

**Divine Liturgy, September 13, 2009**  
**SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**

**The commemoration of the dedication of the Church of the Resurrection of the Lord in Jerusalem.** When St. Helena found the Lord's cross in Jerusalem, she stayed longer in the city and built churches in Gethsemane, in Bethlehem, on the Mount of Olives, and in other places connected to the life and death of the Lord. She began to build a huge church on Golgatha, which would house both the hill of Calvary and the tomb from which the Lord rose. St. Helena died before it was finished, and the church was consecrated on this date in 335.

**Hymn**

*melody: O Marije Mati Boža / O Mary, Mother of our God*



1. God loved the world so much, He gave His own Son,  
2. As Mo - ses raised the ser - pent up, shown on high,  
3. The Christ was not sent to the world to con - demn,



That e - ter - nal life might be His gift to ev - 'ry - one.  
So the Son is lift - ed high that we may nev - er die.  
But that all, be - liev - ing Him, might find their life in Him.

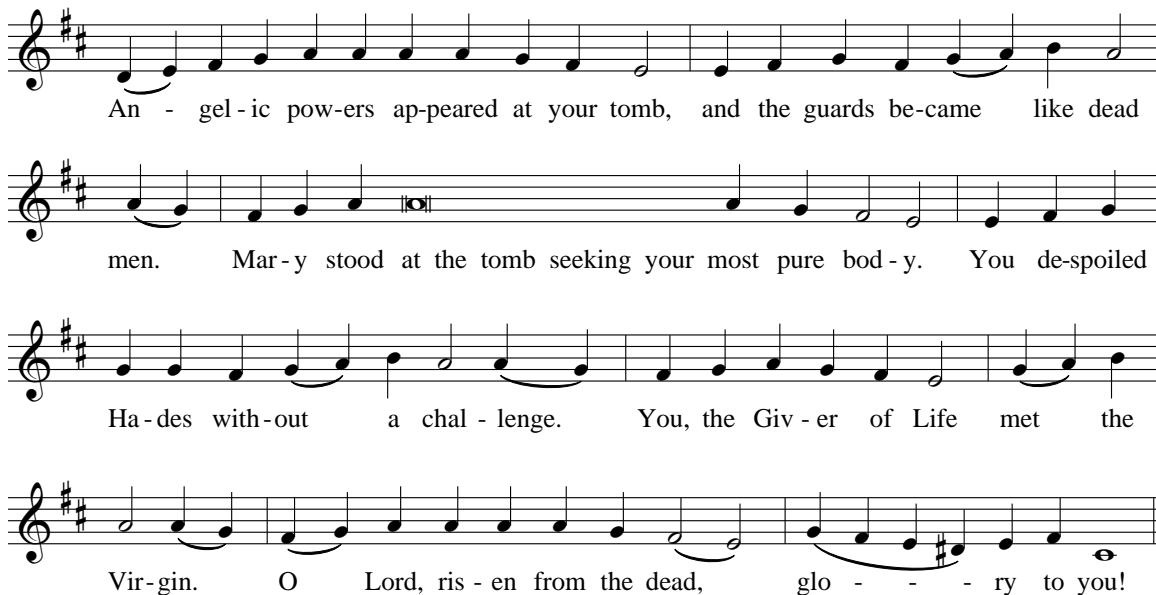


Boast of noth - ing less than the Cross of Christ our Lord!



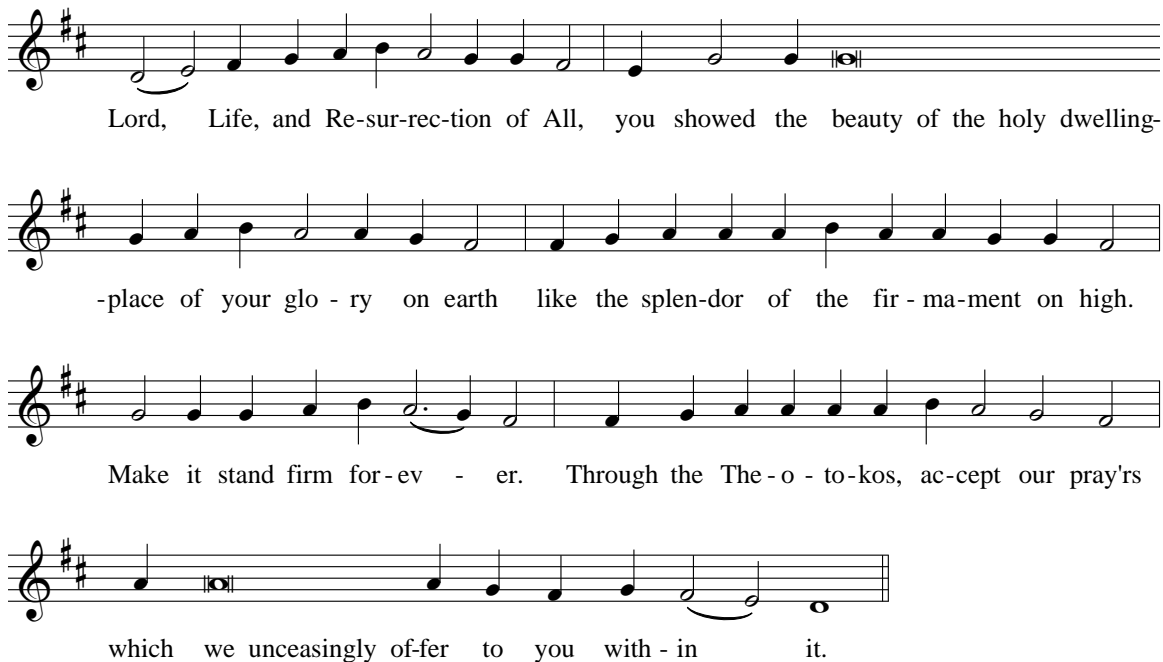
In it, we are blessed; life is our re - ward!

**Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 6**



An - gel - ic pow - ers ap - peared at your tomb, and the guards be - came like dead  
men. Mar - y stood at the tomb seeking your most pure bod - y. You de - spoiled  
Ha - des with - out a chal - lenge. You, the Giv - er of Life met the  
Vir - gin. O Lord, ris - en from the dead, glo - - - ry to you!

**Troparion of the Dedication - Tone 4**



Lord, Life, and Re - sur - rec - tion of All, you showed the beauty of the holy dwelling -  
- place of your glo - ry on earth like the splen - dor of the fir - ma - ment on high.  
Make it stand firm for - ev - er. Through the The - o - to - kos, ac - cept our pray'rs  
which we unceasingly of - fer to you with - in it.

**Troparion of the Pre-feast of the Exaltation of the Cross - Tone 4**

Lord, we offer to you in intercession the goodness of your  
life-creating cross which you gave to us, your unworthy people.  
Save our nation and your Church which implores you through the Theotokos.  
For you alone love us all.

*Cantor*

Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it, now and ever and  
for - ev - er. A - men.

**Kontakion of the Pre-feast of the Exaltation of the Cross - Tone 8**

To-day the sav-ing wood shines forth from the bo-som of the earth. It is  
rev - er - ently lifted up in the church by the hands of the bish - op. The whole



world prostrates and kiss-es it with awe. Save us through your cross, O Lord.

**Prokeimenon of the Pre-feast - Tone 6 (Psalm 27:9,1):**



Save your peo - ple, O Lord, and bless your in - her - i - tance,



and bless your in - her - i - tance.

**Verse:** To you, O Lord, I cry out: My God, be not silent to me.

**Alleluia of the Pre-feast - Tone 1 (Psalm 88:20-22):**



Al - le - lu - - - ia! Al - - - le lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - - - ia!

**Verse:** I have exalted one chosen from my people and with my holy oil I have anointed him.

**Verse:** My hand shall protect him and my arm shall make him strong.