

# FESTAL GREAT VESPERS

*Saturday, June 6, 2020*

## GREAT FEAST OF HOLY PENTECOST

O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before the very Christ, our King and our God.

### PSALM 103

**B**LESS THE LORD, O my soul. O Lord my God, Thou art very great. Thou art clothed with honour and majesty. Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment. Who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain. Who layeth the beams of His chambers in the waters. Who maketh the clouds His chariot. Who walketh upon the wings of the wind. Who maketh His Angels spirits, His ministers a flaming fire. Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever. Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At Thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of Thy thunder they hasted away. They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which Thou hast founded for them. Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over, that they turn not again to cover the earth. He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches. He watereth the hills from His chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle and herb for the service of man, that he may bring forth food out of the earth and wine that maketh glad the heart of man and oil to make his face to shine and bread which strengtheneth man's heart. The trees of the Lord are full of sap, the cedars of Lebanon which He hath planted, where the birds make their nests; as for the stork, the fir trees are her house. The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies. He appointed the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou makest darkness and it is night, wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth. The young lions roar after their prey and seek their meat from God. The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens. Man goeth forth unto

his work and to his labour until the evening. O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is full of Thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts. There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom Thou hast made to play therein. These wait all upon Thee, that Thou mayest give them their meat in due season. That Thou givest them they gather; Thou openest Thine hand, they are filled with good. Thou hidest Thy face, they are troubled; Thou takest away their breath, they die and return to their dust. Thou sendest forth Thy Spirit, they are created; and Thou renewest the face of the earth. The glory of the Lord shall endure for ever; the Lord shall rejoice in His works. He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth; He toucheth the hills, and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. My meditation of Him shall be sweet; I will be glad in the Lord. Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the Lord, O my soul. Praise ye the Lord.

*The sun knoweth his going down. Thou makest darkness and it is night.  
O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.*

~ and then the Great Litany ~

### FIRST KATHISMA

**B**lessed is the man, the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked. *Alleluia.*  
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will  
perish. *Alleluia.*

Serve the Lord in fear and rejoice, rejoice in Him with trembling. *Alleluia.*

Blessed are all who take refuge in Him. *Alleluia.*

Arise, arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God. *Alleluia.*

Salvation belongs to the Lord. Thy blessing be upon Thy people. *Alleluia.*

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God and our Hope, glory to Thee.*



## O LORD, I HAVE CRIED OUT

*Psalm 140*

**O** Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord.

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips. · Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins. · With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them. · The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head. · For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up. · They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell. · But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul. · Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity. · Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.

*Psalm 141*

**I** cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication. · I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble. · When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path. · In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me. · I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no one that would know me. · Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul. · I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living. · Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low. · Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

*of the Feast, from the Pentecostarion • First Tone*

*Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*

**L**o, we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the presence of the Spirit, the fulfillment of the promise and the completion of hope. How wonderful is this mystery; for it is great and most solemn. Wherefore, we cry unto Thee, O Lord and Creator of all, glory to Thee.



*The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*

Lo, we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the presence of the Spirit, the fulfillment of the promise and the completion of hope. How wonderful is this mystery; for it is great and most solemn. Wherefore, we cry unto Thee, O Lord and Creator of all, glory to Thee.

*Psalm 129*

*Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*

Thou hast renewed for Thy Disciples, O Christ, a different kind of tongues, that they might therewith proclaim that Thou art the immortal Word and God Who granteth our souls the Great Mercy.

*Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*

The Holy Spirit provideth all; overfloweth with prophecy; fulfilleth the Priesthood; and hath taught wisdom to the illiterate. He hath revealed the fishermen as theologians. He bringeth together all the laws of the Church. Wherefore, O Comforter, equal to the Father in Substance and the throne, glory to Thee.

*also of the Feast, from the Pentecostarion • Second Tone*

*If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?*

*For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

**W**e have seen the true Light; we have received the Heavenly Spirit; we have found the true Faith worshipping the undivided Trinity; for He hath saved us.

*Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord;*

*my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

We have seen the true Light; we have received the Heavenly Spirit; we have found the true Faith worshipping the undivided Trinity; for He hath saved us.

*From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

By the Prophets Thou didst tell us the way of salvation, O our Saviour, and by the grace of Thy Spirit. Thou art God from the beginning; and for the time to come, and unto the ages, verily, Thou art our God.

*For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption,*

*and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

In Thy dwelling-places I offer praise, O Saviour of the world, and by the bending of the knees, I worship Thine unconquerable might. In the evening, on the morrow, at midnight, and at all times, I bless Thee, O Lord.

*Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

As we believers bend, O Lord, in thy dwelling-places, the knees of the soul and the body together, we praise Thee, O Father without beginning, the Son equally without beginning, and the most Holy Spirit coeternal with Thee, the Illuminator and Sanctifier of our souls.

*For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

Let us praise the consubstantial Trinity, the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit; for thus did all the Prophets preach, and the Apostles with the Martyrs, too.

*Doxastikon for Holy Pentecost, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the Fourth Tone*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**C**ome ye nations, let us worship the three-personed Godhead, a Son in the Father, with a Holy Spirit; for the Father timelessly hath begotten the Son, equal to Him in eternity and the throne; and the Holy Spirit was in the Father, glorified with the Son, one Might, one Substance, one Godhead, which we all worship, saying: Holy God Who created everything through the Son with the help of the Holy Spirit; Holy Mighty, in Whom we knew the Father, and through Whom the Holy Spirit came to the world; Holy Immortal One, the comforting Spirit, proceeding from the Father and resting in the Son; O Holy Trinity, glory to Thee.

*~During the chanting of the Doxastikon, the Priest and Deacon exit the Sanctuary through the North Door and come stand before the Holy Doors on the Solea.~*

## THE HOLY ENTRANCE

*Deacon:*

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:*

**I**N THE EVENING and in the morning and at noonday we praise Thee, we bless Thee, we give thanks unto Thee, and we pray unto Thee, O Master of all, Lord Who lovest mankind: Direct our prayer as incense before Thee, and incline not our hearts unto words or thoughts of evil, but deliver us from all who seek after our souls. For unto Thee, O Lord, Lord, are our eyes, and in Thee have we hoped. Put us not to shame, O our God. For unto Thee are due all glory, honour, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Deacon:*

Amen. Bless, Father, the Holy Entrance.

*Priest:*

Blessed is the entrance to Thy Holy Place, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

*Deacon:*

Wisdom! Let us attend!

### ENTRANCE AT THE LIGHTING OF THE LAMPS

**G**ladsome Light of the holy glory that shines from the immortal Father in Heaven, the holy, the blessed: O Jesus Christ. Lo now that come to sunset, now that we see the evening light, we sing the praise of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God. Worthy art Thou to be praised at all times with voices meet for holy song, Son of God, Thou Giver of life. Wherefore the world glorifieth Thee.

### EVENING PROKEIMENON

*Plagal of the Second Tone*

**The Lord is King • and hath clothed Himself with majesty.**

*℣. The Lord is clothed with strength and hath girt Himself.*

*℣. For He established the world which shall not be shaken.*

*℣. Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days.*

### READINGS FROM THE PROPHETOLOGION

*Numbers 11:16-17;24-29*

**T**HE LORD SAID UNTO MOSES: Gather unto Me seventy men of the elders of the people, whom thou thyself knowest to be the elders of the people and their scribes, and bring them unto the Tabernacle of Witness, and they shall stand there with thee. And I will come down and talk with thee there; and I will take of the Spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the concern for the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone. And Moses gathered seventy men from the elders of the people, and set them round about the Tabernacle. And the Lord came down in a cloud, and spake unto Moses, and took of the Spirit that was upon him and gave it unto the seventy men that were elders. And it came to pass that, when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied in the camp, and they ceased. But there

remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Modad, and the Spirit rested upon them, and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the Tabernacle, and they prophesied in the camp. And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and spake unto him, saying: Eldad and Modad prophesy in the camp. And Jesus, his chosen one, the son of Navi, who attended on Moses, answered and said: My lord Moses, forbid them. And Moses said unto him: Art thou envious for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were Prophets, whenever the Lord should put His Spirit upon them!

*Joel 2:23-32*

**T**HUS SAITH THE LORD: Be glad, ye children of Sion, and rejoice in the Lord your God, for He hath given you food justly, and He will rain on you the early and the latter rain, as before. And the threshing-floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. And I will recompense you for the years that the locust hath eaten, and the canker-worm and caterpillar and the palmerworm—My great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat and be nourished, and shall be satisfied, and shall praise the Name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you; and My people shall never be put to shame. And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and I am the Lord your God, and that there is none other beside Me, and My people shall never be put to shame. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. For upon My servants and upon My handmaids in those days will I pour out of My Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show dread marvels in the heavens above and signs upon the earth below, blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the notable day of the Lord come. And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.

*Ezekiel 36:24-28*

**T**HUS SAITH THE LORD: I will take you from among the nations, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land; and I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean from all your filthiness and from all your idols, and I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new Spirit will I give you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your

flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh, and I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments and do them. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be My people, and I will be your God.

~ and then the Litany of Fervent Supplication ~

## THE EVENING PRAYER

**V**ouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy commandments. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy precepts.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

~ and then the Litany of Supplication ~

## THE PEACE

*Priest:*

Peace be to all.

**And to thy spirit.**

*Deacon:*

Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

**To Thee, O Lord.**

*Priest:*

**O**LORD OUR GOD, Who didst bow the heavens and come down for the salvation of mankind: Look upon Thy servants and Thine inheritance; for unto Thee, the fearful Judge Who yet lovest mankind, have Thy servants bowed their heads and submissively inclined their necks, awaiting not help from men but entreating Thy mercy and looking confidently for Thy salvation.



Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every foe, from all adverse powers of the devil, and from vain thoughts and from evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**

## APOSTICHA

*of the Feast, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the Second Tone*

**B**eing ignorant of the power of Thy most Holy Spirit Who came to Thine Apostles, the Gentiles imagined that the gift of tongues was drunkenness. But we who are confirmed by them cry ceaselessly, beseeching: Thy Holy Spirit take not from us, O Lover of mankind.

*Create in me a new heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.*

The coming of the Holy Spirit, O Lord, and His encompassing of Thy Disciples, revealed them as speaking with other tongues, hence the miraculous wonder. As for the unbelievers, they thought it drunkenness, and the believers, a cause of salvation to them. Wherefore, we beseech Thee to make us ready for His illumination, O Lover of mankind.

*Cast me not away from Thy face, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.*

O heavenly King, the Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art in all places, and fillest all things; Treasury of good things, and Giver of life; come, and dwell in us, and cleanse us from every stain; and save our souls, O good One.

*Doxastikon of the Feast, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the Fourth Tone*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**O**f old there was confusion of tongues because of the boldness of the tower-builders. But those tongues have not uttered wisdom for the glory of divine knowledge. There God condemned the infidels to punishment, and here with the Spirit Christ illuminated the fishermen. At that time, the confusion of tongues was designed for vengeance, and now the unison of tongues hath been renewed for the salvation of our souls.



## HYMN OF ST. SIMEON

Νῦν ἀπολύεις

**L**ord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

## THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**A**LL-HOLY TRINITY, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**O**UR FATHER, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

*Priest:*

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory:  
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto  
ages of ages.

**Amen.**

## DISMISSAL HYMN

*of the Feast, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the Fourth Tone*

**B**lessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise, having sent upon them the Holy Spirit; and through them Thou hast fished the universe. O Lover of Mankind, glory to Thee.

## THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon:*

Wisdom!

**Father, bless!**

*Priest:*

Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and ever,  
and unto ages of ages.

**A**men. Preserve, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Priest:*

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

**M**ore honourable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, who without stain bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

*Priest:*

Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our Hope, glory to Thee.

**G**lory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*) Father, bless.

*Priest:*

**M**AY HE WHO POUED OUT THE GRACE of the All-holy Spirit from Heaven upon His holy disciples and apostles in the form of fiery tongues for our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honourable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honourable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of Saint Ignatius the Godbearer of Antioch, the patron and protector of this holy community; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim

and Anna, and of all the Saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind. **Amen.**

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy upon us and save us.

**Amen.**

