## THIRD HOUR PROPERS FOR MAY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2020

## <sup>1</sup>Postfestive 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.

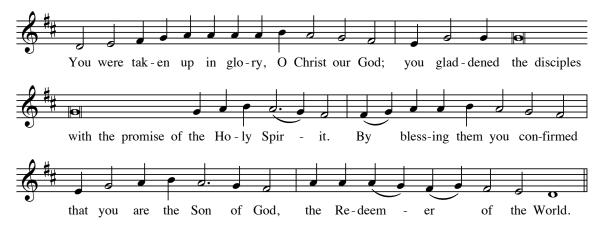
## The Holy and Righteous Melchisedek, King of Salem

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* 

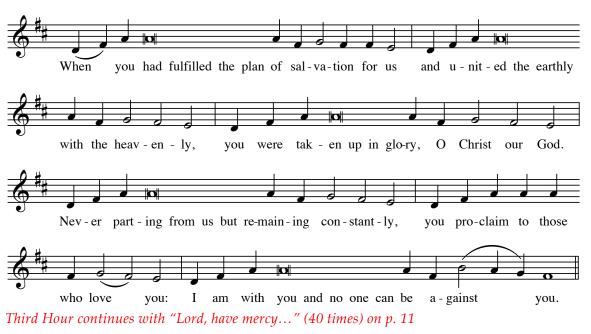






Third Hour continues with "May the Lord God be blessed..." on p. 9

## Kontakion of the Ascension – Tone 6



<sup>1</sup>Format 11: Postfestive Day with a Polyeleos Saint on a Weekday