



**Holy Transfiguration
Orthodox Church**

a mission parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 9, 2018

*Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, Afterfeast of the Nativity
of the Theotokos, Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross*

Fr. Martin D. Watt, Priest-in-Charge

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“Lord, it is good for us to be here!”

(Peter, an Apostle, on Mount Tabor at the Transfiguration of our Lord, Gospel of St. Matthew 17:4)

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 available with the text and notes for the Divine Liturgy – if you find it useful, please ask to take one of those with you, with our compliments. Please leave the hardback versions for future parishioners to use.

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!

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.*

621 Kellogg Avenue, Ames, Iowa 50010
(corner of 7th and Kellogg)

(Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 6)

The angelic powers were at Your tomb;
the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Your grave,
seeking Your most pure body.
You captured Hades,
not being tempted by it.
You came to the Virgin, granting life.//
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

(Troparion for the Feast – Tone 4)

Your nativity, O Virgin,
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,
has shone from you, O Theotokos.
By annulling the curse,
He bestowed a blessing.//
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

(Troparion for the Ancestors – Tone 1)

Since you were righteous under the law of grace, O Joachim and Anna,
you gave birth to the God-given infant for our sake.
Therefore, the divine Church radiantly keeps feast today,
Joyfully celebrating your honorable memory and giving ^glory to God,//
Who has raised up a horn of salvation from the house of David.

(Kontakion for the Ancestors – Tone 2)

Anna is now no longer barren
and nurses the All-Pure One.
She rejoices and calls us all to sing a hymn of praise to Christ,//
Who from her womb gave mankind the only ever Virgin Mother.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

(Kontakion for the Feast – Tone 4)

By your nativity, most pure Virgin,
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,
Adam and Eve -- from the corruption of death.
And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you://
“The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life.”

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(Resurrectional Kontakion – Tone 6)

When Christ God the Giver of Life,
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.//
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

(then, p. 83)

Prokeimenon, Tone 6

Priest: Let us attend! † Peace be unto all!

Reader: And with your spirit!

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 6th Tone: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Choir: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Reader: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me.

Choir: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Reader: In the Third Tone, the Song of the Theotokos: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Choir: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Epistle – (215) Galatians 6:11-18 (*Sunday before the Elevation*), (176) 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters, see with what large letters I write to you with my own hand! Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised, only so that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh. As for me, I shall find glory in nothing, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. In Christ Jesus, circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; only a new creation matters. To those who live by this rule, may there be peace and mercy upon them, and on the Israel of God. From now on, let no one cause me any trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus branded on my body.

Brothers and sisters, it is God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, and he has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

However, we have this treasure in vessels of clay, so that the amazing power may be from God and not from ourselves. We are pressed on every side, yet we are not crushed! We are perplexed, but not to the point of despair. We are persecuted yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed; and we always carry in our bodies the death of the Lord Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. Indeed, we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be revealed in our mortal flesh. And so, death is at work in us, but life in you. Still, we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed, and therefore I spoke." We believe, and therefore we also speak; knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and bring us with you into his presence. All these things are for your benefit, so that as grace is extended to many, this may also cause thanksgiving to be multiplied to the glory of God.

Priest: † Peace be to you.

Alleluia: Tone 1

Reader: And to Your spirit. In the 1st Tone: Alleluia, I have exalted one chosen out of My people.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: In the Eighth Tone, Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel – (9) John 3:13-17 (*Sunday before the Elevation*), (92) Matthew 22:35-46

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

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

Priest: The Lord said, no one has ascended into heaven, except for the one who came down out of heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, likewise, the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone believing in him should not perish but have eternal life. Indeed, God so loved the world that he gave his uniquely-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. Certainly, God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world should be saved through him.

At that time, a lawyer asked him a question in order to test him. “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?” Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. The second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ The entire law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.”

Now while the Pharisees were assembled, Jesus asked them a question, saying, “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They answered, “He is the son of David.”

Jesus said to them, “How, then, does David, in the Spirit, call him ‘Lord,’ saying: ‘*The Lord said to my Lord, sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?*’ If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?”

No one was able to answer him a word, and from that day on, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

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

Sermon

(then p. 89)

(Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing:)

Magnify, O my soul, the most glorious birth of the Mother of God!

Virginitly is foreign to mothers;

childbearing is strange for virgins.

But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished./

Therefore all we nations of the earth unceasingly magnify you.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest.

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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