

AUGUST 1

Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Lifegiving Cross of the Lord
Holy Seven Maccabean Martyrs, their mother Solomonia, and their teacher Eleazar

"Lord I Call..." Tone 4

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

- v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!*
v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.
v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!
v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!
v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

Tone 4 *(from the Menaion, for the Cross)* *(Called from on high)*

Today the divine assembly of the faithful rejoices,
for the Cross appears throughout the world.
It illumines the heavens with ineffable light.
It brightens the air, adorning the face of the earth.
The Church of Christ exults with divine singing,
venerating and serving the holy and wondrous Cross, which preserves her
from above.

As we are strengthened by its power, let us approach the Master saying://
"Grant peace to the world, and enlighten our souls!"

- v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Let all creation rejoice and dance,
for today the Cross shines from heaven to the ends of the earth!
It enlightens those born on earth, bringing them to unity.
Today mankind exults with the choirs of Angels,
for the Cross has destroyed the dividing walls and gathered all into one.
Shining brighter than the sun, it enlightens all creation with grace, //
showing salvation plainly to those who honor it in faith.

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel
hope on the Lord!*

Shining brighter than the sun,
revealing itself to the world as the scepter of Christ the King,
the Cross shines to all the ends of the earth.
It has brought the human race out of hell.
And having despoiled hell and overthrown the Enemy,
it vanquishes the arrogance of demons.
Now it declares the Resurrection of the Savior, and saves all who cry: //
“Grant peace to the world, and enlighten our souls!”

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and
He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Tone 1 *(from the Menaion, for the Maccabees) (O all-praised martyrs)*

Persecution did not shake the roof of the Law,
firmly upheld by seven pillars.
For they bravely endured the senseless fury of their tormentor,
giving their bodies to the executioners. //
These noble young men and brothers were the faithful guardians of the
oracles of Moses.

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

Raising their minds above visible things,
their bodily limbs cut down,
the brave and righteous youths, with their divinely-wise mother,
were strengthened by the great hopes that have been fulfilled, //
as they now rest in the bosom of their forefather Abraham.

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures
forever.*

Most holy Eleazar, the young men, and their divinely-wise mother,
arming themselves firmly with youthful boldness of soul,
gathering strength from zeal,
steadfastly attacked the adversary for the sake of piety//
to preserve the Law of their fathers.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 8 *(from the Menaion, for the Cross, by John the Monk)*

Your precious Cross, O Christ God,
which Moses of old prefigured in his own person
when he overthrew Amalek and put him to flight;
which David commanded to be worshipped,
calling it Your footstool:
this same Cross we sinners worship today with unworthy lips.
We praise You Who were pleased to be nailed upon it,
and we cry to You://
“With the thief, make us worthy of Your Kingdom, O Lord!”

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Who will not bless you, O most holy Virgin?
Who will not sing of your most pure childbearing?
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,
but from you He was ineffably incarnate.
God by nature, yet Man for our sake,
not two persons, but one known in two natures.
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady//
to have mercy on our souls!

Aposticha

Tone 6 *(from the Octoechos)*

Walking in the footsteps of the sufferings of Christ,
the whole company of the martyrs approached their many struggles mightily,
and confessed Him as God before ungodly tyrants and lawless kings.
They endured many tortures, hoping to receive the glories of heaven,
and now, rejoicing, they behold them,//
as they stand with the choirs of the bodiless hosts in the presence of the Lord.

v: I lift up mine eyes to You, enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us. (Ps 122/123:1-2)

Your martyrs, O Lord, did not deny You,
nor did they turn from Your commandments.//
By their intercessions have mercy on us!

v: Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud. (Ps. 122/123:3-4)

Your victorious Martyrs, when they contended on this earth,
endured great torments;
but now they dwell in heaven and have received a perfect crown,//
that they may offer intercession for our souls.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 8 *(from the Menaion, for the Maccabees, by Cosmas the Monk)*

The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God:
Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the forefathers before the Law,
and their inheritance, the Maccabees, whom now we praise.
For these sons of Abraham followed Him in the faith with strength of soul,
wrestling even to death for the sake of godliness.
Raised in reverence and striving worthily, they reprov'd the godless Antiochus.
For the sake of eternal life they scorned the things of this world
and offered everything to God: their souls and tender bodies.
O holy mother, who brought forth for us these seven sons,
O Maccabees, and the wise priest Eleazar,
as you stand before Christ our God, for Whom you labored,
and as you receive the fruits of your reward,
ever pray to Him for mankind!//
For, according to His will, He answers those who pray to Him in faith.

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 8 *(from the Menaion, for the Cross)*

The voice of Your prophet Moses cried out, O God:
“Behold your Life as It hangs before your eyes!”
So today the Cross is lifted up and the world is freed from error.
Today the Resurrection of Christ is renewed.
The ends of the earth rejoice with David in songs and cymbals.
“O God, You have wrought salvation in the midst of the earth:
the Crucifixion and Resurrection by which we are saved.” //
O all-powerful, good Lord and Lover of mankind, glory to You!

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 1 **Troparion*** *(Maccabees)*

We beseech You, O Lover of mankind
to accept in supplication
the suffering which the Saints endured for You, O Lord, //
and heal all our infirmities!

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

Tone 1 **Troparion** *(Cross)*

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!

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 1 Troparion *(Cross)*

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 1 Troparion *(Maccabees)*

We beseech You, O Lover of mankind
to accept in supplication
the suffering which the Saints endured for You, O Lord,//
and heal all our infirmities!

Tone 2 Kontakion *(Maccabees)*

Seven pillars of the Wisdom of God
and seven lampstands of the divine Light,
all-wise Maccabees, greatest of the martyrs before the time of the martyrs,//
with them ask the God of all to save those who honor you!

Tone 4 Kontakion *(Cross)*

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!

Tone 6 Prokeimenon *(Cross)*

O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! *(Ps 27/28:9)*

v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps 27/28:1)

Tone 4 Prokeimenon *(Maccabees)*

The Lord has shown the wonders of His will / to the saints who are in His land.
(Ps 15/16:3)

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:18-24 *(Cross)*

Hebrews 11:33-12:2 *(Maccabees)*

Tone 4

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v. Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old!

(Ps 73/74:2)

v: God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps 73/74:12)

Tone 4

v: The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their troubles. (Ps 33/34:18)

Gospel

John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35 (*Cross*)

Matthew 10:32-36; 11:1 (*Maccabees*)

In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon's Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon's Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir's Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.