

Hymns and Readings for Sunday 24th May 2026

Afterfeast of the Ascension ♦ The Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

THE HOURS

At the beginning:

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

The Reader continues the Trisagion Prayers:

Reader: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *(x 3)*

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

All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us ... *etc.*

TROPARIA AND KONTAKION AT THE THIRD HOUR

Troparia: The Resurrection; Glory ... The Holy Fathers; Both now ... From the Horologion

Kontakion: The Holy Fathers

TROPARIA AND KONTAKION AT THE SIXTH HOUR

Troparia: The Resurrection; Glory ... The Ascension; Both now ... From the Horologion

Kontakion: The Ascension

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

FIRST ANTIPHON

[Music on website / Green Book page 100]

Clap your hands all peoples. Shout to God with loud songs of joy.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

For the Lord, the Most High is terrible; a great God over all the earth.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet!

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

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

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

SECOND ANTIPHON

[Music on website / Green Book page 101]

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God.

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

Mount Zion in the far north, the city of the Great King.

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

Within her citadels God is known when He defends her.

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

For lo, the kings assembled; they came on together.

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

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

both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O only-begotten Son and Word of God. O Thou Who art Immortal, yet for our salvation didst deign to be incarnate of the holy Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary; and without change wast made man; Who also wast crucified for us; and by death didst overcome death: save us, O Christ, our God; one Person of the Holy Trinity, glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

THIRD ANTIPHON

Reader: Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world!

Troparion of the Ascension in Tone 4

[Music on website / Green Book page 103]

O Christ God, Thou 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!

Reader: The earth-born and the sons of men, rich and poor together.

O Christ God, Thou hast ascended in glory ...

Reader: My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

O Christ God, Thou hast ascended in glory ...

Reader: I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle in psalmody.

O Christ God, Thou hast ascended in glory ...

ENTRANCE HYMN

The Introit of the Little Entrance shown on Page 102 of the Green Book is not used. Instead, we sing:

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

TROPARIA AND KONTAKIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 6

[Music on website / Green Book page 12]

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.

Troparion of the Ascension in Tone 4

[Music on website / Green Book page 103]

O Christ God, Thou 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!

Troparion of the Holy Fathers in Tone 8

[Music on website / Green Book page 106]

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!

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

Kontakion of the Holy Fathers in Tone 8

[Music on website / Green Book page 106]

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one Faith for the Church.
Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology, //
it defines and glorifies the great mystery of Orthodoxy.

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

Kontakion of the Ascension in Tone 6

[Music on website / Green Book page 103]

When Thou didst fulfil 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

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone.

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

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

Reader: For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

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

Reader: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers,

Choir: and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!

EPISTLE

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy, glorious, and All-laudable Apostles.

In those days: Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

[Acts 20:16-18, 28-36]

ALLELUIA

Priest: Peace be to thee that readest, and to all the people.

Reader: And to thy spirit. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reader: Gather to Me, My venerable ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice!

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

At that time: Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou me in Thine own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy name to the men whom Thou gavest me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given me is from Thee; for I have given

them the words which Thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given me, for they are Thine; all mine are Thine, and Thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy name, which Thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy name, which Thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.”

[John 17:1-13]

THE ZADOSTOYNIK

[Music on website / Green Book page 105]

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life,
Who has ascended from earth to heaven!
We magnify the Mother of God,
who beyond reason and understanding
gave birth in time to the Timeless One.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise befits the upright! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

AFTER COMMUNION

“We have seen the True Light ...” etc., as usual.
