

**Sunday, July 17, 2022**  
**5th Sunday after Pentecost-Tone 4**  
**Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils**

Troparion:

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection; they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

You are most glorious, O Christ our God, You have established the Fathers as lights upon the earth, and through them, You have guided all of us to the true Faith! O greatly compassionate one, glory to You.

Kontakion:

My Saviour and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has risen on the third day!

The preaching of the Apostles and the dogmas of the Fathers sealed the one Faith of the Church; and clad in the garment of truth woven of theology from on high, it teaches aright and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, despise not the entreating cry of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, For you always ever protect those who honor you!

Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone:

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.  
(Vs.) Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

Tone 4 (Song of the Fathers):

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!

Epistle:

The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans. (Rom. 10:1-10)

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, " 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through His own blood. Therefore let us go forth to Him outside the camp and bear the abuse He endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name.

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Heb 13:7-16)

Alleluia Verses:

Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness.  
(Vs.) You love righteousness and hate iniquity.

Tone 1 (Fathers):

The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew. (Chapter 8:28-9:1)

At that time, as Jesus reached the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two men who were possessed, coming from the tombs, so exceedingly fierce that no one could pass by that way. And behold, they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now at a distance from them there was a herd of many swine, feeding. And the devils kept begging Him, saying, "If You cast us out, send us into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." And they came out and entered into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed from the top of the cliff into the sea, and perished in the water. But the swineherds fled, and going away into the town, they reported everything, and what had befallen the men possessed by demons. And behold, all the town came out to meet Jesus; and on seeing Him, they insisted that He leave their district. And getting into a boat, He crossed over, and came into His own town.

At that time Jesus raised His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come! Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you, even as you have given Him power over all flesh, in order that to all you have given Him He may give everlasting life. Now this is everlasting life, that they may know you, the only true God, and the one you have sent, Jesus Christ. I have glorified You on earth; I have accomplished the work you have given me to do. And now do you, Father, glorify me with yourself, with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. I have manifested your name to the men you have given me out of the world. They were yours, and you have given them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they have learned that whatever you have given me is from you; because the words that you have given me I have given to them. And they have received them, and have known as a fact that I came forth from you, and they have believed that you did send me. I pray for them; not for the world do I pray, but for those whom you have given me, because they are yours; and all things that are mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I am coming to you, Holy Father, keep in your name those you have given me, that they may be one even as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in your name. Those you have given me I guarded; and not one of them perished except the son of perdition, in order that the Scriptures might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you and these things I speak in the world, in order that they may have my joy made full in themselves." (John 17:1-13)