Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Canon of the Exaltation of the Cross - Tone 8

Ode 1

N. Bakhmetev
arr. A. B. Ledkovsky

Tracing an upright line with his staff, Moses divided the Red Sea for Israel, which was traveling on foot,

and striking it a transverse blow, he brought the waters together over the chariots of Pharaoh, thereby inscribing the invincible weapon of the Cross.

Wherefore, let us hymn Christ our God, for He hath been glorified.

Carol Surgant ~ music.russianorthodox-stl.org ~ 8/16/05
The rod of Aaron is taken to be an image of the mystery,

for by its budding forth it chose one priest over others,

and for the Church, which before was barren, the Tree of the Cross hath now budded forth, for her might and confirmation.
I have heard, O Lord, the mystery of Thy dispensation;
I have understood Thy works, and have glorified Thy divinity.

O thrice blessed Tree, whereon Christ, our King and Lord was crucified,
and whereby he who beguiled man-kind by the Tree did fall!

when God was nailed in the flesh, Who grant-eth peace to our souls.
Stretching forth his arms in the form of a Cross, in the belly of the sea monster, Jonah clearly prefigured the saving passion; and issuing forth after three days, he foreshadowed the transcendent resurrection of Christ our God, Who was nailed in the flesh, and hath enlightened the world by His rising on the third day.
The mad command of the ungodly tyrant breathing forth threats and
blasphemy hateful to God, cast the people into confusion.

Yet the three youths feared not the fury of the wild beasts, nor the raging blaze;

but in the midst of the fire, when the dew-bearing wind blew upon it

they sang: O all-hymned God of our fathers blessed art Thou!
O chil-dren equal in num-ber to the Tri-ni-ty, bless ye
God the Father and Cre-a-tor; hymn ye the Word Who
came down, and trans formed the fire to dew;
and the all-holy Spirit Who impart-eth life un-to all,
ex-alt ye su-pre-me-ly for all a-ges.
We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him unto all the ages.
Canon of the Exaltation of the Cross - Tone 8

At the 9th Ode - Refrain of the 1st Canon:

"Magnify, magnify, O my soul,"

"O my soul, the all honored"

"Cross of the Lord!"

9th Ode - Irmos of the 1st Canon:

"O Theotokos, thou art a mystical paradise,"

"which untilled, did put forth Christ, by Whom the life-bearing tree of the"

*note: these refrains are not used before Sept. 14
Cross was planted. Wherefore, worshipping it as it is now raised aloft, we magnify thee.

Refrain of the 2nd Canon:

O my soul, O my soul, the exaltation of the life creating Cross of the Lord!
Death, which came upon our race through the eating of the tree hath been abolished by the Cross today; for the curse of our first mother, which fell upon us all, hath been annulled through the Offspring of the pure Mother of God, whom all the hosts of heaven magnify.

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Note: The music for the Irmosii of 9th Ode has been simplified to follow the melody of the previous odes. The original arrangement of A. Ledkovsky for the 9th Ode is available as a separate file.