

September 14: The Exaltation of the Cross
Stichera of the Praises, Tone 8,
Automelon "O Marvellous Wonder**"**
Optina Hermitage Melody

(4) *Reader:* In the same tone, the Automelon, "O marvellous wonder",
Praise Him for His mighty acts,

I-descant
II-chant melody

Praise Him according to the mul - ti - tude of His great - ness.

O mar - vel - lous won - - - der! The most ho - - - ly Cross,

The life-giv-ing Tree _____ is lifted up on high today and shown

to the world. All the ends of the earth give glo - - - ry;

*The melody name is also translated "O all-glorious wonder", or "O most-glorious wonder"

**The original melody

All the dev-ils are af-fright - ed. How great a gift is here bestowed on

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a series of chords, mostly triads and dyads, with some notes beamed together. The bass staff contains a simple harmonic accompaniment of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

mor - - tal men. Through thy Cross, save our souls, O Christ,

The second system continues the musical notation. The treble staff features some notes with slurs, and the bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are placed between the staves.

Thou Who a - lone art full of com - pas - - - - sion.

The third system concludes the Sticheron. The treble staff ends with a final chord and a fermata. The bass staff also concludes with a final chord and a fermata. The lyrics are placed between the staves.

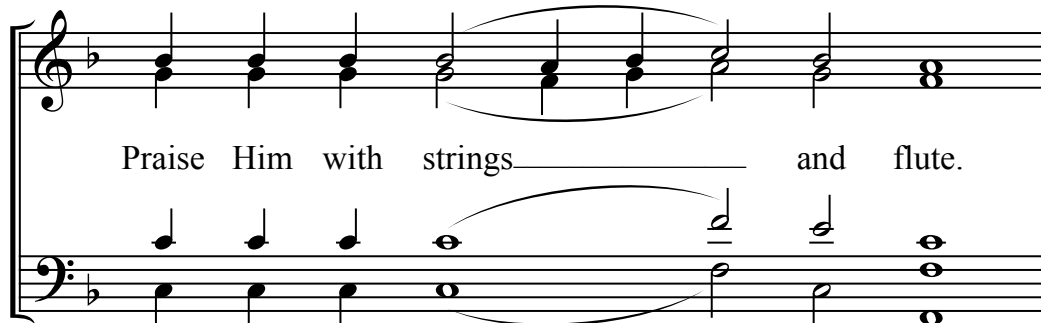
(3) Reader: Praise Him with the sound of trumpet,

Praise Him with psal - - - - ter - y and harp.

The Reader's part is a single system of musical notation. It features a treble staff with a series of chords, some of which are beamed together, and a bass staff with a simple accompaniment. The lyrics are placed between the staves.

◀ **Repeat 1st sticheron: "O marvellous wonder..."**

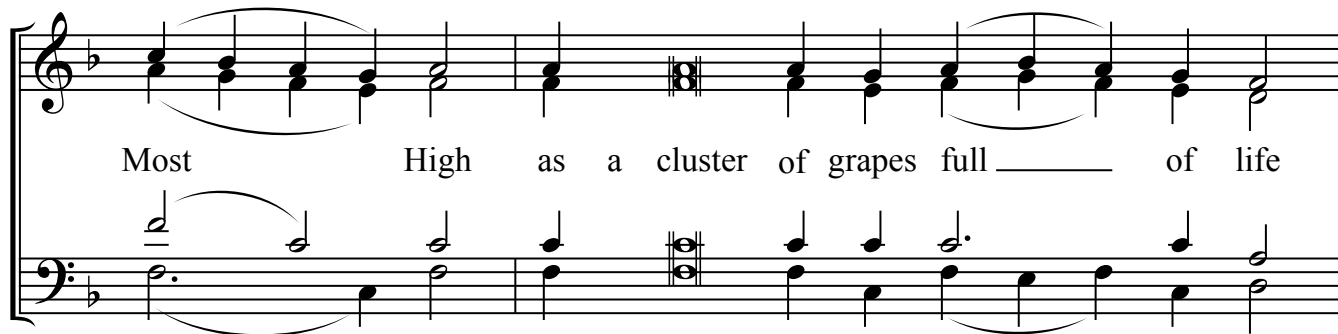
(2) Reader: Praise Him with timbrel and dance,



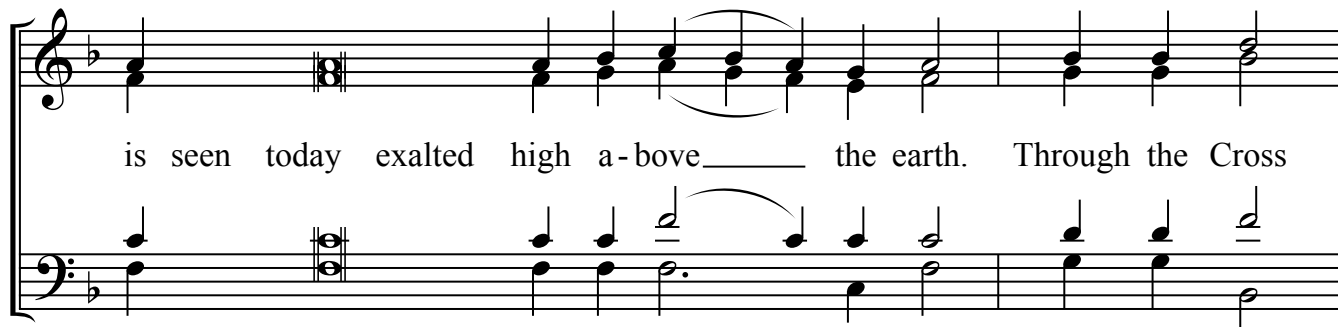
Praise Him with strings and flute.



O mar-vel-lous won - - - - der! The Cross which carried the

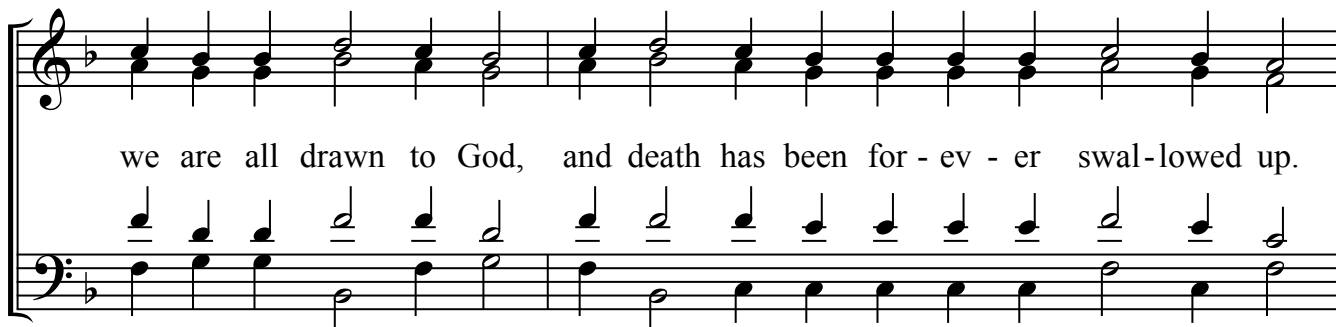


Most High as a cluster of grapes full of life



is seen today exalted high a-bove the earth. Through the Cross

we are all...



we are all drawn to God, and death has been for - ev - er swal-lowed up.

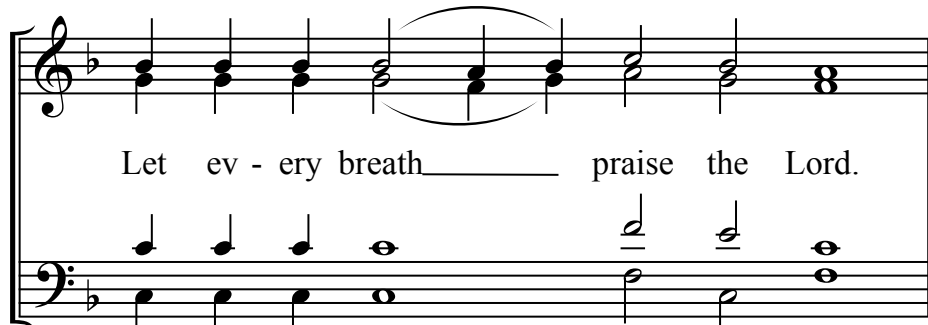


O un-de-filed Wood! Through thee we enjoy the immortal fruit

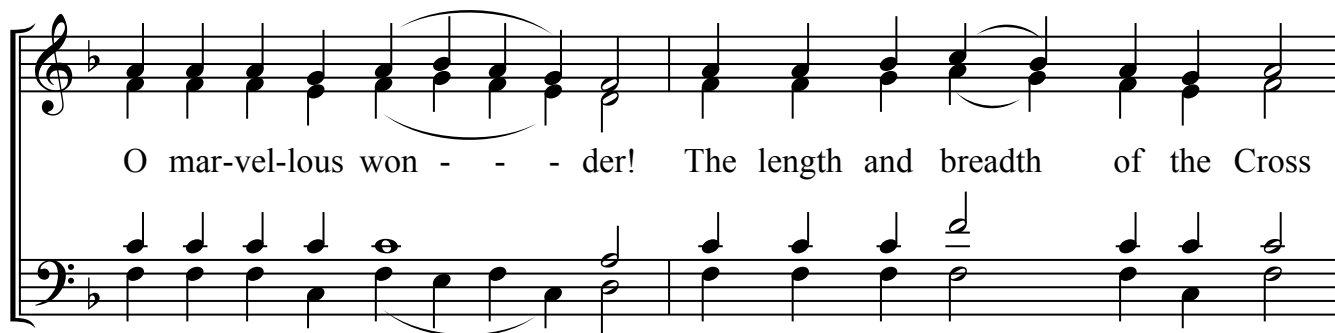


of E - - - - den, as we glo - ri - fy Christ.

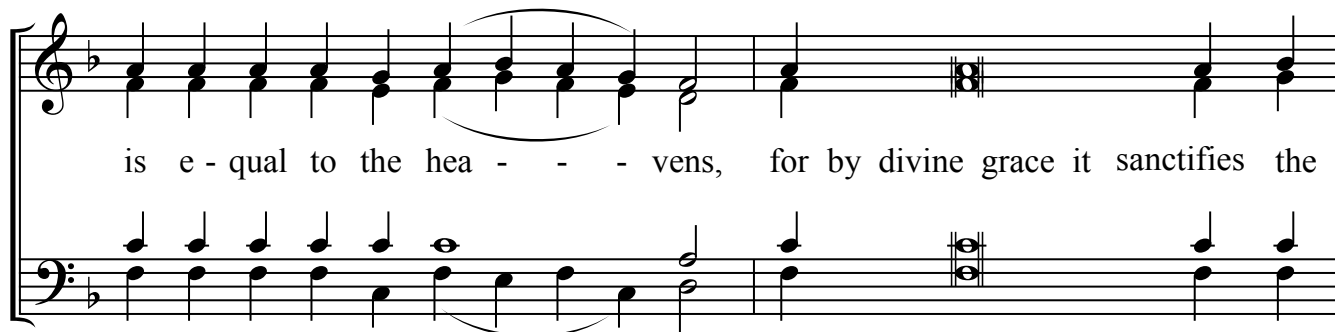
(1) *Reader:* Praise Him with tuneful cymbals; praise Him with cymbals of jubilation.



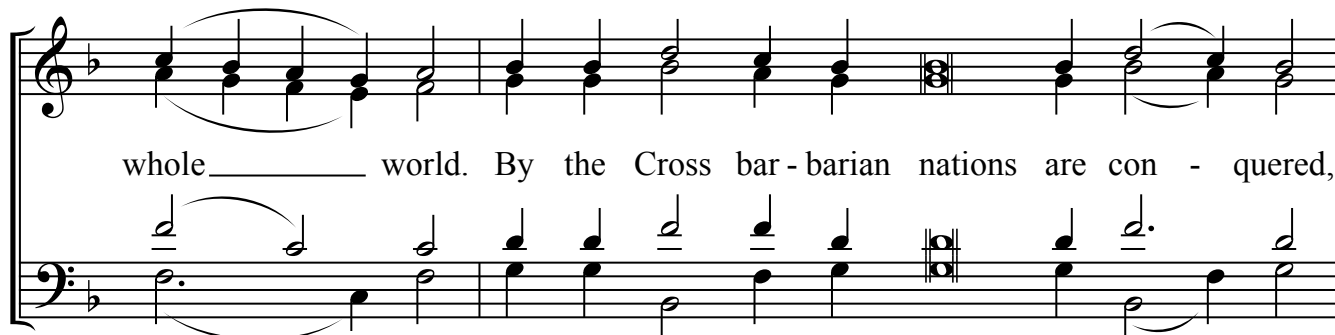
Let ev - ery breath _____ praise the Lord.



O mar-vel-lous won - - - der! The length and breadth of the Cross



is e - qual to the hea - - - vens, for by divine grace it sanctifies the



whole _____ world. By the Cross bar - barian nations are con - quered,

by the Cross the sceptres of kings are confirmed. O di-vine

lad - - - - der! By thee we go up to hea - - - - ven,

ex - alt - ing Christ the Lord in song.

English text: "The Festal Menaion", translated by Mother Mary and Bishop Kallistos Ware,
Faber and Faber, London, ©1969. Reprinted by St. Tikhon's Seminary Press, South Canaan, Pennsylvania.