And He shall redeem Israel out of all His iniquities.

(3) Reader: In the same tone— For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption;

O blessed and divinely wise princes of Russia, / who shine forth with Orthodox loving kindness / and are resplendent with the brilliance of the virtues: / Ye illumine all the faithful, / driving away the darkness of the demons. / Wherefore, we honor you as partakers of never-waning grace // and unashamed preservers of your heritage, O right wondrous ones.
(2) Reader: O praise the Lord, all ye nations;

O all-blessed martyrs of Christ, /
ye gave yourselves over to voluntary sacrifice /
have sanctified the land of Russia with your blood, /
and have brought splendor /
even unto the air by your repose; /
and now ye dwell in the heavens amid never-waning light, //
ever praying in our behalf, O beholders of God.
Stichera on "Lord I have cried" (continued)

(1) Reader: For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us,

And the truth of the Lord a-b-id-eth for-ev-er.

The corrections of your virtues /
have enlightened the hearts of the faithful, /
O fools for Christ's sake and ye righteous, who have shone forth in Russia, /
for who hath heard of your boundless humility and forbearance, /
and doth not marvel? /
The needs of all did ye anticipate, O right wondrous ones: /
ye were an example of meekness and guilelessness for all, /
of pity for the sorrowful, /
of speedy aid to those in misfortune, /
an untroubled haven for those at sea, and good speed for travellers. /
And now ye have been crowned with unfading wreaths /
by the hand of the omnipotent God. //
Him do ye entreat, that our souls be saved.

English translation by Isaac E. Lambertsen, ©1999, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol. X, St. John of Kronstadt Press. The complete service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org

Carol Surgant  ~  music.russianorthodox-stl.org  ~  6/27/08