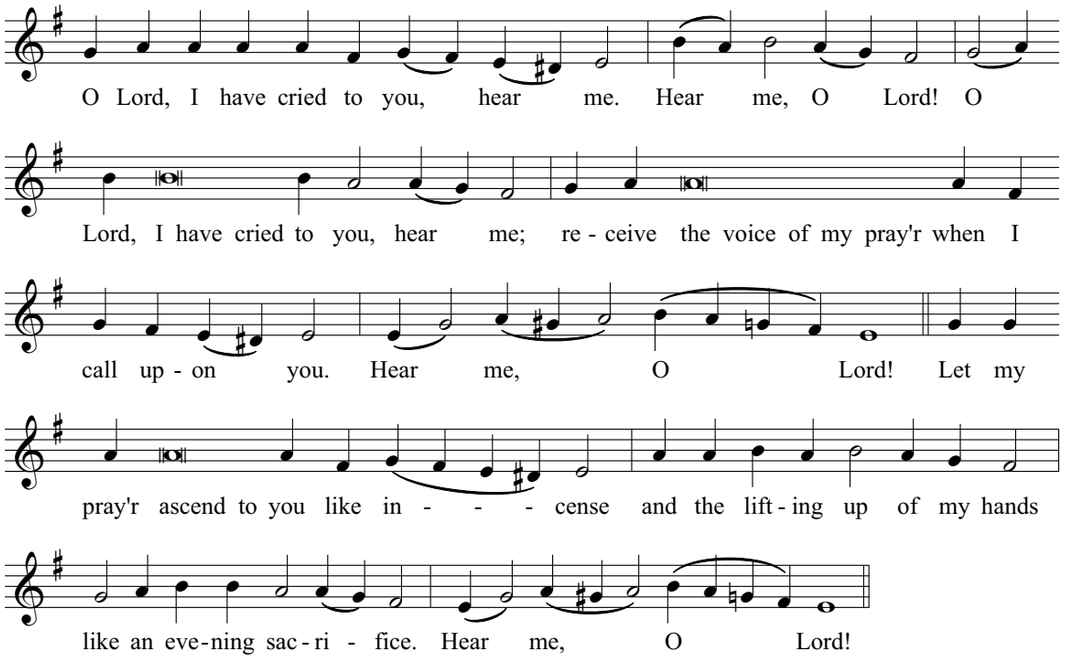
Propers for the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Friday in the Sixth Week of the Great Fast
(Eve of Lazarus Saturday)
April 3, 2009

The reading from Genesis retells the death of the patriarch Jacob, and his burial in the land of Canaan, and the return of the children of Israel to Egypt to survive the famine.

The reading from Proverbs describes the wonderful characteristics of the worthy wife. This hymn of praise is sung on Sabbath eve in traditional Jewish households, the husband singing to his listening wife.

The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140 *Tone 8*



O Lord, set a guard before my mouth
and set a seal on the door of ***my*** lips.

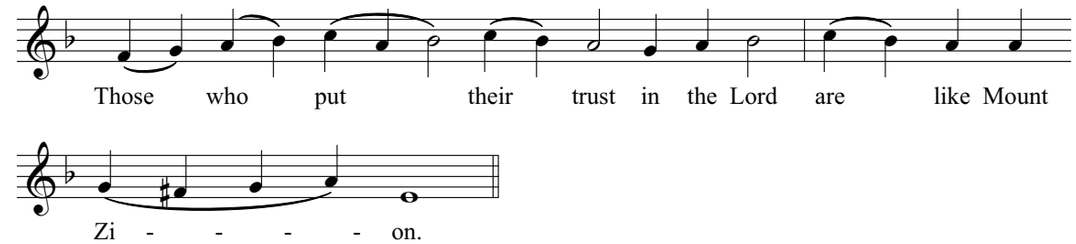
Let not my heart be inclined to evil,
nor make excuse for the sins I ***com***mit.

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.

Prokeimenon 2 - *Tone 4* (Psalm 124: 1ab,1bc)



Verse: That cannot be shaken, that stands forever.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words. All make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 31:8-31]

Celebrant: Peace ✠ be to you, reader.

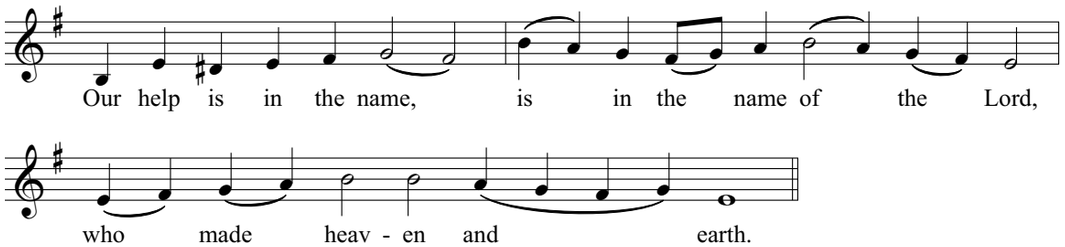
The service continues with the solemn evening psalm ("Let my prayer ascend") .

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace ✠ be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon 1 - *Tone 6* (Psalm 123: 6, 1)



Verse: "If the Lord had not been on our side," this is Israel's song.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 49:33 - 50:26]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.

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 ***with***in 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.

Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise ***your*** name.

Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness ***to*** me.

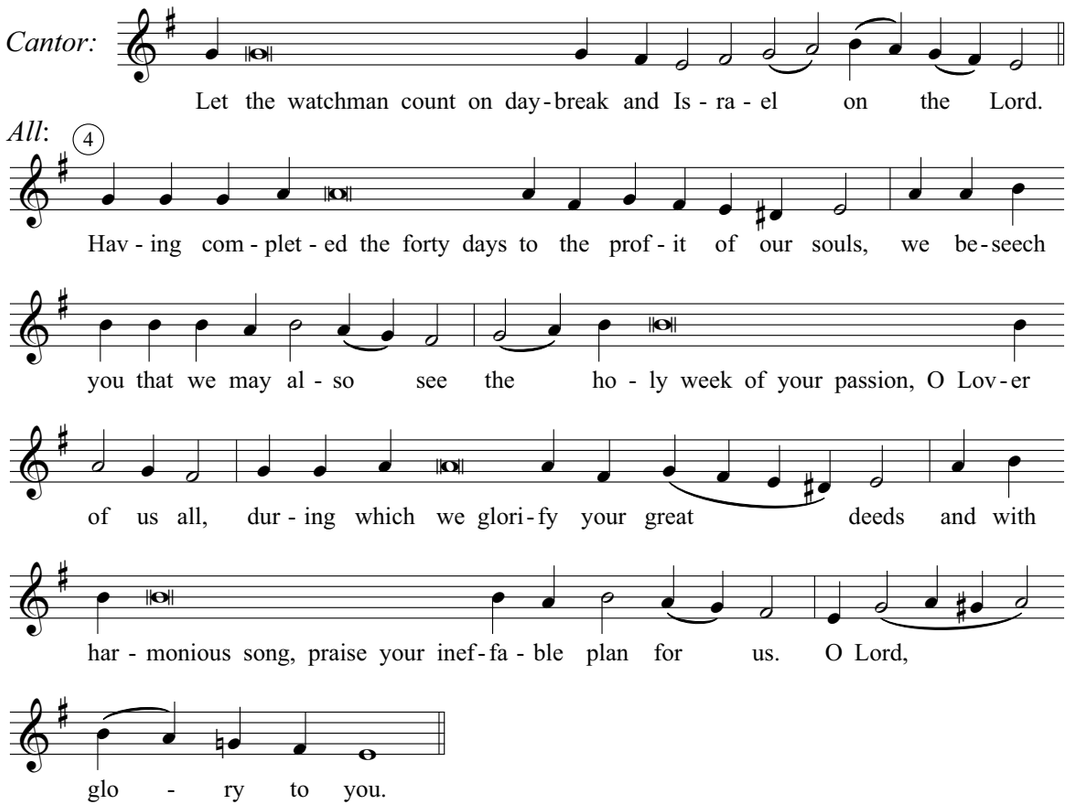
Psalm 129 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear ***my*** voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of ***my*** pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand?
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we ***re***vere you.

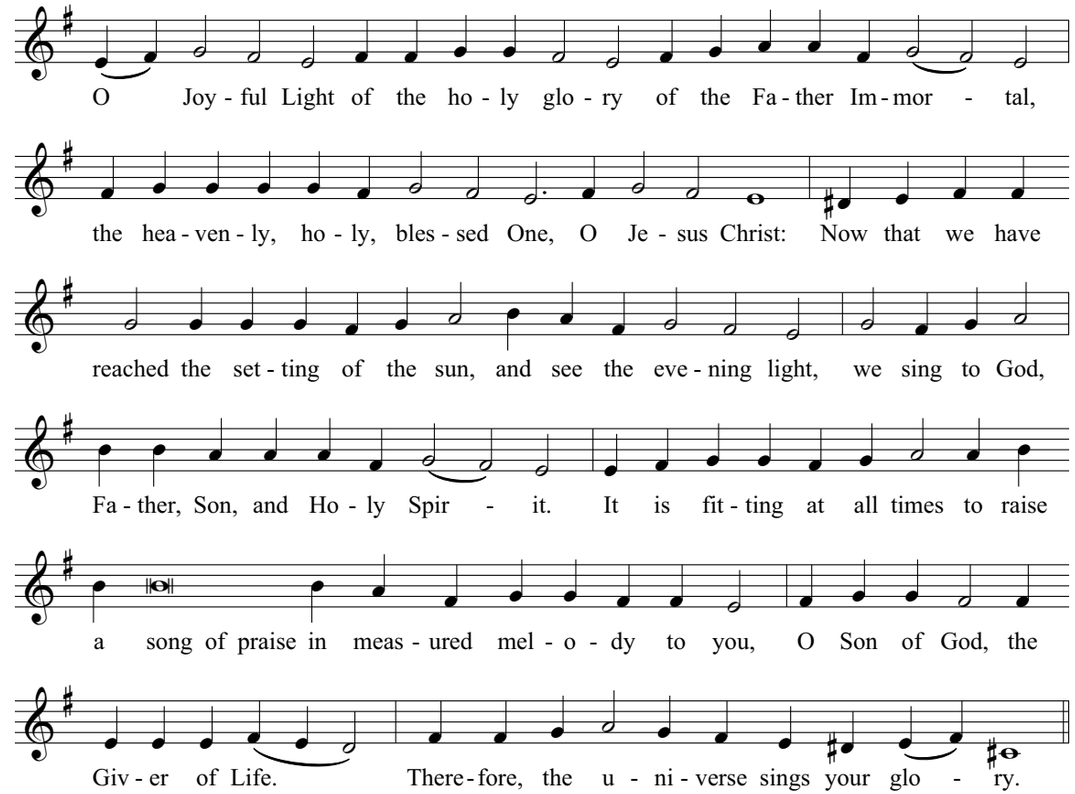
My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman ***for*** daybreak.

Tone 8



Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as "O Joyful Light" is sung.
The sanctuary and the faithful are incensed.



All:

Hav - ing com - plet - ed the forty days to the prof - it of our souls, let us

ex - claim: Rejoice, town of Bethany, home of Laz - a - rus. Re - joice,

Mar - tha and Mary, his sis - ters. To - mor - row Christ will arrive to give

life by his word to your broth - er who has died. Hear - ing his

voice, bitter and insatiable Hades will trem - ble and, with a heavy sigh, will

re - lease Laz - a - rus. The crowd, amazed to see him bound in his shroud

will come out to meet Christ with branch - es and palms. The chil - dren will see

and proclaim the one their par - ents will de - nounce. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord, the King of Is - ra - el.

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.

All: (3)

O Lord, you desired to see the grave of Laz - a - rus, for you were about to

occupy a grave by your own choice. Where have you placed him, you asked,

as if to learn what you al - read - y knew. You cried out to your friend: Laz - a - rus

come forth; and he who had breathed his last o-beyed you who gave him breath,

the Sav - - - ior of our souls.

Cantor:

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

All: (2)

O Lord, on the fourth day you came to the tomb of Laz - a - rus, and shed tears

up - on the grave of your friend. You raised him up although he was four days

dead, O Wheat of Life. Death was bound by your voice, and the grave

clothes were loosed by your hands. Then the com - pany of your dis - ci - ples was filled

with joy, and with one voice they wor - shiped you: Bless - ed are you; O

Sav - ior, have mer - cy on us.

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

All: (1)

O Lord, you desired to strengthen your dis - ci - ples' faith in your resur - rec - tion

from the dead, and so you arrived at the tomb of Laz - a - rus

and called him forth. Ha - des was de - spoiled and set him free. Laz - arus, four

days dead, cried out to you: O Bless - ed Lord, glo - ry to you.

The faithful STAND.

Tone 8

Cantor: Glo - ry to the Father and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

All:

O Sav - ior, stand - ing at the tomb, you called to the dead Laz - a - rus;

you raised him up as if from sleep. He shook off corruption in the spirit of

in - cor - rup - tion and, at your word, came forth still bound in his shroud.

You can do everything, and all o - bey you; ev - 'ry - thing is subject to you, O

Lov - er of us all. O our Sav - - ior, glo - ry to you.

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