*****Sixth Sunday of Pascha*

**Sunday, May 17, 2015**

 *Sunday of The Man Born Blind*

 *Apostle Andronicus of the Seventy and Junia*

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

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

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!

*Regular services:*

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

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

**Third and Sixth Hours**, *Sunday at 9:40am*

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

**Music Rehearsals,** *Saturday at 6:00pm*

621 Kellogg Avenue, Ames, Iowa 50010

*(corner of 7th and Kellogg)*

*Priest: “Blessed is the Kingdom … “ Choir: “Amen.”*

*Priest: “Christ is risen from the dead …” (2 ½ times) Choir: “and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!”*

*Troparion – Tone 5*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,

co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,

born for our salvation from the Virgin;

for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,

to endure death,

and to raise the dead//

by His glorious Resurrection.

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

*Kontakion for the Man Born Blind, Tone 4*

I come to You, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes,

and call to You in repentance://

“You are the most radiant Light of those in darkness.”

*now and ever and unto ages of ages, amen*

*Kontakion for Pascha, Tone 8*

You descended into the tomb, O Immortal,

You destroyed the power of death.

In victory You arose, O Christ God,

proclaiming: “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women,//

granting peace to Your Apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

*Epistle:* *(****38****) Acts 16:16-34*

*Deacon:* Let us attend! *Priest:* +Peace be unto all!

*Reader:* And with your spirit!

*Deacon:* Wisdom!

*Prokeimenon, Tone 8:*

*Reader:* The Prokeimenon, in the 8th Tone: Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!

*Choir:* Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!

*Reader:* In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

*Choir:* Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!

*Reader:* Pray and make your vows …

*Choir:* … before the Lord, our God!

*Deacon:*  Wisdom!

*Reader:* **The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.**

*Deacon:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* In those days, as the apostles went to prayer, a certain girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by telling fortunes. This same girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, “These men are the servants of the Most High God, who show unto us the way of salvation.” And this she did for many days. But Paul, being greatly annoyed, turned to the spirit and said, “I command thee in the Name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And he came out that very hour. But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. And they brought them to the magistrates, saying, “These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are neither lawful for us to receive neither to observe, being Romans.” Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Who, having received such a charge, put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight [when] Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, “Do thyself no harm, for we are all here.” Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” And they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.” And then they spoke to him the word of the Lord, and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes; and immediately he and all his were baptized. And when he had brought them into his own house, he laid the table for them; and he rejoiced with all his house, believing God.

*Priest:* + Peace be unto you.

*Alleluia: Tone 8*

*Reader:* **And to Your spirit.** In the 8th Tone: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Reader:* Look upon me and have mercy on me! *Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

*Gospel: (****34****) – John 9:1-38*

*Priest:* Wisdom! Let us Attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel! Peace be with you all!

*Choir:* And with your spirit.

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

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

*Deacon:* Let us Attend! At that time, as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he." Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight." Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Therefore 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 said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means 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 these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." Then they said to him again, "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? Do you also want to become His disciples?" Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from." The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

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

*(Instead of “It is truly meet … ,” we sing the following Hymn to the Theotokos)*

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:

“Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: ‘Rejoice,

your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead.’”

Rejoice, rejoice O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!

The glory of the Lord has shone on you!

Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!

Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,

in the Resurrection of your Son!

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