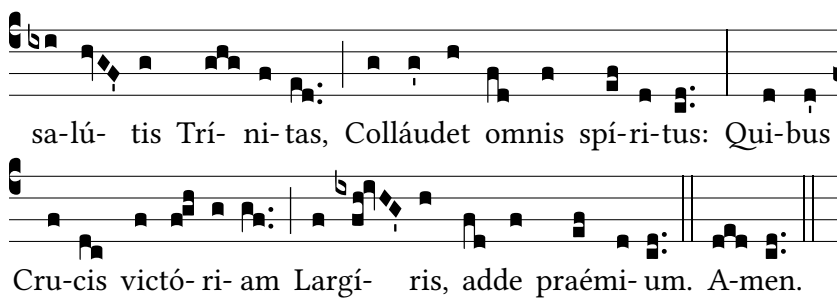


Vexilla Regis Prodeunt

Vespers hymn for Passiontide

V ^I EXILLA Re- gis pró- de-runt: Fulget Cru- cis my-
 sté-ri- um, Qua vi-ta mortem pér-tu- lit, Et mor- te vi- tam
 pró-tu- lit. 2. Quae vulne- rá- ta lán- ce- ae Mucróné di- ro, crí-
 minum Ut nos la- vá- ret sór- di- bus, Ma- ná- vit undaet sán-
 gui- ne. 3. Implé- ta sunt quae cón- ci- nit Da- vid fi- dé- li cármi-
 ne, Di- cén- do na- ti- ó- ni- bus: Regná- vit a ligno De- us. 4.
 Arbor de- có- ra et fúl- gi- da, Orná- ta Re- gis púrpu- ra,
 E- lécta digno stí- pi- te Tam san- cta membra táng- re. 5.
 Be- á- ta, cu- jus brá- chi- is Prétium pe- péndit saé- cu- li:
 Sta- té- ra facta córpo- ris, Tu- lít- que praedam tárta- ri. 6. O
 Crux ave, spes ú- ni- ca, Hoc Passi- ó- nis témpo- re: Pi- is
 adáuge grá- ti- am, Re- í- sque de- le crími- na. 7. Te, fons

Abroad the regal banners fly,
 Now shines the Cross's mystery:
 Upon it Life did death endure,
 And yet by death did life procure.
 2. Who, wounded with a direful
 spear,
 Did, purposely to wash us clear
 From stain of sin, pour out a flood
 Of precious water mixed with
 blood.
 3. That which the prophet-king of
 old
 Hath in mysterious verse foretold,
 Is now accomplished, whilst we see
 God ruling nations from a Tree.
 4. O lovely and refulgent Tree,
 Adorned with purple majesty;
 Culled from a worthy stock, to bear
 Those limbs which sanctified were.
 5. Blest Tree, whose happy
 branches bore
 The wealth that did the world re-
 store;
 The beam that did that Body weigh
 Which raised up hell's expected
 prey.
 6. Hail Cross, our hope; on thee we
 call,
 Who keep this mournful festival;
 Grant to the just increase of grace,
 And every sinner's crimes efface.
 7. Blest Trinity, we praises sing
 To Thee, from whom all graces
 spring;
 Celestial crowns on those bestow
 Who conquer by the Cross below.



sa-lú- tis Trí- ni- tas, Colláudet omnis spí-ri- tus: Qui- bus
Cru- cis victó- ri- am Largí- ris, adde praémi- um. A- men.

translation by Walter Kirkham Blount, 1717 and Evening Office,
1710