

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.*

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of  
Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness)  
February 14, 2010**

**The holy apostle Onesimus**, a fugitive slave whom St. Paul the apostle caught and gave birth to in Christ, a son in the faith, as Paul himself wrote to his master Philemon.

*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.

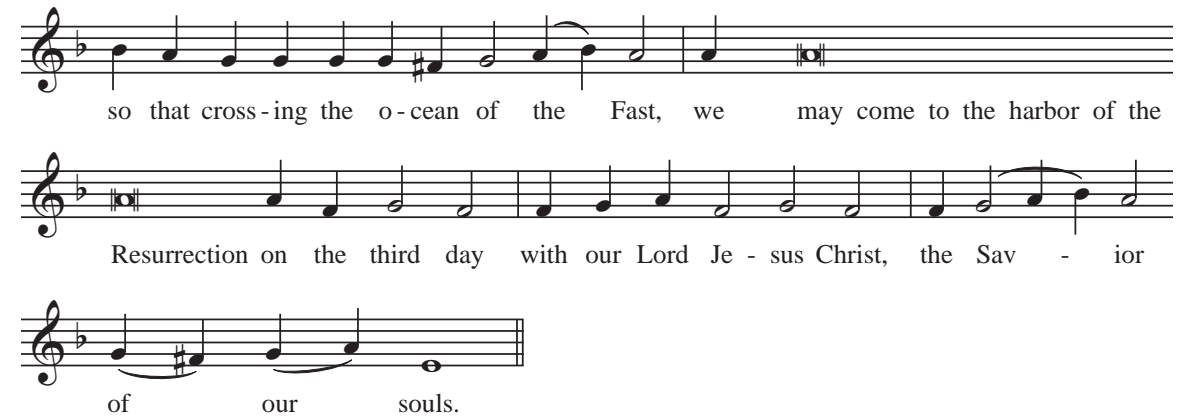
Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set  
while I pursue my way *un*harmed.

**Psalms 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.

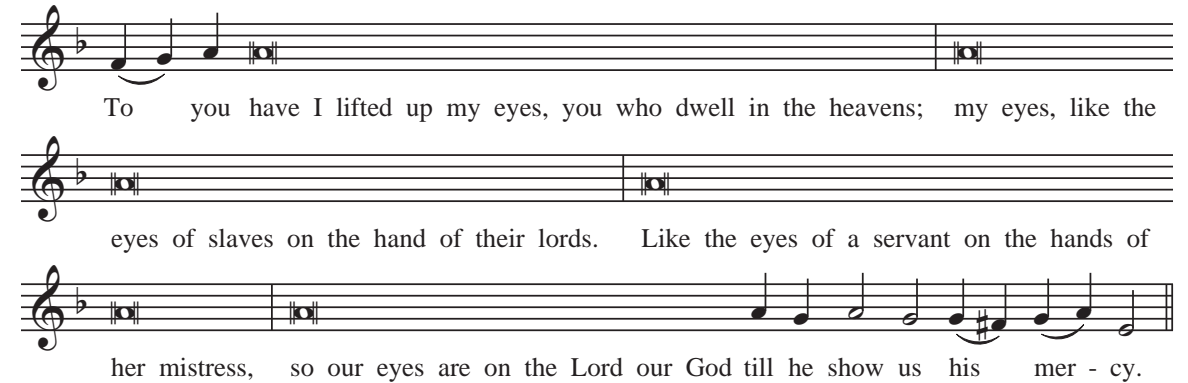
I have no means of escape,  
not one who cares for *my* soul.  
I cry to you, O Lord.  
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."

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.



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.

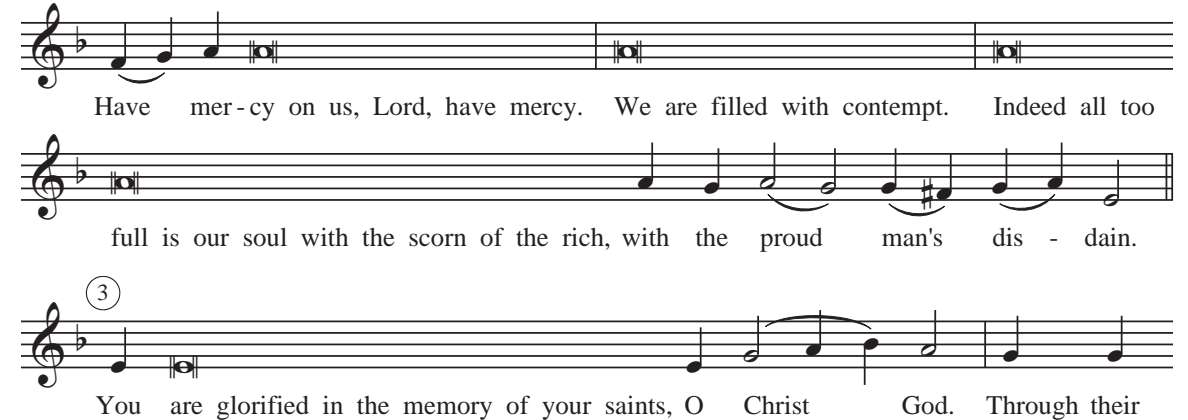
*Cantor*



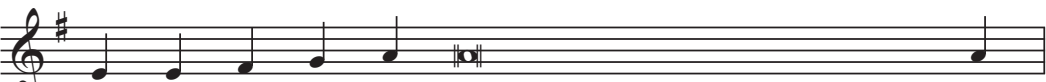

To you have I lifted up my eyes, you who dwell in the heavens; my eyes, like the  
eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. Like the eyes of a servant on the hands of  
her mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God till he show us his mer - cy.

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

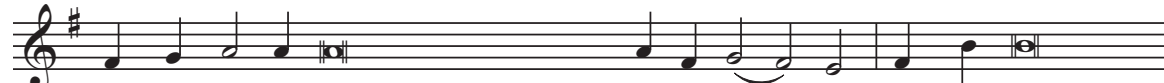
*Cantor*





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

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 1 samohlasen**

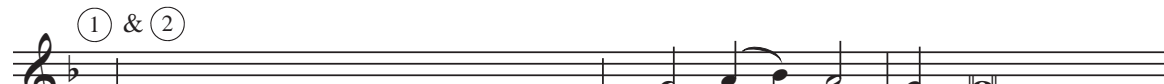
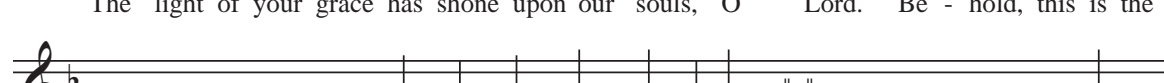
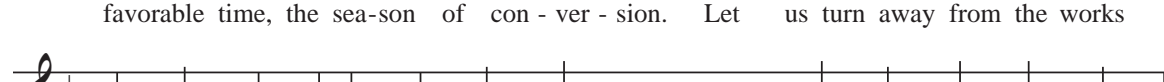


With the staff of your intercession, O pure The-o - to - kos, drive sav - age passions   
   
 from my wretch - ed soul, guide me peace - ful - ly toward life and add me   
   
 to the flock of your chos - en sheep.

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


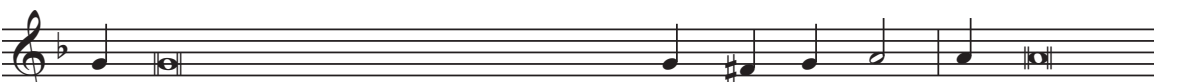


**Aposticha**



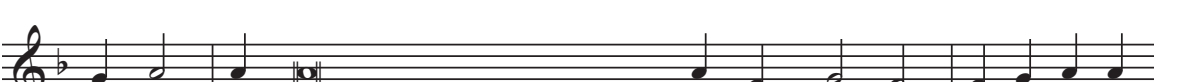
**Aposticha of Cheesefare Sunday - Tone 4 samohlasen**

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,

Cantor:  Tone 4   
 Bring my soul out of this pris-on and then I shall praise your name.

**Stichera of Repentance - Tone 4 samohlasen**

All: ⑩   
   
 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.   
   
 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

child of God by grace, the Ho - ly Spi - rit and faith in Christ.

join - ing the ho - ly and all-praiseworth-y dis - cip - les of Paul, O most

pro - fit - a - ble O - ne - - - si - mus.

*Cantor:* Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith - ful

for - ev - - - er.

① O thrice-bles - sed O - ne - si - mus, you be - came a dis - ci - ple of the Word,

thanks to the most praised Paul, preacher and a - pos - tle. Three times



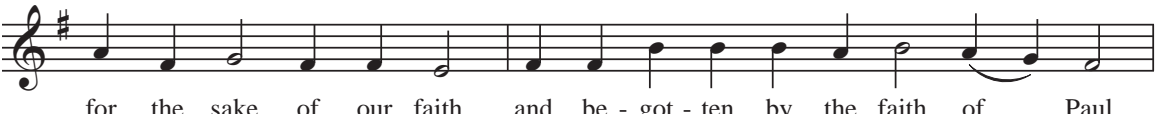

you received a two - fold crown from Christ. You were a - dorned as a priest,



a preacher, and an ath - lete, O praised a pos - - - tle.

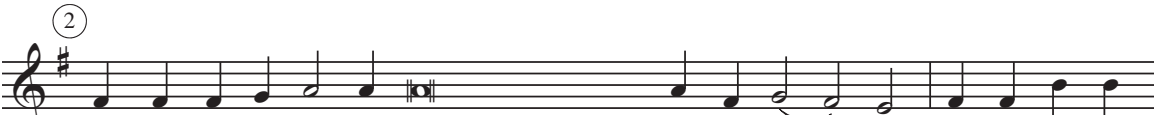
*Tone 1*

*Cantor:*  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 holy apostle Onesimus - *Tone 1 samohlasen***



 <sup>3</sup>  
 To - day, we celebrate with hymns the sa - cred me - mo - ry of the di - vine  
 apostle Onesi-mus, a mar - tyr for God. He was a - dopt - ed by God through grace  
 for the sake of our faith, and be - got - ten by the faith of Paul,  
 let us praise him.

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







 <sup>2</sup>  
 Na - tural - ly es - cap - ing the slavery of decep-tion. O wise one, you be - came a

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

*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***

 <sup>6</sup>  
 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:* 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:* 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 o - ver

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.