And He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

Brethren, let us not pray as the Pharisee: for he who exalts himself shall be humbled. Let us humble ourselves before God,

and with fasting cry aloud as the Publican:

(3) Reader: In the 1st Tone; For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption;
God be merciful to us sinners.

(2) Reader: O praise the Lord, all ye nations;

Praise Him all ye peoples.

Repeat Sticheron: "Brethren let us not pray as the Pharisee..."
(I) Reader: For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us,

And the truth of the Lord abideth forever.

A Pharisee, overcome with vain-glor y, and a Publican bowed down in repentance, came to Thee, the only Master.

The one boasted and was deprived of blessings,
while the other kept silent and was counted worthy of gifts.

Con-firm me, O Christ our God, in these his cries of sorrow,

for Thou lovest mankind.
Reader: Glory, in the 8th Tone:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the

Holy Spirit.

Almighty Lord, I know how great is the power of tears.

For they led up Hezekiah from the gates of death;
they delivered the sinful woman from the transgressions of

man-y years; they justified the Publican above the Pharisee.

And with them I also pray: Have mercy on me.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Understand, O my soul, the difference between the Publican and the Pharisee, hate the proud words of the one, and eagerly imitate the contrite prayer of the other, crying aloud:

God be merciful to me a sinner and have pity on me.
Reader: Both now and ever; in the same tone:

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

We sing thy praises, Virgin Theotokos, who dost intercede in the salvation of our kind: for thy Son and our God, in the flesh He took from thee, accepted suffering on the Cross, and has delivered us from corruption in His love for mankind.
Reader: Glory, in the 5th Tone:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Mine eyes are weighed down by my transgressions, and I cannot lift them up and see the height of heaven. But receive me,
Saviour, in repentance as the Publican and have mercy on me.

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Thou art the temple and gate, palace and throne of the King,
O all-revered Virgin. Through thee my deliverer

Christ the Lord has come to shine on those that sleep in darkness,

for He is the Sun of Righteousness and it is His will

to give light to His creatures formed by His hands
in His own image. Therefore, Lady worthy of all praise, with a mother's boldness, ever intercede before Him for the salvation of our souls.

English text adapted from: "The Lenten Triodion", translated by Mother Mary and Archimandrite Kallistos Ware. Reprinted 2002, by St. Tikhon's Seminary Press, South Canaan, PA.

Carol Surgant ~ music.russianorthodox-stl.org ~ 1/25/07