

# Hymns and Readings for Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

### The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

#### THE HOURS

##### TROPARIA AND KONTAKION AT THE THIRD & SIXTH HOURS

**NB:** *The Troparion of the Resurrection is **not** sung*

**Troparia:** Glory ... The Cross; Both now ... From the Horologion

**Kontakion:** The Cross

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#### THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS

*After the Dismissal of the Hours the Priest sings: "Glory to Thee, Who hast shown us the Light" and the Choir sings the Great Doxology.*

*At the end of the Great Doxology, "Holy God ..." onwards is sung **very slowly**. Preceded by candles [the Exapteryga] and the censer, the Holy Cross is brought in procession through the North Door of the Altar and around the Church as at the (long) Entrance with the Gospel Book, while the choir sings "Holy God ..." etc. When the procession reaches the Ambon, the priest raises the Cross and sings "Wisdom! Let us attend!"*

*The Troparion "O Lord save Thy people ..." [Green Book page 30] "Спаси, Господи, люди Твоя ..." "Mântuieste, Doamne, poporul Tău ..." "Σώσον, Κύριε, τον λαόν Σου ..." is sung four times while the priest places the Cross on the analogion and censes it from the four sides.*

*The priest sings "Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship ..." [Sheet] and makes two prostrations before the Holy Cross, kisses it, then makes a third prostration.*

*The choir repeats "Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship ..." three more times, followed by the stichera "Come, ye faithful ..." etc. [Festal Menaion page 156ff] while all venerate the Holy Cross in the same way. When all have venerated the Cross, the Divine Liturgy begins as usual.*

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#### THE DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

##### FIRST ANTIPHON

[Music on website / White Book page 12]

God, my God, attend to me! Why hast Thou forsaken me?

**Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!**

Why art Thou so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

**Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!**

O my God, I cry by day, but Thou dost not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

**Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!**

Thou dwellest in the sanctuary, the praise of Israel.

**Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

**Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!**

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##### SECOND ANTIPHON

[Music on website / White Book page 13]

O God, why dost Thou cast us off forever?

**O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old!

**O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

Remember Mount Zion, where Thou hast dwelt!

**O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

**O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O only-begotten Son and Word of God. O Thou Who art Immortal, yet for our salvation didst deign to be incarnate of the holy Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary; and without change wast made man; Who also wast crucified for us; and by death didst overcome death: save us, O Christ, our God; one Person of the Holy Trinity, glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

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### THIRD ANTIPHON

**Reader:** The Lord reigns, let the people tremble!

#### Troparion of the Cross in Tone 1

[Music on website / White Book page 13]

O Lord, save Thy people,  
and bless Thine inheritance!  
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries;  
and by the power of Thy Cross, //  
preserve Thy habitation.

**Reader:** The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

**Choir:** *Спаси, Господи, люди Твоя ...*

**Reader:** The Lord is great in Zion; He is exalted over all the peoples.

**Choir:** *Mântuiește, Doamne, poporul Tău ...*

**Reader:** Bow down in worship to the Lord in His holy court!

**Choir:** *Σώσον, Κύριε, τον λαόν Σου ...*

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### ENTRANCE HYMN

*The Introit of the Little Entrance as printed on page 14 of the White Book is **not** used. Instead:*

**Reader:** Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool; for He is holy!

**Choir:** **O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!** [Refrain in White Book page 13]

### TROPARIA & KONTAKIA

#### Troparion of the Cross in Tone 1

[Music on website / White Book page 13]

O Lord, save Thy people,  
and bless Thine inheritance!  
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
over their adversaries;  
and by the power of Thy Cross, //  
preserve Thy habitation.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

#### Kontakion of the Cross in Tone 4

[Music on website / White Book page 17]

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake,  
grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name;  
make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power,  
granting them victories over their adversaries //  
by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

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### INSTEAD OF THE TRISAGION

[Music on website / Sheet]

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy Holy Resurrection we glorify!

[Кресту Твоему поклоняемся, Владыко, и Святое Воскресение Твое славим!]

[Crucii Tale ne închinăm, Stăpâne, și Sfântă Învierea Ta o lăudăm și o slăvim!]

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

And Thy Holy Resurrection we glorify!

**Priest:** Dynamis!

[Τον Σταυρόν σου προσκυνούμεν Δέσποτα, και την Αγίαν σου Ανάστασιν δοξάζομεν!]

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## PROKEIMENON

**Reader:** The Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone.

**Reader:** Exalt the Lord our God: worship at His footstool for He is holy!

**Choir:** Exalt the Lord our God: worship at His footstool for He is holy!

**Reader:** The Lord reigns, let the people tremble!

**Choir:** Exalt the Lord our God: worship at His footstool for He is holy!

**Reader:** Exalt the Lord our God:

**Choir:** worship at His footstool for He is holy!

## EPISTLE

The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

Ye Brethren: The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will thwart." Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. [1 Corinthians 1:18-24]

## ALLELUIA

**Priest:** Peace be to thee that readest, and to all the people.

**Reader:** And to thy spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Choir:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Reader:** Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old!

**Choir:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Reader:** God is our King before the ages; He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth!

**Choir:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

At that time: The chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. And they came to Pilate, saying, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King!" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it

was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. Then when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the sabbath (for that sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness, and his testimony is true. [John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35]

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#### **THE ZADOSTOYNIK**

Magnify, O my soul,  
the most precious Cross of the Lord!  
Thou art the mystical Paradise, O Theotokos,  
in which Christ has blossomed;  
through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth.  
Now at its Elevation,  
as we bow in worship before it,  
we magnify thee.

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[Music on website / White Book page 23]

#### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

The light of Thy countenance has shone on us, O Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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#### **AFTER COMMUNION**

"We have seen the True Light ..." etc., as usual.

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