

SESSIONAL HYMNS

(Sedalny)

- Kievan Chant -

Source: These Sessional Hymns (Sedalny) were copied by hand by an unknown visitor to the Prophet Elias Skete on Mt. Athos (circa 1975), where he found a few manuscripts in their library containing chants from the Kiev Caves Lavra. These were copied from volume 2 (dating from 1899), containing selections from the Menaion and Triodion. The handwritten notes were typeset by Nikita Simmons, August, 2003, Woodburn, Oregon; these settings are an attempt to reconstruct the original Kievan square-note settings as accurately as possible.

Седаленъ : Жи́ртъ твоегѡ .
Гла́съ , ѧ . Жидо́бенъ , Жи́лменъ Запечатанъ .

Text: Sept. 14: Exaltation of the Cross. This is the text for the 2nd Sedalen on the 1st Kathisma reading at Matins. The original text for this Podoben (i.e. the Samopodoben) is the Resurrectional Troparion in Tone 1.

Melody: Kievan Chant.

The musical notation consists of eight staves of neumes on a five-line staff system. The text is written below each staff in a combination of Church Slavonic and Russian. The text reads:

Жи́ртъ твоегѡ .
Гла́съ , ѧ . Жидо́бенъ , Жи́лменъ Запечатанъ .

Кре_стъ тво_е_гѡ дре_въ по_кля_нá_ем_ся че_ло_вѣ_ко_лыб_че ,
и_кѡ на_и_емъ при_гви_з_дн_я_са є_сн_ жи_бо_те ви_хъ .

рѣ_шъ ве_рзль є_сн_ спа_се , вѣ_ро_ю при_шед_ше_мъ тѣ_ рѣ_

бóй_ни_къ , и_ слá_до_сти спо_дó_бн_са и_с_по_вѣ_да_ла_са те_

е_къ: по_мл_ни_ мла_го_спо_дн_. прї_и_мн_ и__ ко_же

о_на_го и_ на_съ зо_въ_шихъ: со_грѣ_ши_ хомъ ви_ ,

бла_го_д_тро_ бї_емъ тво_и_мъ и_не_ прé_ Зри_ на_съ .

Седáленъ : Щрестóль сгрáшиомъ .
Глáсъ , л . Щодóбенъ , Щróбъ твóй спéе .

Text: Nov. 8: St. Michael the Archangel – This is the text for the first Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the first Kathisma reading at Matins. The original text for this Podoben (i.e. the Samopoden, “Thy tomb, O Saviour”) is sung on Holy Friday at Matins.

Melody: Kievan Chant.

Престóль сгрáшиомъ предстоѧщие прииню,
 и свѣтъ лыманъ злѣмъ тѣхъ солнечнаго божес-
 твѧ ѿсииѧ мнъ, про свѣтъ ти ти мы,
 грѣхъ мѣни мракъ ѿго наше, вѣшъ
 со боръ прѣзидиющиѧ свѣтла, и прилиѧши нѡ мо-
 ли ти и земля ви ти сѧ на мъ ѿ бѣдѣ, пре свѣтъ тли-
 мо ли ти венини цы.

Гла́съ, А. Модо́бенъ, Лі́къ Аггльскій.
Седа́ленъ : Лі́къ Аггльскій.

Text: Nov. 8: St. Michael the Archangel – NOTE: This is not the Samopodoben text. It is the text for the second Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the first Kathisma reading at Matins for November 8. The original text for this Podoben (i.e. the Samopodoben, “The angelic hosts”) is sung on February 2 (the first Sessional Hymn after the first Kathisma at Matins).

Melody: Kievan Chant.

Самоподобенъ: Лі́къ Аггльскій да о́уди ви́тса чдесні: земній же гла́сы возопі́емъ півніє, зра́ще неизре́ченное бжїе синзхожденіє: єгѡже во препещітъ нбесныя сілы, нынѣ ста́рун ѿб’ємлютъ рѣцѣ єдінаго члвчка колибца.

Лі́къ Аггльскій, ар-хї-стара-тні га а мѣ́лай бо-

 жест-вен-на-го мї-хл-н-ла, с' ннм' сва-тї-й тро-н-ци пр-

 но-шл-еїтъ пї- нї- е: ѿ не сѹ-цихъ бо со-дї-тель

 всл-чес-кихъ, вѡ- нн-сівла ѿ-гнє-зрау- ныхъ чи-нѡвъ

 сло- вом' при-ве-де.

Седаленъ : Іосредѣ полкѡвъ .
Гласъ , в . Йодобенъ , Гдѣ сиизшель есн .

Text: Nov. 8: St. Michael the Archangel – This is the text for the first Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the second Kathisma reading at Matins for November 8. The original text for this Podoben (i.e. the Samopodoben, “When thou didst go down to death”) is the Troparion (Apolytikion) for Sunday in Tone 2.

Melody: Kievan Chant. Note: The melody has been transposed up a fourth in order to notate it properly on the standard Kievan staff; the original source places it too low on the staff according to the standards of Muscovite square-note chant books.

ПО_СРЕ_ДѢ_БѢ_ПОЛ_КВÓВЪ АН_ГЕЛЬ_СКИХЪ СТА_РБÉН_ШИЙ А_ВНЛ_СА
 Е_СН МИ_ХЛ_Н_ЛЕ АР_ХИ_СТРЛ_ТН_ЖЕ, ВЫШ_НЛ_ГО ЦЛ_РД_ НЕ_ПРЕ_
 СТАН_ НО МО_ЛН_, ДОЛЬ_ННХЪ МД_ЧН_ПЕ_ЛЕН ГОР_ДЫ_НЮ ННЗ_
 ЛО_ЖН_ПН: А Н_КВ А_МБ_Л ДЕР_ЗНО_ВЕ_НИ_Е ОУ_ ПРЕ_СТО_ЛЛ
 О_ГНЕ_ЗР_ ЧНЛ_ГW, МО_ЛН ЗЛ НЫ_ НЕ_ПРЕ_ СТАН_ НО
 РЛ_ БЫ_ ТБО_ А.

Седáленъ : Стóлпъ быль єсн цркве .
Глásъ , Г . Йодобенъ , Жесственныѧ вѣры .

Text: Nov. 6: Troparion for St. Paul the Confessor – This is the text for the first Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the second Kathisma reading at Matins for January 30, the Three Great Hierarchs (and possibly for Jan. 25, St. John the Theologian). The original text (i.e. the Samopodoben, “By the confession of a divine faith”) is the Troparion for St. Paul the Confessor of Constantinople, Nov. 6.

Melody: Kievan Chant.

Стóлпъ быль єсн церкве, бо гáт-ство не_и_грá_ю_мо_е
 Бла_го_уе_стї_л м_ ви_л са єсн, бо_ го_ сло_ ве гри_гó_ рї_ е,
 В' бе_з-стри_стї_н ѿ_и_лъ єсн жи_ти_ е ___ тво_ е, н_ трó_
 и_ческї_л н_з'_жс_и_лъ єсн дог_мá_ты, ѿ_уе пре_ по_
 дое_ не, хри_стà_ еó_ га мо_лн ѿ спасéни_и_н
 дышъ _____ на_шихъ.

Се^да^ле^ни^в : Са^зо^пи^й д^лв^ид^е .
Гл^асъ , Г . Са^зо^по^до^бе^ни^в , С^иУ^ди^ви^ся^л и^ви^си^ф .

Text: Sept. 8: The Nativity of the Theotokos – This is the text for the first Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the first Kathisma reading at Matins for September 8, the Nativity of the Theotokos. The original text (i.e. the Samopodoben, “Joseph was amazed”) is the third Sessional Hymn after the first Kathisma reading at Matins from the Sunday Octoechos.

Melody: Kievan Chant.

Бо-зопій длвіде...
 богъ: а_ же мнѣ кл_ тся, ре_ че, и_ и_...
 по_л... нн оу_жє: ѿ пла_д_а чре_...
 ва мое_ гѡ... дл_вий дн_вн_ ц8, и_з' не_ а_же...
 со_ дн_тєль хри_стосъ, ио_вий а_ дамъ ... ро_...
 дн_ ся, царъ ... на пре_сто...

лѣ́ мо_́мъ: ۪ н̄ __ цáрь-ствó_ етъ днéсъ, ۪ н̄ ____ мѣ́лъ цáрь-
 _____ ство не_дѣлн́ _____ жи_мо. не____ плó_ды раж-
 дѣ́-етъ бо_го_ рó _____ дн_цð, ۪ н̄ пн_ тá____
 _____ телъ_ни_ цð жи_ _____ зни на_ ше_ л.

Седáленъ : Хербíми и серафíми .
Глáсъ , д . Йо́дóбенъ , Скóро предвáрн .

Text: Sept. 8: The Nativity of the Theotokos – This is the text for the second Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the second Kathisma reading at Matins for September 8, the Nativity of the Theotokos. The original text (i.e. the Samopodoben, “Be quick to anticipate”) occurs both in the Octoechos and in the Triodion as a Sessional Hymn at Matins on Wednesdays.

Melody: Kievan Chant. Note: The melody has been transposed up a fourth in order to notate it properly on the standard Kievan staff; the original source places it too low on the staff according to the standards of Muscovite square-note chant books.

Хербíми и серафíми , мнo_го_о_чн_та_я арх_ан_геловъ
слы_жн_ те_леи въ_ни_ства, со власте_мн_ престо_ли, гос_пóдъ
ства, ан_гел, сн_лы же и на_чл_ ла, мóлата та
твор_ца на_шe_го и бó_га и вла_ды_ к8, да не прé_зри-
ши мо_ле_ни_я лю_дей со_грб_ши_в_ шихъ, бó_ же
мнo_го_мн_ ло_стн_в.

Седа́ленъ : **Бѣрнымъ предстѣтельствѣши .**
Ласъ , **и . Йодобенъ ,** **Авила есн .**

Text: Dec. 6: St. Nicholas – This is the text for the first Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the second Kathisma reading at Matins for December 6, St. Nicholas. The original text (i.e. the Samopodoben, "Thou hast appeared") occurs of the feast of the Theophany.

Melody: Kievan Chant. It is interesting to note that this melody is almost the same as the Tone 7 Small Znamenny Chant melody for stichera (i.e., the so-called "Samoglasen"), although it lacks the Tone 7 ending phrase; there can be no doubt, however, that this is merely a coincidence, since Tones 4 and 7 are not related to each other in any way. It also seems to be the very same melody as the following Podoben in this collection.

Бѣрнымъ предстѣтельствѣши, по_кры_вѣ_ѧ, со_блю_дѣ_ѧ
 тѣ_ѧ блажен_и_, вслѣд_и_ѧ скор_бн_и_ѧ из_блѣд_и_ѧ и_ѣ_ вѣ_,
 и_е_ рѣ_хов_и_ѧ крас_и_ѣ_ѧ ша_ѧ слѣ_бо_и_ѧ хвѣ_ѧ, и_ѣ_ ко_--
 ла_ѧ е_ прѣ_по_дѣ_б_и_ѧ.

Седаленъ : Возшедъ со ученикѣ на горѣ .
Гласъ , Г. Модобенъ , Вознесы́иса .

Text: Aug. 6: Transfiguration – This is the text for the Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the Velichanie (Magnification). The original text (i.e. the Samopodoben, "Thou Who wast lifted up willingly on the Cross") occurs on the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (Sept. 14).

Melody: Kievan Chant. It is interesting to note that this melody is almost the same as the Tone 7 Small Znamenny Chant melody for stichera (i.e., the so-called "Samoglasen"), although it lacks the ending phrase; there can be no doubt, however, that this is merely a coincidence, since Tones 4 and 7 are not related to each other in any way. It also seems to be the very same melody as the previous Podoben in this collection.

Самоподобенъ: Воздесы́иса на кръгъ воленъ, тезонменитомъ твоемъ новомъ жи́тєльствъ, щедроты твои дарънъ хрѣнъ бѣже. возвеселъ силою твоей православныѧ хрѣнны, побѣды да нѣмъ на сопоставы, пособїе нмѹщымъ твои ордажи мѣра, непобѣдимъ побѣдъ.

Возшедъ со ученикѣ на горѣ, и во славѣ ѿчнъ ѿ
 блестялъ, съ ми́нѣиомъ и ліялъ тѣбѣ предстоеѧтъ: за-
 конъ и пророции бо икѡ богъ сѧжатъ. ємъ же и си-
 новство єстѣственное ро-днителъ и по-вѣдѧ,
 на-ри-ца-ше съна, є-го же во-спѣваль-емъ съ то-бо-
 ю и дѣхомъ.

Σεράλενъ : Απόστολα όντι καὶ οὐγενικὰ χρήστοβα .
Гласъ , є. Модобенъ , Гробезначальное слово .

Text: unidentified – The original text (i.e. the Samopoden, “The co-unoriginate Word”) is the Sunday Resurrectional Troparion in Tone 5.

Melody: Kievan Chant. This beautiful melody has a rather unique strophic form, although due to its complexity it is not well suited for improvisatory singing.

А́по_стола вси́ и́ оу_ченни_ка́ хр̄това .
 Гла́съ , є. Модобенъ , Гробезначальное слово .

А́по_стола вси́ и́ оу_ченни_ка́ хр̄това , про_по_вѣ́ да_вши_го всѣ́мъ
 бо_жес_твен_но_е рож_дес_тво , є_

же ѿ_т_ци_лъ и́з_бá_ви_те_ла и́ца_рь хр̄това ,
 во_спо_ёмъ пѣ́снъ_ми и́ по_хва_лл_ми сла_ви_ны_ми все_

чесн_на́ го і_о_ан_и: ие: ие_преск_ан_и: ио_бо

мо_лн_т_са по_мн_ло_ва_ти_са д8_шамъ на_ши_мъ.

Седáленъ : Просвѣржáше таинственни.
Гласъ, и. Подобенъ, Словленное тайнъ.

Text: September 14, the Exaltation of the Cross – This is the text for the second Sessional Hymn (Sedalen) after the second Kathisma reading at Matins. The original text for this Podoben (i.e. the Samopoden, “When the bodiless one”, or “When he learned of the secret command”) is found in several places, including the Octoechos and the feast of the Annunciation (March 25, as part of the Akathist Hymn).

Melody: Kievan Chant. This beautiful melody has a rather unique strophic form, although due to its complexity it is not well suited for improvisatory singing. Note: The melody has been transposed up a fourth in order to notate it properly on the standard Kievan staff; the original source places it too low on the staff according to the standards of Muscovite square-note chant books.

Просвѣржáше таинственни
 Дре вле и на сдесъ на унинъ и кре
 стя о бра зъ, е гдя рѣ цѣ про стя
 икре стя о вѣ ныи и и моя, и стя
 соль це, дон дѣ же вра ги и и з ло жи
 про ти бо стя а цы ла ти бѣ ----- бо

The image shows three staves of musical notation in a traditional Russian chant style, specifically square neumes on four-line staffs. The lyrics are written below each staff in Old Church Slavonic. The notation consists of vertical stems with horizontal strokes at various points, and the lyrics are in a cursive Gothic script. The first two staves begin with a sharp sign, indicating G major. The third staff begins with a natural sign, indicating C major. The lyrics describe a journey or pilgrimage to Jerusalem, mentioning the Jordan River, the city of David, and the gates of Zion. The notation includes several fermatas and a final cadence symbol (a circle with a cross) at the end of the third staff.

----- Г8. ны́----- ии́ко зáй--- яе на кре-сти́б' -

----- та зрà, и́ дeржá----- в8 смéрти8-

и рaз-р8 ши́въ, ве́сь мíръ со- вoз-дви́глъ є-сн.

Ѣлѧ , Ҥ . Ѣамоподобенъ , Ѣремѣдрость һ слово .

Text: Samopoden – This is the text for the Samopoden, “By conceiving the wisdom”. It is found in a few places, including the Triodion (Cheese-Fare Week: Tuesday Matins, after the first Kathisma, Sessional) and the Menaion (September 26, Repose of St. John the Evangelist, Matins, after the first Kathisma, Sessional theotokion).

Melody: Kievan Chant. This melody is rather complex for a Podoben, and it is doubtful that it was ever intended to be a memorized chant melody; to be effective, each text which uses this melody would require a notated musical arrangement.

Пре_мѣ_дросТЬ һ сло_во в' тво_емъ чре_вѣ_ ЗА_ЧЕ_ШИ НЕ_о_
 палъ_ нѡ, мá_ ти вó_ жї_л, мі_рѣ_ ро_дн_лл _
 си_ мі_ръ со_дер_ жа_ щи_го, һ въ ѿ_бѣ_жї_хъ һ_мѣ_ла
 є_сн_ ве_л со_дер_ жа_ щи_го, пн_щи_ ла_ те_ла ве_лх', һ твор_
 ца_ тва_рн. тѣ_м_же мо_лн_ та_ ве_св_л_тл_ дѣ_во һ
 вѣ_ро_ю слá_влю тл_, һ_з_вѣ_вн_ти_са_ ми_ѣ_ пре_гри_шë_нї_й,

Н в' д'е́нъ с'я́д'я, є́-г'я́ пр'е́-ст'я́-ти ѿ́-мамъ пр'е́- ли-
 ц'е́-мъ с'о́з-д'я-ти-ла мо́-е-г'я, в'л'я-д'я-чи-ци е́-п'я́-бо ч'и-
 ст'я-я, т'в'о-ю́ по́-моциъ то-г'я́ по-д'я-ж'я м'я́: вс'я́ бо
 м'о́-же-ши, є́- ли-ка х'о́-ци-ши, вс'е-п'я́- т'я-я.

Седаленъ : Слово бжие на землю нынѣ сиде .
Гласъ , и . Модобенъ , Свирблеи пасхалихъ .

Text: March 25, Annunciation – This is the text for the Sedal (Sessional Hymn) following the 3rd Ode of the Canon at Matins. The Samopodoben (“While the shepherds were sleeping”) is found on December 24, the Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ, at Matins, the Sedalen after the second Kathisma reading.

Melody: Kievan Chant. Note: The melody has been transposed up a fourth in order to notate it properly on the standard Kievan staff; the original source places it too low on the staff according to the standards of Muscovite square-note chant books.

Самоподобенъ: Свирблеи пасхалихъ представлюще пѣши, вѣнчано ангельское возгласи, къ нимъ глагола: предстаните свирльице, иже надъ чредами пасомыихъ старѣшины, возопиите поюще: икѡ родисѧ хрестосъ господь, благоволивый спасти икѡ богъ рода человеческий.

Слово божие на землю нынѣ сидит, ань гелъ

предстѣ, во піїлѣ дѣ бѣ: рѣ дѣслѣ благословѣ

веннаѧ, иже пе чати и едина со храни

шислѣ, во огуроѣ прѣемши предвѣчна го словѣ

и го сподиа, да ѿ прѣлѣстнѣ спаси, икѡ богъ



ρό_λ'_ γε_ λο_ βγ'_ γε_ εκϊ_.