

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

TONE 5

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Forefeast of the Exaltation of the Cross, Sunday before the Exaltation

Commemoration of the Founding of the Church of the Resurrection (Holy Sepulcher) at Jerusalem

"Lord I Call..." Tone 5

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!*

**Tone 5**      *(for the Resurrection)*

By Your precious Cross, O Christ,

You have put the devil to shame.

By Your Resurrection, You have blunted the sting of sin

and saved us from the gates of death.//

We glorify You, O only begotten One.

*v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*

Christ was led as a sheep to the slaughter

in order to grant Resurrection to the human race.

The princes of hell were frightened by this,

for the gates of sorrow were lifted.

Christ the King of glory had entered,

saying to those in chains: "Go forth!"//

And to those in darkness: "Come to the light!"

*v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

O great wonder!

The Creator of the invisible suffered in the flesh in His love for man  
and rose again immortal.

Come, O sons of nations,

let us worship Him,

for delivered from error by His compassion,//

we have learned to sing of one God in three Persons!

*v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

We offer You our evening worship,

O never setting Light,

Who came in these last days to the world in the flesh;

Who even descended to hell to dispel its darkness.

Who has revealed the light of Resurrection to the nations.//

Glory to You, O Lord and Giver of light!

*v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

**Tone 6**      *(for the Founding)*

Dedication is to be honored,

as was decreed in the Old Law;

even more should the New Law be honored through dedication;

for as Isaiah proclaims: "The islands are dedicated to God."

By this we understand the churches now built by the Gentiles,

which receive a firm foundation from God.//

Therefore let us spiritually celebrate this present feast!

*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.*

Be dedicated anew, O people!

Putting away the old man, live in newness of life,

placing a bridle on everything from which death may come!

Let us chasten all our members,

hating every evil fruit of the tree!

Mindful of this, let us avoid our ancient errors,

that mankind may thus be restored!//

Thus this day of dedication is honored.

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

**Tone 6** *(by Anatolius)*

O Christ, the pre-eternal Word,  
You set up Your Church as a tower of strength,  
founding it upon the rock of the faith.  
Therefore it abides in You, unshaken forever,  
for, without undergoing change,  
You became Man in these latter times for its sake.  
Therefore we give thanks to You and praise You in hymns, saying:  
“You are our King since before time began; //  
now and forever — glory to You!”

*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 5** *Automelon (for the Forefeast)*

Rejoice, O Life-bearing Cross,  
the invincible trophy of godliness,  
door to Paradise, firm support of the faithful,  
a wall that encompasses the Church!  
Through you corruption has been destroyed and abolished.  
The power of death has been swallowed up, and we are raised from  
earth to Heaven.  
You are a weapon that cannot be vanquished,  
the adversary of demons,  
the glory of the martyrs, the true adornment of saints,  
and the haven of salvation, //  
granting the world great mercy.

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

Rejoice, O Cross of the Lord,  
through which mankind has been delivered from the curse!  
You are a sign of true joy,  
shattering our enemies by your Exaltation.  
O Cross, worthy of all honor,  
you are our help, you are the strength of kings.  
You are the power of the righteous.  
You are the majesty of priests.  
All who sign themselves with you are freed from danger.

O rod of strength, under which we like sheep are tended,  
you are a weapon of peace round which the angels stand in fear.  
You are the divine glory of Christ, //  
Who grants the world great mercy.

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

Rejoice, O guide of the blind,  
physician of the sick and resurrection of all the dead;  
you have raised us up when we were fallen into mortality, O precious Cross!  
Through you corruption has been destroyed,  
and incorruption has blossomed forth.  
We mortals are deified, and the devil is completely overthrown.  
Today, as we see you exalted by the hands of bishops,  
we exalt Him Who was lifted up upon you,  
and we fall down in worship before you, //  
drawing rich streams of great mercy.

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

**Tone 6**      *(for the Founding, by John the Monk)*

Celebrating the memory of the dedication, O Lord,  
and glorifying You, the Giver of holiness,  
we ask that You hallow the senses of our souls,  
through the supplications of the glorious passion-bearers, //  
O You Who are good and almighty!

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

**Tone 5**      *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

In the Red Sea of old,  
a type of the Virgin Bride was prefigured.  
There Moses divided the waters;  
here Gabriel assisted in the miracle.  
There Israel crossed the sea without getting wet,  
here the Virgin gave birth to Christ without seed.  
After Israel's passage, the sea remained impassable;  
after Emmanuel's birth, the Virgin remained a Virgin.  
O ever-existing God Who appeared as Man, //  
O Lord, have mercy on us!

## Old Testament Readings

3 [1] Kings 8:22-23, 27-30 (*Founding*)

Proverbs 3:19-34 (*Founding*)

Proverbs 9:1-11 (*Founding*)

## Aposticha

### Tone 5 (*for the Resurrection*)

We magnify You in songs of praise,  
O incarnate Christ and Savior.  
By accepting the Cross and death for our sake,  
as the Lord and Lover of man,  
You overthrew the gates of hell, //  
and arose on the third day, saving our souls.

*v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

By being pierced in the side, O Lover of man,  
You have poured out drops of life and salvation for all.  
By accepting death in the flesh, You have granted us immortality.  
You have freed us by being placed in the tomb,  
and have resurrected us with Yourself in glory, as God. //  
Glory to You, O Lord and Lover of man!

*v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

Your crucifixion and descent into hell are awesome, O Lover of man.  
You have captured it, releasing the ancient prisoners.  
You have opened Paradise and given it to us.  
Grant us purification of sins,  
who glorify Your Resurrection on the third day!  
Make us worthy of Paradise //  
and save us, O Lover of man!

*v. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!*

For our sake, You accepted death in the flesh,  
to rise from the dead on the third day.  
Heal us from our earthly passions,  
and restore us from our evil transgressions; //  
and save us, O Lover of man!

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

**Tone 2**     *(for the Founding, by Anatolius)*

We glorify You, O Lord,  
as we celebrate the dedication of the most holy temple of Your Resurrection.  
You sanctified it and perfected it with Your all-perfect grace.  
You are adorned in it by the faithful  
with sacrifices that are sanctifying, mystical and holy,  
receiving them bloodless and all-pure from the hands of Your servants.  
To all those who rightly make offering,//  
You give great mercy and cleansing from sins.

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

**Tone 2**     *(for the Forefeast)*

The Cross of the Giver of life,  
a divine treasure hidden in the ground,  
was shown in the heavens to the pious emperor,  
spiritually revealing a decree of victory over the enemy.  
Joyfully and divinely hastening to see it on high with faith and love,  
he zealously lifted it from the bosom of the earth,//  
for the deliverance of the world and the salvation of our souls.

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*(at Great Vespers)*

**Tone 5**     **Troparion**     *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,  
to endure death,  
and to raise the dead//  
by His glorious Resurrection.

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

**Tone 4      Troparion    (*Founding*)**

You have revealed the beauty of the holy dwelling place of Your glory on earth  
to be like the splendor of the heavenly firmament, O Lord.  
Through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
strengthen it for ever and ever  
and accept our supplication  
which we ceaselessly offer to You therein, //  
the life and resurrection of all!

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

**Tone 4      Troparion    (*Forefeast*)**

We offer in supplication  
the life-creating Cross of Your goodness, O Lord,  
which You have granted to us  
although we are unworthy.  
Through the Theotokos, save all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of man!

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

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co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
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**Tone 5      Kontakion    *(Resurrection)***

You descended into hell, O my Savior,  
shattering its gates as Almighty,  
resurrecting the dead as Creator,  
and destroying the sting of death.  
You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man,//  
and we cry to You: "O Lord, save us!"

**Tone 4      Kontakion    *(Founding)***

The Church has been revealed to be a heaven filled with light,  
which enlightens all the faithful.//  
Standing within it we cry: "Establish this house, O Lord!"

**Tone 6      Prokeimenon      *(Sunday Before)***

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      *(Founding)***

Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, / forevermore. *(Ps 92/93:5b)*

**Epistle**

Galatians 6:11-18 *(Sunday Before)*

2 Corinthians 1:21-24 *(Resurrection)*

Hebrews 3:1-4 *(Founding)*

*Note: The Readings for the Sunday Before and the Resurrection are said as one.*

**Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v. I have exalted one chosen out of My people. (Ps 88/89:20)*

*v: For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him. (Ps 88/89:22)*

**Tone 2**

*v: The foundations are in the holy mountains; the Lord loves the gates of Jerusalem. (Ps 86/87:1-2)*

**Gospel**

John 3:13-17 *(Sunday Before)*

Matthew 22:1-14 *(Resurrection)*

Matthew 16:13-18 *(Founding)*

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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.