

Aposticha theotokion - Tone 8 samohlasen

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  
First Sunday of the Great Fast  
February 26, 2012

Our venerable father and confessor Procopius the Decapolite, who, at the time of emperor Leo III Isaurus [c.680-740] vigorously contended for the cult of holy Images. (741)

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.

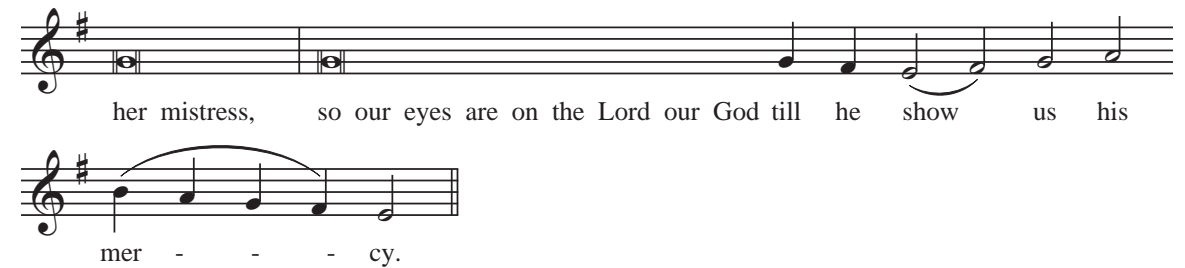
#### Psalm 141

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.

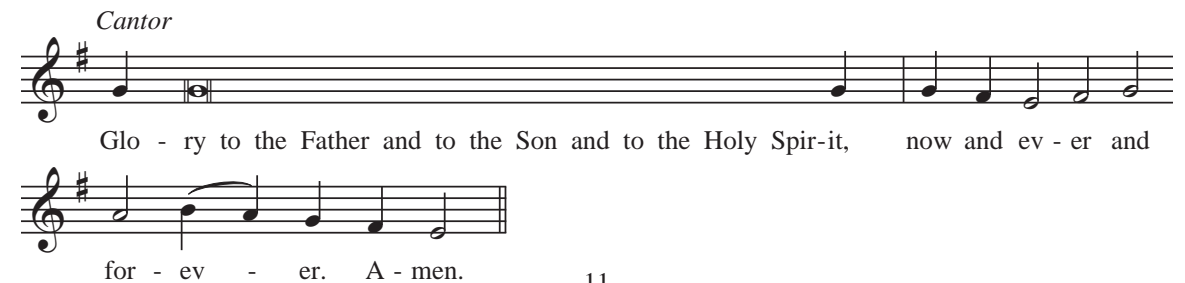
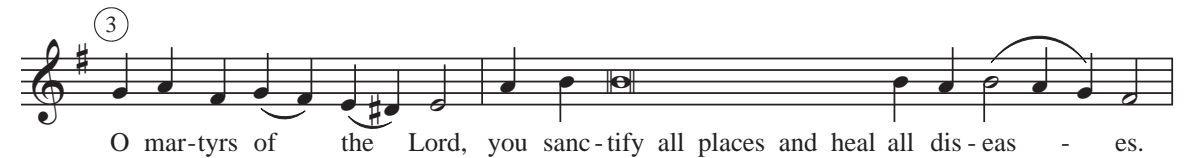
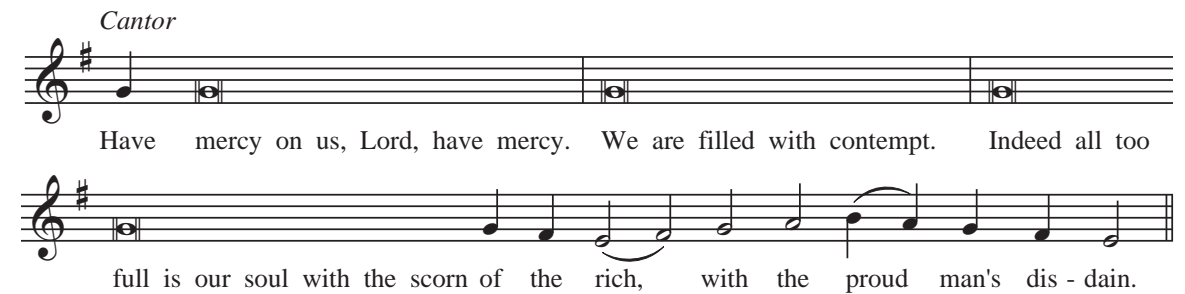
But you, O Lord, know my path.  
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *en*trap me.  
Look on my right and see:  
there is no one who takes *my* part.

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.



*All repeat, "Come, let us purify ourselves..."*



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

Aposticha

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

Tone 8 samohlasen

① & ②

Come, let us purify our-selves by shar-ing with the poor, not sound-ing the trumpet  
for our giv-ing of alms, nor dis-play-ing our good deeds. May our  
left hand know not what our right hand does, lest vain-glo-ry rob us  
of our fruit! But in se-cret, let us say to him who knows all things.  
For-give us our tres-pass-es, Fa-ther, in your good-ness  
for man-kind.

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 in the tone of the week - Tone 4 samohlasen

⑩

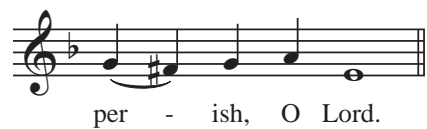
With my tears I desire to wash away the mark of my sins, O Lord, and through  
pen-ance, I long to make the rest of my life pleas-ing to you; but the enemy  
deceives me and struggles with my soul. Save me before I com-plete-ly  
per-ish, O Lord.

Cantor:

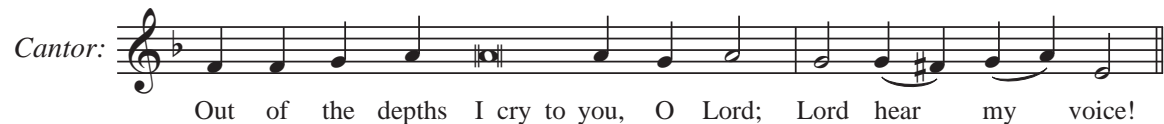
A-round me the just will assem-ble be-cause of your good-ness to me.

⑨

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.



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



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.



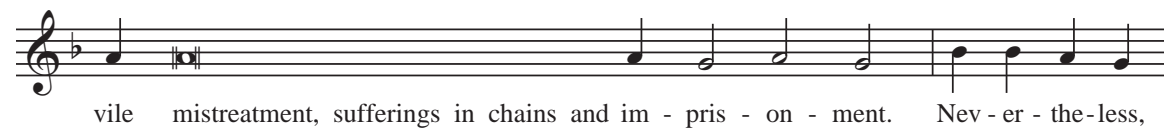
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my plead - ing.



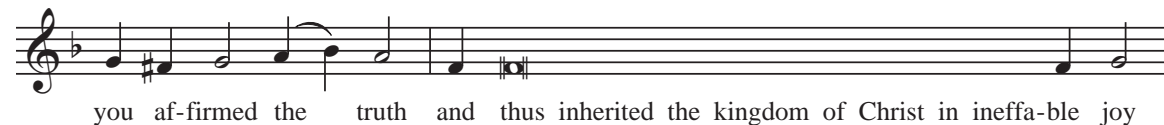
I am the lost sheep of your mys - ti - cal flock, and I take refuge in you, O



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



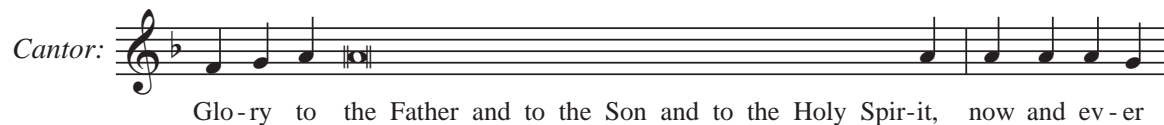
vile mistreatment, sufferings in chains and im - pris - on - ment. Nev - er - the-less,



you af - firmed the truth and thus inherited the kingdom of Christ in ineffa - ble joy



and e - ter - nal de - light.

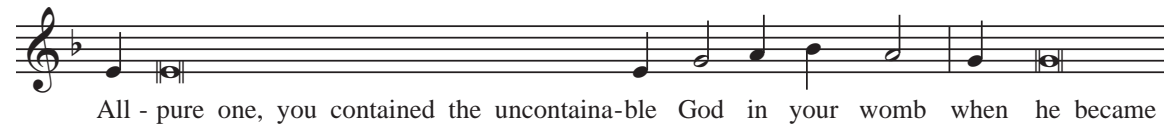


Glo - ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it, now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

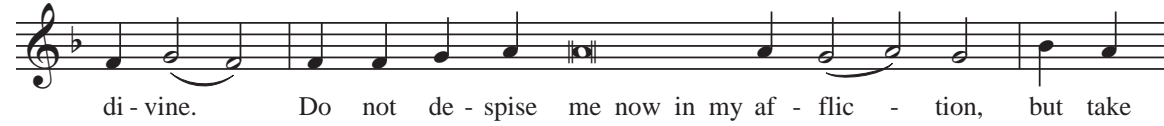
#### Theotokion - Tone 4 samohlasen



All - pure one, you contained the uncontain - a - ble God in your womb when he became



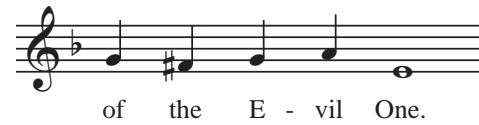
one of us in his love for man - kind, tak - ing our nature from you and making it



di - vine. Do not de - spise me now in my af - flic - tion, but take




pit - y on me and quick - ly de - liv - er me from all the mal - ice and harm

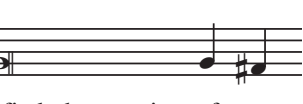


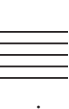
of the E - vil One.

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

  
You joined the confes-sion of the faith to the asceticism which you had first set out

  
to prac-tice, O Pro-co - pi - us. In both, you were well-pleasing to the Cre - a - tor,

  
who seeks no - bil - ity of soul in all of us. You glo - rified the coming of our

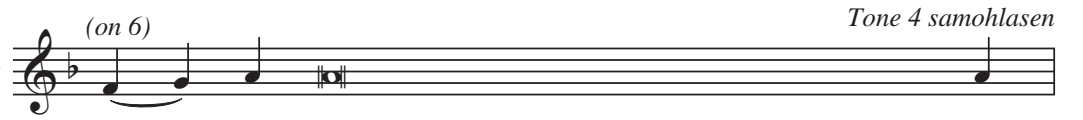
  
God in the flesh by bowing down before his sac-red i - con, which represents him in


  
his hu - man con - di - - - tion.

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

  
O venerable father Pro-co - pi - us, by opposing the impious who rendered

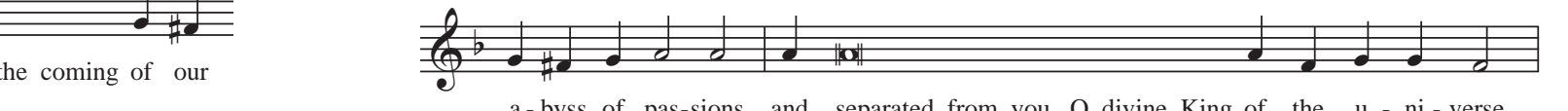
  
the in-car-na-tion vain, you had to endure the tor-ture of scour-ging, all types of

*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 First Sunday of the Great Fast - Tone 4 samohlasen**


  
Grant contrition and estrangement from e - vil to my soul submerged in the

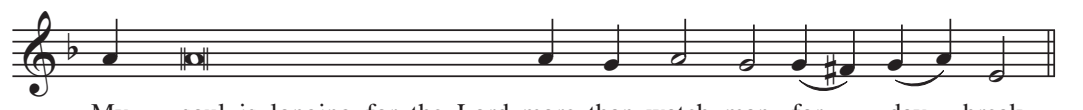
  
a-byss of pas-sions and separated from you, O divine King of the u - ni - verse.

  
I have no oth - er hope but you. May I find up-right-ness and vir - tue.

  
Save me, a poor sinner, in your im-mense good - ness, O al-might - y Lord

  
and Sav - ior of us all.

*Cantor:*   
My soul is wait - ing for the Lord. I count on his word.

  
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watch-man for day - break.

⑤

Mo - ses the divine prophet was purified by fast - ing, and he contemplated the One

whom he de - sired. And you, O my poor soul, hasten to im-i - tate him.

In this time of abstinence purify yourself of ev-'ry e - vil, so that you may also

con-tem-plate the Lord who grants you for-give-ness. He is good and the Lov-er

of us all, the Lord al - might - y.

*Tone 6 samohlasen*

*(on 4)*

Cantor:

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

④

Let us be-gin this second week of the Fast in joy; O faithful, let us exert our-selves

from day to day as did the prophet E-li - jah the Tish - bite. May the

four cardinal virtues be our char-iot of fire! Let us lift our spirit by turning a-way

from pas - sions, and through pur - ity, let us strug - gle a - gainst the flesh,

so that we may resist and con - - - quer the En - e - my.

*Tone 4 samohlasen*

Cantor:

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 our venerable father Procopius the Decapolite** - *Tone 4 samohlasen*

③

By virtue of cre - a - tion, you were made in the image and like - ness of God,

O blessed fa-ther Pro-co - pi - us. You made e - very effort to preserve the dignity of

the i - mage by your pi - ety, the pu-ri - ty of your soul, chas - tity,

temperance in restrain-ing the pas - sions, per - se - ver - ence in the true faith,

and the manner in which you ob - served the pre - cepts of Christ.