

## Sunday, May 23 Pentecost

*Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of Truth, \* Who are everywhere present and fill all things, \* Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life, \* come and dwell within us; \* cleanse us of all that defiles us, \* and O Good One, save our souls.*

**First Antiphon:** The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

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

Day pours out the word to day, and night to night imparts knowledge.

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

Through all the earth their voice resounds, and to the ends of the world, their message.

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

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

**Third Antiphon:** O Lord, in your strength the king is glad; in your victory how greatly he rejoices.

**Tropar, tone 8:** Blessed are You, O Christ our God. \* You filled the fishermen with wisdom, \* sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. \* Through them You have caught the whole world in your net. \* O Lover of Mankind, glory be to You!

You have granted him his heart's desire; you refused not the wish of his lips.

Blessed are you, O Christ our God...

For you welcomed him with godly blessings. you placed on his head a crown of pure gold.

Blessed are you, O Christ our God...

**At the Little Entrance:** Be extolled, O Lord, in your strength! We will sing, chant the praise of your might. Blessed are you, O Christ our God...

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

**Kondak, tone 8:** When the Most High descended and confused tongues, \* He scattered the people; \* but when He distributed the tongues of fire, \* He called all to unity. \* Therefore, with one voice, let us praise the most Holy Spirit.

**Instead of 'Holy God...':** All you, who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!

**Prokimen, tone 8:** Through all the earth their voice resounds, and to the ends of the world, their message.

*Verse:* The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**Epistle:** Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-11

When the day of Pentecost came it found them gathered in one place. Suddenly from up in the sky there came a noise like a strong, driving wind which was heard all through the house where they were seated. Tongues as of fire appeared which parted and came to rest on each of them. All were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to express themselves in foreign tongues and make bold proclamation as the Spirit prompted them. Staying in Jerusalem at the time were devout Jews of every nation under heaven. These heard the sound, and assembled in a large crowd. They were much confused because each one heard these men speaking his own language. The whole occurrence astonished them. They asked in utter amazement, "Are not all of these men who are speaking Galileans? How is it that each of us hears them in his native tongue? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites. We live in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt, and the regions of Libya around Cyrene. There are even visitors from Rome -- all Jews, or those who have come over to Judaism; Cretans and Arabs too. Yet each of us hears them speaking in his own tongue about the marvels God has accomplished."

**Alleluia Verses:** By the word of the Lord the heavens were made; by the breath of his mouth all their host.

From heaven the Lord looks down; he sees all mankind.

**Gospel:** John 7: 37-52, 8: 12

On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood up and cried out: "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me; let him drink who believes in me. Scripture has it: 'From within him rivers of living water shall flow.'" (Here he was referring to the Spirit, whom those that came to believe in him were to receive. There was, of course, no Spirit as yet, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.) Some in the crowd who heard these words began to say, "This must be the Prophet." Others were claiming, "He is the Messiah." But an objection was raised: "Surely the Messiah is not to come from Galilee? Does not Scripture say that the Messiah, being of David's family, is to come from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" In this fashion the crowd was sharply divided over him. Some of them even wanted to apprehend him. However, no one laid hands on him. When the temple guards came back, the chief priests and Pharisees asked them, "Why did you not bring him in?" "No man ever spoke like that before,"

the guards replied. "Do not tell us you too have been taken in!" the Pharisees retorted. "You do not see any of the Sanhedrin believing him, do you? Or the Pharisees? Only this lot, that knows nothing about the law -- and they are lost anyway!" One of their own number, Nicodemus (the man who had come to him), spoke up to say, "Since when does our law condemn any man without first hearing him and knowing the facts?" Do not tell us you are a Galilean too," they taunted him. "Look it up. You will not find the Prophet coming from Galilee." Jesus spoke to them once again: "I am the light of the world. No follower of mine shall ever walk in darkness; no, he shall possess the light of life."

**Instead of 'It is truly right...':** O my soul, extol the One God \* in three persons. \* Rejoice, O Queen \* and glorious Virgin Mother! \* What orator, rich in eloquence, \* could find the proper words to fashion a hymn of praise worthy of you? \* For every spirit shudders \* before the mystery of your holy birthgiving; \* and we also unite our voices \* to glorify you.

**Communion Hymn:** May your good spirit guide me on level ground. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!