ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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May 18, 2025, the 5th Sunday of Pascha
The Samaritan Woman

CHRIST IS RISEN!

English:	Christ is risen!	*Indeed He is risen!*
Slavonic:	(C)hristos voskres(e)!	*Voistinu(i) voskres(e)!*
Greek:	Christos anesti!	*Alithos anesti!*
Arabic:	El Messieh q'ahm!	*Hakken q'ahm!*
Spanish:	Cristo ha resucitado!	*En verdad ha resucitado!*
French:	Le Christ est réssuscité!	*En verite il est réssuscité!*
Japanese:	Harisutos Fukkatsu!	*Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!*
Romanian:	Hristos a inviat!	*Adevărat a înviat!*
Albanian:	Krishti U Ngjall!	*Vertet U Ngjall!*
Georgian:	Kriste aghsdga!	*Cheshmaritad aghsdga!*
Latin:	Christus resurrexit!	*Vere resurrexit!*
Irish Gaelic:	Tah Kreest asháyreeha!	*Ta shay asháyreeha guhdjévin!*

This Week

Sat May 17, No Vespers
Sun May 18, 9am – Divine Liturgy (Fr John Black). **Blessing of Cemetery.**

> ***May 21st is the Patronal Feast of our friends at Sts. Constantine & Helen.***
> *All of us at St Herman's have been invited to worship with them.*
> Tues May 20, 6:00pm – Great Vespers
> Wed May 21, 8:30am – Matins *(Orthros)*, followed by Festal Divine Liturgy.
> *(Divine Liturgy typically begins approx. 9:30 or 9:45.)*

Sat May 24, 4:30pm – Great Vespers
Sun May 25, 9am – Divine Liturgy (Fr John Black)

Sat May 31, No Vespers
Sun June 1, 9am – Divine Liturgy (Fr Edward Hughes)

Sat June 7, 4:30pm – Festal Vespers w/Litya for Pentecost
Sun June 8, 9am – **Holy Pentecost.** Festal Divine Liturgy with the Kneeling Vespers (Fr John Black). **(Brief) All-Parish Meeting.**

Hymns of the Day

Resurrection (Tone 4)

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!"

Midfeast of Pentecost (Tone 8)

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

Glory ... Samaritan Woman (Tone 8)

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; / she saw Thee, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly. // She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

Now & ever ... Midfeast of Pentecost (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 Thee and faithfully cry:// "Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!"

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

In those days, those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

... Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Gospel: John 4:5-42

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew

the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."

And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ? Then they went out of the city and came to Him.

In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

Prayers

For health of: Archbishop Nathaniel Popp, Archbishop Alexander Golitzin, Mat. Myra Kovalak, Marcia Lutz, Bernard Kusior, Julia Jay, Nina Fatula. *Especially remember in prayer Rebecca Ream, who is acutely ill.*

The newly-departed: Archimandrite Panteleimon *(formerly named Abbot Seraphim)* (4/24). Fr Simion Pavel (4/24). Fr Alexander Poshyvajlo (4/22). Mat. Sophia Daniels (3/29). Mat. Mary Shafran (4/1). Mat. Evangeline Zarras (4/13). Mat. Eleanor Margitich (4/25).

Announcements

Sunday June 8 is our follow-up A**ll-Parish Meeting** to review the budget for the 2nd half of the year. We know it is difficult having such meetings during the summer months, and especially after Pentecost's Kneeling Vespers, but it is critical we establish a proper budget. *Please make every effort to attend so that we can proceed. We will try to keep it as short as possible!*

This coming week, Tuesday & Wednesday, is the "Altar Feast" of Saints Constantine & Helen Parish. Fr John cannot attend due to travel, but the entire parish of St Herman's has been invited to join them in celebration of the divine services for their patron saints. *May God grant all the parishioners of Ss Constantine & Helen many blessed years on their patronal feast!*

The Holy Fathers teach us that the one who forgives always wins. Whatever the occasion may be, if you forgive, you immediately cleanse your soul and become fit for paradise. If you have forgiven those who plotted to murder you, you have become equal to the martyrs. If you have forgiven an insult, you have gained peace and won the Kingdom of Heaven. If you have generously overlooked the rumors and slanders against you, you have dulled the sting of your foe. If you have returned a good for evil, you have shamed your enemy. If you have swallowed a sarcastic insult to your honor, you have become worthy of heavenly honors. If, being of higher rank in life, you have asked the pardon of a lesser man, you have not only not disgraced yourself, but you have furthered your spiritual maturity. If you are not to blame but ask the offender to forgive you, you have thus helped his soul to be delivered from the hell of hatred and have covered many of your own sins, too. If you have abased your pride, you have exalted your humility.

– Archimandrite Seraphim Aleksiev, *The Forgotten Medicine*, 41-57.

Attendance

Sun Apr 6 Liturgy: 30 adults, 3 children (Communion: 25 adults, 0 children)
PASCHA: 30 adults, 5 children (Communion: 26 adults, 4 children)
Sun Apr 27 Liturgy: 23 (Communion: 17) (0 children)
Sun May 4 Liturgy: 28 (Communion: 23) (0 children)

"Christ did not come to explain human suffering, or to eliminate it. Rather, He came to fill human suffering with His presence."
- Fr George Calciu