

Sunday, June 16, 2024
7th Sunday of Pascha-Tone 6
Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

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Troparion:

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!

O Christ our God hast ascended in glory, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God! Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth! Through them Thou hast guided us to the true faith! O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Kontakion:

The apostles' preaching and the fathers' doctrines have established one faith for the Church. Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology which defines and glorifies the mystery of Orthodoxy.

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake, and unite earth to heaven: Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love Thee, but remaining with them and crying: I am with you and no one will be against you!

Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone:

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!
(Vs.) For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

Epistle:

The reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (Acts 20:16-18, 28-36)

In those days Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost. From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God* which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. "So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes,* you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, '**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**'" And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. John. (Chapter 17:1-13)

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.”