



**Holy Transfiguration  
Orthodox Church**

*a mission parish of the Orthodox Church in America*

*Sixth Sunday of Pascha*  
**Sunday, May 21, 2017**

*Sunday of the Man Born Blind  
Ss. Constantine and Helen*

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Fr. Martin D. Watt, Priest-in-Charge  
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(515) 337-1192 (*rectory*)

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***Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!***

**Welcome!** We are honored that you have joined us in our celebration of the Lord's resurrection this day.

If you are a first time visitor to our parish, we invite you to sign our guest book. If you have a question, a prayer request, or any need, please speak with Fr. Marty, or with any parish member.

For our friends present with us who are not Orthodox Christians, please note that we have specific disciplines regarding receiving Communion. We ask that you refrain from going to Communion until you have spoken with Fr. Marty and understand our discipline and piety regarding this sacrament and its implication for responsibility towards and membership in the Orthodox Church. The bread and wine offered after communion and the bread offered at the end of the service is available to all.

If you are an Orthodox Christian from another parish who has prepared in accordance with your discipline, and have a blessing from your home priest to do so, we invite and encourage you to partake of Holy Communion.

This booklet contains the variable hymns and readings specific to today. Please feel free to take it with you. There are coil-bound booklets with the text for the Divine Liturgy – if you find it useful, please feel free to take one of those as well, with our compliments.

We also hope you will stay and join us in our coffee and fellowship hour, which immediately follows the service. We want the opportunity to get to know you, and for you to get to know us. Again, welcome!

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*Regular services:*

**Great Vespers**, *Saturday at 6:30pm*

**Confession**, *immediately following Great Vespers, other times by appointment.*

**Third and Sixth Hour Prayers**, *Sunday at 9:40am*

**Divine Liturgy**, *immediately following the hours.*

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**621 Kellogg Avenue, Ames, Iowa 50010**  
*(corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Kellogg)*



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supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!" Having asked for lights, the jailer rushed in and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. He brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, you and your household!" Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all those who were in his household. Late as it was, the jailer washed their wounds and was immediately baptized, he and his entire household. He took them into his house and set food before them. He was filled with joy for believing in God, along with his entire household.

In those days, Agrippa said to Paul, "You may speak for yourself." Then Paul held up his hand and made his defense. "I consider myself blessed, King Agrippa, that today, I am able to make my defense before you in response to all the accusations of the Jews, especially because you are an expert in all the customs and debates which take place among the Jews. Therefore, I beg you to hear me patiently. Indeed, all the Jews know about my way of life from my youth, which was from the beginning among my own nation at Jerusalem. Since they have known me from the beginning, they could testify that I lived as a Pharisee according to the strictest sect of our religion. Then, as I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission from the chief priests, at noon, O king, I saw on the way a light from the sky. It was brighter than the sun and shone around me and those who were traveling with me. We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice speaking to me and saying in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads!' I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' He replied, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting! Now arise and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose: to appoint you as a servant and a witness both of what you have seen and of what I will reveal to you. I will rescue you from the [Jewish] people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, and receive remission of sins as well as an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but I proclaimed this to the people of Damascus first, and Jerusalem, and throughout all the country of Judea. Then I also proclaimed it to the Gentiles—that they should repent, turn to God, and do works worthy of their repentance.

*Priest:* Peace be to you.

*Alleluia:* Tone 8

*Reader:* **And to Your spirit.** In the 8<sup>th</sup> Tone: Alleluia! Look upon me and have mercy on me!

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Reader:* Guide my steps according to Your word!

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Reader:* In the 1<sup>st</sup> Tone, I have raised up one chosen out of my peoples.

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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*Gospel: (34) John 9:1-38 and (35-ctr) John 10:1-9*

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*Priest:* The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. **John.**

*Choir:* Glory to You O Lord, Glory to You.

*Priest:* At that time, As Jesus was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who has sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither did this man sin, nor his parents; but it was in order that the works of God might be revealed in him. I must do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. The night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground, made mud with the saliva and anointed the blind man's eyes with the mud. He then said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). And so, the man went away, washed, and came back seeing. At this, the neighbors and those who saw that he had been blind before said, "Is this not the man who sat and begged?" Others were saying, "It is he!" Still others were saying, "He looks like him." The man said, "I am he!" Therefore, the people asked him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered, "A man called Jesus made mud, anointed my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash.' And so, I went away and washed, and I received sight." Then they asked him, "Where is he?" The man replied, "I do not know." They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It was a Sabbath when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Again, the Pharisees also asked the man how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and I see!" At this, some of the Pharisees said,

“This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. They asked the blind man again, “What do you say about him, since he opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet!” The Jews did not believe the report about this man, that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of this man who had received his sight. They asked the parents, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered them, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind. But how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. He is of age. Ask him! He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they feared the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone would confess Jesus as Christ, that person would be expelled from the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, “He is of age. Ask him!” And so, they called the man who had been blind a second time, and they told him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner!” At this, the man answered, “I do not know if he is a sinner. One thing I do know: that though I was blind, now I see!” Again, they asked him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? You do not also want to become his disciples, do you?” They insulted him and said, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses; but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered them, “How amazing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. Now we know that God does not listen to sinners; but he will listen to anyone who is God-fearing and who does his will. Since the world began, it has never been heard of that anyone opened the eyes of someone born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born completely in sins, and do you teach us?” And they threw him out. Jesus heard that they had thrown the man out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of God?” The man answered, “And who is he, Sir, that I may believe in him?” And Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking with you.” Then the man said, “Sir, I believe!” and he expressed adoration to Jesus.

The Lord said: “Amen, amen, I tell you; whoever does not enter by the gate into the sheep fold, but climbs up some other way is a thief and a robber. But the one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. The shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And whenever he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will by no means follow a stranger, but flee from him because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.” Jesus spoke this parable to them, but they did not understand what he was telling them. Jesus therefore said to them again, “Amen, amen, I tell you; I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate! Anyone who enters in by me will be saved, and go in and out, and will find pasture.

*Choir: Glory to You O Lord, Glory to You.*

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***Instead of “It is truly meet ... ,” we sing the following:***

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:	Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!
“Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice,	The glory of the Lord has shone on you!
your Son is risen from His three days in the	Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!
tomb!	Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,
With Himself He has raised all the dead.”	in the Resurrection of your Son!
Rejoice, Rejoice, O you people!	

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***Communion Hymn***

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! Praise the Lord from the heavens!  
Praise Him in the highest! Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the  
ends of the universe! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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***After “O Lord, save your people ...”***

Christ is Risen from the dead ... *sung once, instead of “We have seen the true light ...”*

*(Dismissal) Priest: “Glory to You, O Christ....,” Choir: “Christ is risen from the dead....” (x3).*

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***Please join us in our fellowship hour immediately following the dismissal!***