

December 15th

Hieromartyr Eleutherios, Bishop of Illyria

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Chant Tone/Mode 4
Special Melody: *Unto them that fear thee*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

E Un. E

1) Thē All - ho - ly Spir - it's great and sa - cred ves - sel didst

thou be - come, cleansed in soul from the pas - sions' filth, O

G E

wise El - eu - ther - i - os; and up - on re - ceiv - ing

from Him the di - vine ho - ly chris - m, thou wast made high priest,

a guide that guid - ed a god - ly peo - ple's ways, a

Mar - tyr un - sub - dued for Him Who bare the Pas - sion for

G E

all of us, that dis - pas - sion might flow a - broad,

O con - tend - er of sa - cred fame.

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E Un. E

2) Thou didst give no thought un - to thy bod - y tor - tured with

stripes and wounds and brought near to the blaz - ing fire; for

G E

thou hadst thy mind nailed fast with un - e - qualled long - ing

to the come - ly beau - ty of that Di - vine One thou didst love,

with Whose sweet love thou wast wound - ed through and through, O

ath - lete El - eu - ther - i - os, thou bright a - dorn - ment of

G E

God's high priests, gem of Mar - tyrs ex - ceed - ing fair,

and am - bas - sa - dor for our souls.

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E **Un.** **E**

3) When she saw that thou hadst fought right well and finished thy

con - test well, she that did well in bear - ing thee longed

G **E**

al - so her - self to run that same course of con - test;

and as she em-braced thee in thē a - re - na of thy fight,

she like a heif - er was slaught - ered ruth - less - ly. With

her, O El - eu - ther - i - os, im - plore the Sav - ior and

G **E**

Lord for us, we en - treat thee, O tru - ly wise

and thrice - bless - ed high priest of Christ.