

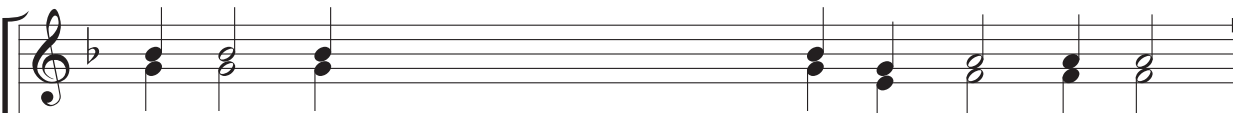
Stichera at the Litya

The Elevation of the Holy Cross – September 14

Sticheron 1
Tone 1

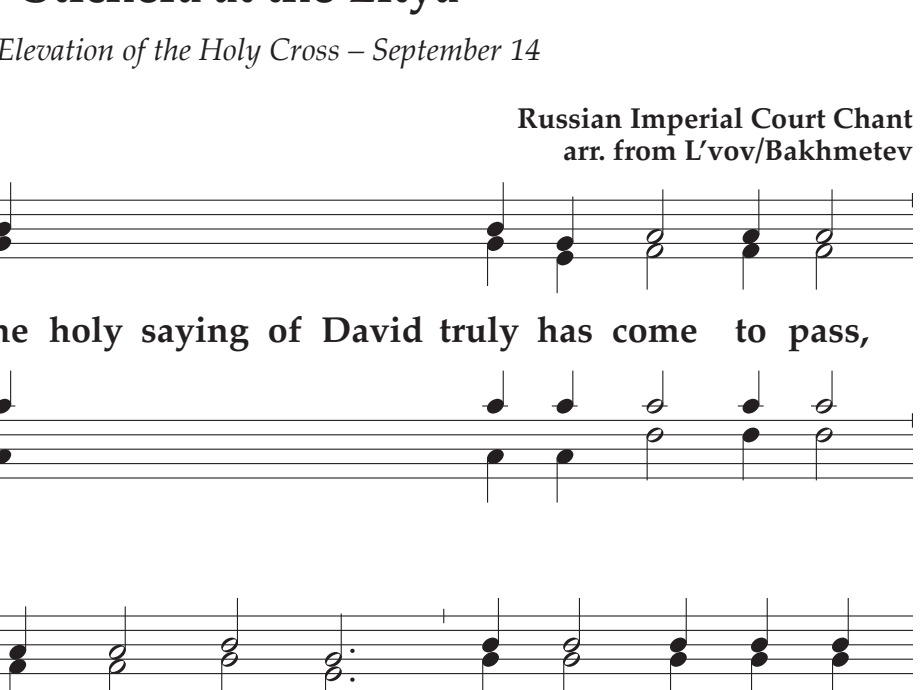
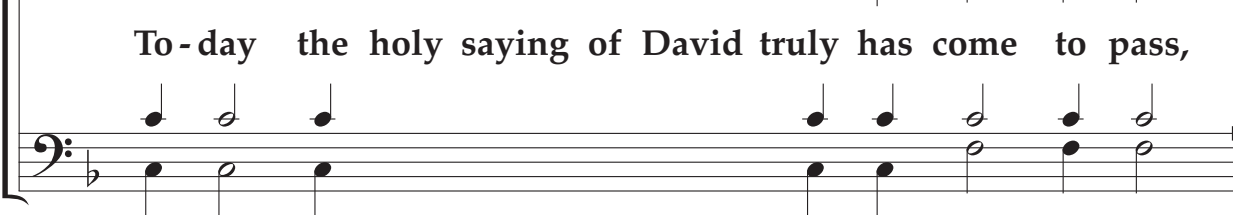
Russian Imperial Court Chant
arr. from L'vov/Bakhmetev

Soprano
Alto

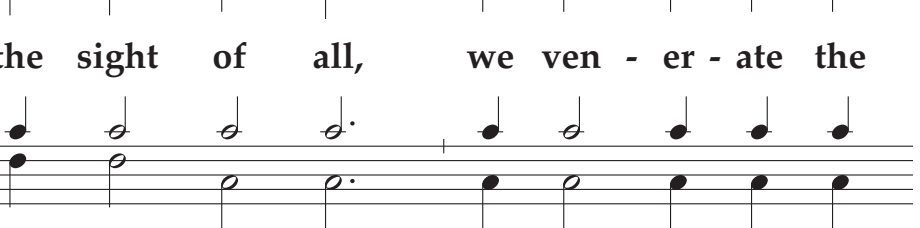


Tenor
Bass

To-day the holy saying of David truly has come to pass,



for behold, in the sight of all, we ven - er - ate the



footstool of Thine un - de - filed feet, and, putting our hope



in the shad - ow of Thy wings, we cry a - loud to Thee, O



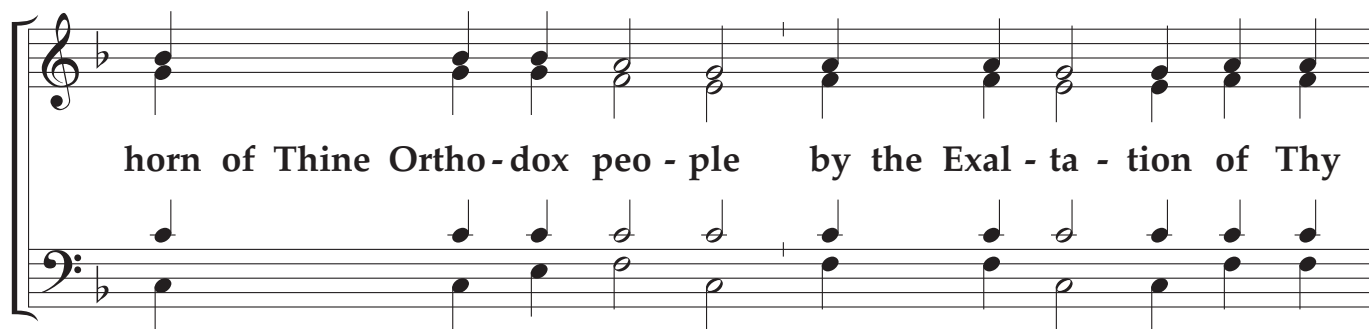
[all-compassionate Lord:]



all - com - pas - sion - ate Lord: "May the light of Thy



countenance be marked as a sign up - on us! Ex - alt the

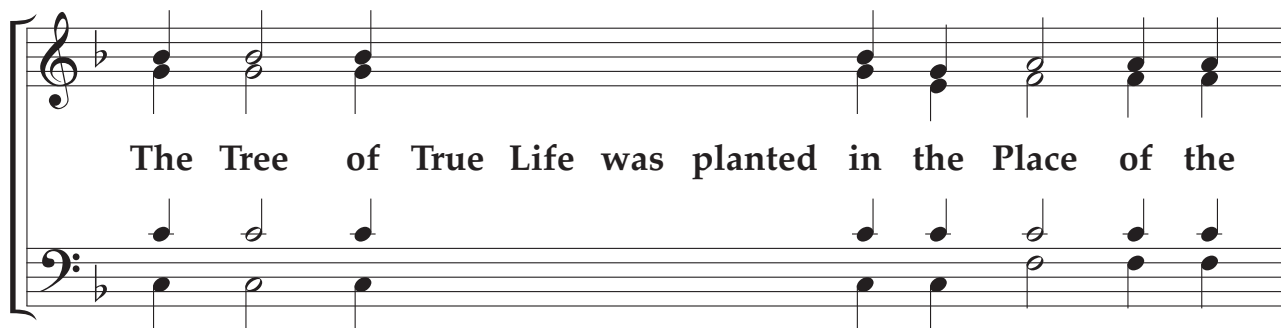


horn of Thine Ortho - dox peo - ple by the Exal - ta - tion of Thy



pre - cious Cross, // O Christ of many mer - cies!"

Sticheron 2



The Tree of True Life was planted in the Place of the

Skull, and upon it hast Thou, the eternal King, worked salvation

in the midst of the earth. Ex - alt - ed today, it sanctifies the

ends of the world, and the church of the Resurrection

celebrates its de - di - ca - tion. An - gels in heav - en re -

joice, and men upon earth make glad, cry - ing a - loud with

Da - vid and say - ing: "Exalt the Lord our God and wor - ship

at his foot - stool, // for He is holy, granting the

world great mer - cy!"

Sticheron 3

Pre - fig - ur - ing Thy Cross, O Christ, Ja - cob the

Patriarch, when he gave the blessing to his de - scend - ants,

[laid his hands . . .]

laid his hands cross-wise up - on their heads. And today, as we

ex - alt Thy Cross, O Sav - ior, we cry: "Give vic - tory to Thine

Or-tho-dox peo - ple, // as Thou once gavest it to Con-stantine!"

Tone 2
Sticheron 4

Divine treasure hid - den in the earth, the Cross of the

Giver of Life appeared in the heavens to the god - ly king,

[and its inscription . . .]

and its in - scrip - tion spiritually signified his victory over the

en - e - my. Rejoicing with faith and love, and in - spired by

God he made haste to raise on high the Cross which he had

seen, and with great zeal he brought it forth from the

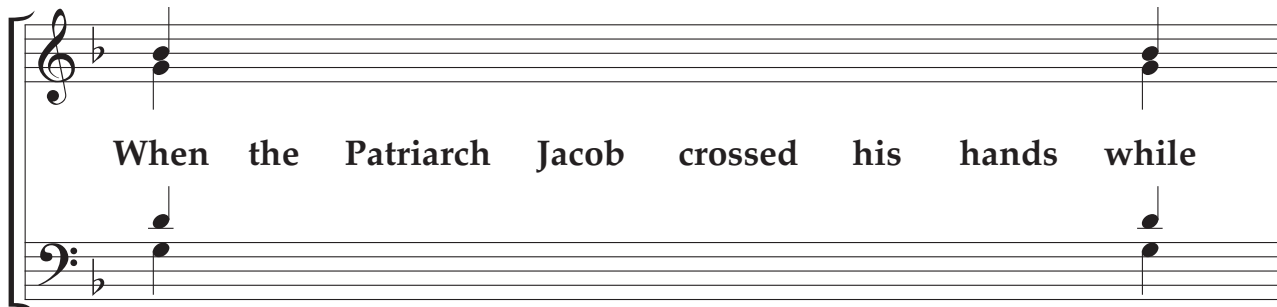
bos - om of the earth // for the deliverance of the world

[and the salvation . . .]



and the sal - va - tion of our souls.

Sticheron 5



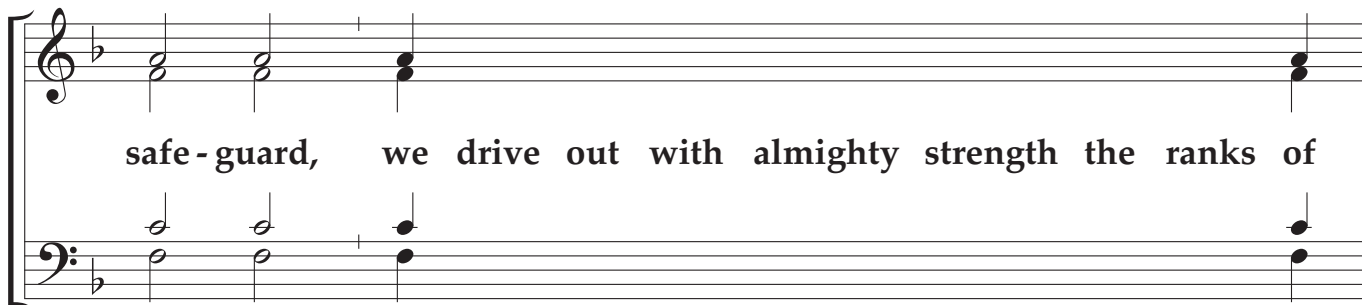
When the Patriarch Jacob crossed his hands while



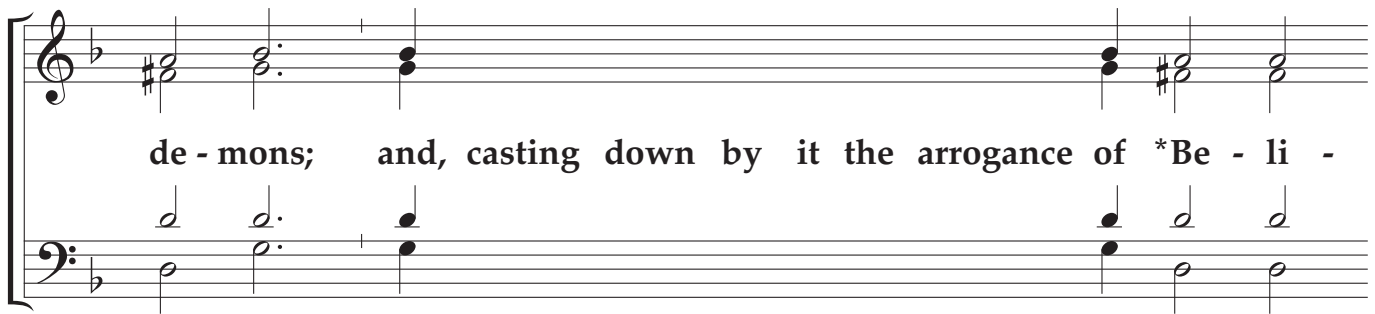
bless-ing his chil - dren, he foreshadowed the mighty



sym - bol of Thy Cross. Hav - ing this as our unshaka - ble



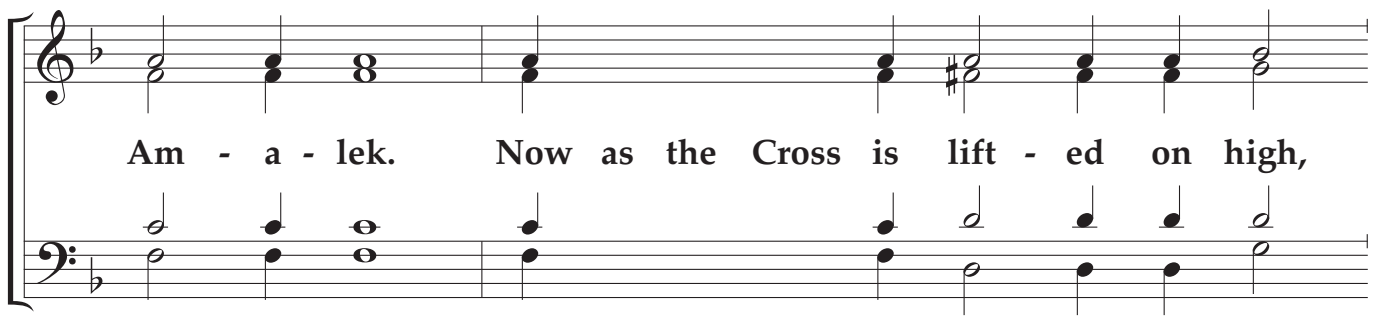
safe-guard, we drive out with almighty strength the ranks of



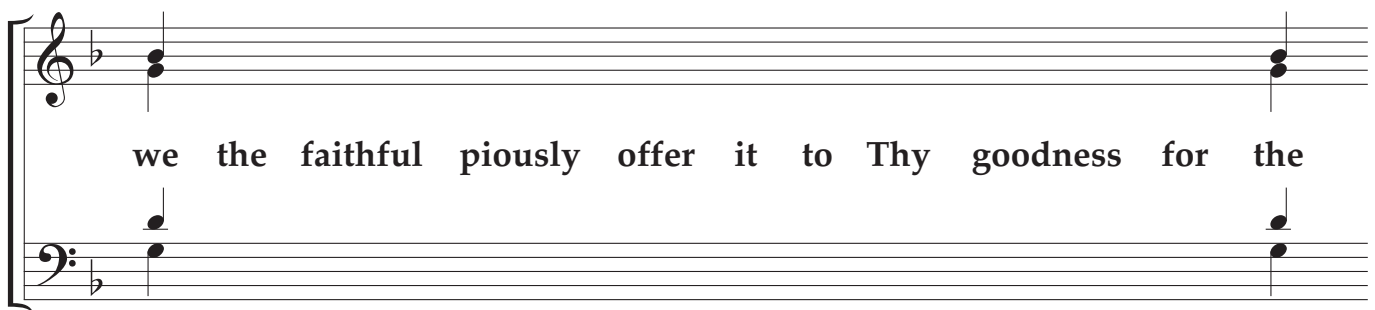
de - mons; and, casting down by it the arrogance of *Be - li -



al we put to flight the all-destroying power of hate - ful



Am - a - lek. Now as the Cross is lift - ed on high,



we the faithful piously offer it to Thy goodness for the



cleans - ing of our sins, cry - ing out in a loud voice:

*Pronounced: BEE - lee -uhl

[Have mercy, O Lord . . .]

"Have mercy, O Lord, made flesh of the Vir - gin; // take pity, O

Good One, on the works that Thou hast fashioned in Thy

wis - dom."

Sticheron 6

O three-branched Cross of Christ, thou art my strong pro -

tec - tion. Sanc - tify me by thy might, // that I may

venerate and glorify thee in faith and love!

Tone 4
Sticheron 7

Let us proclaim today a fes - ti - val of song, and with radiant

faces and with our tongues let us cry a - loud: "O Christ,

Thou hast ac - cepted condem - na - tion for us, and, be - ing

spat up - on, and scourged, Thou wast robed in purple and didst as -

cend the Cross. Seeing Thee, the sun and the moon

hid their light, the earth quaked in fear, and the

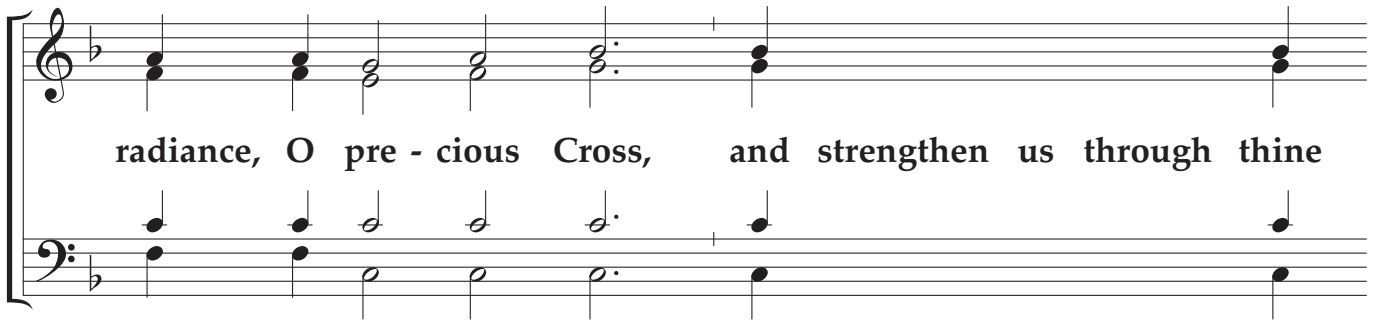
veil of the Tem - ple was torn in two. Grant us Thy precious

Cross as our guardian and pro - tec - tor, driv - ing de - mons a -

way, that we may all em - brace it and cry out:



'Save us, O Cross, by thy might! Sanctify us by thy



radiance, O pre - cious Cross, and strengthen us through thine

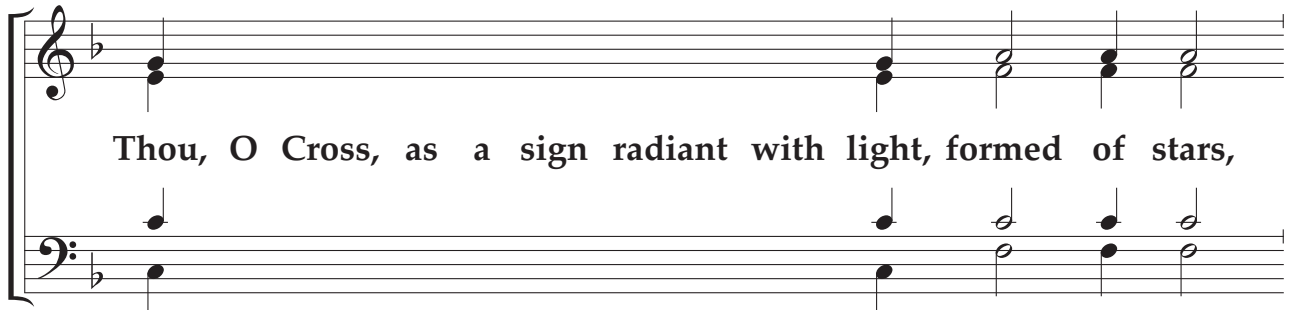


Ex - al - ta - tion; // for thou hast been given to



us as the light and sal - va - tion of our souls!"

Sticheron 8



Thou, O Cross, as a sign radiant with light, formed of stars,

hast prophetically revealed a trophy of victory to the god - ly

king; and when his moth - er Hel - en found thee, she

displayed thee in the sight of all the world. And we the

choirs of faithful shout aloud, as we e - xalt ——— thee to - day:

"Enlighten us with thy brightness, O life - bear - ing Cross!

Sanctify us by thy might, O all - ven' - ra - ble Cross,

and strengthen us through thine Exal - ta - tion, //

when thou art lifted on high before the ranks of our en - e - mies!"