

PRAYER OF THE PENTECOST **(Pentecost Sunday)**

(The following petitions may be inserted into the Great Ektenia during the Divine Liturgy after the petition "For peace in the whole world, etc.)

Priest: For the people here present who are awaiting the grace of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Kyrie Eleison *(after each petition)*

Priest: For those who bend their knees and hearts before the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

That the Holy Spirit may strengthen us in the performance of what pleases Him, let us pray to the Lord.

That the Holy Spirit may send down upon us the riches of His Mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

That He may accept the bending of our knees as incense before Him, let us pray to the Lord.

For all those who need His Help, let us pray to the Lord.

For our deliverance from all affliction, let us pray to the Lord.

(The Priest may now continue with the other petitions of the Great Ektenia.)

KNEELING PRAYERS FOR PENTECOST

PRAYER OF THE FIRST KNEELING

Priest: Bending our knees in humility, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Kyrie Eleison

O Lord, most pure and free from corruption, You exist from all eternity; invisible and beyond all understanding; beyond all probing of our minds; unchanging, unsurpassable, immeasurable, and long suffering; the only Immortal One. Your dwelling, O Lord, is a throne of light. You are the Creator of heaven and earth and the seas and all that lives in them. You fill our needs, even before we ask. To You we pray. We beseech You now, Master and Lover of mankind; Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven and, through the Holy Spirit, was born of the Virgin Mary, the glorious Mother of God. Who first taught us in words and then confirmed Your teaching through marvelous deeds, wholly accepting the Passion that brought salvation, gave us unworthy sinners and lowly servants a perfect example of prayer, showing us how to pray on bended knees with heads bowed, because of our sins and the people's transgressions. Most Merciful Lord and Lover of mankind, hear our prayers and, especially on this present day of Pentecost when, after our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and was enthroned at Your Right, O God the Father, He sent down His Holy Spirit upon each of the apostles so that they would be filled with divine grace and be made to sing your Majesty in different tongues and

to prophesy. For which reason, O God, we beseech You, hear our prayers. Remember us, lowly and sinful as we are. Free our souls from the captivity of sin and accept us who kneel down before You; for in You we have a kind and loving Father.

Since the very day we were formed in the womb, You are our God. Because we have spent our days in vain endeavors, we have lost all valid defenses, and yet we still trust in Your Bountiful Love and cry out to You. Remember not the sins of our youth. Cleanse us from our secret misdeeds. Forsake us not in our old age. Remain with us while our strength is failing. Make us worthy of returning to You before we return to the earth. Show us Your great Love and Kindness, and have compassion on us sinners and overlook our transgressions. From the height of Your Holiness, look down upon Your people, who await Your generous Mercy. Visit us with Your Goodness. Deliver us from the Devil. Guard our lives with Your Laws and Commandments. Commit us to the care of an angel, a faithful guide to our souls and bodies, and gather us all into Your Kingdom. Grant remission of sins to those who put their trust in You and forgive us, and them, our sins. Purify us by the operation of Your Holy Spirit. Protect us from all the wiles of Satan, for mercy and salvation are from You, Christ our God, and we give to You glory, honor and worship, together with Your Eternal Father and Your All-Holy, Gracious, and Life-Giving Spirit, now and ever and forever.

People: Amen

PRAYER OF THE SECOND KNEELING

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Kyrie Eleison

Lord Jesus Christ, our God, You bestowed Your Peace upon the whole world and, while we are still on earth, procured for us the gift of the Holy Spirit as an inheritance that shall never be taken away from us. Today, You send, in a visible manner upon Your disciples and apostles, this same grace by which You place tongues of fire in their mouths and upon their lips; and all of us and all mankind, receive the seed of the Knowledge of God on our own tongue and in our own mind. We have become enlightened with the radiance of the Spirit, Who delivered us from the error of darkness. Through the distribution of the visible tongues of fire and through their mysterious action, we have learned the faith and have learned to glorify You. For, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, You are our God, our Light, and our Majesty.

O Splendor of the Father, Image of His Essence, of His immutable and unchangeable Nature, Fountain of Wisdom and Grace, enlighten the intelligence of a poor sinner. Teach me how and for whom to pray. Teach me, for You know how great a sinner I am. Your Love will overcome the enormity of my sins. I stand in awe before You, surrendering my soul to Your great Mercy. Guide my life along Your Ways, for You are Infinite Wisdom and the Ordainer of all creation. Show me the way that I must walk. Grant wisdom to my soul and understanding to my ignorance. Cover my deeds with the spirit of fear. Renew a proper disposition in my soul. Let Your Spirit support my stumbling mind, that I may be made worthy to do as You will

and accomplish whatever is good for my salvation. Let me be constantly aware of Your presence and of Your future coming in glory. Protect me against the corrupting pleasures of the world and strengthen me in the hope of the treasures to come, O Master, for You said, "Whatever you ask in My Name, you shall receive from God the Father," Who is from all eternity. Wherefore, on this day of the descent of the Holy Spirit, I, a poor sinner, cast myself down before Your Goodness. Grant me whatever is necessary for salvation; for You are all Compassion and Kindness.

For our sake, You took flesh, remaining without sin, becoming, indeed, an atonement for our sins. For this reason, O Lord, grant us Your Mercy. Hear our prayers. Sanctify us. Protect us beneath the shadow of Your Wings and do not turn away from us the Work of Your Hand. O Lord, we may have sinned against You, but we serve You alone. We adore no other God, nor do we stretch out our hands before any other, but You. Pardon our iniquities and accept our prayers, which we humbly offer You on bent knees, and receive the petitions of all, as if it were incense rising to Your Throne and acceptable to You. Through the loving kindness of Your Only Begotten Son, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your All Holy, Gracious, and Life-Giving Spirit, now and ever and forever.

People: Amen

PRAYER OF THE THIRD KNEELING

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Kyrie Eleison

O Christ our God, ever flowing Fountain and Give of life, Light of us all, mighty Creator and Co-Eternal with the Father, You fulfilled the plan of our redemption in the most magnificent way. You broke the indestructible chains of death and trampled the evil spirits. You offered Yourself as a blameless Sacrifice for our sins and procured eternal life for us. You went down into hell to raise the souls that had been enveloped in its darkness. O Wisdom of the Father, powerful Helper of the distressed, Light of those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, You are the Lord of everlasting glory, beloved Son of the Most High, Eternal Light of Eternal Light. Hear our prayers and grant repose to the souls of your servants, our fathers and mothers, our brothers and sisters, our relatives and all those who professed the faith, whose commemoration we celebrate today.

O Master Almighty, God of our fathers, Lord All-Merciful and Creator of all things living and non-living, and of all nations of the world, You have Power over all. You are the Lord of life and death. You have counted the years of life and appointed the hour of death. You order things of life according to their needs and fittingly dispose of things to come. You condemn to hell. You raise the dead, returning them to life. You are, indeed, the Master of the human race, our God and Savior, the Hope of the world, the Safety of those at sea. On this last day of the feast of Pentecost, You have revealed to us the mystery of the Holy Trinity, One in Essence, Co-Eternal, Undivided, yet Distinct. Through the

descent of Your Holy and Life-Giving Spirit in the form of tongues of fire, You poured out faith upon Your apostles and made them witnesses and teachers of the Word of God. On this perfect and salutary feast, make us worthy to utter supplications of those imprisoned in purgatory, O Lord, for You promised to grant relief to the dead from the afflictions besetting them and to send down consolation and repose to them. Accept, then, our prayers and give rest to the souls of Your departed servants in a place of joy and happiness where there is no pain, sorrow, or sighing. Establish them in peace and joy in the mansions of the Saints.

O Lord, the dead send up no praise to You, but we, the living, bless You and send up prayers and sacrifices for their souls and for our own. For You are the peace of our souls and bodies and we give glory to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

People: Amen

DISMISSAL PRAYER

Priest: May Christ, our True God, Who emptied Himself from the Bosom of God the Father and descended from heaven upon the earth, and took upon Himself our nature, making it divine; and, after that, ascended again into heaven and sits at the Right Hand of God the Father, Who sent down upon His holy disciples and apostles the Divine and Holy Spirit, which is of one Essence, equal in power and equal in glory to Himself and, thereby, enlightening them and, through them, the whole universe, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of His most Holy Mother; of the holy, glorious and praiseworthy preachers of God and Spirit-bearing apostles, and all the Saints. For Christ is Gracious and Loves mankind.

People: Amen