Stichera Aposticha
The Elevation of the Cross - September 14

Tone 5
Sticheron 1

Optina Hermitage Melody
Original melody “Rejoice”
arr. by G. Ealy & V. Morosan

Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross: invincible

triumph of godliness, gate of Paradise,

and protection of the faithful! The Cross is

the might of the Church, through which corruption

*) In some harmonizations, an F♯ is sung here. The original chant melody does not have an F♯, however. In this arrangement, the use of an F♯ in the places marked with ♭ is optional.

NOTE: May be sung a half-step or a step higher.

© 2022 The Orthodox Church in America. Permission is granted to duplicate for liturgical use only. All other rights reserved.

[is abolished,]
is abolished, through which the power of death is crushed, and we are raised from earth to heaven. O invincible weapon, the adversary of demons, the glory of the 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

Rejoice, O Cross of the Lord, through which mankind has been delivered from the curse! Thou art a [sign of true joy.]
sign of true joy, shattering our enemies by thine

Exaltation. O Cross, worthy of all

honor, thou art our help, thou art the

strength of kings. Thou art the 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, // Who grants the [world great mercy.]
v. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps. 73:13)

Sticheron 3

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, and incorrupt 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 up upon thee, . . . }
on thee, and we fall down in worship before thee, // drawing rich streams of great mercy.