

## EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Isaiah 45:21-25

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Only in the Lord are righteousness and strength.

Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the Lord? There is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Saviour; there is no one besides me. Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness a word that shall not return: "To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; all who were incensed against him shall come to him and be ashamed. In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 98 or Psalm 98:1-4 [page 727]

## Philippians 2:5-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

He humbled Himself, therefore God has exalted Him.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

John 3:13-17

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

## The ♣ Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

Jesus said to Nicodemus, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of "Man. And as Moses

lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

The gospel of the Lord.