



# THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

SEPTEMBER 14

PREFACE OF HOLY WEEK

**Isaiah 45:21-25**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah*

Every knee shall bow and every tongue confess.

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? And there is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none 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; to him shall come and be ashamed, all who were incensed against him. In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.”

The Word of the Lord.

**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 12:31-36**

*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, "Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out; and I, when I am lifted

up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” He said this to show by what death he was to die. The crowd answered Him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, lest the darkness overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

The gospel of the Lord.