



**Holy Transfiguration
Orthodox Church**

a mission parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Second Sunday of Pascha
Sunday, April 23, 2017

Thomas Sunday
Greatmartyr George

Fr. Martin D. Watt, Priest-in-Charge
Mailing address 1411 Wilson Avenue
and rectory: Ames, Iowa 50010

(515) 337-1192 (*rectory*)

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!

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)

brought them out, saying, "Go, stand in the temple, and speak to the people the whole message about this life."

In those days, King Herod took actions to oppress some of the members of the Church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. When Herod saw that it pleased the Jews, he went on to arrest Peter as well. (This was during the days of unleavened bread).

After arresting Peter, he put him in prison and delivered him to four squads of four soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. And so, Peter was kept in the prison, but constant prayer was made by the Church to God for him. The same night, when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison.

Suddenly, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the cell. Striking Peter on the side, the angel woke him up, saying, "Stand up quickly!" And Peter's chains fell off from his hands. The angel said to him, "Get dressed and put on your sandals!" and he did so. Then the angel said, "Put on your cloak and follow me!" Peter went out and followed him, but he did not realize that what was being done by the angel was real, thinking that he was seeing a vision. When they were past the first and second guard, they arrived at the iron gate which leads into the city, and it opened to them by itself. Having gone through, they went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

When Peter came to himself, he exclaimed, "Now I truly know that the Lord has sent out his angel and delivered me out of the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

Priest: Peace be to you.

Alleluia: Tone 8

*Reader: **And to Your spirit.*** In the 8th Tone: Alleluia! Come, let us rejoice in the Lord!

Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King over all the earth.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: (65) John 20:19-31 and (52) John 15:17-16:2 (St George)

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

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

Priest: Let us Attend! In the evening on that same day (the first day of the week), and as the doors of the place where the disciples were assembled were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. At this, the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Then again, Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I also send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and told them, "Receive the Holy Spirit! If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you retain anyone's sins, they are retained." However, Thomas, called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But Thomas replied, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and put my hand into his side, I will not believe!" After eight days, his disciples were inside once again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them, and he said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands! Place your hand here and put it into my side.

Do not be unbelieving, but believing!” And Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen, and have believed.” Now Jesus accomplished many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. However, these ones are written, so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, you may have life in his Name.

The Lord said to his disciples: These things I command you, so that you may love one another. If the world hates you, you know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own! But you are not of the world, since I chose you out of the world, and so the world hates you. Remember what I told you: ‘A bondservant is not greater than his lord.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. But they will do all these things to you on account of my Name, because they do not know the one who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have had sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin! Whoever hates me also hates my Father. If I had not accomplished among them the works which no one else had done before, they would not have had sin. But now, they have seen those things and yet they have hated both me and my Father. But this has happened so that the word which was written in their law may be fulfilled: ‘They hated me without reason.’ But when the Counselor has come, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me. You also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. I have told you these things, so that you would not be made to stumble. They will expel you from the synagogues! Yes, the time is coming when whoever kills you will think that he is offering divine service to God!

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

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:	The glory of the Lord has shone on you!
‘Rejoice,	Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!
your Son is risen from His three days in the	Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,
tomb!	in the Resurrection of your Son!
With Himself He has raised all the dead.”	
Rejoice, Rejoice, O you people!	

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

After “O Lord, save your people ...”

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

(At the Dismissal, the Priest says: “Glory to You, O Christ....,” and the choir sings “Christ is risen from the dead....” (thrice).

And unto us He has given eternal life.

Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!

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

Upcoming Schedule:

Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Catechumen and Inquirers Class.

Worship I: Building and Sacraments, Vol. 2, Chapters 1-2

Wednesday, 7:00 pm

Parish Council

Next Sunday, April 30, we will honor our graduates from High School and Undergraduate College. Please let Fr. Marty know if you have anyone to participate.