



**Holy Transfiguration  
Orthodox Church**

*a mission parish of the Orthodox Church in America*

*Fourth Sunday of Pascha*  
**Sunday, May 7, 2017**

*Sunday of the Paralytic  
Repose of St. Alexis (Toth) of Minneapolis and Wilkes-Barre*

Fr. Martin D. Watt, Priest-in-Charge  
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(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 7<sup>th</sup> and Kellogg)*

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Priest: "Blessed is the Kingdom ... "

Choir: "Amen."

Priest: "Christ is risen ... " (2 ½ times)

Choir: "and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!"

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*Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 3*

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,

and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

*Troparion for St. Alexis – Tone 4*

O righteous Father Alexis,

our heavenly intercessor and teacher,

divine adornment of the Church of Christ,

entreat the Master of All

to strengthen the Orthodox Faith in America,

to grant peace to the world//

and to our souls great mercy!

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

*Kontakion – Tone 3 (Pentecostarion)*

By Your divine intercession, O Lord,

as You raised up the Paralytic of old,

so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts;

so that being saved I may sing to You://

"Glory to Your power, O compassionate Christ!"

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

*Kontakion – Tone 8 (Pascha)*

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.

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*Epistle: (23) – Acts 9:32-43 and (200) Galatians 1:11-19 (for St. Alexis)*

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*Prokeimenon, Tone 1*

*Reader:* The Prokeimenon, in the 1<sup>st</sup> 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!

*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!

*Reader:* In the 7<sup>th</sup> Tone, The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall 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 Acts of the Holy Apostles.

*Deacon:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* In those days, as Peter was traveling through all those regions, he also came down to visit the saints who lived in Lydda. There, he found a certain man

named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and who had been bedridden for eight years. Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you! Get up and make your bed!" And immediately, he arose. All who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. Now there lived in Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, (which, when translated means Gazelle). This woman was full of good works and acts of mercy. But it happened that at this time, she became ill and died. She was washed and placed in an upper room. As Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to help them. So Peter arose and went with them. When he arrived, the disciples led him into the upper room. All the widows stood by him weeping, showing Peter the coats and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But having put everyone out of the room, Peter knelt down and began to pray. Turning toward the body, he said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. Then Peter gave her his hand and raised her up. Calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

Brethren, regarding the Good News which I preached, I proclaimed this to you, that it is not of human origin. I did not receive it from man and I was not taught this Good News by man, but it came to me through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard about how I used to live in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God beyond measure, and how I ravaged it. I advanced in the Jewish religion beyond many of my own age among my countrymen, as I was more extremely zealous for the traditions of my forefathers. But when it was the good pleasure of God (who had set me apart from my mother's womb and called me through his grace, to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles), I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood: I did not go up to Jerusalem to visit those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia. Later on, I returned to Damascus. Then, after three years, I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Peter, and I stayed with him for fifteen days. However, I did not see any of the other apostles, except James, 'the Lord's brother.'

*Priest:* Peace be to you.

*Alleluia: Tone 5*

*Reader: **And to Your spirit.*** In the 5<sup>th</sup> Tone: Alleluia! 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; Your truth will be prepared in the heavens."

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Reader:* In the 6<sup>th</sup> Tone, Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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*Gospel: (14) John 5:1-15 and (35-ctr) John 10:1-9 (St Alexis)*

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

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

*Priest:* Let us Attend! At that time: Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem, by the sheep gate, there is a pool with five porches called in Hebrew "Bethesda." Under these lay a great multitude of people who were sick, blind, lame, or paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at certain times into the pool, and stirred up the water. Then whoever stepped in first

after the stirring of the water was made whole of whatever disease he had. A certain man was there, who had his illness for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and perceived that the man had been sick for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man replied, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I am coming, someone else steps down before me!" Jesus said to him, "Arise, take up your mat, and walk!" Immediately, the man was made well; he took up his mat and began to walk. Now it was the Sabbath on that day. And so, the Jews said to the man who had been cured, "It is the Sabbath! It is not lawful for you to carry the mat!" The man answered them, "He who made me well, that one said to me, 'Take up your mat, and walk.'" Then they asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your mat, and walk?'" But the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn in the crowd that was there. Later, Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "Behold, you have become well. Sin no more, so that nothing worse may happen to you!" The Jews begin to persecute Jesus. The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

The Lord said: "Amen, amen, I tell you; whoever does not enter by the gate into the sheep fold, but climbs up some other way is a thief and a robber. But the one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. The shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And whenever he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will by no means follow a stranger, but flee from him because they do not recognize the voice of strangers." Jesus spoke this parable to them, but they did not understand what he was telling them. Jesus therefore said to them again, "Amen, amen, I tell you; I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate! Anyone who enters in by me will be saved, and go in and out, and will find pasture.

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

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***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 Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
the tomb! in the Resurrection of your Son!  
With Himself He has raised all the dead."  
Rejoice, Rejoice, O you people!

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***Communion Hymn***

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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***After "O Lord, save your people ..."***

Christ is Risen from the dead ... *sung once, instead of "We have seen the true light ..."*  
(Dismissal) Priest: "Glory to You, O Christ....," Choir: "Christ is risen from the dead...." (x3).

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*Choir:* And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!

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

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