September 13th

Forefeast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Mode 4
Special Melody: *As one valiant*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) Be - ing lift - ed up - on the Cross, Thou didst raise Ad - am

with Thy - self and, with him, our whole fal - len

na - ture, O our Lord. Where - fore, ex - alt - ing Thy

spot - less Cross, we ask Thee, O Friend of man,

for Thy pow - er from a - bove, as we cry out: O

Thou Most High, save them that re - vere the di - vine, bright and

hal - lowed El - e - va - tion of Thy Cross with fit - ting

hon - or, since Thou art God the All - mer - ci - ful.

2) As it saith in the psalms, we now see the foot-stool, O

Mas-ter Christ, where Thine un-de-filed feet have

stood: Thy pre-cious Cross, which is ex-alt-ed this

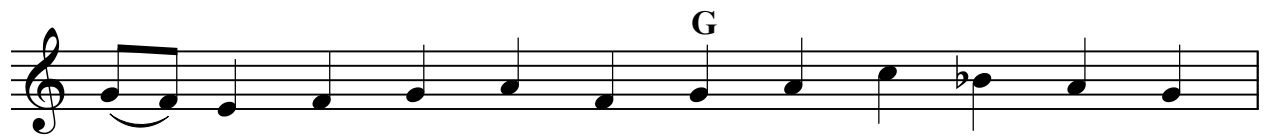day with fer-vent long-ing and sa-cred love.

We ex-alt it pi-ous-ly and im-plore Thee while

cry-ing out: O Thou Most High God, Who hast hal-lowed all

men by Thy di-vine Cross, make us shar-ers of di-

-vine grace and Thine in-ef-fa-bly ten-der love.

E   Un.

3) As a tro - phy in - vin - ci - ble, as a shield strong a -

E

- gainst the foe, as a scep - ter giv - en by

God, O Sav - ior Christ, we bow and wor - ship Thy

ho - ly___ Cross, where - by_____ all the world is saved;

for its sake doth Ad - am dance; and with songs,__ we the

com - pan - ies of those born on earth laud and hon - or it,

G

keep - ing feast in glad - ness on its God - ly El - e -

E

- va - tion, while ask - ing par - don of all our sins.