**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 TONE 5**

**14th Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross**

***Note: The service to the Resurrection is omitted.***

***(Before the vigil, the celebrant transfers the precious Cross to the Holy Altar Table, accompanied by the singing of the Troparion, “O Lord, save Thy people…”, and the Kontakion, “As Thou wast voluntarily raised…”.)***

*“Blessed is the Man…” IS* *sung.*

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 6[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Thy sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

V. (8) *Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

**Tone 6** *(Having placed all their hope)*

As the Cross is lifted on high,

it urges all of creation

to praise the undefiled Passion of Christ, Who was lifted up on it.

For by the Cross He killed the one who killed us,

and brought us back to life when we were dead.

He adorned us in beauty,

and in His compassion made us worthy to live in heaven.

Therefore we rejoice and exalt His Name,//

and magnify His infinite condescension.

V. (7) *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

(Repeat: “As the Cross is lifted on high…”)

V. (6) *If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

(Repeat: “As the Cross is lifted on high…”)

V. (5) *For Thy Name’s sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Moses prefigured thee, O precious Cross,

when he stretched out his hands on high,

and put the tyrant Amalek to flight.

Thou art the boast of the faithful, the support of those who suffer,

the glory of the Apostles, the champion of the Righteous,

and the preservation of all the Saints.

Therefore, beholding thee raised on high,

creation rejoices and celebrates,

glorifying Christ Who has joined together through thee that which was divided//

in His infinite goodness.

V. (4) *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

(Repeat: “Moses prefigured thee…”)

V. (3) *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

(Repeat: “Moses prefigured thee…”)

V. (2) *Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

O most venerable Cross,

attended by ranks of rejoicing angels,

as thou art exalted today at the divine command,

thou dost lift up again

all those who through the stolen food

had been cast out and were sunk in death.

Therefore, as we venerate thee in faith with heart and lips,

we draw sanctification from thee and cry aloud:

“Exalt Christ, the God transcendent in goodness,//

and venerate His divine footstool!”

V. (1) *For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

(Repeat: “O most venerable Cross…”)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 2**

Come, all you nations,

let us fall down in worship before the blessed Tree,

by which eternal justice has come to pass!

For he who deceived Adam by a Tree

is caught by the lure of the Cross;

and he who held under his tyranny the creature endowed by God with royal dignity

is brought down in a headlong fall.

The serpent’s venom is washed away by the blood of God,

and the curse of just condemnation is undone

when the Just One is condemned by an unjust judgment.

For it was fitting that the tree should be healed by a Tree,

and that by the Passion of the passionless God

what was wrought on the Tree should destroy the passions of man, who was condemned.

But glory to Thy dread dispensation for our sakes, O Christ the King,

through which Thou hast saved us all,//

since Thou art good and the Lover of man!

 **Old Testament Readings**

 **Exodus 15:22-16:1**

 **Proverbs 3:11-18**

 **Isaiah 60:11-16**

**Litya**

**Tone 1** *Idiomela (by Andrew of Jerusalem)*

Today the holy saying of David truly has come to pass,

for behold, in the sight of all,

we venerate the footstool of Thine undefiled feet,

and, putting our hope in the shadow of Thy wings,

we cry aloud to Thee, O all-compassionate Lord:

“May the light of Thy countenance be marked as a sign upon us!

Exalt the horn of Thine Orthodox people

by the Exaltation of Thy precious Cross,//

O Christ of many mercies!”

The Tree of true Life was planted in the place of the skull,

and upon it hast Thou, the eternal King, worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

Exalted today, it sanctifies the ends of the world,

and the church of the Resurrection celebrates its dedication.

Angels in heaven rejoice,

and men upon earth make glad,

crying aloud with David and saying:

“Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His footstool,//

for He is holy, granting the world great mercy!”

Prefiguring Thy Cross, O Christ,

Jacob the Patriarch, when he gave the blessing to his descendants,

laid his hands crosswise upon their heads.

And today, as we exalt Thy Cross, O Savior, we cry:

“Give victory to Thine Orthodox people, //

as Thou once gavest it to Constantine!”

**Tone 2** *(by Theophanes*)

Divine treasure hidden in the earth,

the Cross of the Giver of Life appeared in the heavens to the godly king,

and its inscription spiritually signified his victory over the enemy.

Rejoicing with faith and love, and inspired by God

he made haste to raise on high the Cross which he had seen,

and with great zeal he brought it forth from the bosom of the earth//

for the deliverance of the world and the salvation of our souls.

*(by Cyprian)*

When the Patriarch Jacob crossed his hands while blessing his children,

he foreshadowed the mighty symbol of Thy Cross.

Having this as our unshakable safeguard,

we drive out with almighty strength the ranks of demons;

and, casting down by it the arrogance of Belial,

we put to flight the all-destroying power of hateful Amalek.

Now as the Cross is lifted on high,

we the faithful piously offer it to Thy goodness for the cleansing of our sins,

crying out in a loud voice:

“Have mercy, O Lord, made flesh of the Virgin; //

take pity, O Good One, on the works that Thou hast fashioned in Thy wisdom.”

*(by Emperor Leo)*

O three-branched Cross of Christ,

thou art my strong protection.

Sanctify me by thy might,//

that I may venerate and glorify thee in faith and love!

**Tone 4**

Let us proclaim today a festival of song,

and with radiant faces and with our tongues let us cry aloud:

O Christ, Thou hast accepted condemnation for us,

and, being spat upon, and scourged,

Thou wast robed in purple and didst ascend the Cross.

Seeing Thee, the sun and the moon hid their light,

the earth quaked in fear,

and the veil of the Temple was torn in two.

Grant us Thy precious Cross as our guardian and protector,

driving demons away,

that we may all embrace it and cry out:

“Save us, O Cross, by thy might!

Sanctify us by thy radiance, O precious Cross,

and strengthen us through thine Exaltation;//

for thou hast been given to us as the light and salvation of our souls!”

*(by Anatolius)*

Thou, O Cross, as a sign radiant with light, formed of stars,

hast prophetically revealed a trophy of victory to the godly king;

and when his mother Helen found thee,

she displayed thee in the sight of all the world.

And we the choirs of faithful shout aloud, as we exalt thee today:

“Enlighten us with thy brightness, O life-bearing Cross!

Sanctify us by thy might, O all-venerable Cross,

and strengthen us through thine Exaltation,//

when thou art lifted on high before the ranks of our enemies!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

*now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 4** *(by Anatolius)*

Moses prefigured the power of Thy precious Cross, O Christ,

when he put to flight his adversary Amalek in the wilderness of Sinai;

for when he stretched out his arms in the form of a cross, the people prevailed.

Now the fulfillment of these images has come to pass for us.

Today the Cross is exalted, and the demons are put to flight.

Today all creation has been set free from corruption,

for through the Cross all the gifts of grace have shone upon us.

Therefore, rejoicing, we all fall before Thee and cry://

“How marvelous are Thy works, O Lord! Glory to Thee!”

**Aposticha**

**Tone 5** *Automelon*

Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross:
invincible triumph of godliness,
gate of Paradise, and protection of the faithful!
The Cross is the might of the Church,
through which corruption is abolished,
through which the power of death is crushed.
and we are raised from earth to heaven.
O invincible weapon, the adversary of demons,
the glory of martyrs, the true adornment of ven’rable saints,
and the haven of salvation,//
which grants the world great mercy.

V. *Extol the Lord our God: and worship at His footstool for He is holy! (Ps. 98:5)*

Rejoice, O Cross of the Lord,

through which mankind has been delivered from the curse!

Thou art a sign of true joy,

shattering our enemies by thine Exaltation.

O Cross, worthy of all honor,

thou art our help, thou art the strength of kings.

Thou art the power of the righteous.

Thou art the majesty of priests.

All who sign themselves with thee are freed from danger.

O rod of strength, under which we like sheep are tended,

thou art a weapon of peace around which the angels stand in fear.

Thou art the divine glory of Christ,//

Who grants the world great mercy.

V. *God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps. 73:13)*

Rejoice, O guide of the blind,

physician of the sick and resurrection of all the dead;

thou hast raised us up when we were fallen into mortality.

O precious Cross,

through thee corruption has been destroyed,

and incorruption has blossomed forth.

We mortals are made divine,

and the devil is completely overthrown.

Today, as we see thee exalted by the hands of bishops,

we exalt Him Who was lifted up upon thee,

and we fall down in worship before thee,//

drawing rich streams of great mercy.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 8** *(by John the Monk)*

Thy precious Cross, O Christ God,

which Moses of old prefigured in his own person

when he overthrew Amalek and put him to flight;

which David commanded to be worshipped,

calling it Thy footstool:

this same Cross we sinners worship today with unworthy lips.

We praise Thee Who wast pleased to be nailed upon it,

and we cry to Thee://

“With the thief, make us worthy of Thy Kingdom, O Lord!”

**Tone 1 Troparion**

O Lord, save Thy people,

and bless Thine inheritance!

Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians

over their adversaries;

and by virtue of Thy Cross,//

preserve Thy habitation!

 *(sung once at Great Vespers, thrice at Vigil)*

***(at Matins)***

**"God is the Lord…" Tone 1**

**Tone 1 Troparion**

O Lord, save Thy people,

and bless Thine inheritance!

Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians

over their adversaries;

and by virtue of Thy Cross,//

preserve Thy habitation! *(thrice)*

**Kathisma Hymns** *(following the first reading of the Psalter)*

**Tone 1** *(Troparion melody)*

We venerate the wood of Thy Cross, O Lover of mankind,

for upon it Thou wast nailed, O Life of all.

O Savior, Thou hast opened Paradise

to the thief who turned to Thee in faith,

counting him worthy of blessedness

when he confessed Thee crying: “O Lord, remember me.”

Accept us like him, as we cry: “We all have sinned,//

in Thy merciful kindness despise us not.”

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

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen*.

(Repeat: “We venerate…”)

**Kathisma Hymns** *(following the second reading of the Psalter)*

**Tone 6** *(Troparion melody)*

No sooner had the wood of Thy Cross been set up, O Christ,

the foundations of death were shaken, O Lord.

For that which hell had swallowed up so eagerly,

it let go in trembling.

Thou hast shown us Thy salvation, O Holy One, and we glorify Thee.//

Have mercy on us, O Son of God!

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

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen*.

(Repeat: “No sooner…”)

**The Polyeleion**

**Magnification**

We magnify Thee,

O Christ, the Giver of life,

and we honor Thy precious Cross

by which Thou hast saved us

from the bondage of the enemy.

V. *O Lord, judge those who offend me; fight against those who fight against me! (Ps. 34:1)*

V. *Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help.* *(Ps. 34:2)*

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

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen*.

**Tone 4 Prokeimenon**

All the ends of the earth / have seen the salvation of our God. *(Ps. 97:5)*

V. *Sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things. (Ps. 97:1)*

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

V. *Praise God in His sanctuary! Praise Him in His mighty firmament! (Ps. 150:1)*

**Gospel**

 (42-ctr) John 12:28-36

*“Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ…”* ***is*** *sung, and then Psalm 50.*

**Tone 2 Post-Gospel Stichera**

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

Thou art my mighty protection,

O three-branched Cross of Christ;

sanctify me by thy power,//

that with faith and love I may venerate and glorify thee.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thou art my mighty protection,

O three-branched Cross of Christ;

sanctify me by thy power,//

that with faith and love I may venerate and glorify thee.

**Tone 6**

Have mercy on me, O God,

according to Thy great mercy,

and according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies//

blot out my transgression.

**Tone 6**

O Cross of Christ,

the hope of Christians,

guide of those who have gone astray,

haven of the storm-tossed,

victory in warfare,

the safeguard of the inhabited earth,

physician of the sick,

resurrection of the dead://

have mercy on us.

*Note: The faithful do NOT come to be anointed at this time.*

**Tone 8 Canon, Ode 1 – Heirmos** *(by Cosmas the monk)*

Moses traced out a cross,

as with his staff he divided the Red Sea in two,

so that Israel could go across on foot;

and then striking it again crosswise,

and uniting it over Pharoah and his chariots,

he inscribed the Invincible Weapon.//

Therefore let us sing to Christ our God, for He has been glorified.

*Katavasia:* “Moses traced out a cross…”

**Tone 8 Canon, Ode 3 – Heirmos**

The rod of Aaron is an image of this mystery,

for when it budded it revealed who should be the priest;

and for the Church, which before was barren,

the Tree of the Cross has blossomed forth//

for her strength and firm foundation.

*Katavasia:* “The rod of Aaron…”

*The Little Litany, then the Kathisma Hymn (not presented here).*

**Tone 8 Canon, Ode 4 – Heirmos**

I have heard the mystery of Thy dispensation, O Lord,

I have meditated on Thy works//

and have glorified Thy Godhead.

*Katavasia:* “I have heard the mystery…”

**Tone 8 Canon, Ode 5 – Heirmos**

O thrice-blessed Tree, on which Christ the King and Lord was stretched!

Through thee the one who deceived us through a tree has fallen,

caught by the bait of God, Who was nailed to thee in the flesh,//

and Who grants peace to our souls.

*Katavasia:* “O thrice-blessed Tree…”

**Tone 8 Canon, Ode 6 – Heirmos**

In the belly of the sea monster, Jonah stretched out his hands in the form of a cross,

plainly prefiguring the saving Passion.

When he emerged from there on the third day,

he prefigured the transcendent Resurrection of Christ our God,

Who was nailed to the Cross in the flesh//

and by His rising on the third day enlightened the world.

*Katavasia:* “In the belly…”

*The Little Litany, then the Kontakion:*

**Tone 4** **Kontakion**

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake,

grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God;

make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power,

granting them victories over their adversaries//

by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

**Tone 8 Canon, Ode 7 – Heirmos**

The senseless decree of the impious tyrant,

spewing threats and blasphemy hateful to God,

brought the people to confusion.

Yet the three Children could not be frightened

either by the brutal fury or the roaring fire,

but in the wind, moist with dew, that blew against it,

they stood together, and they sang:

“O praised above all, blessed art Thou,//

our God, and the God of our Fathers!”

*Katavasia:* “The senseless decree…”

**Tone 8 Canon, Ode 8 – Heirmos**

O Children, equal in number to the Trinity,

bless God the Father, the Creator;

praise the Word, Who descended and changed the fire to dew,

and exalt above all, to all ages,//

the All-Holy Spirit, Who gives life to all!

*We praise, bless, and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.*

*Katavasia:* “O Children, equal…”

**Tone 8 Canon, Ode 9 – Heirmos**

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord!

Thou art a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos,

who, though untilled, hast brought forth Christ;

through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth.

Now at its Exaltation,

as we bow in worship before it, we magnify thee.

*Katavasia:* “Thou art a mystical…”

 **Exapostilarion Tone 2** *(While the disciples)*

The Cross is the guardian of the whole earth.

The Cross is the beauty of the Church.

The Cross is the strength of Orthodox Christians.

The Cross is the support of the faithful.

The Cross is the glory of the angels,//

and the wounder of the demons.

**The Praises Tone 8**

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens!

Praise Him in the highest!//

To Thee, O God, is due a song!

Praise Him, all you Angels of His!

Praise Him, all His hosts!//

To Thee, O God, is due a song!

V. *Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness! (Ps. 150:2)*

**Tone 8** *(Oh, most glorious wonder)*

Oh, most glorious wonder!

The life-bearing Tree, the all-holy Cross

today is raised up on high and shown to the world.

All the ends of the earth give glory;

all the demons are struck with terror.

Oh, what a gift is bestowed on mortals.

Through the Cross, save our souls, O Christ,//

as Thou alone art compassionate!

V. *Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp! (Ps. 150:3)*

(Repeat: “Oh, most glorious wonder!…”)

V. *Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe! (Ps. 150:4)*

Oh, most glorious wonder!

The Cross that carried the Most High

like a cluster of grapes filled with life

today is seen raised above the earth.

Through this we have all been drawn to God,

and death is finally swallowed up.

O immaculate Wood!

Through thee we enjoy the immortal food of Eden//

as we give glory to Christ!

V. *Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! (Ps. 150:5)*

Oh, most glorious wonder!

The length and breadth of the Cross is equal to heaven,

for by divine grace it sanctifies the universe.

By the Cross, pagan nations are overcome.

By the Cross the scepters of kings are firmly established.

O divine ladder, by which we go up to heaven,//

exalting Christ the Lord in song!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 6**

Today the Cross of the Lord comes forth;

the faithful welcome it with longing

and receive healing of soul and body and of infirmity.

Let us kiss it with joy and fear:

fear because our sin, since we are unworthy,

but joy because of the salvation given to the world

by Christ the Lord Who was nailed upon it,//

Who has great mercy.

*The Great Doxology*

*As the Great Doxology ends, the solemn procession of the Cross takes place. As the clergy and faithful venerate the Cross, the following hymns are sung:*

**Tone 2** *(by Emperor Leo)*

Come, O faithful, let us venerate the life-giving Wood

on which Christ the King of Glory voluntarily stretched out His hands

and raised us up to our ancient bliss,

though formerly the enemy had despoiled us through pleasure

and made us exiles from God.

Come, O faithful, let us venerate the Wood

through which we have been accounted worthy to crush the heads of our invisible enemies.

Come, all you kindred of the nations,

let us honor in hymns the Cross of the Lord:

“Rejoice, O Cross, complete deliverance of fallen Adam!

In thee our faithful rulers make their boast,

since by thy power they subjugate the people of Ishmael.

As we Christians now kiss thee with fear,

we glorify God Who was nailed upon thee, and we say:

‘O Lord, Who on the Cross wast crucified, have mercy on us,//

as Thou art good and lovest mankind!’”

 **Tone 5**

Come, O people,

and looking on this marvelous wonder,

let us venerate the might of the Cross.

For a tree put forth the fruit of death in Paradise;

but life is the flower of this Tree

on which the sinless Lord was nailed.

Reaping incorruption from it, all the nations cry://

“O Thou Who through the Cross has laid death low and set us free, glory to Thee!”

 **Tone 5**

The words of Thy prophets Isaiah and David are fulfilled, O God.

They said: “All nations will come and bow down before Thee.”

Behold the people filled with grace in Thy courts in Jerusalem, O good One!

Thou didst endure the Cross for us, granting us life through Thy Resurrection.//

Preserve and save us!

 **Tone 6**

Today, as the Tree of Life rises up from the hidden places of the earth,

it confirms our faith in the Resurrection of Christ, Who was nailed upon it.

And as it is raised aloft by priestly hands,

it proclaims His elevation to heaven,

by which our nature, from its fallen state on earth, becomes a citizen of heaven.

Therefore let us cry out in thankfulness,

“O Lord, Who wast lifted up on the Cross

and through it didst lift us with Thyself,//

count worthy of heavenly joy those who sing Thy praise.”

 **Tone 6**

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

by the Exaltation of Thy Cross with its four arms;

and with it is the horn of Thy faithful people exalted,

who thereby dash in pieces the horns of their adversaries.//

Great art Thou, O Lord, and marvelous in Thy works: glory to Thee!

 **Tone 6**

The sayings of the prophets foretold the holy Wood,

whereby Adam was set free from the ancient curse of death.

And today, at the Exaltation of the Cross,

all creation raises its voice,

asking of God plenteous mercy:

“O Master, Who alone art boundless in compassion, //

be our atonement and save our souls.”

**Tone 8**

The voice of Thy prophet Moses, O God,

has been fulfilled, for he said:

“You will see your Life hanging before your eyes.”

Today the Cross is lifted up, and the world is set free from error.

Today the Church of Christ’s Resurrection celebrates its dedication,

and the ends of the earth rejoice like David with cymbals,

offering Thee a hymn and saying:

“Thou hast worked salvation in the midst of the earth, O God—

Thy Cross and Resurrection,

through which Thou hast set us free, as Thou art good and lovest mankind.”//

O Almighty Lord, glory to Thee!

**Tone 8**

Today, the Master of creation and Lord of glory

is nailed to the Cross and His side is pierced.

He Who is the sweet drink of the Church tastes gall and vinegar.

The One Who crowned the heavens is crowned with thorns;

He is vested in a robe of mockery.

The Creator of the earth is struck with human hands.

He accepts scourging, spitting, and buffeting,

all for the sake of me, as I stand condemned!

He is my God and compassionate Deliverer,//

Who saves the world from deceit!

 *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

 *now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 8**

Today He Who by nature is unapproachable approaches me.

He Who freed me from my passions endures the Passion.

The Light of the blind is spat upon by lawless lips.

For the sake of captives He gives His back to scourging.

When His pure Virgin Mother beheld Him on the Cross, she cried in pain:

“Woe is me, O my Child! What hast Thou done?

Thy beauty was fairer than that of any man,

yet now Thou dost appear lifeless,

without form or comeliness.

Woe is me, O my Light!

I cannot bear to see Thee sleeping.

My soul is wounded, for a sword has pierced my heart,

and yet I praise Thy Passion.

I bow down before Thy compassion.//

O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!”

*After all the faithful have venerated the Cross, we continue with the Augmented Litany, the Litany of Fervent Supplication, the Prayer of Inclination, and the Great Dismissal.*

***(at the Divine Liturgy)***

**The First Antiphon**

God, my God, attend to me! Why hast Thou forsaken me? *(Ps. 21:1a)*

*Refrain:*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Why art Thou so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? *(Ps. 21:1b) (Refrain)*

O my God, I cry by day, but Thou dost not answer; and by night, but find no rest. *(Ps. 21:2)* *(Refrain)*

Thou dwellest in the sanctuary, the praise of Israel. *(Ps. 21:3) (Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. *(Refrain)*

 **The Second Antiphon**

O God, why dost Thou cast us off forever? *(Ps. 73:1a)*

*Refrain:* O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old! *(Ps. 73:2) (Refrain)*

Remember Mount Zion, where Thou hast dwelt! *(Ps. 73:3b) (Refrain)*

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth. *(Ps. 73:13) (Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

 *(“Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God… “)*

**The Third Antiphon**

The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! *(Ps. 98:1a)*

**Tone 1 Troparion**

O Lord, save Thy people,

and bless Thine inheritance!

Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians

over their adversaries;

and by virtue of Thy Cross,//

preserve Thy habitation!

The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! *(Ps. 98:1)*

*Troparion of the Feast*

The Lord is great in Zion; He is exalted over all the people. *(Ps. 98:2)*

 *Troparion of the Feast*

Bow down in worship to the Lord in His holy court! *(Ps. 98:10)*

 *Troparion of the Feast*

 **Entrance Verse**

Extol the Lord our God: worship at His footstool for He is holy! *(Ps. 98:5)*

**Tone 1 Troparion**

O Lord, save Thy people,

and bless Thine inheritance!

Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians

over their adversaries;

and by virtue of Thy Cross,//

preserve Thy habitation!

**Tone 4** **Kontakion**

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake,

grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God;

make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power,

granting them victories over their adversaries//

by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

***(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)***

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master,

and Thy holy Resurrection we glorify.

**Tone 7** **Prokeimenon**

Extol the Lord our God: / worship at His footstool for He is holy! *(Ps. 98:5)*

V. *The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! (Ps. 98:1a)*

**Epistle**

 (125) 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

**Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. *Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old! (Ps. 73:2)*

V. *God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps. 73:13)*

 **Gospel**

 (60) John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35

***(Instead of “It is truly meet…,” we sing:)***

 **Tone 8**

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord!

Thou art a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos,

who, though untilled, hast brought forth Christ;

through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth.

Now at its Exaltation,

as we bow in worship before it, we magnify thee.

**Communion Hymn**

The light of Thy countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord. *(Ps.* *4:7)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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1. Music for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)