Stichera at the Litya
The Ascension of the Lord

Hav-ing as-cend-ed to heaven from where You had de-scend-ed, do not leave us or-phans, O Lord!

May Your Ho-ly Spir-it come, bringing peace to the world;

show the sons of men the works of Your pow-er, //

O Lord Who love-man-kind!

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You ascended, O Christ, to Your Father, Who is without beginning, though You were never parted from His uncircumscribed bosom, and the heavenly Powers accepted no addition to the thrice-holy hymn of praise, but recognized You, O Lord, as one Son, only-begotten of the Father.
even after be-com-ing man. // In the abundance of Your com-

passion, have mer - cy on us!

Sticheron 3

Your An - gels, O Lord, said to the A - pos - tles:

"Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up in - to heav - en?

This is Christ God Who has been taken from you into heav - en.
He it is Who will come again in like manner as you have seen Him going to heaven. // Worship Him in holiness and righteousness!"

When You came, O Christ, to the Mount of Olives to accomplish the good pleasure of the Father, the Angels of [heaven were amazed.]
heaven were amazed, and the demonic powers were seized with fear; the Disciples stood by trembling with joy as you spoke to them; and aloft, a waiting cloud was prepared as a throne; heaven flung wide its gates and appeared in its beauty, and the earth reveals its hidden vaults, so that Adam's descent was made known
scent was made known, and his ascent again. But Your foot-
steps were raised up, as if by a hand, while Your mouth was
heard pronouncing a great blessing; a cloud received
You, and heaven welcomed You in. This great and marvelous work
You performed, O Lord, for the salvation of our souls.
The nature of Adam, which had descended to the nethermost parts of the earth, You renewed in Yourself, O God, and today You took it up above every Principality and Power, for loving it, You seated it with Yourself; and having compassion on it, You united it with Yourself; and united with it,
You suffered with it; and You Who are passionless have glorified it with Yourself. But the Bodiless Powers were asking:

"Who is this Man of beauty? Not man only, but both—

God and man, the two natures together made man-ifest."

And so exultant Angels, flying about the Disciples in shining robes

[cried out:]
cried out: "O Men of Galilee, He Who is gone from you,
this Jesus, both Man and God will come again as God and Man,
the Judge of the living and the dead, // granting the faithful
forgiveness of sins and His great mercy!"

When You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,
while the Disciples looked on, the clouds received You with Your flesh; the gates of heaven were lifted up; the choirs of Angels rejoiced with gladness; the higher Powers cried out saying: “Lift up your gates, you princes, and the King of Glory will come in!” But the Disciples said in amazement:

[“Do not be parted...”]

Ascension - Litya Stichera, Kievan Chant - p. 10
"Do not be parted from us, O good Shepherd, but send us Your All-holy Spirit, // to guide and illumine and sanctify our souls!"