

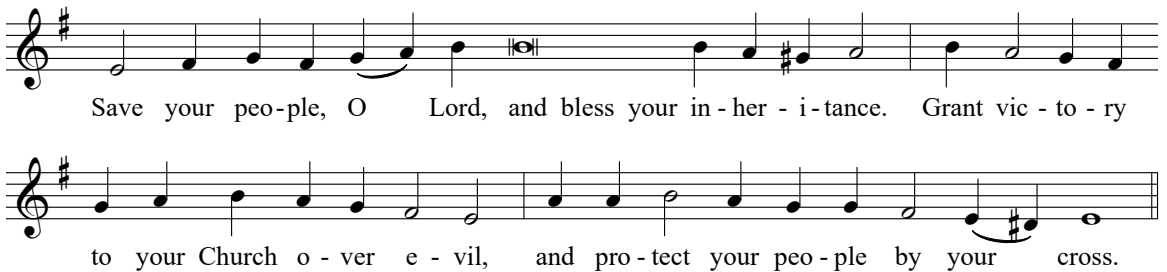
Matins Propers, September 14

THE EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS, HOLY, AND LIFE-CREATING CROSS

All page references are to *The Order of Matins: Sundays and Feasts, 2006*

"The Lord is God" is sung in Tone 1, page 68.

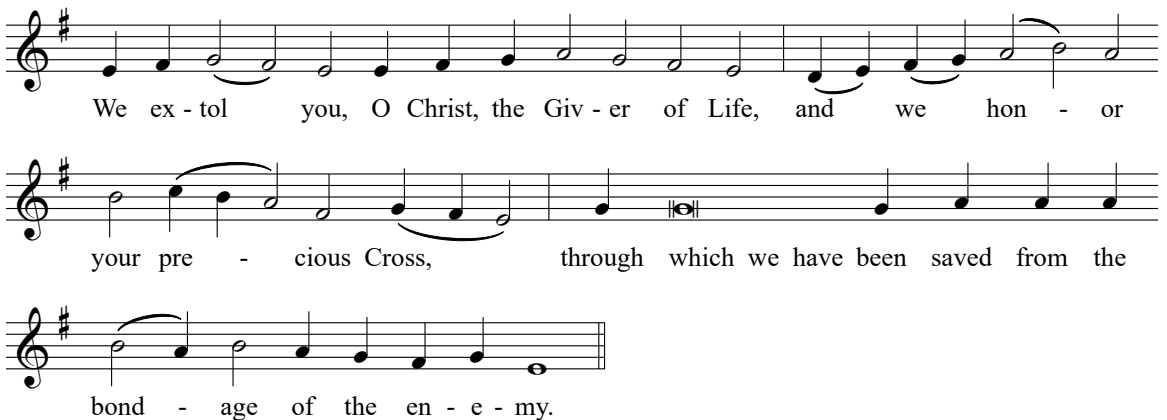
Troparion - Tone 1 (sung three times)



Save your peo-ple, O Lord, and bless your in-her-i-tance. Grant vic-to-ry
to your Church o-ver e-vil, and pro-tect your peo-ple by your cross.

The service continues with the *Polyeleos*, page 16.

Exaltation - Ps. 34:1, 4:8, 97:3, 131:7, 73:12.



We ex-tol you, O Christ, the Giv-er of Life, and we hon-or
your pre-cious Cross, through which we have been saved from the
bond-age of the en-e-my.

The Exaltation is repeated after each verse.

Verse: O Lord, plead my cause against my foes; * fight those who fight me.

Verse: O Lord, let the light of your countenance shine upon us.

Verse: All the ends of the earth have seen * the salvation of our God.

Verse: Let us go to the place of his dwelling; * let us go to kneel at his footstool.

Verse: God is our king from all ages. * He has accomplished salvation in the middle of the earth.

Verse: Glory...now and ever... *and the Exaltation is repeated.*

Three times:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to you, O God.

Sessional Hymn - Tone 8 Kontakion

For-mer-ly, the tree in Para-dise made me nak-ed. In the temp-ta - tion, the en-e-my
brought death. He, the Tree of Life, who became man and lived on earth,
carr - ied the Cross. Now the whole world is full of joy. See - ing the Cross
raised up to God in faith, O people, let us cry a - loud: Your Church is full of
glo - ry!

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

The Sessional Hymn is repeated.

Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Ps. 97:3,1)

All the ends of the earth have seen the sal - va - tion of our God.

Verse: Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders.

"Let everything that lives" is sung in Tone 4, found on page 171. The service continues

Stichera after Psalm 50

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Tone 2 Bolhar

O tri-ple-branched Cross of Christ, you are my strong pro -
tec - - - tion. Sanc - ti - fy me by your might
that I may ven-erate and glo - ri - fy you in faith and love.

Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen. Repeat "O triple-branched Cross..."

Cantor: (Tone 6) Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offense.

Tone 6 samohlasen

O Cross of Christ, hope of Chris-tians, guide of all those who have gone a-stray,
ha - ven of the storm-tossed and vic - to - ry in war - fare, firm foun-da-tion
of the in-hab-it-ed earth, heal - er of the sick and resur-rec-tion of the dead,
have mer - - - cy on us.

Canon

Ode 1

Irmos

Tone 8 samopodoben

Mo - ses took his staff and marked a straight line be-fore him
and di-vid - ed the sea, there - by o - pen - ing a path for Israel who
walked a-cross dry - shod. Then he marked a sec - ond line
o - ver the wa - ters and u - nit - ed them a - gain, there - by
o - ver - whelm - ing the chariots of Pha - - - raoh. Thus Mo - ses
in - scribed the invin-ci-ble weap-on of the Cross up - on the wa-ters.
There-fore let us praise Christ our God,
for he has been glo - ri - fied.

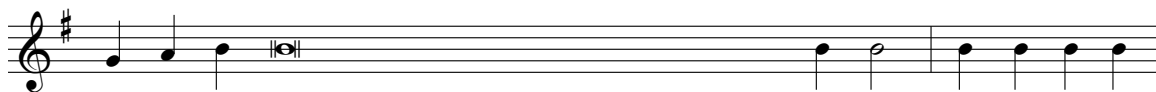
Refrain



Glo - ry to your pre - cious Cross, O Lord!

When the Israelites battled against Amalek, Moses stood between the two men of God, thereby prefiguring in his person the undefiled Passion. He raised a standard of victory by forming a cross with his outstretched hands; through this sign the power of Amalek was overthrown. Therefore, let us praise Christ our God, for he has been glorified. *Refrain*

After raising up a staff as a cure against the deadly and poisonous bite of the serpents, Moses placed upon it crosswise, as a symbol of the Cross, a serpent. In this manner he triumphed over calamity. Therefore, let us praise Christ our God, for he has been glorified.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

The Cross was revealed in the heavens as a sign of victory to Constantine, the holy king and defender of the faith. Through this sign the proud contempt of his enemies was conquered, deceit was overthrown, and the divine faith was spread to the ends of the earth. Therefore, let us praise Christ our God, for he has been glorified.

Katavasia

Tone 6 simple



Mo - ses took his staff and marked a straight line be - fore him



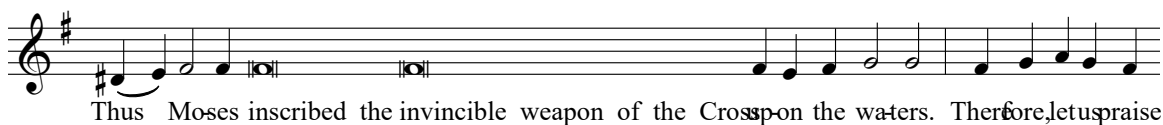
and di - vid - ed the sea, there - by o - pen - ing a path for Is - ra - el,



who walked a - cross dry - shod. Then he marked a sec - ond line over the wa - ters



and u - ni - ted them a - gain, there - by o - ver - whelm - ing the chariots of Pha - raoh.



Thus Moses inscribed the invincible weapon of the Cross upon the waters. Therefore, let us praise



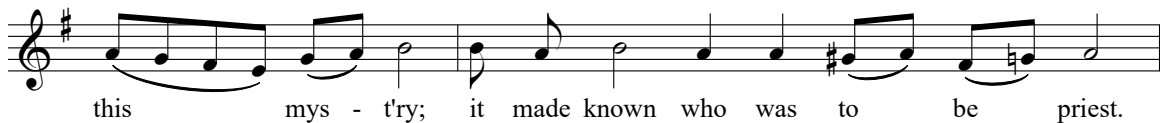
Christ our God, for he has been glo - ri - fied.

Ode 3

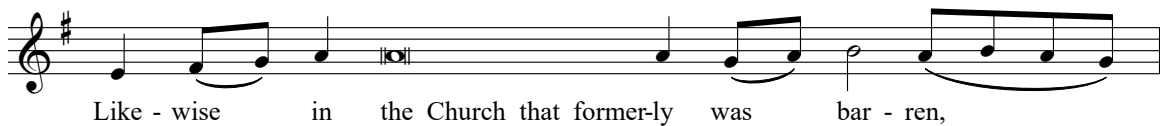
Irmos



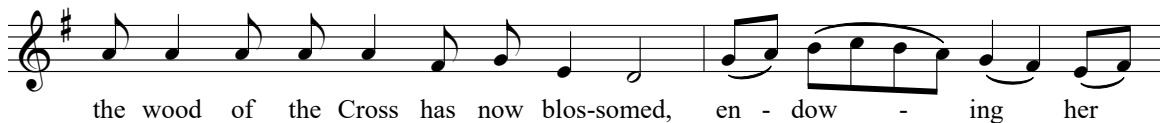
When the rod of Aa - ron bud - ded, it was an image of



this mys - t'ry; it made known who was to be priest.



Like - wise in the Church that former - ly was bar - ren,



the wood of the Cross has now blos - somed, en - dow - ing her



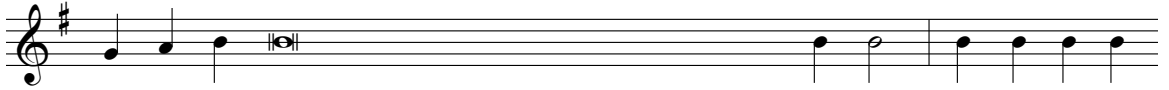
with stead - fast - ness and might.

Refrain



Glo - ry to your pre - cious Cross, O Lord!

When the rock was struck and gushed forth water for a calloused and disobedient people, it manifested the mystery of the Church, chosen by God; for the Cross is her steadfastness and might.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

When your immaculate side was pierced with a spear, O Lord, immediately there flowed out water and blood, thereby establishing the New Testament and washing away sin. For the Cross is the glory of the faithful and the power and steadfastness of kings.

Katavasia



When the rod of Aa - ron bud - ded, it was an im - age of this mys - t'ry;



it made known who was to be priest. Like - wise, in the Church that formerly



was bar - ren, the wood of the Cross has now blos - somed, en - dow - ing



her with stead - fast - ness and might.

Ode 4

Irmos



I have re - ceived the mys - te - ry of your Law, O Lord; I have
med - itated up - on your works; and I have glo - ri - fied your di - vin - i - ty.

Refrain

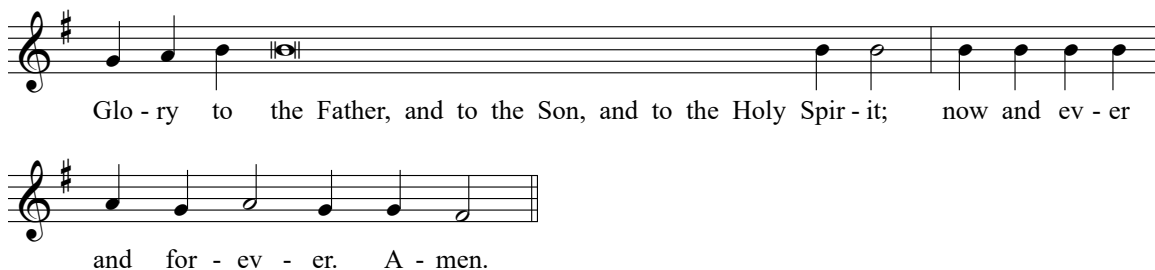


Glo - ry to your pre - cious Cross, O Lord!

In times past, Moses transformed the bitter wells in the desert with wood; thereby, he prefigured the spreading of the gospel to the Gentiles through the Cross. *Refrain*

In the days of old, a sharp axe fell into the deep waters of the Jordan; the axe was returned when a stick of wood was thrown into the waters. This prefigured the cutting down of error by the Cross and baptism. *Refrain*

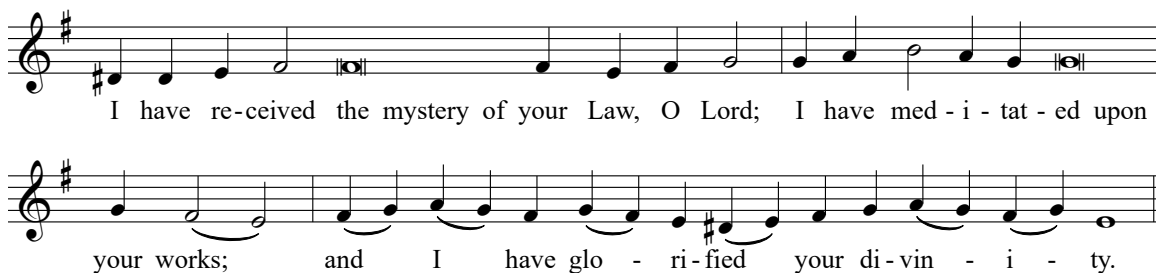
Arranged in four divisions as a sacred army, the people of Israel marched in this manner before the ark of the covenant. They were glorified in their ranks which were formed in the sign of the Cross.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er
and for - ev - er. A - men.

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the Cross, extended in a wondrous manner, sends forth rays as the sun.

Katavasia



I have re-ceived the mystery of your Law, O Lord; I have med - i - tat - ed upon
your works; and I have glo - ri - fied your di - vin - i - ty.

Ode 5

Irmos



O Cross, tri - ple bless - ed Tree on which
Christ the King and Lord was cru - ci - - - fied,
it was through you that the E - vil One, who tempted our first parents with the
tree was de - stroyed. He was ensnared by the trap set by God
who was cru - ci - fied up - on you in the flesh. Through this
mys - - - te - ry, peace has been grant - ed to our souls.

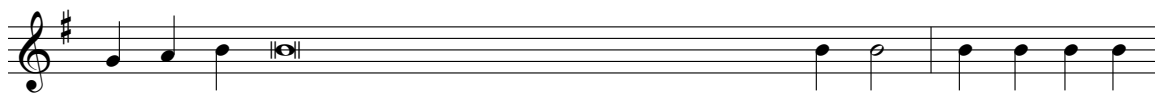
Refrain



Glo - ry to your pre - cious Cross, O Lord!

O famous Wood, you are blessed in song for being the Cross on which Christ was crucified. The fiery revolving sword by which Eden was guarded feared you, and the awesome Cherubim bowed down to Christ who was crucified upon you in the flesh. Through this mystery, peace has been granted to our souls.

When the powers of darkness see the sign of the Cross raised on high, they tremble; the multitude of angels and saints in heaven, together with the people on earth, bow down before Christ who grants peace to our souls.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



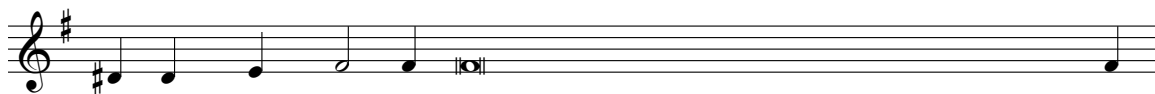
and for - ev - er. A - men.

The holy Cross showers its divine light of pure rays upon the people darkened by the deception of error; and it reconciles them to Christ who was crucified upon it, thereby granting peace to our souls.

Katavasia



O Cross, tri - ple blest Tree on which Christ the King and Lord was cru - ci - fied,



it was through you that the Evil One, who tempted our first parents with the tree,



was de - stroyed. He was en - snared by the trap set by God, who was cru - ci - fied

up - on you in the flesh. Through this mys - te - ry, peace has been grant - ed
to our souls.

Ode 6

Irmos

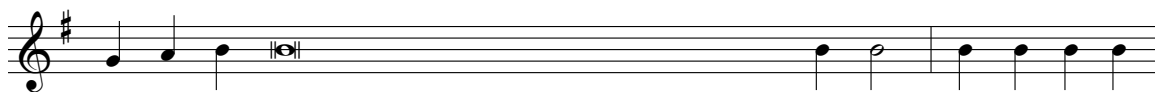
Clear - ly pre - fig - ur - ing the re - deem - ing pas - - - sion,
Jo - nah stretched out his hands in the form of a cross
when he was in the bel - ly of the whale.
When he was cast forth af - ter three days, he pre - fig - ured the glo - rious
res - ur - rec - tion of Christ our God who was cru - ci - fied
in the flesh and grant - ed life to the world by his
res - ur - rec - tion on the third day.

Refrain



Glo - ry to your pre - cious Cross, O Lord!

Distorted in body because of age and wasted away by sickness, Jacob was straightened when he crossed his hands, thereby revealing the power of the life-giving Cross. For God, who was crucified upon it in the flesh, rewrote the shadowy Old Law in new letters, and thus drove away the disease of error which corrupts our souls.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

When Jacob placed his hands upon the heads of his grandsons in the form of a cross, he indicated that those who serve under the Law would enjoy for a time the honor that is due to the firstborn. Although the error of his act was noticed, he did not change the life-giving figure; for he announced that the newly-formed people of Christ our God, strengthened by the Cross, shall have the higher place.

Katavasia



Clear-ly pre - fig - ur - ing the re-deem-ing pas-sion, Jo - nah stretched out his



hands in the form of a cross when he was in the bel-ly of the whale.



When he was cast forth af - ter three days, he pre - fig - ured the glorious resurrection

of Christ our God, who was cru - ci - fied in the flesh and grant - ed life to
the world by his res - ur - rec - tion on the third day.

The Small Litany is found on page 33

Kontakion - Tone 4:

Christ our God, who were willingly raised up - on the cross, grant your mercies to
the new peo - ple who bear your name. By your pow - er grant joy to the Church.
Give her vic - to - ry o - ver e - vil with your in - vin - cible tro - phy,
the weap - on of peace, as an al - ly.

Ikos He, who was caught up in the third heaven to Paradise and who heard unspeakable and divine words which human beings cannot express, wrote to the Galatians. Study the Scripture, and you will read and understand what he wrote: God forbid that I should glory in anything except the Cross of the Lord on which He suffered the passion. Therefore, let us continue to praise this Cross of the Lord with confidence, for it is the glory of us all. This Wood is our salvation, a weapon of peace, and an unconquerable sign of victory.

Ode 7

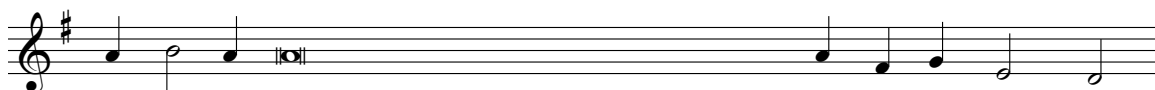
Irmos



The e - vil command of the wick-ed ty-rant be - wil-dered the na-tions;



he ut-tered threats and blas - phem-y hate - ful to God.



Yet nei-ther the raging beasts nor the roaring fire could fright-en the three youths.



They stood to-geth-er in the fire, re-freshed by the wind



as though it were dew and they sang: you are praised and



blessed a - bove all O God of our Fa-thers.

Refrain



Glo - ry to your pre - cious Cross, O Lord!

By eating of the tree, Adam inherited a corruptible life. He was exiled from Paradise, and his body was prone to corruption which was passed on to his descendants like a disease. But those of the earth, who acknowledge the wood of the Cross as their vindication, cry aloud: You are praised and blessed above all, O God of our Fathers.

Death came into the world by the partaking of the fruit of the tree; the breaking of the law of God came through disobedience. The Tree of precious life was carefully guarded until the confession of the good thief. He made it accessible once again by crying out as he departed this life: You are praised and blessed above all, O God of our Fathers.

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er
and for - ev - er. A - men.

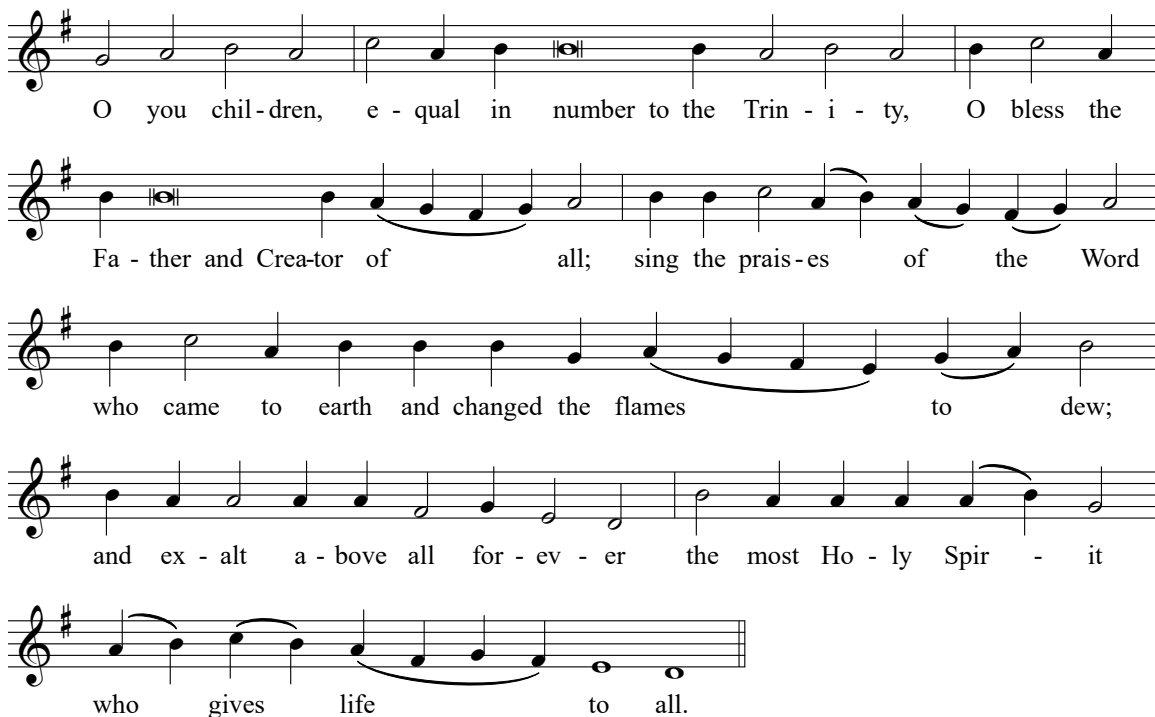
When he honored the staff of Joseph, Israel revealed that in the future the most glorious Cross would be the safeguard of royal power. The Cross is a victorious glory of kings and a light to the faithful who cry out: You are praised and blessed above all, O God of our Fathers.

Katavasia

The e - vil command of the wicked tyrant be-wil - dered the na - tions;
he ut - tered threats and blas - phemy hateful to God. Yet nei - ther
the raging beasts nor the roar-ing fire could fright-en the three youths. They stood
to-geth-er in the fire, re - freshed by the wind as though it were dew, and they
sang: You are praised and blessed a-bove all, O God of our fa - thers.

Ode 8

Irmos



O you chil-dren, e - qual in number to the Trin - i - ty, O bless the
Fa - ther and Crea-tor of all; sing the prais-es of the Word
who came to earth and changed the flames to dew;
and ex - alt a - bove all for - ev - er the most Ho - ly Spir - it
who gives life to all.

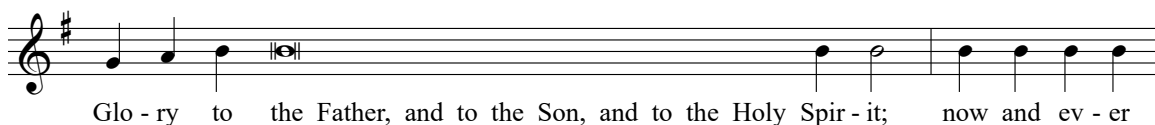
Refrain



Glo - ry to your pre - cious Cross, O Lord!

When the Cross that is sprinkled with the blood of the incarnate Word is raised up, all you powers of heaven sing praises, celebrating the reconciliation of the human race. All you faithful, venerate the Cross of Christ; for through it, resurrection was granted to the world forever.

Let the priests reverently raise up the Cross on which Christ our God was hung, and exalt the lance that pierced the body of the Word of God. Let all people see the salvation of God and glorify him forever.



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

Rejoice, all you faithful Christian kings, chosen beforehand by a divine decree. Receive the precious Cross from God and make this victorious weapon your glory, for by it, the enemy tribes that hastily seek battle are overthrown forever.



Let us praise, bless and wor-ship the Lord, sing-ing and high-ly ex-alt-ing him



a - - - bove all for ev - er.

Katavasia



O you chil - dren, equal in num-ber to the Trin - i - ty, O bless the



Fa - ther and Creator of all; sing the prais - es of the Word who came



to earth and changed the flames to dew; and ex - alt a-bove all for-ev - er

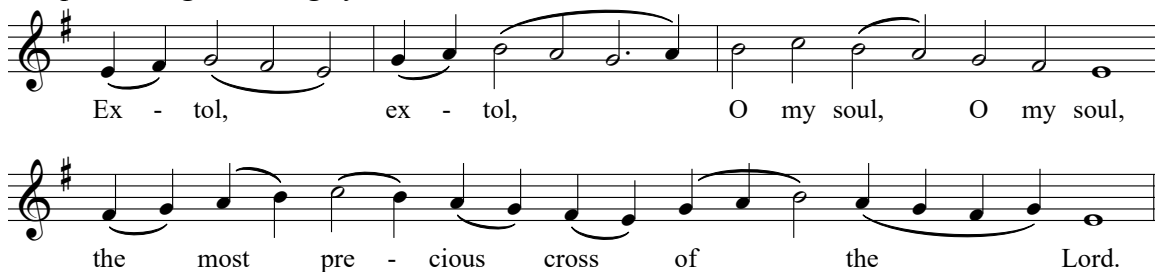


the most Ho - ly Spir - it who gives life to all.

*The Cantic of the Theotokos is **not** sung.*

Ode 9

The priest sings the Magnification:



Ex - tol, ex - tol, O my soul, O my soul,
the most pre - cious cross of the Lord.

All sing the Irmos:



You are a mys-tic - al par - a - dise, O The - o - to - - kos; Christ has
blos - somed forth from you with-out till - ing.
He plant - ed the life - bear-ing tree of the cross on the earth.
As we now ex-alt the cross and bow be-fore it,
we pro - claim your great - ness.

All repeat "Extol..."

Let all the trees of the forest exult, for they are made holy by Christ who planted them in the beginning and who was stretched out upon the Tree. On this day of its exaltation, we worship him and extol you, O Cross.

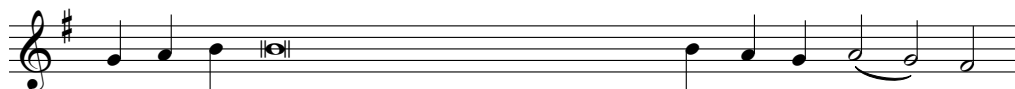
The Cross is marked upon the foreheads of all God's people, and it is raised up as their sacred horn of strength. By it, all the horns of the spiritual powers of evil are crushed. Therefore, on this day of its exaltation, we worship him and extol you, O Cross.

All repeat "Extol..."

Today the death that came to man through eating of the tree is made ineffective through the Cross. For the curse of our mother Eve that fell on the human race is destroyed by the pure fruit of the Theotokos, whom all the powers of heaven magnify.

All repeat "Extol..."

You did not want the deadly bitterness of the tree to remain, so you destroyed it through the Cross. In the same way, in times past, the wood destroyed the bitterness of the waters of Marah, prefiguring the strength of the Cross that all the powers of heaven magnify.



Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it.

Through the Cross, O Lord, today you have raised us up again. We were plunged continually in the gloom of our father Adam. Unrestrained greed thrust down our nature into error, but now we have been restored to our full inheritance by the light of the Cross, which we, the faithful, magnify.



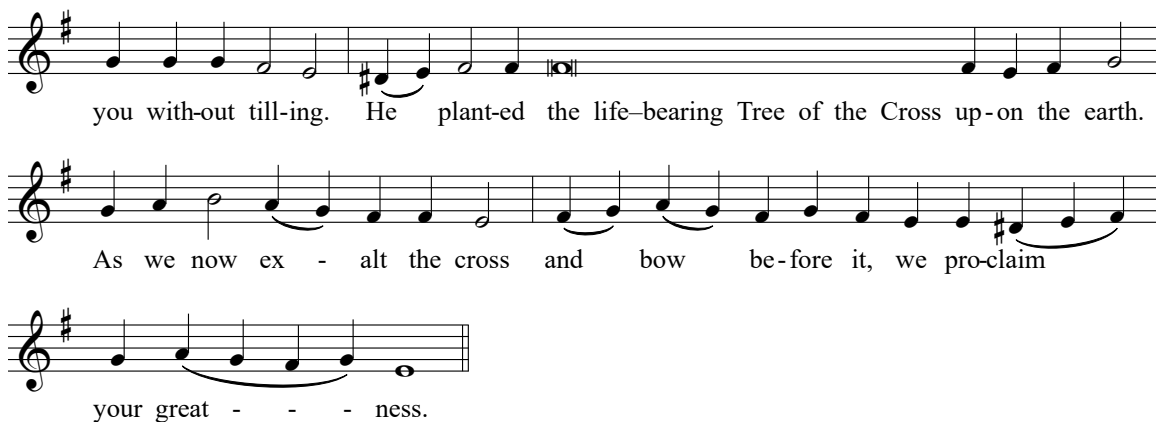
Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

To show that the Cross was to be revered in all places as being glorious, O Lord, you formed it in the sky, shining with boundless light, as an unconquerable sign for Constantine. All the powers of heaven magnify this Holy Cross.

Katavasia



You are a mystical paradise, O The-o-to-kos; Christ has blos-somed forth from



you with-out till-ing. He plant-ed the life-bearing Tree of the Cross up-on the earth.
 As we now ex - alt the cross and bow be-fore it, we pro-claim
 your great - - - ness.

Hymn of Light

The Cross is the guardian of the universe; the Cross is the beauty of the Church. It is the power of kings, and it sustains the strength of our faith. It is the glory of the angels and the slayer of demons. *(2 times)*

Glory...now and ever...

Today the Cross is elevated, and the world is sanctified. * For You, O Christ who are enthroned with the Father and the Holy Spirit, * have stretched your arms upon it and drawn the world to the knowledge of God. * Make us who have placed our trust in You worthy of divine glory.


Psalms of Praise

Psalm 148 is sung in Tone 8, page 305.

To carry out the sentence pre-ordained:
 this honor is for all *his* faithful.

Praise God in his holy place, **Psalm 150**
 praise him in his mighty heavens.

Cantor (on 4)



Praise him for his powerful deeds, praise his sur-pass - ing great - ness.

Tone 8 samopodoben: O preslavnoho čudese

O, what a strange mys - te - ry! The most ho - ly Cross, the
life-giv - ing Tree, is ex - alt - ed on high to - day. The ends of the earth
give glory, and the de - mons are ter - ri - fied. What a great gift is bestowed up-on
us mor - - - tals. Through your Cross, O Christ, save our souls,
since you a - lone are full of com - pas - - - sion.

Cantor (on 3)

O praise him with sound of trum-pet, praise him with lute and harp.

All repeat the preceding sticheron.

Cantor (on 2)

Praise him with timbrel and dance, praise him with strings and pipes.


O, what a strange mys - te - ry! The Cross which carried the Most High



as a cluster of life giv - ing grapes is ex - alt - ed to - day high a - bove the earth.



We are all drawn to God through it, and death has been

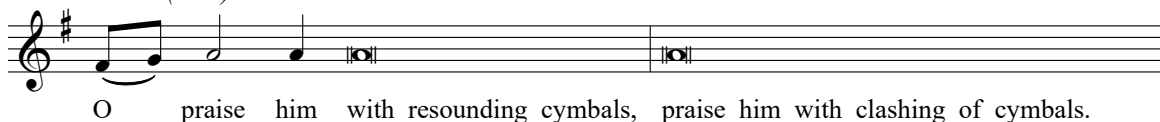


for - ev - er swal - lowed up. O spot - less Wood, we enjoy the immortal fruit of



E - den through you as we give glo - ry to Christ.

Cantor (on 1)



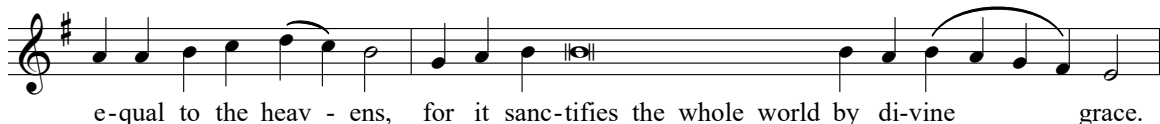
O praise him with resounding cymbals, praise him with clashing of cymbals.



Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord.



O, what a strange mys - te - ry! The length and breadth of the Cross is



e - qual to the heav - ens, for it sanc - tifies the whole world by di - vine grace.



By the Cross, sav - age na - tions are van - quished; by the Cross the author - ity of

kings is con-firmed. O di-vine Ladder, we go up to heav-en by you
and by our hymns ex - alt Christ the Lord.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

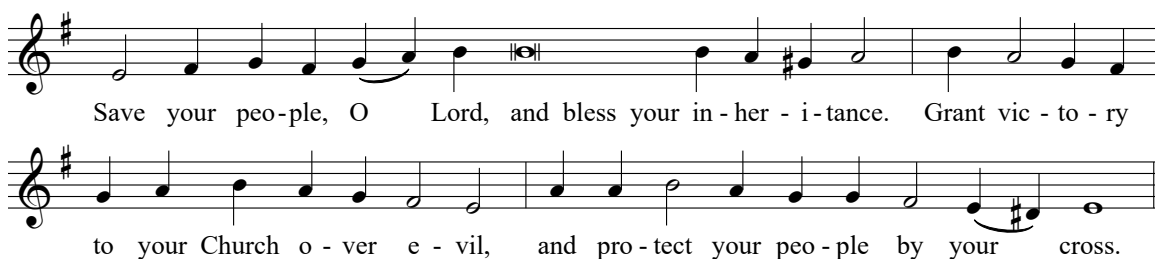
To - day the Cross of the Lord is ex - alt - ed, and the faithful wel - come
it with love. Through it they receive healing of both soul and bod - y
and are re-lieved of ev - 'ry weak - ness. Let us kiss it with joy and fear;
with joy because Christ the Lord was crucified in his great mer - cy up-on it;
with fear because of our unworthi-ness due to sin. Through the Cross, Christ our
God grants sal - va - tion to the world.

Veneration of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross

While the hymns at the Praises are being sung, the priest vests in all his priestly vestments. At the end of the Great Doxology, during the Trisagion, the priest incenses the Cross at the altar three times. Then, taking the Cross and holding it towards the people, he processes around the the holy table, leaves the sanctuary through the nothern door, and goes to stand before the holy doors. Servers accompany him with candles, and the deacon precedes him, incensing.. At the conclusion of the doxology of the Lord's Prayer, the deacon he intones:

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The cantor and people sing the troparion of the Cross, three times:



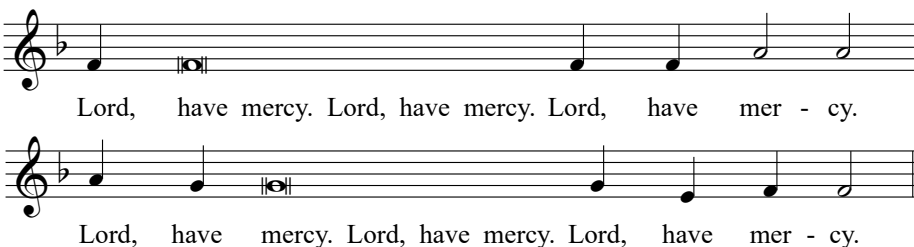
Save your peo-ple, O Lord, and bless your in-her-i-tance. Grant vic-to-ry
to your Church o-ver e-vil, and pro-tect your peo-ple by your cross.

During the singing of the troparion, the celebrant processes to the tetrapod, places the cross on it, and incenses around the tetrapod three times. Then the celebrant takes the cross and holding it above his head, intones the following petition, while standing before the tetrapod and facing East (toward the holy table):

Celebrant: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy; we pray you, hear and have mercy.

The cantor and faithful sing "Lord, have mercy" (24 times; originally 100 times) as the priest slowly bows as deeply as he can, holding the cross and then rising up again during the chant.

The followins is sung four times:



Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer-cy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer-cy.

Other languages may also be used, to express the universality of the Church:

Greek: Kyrie, eleison. *Slavonic:* Hospodi, pomiluj. *Hungarian:* Uram irgalmazz. *Spanish:* Señor ten piedad.

Going to the right side of the tetrapod and facing north, the celebrant holds the cross above his head and intones:

Celebrant: We also pray for our holy father, (*Name*), the Pope of Rome, that the Lord God will grant him health and salvation, ever-directing and assisting him in all he does; we pray you, O Lord, hear and have mercy.

Faithful: Lord, have mercy. (*24 times, as above*)

Going to the far side of the tetrapod and facing west (away from the holy table), the celebrant holds the cross above his head and intones:

Celebrant: We also pray for every Christian soul that is afflicted and maltreated; for their health and salvation, and for the remission of their sins, let us all say:

Faithful: Lord, have mercy. (*24 times, as above*)

Going to the left side of the tetrapod and facing south, the celebrant holds the cross above his head and intones:

Celebrant: We also pray for all those who serve and have served in this holy church (*or: monastery*); for their health and salvation, and for the remission of their sins, let us all say:

Faithful: Lord, have mercy. (*24 times, as above*)

The cross is replaced on the tetrapod as the kontakion of the Cross is sung.

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 Cross - Tone 4



Christ our God, who were willingly raised up - on the cross, grant your mercies to



the new peo-ple who bear your name. By your pow-er grant joy to the Church.



Give her vic - to - ry o - ver e - vil with your in - vin - cible tro-phy,



the weap - on of peace, as an al - ly.

The celebrant sings the following, making a profound bow or prostration:



We bow to your Cross, O Lord,



and we glo - ri - fy your ho - ly re - sur - rec - - - tion.

OR:



We bow to your Cross, O Lord, and we glo - ri - fy



your ho - ly re - sur - rec - tion.

And the faithful sing it twice, making a profound bow or prostration each time. Then they come forward to venerate the cross, while the following stichera are sung.

Stichera at the Veneration

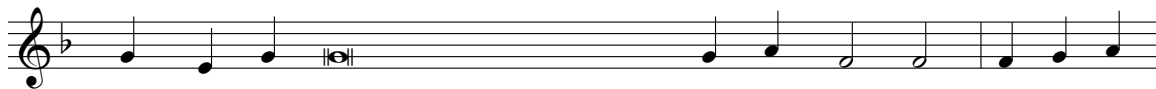
Tone 2 samohlasen

Come, O faith-ful, let us bow before the life-giv - ing Cross in which Christ,
the King of Glory, free-ly stretched our his hands. By this he raised us up to
our for-mer hap - pi-ness, which we had lost because of the an-cient En - e - my
and the bit - ter pleas-ure that ex-iled us from God. Come, O faith-ful, let us bow
be-fore the Wood which lets us crush the head of the in - vis - i - ble En - e - my.
Come, all you fam-'lies of the na - tions, let us ven - er - ate the Cross of the
Lord with our hymns: Re - joice, O perfect redemption of the fall of Ad - am;
Re - joice, O ven-er - a - ble Cross. Filled with fear and awe we em-brace you;
we glo - ri - fy our God, and we say: O Lord, you were nailed



on the Cross; in your good-ness and love, have mer - cy on us.

Tone 5 samohlasen



Come, O peo - ple, let us contemplate the mar-vel - ous won - der; let us bow



be-fore the pow'r of the Cross. For the tree of Paradise gave rise to the reign



of death, and now a Tree has made our life blos - som forth, when the



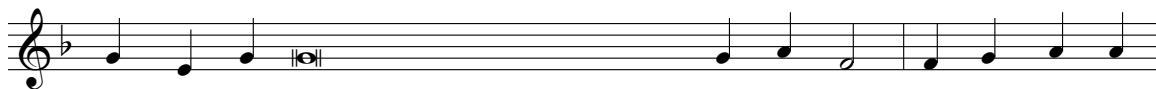
sin - less Savior was nailed up - on it. And now, all the nations that are



nourished by this incorruptible food sing prais-es: You de-stroyed death by your



Cross and set us free. O Lord, glo - - - ry to you!



The word of your prophets Isaiah and David is now ful-filled, for they spoke of



you, O Lord, and said: All the na - tions shall come to you and bow be - fore you.

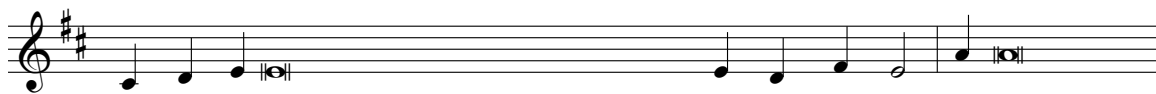
Be-hold the people who are now filled with your grace in your sanc-tuary in the
 tem-ple of Je - ru - sa - lem. O God of goodness who suffered on the
 Cross for us and gave us life through your holy re - sur - rec - tion,
 pro - tect us with your care, O Lord, and save us.

Tone 6 samohlasen

Ris-ing from the depths of the earth on this day, the Tree of Life strength-ens
 our faith in the re - surrection of Christ who was nailed on it. His raised
 hands announce his ascension in-to heav - en, which permitted him to dwell in
 our nature in this fall - en world. We al - so cry out in thanks-giv - ing:
 O Lord who was raised on the Cross and rais-es us with you, give heav'n-ly joy



to those who praise your name.



The four corners of the earth are sanctified today, O Christ our God, by the four ends



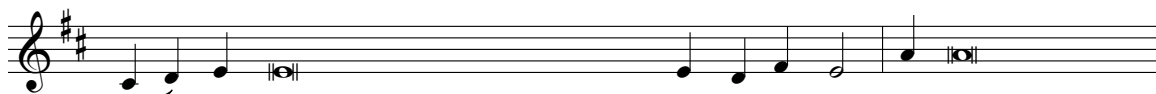
of your ex - al - ted Cross. With it, exalt your faith - ful Chris - tians



who de-stroy the power of the Ene-my through your Cross. You are great, O Lord,



and won-drous in your works; glo - ry to you!



The words of the prophets have told of the most ho-ly wood by which Adam was



delivered from the an-cient curse and from death. On this day of its exaltation,



cre - a - tion rais-es its voice to beg God for the abundance of his mer - cy.



O Lord, your compassion is beyond meas - ure; spare us, O



God, and save our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon - Tone 8 samohlasen



Be-hold the words of your prophet Moses are ful-filled, O Lord; for he said:



You shall see your life suspend-ed be-fore your eyes. To - day the Cross is



exalted, and the world is freed from er - ror. To - day the Resurrec-tion



of Christ is re-newed; the ends of the earth ex - ult with joy.



At the sound of the cymbals of Da - vid, they of - fer a hymn of praise



and say: In your good-ness and love for all, you have brought about your



salvation in the middle of the earth, O our God. Through your Cross and Resurrec-tion



you save us. O Lord all-pow - er - ful, glo - ry to you!

The service concludes with the Litany of Supplication (p. .45), Prayer over Bowed Heads, and the dismissal.