

14 SEPTEMBER
§ Holy Cross

VESPERS

Lord I have cried

Tone 6

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;
O Lord, listen to me.

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;
Note the voice of my plea when I cry to you.
O Lord, listen to me.

² Let my prayer be directed before you like incense,
the raising of my hands be an evening sacrifice.
O Lord, listen to me.

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?
But there is forgiveness with you.

S5: O Lord, I have waited for you for your name's sake;
my soul has waited for your word,
my soul has hoped in the Lord.

The exalted cross calls all creation to praise the undefiled passion of Christ. He was exalted on it and killed the one who killed us. Christ has brought us back to life, has adorned us and made us worthy to live in the heavens. We rejoice, exalt his name and glorify his condescension. *X2*

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord
from morning watch until night,
from morning watch.

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord
and abundant redemption with *him*.
He will redeem Israel from all his offences.

O precious cross, Moses prefigured you when he stretched out his hands on high and put Amalek the tyrant to flight. You are the boast of the faithful, help of the suffering, glory of the apostles, champion of the just and the preserver of all the saints. When it sees you raised on high, creation rejoices and celebrates. It glorifies Christ, who in his infinite goodness has joined together through you what was divided. *X2*

S2: Every nation, praise the Lord;
every people, acclaim him!

S1: For his mercy is strengthened over us
and the truth of the Lord remains for ever.

O most precious cross attended by ranks of rejoicing angels, you are exalted today. By divine command you raise again all those who had been outcast and were sunk in death on account of the stolen fruit. Now we embrace you in faith with heart and lips. We draw sanctification from you and cry, "Exalt the supreme goodness of Christ our God and venerate his divine footstool." *X2*

Glory: Both now: Tone 2

All you people, come and fall down in worship before the blessed tree, for eternal justice has come to pass by the cross. The devil deceived Adam by the tree; now he has been deceived by the cross. He held the royal creation in bondage; now he has been cast down with an amazing fall. The serpent's venom is washed by the blood of God and the curse is destroyed by the just sentence of the just *Lord* who was unjustly condemned. The tree has been healed by the tree and the passion of the God without passion has destroyed the passions of the condemned. Glory to your dispensation, O Christ, our gracious King and the Lover of the human race!

Entrance

Phos Ilarón

P/D: Wisdom! Stand upright!

O Jesus Christ, joyful light of the holy glory
of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father,
when we come to the setting of the sun
and see the light of evening,
we praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For it is right at all times to worship you
with voices of praise,
O Son of God *and* Giver of life.
Therefore the world glorifies you.

Prokeímenon
Of the Day

Prophecy 1

The wood purifies water, just as the cross cleanses us from sin.
From the Book of Exodus (15:22-16:1)

Moses brought up the children of Israel from the Red Sea and brought them into the wilderness of Shur. They went three days into the wilderness, and found no water to drink. ²³ They came to Marah, but could not drink from Marah, for it was bitter, therefore he called the name of that place, Bitterness. ²⁴ Then the people murmured against Moses, saying: What shall we drink? ²⁵ So Moses cried to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree which he threw into the water, then the water was sweetened. There he established ordinances and judgments for him, and there he tested him. ²⁶ He said: If you listen to the voice of the Lord your God, do what is pleasing before him, listen to his commandments and keep all his ordinances, no disease which I have brought on the Egyptians will I bring on you, for I am the Lord your God who heals you. ²⁷ Then they came to Elim where there were there twelve springs of water and seventy stems of palm-trees; so they encamped there by the waters. ¹ Then they left Elim and all the assembly of the sons of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai on the fifteenth day, in the second month after their departure from the land of Egypt.

Prophecy 2

Wisdom is a tree of life.

From the Book of Proverbs (3:11-18)

My son, do not despise the discipline of the Lord, nor faint when you are rebuked by him, ¹² for the one whom the Lord loves, he disciplines, and scourges every son whom he receives. ¹³ Blessed is the person who has found wisdom, and the mortal who knows prudence. ¹⁴ For it is better to travel for her, than for treasures of gold and silver. ¹⁵ She is more valuable than precious stones, *and* nothing evil can resist her. She is well known to all those who love her, and nothing precious is equal to her in value. ¹⁶ For length of existence and years of life are in her right hand; and in her left hand are riches and glory. Justice comes from her mouth, and she carries law and mercy on her tongue. ¹⁷ Her ways are good ways, and all her paths are peaceful. ¹⁸ She is a tree of life to all those who take hold of her, and to those who rest on her, as on the Lord.

Prophecy 3

The wood of the cross, like the cypress, pine and cedar, gives glory.
From the Prophecy of Isaiah (60:11-16)

Thus says the Lord: Your gates of Jerusalem will always be opened; they will not be shut by day or night, in order to bring you the power of the nations, and their kings as captives. ¹² For nations and kings who will not serve you will perish, and *those* nations will be made utterly desolate. ¹³ The glory of Lebanon will come to you, with the cypress, pine and cedar together to glorify my holy place. ¹⁴ The sons of those who humbled and provoked you will come to you in fear, and fall before the soles of your feet. You will be called City of *the* Lord, Zion of the Holy One of Israel, ¹⁵ because you have become desolate and hated, and there was no helper. I will make you a perpetual joy, a gladness for generations of generations. ¹⁶ You will suck the milk of nations, and eat the wealth of kings. You will know that I am the Lord who saves you and delivers you, the God of Israel.

Ektení

Prayer

O Lord, allow us this night to be guarded from sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our fathers! Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. O Lord, let your mercy be on us, for we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. Blessed are you, O Master; make me understand your statutes. Blessed are you, O Holy *One*; enlighten me with your statutes. O Lord, your mercy

lasts for ever; do not overlook the work of your hands. To you belongs worship, to you belongs praise, to you belongs glory, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Plirotiká

Prayer

P: Peace be with you all. R: And with your spirit
D: Bow down your heads to the Lord. R: To you, O Lord.

P: For blessed and glorified is the power of your Kingdom, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

Liti

Tone 4

O Christ, Moses prefigured the power of the precious cross when he put to flight Amalek, his adversary in the wilderness of Sinai, for when he stretched out his arms in the form of a cross the people became strong again. Now the fulfilment of these images has come to pass for us. Today the cross is exalted and the devils put to flight. Today all creation is set free from corruption. For every gift of grace shines on us through the cross, so we all fall before you with rejoicing and cry, "O Lord, how wonderful are your works; glory to you!"

Apósticha

Tone 5

Hail, O life-bearing cross, the invincible weapon of godliness, the gate of Paradise and the protection of the faithful. The cross is the might of the church. Corruption is abolished through it; the power of death is crushed through it and we are raised from earth to heaven; *it is the invincible weapon of peace.* The cross is the enemy of demons, the glory of the martyrs and the haven of salvation which grants the world great mercy.

S1: Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his footstool. *Ps 98*

Hail, O cross of the Lord! Through you the human race has been rescued from the curse and shatters the enemy by your exaltation. O cross, worthy of all honour, you are a sign of true joy, our help, the strength of kings, the power of the just and the majesty of priests. O rod of strength, under which we like sheep are tended, O weapon of peace round which the angels stand in fear, O divine glory of Christ our God, you grant the world great mercy. All who sign themselves with you are freed from anger.

S2: God *was* our King in the past;
he has brought about salvation in the midst of the earth. *Ps 73*

Hail, O guide of the blind, physician of the sick and resurrection of the dead! O precious cross, you raised us up when we had fallen into mortality. Through you corruption has been destroyed; through you incorruption has blossomed. We mortals have been made divine and the Devil is completely overthrown. As we see you exalted today by the hands of bishops, we exalt the one who was raised high on you and fall in worship before you, while we freely draw great mercy from you.

Glory: Both now: Tone 8

O Christ our God, we poor sinners bow deeply today before your precious cross. Moses prefigured the cross and defeated Amalek; David ordered worship at your footstool. So today we sinners, O Christ, fall in worship before your precious feet. Together with the thief we cry to you, O crucified *Master*, "O Lord, make us worthy of your kingdom."

Song of Simeon

B/P: O Master, now let your servant depart in peace
according to your word,
² for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared before all peoples,
³ a light of revelation for *the* nations
and *the* glory of your people Israel.

Triságion Prayers

Apolytikion

Tone 1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries and preserve your commonwealth through your cross. *X3*

Dismissal

ORTHROS

God is the Lord Ps 117

R: God is the Lord and has appeared to us.
Blessed is the one who comes in the Lord's name. *Ps 117*

S1: Thank the Lord, for he is good,
for his mercy lasts for ever.

S2: All the nations surrounded me,
but I opposed them in the Lord's name.

S3: This *is* the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful in our eyes.

Apolytikion

Tone 1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries and preserve your commonwealth through your cross. *X3*

Small Litany

P: For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Kathisma 1

Tone 1

O Lover of the human race, we venerate the wood of your cross, for you, the Life of all, were nailed on it. O Saviour, you opened Paradise to the thief who turned to you in faith. You counted him worthy of blessedness when he confessed you and cried, "O Lord, remember me." Accept us like him, as we cry, "We have sinned; do not despise us in your mercy." *X2*

Kathisma 2

Tone 6

O Christ our Lord, no sooner was the wood of your cross set up than the foundations of death were shaken. What Hades had swallowed in eagerness, it now let go with trembling. O holy *Lord*, you have shown us your salvation and we glorify you. O Son of God, have mercy on us. *X2*

Polyeleos

Kathisma 3

Tone 3

O my Saviour, Joshua, the son of Nun, mystically foreshadowed your cross in ancient times when he stretched out his arms in the form of a cross. O God, the sun stood still until he had destroyed his enemies who were opposed to you. But now the sun has grown dark since it has seen you on the cross as you abolish the might of death and capture Hades. *X2*

Small Litany

P: For blessed is your name, and glorified is your kingdom, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Anaváthmi Ps 128 Tone 4

1: Many passions have fought against me from my youth,
but help me and save me, O my Saviour. *X2*

2: Those who hate Zion will be shamed by the Lord;
they will be withered like grass by the fire. *X2*

Glory:

3: Every soul lives through the Holy Spirit, is exalted in purity

and illuminated by the Triune Unity in a sacred mystery.

Both now:

4: The streams of grace pour out through the Holy Spirit;
they water all creation and produce life.

Prokeímenon Ps 97 Tone 4

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

S: Sing a new song to the Lord.

Gospel Dialogue

P/D: Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy*

P: For you, O God, are holy and rest in the Holy Place. We send up glory to you, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

R: Let everything with breath praise the Lord. *X3*

Praise God in his saints;

praise him in the firmament of his power. *Ps 50*

P/D: And that we may be counted worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord our God. *Lord have mercy X3*

P/D: Wisdom. Stand up. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

P: Peace be with you all. *And with your spirit*

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

P/D: Let us attend

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Gospel

From the Holy Gospel according to John (12:28-36)

The Lord said, "Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. Now is the time for judgement on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die. The crowd spoke up, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ will remain for ever, so how can you say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this 'Son of Man'?" Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. The man who walks in the dark does not know where he is going. Put your trust in the light while you have it, so that you may become sons of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Resurrection Ode

P/R: Now that we have seen the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. O Christ, we venerate your cross. We praise and glorify your holy resurrection, for you are our God, and we know no one else apart from you. We call on your name. All you faithful, come and venerate Christ's holy resurrection, for see, joy has come into the whole world through the cross. Let us always bless the Lord and praise his resurrection, for he has destroyed death by death by enduring the cross for us.

Psalm 50

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy
and wipe out my offence through your great compassion.

⁴ Wash me thoroughly from my lawless act
and cleanse me from my sin.

⁵ For I know my lawlessness
and my sin is always before me.

⁶ I have sinned against you alone
and done this evil before you

^{6b} so that you might be justified in your words
and overcome when you are judged.

⁷ For see, I was conceived in lawlessness
and my mother gave birth to me in sin.

⁸ For see, you have loved truth
and revealed to me the hidden and secret *things* of your wisdom.

⁹ You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be clean;
you will wash me and I will become whiter than snow.

¹⁰ You will make me hear about joy and gladness;

the humbled bones will rejoice.

¹¹ Turn your face from my sins
and wipe out all my lawlessness.

¹² O God, create a pure heart within me
and renew an upright spirit within me.

¹³ Do not banish me from your presence
or remove your Holy Spirit from me.

¹⁴ Restore the joy of your salvation to me
and make me firm with your directing Spirit.

¹⁵ I will teach the lawless your ways
and the ungodly will return to you.

¹⁶ O God, set me free from the guilt of blood;
O God of my salvation,
my tongue will rejoice in your justice.

¹⁷ O Lord, you will open my lips
and my mouth will proclaim your praise.

¹⁸ For if you had wanted sacrifice, I would have given it;
you will not be pleased with burnt offerings.

¹⁹ Sacrifice for God is a broken spirit;
God will not despise a broken and humbled heart.

²⁰ O Lord, be good to Zion in your pleasure
and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.

²¹ Then you will be pleased with a sacrifice of justice,
with an offering and burnt sacrifices;
then they will offer calves on your altar.

Glory: Tone 2

O three branched cross of Christ, you are my strong protection.
Sanctify me by your might so that I may venerate and glorify you in love.

Both now:

O three branched cross of Christ, you are my strong protection.
Sanctify me by your might so that I may venerate and glorify you in love.

Have mercy: Tone 6

O cross of Christ, hope of Christians, guide of those who have gone astray, haven of the storm-tossed, victory in warfare, firm foundation of the world, physician of the sick and resurrection of the dead, have mercy on us.

Intercession

Short Form

P/D: O God, save your people and bless your inheritance. Visit your world with mercy and compassion; exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians and send down on them your rich mercy, through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the honourable and life-giving cross, through the protection of the honourable bodiless powers of heaven, through the prayers of the honourable, glorious, prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, of the holy, glorious, all-praised apostles, of the holy, all-praised and victorious martyrs, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, of the holy and just forebears of God, Ioachim and Anna, and of all the saints. We ask you, only merciful Lord, "Listen to us sinners as we pray to you, and have mercy on us."

Lord have mercy. X12

Through the mercy, compassion and love for the human race of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with the all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

Kontákion

Without Note

Tone 4

O Christ our God, since you were willingly raised on the cross, grant mercies to your new community, which is called by your name. Make firm our faithful rulers with your power and grant them victories over their enemies. May your help be a weapon of peace and an invincible trophy.

Íkos

Paul was caught up to the third heaven and heard ineffable and divine words, which were not lawful for the human tongue to speak. He wrote to the Galatians (as lovers of the Scriptures, you have read his words and know). "But God forbid," he said, "that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, on which he killed our passions by his passion." Therefore let us firmly hold fast to the cross of the Lord, which is the glory of us all, for this wood is our salvation, a weapon of peace and an invincible trophy.

Synaxáriorion

Today we celebrate the universal exaltation of the precious and life-giving cross. The day commemorates the discovery of the true cross by St Eleni and its return to Jerusalem after its Seventh Century capture by the Persians. O Saviour, the whole creation praises your exaltation when it sees the elevation of the cross. On the Fourteenth the cross was raised on Zion.

We also remember:

Empress Plakilla of Constantinople C5

Repose of John Chrysóstom C5

Fathers of the Sixth Council C7

New Martyr Makários of Athos C16

O God, have mercy on us through their holy prayers. Amen.

Katavasías

1: Moses inscribed the invincible weapon of the cross on the waters and marked a straight line before him with his staff. He divided the Red Sea and opened a path for Israel who went over dry shod. Then he marked a second line across the waters, united them in one and overwhelmed the chariots of Pharaoh. Therefore let us sing to Christ our God, for he has been glorified.

3: The rod of Aaron is an image of this mystery; it comes into bud to show who should be priest. So the wood of the Cross has now flowered in the Church that once was barren. It has filled her with strength and steadfastness.

4: O Lord, I have heard the mystery of your dispensation. I have considered your works and glorified your divinity.

5: O three times blessed tree, on which Christ the King and Lord was stretched, the beguiler who tempted the human race with the tree fell because of you. He was caught in the trap set by God who was crucified on you in the flesh and grants peace to our souls.

6: Jonah stretched out his hands in the form of a cross within the belly of the whale and plainly prefigured your redeeming passion. He was cast out after three days and foreshadowed the mighty resurrection of Christ our God who was crucified in the flesh and enlightened the world by his rising on the third day.

7: The senseless decree of the wicked tyrant confused the people and breathed out threats and blasphemy hateful to God. Yet neither the fury of wild beasts nor the roaring of the fire could frighten the three children. As they stood together in the flame and were fanned by the wind that brought refreshment like the dew, they sang, "Blessed are you and praised above all, our God and the God of our fathers!"

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord. O children, equal in number to the Trinity, bless God the Father and Creator. Sing the praises of the Word who descended and changed the fire to dew and exalt above all for ever the most Holy Spirit who gives life to all.

Canticle Nine

The Magnificat is not sung.

Tone 8

O my soul,

glorify the most precious and life-giving cross of the Lord.

O Theotokos, you are a mystical Paradise in which Christ blossomed. Through him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its elevation we bow in worship before it and glorify you.

O my soul,
glorify the most precious and life-giving cross of the Lord.
Let all the trees of the wood rejoice, for their nature is sanctified by Christ. He planted them in the beginning and was stretched out on a tree. At its exaltation on this day, we worship him and glorify you.

O my soul,
glorify the most precious and life-giving cross of the Lord.
The cross is raised up as a sacred horn of strength for all God's people whose foreheads are marked with it. All the horns of the spiritual powers of wickedness are crushed through it. At its exaltation on this day, we worship him and glorify you.

O my soul,
glorify the most precious and life-giving cross of the Lord.
Today the death, which came to man through eating from the tree, is made ineffective through the cross. The curse on our mother Eve, which fell on the human race, is destroyed by the pure fruit of the Theotokos, whom all the powers of heaven glorify.

9: O Theotokos, you are a mystical Paradise in which Christ blossomed. Through him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its elevation we bow in worship before it and glorify you.

Small Litany

P: For all the powers of heaven praise you, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Exaposteilária

Tone 2

The cross is the guardian of the whole earth! The cross is the beauty of the Church! The cross is the strength of kings! The cross is the support of the faithful! The cross is the glory of angels and the wounder of demons! X2

Today the cross is exalted and the world is sanctified. For you, O Christ, who are enthroned with the Father and the Holy Spirit, have spread your arms on it and drawn the world to the knowledge of you. Make those who have put their trust in you worthy of divine glory.

Praises

Tone 8

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.
To you, O God, is due a song.

Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his powers.
To you, O God, is due a song.

S4: Praise him with cymbal and dance;
praise him with strings and flute.
Most strange wonder! The most holy cross, the life-giving tree, is raised on high today and shown to the world. All the ends of the earth give glory and all the devils are frightened. How great a gift is here granted to mortals! O Christ, only compassionate *Lord*, save our souls through your cross.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;
praise him with joyful cymbals.
Let everything with breath praise the Lord.
Most strange wonder! The most holy cross, the life-giving tree, is raised on high today and shown to the world. All the ends of the earth give glory and all the devils are frightened. How great a gift is here granted to mortals! O Christ, only compassionate *Lord*, save our souls through your cross

S2: Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his footstool. P. 98

Most strange wonder! The cross which carried the Most High as a cluster of grapes full of life, is seen today exalted high above the earth. Through the cross we are all drawn to God and death has been swallowed up for ever. O undefiled wood, we enjoy the immortal fruit of Eden through you as we glorify Christ.

S1: God *was* our King in the past;

he has brought about salvation in the midst of the earth. Ps 73

Most strange wonder! The length and breadth of the cross spans the heavens for it sanctifies the whole world by divine grace. By the cross godless nations are conquered; by the cross rule and justice are confirmed. O divine ladder, through you we go up to heaven as we exalt Christ the Lord in song.

Glory: Both now: Tone 6

Today the cross of the Lord goes out and the faithful welcome it with love. They receive healing of soul and body and of every weakness. Let us kiss it with joy and fear: with fear, for we are unworthy because of sin; with joy, for Christ the Lord was crucified on it in his great mercy and granted salvation to the world.

Great Doxology

Glory to you who have shown us the light!

glory to God in the highest!

Peace on earth and goodwill to men!

² We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
we glorify you, we thank you for your great glory,

³ O Lord King, heavenly God, almighty Father,
O Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,
and you, O Holy Spirit!

⁴ O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us,

for you take away the sin of the world.

⁵ Receive our prayer,

for you sit on the right of the Father,
and have mercy on us.

⁶ For only you are holy, only you are Lord,

O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

⁷ I will bless you every day

and always praise your name for ever and ever. Ps 144

⁸ O Lord, allow us this day

to be guarded from sin.

⁹ Blessed are you, O Lord God of our fathers!

Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. Daniel 3

¹⁰ O Lord, let your mercy *be* on us,

for we have hoped in you. Ps 32.

¹⁶ Blessed are you, O Lord!

Teach me your statutes. *X3* Ps 118

¹² O Lord, you have been our refuge

from generation to generation. Ps 89

I said, "O Lord, have mercy on me;

heal my soul, for I have sinned against you." Ps 40

¹⁴ O Lord, I have fled to you;

teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Ps 142

¹⁵ For with you is the source of life

and in your light we will see light. Ps 35

¹⁶ Stretch out your mercy

to those who know you. Ps 35

Triságion

Apolytikion

Tone 1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries and preserve your commonwealth through your cross.

LITURGY

Antíphon 1 Ps 21 Tone 2

S1: O God, my God, be attentive to me;
why have you forsaken me?

R: At the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us!

S2: The words of my offences are far from my salvation.

S3: My God, I will cry by day, *but* you will not listen.

S4: O Praise of Israel, you will live in the sanctuary.

S5: Glory: Both now:

Antíphon 2 Ps 73 Own Tone

S1: O God, why have you completely banished us?

R: Save us, O Son of God.

You were crucified in the flesh.

We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

S2: Remember your assembled people

whom you have purchased from the beginning.

S3: This is Mount Zion on which you have settled.

S4: God *was* our king in the past;

he has accomplished salvation in the midst of the earth.

S5: Glory: Both now:

Monogenes

Antíphon 3 Ps 98 Tone 1

S1: The Lord reigns; let the peoples rage.

R: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries and preserve your commonwealth through your cross.

S2: He sits on the cherubim; let the earth be shaken.

S3: The Lord is great in Zion and high over all the peoples.

S4: Let them acknowledge your great name

for *it* is terrible and holy.

Entrance Ps 98

Exalt the Lord our God

and worship at his footstool, for he is holy.

Save us, O Son of God.

You were crucified in the flesh.

We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

Apolytikion

Tone 1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries and preserve your commonwealth through your cross.

Kontákion

Tone 4

O Christ our God, since you were willingly raised on the cross, grant mercies to your new community which is called by your name.

Make firm our faithful rulers with your power and grant them victories over their enemies. May your help be a weapon of peace and an invincible trophy.

Triságion Substitute

O Master, we bow before yours cross
and glorify your resurrection. *X3*

Glory: Both now:

and glorify your resurrection.

Dynamis

O Master, we bow before yours cross

and glorify your resurrection.

Prokeimenon Ps 98 Tone 7

R: Exalt the Lord our God.

S: The Lord reigns, let the peoples rage.

Apostolos

From the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1:18-24)

Brothers, the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and frustrate the cleverness of the clever." ²⁰ Where is the wise man? Where is the

scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Surely God has made the wisdom of the world foolish? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Alleluia Ps 73 Tone 1

S1: Remember your assembled people
whom you have purchased from the beginning.
S2: Yet God *was* our king in the past;
he has accomplished salvation in the midst of the earth.

Gospel

From the Holy Gospel according to John (19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30)
At that time, the chief priests and elders took counsel about Jesus-how to destroy him. They came before Pilate and said, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." ⁷ The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God." ⁸ When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; ⁹ he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. ¹⁰ Pilate therefore said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" ¹¹ Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above." ¹³ When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gabbathá. ¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" ¹⁵ They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶ Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. ¹⁷ So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgothá. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ⁵ But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopás, and Mary Magdaleni. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. ²⁸ After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Especially

O Theotokos, you are a mystical Paradise in which Christ blossomed. Through him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its elevation we bow in worship before it and glorify you.

Communion Ps 4

O Lord, the light of your face has been signed on us. Alleluia!

Post Communion

Tone 1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant victories to the faithful over their adversaries and preserve your commonwealth through your cross.