



**Holy Transfiguration
Orthodox Church**

a mission parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Thirty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, January 7, 2018

Sunday after Theophany
Synaxis of St. John the Forerunner

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

*Mailing address
and rectory:*

1411 Wilson Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50010

frmarty@amesorthodox.org
(515) 337-1192 (rectory)

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 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!

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.

Festal Troparion – Tone 1

When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.
For the voice of the Father bore witness to You,
calling You His Beloved Son;
and the Spirit in the form of a dove
confirmed the truthfulness of His word.
O Christ our God, You have revealed Yourself//
and have enlightened the world, glory to You!

Troparion Fro St. John – Tone 2

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise,
but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you, O Forerunner.
You were shown in truth to be the most honorable of the Prophets,
for you were deemed worthy to baptize in the streams of the Jordan Him whom
they foretold..

Therefore, having suffered for the truth with joy,
you proclaimed to those in hell God Who appeared in the flesh,
Who takes away the sin of the world and grants us great mercy!

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

Kontakion for the St. John – Tone 6

The river Jordan trembled, and was driven back,
filled with fear at Your coming in the flesh,
while John drew back in awe
as he fulfilled the ministry of a prophet.
The ranks of Angels stood amazed
when they beheld You in the flesh being baptized in the streams.
And we, who were in darkness, are filled with light.//
We praise You, who have appeared to enlighten all.

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

Kontakion for the Feast – Tone 4

Today You have shone forth to the world, O Lord,
and the light of Your countenance has been marked on us.
Knowing You, we sing Your praises:
“You have come and revealed Yourself,//
O unapproachable Light.”

Epistle: (224-ctr) – Ephesians 4:7-13 (Sunday after) and (42) – Acts 19:1-8 (St John)

Prokeimenon, Tone 1

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 1st Tone: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on You!

Choir: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on You, as we have set our hope on You!

Reader: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

Choir: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on You, as we have set our hope on You!

Reader: In the Seventh Tone, the righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall put his hope in Him.

Choir: The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall put his hope in Him.

Deacon: Wisdom!

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters, grace has been granted to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, God says, "When he ascended on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." Now what does "he ascended" mean, if not that he first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who also ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.

He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some shepherds and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for a work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ. This is until we all attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, having reached the very fullness of Christ.

In those days, while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul had passed through the upper country and arrived in Ephesus. And finding some disciples, he asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"

They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit!"

Paul asked them, "Then into what were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism."

Paul said, "John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus Christ."

After hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus.

When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied. They were about twelve men in all. Then Paul visited the synagogue and spoke boldly for a period of three months, debating and presenting arguments concerning the Kingdom of God.

Priest: † Peace be to you.

Alleluia: Tone 5

Reader: **And to Your spirit.** In the 5th Tone: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: For You have said: “Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens.”

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: (8) – Matthew 4:12-17 (*Sunday after*) and (3) – John 1:29-34 (*St John*)

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

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

Priest: At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he came and lived in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled:

*The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
toward the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles,
the people who sat in darkness saw a great light,
to those who sat in the region and shadow of death,
to them light has dawned.*

From that time on, Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent! For the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”

The next day, John saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who is ranked before me, because he was before me.’ I did not know him, but for this reason I came baptizing in water: so that he would be revealed to Israel.” John bore witness, saying, “I saw the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven and remain on him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize in water said to me, ‘Upon whom you will see the Spirit descending and remaining, this is he who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.’ Moreover, I myself have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”

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

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

Magnify, O my soul, the most-pure Virgin Theotokos,
more honorable than the heavenly hosts.

No tongue knows how to praise you worthily, O Theotokos;
even Angels are overcome with awe praising you.
But since you are good, accept our faith;
for you know our love inspired by God.
You are the defender of Christians, and we magnify you.

Communion Hymns

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men. The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Calendars: 2018 Liturgical Calendars are available in the narthex – please feel free to take one home!