

PENTECOST.

Alleluia. 1st tone. Ps. 33:6: *By the word of the Lord the heavens (were made)...*

Verse. Ps. 102:19: *... From heaven the Lord viewed (the earth).*

John 7:37–52; 8:12

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, "Truly this is the Prophet." Others said,

"This is the Christ." But some said, "Will the Christ come out of Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?" So there was a division among the people because of Him. Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him. Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why have you not brought Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!" Then the Pharisees answered them, "Are you also deceived? Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed."

51. Letter V, p. 57, fol. 29 v, 97 mm

The illuminators of the Miroslav Gospel justified the unique merging of the figure of Christ with the monster-like animal coming out of his clothes by reference to the verses of the pericope: *If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water* (John 7:37–38). To the lion's head, which served as a traditional way of marking a spring, they added a fishtail, in allusion to the rivers of eternal life and the Saviour's wisdom. — D. Acimović

