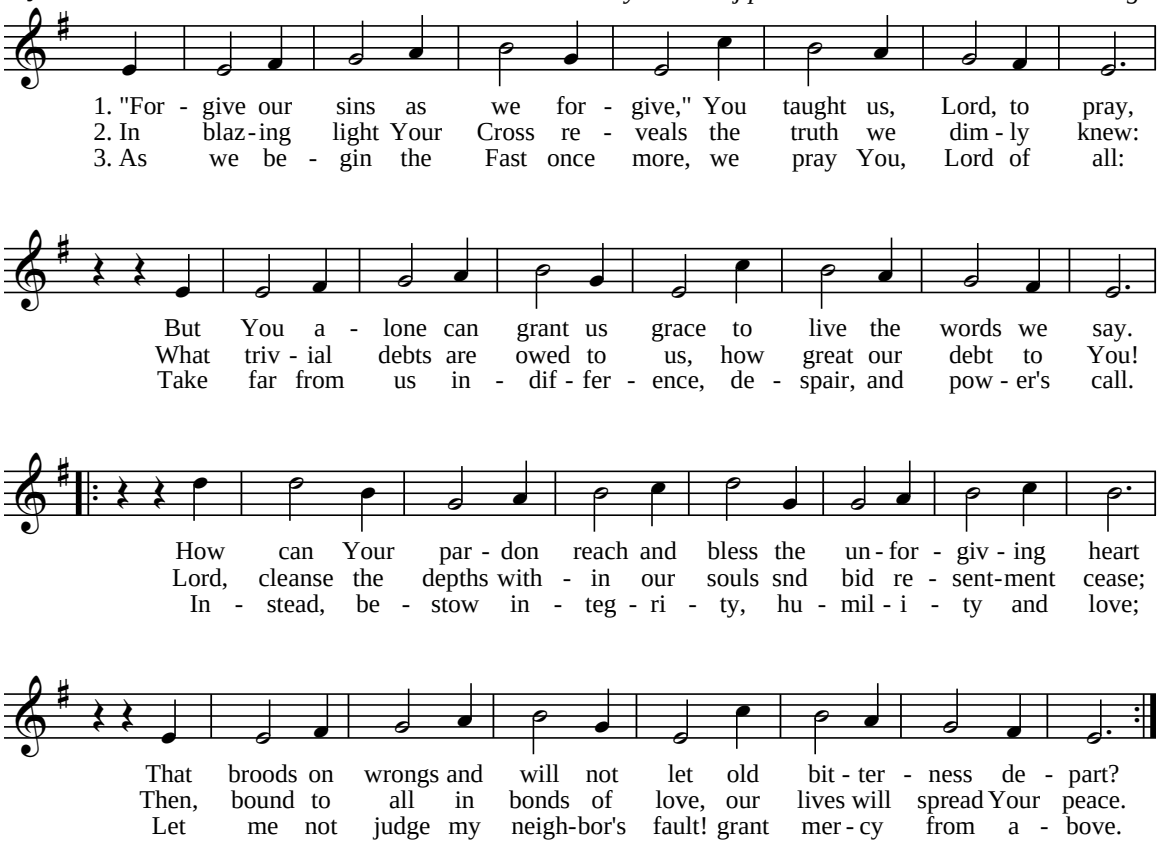
Vespers Propers on the Afternoon of
Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness)
February 22, 2009

The holy martyr Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna who is honored as a disciple of blessed John and the final witness of the apostolic age. Under the emperors Marcus Antoninus and Lucius Aurelius Commodus, about the age of 90, he was given over to the flames in the amphitheater at Smyrna in Asia. Before the proconsul and the whole people, he gave thanks to God the Father because he had been deemed worthy to be numbered among the martyrs and to receive a portion from the cup of Christ. (c.155)

All page references are to ***The Order of Vespers for the Sunday of Forgiveness*** *(Cheesefare Sunday), revised 2007*

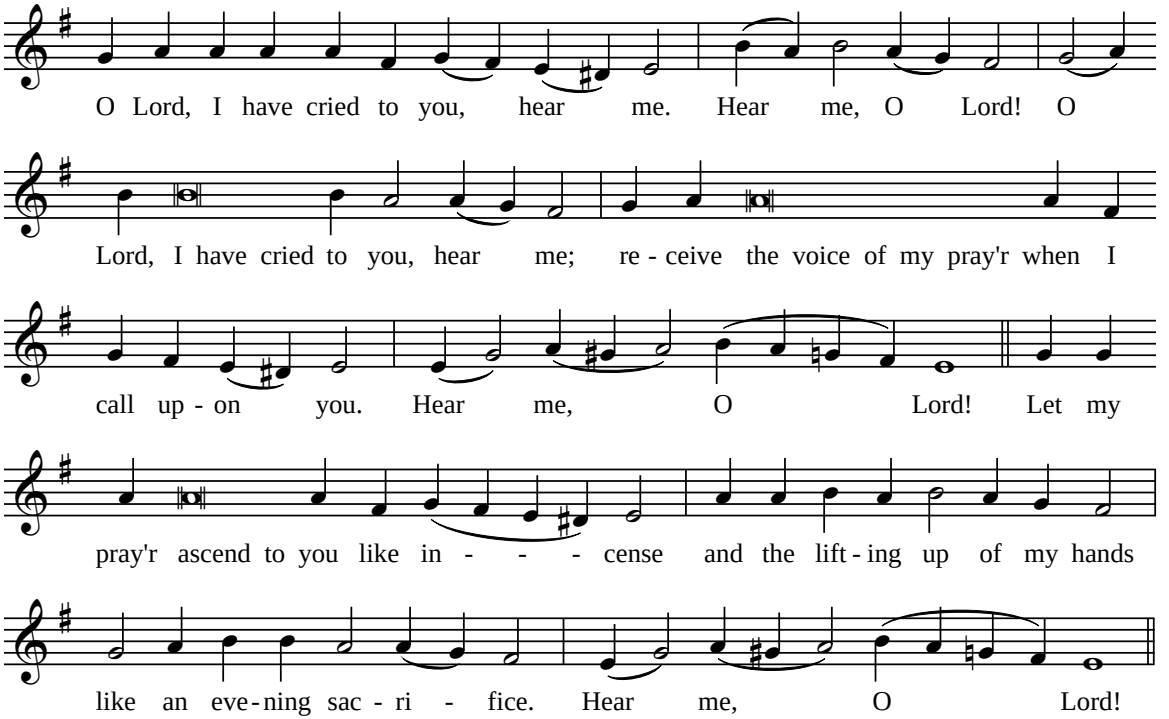
Hymn *melody: Pod tvoj pokrov/We Hasten to Your Patronage*



stanzas one and two: Rosamund Herklots, b. 1905; © Oxford University Press
stanza three: J. Michael Thompson

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 excuses for 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.

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.
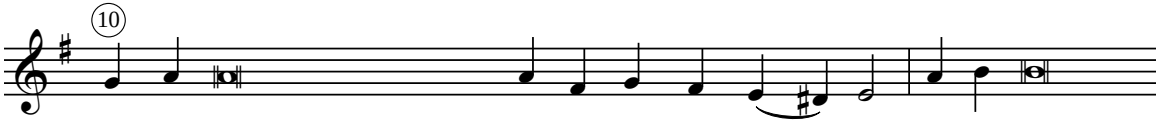
I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of ***the*** living."
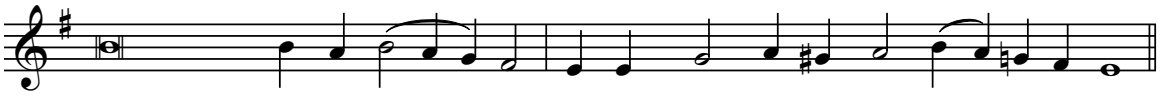
Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths of ***dis***tress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger ***than*** I.
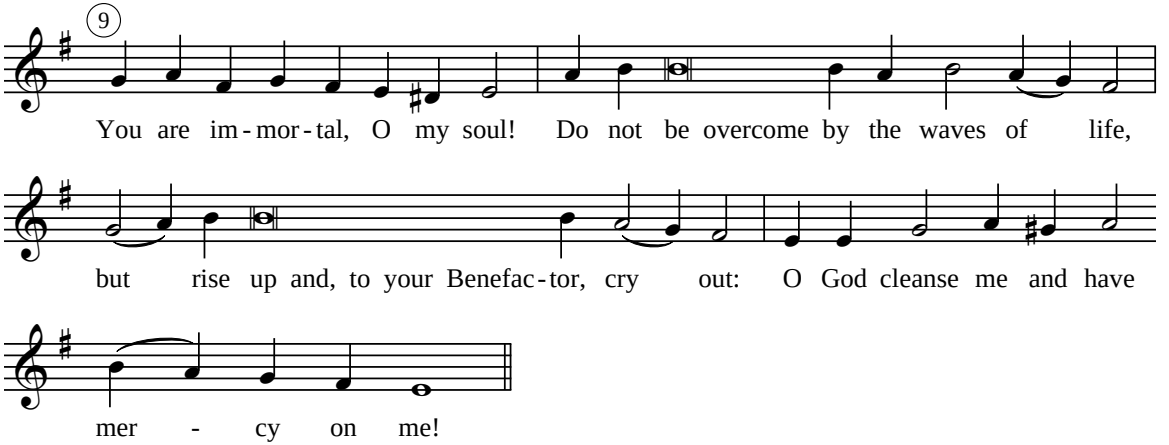
Cantor: Bring my soul out of this prison
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.

Penitential Stichera - *Tone 8*

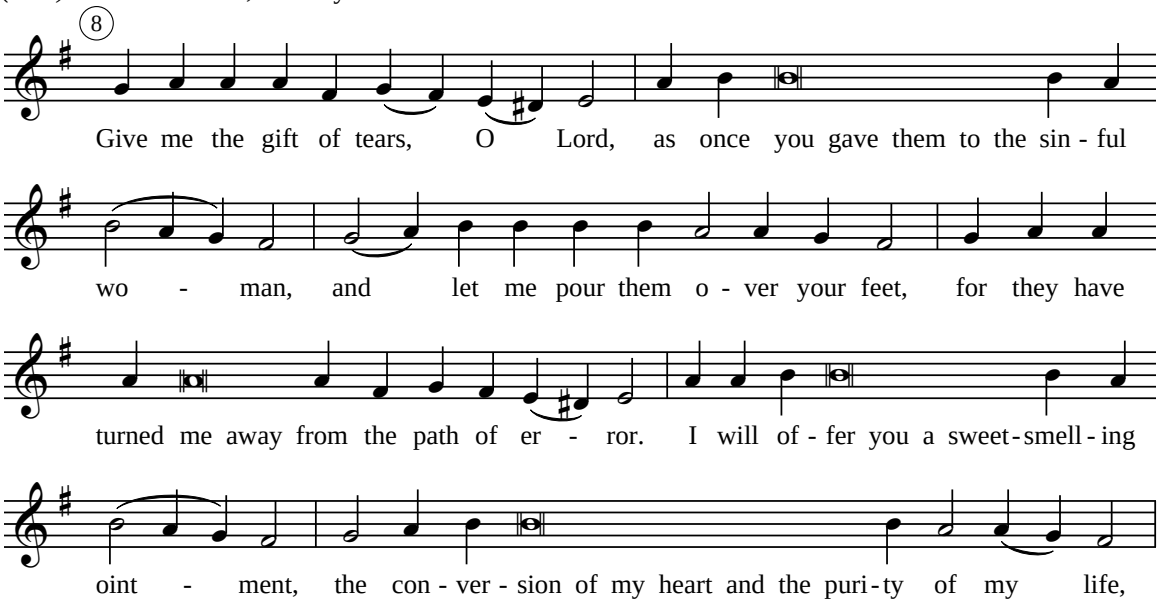


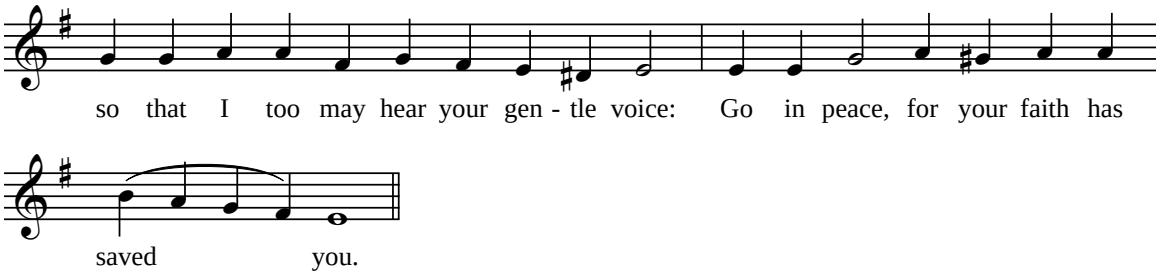


Cantor: Around me the just will assemble
(on 9) because of your goodness to me.

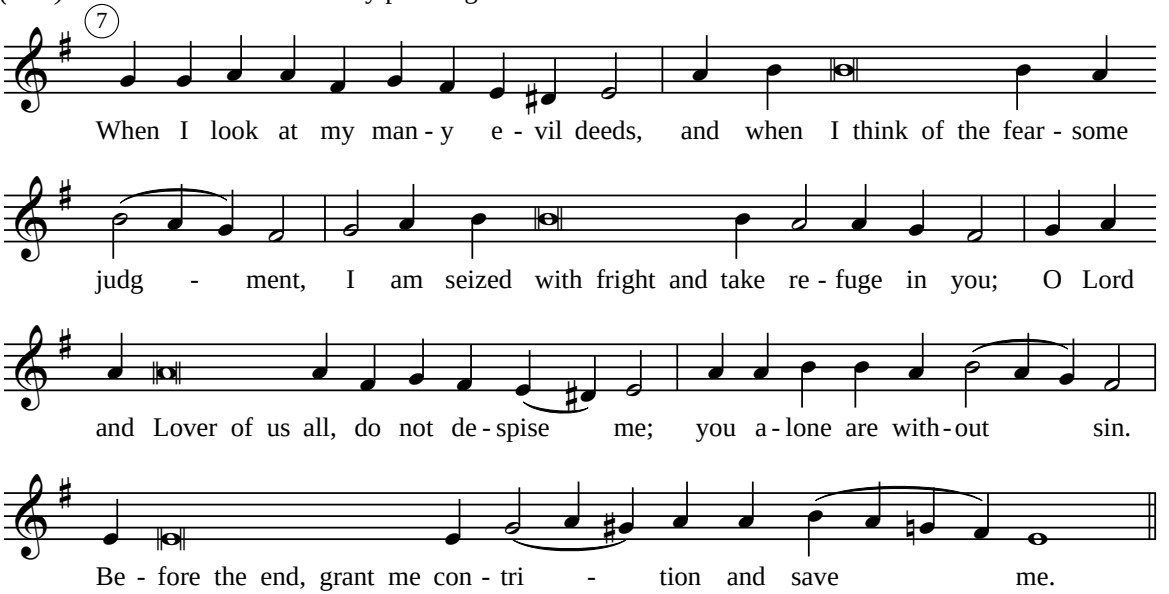


Cantor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!



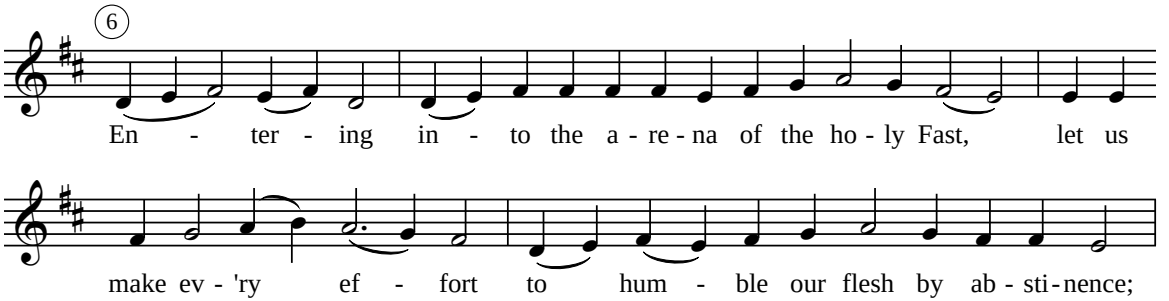


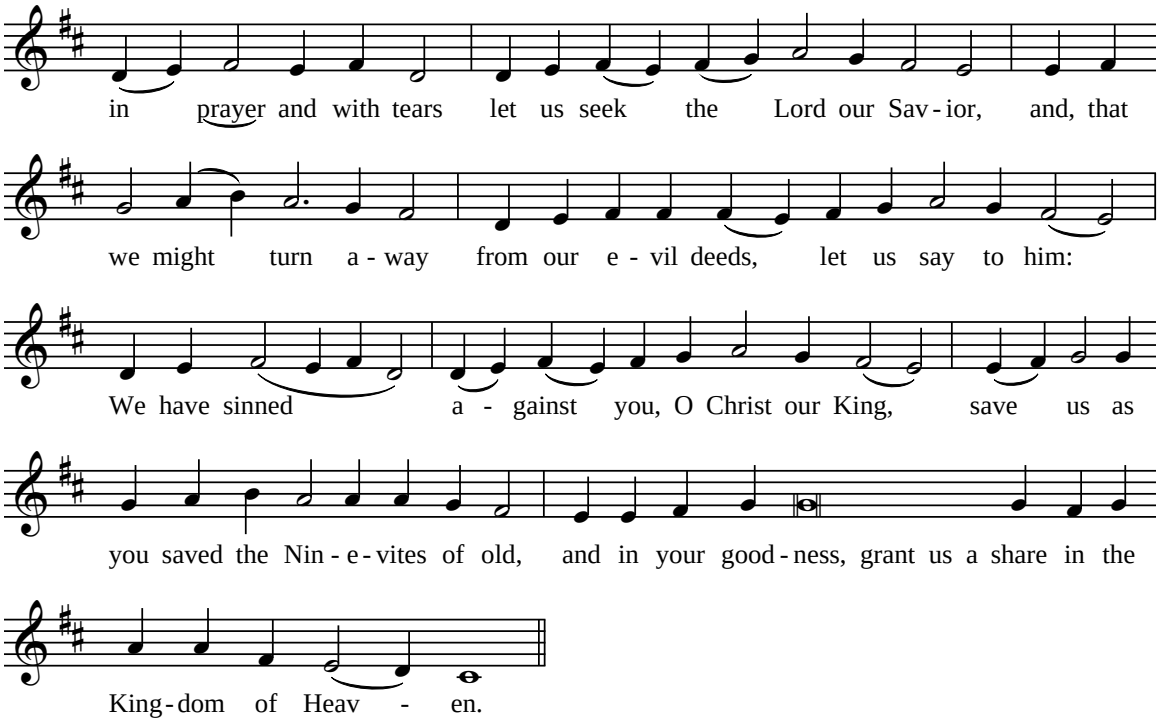
Cantor: Let your ears be attentive
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.



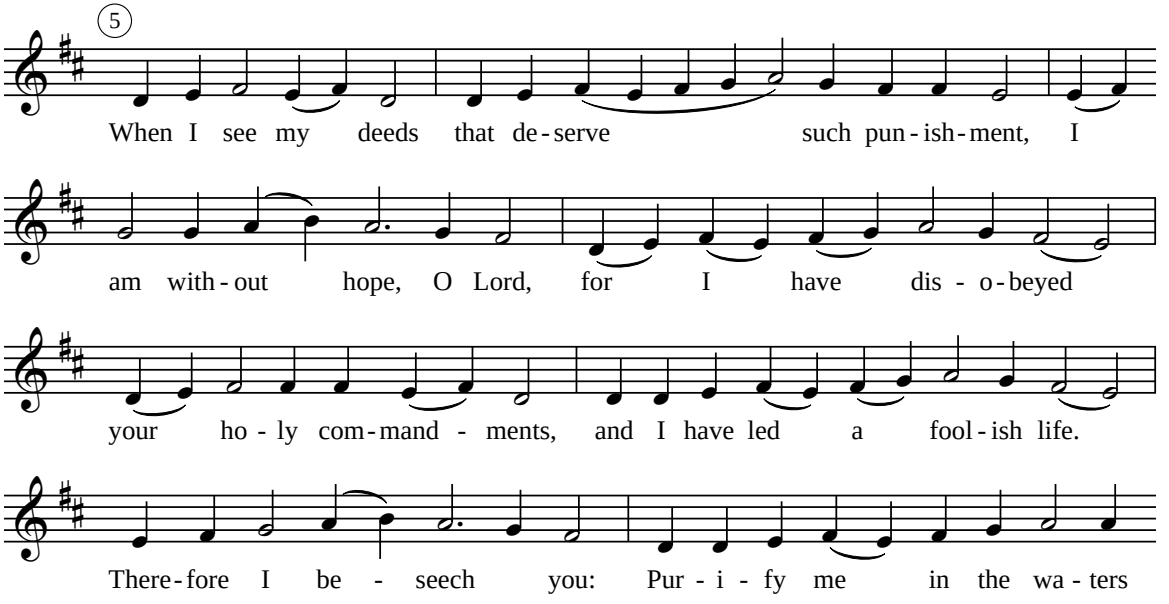
Cantor: *(Tone 2)* If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

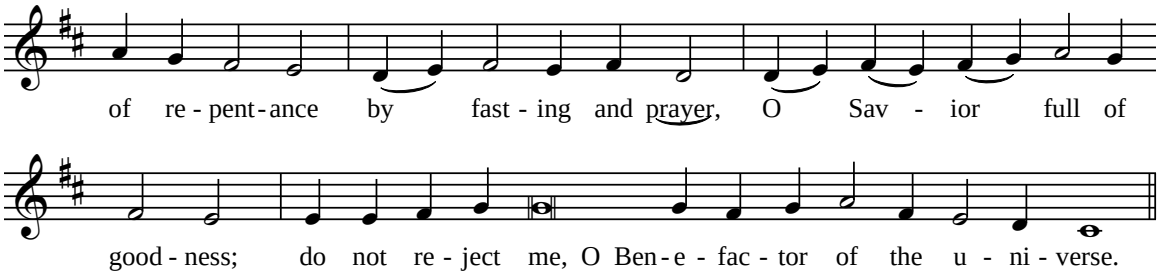
Stichera of Cheesefare Sunday - *Tone 2 podoben: Jehda ot dreva*
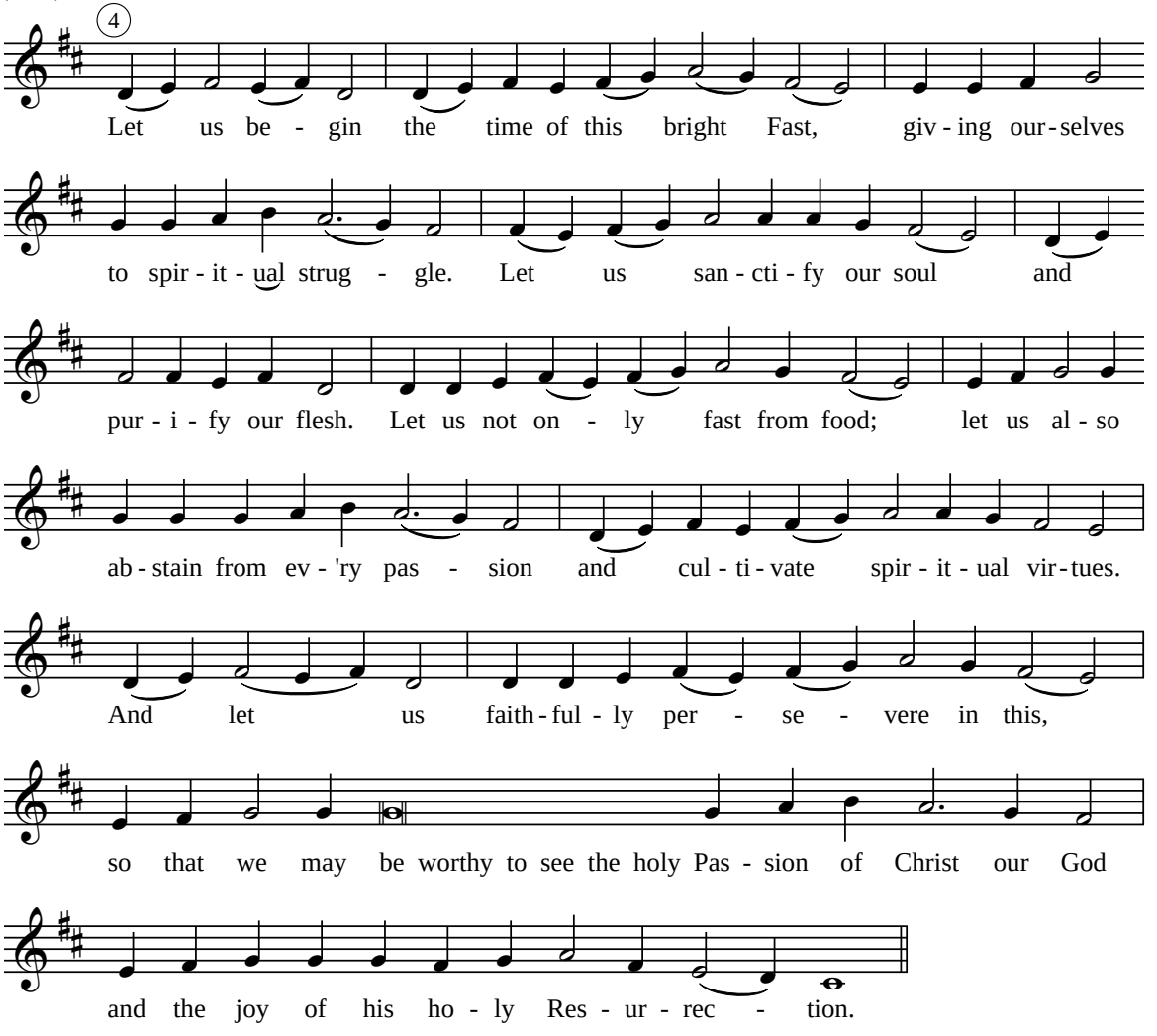




Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is waiting for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.



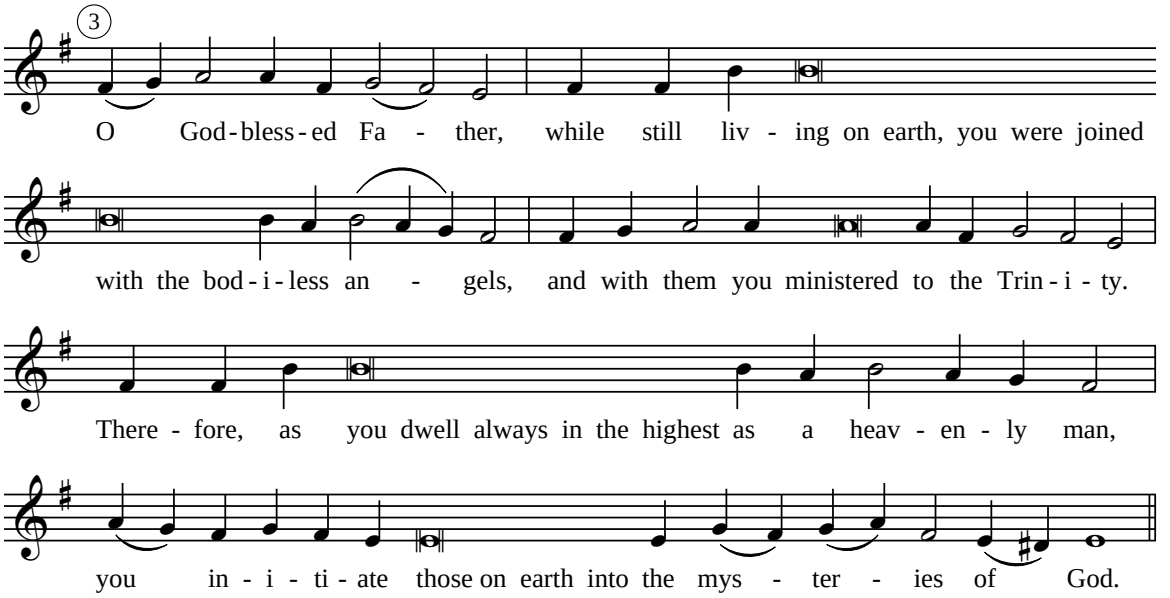


Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

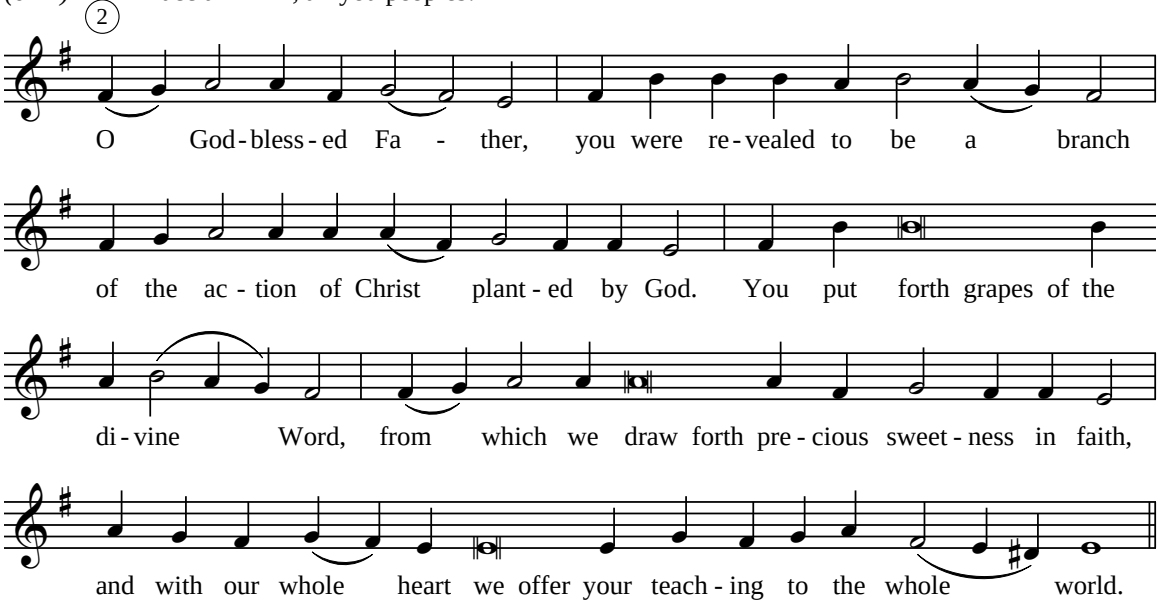


Cantor: *(Tone 1)* Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

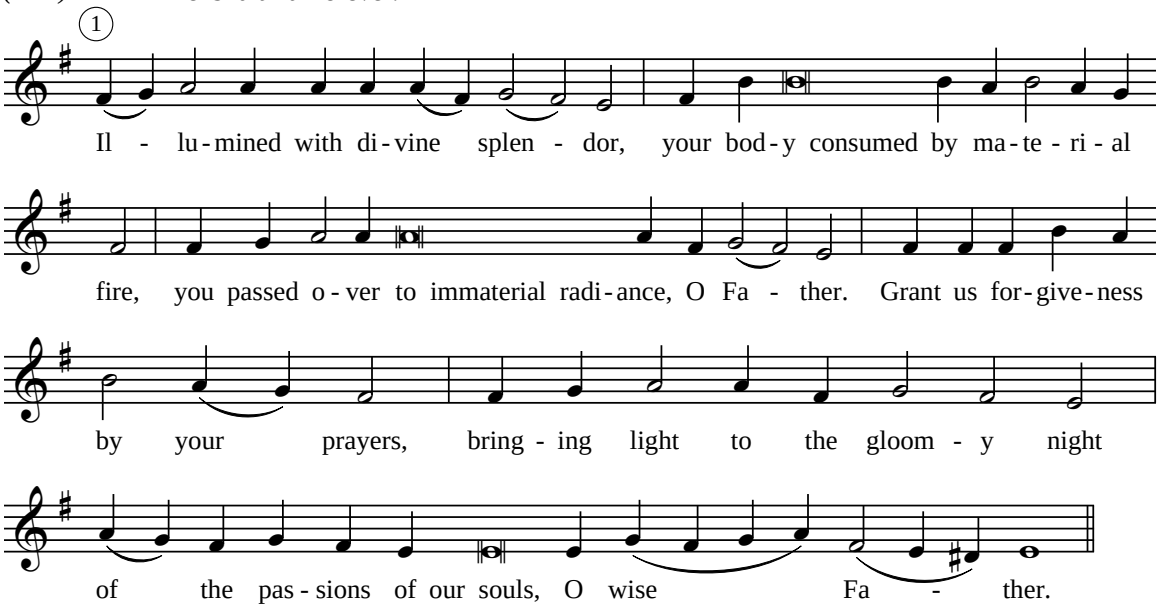
Stichera of the holy martyr Polycarp - *Tone 1 samohlasen*



Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations; **Psalm 116**
(on 2) acclaim him, all you peoples!

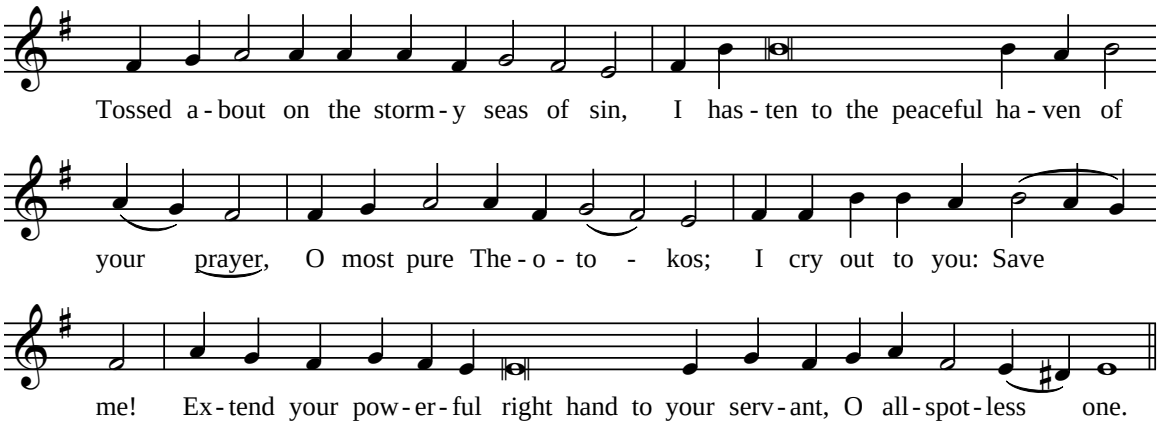


Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.



Cantor: Glory…now and ever…

Theotokion



The service continues on page 8.