

**Sunday before the Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross;
Commemoration of the Dedication of the Holy Church of the Resurrection of Christ our God;
The Forefeast of the Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross**

Troparion, Tone 7: (page 29)

By Your cross You destroyed death;* You opened Paradise to the thief;* You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy,* and charged the apostles to proclaim* that You are risen, O Christ our God,* offering great mercy to the world.

Troparion, Tone 4:

O Lord, as You had shown from on high the splendor of the firmament,* so did You show on earth* the splendor of the dwelling place of Your holy glory.* Make it stand firm for ever and ever* and accept the supplications* which we offer unceasingly to You through Your Mother.* O Lord, You are the Life and Resurrection of all of us.

Troparion, Tone 4:

We offer You the Life-giving Cross, O Lord,* as a means of intercession, and as a sign of Your bounty* which You have given to us in spite of our unworthiness.* Save our country and Your people* who offer You their supplications through Your Mother,* for You alone are the Lover of Mankind.

Kontakion, Tone 7:

No longer shall the dominion of death be able to hold humanity,* for Christ went down shattering and destroying its powers.* Hades is bound.* The prophets exult with one voice.* The Savior has come for those with faith, saying:* "Come forth, O faithful, to the resurrection!"

† Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion, Tone 4:

You have made the Church a resplendent heaven,* enlightening all the faithful.* Therefore, we stand in the midst of this holy dwelling place and cry out to You:* Make firm this house, O Lord.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8:

Today we see the saving Tree which blossomed from earthy seed.* It is lifted up in the Church by the hands of the bishop.* The universe adores and greets It with awe.* Save us by It, O Lord.

Prokeimenon, Tone 6: (page 33)

Save Your people, O Lord,* and bless Your inheritance.

verse: Unto You I will cry, O Lord, my God, lest You turn from me in silence.

Prokeimenon, Tone 4:

Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for length of days.

Alleluia, Tone 1: (page 33)

verse: I have exalted one chosen from the people* and with my holy oil anointed him.

verse: My hand shall always be with him and my arm shall make him strong.

verse: His foundations are in the holy mountains.

verse: Glorious things are said of you, O city of God!

Communion verse: (page 67)

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.* O Lord, I love the house where you dwell,* the place where your glory abides.* Alleluia. **(3X)**