

# Forgiveness Evening Vespers

*Stichera at Lord I have cried*

Byzantine Tone 2

Arr. Basil Kazan

**Verse 5:** *If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

Let us all has - ten to the sub - ju - ga - tion of the flesh by \_\_\_  
ab - sti - nence, as we ap - proach the di - vine\_ bat - tle - field, the  
bat - tle - field of blame - less fast - ing. Let us pray to the Lord, our  
Sav - ior, in tears and prayers, turn - ing a - way com - plete - ly from sin, and  
cry - ing, "We have sinned a - gainst\_ Thee, O Christ, \_\_\_ the  
King. \_\_\_ Save us, there - fore, as of old Thou \_\_\_ didst save the  
peo - ple of Ni - ne - veh; and make \_\_\_ us par -  
- tak - ers of Thy heav'n - ly king - dom, O com - pas - sion - ate One." \_\_\_

**Verse 6:** *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

If I \_\_\_ were to i - ma - gine all my sins de - serv - ing all  
pun - ish - ment, I would de - spair of my - self, O Lord Sav - ior;

for by them have I dis-o - beyed Thy no - ble com-mand - ment, wast-ing my  
 life\_\_ in ex - trav - a-gance. Where-fore, I be - seech Thee to pu - ri - fy\_\_  
 me with Thy show - ers\_\_ of for-give - ness, and light-en me with fast - ing and  
 sup - pli - ca - tion; for Thou a - lone\_\_\_\_\_ art com - pas-sion - ate;  
 and re-ject me not, O all - boun-ti - ful and of tran-scend-ent good - ness.

**Verse 7:** *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

Let us be - gin the sea - son of fast - ing with re - joic - ing,  
 giv-ing our - selves to spir - it - u - al strife, pu - ri - fy - ing\_\_ soul and  
 bod - y, fast - ing from pas - sions, as we fast\_\_\_\_\_ from foods,\_\_  
 far-ing on the vir - tues of the Spir - it, which, if we con - tin - ue to  
 long for, we shall all be wor - thy to be - hold the most sol-lemn Pas - sion of  
 Christ, and the ho - ly Pass-o-ver, re-joic - ing with spir - it - u - al joy.