

**Forgiveness Vespers**  
**Stichera on "Lord I have cried"**  
**Tone 2, Special Melody "When from the Tree"**  
**Optina Hermitage Melody**

6) *Reader:* In the 2nd Tone, Special Melody "When from the Tree..."  
 If Thou shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand?

I-descant  
 II-chant  
 melody

For with Thee there is for - give - - - - ness.

Let us all \_\_\_\_\_ make haste to humble the flesh by ab - - sti-nence,

as we set out upon the God-given course of the ho - ly Fast;

and with prayers \_\_\_\_\_ and tears let us seek our Lord and Sa - - - viour.

Lay-ing a-side all memories of e - - - vil, let us cry a - loud:

We have sinned against Thee, Christ our King;

save us as the men of Nineveh in days of old,

and in Thy compassion make us sharers in Thy hea-ven-ly King - dom.



There - - fore I en-treat Thee: cleanse me in the waters

of re-pen - tance, and through prayer and fasting make me

shine with light, for Thou alone art mer - - - ci - ful;

abhor me not, O Benefactor of all, su - preme in love.

4) *Reader:* In the same tone: From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch

Let Is - ra - el hope in the Lord.

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, homophonic style. The lyrics are: "Let Is - ra - el hope in the Lord." The word "Lord" is followed by a long horizontal line, indicating a caesura or a long note.

Let us set — out with joy upon the sea - son of the Fast, —

The second system of music continues the melody. The lyrics are: "Let us set — out with joy upon the sea - son of the Fast, —". The word "Fast" is followed by a long horizontal line, indicating a caesura.

and prepare ourselves for spiritual com - bat. Let us pur - i - fy

The third system of music continues the melody. The lyrics are: "and prepare ourselves for spiritual com - bat. Let us pur - i - fy".

our soul and cleanse our flesh; and as we fast from food,

The fourth system of music continues the melody. The lyrics are: "our soul and cleanse our flesh; and as we fast from food,".

let us ab-stain al - so from ev - ery pas-sion. Rejoicing in the virtues

of the Spi - rit may we per-se-vere with love, and so be counted wor-thy

to see the solemn Passion of Christ our God, and with great

spiritual gladness to behold His ho - ly Pass - o - ver.\*

*\*Pascha*