

FIRST HOUR PROPERs FOR MAY 22ND, 2020

¹Postfestive Day of Ascension

The holy martyr Basiliscus, at Comana in Pontus, was a soldier crucified with two comrades. A cousin of St. Theodore the Recruit, he suffered much for the sake of Christ, and through his preaching and example brought many to the Faith. (308)

Commemoration of the Second Ecumenical Council of Constantinople, 381. Held in the time of the emperor Theodosius the Great, its purpose was to confirm the Orthodox teaching about God the Holy Spirit. This condemned the false teachings of Macedonius, bishop of Constantinople, who said that the Holy Spirit was a creature, not equal in Godhead to the Father and the Son. This council added to the text of the Creed that had been previously been affirmed at Nicea in 325.

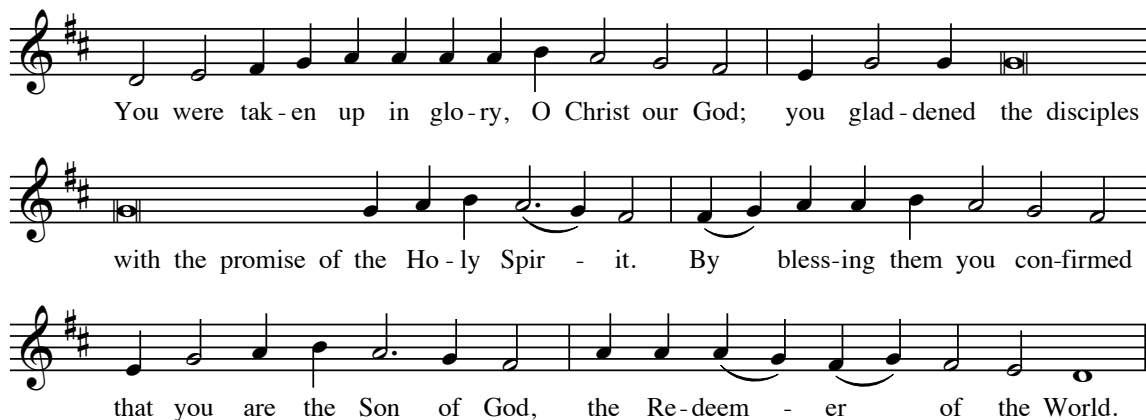
The Holy and Righteous Melchisedek, King of Salem

Transferred to today because of the Feast of the Ascension:

✚ The holy emperor Constantine and his mother Helen, equal to the apostles.

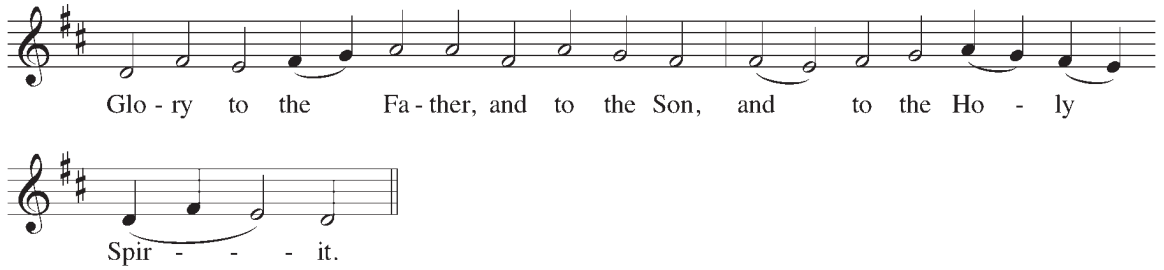
Constantine reigned in ancient Rome and in Byzantium (which became New Rome), and was the first Christian emperor, champion of the Faith. Though he was not baptized until on his deathbed, he considered himself a Christian, and called the First Ecumenical Council at Nicea in 325 to settle the Arian heresy. (337) On the Via Labicana in old Rome, Helen, the mother of Constantine the emperor is remembered. She single-mindedly worked to help the needy and piously visited churches, mingling with the crowds. Having made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to see the places of the Nativity, Passion, and Resurrection of Christ, she honored the manger and cross of the Lord by building basilicas worthy of respect. (327)

Troparion of the Ascension – Tone 4

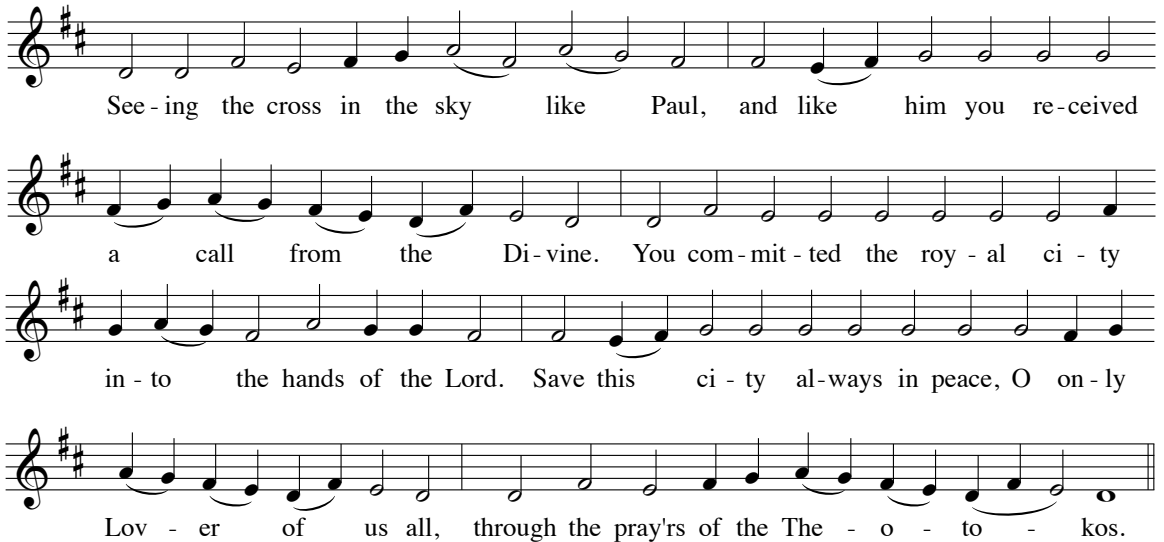


You were tak - en up in glo - ry, O Christ our God; you glad - dened the disciples
with the promise of the Ho - ly Spir - it. By bless - ing them you con - firmed
that you are the Son of God, the Re - deem - er of the World.

Cantor (Tone 8):



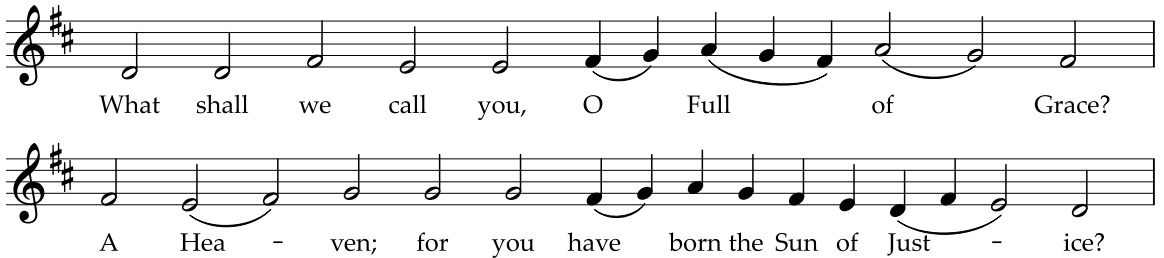
Troparion - Tone 8

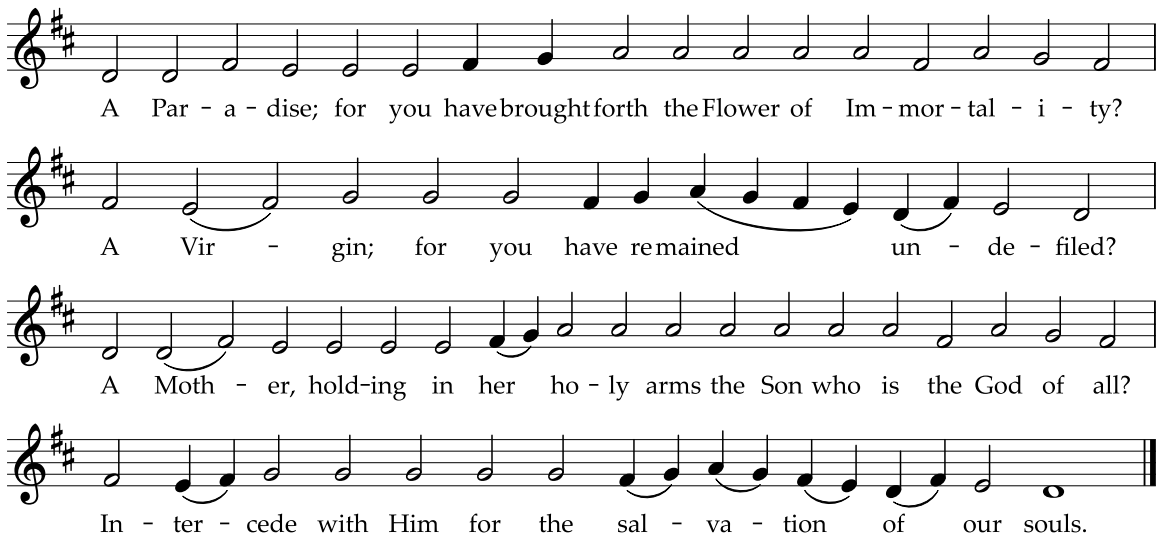


Cantor (Tone 8):



Theotokion of First Hour - Tone 8:





A Par - a - dise; for you have brought forth the Flower of Im - mor - tal - i - ty?

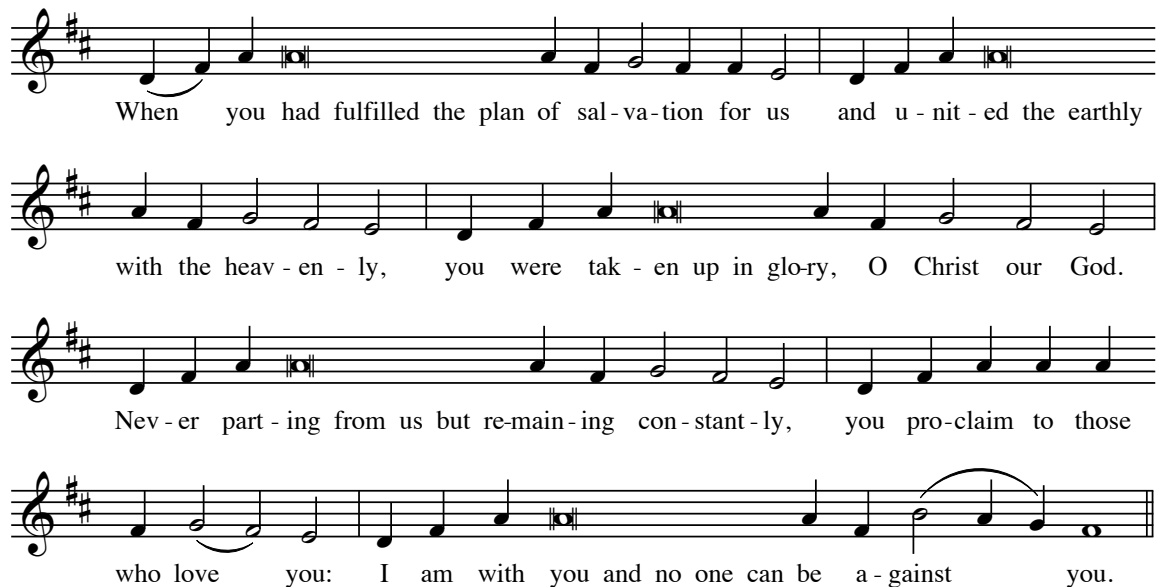
A Vir - gin; for you have remained un - de - filed?

A Moth - er, hold-ing in her ho - ly arms the Son who is the God of all?

In - ter - cede with Him for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

First Hour continues with "Guide my footsteps according to your promise..." on p. 9

Kontakion of the Ascension – Tone 6



When you had fulfilled the plan of sal - va - tion for us and u - nit - ed the earthly

with the heav - en - ly, you were tak - en up in glo-ry, O Christ our God.

Nev - er part - ing from us but re-main-ing con-stant - ly, you pro-claim to those

who love you: I am with you and no one can be a - gainst you.

First Hour continues with "Lord, have mercy..." (40 times) on p. 11