

Sunday, May 16
Sunday of the Holy Fathers
Post-feast of Ascension

First Antiphon: All you peoples, clap your hands; shout to God with cries of gladness!

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

For the Lord, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

He brings people under us; nations under our feet.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

The Lord mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the Lord amid trumpet blasts.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Glory be... now and forever...: Only Begotten Son ...

Regular 3rd Antiphon but with the following response:

Son of God, who ascended in glory, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Tropar, tone 6: Angelic powers were upon Your tomb * and the guards became like dead men; * Mary stood before Your tomb seeking Your most pure body. * You captured Hades without being overcome by it. * You met the Virgin and granted life. * O Lord, risen from the dead, glory be to You.

Tropar of the Ascension, tone 4: You ascended in glory, O Christ our God; * You delighted the disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit. * Through this blessing they were assured that You are the Son of God, * the Redeemer of the world.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and for ever and ever. Amen!

Kondak of the Holy Fathers, tone 8: The preaching of the apostles and the decisions of the Fathers * have established the true faith of the Church * which she wears as the garment of truth * fashioned from the theology on high. * She justly governs and glorifies the great mystery of worship.

Prokimen, tone 4: Blessed are you, and praiseworthy, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and glorious forever is your name.

Verse: For you are just in all you have done.

Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 20: 16-18, 28-36

In those days Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus so as not to lose time in Asia, for he was eager to get to Jerusalem by the feast of Pentecost if at all possible. Paul sent word from Miletus to Ephesus, summoning the presbyters of that church. When they came to him, he delivered this address: "Keep watch over yourselves, and over the whole flock the Holy Spirit has given you to guard. Shepherd the church of God, which he has acquired at the price of his own blood. I know that when I am gone, savage wolves will come among you who will not spare the flock. From your own number, men will present themselves distorting the truth and leading astray any who follow them. Be on guard, therefore. Do not forget that for three years, night and day, I never ceased warning you individually even to the point of tears. I commend you now to the Lord, and to that gracious word of his which can enlarge you, and give you a share among all who are consecrated to him. Never did I set my heart on anyone's silver or gold or envy the way he dressed. You yourselves know that these hands of mine have served both my needs and those of my companions. I have always pointed out to you that is by such hard work that you must help the weak. You need to recall the words of the Lord Jesus himself, who said: 'There is more happiness in giving than receiving.' "

Alleluia Verses: The Lord, God of gods, speaks, he summons the earth from east to west.

Assemble my faithful before me who sealed my covenant by sacrifice.

Gospel: John 17: 1-13

At that time Jesus looked up to heaven and said: "Father, the hour has come! Give glory to your Son that your Son may give glory to you, inasmuch as you have given him authority over all mankind, that he may bestow eternal life on those you gave him. Eternal life is this, to know you, the only true God, and him whom you have sent, Jesus Christ. I have given you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. Do you now, Father, give me glory at your side, a glory I had with you before the world began. I have made your name known to those you gave me out of the world. These men you gave me were yours; they have kept your word. Now they realize that all that you gave me comes from you. I entrusted to them the message you entrusted to me. They have known that in truth I came from you, they

have believed it was you who sent me. For these I pray -- not for the world but for these you have given me, for they are really yours. Just as all that belongs to me is yours, so all that belongs to you is mine. It is in them that I have been glorified. I am in the world no more, but these are in the world as I come to you. O Father most holy, protect them with your name which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. As long as I was with them, I guarded them with your name which you gave me. I kept careful watch, and not one of them was lost, none but him who was destined to be lost -- in fulfillment of Scripture. Now, however, I come to you; I say all this while I am still in the world that they may share my joy completely."

Instead of 'It is truly right...': O my soul, extol the Lord * who in glory ascended bodily into heaven. * O Mother of God, * who in a manner beyond understanding and beyond words * gave birth in time to Him * whom time cannot contain, * we the faithful magnify you * with one accord.

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest.
Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Instead of: 'We have seen the true light...' and 'May our mouths be filled...': Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; above all the earth be your glory.