

Vesper Propers
September 14

14 THE EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS, HOLY, AND LIFE-CREATING CROSS, which is exalted and honored the day after the dedication of the basilica of the Resurrection built over the tomb of Christ, just as the trophy and sign of his paschal victory would appear in heaven, at last foretelling his second advent to all.

Supplement for **The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2004**

"O Lord I have cried." Tone 6, p.82

Bring my soul out of this prison *
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble *
because of your goodness *to* me.

Cantor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

Psalm 129

Tone 6 podoben: Vsju otloživše

By its el - e - va - tion, the Cross is like an appeal to the whole cre - a - tion.

We a - dore the blessed passion of Christ our God, who was sus - pen - ded

on it. By this Cross, Christ destroyed the one who had de - stroyed us.

In his great good - ness, he brought us back to life after we had been dead.

In his mer - cy he clothed us with beau - ty and made us wor - thy
of hea - ven. There - fore we exalt his name with great re - joic - ing,
and glo - ri - fy his infi - nite com - pas - - sion.

Cantor: Let your ears be attentive
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading, *(Repeat "By its elevation...")*

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. *(Repeat "By its elevation...")*

Cantor: My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

O pre - cious Cross of the Lord, Mo - ses pre - fig - ured you when he stretched out
his arms to hea - ven, and thus defeated the haugh - ty A - ma - lek,
You are the pride of the faith - ful, and the strength of those who
strug - gle, the glo - ry of the Apostles, the cour - age of the just, and the

sal - va - tion of the saints. There - fore, at the sight of your el - e - va - tion,
the whole cre - a - tion rejoices, exalts, and glo - ri - fies Christ, whose good - ness
joined to - ge - ther those who had strayed.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord. *(Repeat "O precious Cross...")*

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. *(Repeat "O precious Cross...")*

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations,
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

O most ven - er - a - ble Cross of the Lord, an - gels sur - round you with joy today
at your e - le - va - tion. You raise up those who had fallen and had been
de - li - vered to death for hav - ing eat - en of the for - bid - den tree.
There - fore, we praise you with our lips, beg - ging for sanctifica - tion, say - ing:

Ex - alt Christ our gracious God, O you na - tions, and for - ev - er
a - dore his di - vine foot - steps.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever. (*Repeat "O most venerable Cross..."*)

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon

Tone 2 samohlasen

Come all you peo - ple, let us venerate the bless - ed Cross of the Lord,
through which e - ter - nal jus - tice came to us. He who de - ceived Ad - am,
the first man, was con - quered by a tree, and the same who fettered the royal
cre - a - tion by his cun - ning, was cast down in - to noth - ing - ness.
The ven - om of the serpent has been washed a - way by the di - vine
blood of Christ. The curse of the rightful sen - tence was lift - ed

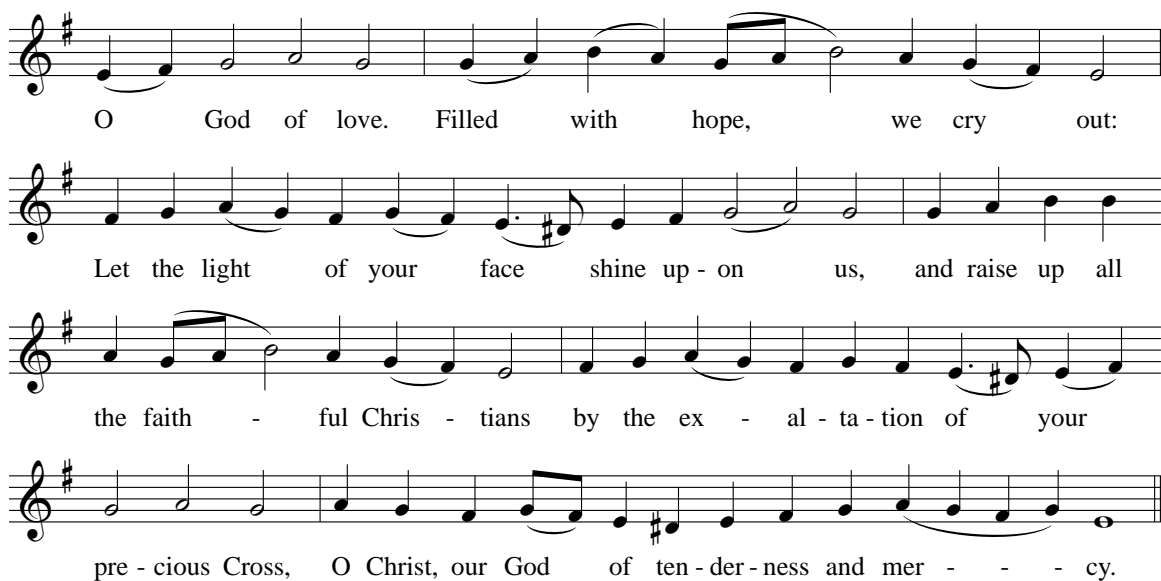
when the just Christ was con-demned un just - ly. By God's plan, death that
had come from a tree would be con - quered by a Tree, and suf - fer - ing
would be healed by the suf - fer - ing of the Lord. Glo - ry to the ac - tive pres - ence
of your prov - idence in our lives, O Christ our King. Through it you have
brought sal - va - tion to all, for you are gra - cious and the Lov - er of us all.

*The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, page 12.
Prokeimena for Weekdays, pp.114-115*

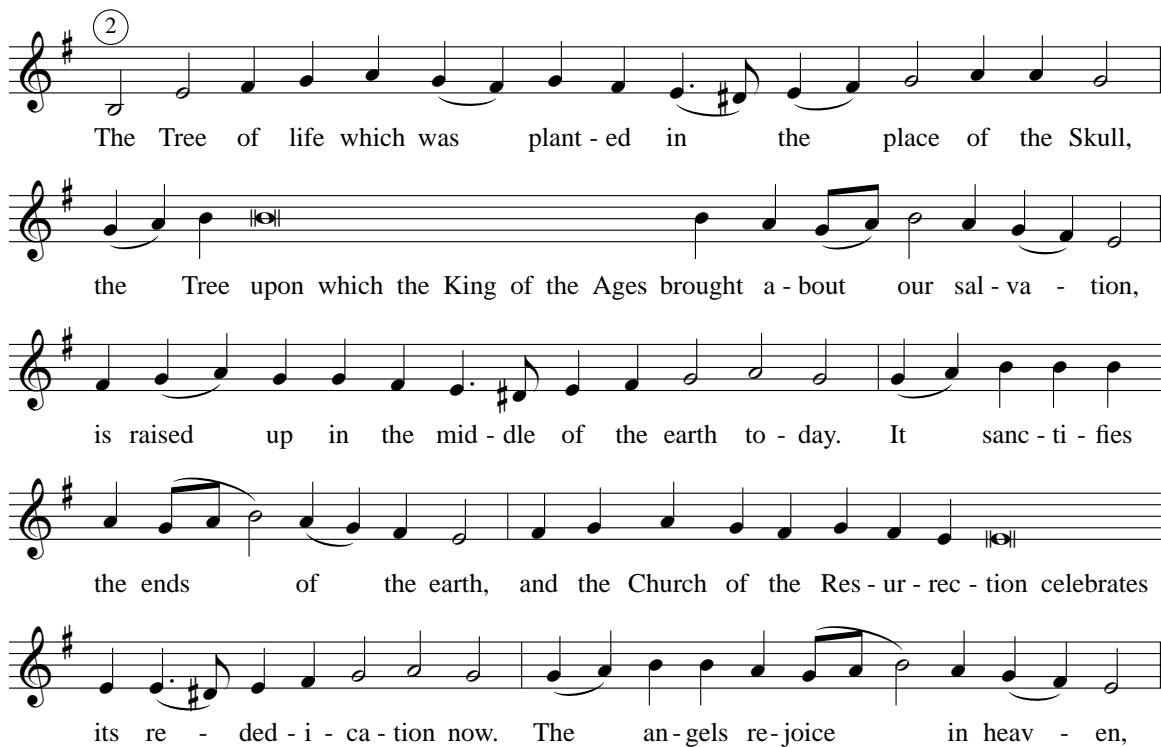
Readings: Exodus 15:22 - 16:1
Proverbs 3:11-18
Isaiah 60:11-16

Hymns of the Litija

^①
The proph - e - cy of Da - vid is tru - ly ful - filled to - day, for we now
bow down be - fore your foot - stool in the shad - ow of your wings,



O God of love. Filled with hope, we cry out:
 Let the light of your face shine up - on us, and raise up all
 the faith - ful Chris - tians by the ex - al - ta - tion of your
 pre - cious Cross, O Christ, our God of ten - der - ness and mer - - - cy.



②
 The Tree of life which was plant - ed in the place of the Skull,
 the Tree upon which the King of the Ages brought a - bout our sal - va - tion,
 is raised up in the mid - dle of the earth to - day. It sanc - ti - fies
 the ends of the earth, and the Church of the Res - ur - rec - tion celebrates
 its re - ded - i - ca - tion now. The an - gels re - joice in heav - en,



and those up - on the earth ex - alt with joy and say with Da - vid:



Ex - alt the Lord our God and bow be - fore his throne and be - fore



his foot-stool, for he is ho - ly; it is he who grants great mer - cy



to the world.



Ja - cob, the Pa - tri - arch, pre - fig - ured your Cross, O Christ, when he blessed



his de - scend - ants by lay - ing his hands on their heads in the



form of a cross. To - day we exalt it and cry out, O Sav - ior:



Grant vic - to - ry to your Church o'er her en - e - mies, as you



once did to your peo - - - ple.

④



Hid - den in the earth as di - vine treas - ure, the Cross of the



Giv - er of Life now ap - peared in the heav - ens to the god - ly king,



and its in - scrip - tion spiritually signified his vic - to - ry o'er the en - e - my.



Re - - - joic - ing with faith and love, he was in - spired by God and



has - tened to raise on high the Cross that he had seen in his vi - sion.




With great zeal he brought it forth from the bos - om of the earth




for the de - liv - 'rance of the world and the sal - va - tion of our souls.

⑤



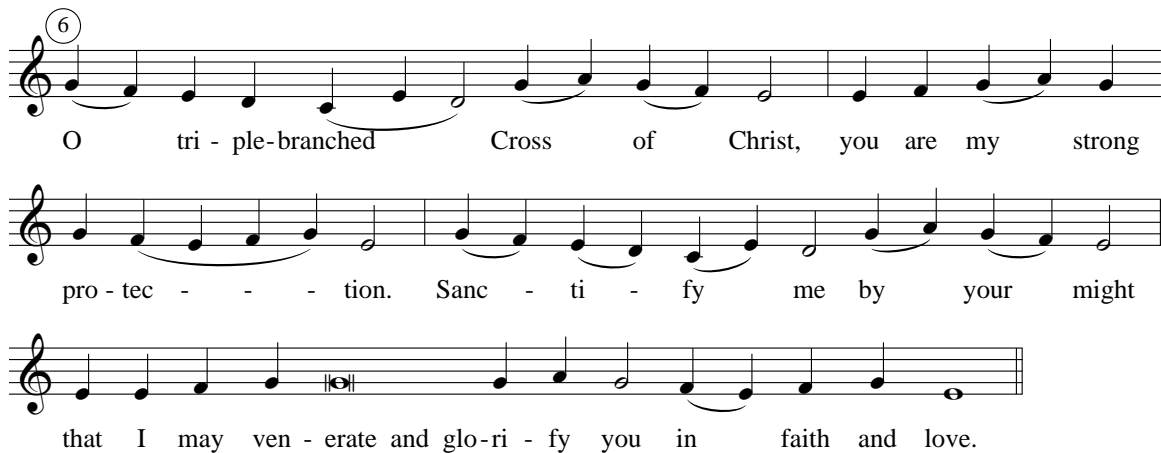
In bles - sing his chil - dren by cross - ing his hands, the Pa - tri - arch



Ja - cob foreshadowed the pow - er - ful sign of the Cross. We now have it

as our safe - - - guard that can - not be o - ver - thrown,
and with its strength we drive out the hosts of de - mons. Cast - ing down the
ar - ro - gance of Be - li - al with it, we put to flight the de - stroy - ing pow'r
of A - ma - lek. Now that it is lift - ed on high,
we the faith - ful of - fer it in de - vo - tion for the cleans - ing of our
sins be - fore the good - ness of God. We cry a - loud with the full - ness
of our voic - es: Have mer - cy on us, O Lord made flesh of a Vir - gin;
take pit - y on us, O Gra - cious One, for we are the works
which you fash - ioned in your wis - dom.


⑥



O tri - ple-branched Cross of Christ, you are my strong
 pro - tec - - - tion. Sanc - ti - fy me by your might
 that I may ven - erate and glo - ri - fy you in faith and love.

Tone 4 Bolhar

⑦



Let us raise our voic-es to-day and sing in hon-or of this feast, and with ra-diant
 fac-es let us cry out in a loud voice: For us you ac-cept-ed
 con-dem-na-tion, O Christ; you were spat up-on and scourged;
 you were wrapped in a pur-ple robe and have as-cend-ed the Cross.
 See-ing you, the sun and moon hid their light, the earth quaked
 in fear, and the veil of the tem-ple was torn in two.





as they raise you on high: En - light-en us by your bright-ness, O life-giv-ing



and all-ven-'ra-ble Cross. Make us ho - ly by your might; strength-en



us by your exalta-tion, for you are raised up a-gainst our en - e - mies.

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon

Tone 4 Bolhar



Mo - ses pre - fig - ured the pow'r of your pre - cious Cross, O Christ, when he



con-quired A - ma - lek, his en - e - my in the wil - der - ness of Si - nai.



When he stretched out his arms in the form of a cross, the peo - ple were



strength - - - - ened. Now these im - a - ges are ful - filled in us.



To - day the Cross is ex - al - ted and the dev - ils are put to flight.



To - day all cre - a - tion is freed from cor - rup - tion. Through the Cross

ev - ry gift of grace has shone up - on us. There - fore, re - joic - ing, we bow
down be - fore you and say; How mar - vel - ous are your works, O
Lord, glo - - - ry to you!

The service continues with the Litany of the Litija, p 116.

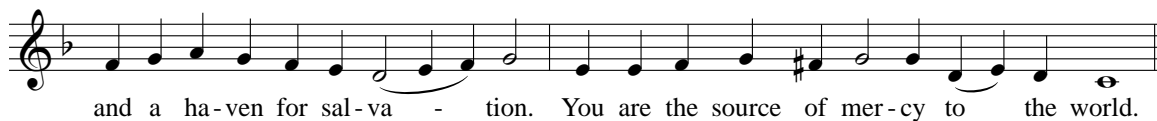
Aposticha

Tone 5 samopodoben: Radujsja zivonosnyj Kreste

①
Joy to you, life - bear - ing Cross of the Lord, in - vin - ci - ble triumph
of the true faith. You are the gate to Pa - ra - dise, the strength
of the faith - ful and the strong - hold of the Church. Be - cause of you,
cor - rup - tion no long - er has mean - ing or pow'r. By you, we have been lifted
up from earth to heav - en. You are an invincible weapon a - gainst

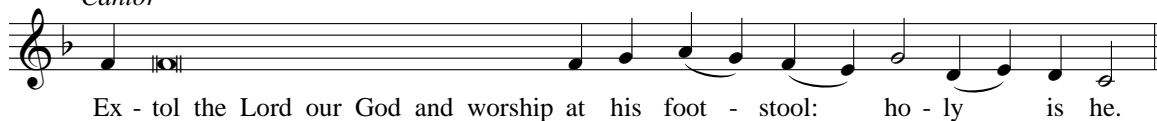


e - - - vil, a glo - ry in - deed for saints and mar - tyrs,



and a ha - ven for sal - va - tion. You are the source of mer - cy to the world.

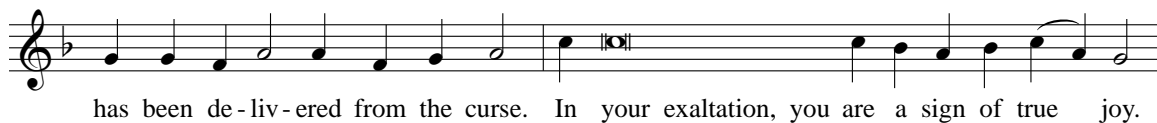
Cantor



Ex - tol the Lord our God and worship at his foot - stool: ho - ly is he.



Joy to you, most honorable Cross of the Lord. Through you, the human race



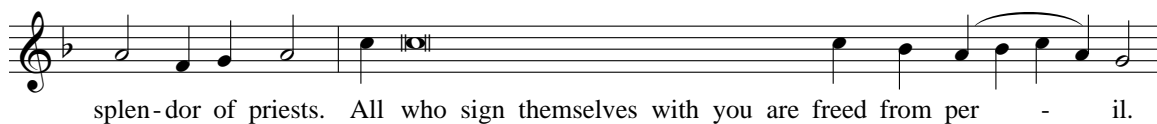
has been de - liv - ered from the curse. In your exaltation, you are a sign of true joy.



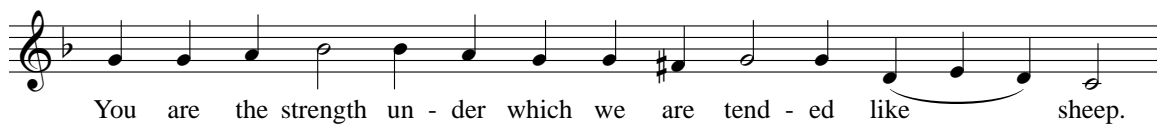
O Cross all - ven - erable, you scat - ter all our en - e - mies. You are the



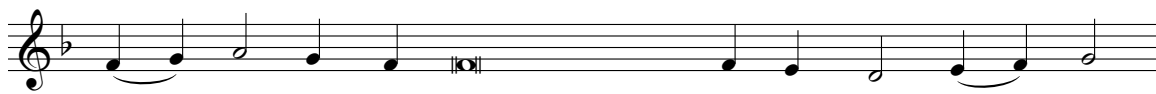
help of Chris - tians, the glo - ry of kings, the strength of the just and the




splen - dor of priests. All who sign themselves with you are freed from per - il.



You are the strength un - der which we are tend - ed like sheep.



The an - gels gath - er around you in awe as the source of peace.



You are the glo - ry of Christ, who grants great mer - cy to the world.


Cantor




God is our King from time past, the giv - er of help through all the land.




Joy to you, pre - cious Cross of the Lord, guide to the blind and phy - si - cian



to the sick, and re - sur - rec - tion to the dead. You raised us out



of corruption and re - moved the curse. Through you we have been



made di - vine, and the pow - er of Hades has been de - stroyed in full.



There - fore, seeing you lifted-up to - day by our priests, we ex - alt Christ



who was sus - pend - ed on you, and we bow deep - ly be - fore you,

seek - ing for - give - ness and great mer - - - cy.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory...now and ever...

Doxastikon

Tone 8 samohlasien

Of old, Mo - ses pre - fig - ured your Cross while van - quishing Amalek and obtaining

vic - t'ry o - ver him. Da - vid the psalm - ist called it your foot - stool and di - rect - ed

us to a - dore it. We sin - ners indeed venerate your Cross to - day,

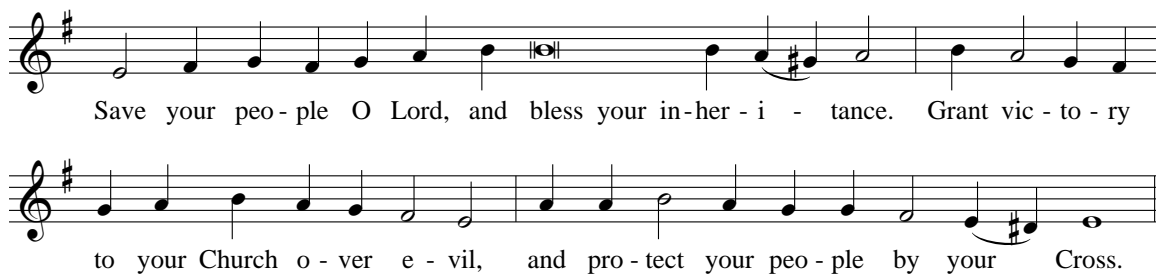
O Christ our God. With our unworthy lips we ex - tol you,

for you deigned to be cru - ci - fied on it; and we en - treat you, O Lord:

To - gether with the thief, make us wor - thy of your king - dom.

The service continues with the Prayer of the Holy Prophet Simeon, p. 19.

Troparion (*sung three times*)



Save your peo - ple O Lord, and bless your in-her - i - tance. Grant vic - to - ry
to your Church o - ver e - vil, and pro - tect your peo - ple by your Cross.

The service continues with the Blessing of Bread, p. 119