

Elevation of the Cross

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Hierarchical

The Reception of the Bishop

The clergy meets the bishop at the back of the church as begins the Litany.

PRIEST: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, hear us we pray, and have mercy.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

PRIEST: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

PRIEST: Again we pray our father, (*metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop*) *N.*

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

BISHOP/PRIEST: For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

The clergy and the bishop process to the foot of the solea while the people sing:

The Lord is God and has ap - peared to us;
let us keep the feast to-geth-er Come and with great re - joi - cing
let us mag-ni-fy Christ with palms and branch-es, and let us cry a-loud:
Bless - ed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord our Sa - vior.

While the Bishop blesses them with the handcross the people sing Many Years:

Eis pol-la e - ti des - - po - ta.

GREAT VESPERS

DEACON: Bless, Father.

PRIEST: Blessed is our God always now and ever and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

“Come Let Us Worship...” – done by Bishop

Psalm 104 – done by Bishop

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind, Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. You Who laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever, You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At Your rebuke they fled; at the voice of Your thunder they hastened away. They went up over the mountains; they went down into the valleys, to the place which You founded for them. You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, that they may not return to cover the earth. He sends the springs into the valleys, which flow among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field; / the wild donkeys quench their thirst. By them the birds of the heavens have their habitation; they sing among the branches. He waters the hills from His upper chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works. He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine that makes glad the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread which strengthens man's heart. The trees of the Lord are full of sap, the cedars of Lebanon which He planted, where the birds make their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high hills are for the wild goats; the cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers. He appointed the moon for the seasons; the sun know its going down. You made darkness, and it is night, in which all the beasts of the forest creep about. The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their food from God. When the sun arises, they gather together and lie down in their dens. Man goes out 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 possessions – this great and wide sea, in which are innumerable teeming things, living things both small and great. There the ships sail about and there is that Leviathan which You have made to play there. These all wait for You, that You may give them their food in due season. What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good. You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in His works. He looks on the earth, and it trembles; He touches the hills, and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the Lord.

May sinners be consumed from the earth, and the wicked be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord! The sun knows its going down. You make darkness and it is night. O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all.

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

PEOPLE: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)
O our God and our hope, glory to You!

The Great Litany

DEACON: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For our father, (*metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop*) N., the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For our president, all civil authorities, and for our armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For this city, every city and countryside, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For healthful seasons, an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our most-holy, most-pure, most-blessed, and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

Exclamation of the Fourth Prayer

PRIEST: For unto You are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

“O Lord, I Cry...” – Tone 6

Opening Psalm Verses - Psalm 141:1, 2 (LXX 140)

O Lord, I cry out to You, hear me! Hear me, O Lord. O Lord, I cry out to You, hear me. Give ear, give ear to my voice when I cry out to You. Hear me, O Lord

Let my prayer be set before You as incense, as incense before You and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

Set a guard, O Lord over my mouth; keep watch o’er the door of my lips.

Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men who work iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies.

Let the righteous strike me; it shall be a kindness, and let him reprove me; it shall be as excellent oil. Let not my head refuse it, for still my prayer is against the deeds of the wicked.

Their judges are overthrown by the sides of the cliff and they hear my words for they are sweet. Our bones are scattered at the mouth of the grave, as when one plows and breaks up the earth.

But my eyes are upon You, O God the Lord; in You I take refuge; do not leave my soul destitute.

Keep me from the snares which they have laid for me, and from the traps of the workers of iniquity. Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I escape safely.

Psalm 142 (LXX 141)

I cry out to the Lord with my voice; with my voice to the Lord I make my supplication.

I pour out my complaint before Him; I declare before Him my trouble.

When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then You knew my path. In a way in which I walk they have secretly set a snare for me.

Look on my right hand and see, for there is no one who acknowledges me; refuge has failed me; no one cares for my soul.

I cried out to You, O Lord. I said, “You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

Attend to my cry, for I am brought very low; deliver me from my persecutors for they are stronger than I.”

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Your name.

The righteous shall surround me, for You shall deal bountifully with me.

Psalm 130 (LXX 129)

Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!

Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.

(Tone 6)

The Cross is raised on high, and urges all the creation to sing the praises of the undefiled Passion of Him Who was lifted high upon it. For there it was that He killed our slayer, and brought the dead to life again: and in His exceeding goodness and compassion, He made us beautiful and counted us worthy to be citizens of heaven. Therefore with rejoicing let us exalt His name and magnify His surpassing condescension.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope.

The Cross is raised on high, and urges all the creation to sing the praises of the undefiled Passion of Him Who was lifted high upon it. For there it was that He killed our slayer, and brought the dead to life again: and in His exceeding goodness and compassion, He made us beautiful and counted us worthy to be citizens of heaven. Therefore with rejoicing let us exalt His name and magnify His surpassing condescension.

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, I say more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord;

Moses prefigured you, O precious Cross, when he stretched out his hands on high and put Amalek the tyrant to flight. You are the boast of the faithful and help of the persecuted, the glory of the apostles, the champion of the righteous, and the preserver of all the saints. Therefore, beholding you raised on high, creation rejoices and keeps feast, glorifying Christ, Who in His surpassing goodness through you has joined together that which was divided.

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Moses prefigured you, O precious Cross, when he stretched out his hands on high and put Amalek the tyrant to flight. You are the boast of the faithful and help of the persecuted, the glory of the apostles, the champion of the righteous, and the preserver of all the saints. Therefore, beholding you raised on high, creation rejoices and keeps feast, glorifying Christ, Who in His surpassing goodness through you has joined together that which was divided.

Psalm 117 (LXX 116)

O, praise the Lord, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!

O most venerable Cross, attended by ranks of rejoicing angels, you are exalted today, and by divine command you lift up again all those who, through the stealing of the fruit, had been made outcasts and were sunk in death. Therefore, embracing you in faith with heart and lips, we draw from you sanctification and we cry aloud: Exalt Christ, the God most good, and venerate His divine footstool.

For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

O most venerable Cross, attended by ranks of rejoicing angels, you are exalted today, and by divine command you lift up again all those who, through the stealing of the fruit, had been made outcasts and were sunk in death. Therefore, embracing you in faith with heart and lips, we draw from you sanctification and we cry aloud: Exalt Christ, the God most good, 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 peoples, and let us venerate the blessed Wood, through which the eternal justice has been brought to pass. For he who by a tree deceived our forefather Adam, is by the Cross himself deceived; and he is overthrown in headlong fall, who by tyranny gained possession of the creature endowed by God with royal dignity. By the blood of God the poison of the serpent is washed away; and the curse of a just condemnation is loosed by the unjust punishment inflicted on the just. For it was fitting that wood should be healed by wood, and that through the Passion of One Who knew not passion all the sufferings of him who was condemned because of wood should be remitted. But glory be to You, O Christ our King, for Your dread dispensation towards us, whereby You have saved us all, for You are good and You love mankind.

The Prayer before the Entrance

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: In the evening and in the morning and at noonday we praise You, we bless You, we give thanks to You, and we pray to You, O Master of all, Lord Who love mankind. Direct our prayer before You as incense, and incline not our hearts to words or thoughts of evil; but deliver us from all who seek after our souls. For unto You, Lord, O Lord, we lift up our eyes, and in You have we hoped. Put us not to shame, O our God.

For unto You are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

DEACON: Amen.

DEACON: Bless, **master**, the holy entrance.

PRIEST: Blessed is the entrance into Your holy place always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

DEACON: Amen.

DEACON: Wisdom. Let us attend.

“O Joyful Light”

PEOPLE: O joyful Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father: O 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 it is right at all times to worship You with voices of praise, O Son of God and Giver of life. Therefore all the world glorifies You.

Saturday Evening Prokeimenon: Tone 6

Psalm 93 (LXX 92)

The Lord is King; He is clothed in majesty.

Verse: The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength.

Verse: For He established the world so that it shall never be moved.

Old Testament Readings

Exodus 15:22–16:1

So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah. And the people complained against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them, and there He tested them, and said, “If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD Who heals you.” Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; so they camped there by the waters. And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt.

Proverbs 3:11-18

My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor detest His correction; for whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights. Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gains understanding; for the profits gained

from wisdom are better than treasures of silver or fine gold. And wisdom is more valuable than precious stones; and all the things you may desire cannot compare with her. Length of days is in her right hand, in her left hand riches and honor. Righteousness proceeds from her mouth and she carries law and mercy upon her tongue. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and she is security for those who lean upon her as upon the Lord.

Isaiah 60:11-16

Thus says the Lord: Your gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day or night, that men may bring to you the wealth of the Gentiles, and their kings in procession. For the nation and kingdom which will not serve you shall perish, and those nations shall be utterly ruined. "The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the cypress, the pine, and the box tree together, to beautify the place of My sanctuary; and I will make the place of My feet glorious. Also the sons of those who afflicted you shall come bowing to you, and all those who despised you shall fall prostrate at the soles of your feet; and they shall call you The City of the LORD, Zion of the Holy One of Israel. "Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, so that no one went through you, I will make you an eternal excellence, a joy of many generations. You shall drink the milk of the Gentiles, and milk the breast of kings; you shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

The Litany of Fervent Supplication / The Ektenia

DEACON: Let us say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us say.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, hear us we pray, and have mercy.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, hear us we pray, and have mercy.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians; for our father, (*metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop*) N.; for our brethren: the priests, deacons, and monastics and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church (*and for the servants of God. NN.*); and for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation, and for pardon and forgiveness of sins for (*the servants of God NN., and*) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for those who serve and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

PRIEST: [O Lord our God, receive this fervent supplication of Your servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Your mercy; and send down Your compassion on us and on all Your people, who await Your great and rich mercy.]

For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

The Evening Prayer – Bishop starts

PEOPLE: Grant, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever. Amen. Let Your mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on You. Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes. Blessed are You, O Master; make me to understand Your statutes. Blessed are You, O holy One; enlighten me with Your statutes. Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever. Despise not the works of Your hands. To You belongs worship, to You belongs praise, to You belongs glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Evening Litany

DEACON: Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That this whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For pardon and forgiveness of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For all things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For a Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, and peaceful, and for a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our most-holy, most-pure, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

Exclamation of the Seventh Prayer

PRIEST: For You are a good God and love mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE: And to your spirit.

The Prayer with Heads Bowed – done silently by Bishop

DEACON: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Lord, our God, Who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of mankind, look upon Your servants and Your inheritance; for to You, the fearful Judge, Who love mankind, have Your servants bowed their heads, and submissively inclined their necks, not awaiting help from men, but entreating Your mercy and looking confidently for Your salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every enemy, from all adverse powers of the devil, and from vain thoughts and evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of Your kingdom: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

Aposticha: Tone 5

Rejoice! Life-giving Cross,
unconquerable trophy of godliness, door to paradise,
help of the faithful, rampart set about the Church! *

Through you, corruption is utterly destroyed,
the power of death is swallowed up,
and we are raised from earth to heaven:

Invincible weapon, adversary of devils, *
glory of martyrs, true ornament of saints,
haven of salvation, *
bestowing on the world great mercy!

Exalt the Lord our God and bow down before His footstool, for He is holy.

Rejoice! Cross of the Lord:
Through you, mankind has been delivered from the curse.
Shattering the enemy by your Elevation, *
O all-venerable Cross, you are a sign of true joy.
You are our help, you are the strength of kings,
the power of righteous men, the majesty of priests.
All who sign themselves with you are freed from danger. *
Rod of strength under which we like sheep are tended,
you are a weapon of peace around which angels stand in fear. *
You are the divine glory of Christ Who grants the world great mercy.

Yet God is our eternal King; He has accomplished salvation in the midst of the earth.

Rejoice! guide of the blind,
physician of the sick and resurrection of all the dead.
O precious Cross, *
you have lifted us up when we were fallen into death.
Through you corruption has been destroyed,
and incorruption has blossomed forth;
we mortal men are made divine! *
And the devil is utterly cast down.
Seeing you exalted by the hands of bishops on this day,
we exalt Him Who was lifted high upon you,
and we venerate you, *
drawing from you great and abundant 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)

Today, O Christ our God,
with unworthy lips we venerate Your precious Cross,
which Moses once prefigured in himself, *
when he overthrew Amalek and put him to flight;
and which David the psalmist commanded to be venerated as Your
footstool.
We cry aloud to You
Who were pleased to be crucified upon it: *
“O Lord, with the thief, count us worthy of Your Kingdom.”

Hymn of St. Simeon - done by Bishop

Lord, now you are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.

Trisagion Prayers

PEOPLE: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

PRIEST: For Thine is the kingdom...now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

Troparion: Tone 1 (Byzantine) – sing 3x

O Lord, save Your peo - ple and bless Your in - her - i - tance, grant - ing to the

6
faith - ful vic - t'ry o - ver their en - e - mies, and by the pow - er

11
of Your Cross, pre - ser - ving Your hab - i - ta - tion.

The Blessing and Dismissal

PRIEST: Glory to You, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to You.

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

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Master, bless.

PRIEST: May Christ our true God, *Who rose from the dead...by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross, the elevation of which we celebrate today...and of all the saints...*

The people sing "Preserve, O Lord,..." as bishop blesses them with the cross.

Preserve, O Lord Our Master: Tone 2 (Byzantine)



Kontakion: Tone 4 (Carpatho-Russian)

O Lord, Who of Your own good will were lifted up on the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Your generous gifts on the new nation which is called by Your name; make glad in Your might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to vict'ry over our enemies, having in Your aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

Ikos

He who was caught up in the third heavens to Paradise and who heard unspeakable and divine words which it is not lawful for the human tongue to utter, wrote to the Galatians as lovers of the Scriptures, you have read His words and know – "But God forbid", said he, "that I should glory save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" on which He killed our passions by His Passion. Let us, then, firmly hold fast to the Cross of the Lord, the glory of us all: for this Wood is our salvation, a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

Aposticha Verse: Tone 5 (Byzantine)

Re - jice, life-giv-ing Cross, un-con-qu'ra-ble tro - phy of god-li-ness,
 6 door to para-dise, help of the faith - ful, ram-part set a - bout the Church.
 11 Through you cor - rup - tion is ut-ter - ly de-stroyed the pow-er of death is
 15 swal-lowed up, and we are raised from earth to heav-en: invincible weapon,
 19 glo - ry of mar - tyrs, true or-na-ment of saints, ha-ven of sal - va -
 25 tion be - stow-ing on the world great mer - cy.



Elevation of the Cross