

in - ter - ces - sions, send up - on us great mer - cy.

*Cantor:*

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.

**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 10, 2013**

**The holy martyr Blaise, bishop of Sebaste**, who suffered martyrdom at Sebaste in the power-struggle between Licinius and the Emperor Constantine. (316)

*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.

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 has shown upon our souls..."*

*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.

You are glorified in the memory of your saints, O Christ God. Through their

**Theotokion** - *Tone 4 samohlasen*

O Most Im-mac-u-late One, wheth-er I sail on the sea, travel on land, or rest at home,  
 give me grace and keep my mind a - lert. En - a - ble me to do God's will,  
 so that be-cause of the sins of my life, I will find myself hastening under  
 your pro - tec - tion on the day of judg - ment.

*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

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.

*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

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

Now you dwell in the heav-ens, all - ho - ly one.

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

for - ev - - - er.

①   
With the drops of your blood, mar - tyr Blaise, you wove a beau - ti - ful robe

for the church. Em - broid - ered by your well-a-noint - ed fin - gers

and dyed with your man-i-fold suf - fer - ings, she wears it as a beau-ti - ful bride,

sing - ing hymns to Christ the bride - groom!

*Tone 4 samohlasen*

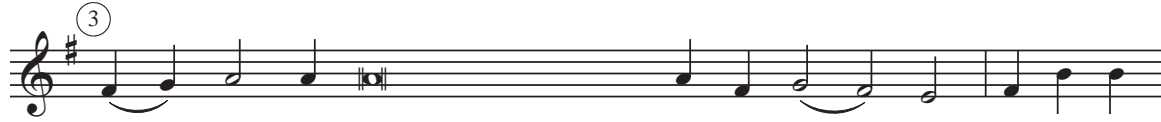
*Cantor:*   
Glo-ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir-it, now and ev-er

and for - ev - er. A - men.



Is - ra - el indeed he will re-deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

**Stichera of the Bishop-Martyr Blaise - Tone 1 samohlasen**



The height of the virtues and foundation of the faith - ful, the glo - ry



of bishops and boast of the mar - tyrs sum - mons all the faithful to his holy



memori-al with splen - dor that they may sing to him as a vic - tor who



glo - ri - fied God on earth!



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



You were moved by a vis - ion of Christ, the an - gel of great coun - sel,



as you be - held the evil assembly, wise mar - tyr. You went at once to



the tri - bu - nal. You took the trophies of vic - to - ry in your hand!



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 podobn: Jehda ot dreva**



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: *(on 5)*

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.

Cantor: *Tone 1 samohlasen*

Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp - tion,