

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Nativity of the Theotokos -- September 8th

*Hail Theotokos!*

We shall never cease to hymn to you as one should, O Theotokos, and say: Hail, O Bride and Maiden ever-pure!

Hail, O you, through whom Joy will shine forth!  
Hail, O you, through whom the curse will disappear!

Hail, O Restoration of the Fallen Adam!  
Hail, O Redemption of the Tears of Eve!

Hail, O Peak above the reach of human thought!  
Hail, O Depth even beyond the sight of angels!

Hail, O you who have become a Kingly Throne!  
Hail, O you who carry Him Who Carries All!

Hail, O Star who manifest the Sun!  
Hail, O Womb of the Divine Incarnation!

Hail, O you through whom creation is renewed!  
Hail, O you through whom the Creator becomes a Babe!

Hail, O Bride and Maiden ever-pure!

And why do we cry, "Alleluia?"

Hail, O hidden Sense of the Ineffable Plan!

Hail, O Belief in Silence That Must Be!

Hail, O Forecast of the Marvels of Christ!

Hail, O Fountainhead of truths concerning Him!

Hail, Celestial Ladder, by whom God came down!

Hail, O Bridge leading earthly ones to heaven!

Hail, O Wonder, ever-thrilling to the angels!

Hail, O Wound, ever-hurting to the demons!

Hail, O you who gave birth to Light ineffably!

Hail, O you who told no one how it was done!

Hail, O you who surpass the wisdom of the wise!

Hail, O you who enlighten faithful minds!

Hail, O Bride and Maiden ever-pure!

*From the Akathist to the Theotokos*