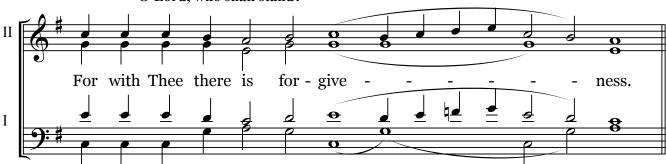
Evening of the 3rd Sunday of Lent: Vespers

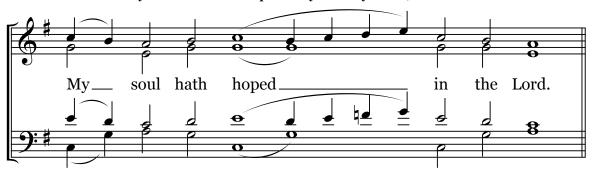
At "Lord I have cried", 10 stichera are sung: 4 penitential stichera in the Tone of the week, and then 3 stichera from the Triodion:

(6) Reader: In the 8th tone— If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand?



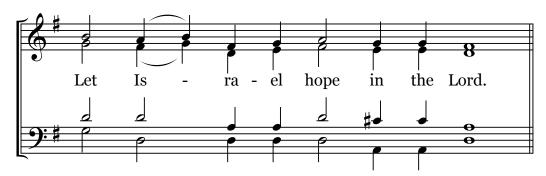
O Lord, Thou hast stretched out Thine hands/
of Thine own will upon the Cross: /
fill us with Thy light through fasting and through prayer, /
through abstinence and works of charity; /
and count us worthy to adore Thy Cross with contrite hearts //
for Thou art good and Thou lovest mankind.

(5) Reader: For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word,



o Lord all-merciful, /
in the multitude of Thy mercies, /
blot out the multitude of my sins, /
and count me worthy with a pure soul /
to behold and kiss Thy Cross /
during the present week of abstinence, //
for Thou lovest mankind.

(4) Reader: In the 3rd Tone— From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch



O mighty wonder! Before us stands the Wood, /

on which Christ was crucified in the flesh. /

The world venerates it, and illumined, cries aloud: /

'Great is the power of the the Cross! /

When devils look upon it, they are burnt; /

by the sign of the Cross they are consumed with fire.' /

O pure and holy Wood, I call the blessed; /

I honor thee and worship thee with fear, /

and I give glory unto God //

Who through thee has bestowed upon me life without end.

Then 3 stichera to the saint of the day from the Menaion; Glory...both now... and the Theotokion from the Menaion.

Entrance, "O joyous light..."

The Great Prokeimenon: "Thou hast given an inheritance, O Lord..."

English text: "The Lenten Triodion", translated by Mother Mary and Archimandrite Kallistos, reprinted by St. Tikhon's Seminary Press, 2002.