September 20th

After-Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

When the God-seer Moses long ago set a brazen serpent upon a pole, he completely destroyed deadly biting serpents; but, O Savior,

when Thou didst lift Thy whole self upon the Tree,

Thou truly didst quicken all the race of man by Thy divine life-giving Cross.

As it now is raised up, it burneth hordes of unclean demons, while conqu'ring all the bold presumption of barbaric tribes.

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2) Thou wast clothed with my mortality and corruption from the pure Virgin Mother of God, making me, O Savior, to be incorruptible so Thou drewest me unto life and joy never ending, unto which Thou leadest all that sing Thy praise, O Christ; and, O Word of God, Thou bestowest on Thy faithful priests Thy divine Cross as a mighty weapon against heresies.
3) Shine Thy light, which no man may approach, on us, O Christ God, for, behold, we are all the works of Thy hands; crown our godly hierarchs with the weapon of Thy Cross; grant them victory over all heretical doctrines; for they have Thy Cross as strength and riches safe from thieves and a mighty wall and a strong hold, O Most High, my Savior Who dwelt est in the Theotokos' uncorrupted womb.