

THE UNIVERSAL ELEVATION OF THE CROSS OF OUR LORD

Choir: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (*sing until the Cross comes to the tetrapod*)

Priest: Wisdom! Upright!

Clergy: **Tone 1** O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation! (x1)

Choir: **Tone 1** O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation! (x2)

EAST

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x100)

NORTH

Priest: Again we pray for pious and right-glorifying Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x100)

WEST

Priest: Again we pray for our Archbishop and Father N. and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x100)

SOUTH

Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God here remembered, and of all pious and right-glorifying Christians who dwell in or visit this town, and the members, stewards, founders, and benefactors of this holy church.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x100)

EAST

Priest: Again we pray for all who serve or who have served in this holy church, for their health and salvation and the remission of their sins.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x100)

Clergy: **Kontakion Tone 4** As You were willingly raised upon the Cross for our sake, / grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God; / make all right-glorifying Christians glad by Your power, / granting them victories over their adversaries // by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Your weapon of peace!

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify! (x1)

Choir: Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify! (x2)

Then everyone comes to venerate the Cross as the Choir sings:

Tone 2 (Vespers melody)

Come, faithful, let us fall down in worship before the life-creating tree!

Christ, the King of Glory, stretched out his hands on it

And exalted us to paradise,

From where we had been driven by the devil's instigation.

Come, faithful, let us fall down in worship before the tree!

By it we are empowered to crush the heads of invisible enemies.

Come, all generations of nations.

Let us honor the cross of the Lord with songs:

Rejoice, perfect redemption of fallen Adam!

Now in fear and love, all Christians venerate you upon whom God was nailed//

Singing: have mercy on us, gracious Lord and Lover of mankind!

Deacon: Master, bless!

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Reader: Come, let us worship God our King.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

Psalm 103

Reader: Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with honor and majesty, who cover yourself with light as with a garment, who have stretched out the heavens like a tent, who have laid the beams of your chambers on the waters, who make the clouds your chariot, who ride on the wings of the wind, who make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken. You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At your rebuke they fled; at the sound of your thunder they took to flight. The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which you appointed for them. You set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work. You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart.

The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which he planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers. You have made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting.

You make darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises, they get them away and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan which you formed to sport in it. These all look to you, to give them their food in due season.

When you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your Spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever, may the LORD rejoice in his works, who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke!

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

The sun knows its time for setting. You make darkness and it is night. O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all!

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! (x3)

The Litany of Peace

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*and after each petition*)

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

For our Archbishop and Father _____, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For the civil authorities of this country and those serving in its armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city, for every city, monastery, and countryside, and for those who in faith dwell in them, let us pray to the Lord.

For good temperance of the air, abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful seasons, let us pray to the Lord.

For travelers by land, sea, and air, the sick, the suffering, the imprisoned, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Priest: For to you is due all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Psalm 140

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!

Hear me, O Lord!

Reader: Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord

Keep watch over the door of my lips.

Incline not my heart to any evil,

To busy myself with wicked deeds.

In company with men who work iniquity;

And let me not partake of their delights!

Let a good man strike or rebuke me in kindness,

But let the oil of the wicked never anoint
my head; for my prayer is continually
against their wicked deeds.

When they are given over to those who shall condemn them,

Then they shall learn that the word of the
Lord is true.

As a rock which one cleaves and shatters on the land,

So shall their bones be strewn at the mouth of the grave.

But my eyes are toward you, O Lord God;

In you I seek refuge; leave me not
defenseless.

Keep me from the trap which they have laid for me,

And from the snares of evildoers.
Let the wicked together fall into their own nets,
While I escape.

Psalm 141

I cry with my voice to the Lord,
With my voice I make supplication to the Lord.
I pour out my complaint before him,
I tell my trouble before him.
When my spirit is faint,
You know my way!
In the path where I walk,
They have hidden a trap for me.
I look to my right and watch,
But there is none who takes notice of me;
No refuge remains to me,
No man cares for me.
I cry to you, O Lord;
I say: you are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.
Give heed to my cry;
For I am brought very low!
Deliver me from my persecutors;
For they are too strong for me!
Bring my soul out of prison that I may give thanks to Your name.
The righteous await me for You will deal bountifully with me.

Psalm 129 V. (8) *Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!* **Tone 6**

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 Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

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. (6) *If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

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. (5) *For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Moses prefigured you, O precious Cross,
when he stretched out his hands on high,
and put the tyrant Amalek to flight.
You are 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 you raised on high,
creation rejoices and celebrates,
glorifying Christ Who has joined together through you 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!*

Moses prefigured you, O precious Cross,
when he stretched out his hands on high,
and put the tyrant Amalek to flight.
You are 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 you raised on high,
creation rejoices and celebrates,
glorifying Christ Who has joined together through you that which was divided //
in His infinite goodness.

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

Moses prefigured you, O precious Cross,
when he stretched out his hands on high,
and put the tyrant Amalek to flight.

You are 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 you raised on high,
creation rejoices and celebrates,
glorifying Christ Who has joined together through you that which was divided//
in His infinite goodness.

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

O most venerable Cross,
attended by ranks of rejoicing angels,
as you are exalted today at the divine command,
may you lift up again
all those who through the stolen food
had been cast out and were sunk in death.

Therefore, as we venerate you in faith with heart and lips,
we draw sanctification from you 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.*

O most venerable Cross,
attended by ranks of rejoicing angels,
as you are exalted today at the divine command,
may you lift up again
all those who through the stolen food
had been cast out and were sunk in death.

Therefore, as we venerate you in faith with heart and lips,
we draw sanctification from you and cry aloud:
“Exalt Christ, the God transcendent in goodness,//
and venerate His divine footstool!”

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 Your dread dispensation for our sakes, O Christ the King,
through which You have saved us all/ /
since You are good and the Lover of man!

THE ENTRANCE

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright!

Choir: O Gladsome Light of the holy Glory of the immortal Father, heavenly, holy, blessed -
Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening, we
praise God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. For meet it is at all times to worship You with voices of
praise, O Son of God and Giver of Life, therefore all the world glorifies You!

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace to all!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Then, the appropriate Prokeimenon for the day of the week:

SUNDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Eighth Tone: Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of
the Lord!

Choir: Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord!

Deacon: You who stand in the temple of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God!

Choir: Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord!

Deacon: Behold now, bless the Lord

Choir: all you servants of the Lord!

MONDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone: The Lord hears me when I cry out to Him.

Choir: The Lord hears me when I cry out to Him.

Deacon: Whenever I called, the God of my justice heard me.

Choir: The Lord hears me when I cry out to Him.

Deacon: The Lord hears me

Choir: when I cry out to Him.

TUESDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the First Tone: Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

Choir: Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

Deacon: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. In green pastures He gives me repose.

Choir: Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

Deacon: Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me

Choir: all the days of my life.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Fifth Tone: O Lord, save me by Your name, and in Your power be a judge for me.

Choir: O Lord, save me by Your name, and in Your power be a judge for me.

Deacon: O God, hear my prayer; listen to the words of my mouth.

Choir: O Lord, save me by Your name, and in Your power be a judge for me.

Deacon: O Lord, save me by Your name,

Choir: and in Your power be a judge for me.

THURSDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone: My help is from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

Choir: My help is from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

Deacon: I lifted up my eyes to the mountains, whence comes my help.

Choir: My help is from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

Deacon: My help is from the Lord,

Choir: Who made heaven and earth.

FRIDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone: O God, You are my defender and Your mercy goes before me.

Choir: O God, You are my defender and Your mercy goes before me.

Deacon: Deliver me from my enemies, O God; save me from those who rise up against me.

Choir: O God, You are my defender and Your mercy goes before me.

Deacon: O God, You are my defender

Choir: and Your mercy goes before me.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from Exodus

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: [15:22-16:1] Moses led the children of Israel up from the Red Sea and brought them to the desert of Shur. And they marched for three in the desert and found no water to drink. They came to Merra and were unable to drink the water from Merra, because it was bitter. And so the place was named 'Bitterness'. And the people started to murmur against Moses and say, 'What are we to drink?' Moses cried to the Lord and the Lord showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water and it became sweet. There God laid down for him statutes and judgements and he tested him there and said, 'If you listen to the voice of the Lord, your God, and do what is well-pleasing before him, heed his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will not bring on you any of the diseases that I brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you.' And they came to Elim and there were twelve springs of water there and seventy date palms. And they encamped there by the waters. Then they moved away from Elim and the whole Assembly of the children of Israel came to desert of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from Proverbs

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: [3:11-18] My son, do not treat lightly the Lord's discipline, nor give up when you are rebuked by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves; scourges every child he receives. Blessed the man who has found wisdom, every mortal who knows prudence. For it is better to trade for her than for treasures of gold and silver. She is more precious than valuable stones; nothing evil will withstand her; she is well known to all who draw near her, nothing precious is worthy of her, for length of life and years of life are in her right hand, while in her left are wealth and glory. Justice comes from her mouth; she carries law and mercy on her tongue. Her ways are good ways and all her paths are in peace. She is a tree of life to all who lay hold of her, and to those who lean hard upon her as upon the Lord she is safe.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: [60:11-16] Thus says the Lord, 'Your gates, Jerusalem, shall be open continually; day and night they shall not be shut; that men may bring to you the power of nations, with their kings led in procession. For the nation and kings that will not serve you shall perish; the nations shall be utterly laid waste. The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, with cypress, pine, and cedar, to glorify my holy place; and I will make the place of my feet glorious. The sons of those who oppressed you and troubled you shall come to you in fear; you shall be called "City of the Lord, Sion of the Holy One of Israel". Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, with no one to help, I will make you a joy for ever, a gladness from generation to generation. You shall suck the milk of nations, eat the wealth of kings; and you shall know that I, the Lord, am your Saviour and the God of Israel your Redeemer.'

Choir: **Troparion Tone 1** O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

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

Kontakion Tone 4 As You were willingly raised upon the Cross for our sake,
grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God;
make all right-glorifying Christians glad by Your power,
granting them victories over their adversaries / /
by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Your weapon of peace!

THE LITTLE LITANY AND TRISAGION

Deacon: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

Choir: Lord have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Priest: For You are holy, our God, and rest in the holy place and to You we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever

Deacon: and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify! (x3)

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

Amen. and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify!

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Your holy Resurrection, we glorify!

THE EPISTLE

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace to all!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the seventh tone: Extol the Lord our God; / worship at His footstool for it is holy! (Psalm 98:5)

Choir: Extol the Lord our God; / worship at His footstool for it is holy! (Psalm 98:5)

Reader: The Lord reigns; let the people tremble! (Psalm 98:1a)

Choir: Extol the Lord our God; / worship at His footstool for it is holy! (Psalm 98:5)

Reader: Extol the Lord our God;

Choir: worship at His footstool for it is holy! (Psalm 98:5)

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the first epistle of the Apostle Paul to the Corinthians. (1:18-24)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: *Brethren:* the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the Power of God and the Wisdom of God.

Priest: Peace to you, reader!

Reader: And to your spirit! Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: Remember Your congregation which You have purchased of old. (*Psalm 73:2*)

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: God is our King before the ages; He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth. (*Psalm 73:13*)

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright! Let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all!

Choir: And to your spirit,

Deacon: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to John (19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35)

Choir: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You!

Priest: Let us attend!

Deacon: (reads the Gospel)

Choir: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You!

The Liturgy continues on page 30 of the pew book.

(Instead of "It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos...", we sing:)

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

You are a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos,

who, though untilled, have 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 you.

Communion Hymn The light of Your countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord. (*Psalm 4:7*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

(Instead of "We have seen the True Light...", we sing:)

Tone 1 O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!