

Vespers sung on Saturday 7th June 2025 for Sunday 8th June 2025

Holy Pentecost ♦ Feast of the Holy Trinity

We follow the Order for Vespers on Saturday Evenings & Feasts

"LORD, I CALL ..."

Tone 1

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon Thee!//

Hear me, O Lord!

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

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.

Tone 1 *(For the Feast of Pentecost, from the Pentecostarion)*

We celebrate the feast of Pentecost
and the coming of the Spirit,
the appointed day of the promise, the fulfilment of hope.
How majestic and great is the mystery!
Therefore we cry aloud to Thee://
"Glory to Thee, O Lord and Creator of all!"

The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Repeat: We celebrate the feast of Pentecost ...

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Thou hast renewed Thy Disciples, O Christ,
by giving them the gift of foreign tongues,
that through them they might preach of Thee,
the immortal Word and God,//
Who givest great mercy to our souls.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

The Holy Spirit provides all things:
He pours forth prophecies,
He leads priests to perfection,
He teaches unschooled people wisdom,
He reveals fishermen as theologians,
He confirms the Church.//
O Comforter, one in essence and enthroned with the Father and the Son, glory to Thee!

If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

Tone 2

We have seen the True Light.
We have received the heavenly Spirit.
We have found the true faith,
worshipping the undivided Trinity,//
Who has saved us.

For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Repeat: We have seen the True Light ...

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

In the Prophets, O our Saviour,
Thou didst proclaim to us the way of salvation.
In the Apostles the grace of Thy Spirit shone forth.
From the beginning and ever after, Thou art God, //
our God before the ages.

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

In Thy courts I will praise Thee, the Saviour of the world.
On bended knee I will worship Thine invincible might.
In the evening, in the morning, and at noontime - //
at all times I will bless Thee, O Lord.

Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

In Thy courts, O Lord,
we faithful bend the knees of soul and body;
with songs we proclaim Thee, O eternal Father, and co-eternal Son,
and all-holy and co-eternal Spirit, //
Who dost sanctify and enlighten our souls.

For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Let us praise in song the consubstantial Trinity:
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. //
For this was the preaching of all the Prophets, Apostles, and Martyrs.

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

Tone 8 *(For the Feast of Pentecost, from the Pentecostarion)*

Come, O people,
let us worship the Godhead in three Persons:
the Son in the Father, with the Holy Spirit.
For the Father timelessly begot the Son, co-eternal and co-enthroned with Him;
and the Holy Spirit was in the Father and is glorified with the Son.
We worship one Power, one Essence, one Godhead,
and we say: "Holy God,
Who hast created all things through Thy Son
with the cooperation of the Holy Spirit;
Holy Mighty,
through Whom we know the Father;
and through Whom the Holy Spirit came to dwell in the world;
Holy Immortal,
Comforting Spirit,
Who proceedest from the Father and restest in the Son. //
O Holy Trinity, glory to Thee!"

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

The reading from the book of Numbers.

[Numbers 11:16-17, 24-29]

The Lord said to Moses, "Gather to Me seventy men from the elders of Israel, whom you yourself know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tabernacle of testimony, so they may stand there with you. Then I will descend and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit upon you and put Him upon them; and they shall help you bear the wrath of the people, that you yourself may not bear them alone." So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tabernacle. Then the Lord descended in the cloud and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit upon him, and put Him upon the seventy men of the elders; and when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, although they never did so again. But two men remained in the camp: the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other, Medad, and the Spirit rested upon them. Now they were among those registered, but had not come to the tabernacle; yet they prophesied in the camp. So a young man ran and told Moses, and said, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." Then Joshua the son of Nun, who was near Moses, one of his choice men, answered and said, "Lord Moses, forbid them." Then Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people might be prophets, when the Lord would put His Spirit upon them."

The reading from the Prophecy of Joel

[Joel 2:23 – 3:5]

Thus says the Lord: "You children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God, for He gives food that is right for you, and He will shower you as before with the early and the late rain. The threshing floors shall be full of wheat, and the presses of wine and olive oil will overflow. And I will restore to you the years the grasshopper and the locust have eaten, and for the blight, and the caterpillar, even for My great army, which I sent against you. You will eat abundantly and be satisfied and will praise the name of the Lord your God for what He has so wondrously done unto you. And My people will not be put to shame forever. Then you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel; that I am the Lord your God, and there is no other but Me. And at no time will My people be put to shame forever. After this it shall come to pass that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. And in those days I shall pour out My Spirit on My servants and on My handmaids. And I shall give wonders in the heavens and upon the earth, blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and glorious day of the Lord comes to pass. And it shall be that whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

The reading from the Prophecy of Ezekiel.

[Ezekiel 36:24-28]

Moses spoke to the sons of Israel: "Indeed, heaven and heaven of heaven belong to the Lord your God, also the earth and everything in it. The Lord chose your fathers to love them; and He chose their seed after them, you above all nations, as it is this day. Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. For the Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe. He administers justice for the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, and loves the resident alien, giving him food and clothing. You shall fear the Lord your God; you shall serve Him, and hold fast to Him, and take oaths in His name. He is your boast and your God, who did these great and glorious things for you, the things you saw with your own eyes."

APOSTICHA

Tone 6 (*For the Feast of Pentecost, from the Pentecostarion*)

The nations did not know the power of the Holy Spirit,
which came upon Thine Apostles, O Lord,
so they mistook the foreign tongues for drunkenness.
But we are strengthened by the Apostles,
so we ceaselessly pray to Thee, O good God Who lovest mankind://
"Take not Thy Holy Spirit from us!"

V. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me!

The coming of the Holy Spirit
filled Thine Apostles, O Lord,
and made them speak in foreign tongues.
To the faithless this wonder was but drunkenness,
but to the faithful it brings salvation.
We pray to Thee, O good God Who lovest mankind://
"Make us worthy of such enlightenment!"

V. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me!

O heavenly King,
the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,
Who art everywhere and fillest all things;
Treasury of blessings
and Giver of life,
come and abide in us,
and cleanse us from every impurity,//
and save our souls, O Good One!

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

Tone 8 *(For the Feast of Pentecost, from the Pentecostarion)*

The arrogance of building the tower in the days of old
led to the confusion of tongues,
but now the glory of the knowledge of God brings them wisdom.
There God condemned the impious for their transgression;
here Christ has enlightened the fishermen by the Spirit.
There disharmony was brought about for punishment;//
now harmony is renewed for the salvation of our souls.

TROPARIA

Troparion of Pentecost in Tone 8

[Music on website / Green Book page 113]

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God,
Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise
by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit;
through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net.//
O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Repeat: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God ...

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Repeat: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God ...
