MID-PENTECOST

FIRST ANTIPHON

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to His praise! Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior save us!

Say to God: How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You! Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior save us!

Let all the earth worship You and praise You! Let it praise Your name, O Most High! Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior 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 Mother of God, O Savior save us!

SECOND ANTIPHON

God be bountiful to us and bless us! Show the light of Your countenance upon us and have mercy on us! O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

That we may know Your way upon the earth, and Your salvation among all nations! O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Let the people give thanks to You, O God! Let all the people give thanks to You! O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and wast crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

THIRD ANTIPHON

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face. *Troparion:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire. *Troparion:* Christ is risen ...

So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad. *Troparion:* Christ is risen...

This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it! *Troparion*: Christ is risen...

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

TROPARION

Tone 8 In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety as You cried to all: "If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!"// O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to You!

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

KONTAKION

Tone 4 Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law: "Come and draw the water of immortality!"
We fall before You and faithfully cry://
"Grant us Your mercies, for You are the Fountain of our life!"

The prokeimenon in the third tone: Great is our Lord and abundant in power! / His understanding is beyond measure! (Ps 146/147:5)

v: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God! (Ps 146/147:1) THE READING IS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES (14:6-18)

In those days, :Paul and Barnabas fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding region. And they were preaching the gospel there. And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. This man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked. Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" And Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. Then the priest of Zeus, whose temple was in front of their city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, intending to sacrifice with the multitudes. But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways. Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." And with these sayings they could scarcely restrain the multitudes from sacrificing to them.

Tone 1 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Remember Your congregation, which You have gotten of old! (Ps 73/74:2)

v: God is our King before the ages; He hath worked salvation in the midst of the earth. ($Ps\ 73/74:12$)

THE READING IS FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN (7:14-30)

At that time, about the middle of the feast of Tabernacles, Jesus went up into the temple and taught. And the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this Man know letters, having never studied?" Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?" The people answered and said, "You

have a demon. Who is seeking to kill You?" Jesus answered and said to them, "I did one work, and you all marvel. Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath? Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment." Now some of them from Jerusalem said, "Is this not He whom they seek to kill? But look! He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ? However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from." Then Jesus cried out, as He taught in the temple, saying, "You both know Me, and you know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. But I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me." Therefore they sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.

THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

Virginity is foreign to mothers; childbearing is strange for virgins.
But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished.
For this all the earthly nations unceasingly magnify you.

(Heirmos of the 9th Ode of the Midfeast Kanon)

COMMUNION HYMN

The Lord said: "He who eats My Body and drinks My Blood abides in Me, and I in him." (*John 6:56*) Alleluia, Alleluia!

IN PLACE OF "WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT..."

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon's Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon's Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir's Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.