

05/22/2022



## **Saint George The Great Martyr**

### ***Eastern, Orthodox Church***

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### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha Samaritan Woman**

Christ is risen! Brethren today is the Sunday of the Samaritan woman, The holy church in her wisdom puts the narrative of our Lord's conversation with the woman of Samaria for our edification. The holy church teaches her faithful children the truth of the faith. Through the word of God, she reveals to men the divine will. And the Christian, Who constantly Feed his soul with the Lord's word will find in it Edification and consolation. Our Lord Jesus Christ, accompanied by his disciples, was on his way from Judea to Galilee along the road that passed through Samaria! His disciples went into town to buy food while he sat down to rest by the well. And there came the woman of Samaria to the well and the Lord addressed her saying: give me a drink. The woman was surprised that he not only addressed her but also asked her for a drink as well. For the Jews have nothing to do with the Samaritan! So when she answered him how is it you are talking to me, he responded if you know 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 a living water. And now she's interested in that living water. You see how wisely and simply the Lord leads man to knowledge of divine truth. Water serve as an image of life, and living water is the grace of the Holy Spirit. The Samaritan woman now knows of this living water and wants to drink of it but she does not understand yet that her sinful life hinders her from receiving that grace. So the Lord again in his wisdom does not openly accuse her of her sinful life, wounds of sin are painful to men. Instead he leads her meekly and gently to the confession of her sin. Go call your husband, and come here and she realizing her sin says humbly I have no husband. Thus did divine wisdom reveal in a person who was completely depraved in the eyes of men, two virtues the acknowledgment of her fault her unworthiness and humility? And upon this the grace of God rest and accomplish the great work of salvation. The realization of her sinfulness made the Samaritan woman resolve to change to correct her life and humility open the vessel of her heart to receive the grace of God. For the Lord says (on this one will I look on him who is poor and of contrite spirit, and he who trembles at my word). Isaiah (66:2.) Scriptures also tells us that God resist the proud, but he give Grace to the humble (1pet, 5:5) sin estranges man from God; it deprives him of divine help. But man's soul thirst for God, and yearns for communion with him. And so my brethren let us strive to come to the Lord with humility of heart, for he loved us first and calls us to him. And he says to all of us if any man thirsts, let him come to me and drink amen. In Christ always Deacon George

#### **Tone 4 Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

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!"

#### **Tone 8 Troparion**      *(Midfeast)*

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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!

**Troparion ST. George: You were .....Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit**

**Tone 8 Kontakion (Pentecostarion)**

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!

**Tone 4 Kontakion (Midfeast)**

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!"

**Kontakion St. George... Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Steadfast protectress of Christian**

**Tone 3 Prokeimenon (Pentecostarion)**

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises! **V. Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps. 46:1)**

**Epistle (26) Acts 11:19-26, 29-30**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! **V. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! V. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity.**

**Gospel (12) John 4:5-42**

*(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:) The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:*

**Communion Hymn** Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Orthodox Saints Quotes**

"Food is not evil, but gluttony is. Childbearing is not evil, but fornication is. Money is not evil, but avarice is. Glory is not evil, but vainglory is. Indeed, there is no evil in existing things, but only in their misuse." **+Saint Maximos the Confessor**

The dietary laws of the Old Testament, while complex, can be understood by noting that eating in the ancient world involved identification or participation, both in that which was eaten, and also, with whom one ate. Israel was called to be set apart from the nations, in order that through Israel, the nations might come to be included in God's salvation.

With the Incarnation of Christ, all that was formerly unclean has now been sanctified by virtue of God entering His creation and making it holy. So it is that Peter's vision, and the command to eat what was formerly held to be unclean, is the announcement that the fulfillment of God's covenant with Abraham has come to pass in Christ Jesus. The nations, from whom Israel had been called to be separate, are now included by virtue of Christ in God's plan of salvation.

Alongside this, the Gospel lesson today reminds us that the primary food we are to eat is Christ Himself – His Body and Blood. Our fundamental "eating," by which we identify with that which is eaten and those with whom we eat, is to partake of Christ, and thus become one with His life and with one another. **+ Holy Fathers**

**Payers for the livings: Archbishop Benjamin, Abbot Tryphon, the child of God Monika, Janice, Marea and all our brethren of this Holy Temple.**

**Prayers for the Departed: all the orthodox that lie here and there asleep in the Lord, especially the Newly Departed servant of God Dimitrios.**

**Important Note**

**Bible Study: will resume after Holy Pentecost.**

**Ushers: the church is in dire need of few good men who will be performing the duties of ushers. If you are interested please see me.Dn. George**