

MAY 28

The Ascension of Our Lord

"Lord I Call..." Tone 6*

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

- v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!*
- v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*
- v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*
- v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*
- v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*
- v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Tone 6 (from the Pentecostarion)

The Lord has ascended into heaven
that He might send the Comforter into the world.
The heavens prepared His throne, and the clouds His mount.
Angels marvel to see a Man high above them.
The Father receives Him Whom He holds, co-eternal, in His bosom.
The Holy Spirit commands all His Angels:
"Lift up your gates, you princes!"!
All you nations, clap your hands://
for Christ has gone up to where He was before!"

- v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

The Cherubim were amazed at Your Ascension, O Lord,
beholding You, the God Who sits enthroned upon them,
ascending upon the clouds;
and we glorify You, for Your mercy is good.//
Glory to You!

v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Beholding Your ascension on the holy mountain,
O Christ, the brightness of the Father's glory,
we hymn the radiant appearance of Your countenance;
we worship Your sufferings,
we honor Your Resurrection,
as we glorify Your glorious Ascension.//
Have mercy on us!

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

Lord, when Your Apostles saw You carried up upon the clouds,
they were filled with despondency, O Christ the Giver of life:
with wailing and tears they lamented and said:
"Master, do not leave as orphans,
us Your servants whom through pity You have loved in Your compassion;
but, as You promised, send us Your all-holy Spirit//
to enlighten our souls!"

v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Lord, when You had fulfilled the mystery of Your dispensation,
You took Your Disciples with You,
up onto the Mount of Olives;
and behold! You passed through the firmament of heaven.
For my sake You became poor like me,
and ascended to the place from where You were never parted:
send forth Your all-holy Holy Spirit to illumine our souls!

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

Tone 6 *(from the Pentecostarion)*

Not parted from the Father's bosom, O sweetest Jesus,
and having lived among those on earth as man,
today You have been taken up in glory from the Mount of Olives,
and in Your compassion exalting our fallen nature,
You have seated it with the Father.
Therefore the heavenly ranks of the Bodiless Powers were amazed at the wonder,
and beside themselves with fear;
and seized with trembling, they magnified Your love for mankind.
With them, we on earth also give glory
for Your condescension to us
and Your Ascension from us;
and we supplicate You, saying:
"At Your Ascension You filled with boundless joy
the Disciples and the Theotokos who bore You;
by their prayers make us also worthy of the joy of Your elect
through Your great mercy!"

Old Testament Readings

Isaiah 2:2-3

Composite 21 (Isaiah 62:10-63:1-3, 7-9)

Composite 22 (Zachariah 14:1, 4, 8-11)

Aposticha

Tone 2 *Idiomela* *(from the Pentecostarion)*

You were born, as You Yourself did will;
and appeared as You Yourself desired;
You suffered in the flesh, O our God;
and rose from the dead, having trampled on death.
You were taken up in glory, filling all things,
and You sent us the Divine Spirit, //
that we may praise and glorify Your Godhead.

v: O clap your hands, all you peoples. Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
(Ps 46/47:1)

As You were taken up, O Christ, from the Mount of Olives,
the Powers saw it and cried to one another: "Who is this?"
And they were told: "This is He Who is Strong and Mighty,
this is He Who is mighty in war,
this is truly the King of Glory."
"And why are His garments crimson?"
"He has come from Bosor, that is, from the flesh."
But as God You sat down at the right hand of Majesty
and have sent us the Holy Spirit, //
to guide and save our souls.

v: God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet! (Ps 46/47:5)

You ascended in glory from the Mount of Olives, O Christ our God,
in the presence of Your Disciples,
and sat down at the right hand of the Father,
You Who in Your Godhead fill the universe;
and You sent unto them the Holy Spirit, //
Who enlightens and strengthens and sanctifies our souls.

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

Tone 6

God has gone up with a shout;
the Lord with the sound of a trumper,
to raise up Adam's fallen image,
and send the Comforter Spirit, //
to sanctify our souls.

Tone 4 Troparion

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,
granting joy to Your Disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit.
Through the blessing, they were assured
that You are the Son of God, //
the Redeemer of the world! *(sung once at Great Vespers, thrice at Vigil)*

(at the Divine Liturgy)

The First Antiphon

Oh, clap your hands all you peoples. Shout to God with loud songs of joy.
(Ps.46/47:1)

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

For the Lord, the Most High is terrible; a great God over all the earth.
(Ps 46/47:2) (Refrain)

He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. *(Ps 47/48:3) (Refrain)*

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet! *(Ps 46/47:5)*
(Refrain)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and
unto ages of ages. Amen. *(Refrain)*

The Second Antiphon

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God. *(Ps.47/48:1)*

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

Mount Zion in the far north, is the city of the Great King. *(Ps 47/48:2) (Refrain)*

Within her citadels God is known when He defends her. *(Ps 47/48:3) (Refrain)*

For lo, the kings assembled; they came on together. *(Ps 47/48:4) (Refrain)*

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

(“Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God ...”)

The Third Antiphon

Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world! (Ps. 48/49:1)

Tone 4 Troparion

Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God,
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.

The earth-born and the sons of men, rich and poor together. (Ps 48/49:2)

Troparion of the Feast

*My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.
(Ps 48/49:3)*

Troparion of the Feast

I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle in psalmody. (Psalm 48/49:4)

Troparion of the Feast

Entrance Verse

God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet! (Ps 46/47:5)

Tone 4 Troparion

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,
granting joy to Your Disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit.
Through the blessing, they were assured
that You are the Son of God, //
the Redeemer of the world.

Tone 6 Kontakion

When You had fulfilled the dispensation for our sake,
and united earth to heaven:
You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,
not being parted from those who love You,
but remaining with them and crying: //
"I am with you, and there is no one against you!"

(The Trisagion is sung.)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; / and Your glory be over all the earth! (Ps 56/57:11)

v: My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast. I will sing and make melody. (Ps 56/57:7)

Epistle
Acts 1:1-12

Tone 2

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet!
(Ps 46/47:5)

v: O clap your hands all peoples. Shout to God with loud songs of joy.
(Ps.46/47:1:)

Gospel
Luke 24:36-53

(Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing:)

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life, Who has ascended from earth to heaven!

We magnify you, O Mother of God, who beyond reason and understanding gave birth in time to the Timeless One.

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