

SEPTEMBER 14

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross

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!

The First Antiphon

God, my God, attend to me! Why have You forsaken me? (Ps. 21:1a)

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

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

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

You dwell 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 do You cast us off forever? *(Ps. 73:1a)*

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

Remember Your congregation, which You have gotten of old! *(Ps. 73:2) (Refrain)*

Remember Mount Sion, where You have 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 reigned, let the peoples be enraged. *(Psalm 98:1a)*

Tone 1 Troparion 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!

The Lord reigned, let the peoples be enraged; the one who sits upon the cherubim, let the earth be shaken. *(Psalm 98:1) Troparion of the Feast*

The Lord – great in Sion, and is high over all the peoples. *(Psalm 98:2) Troparion of the Feast*

Lift up the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain, for holy is the Lord our God.
(Psalm 98:10) Troparion of the Feast

ENTRANCE VERSE

Lift up the Lord our God, and worship the footstool of his feet, for he is holy. *(Psalm 98:5)*

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

Tone 1 Troparion

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!

Tone 4 Kontakion

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

(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, / and Your 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)

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

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.

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v. Remember your assembly which you obtained from of old. (Psalm 73:2)

v. God is our king from before the ages, he worked salvation in the midst of the earth. (Psalm 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!

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. *(Ps. 4:7)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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