Re-joice, O life-bear-ing Cross, invincible trophy of god-li-ness, gate of Paradise, and protection of the faithful! The Cross is the might of the Church, through which corruption is a-bolished, through which the

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power of death is crushed, and we are raised from
earth to heaven. O invincible weapon, the adversary of
demons, the glory of martyrs, the true adornment of
venerable saints, and the haven of salvation //
which grants the world great mercy.
v. Extol the Lord our God: and worship at His footstool, for He is holy! (Ps. 98:5)

Sticheron 2

Re-joice, O Cross of the Lord, through which mankind has been de-liv-ered from the curse! Thou art a sign of true joy, shat-tering our enemies by thine Exal-ta-

tion. O Cross, worthy of all hon-or, thou art our help, thou art the strength of kings. Thou art the [power of the righteous.]
power of the righteous. Thou art the majesty of priests.

All who sign themselves with thee are freed from danger.

O rod of strength, under which we like sheep are tended,

thou art a weapon of peace around which the angels stand in

fear. Thou art the divine glory of Christ, //
v. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps. 73:13)

Sticheron 3

Who grants the world great mercy.

Rejoice, O guide of the blind, physician of the sick and resurrection of all the dead; thou hast raised us up when we were fallen into mortality. O precious Cross, through thee corruption has been destroyed,

[been destroyed,]
been destroyed, and incorruption has blossomed forth.

We mortals are made divine, and the devil is completely overthrown. Today, as we see thee exalted by the hands of bishops, we exalt Him Who was lifted upon thee, and we fall down in worship before ...
worship before thee, // drawing rich streams of great mercy.