

MELODY FOR THE FEAST OF THE CROSS

*(17-19 Tout; 10 Baramhat)
Chanted in the Hossanna
(Palm Sunday) Tune*

1. I begin in the name of the Trinity
The living Lord of hosts
We all cry out with a loud voice
Ⲭερε νακ ὠ πῖς-ταυρος²
2. When the just King wanted
To reveal His Cross
He arranged a heavenly plan
Ⲭερε νακ ὠ πῖς-ταυρος
3. After the death of Diocletian
Came emperor Constantine
And he loved the name of Jesus
Ⲭερε νακ ὠ πῖς-ταυρος
4. He reopened the churches' doors
And tore down the temple of the
idols
And destroyed all the followers
Ⲭερε νακ ὠ πῖς-ταυρος
5. He sent his soldiers in the cities
To call upon the faithful saints
And to destroy the idol worshipers
Ⲭερε νακ ὠ πῖς-ταυρος
6. A war broke out with the barbarians
So he gathered an army to fight
And rose thinking in the night
Ⲭερε νακ ὠ πῖς-ταυρος

² *Shere Nak O Pi-estav-ros = Hail to you, O Cross*

7. In heaven a sign appeared to him
Like the sign of the Cross in a vision
And it was revealed unto him
Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος
8. A voice came to the emperor
“Place the cross on your armor”
“In the war, you will conquer”
Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος
9. “Make this sign and you will win”
“Through Jesus you will crush your enemies”
He did as the angel said
Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος
10. He went and defeated the barbarians
He destroyed his enemies
He overcame and dispersed them
Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος
11. When he returned from the war
He sat with his counselors and thought
“Where can the Cross of Jesus be sought”
Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος
12. They answered “the city of Jerusalem
The Cross of Christ is therein
It has been there for a long time”
Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος
13. Queen Helen came to him
And knelt down before him
“Arise, fight for it,” she told him
Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος
14. “If you conquer with the Cross
With it, you obtain your wishes

God has chosen your performance”

Χερε ηακ ω πισταηρος

15. She gathered soldiers for a great army

And hastened to Jerusalem, the enemy

All the cities heard of this mystery

Χερε ηακ ω πισταηρος

16. When she reached the city

Her soldiers secured the place

The whole city was shaken up

Χερε ηακ ω πισταηρος

17. All the authorities came out

To see what this matter may be

They saw the army of the queen

Χερε ηακ ω πισταηρος

18. The city was in great despair

When they saw the mother of Constantine

So she asked them tenderly

Χερε ηακ ω πισταηρος

19. “Please tell me truthfully

About the Cross of Jesus Christ

Where did the Jews hide it?”

Χερε ηακ ω πισταηρος

20. They told her, “Our Queen...

This is a very old matter

And not in our lifetime”

Χερε ηακ ω πισταηρος

21. She said to all of them

“Bring to me chosen men

To prove what was meant”

Χερε ηακ ω πισταηρος

22. They brought three Jewish men
 To tell her about those times
 She firmly inquired of them
Ⲭερε ⲛⲁⲕ ὠ ⲡⲓϥⲧⲁⲛⲣⲟϥ
23. "Tell me about the Cross of Christ
 Where did the Jews hide it?"
 One of them was intelligent
Ⲭερε ⲛⲁⲕ ὠ ⲡⲓϥⲧⲁⲛⲣⲟϥ
24. They answered her with denial
 "We do not know what happened to
 it!"
 She confined them in fire and smoke
Ⲭερε ⲛⲁⲕ ὠ ⲡⲓϥⲧⲁⲛⲣⲟϥ
25. "Release us and we will inform
 About the Cross of **Ⲓⲛϥⲟⲩϥ**
ⲠⲓⲬⲣⲓϥⲧⲟϥ³
 We will tell of the place"
Ⲭερε ⲛⲁⲕ ὠ ⲡⲓϥⲧⲁⲛⲣⲟϥ
26. One called Judas told her
 "It is buried under the pile of
 Golgotha
 Bring us some men to dig it out"
Ⲭερε ⲛⲁⲕ ὠ ⲡⲓϥⲧⲁⲛⲣⲟϥ
27. They dug up the place
 And the three crosses appeared
 But they did not know which was
 Christ's
Ⲭερε ⲛⲁⲕ ὠ ⲡⲓϥⲧⲁⲛⲣⲟϥ
28. A funeral was passing by them
 The dead being carried by men
 The Queen ordered them to bring
 him
Ⲭερε ⲛⲁⲕ ὠ ⲡⲓϥⲧⲁⲛⲣⲟϥ

³ *Ie-sous Pi-ekhrastos = Jesus Christ*

29. "Set him down and bring the crosses
And place it upon him"
Everyone rejoiced when they saw
them
Χερε νακ ὠ πίσταυρος
30. The first two were placed on him
But he rose up with the third cross
Everyone cried out in Hebrew
Χερε νακ ὠ πίσταυρος
31. They carried it with glory and joy
Praises and beautiful songs
This is a great day
Χερε νακ ὠ πίσταυρος
32. This is the promised day
Of which David prophesied
On this day the promise was fulfilled
Χερε νακ ὠ πίσταυρος
33. Hail to the Cross, the weapon of
victory
Hail...Cross, the crown of the
kingdom
With its sign, we receive blessing
Χερε νακ ὠ πίσταυρος
34. Hail...Cross, the pillar of faith
Hail...Cross, the pride of the faithful
Hail...Cross, the joy of the Christians
Χερε νακ ὠ πίσταυρος
35. Hail...Cross, the light of faith
Hail...Cross, the light to every man
With its sign, Satan is renounced
Χερε νακ ὠ πίσταυρος
36. Hail...Cross, the fruit of life
Hail...Cross, the ark of salvation

Hail...Cross, the ark of sinners

Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος

37. Through the Cross, Adam returned to Paradise

Through the Cross, Constantine overcame his enemies

Through the Cross, Satan was destroyed

Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος.

38. Hail to the Virgin, the Mother of Light

Who protects us from all evils

She fills our days with joy

Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος

39. Through the sign of our Savior's Cross

We renounced the power of Satan

Through the intercessions of the Virgin

Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος.

40. Hail to King Constantine

Who revealed the Cross of **Πιχριστος**⁴

We hail him saying, "Axios" (worthy)

Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος

41. Hail to Queen Helen

Who diligently searched for the Cross

We ask God to help us

Χερε νακ ω πισταυρος

⁴ Pi-ekhristos = Christ