of the Prodigal Son - Tone 3**

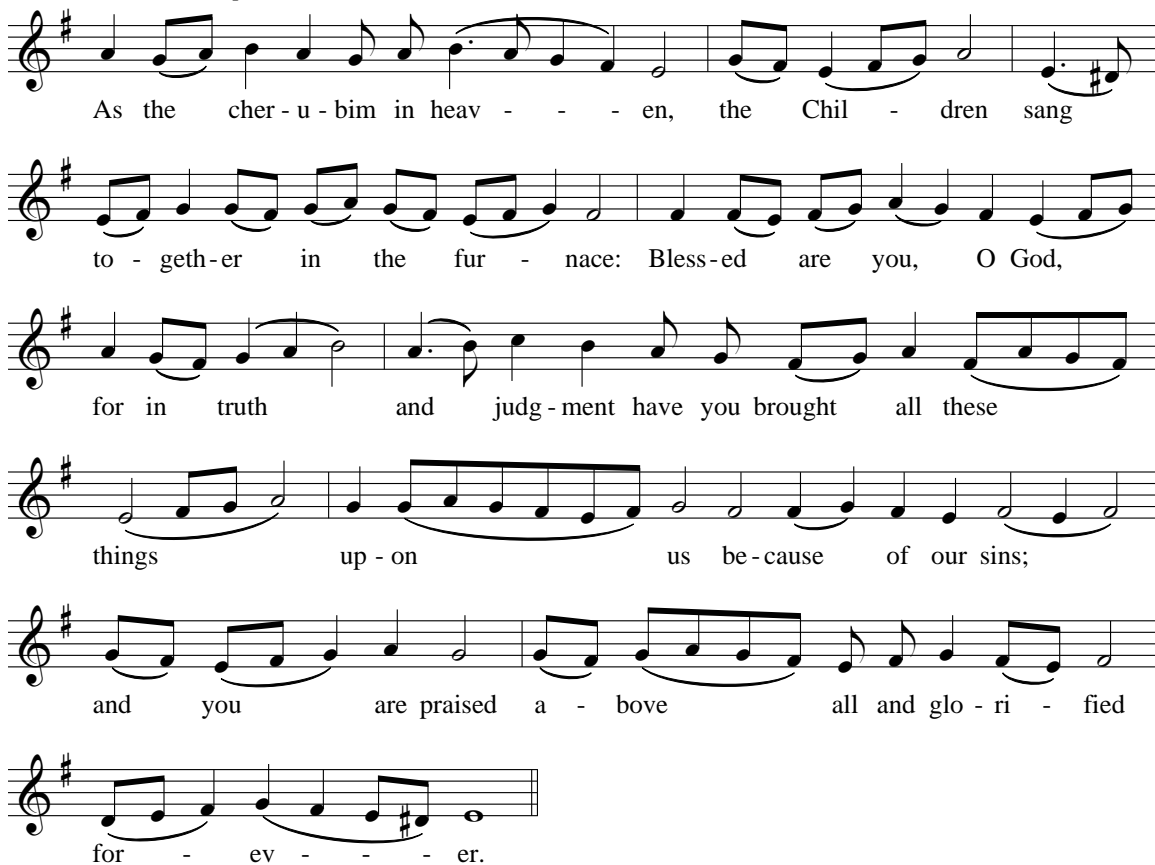
When I fool-ish-ly spurned your fa-ther-ly glo - ry, I squan-dered the  
rich-es you had given me on e - vil deeds. So now I cry out to you with the voice  
of the Prod-i-gal Son: I have sinned a - gainst you, O mer-ci-ful Fa - ther;  
ac - cept my re - pen - tance and treat me as one of your hired serv - ants.

**Ikos** Each day the Savior speaks to us and instructs us with his own voice. Let us listen to what the Scriptures teach us about the Prodigal who became repentant; in faith let us imitate his praiseworthy conversion. In the humility of our hearts, let us say to our God who sees all our secrets: O Father of mercy, we have sinned against you; we are no longer worthy to be called your children. But because of your great love for all of us, receive me, repentant, and make me as one of your hired servants.



## Ode 7

### Irmos - Tone 2 samopodoben



As the cher - u - bim in heav - - - en, the Chil - dren sang  
to - geth-er in the fur - nace: Bless-ed are you, O God,  
for in truth and judg - ment have you brought all these  
things up - on us be - cause of our sins;  
and you are praised a - bove all and glo - ri - fied  
for - - ev - - er.

#### *Refrain*



Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Woefully dominated by sensual pleasures, I have become completely enslaved by my passions. I have separated myself from your love, O Christ; but now as the Prodigal I cry out to you: I have sinned; in your goodness, do not reject me. *Refrain*

I dare not raise my eyes to heaven; O King of all, I confess my sin. I alone have provoked your anger by disobeying your commandments. But I hope in your unique mercy; do not reject me far from your face. *Refrain*

By my fault I have angered you, O Christ, who are so good. Pardon all the sins I have committed, O Lord, by the prayers of your apostles, the prophets, the holy ones, the just ones and the martyrs, so that I may sing your eternal praise.

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.

O Theotokos, whose brightness surpasses the Cherubim, the Seraphim and all the angels of heaven, together with them, entreat the One to whom you gave birth, the Son and Word of God, that we may enjoy eternal blessings.

*The Irmos of the Triodion is repeated as katavasia.*

### Ode 8

**Irmos - Tone 2 samopodoben**

Let us praise him who, in the bush of old, pre - fig - ured the  
mir - - - a - cle of the Vir - gin to Mo - ses on Si - nai;  
let us praise and ex - alt him a - bove all  
for - ev - - - er.

*Refrain*

Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

You came down on earth to save the world, and in your love, you freely chose poverty; behold my poverty in good deeds and in your goodness save me. *Refrain*

Straying from the path of your commandments, I have become the slave of illusion and error; but now I return as once did the Prodigal: Welcome me, O heavenly Father, as I prostrate myself before you. *Refrain*

Led astray by evil thoughts, I am full of darkness and beside myself. I have separated myself far from you. O God of mercy, I prostrate before you: save me.

Let us bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spir-it, Lord.

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

O virginal Theotokos, you raise up fallen spirits; now lift up my heart which is broken and shamed by all sorts of sin.

*In the tone of the irmos that follows it:*

*Tone 2*

Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord, sing - ing and highly ex - alt - ing

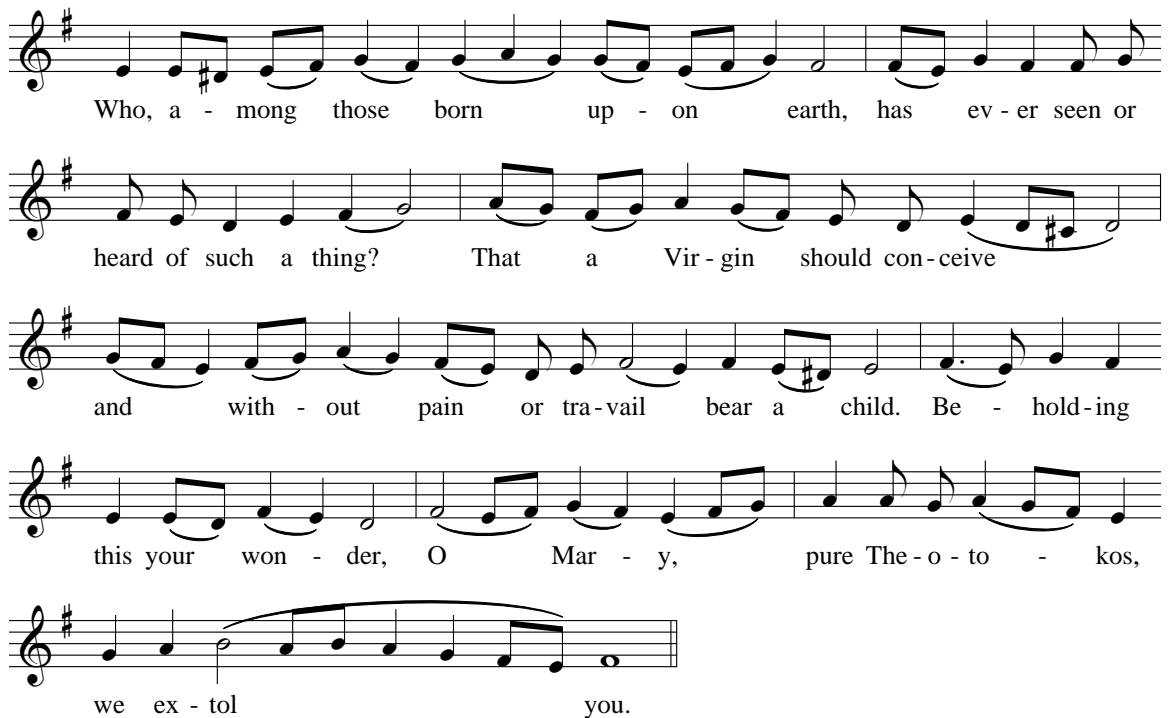
him a - bove all for - ev - er.

*The Irmos of the Triodion is repeated as katavasia.*

*The Canticle of the Theotokos (Magnificat) is found on page 34.*

### Ode 9

**Irmos** - Tone 2 samopodoben



Who, a - mong those born up - on earth, has ev - er seen or  
heard of such a thing? That a Vir - gin should con - ceive  
and with - out pain or tra - vail bear a child. Be - hold - ing  
this your won - der, O Mar - y, pure The - o - to - kos,  
we ex - tol you.

*Refrain*



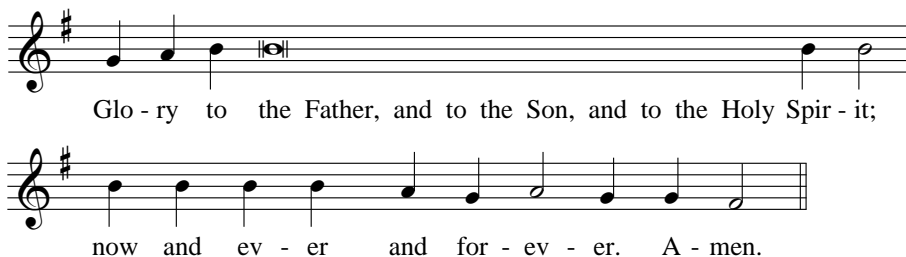
Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

O Christ, befold the affliction of my heart; do not despise my conversion and my tears. Embrace me in your mercy, and add me to the number of your elect, so that in thanksgiving I may praise your love. *Refrain*

As the Thief I cry out: Remember me. As the humble Publican, I strike my breast and implore your mercy. As the Prodigal, deliver me from all iniquity, O God of mercy, so that I may praise the condescension of my King. *Refrain*

Let your sighs be heard, O my soul, and say to Christ: O Lord, you freely chose poverty; behod my poverty in good deeds. Make me rich with virtues because you alone are all good and merciful. *Refrain*

As you once prepared a feast for the Prodigal Son who freely returned to your goodness, now prepare one for my soul. Take me in your arms, the pitiful person that I am, so that I may praise the compassion of my Savior.



By the brightness of your intercession, O Virgin, enlighten the dark eyes of my spirit. Lead me on the paths of repentance, so that I may praise you as is fitting. For you have brought into the world in an ineffable manner the Word of God.

*The Irmos of the Triodion is repeated as katavasia.*

## Hymns of Light

*(a) "Holy is the Lord our God" in the Tone of the Week*

*(b) Hymn of the Light corresponding to the Gospel of the Resurrection*

The treasury of grace that you have given me, O God and Savior, I have wasted in a wretched way. Wickedly I squandered it, living far from you in foolish company. But now I return to you: Accept me, O God of mercy, as you once received the Prodigal, and save me.

*Glory ...*

I squandered your riches, O Lord, and in my misery, I served the perverse demons. But in the tenderness of your heart, O Savior, have mercy on me a prodigal, wash away my sin, and give me the choice robe in your kingdom, O Lord.

*Now and ever...*

O holy Virgin and Theotokos, the glory of apostles, martyrs, prophets and all the saints, pierce the heart of your Son and Lord, in behalf of your servants, when he shall come to judge us and render to all according to their deeds.

## The Psalms of Praise (Psalms 148-150)

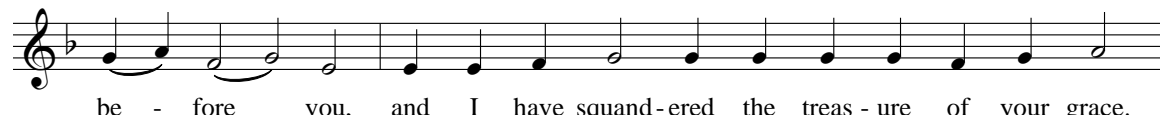
*Psalms of Praise in the Tone of the Week, with recited verses, and five stichera of the Resurrection, beginning "on 6"; then:*

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) O praise him with resounding cymbals,  
(on 1) praise him with clashing of cymbals.  
Let everything that lives and that breathes  
give praise to the Lord.


### Stichera of the Prodigal Son - Tone 2 samohlasen

①

O Lord, I offer you the con-fes-sion of the Prod-i-gal; I have sinned



be-fore you, and I have squand-ered the treas-ure of your grace.




Re-ceive my re-pent-ance, O Sav-ior, and save me.


**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Arise, then, Lord, lift up your hand!  
(on A) O God, do not forget the poor!

Ⓐ Tone 4 samohlasen

As the Prodigal Son I al-so come to you, O God of good-ness, af-ter having



spent my life far from you. O Fa-ther, I wasted the riches that you

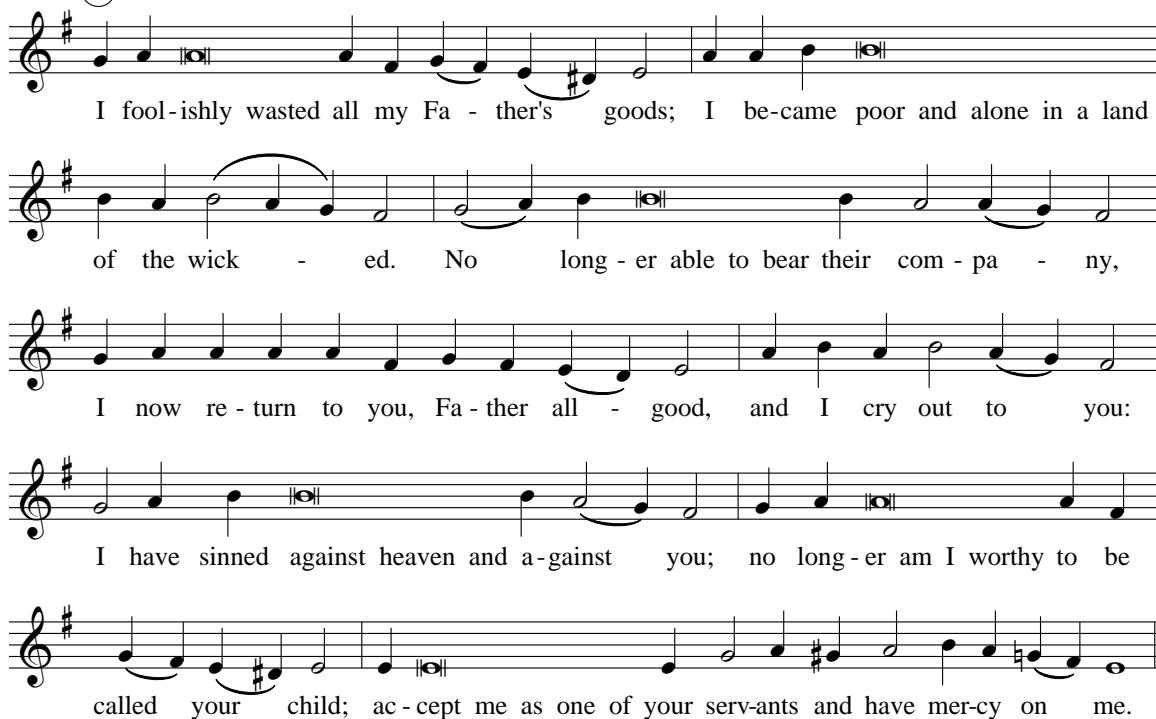


gave me. Re-ceive my repentance, O Lord, and have mer-cy on me.

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;  
(on B) I will recount your wonders

*Tone 8 samohlasen*

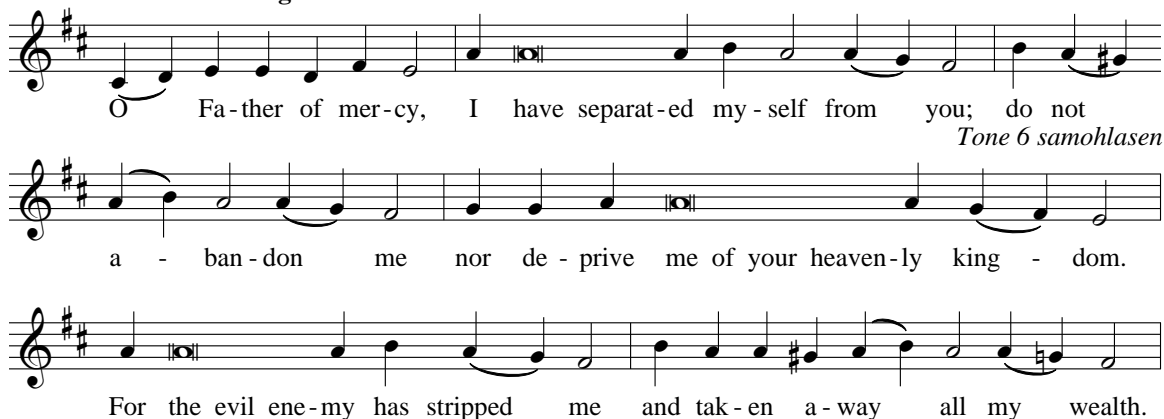
(B)



I fool-ishly wasted all my Fa - ther's goods; I be-came poor and alone in a land  
of the wick - ed. No long - er able to bear their com - pa - ny,  
I now re - turn to you, Fa - ther all - good, and I cry out to you:  
I have sinned against heaven and a-gainst you; no long - er am I worthy to be  
called your child; ac - cept me as one of your serv-ants and have mer-cy on me.

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Glory...

**Doxastikon of the Prodigal Son - Tone 6 samohlasen**



O Fa-ther of mer-cy, I have separat-ed my-self from you; do not  
*Tone 6 samohlasen*  
a - ban - don me nor de - prive me of your heaven-ly king - dom.  
For the evil ene-my has stripped me and tak-en a-way all my wealth.

I have fool-ishly squandered my spirit-ual treas - ure; but now I arise and return to  
 you, say - ing: Ac-cept me as one of your serv - ants, for you are  
 the One who stretches out your hands on the Cross to deliver me from the e - vil  
 mon - ster, and to clothe me once a - gain in my true robe.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Now and ever...

*Theotokion for normal Sundays, p. 40*

*The service continues with the Great Doxology on page 41.*