

Sunday of the 1st Ecumenical Council

May 21, 2023



Prayer before Liturgy

THROUGH THE PRAYERS OF OUR HOLY FATHERS, O LORD
JESUS CHRIST OUR GOD, HAVE MERCY ON US.

AMEN.

GLORY TO YOU, OUR GOD, GLORY TO YOU.

HEAVENLY KING, COMFORTER, SPIRIT OF TRUTH,

EVERYWHERE PRESENT AND FILLING ALL THINGS, TREASURY
OF

BLESSINGS AND GIVER OF LIFE, COME AND DWELL WITHIN US,
CLEANSE US OF ALL STAIN, AND SAVE OUR SOULS, O
GRACIOUS ONE.

*THROUGHOUT PASCHA, THE FOLLOWING IS SAID IN PLACE OF
"GLORY TO YOU" AND "HEAVENLY KING."*

CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD! BY DEATH HE TRAMPLED
DEATH;

AND TO THOSE IN THE TOMBS HE GRANTED LIFE. (THREE TIMES)

HOLY GOD, HOLY AND MIGHTY, HOLY AND IMMORTAL, HAVE
MERCY ON US. (THREE TIMES)

GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY
SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND FOREVER. AMEN.

MOST HOLY TRINITY, HAVE MERCY ON US; LORD, CLEANSE US
OF OUR SINS; MASTER, FORGIVE OUR TRANSGRESSIONS;
HOLY ONE, COME TO US AND HEAL OUR INFIRMITIES FOR
YOUR NAME'S SAKE.

LORD, HAVE MERCY. (THREE TIMES)

GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY
SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND FOREVER. AMEN.

Acts 20:16– 18 & 28–38

FOR PAUL HAD DECIDED TO SAIL PAST EPHESUS IN ORDER TO AVOID SPENDING TIME IN THE PROVINCE OF ASIA. HE WAS EAGER TO BE IN JERUSALEM, IF POSSIBLE, ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST.

PAUL'S FAREWELL SPEECH AT MILETUS. FROM MILETUS, HE SENT A MESSAGE TO EPHESUS, SUMMONING THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH. 18 WHEN THEY CAME TO HIM, HE ADDRESSED THEM AS FOLLOWS:

"YOU YOURSELVES KNOW HOW I LIVED AMONG YOU THE WHOLE TIME FROM THE FIRST DAY THAT I SET FOOT IN THE PROVINCE OF ASIA.

KEEP WATCH OVER YOURSELVES AND OVER ALL THE FLOCK OF WHICH THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS MADE YOU OVERSEERS, AND BE SHEPHERDS OF THE CHURCH OF GOD THAT HE PURCHASED WITH THE PRICE OF HIS OWN BLOOD.

"I KNOW THAT AFTER I HAVE GONE, SAVAGE WOLVES WILL COME AMONG YOU AND WILL NOT SPARE THE FLOCK. EVEN FROM YOUR OWN RANKS MEN WILL COME DISTORTING THE TRUTH IN ORDER TO ENTICE THE DISCIPLES TO FOLLOW THEM. THEREFORE, BE ON YOUR GUARD. REMEMBER THAT FOR THREE YEARS I NEVER CEASED NIGHT AND DAY TO WARN EVERY ONE OF YOU WITH TEARS.

"AND NOW I COMMEND YOU TO GOD AND TO THE WORD OF HIS GRACE THAT IS ABLE TO BUILD YOU UP AND GIVE YOU YOUR INHERITANCE AMONG ALL WHO ARE SANCTIFIED. I HAVE NEVER COVETED ANYONE'S SILVER OR GOLD OR CLOTHING. YOU ARE AWARE THAT I WORKED WITH MY OWN HANDS TO SUPPORT MYSELF AND MY COMPANIONS. IN ALL THIS, I HAVE SHOWN YOU THAT BY SUCH HARD WORK WE MUST HELP THE WEAK, KEEPING IN MIND THE WORDS OF THE LORD JESUS WHO HIMSELF SAID, 'IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE.' "WHEN HE HAD FINISHED SPEAKING, HE KNELT DOWN AND PRAYED WITH THEM. THEY WERE ALL WEEPING LOUDLY AS THEY EMBRACED PAUL AND KISSED HIM, FOR THEY WERE DEEPLY DISTRESSED AT HIS WORDS THAT THEY WOULD NEVER SEE HIS FACE AGAIN. THEN THEY ESCORTED HIM TO THE SHIP.

John 17: 1-13

Knowledge of the Father and the Son. After saying this, Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, so that your Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, so that he may give eternal life to all those you have given him. And eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and the one you have sent, Jesus Christ. "I have glorified you on earth by completing the work that you entrusted to me. So now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

The Son and the Disciples

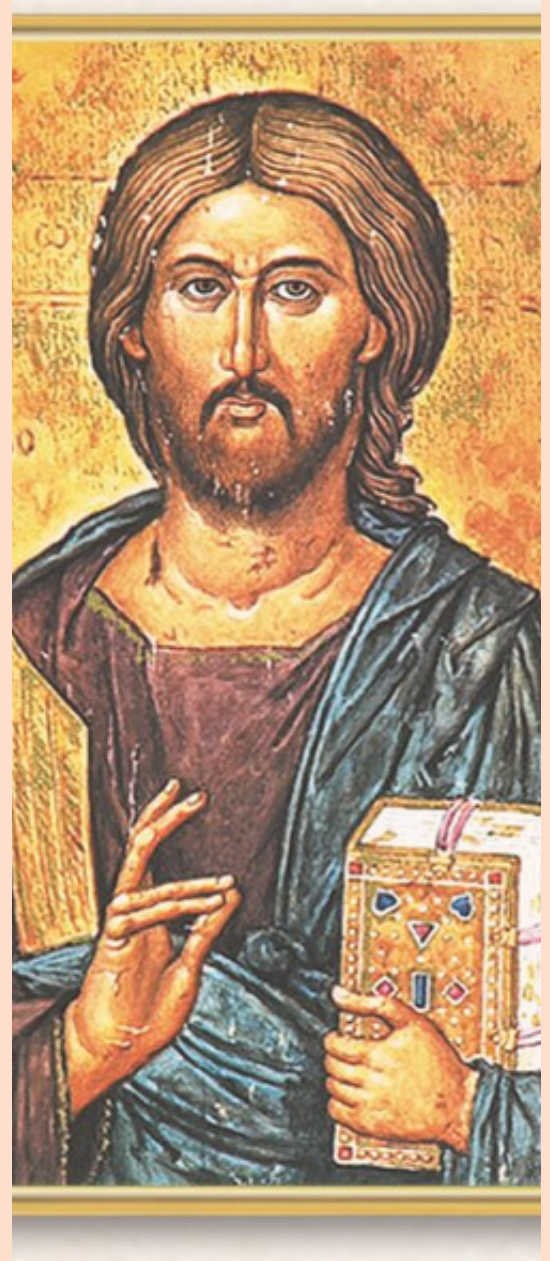
"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they have come to understand that everything you gave me is from you. For the words you gave to me

I have given to them, and they have accepted them and know with certainty that I have come from you, and they have believed that you sent me. "It is for them that I pray. I do not pray for the world, but for those you gave me because they are yours Everything I have is yours, and everything you have is mine, and through them I have been glorified. I will remain no longer in the world, but they will still be in the world while I will be coming to you.

"Holy Father, protect by the power of your name those you have given me, so that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them I protected them by your name that you have given me,

and I kept them safe. Not one of them was lost, except the one destined to be lost, so that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

"Now I am coming to you, and I say these things while I am still in the world so that my joy may come to full measure in them.



What do you hear
God saying?

Sunday Of The Fathers Of The 1st Ecumenical Council Crossword Puzzle

Across

2. Good wishes on leaving (farewell)

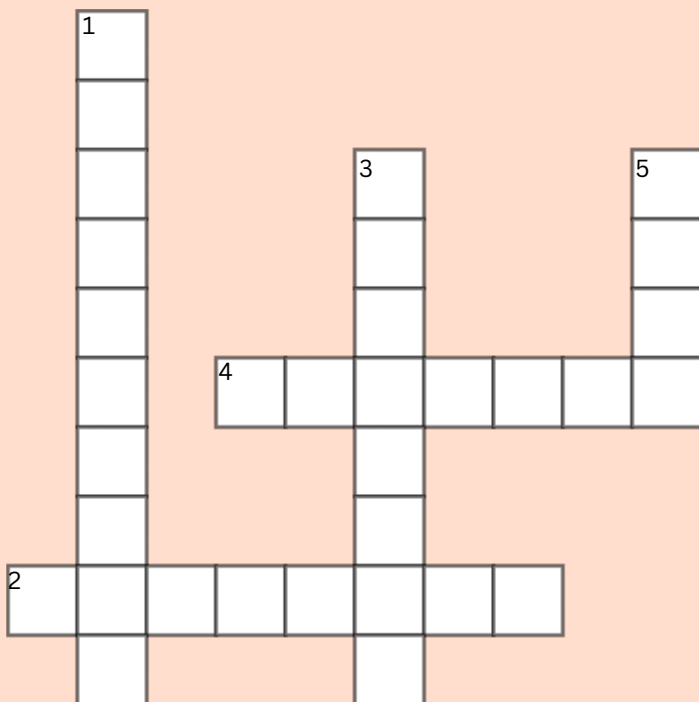
4. Praise and worship (glorify)

Down

1. Representing a number of different Christian Churches
(Ecumenical)

3. Accompany someone or something somewhere (escorted)

5. Dedicated or consecrated to God or a religious purpose (holy)



Prayer before Communion

O LORD, I BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT YOU ARE TRULY CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD, WHO CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS OF WHOM I AM THE FIRST.

ACCEPT ME TODAY AS A PARTAKER OF YOUR MYSTICAL SUPPER, O SON OF GOD, FOR I WILL NOT REVEAL YOUR MYSTERY TO YOUR ENEMIES, NOR WILL I GIVE YOU A KISS AS DID JUDAS, BUT LIKE THE THIEF I PROFESS YOU: REMEMBER ME, O LORD, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

REMEMBER ME, O MASTER, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

REMEMBER ME, O HOLY ONE, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

MAY THE PARTAKING OF YOUR HOLY MYSTERIES, O LORD, BE NOT FOR MY JUDGMENT OR CONDEMNATION BUT FOR THE HEALING OF SOUL AND BODY.

O LORD, I ALSO BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT THIS, WHICH I AM ABOUT TO RECEIVE, IS TRULY YOUR MOST PRECIOUS BODY AND YOUR LIFE-GIVING BLOOD, WHICH, I PRAY, MAKE ME WORTHY TO RECEIVE FOR THE REMISSION OF ALL MY SINS AND FOR LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN. O GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME, A SINNER. O GOD, CLEANSE ME OF MY SINS AND HAVE MERCY ON ME. O LORD, FORGIVE ME FOR I HAVE SINNED WITHOUT NUMBER.

Prayer for Vocations

**O GOD, GREAT IN MIGHT AND INSCRUTABLE IN WISDOM, MARVELOUS IN COUNSEL ABOVE THE SONS OF MEN, FATHER OF ALL PERFECT GIFTS: YOU THE SAME LORD, ENLIGHTEN WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT THE HEARTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND CALL THEM TO FOLLOW YOUR ONLY BEGOTTEN SON AND OUR SAVIOUR, JESUS CHRIST, THE GOOD SHEPHERD! GIVE THEM THE COURAGE AND GENEROSITY NECESSARY TO OVERCOME ALL OBSTACLES TO THEIR VOCATION, FOR YOU COMPLETE WHAT IS LACKING! GIVE TO THE PARENTS THAT FAITH, LOVE AND SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE WHICH WILL INSPIRE THEM TO OFFER THEIR CHILDREN TO YOUR SERVICE AND REJOICE WHENEVER ONE OF THEIR CHILDREN IS CALLED TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN A SPECIAL WAY OF PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS CONSECRATION. WE IMPLORE YOU THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF THE MOST PURE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY!
AMEN!**