

The Nativity of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

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

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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!

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.*

Music Rehearsals, *Saturday at 6:00pm*

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

The First Antiphon

I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Your wonders known.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

In the company of the upright, in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

They are sought out according to His will.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Full of honor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

The Second Antiphon

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

His descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Glory and wealth are in His house, and His righteousness endures forever.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Light rises in the darkness for the upright; the Lord is merciful, compassionate and righteous.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

The Third Antiphon

Reader: The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand. . ."

Troparion for the Nativity of Christ – Tone 4

Your Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore You,
the Sun of righteousness,
and to know You, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to You!

Reader: "...until I make Your enemies Your footstool!"

Troparion of the Feast

Reader: The Lord shall send You the scepter of power from Zion: "Rule in the midst of Your enemies!"

Troparion of the Feast

Reader: Authority shall be with You on the day of Your power, in the splendor of Your saints.

Troparion of the Feast

Troparion for the Nativity of Christ – Tone 4

Your Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore You,
the Sun of righteousness,
and to know You, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to You!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages, amen.

Kontakion for the Nativity of Christ – Tone 3

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One.
Angels with shepherds glorify Him;
the Wise Men journey with the star,//
since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

Instead of the Trisagion:

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia! (*repeat x3,*
then Glory ... Now and ever ...)

... have put on Christ, Alleluia!

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Epistle: (209) Galatians 4:4-7 (Nativity)

Prokeimenon, Tone 8

Reader: In the Eighth Tone, Let all the earth worship You and praise You! Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Choir: Let all the earth worship You and praise You! Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Reader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His Name! Give glory to His praise!

Choir: Let all the earth worship You and praise You! Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Reader: Let all the earth worship You and praise You! ...

Choir: ... Let it praise Your Name, O Most High!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: Brethren, when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that he might redeem those who were under the law and so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!" Now you are no longer slaves, but children; and if you are children, then you are heirs of God through Christ.

Priest: Peace be to you.

Alleluia: Tone 1

Reader: **And to Your spirit.** In the 1st Tone: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declare knowledge.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: (3) Matthew 2:1-12 (Nativity)

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

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

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying:

“Where is he who is born King of the Jews? For we saw his star in the east and we have come to express adoration to him.” When King Herod heard about this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he asked them where the Christ would be born. They replied, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is written through the prophet: *You Bethlehem, land of Judah, are in no way least among the rulers of Judah: for out of you shall come forth a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.*

Then Herod privately called the wise men, and learned from them exactly what time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the young child. When you have found him, bring me word, so that I also may come and express adoration to him.”

After listening to the king, they continued on their journey and behold, the star which they had seen in the east was going ahead of them, until it came and stood over the place where the young child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with tremendous joy. Entering the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and they fell down and expressed adoration to him. Opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. But having been warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they returned to their own country using another way.

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

Hymn to the Theotokos

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

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery:

heaven—the cave;

the cherubic throne—the Virgin;

the manger—the place where Christ lay—

the uncontainable God, Whom we magnify in song.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Rejoice in the Lord,
O you righteous! Praise befits the just! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Readers and Bakers and those who would like to be. take note!

Matushka Candice is putting together a new schedule for both reading of the Epistle and for baking proshphora. If you would like to be added to either or both of these rotations, please speak to Matushka as soon as you can.