

# Stichera at Litya

*The Ascension of the Lord*

Tone 1  
Sticheron 1

Russian Imperial Court Chant  
arr. from L'vov-Bakhmetev

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

Hav - ing as - cend - ed to heaven from where You had de -

scend - ed, do not leave us orph - ans, O Lord! May Your Ho -

ly Spir - it come, bringing peace to the world; show the sons of

men the works of Your pow - er, // O Lord Who love man-kind!

Sticheron 2

You as-cend - ed, O Christ, to Your Fa - ther, Who is

with-out be-gin - ning, though You were never parted from

His uncircumscribed bos - om, and the heavenly Powers accepted no

addition to the thrice - ho - ly hymn of praise, but rec - og-nized

You, O Lord, as one Son, only - begotten of the Fa - ther

even after be-com - ing man. // In the abundance of Your compassion,

have mer - cy on us!

Sticheron 3

Your An - gels, O Lord, said to the A - pos - tles:

"Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heav - en?

This is Christ God Who has been taken from you into heav - en.

He it is Who will come a - gain in like man - ner as you

have seen Him going to heav - en: // worship Him in holiness

and right - eous - ness!"

Tone 4  
Sticheron 4

When You came, O Christ, to the Mount of Ol - ives to ac -

complish the good pleasure of the Fa - ther, the An - gels of

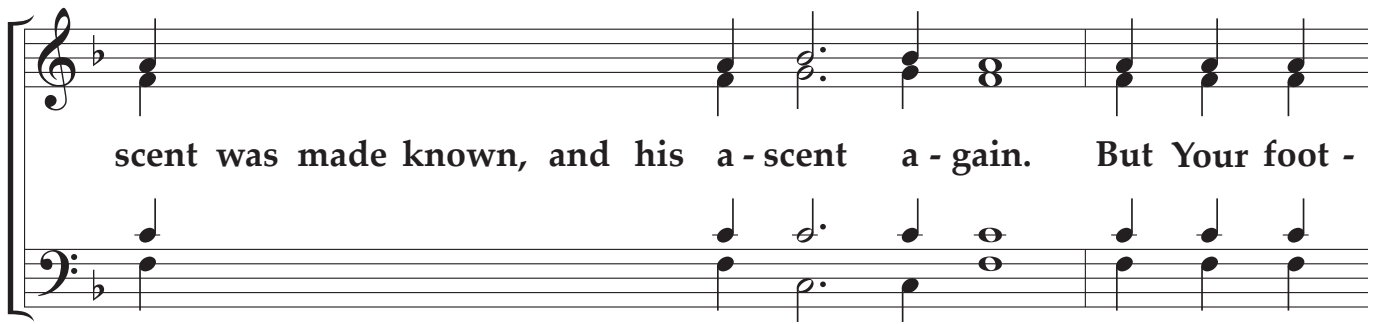
heav - en were a-mazed, and the demonic powers were seized with

fear; the Disciples stood by trembling with joy as You spoke

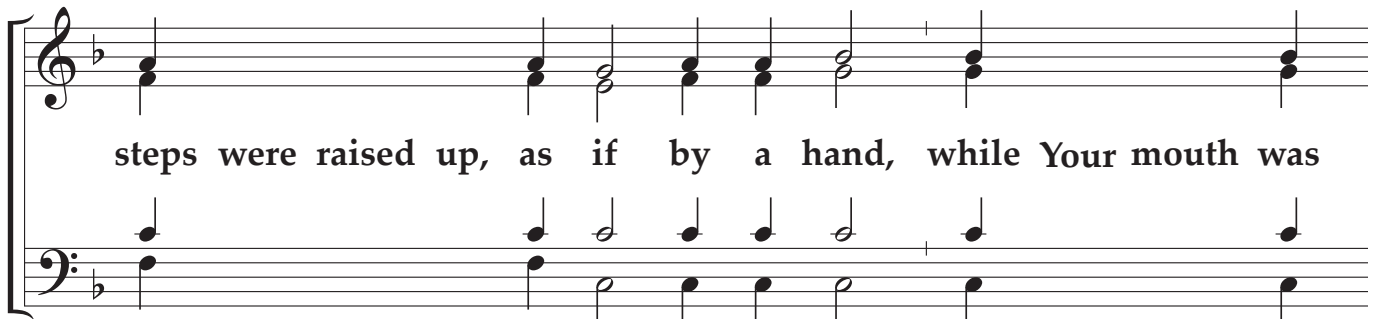
to them; and aloft, a waiting cloud was pre-pared as a throne;

heaven flung wide its gates and appeared in its beau - ty,

and the earth re-veals — its hid-den vaults, so that Adam's de -



scent was made known, and his a-scent a-gain. But Your foot -



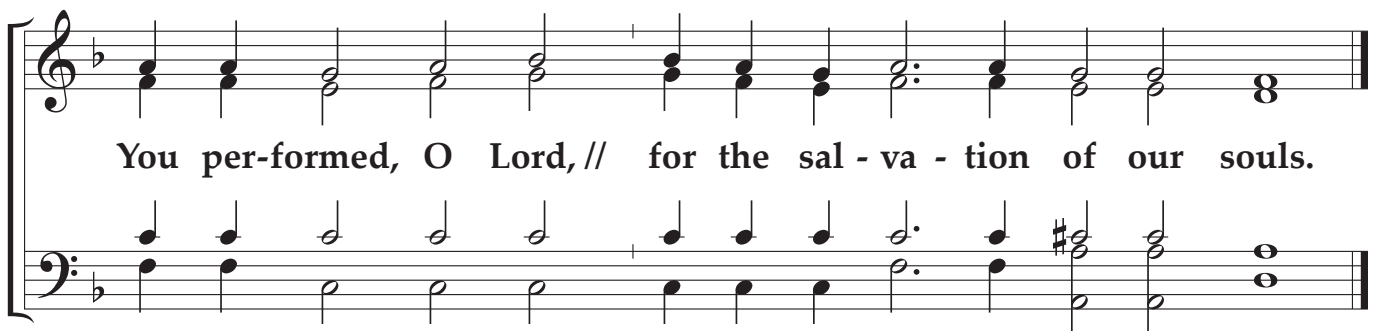
steps were raised up, as if by a hand, while Your mouth was



heard pronouncing a great bless - ing; a cloud received



You and heaven wel-come You in. This great and marvelous work



You performed, O Lord, // for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

## Sticheron 5

The nature of Ad - am, which had descended to the nethermost

parts of the earth, You re-newed in Your-self, O God, and to-day,

You took it up above every Principality and Pow - er, for lov -

ing it, so You seat - ed it with Your-self; and having compassion

on it, You u - nit - ed it with Your-self; and united with it,

You suf-fered with it; and You Who are passionless have glorified

it with Your-self. But the Bodiless Powers were ask - ing:

"Who is this Man of beau - ty? Not man only, but both

God and man, the two natures together made man - i - fest."

And so exultant Angels, flying about the Disciples in shin - ing robes



cried out: "O Men — of Gal - i - lee, He Who is gone from you,

this Jesus, both Man and God will come again as God and Man,

the Judge of liv - ing and the dead, // granting the faithful

forgiveness of sins and His great mer - cy!"

## Sticheron 6

When You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,

while the Dis - ci - ples looked on, the clouds — re - ceived You

with Your flesh; the gates of heaven were lift - ed up; the choirs of

An - gels re - joiced — with glad - ness; the higher Powers cried out

say - ing: "Lift up your gates, you princ - es, and the King of

Glo - ry will come — in!" But the Disciples said in a - maze - ment:

“Do not be parted from us, O good Shep - herd, but send us

Your all - ho - ly Spir - it, // to guide and il - lu - mine and

sanc - ti - fy our souls!”