

7TH SUNDAY IN EASTERTIDE

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.

COLLECT

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord, so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race is with you in your glory, may experience, as he promised, until the end of the world, his abiding presence among us. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

In those days: Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, 'Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out,

'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

PSALM

*Ps 97(96):1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9.
R 1a, 9b*

**℟ The Lord is king,
most high above all the
earth.**

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice;
let the many islands be glad.
Justice and right are the
foundation of his throne

**℟ The Lord is king,
most high above all the
earth.**

The skies proclaim his
justice;
all peoples see his glory.
All you angels, worship him.

**℟ The Lord is king,
most high above all the
earth.**

For you indeed are the Lord,
most high above all the
earth,
exalted far above all gods.

**℟ The Lord is king,
most high above all the
earth.**

SECOND READING

*Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17,
20*

I, John, heard a voice saying to me, 'Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.' Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.

'I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.'

The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord. I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 17:20-26

At that time: Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven, and praying said, '[Holy Father,] I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful with the sacrificial offerings, that through these acts of devotedness we may pass over to the glory of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Hear us, O God our Saviour, and grant us confidence, that through these sacred mysteries there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church what has already come to pass in Christ her Head. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also who shall believe."

For since He was dying for them, and said, that "For their sakes I sanctify Myself," lest any one should think that He did this for the Apostles only, He added,

"Neither pray I for these only, but for them also who believe in Me through their word."

By this again He revived their souls, showing that the disciples should be many.

For because He made common what they possessed peculiarly, He comforts them by showing that they were being made the cause of the salvation of others.

After having thus spoken concerning their salvation, and their being sanctified by faith and the Sacrifice, He afterwards speaks of concord, and finally closes his discourse with this, having begun with it and ended in it. For at the beginning He says,

"A new commandment I give unto you" John 13:34

*Chrysostom Homily 82
on the Gospel of John*

