



**Holy Transfiguration
Orthodox Church**

a mission parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 10, 2017

*Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross
Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Martyrs Mendora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora*

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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 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 5

When the women Disciples of the Lord
learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the Apostles:

“Death is overthrown!

Christ God is risen,//

granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion for the Feast – Tone 4

Your nativity, O Virgin,

has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!

The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,

has shone from you, O Theotokos.

By annulling the curse,

He bestowed a blessing.//

By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Troparion for the Martyrs – Tone 1

Let all who rejoice at their triumph honor those three virgin martyrs,

who are united to God as sisters

and who pour forth fair streams of grace:

Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora,

who were in all things courageous;

they ever pray to the Trinity for us.

Kontakion for the Martyrs – Tone 4

Invincible in your struggles for the Holy Trinity,

and through your love for each other as sisters,

you defeated the foe of the spiritual life,

and with the five virgins, entered victoriously into the heavenly mansions

where you ever rejoice with the angels in the presence of the King of all!

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

Kontakion for the Feast – Tone 4

By your nativity, most pure Virgin,

Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,

Adam and Eve -- from the corruption of death.

And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you://

“The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life.”

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

Resurrectional Kontakion – Tone 5

You descended into hell, O my Savior,

shattering its gates as Almighty,

resurrecting the dead as Creator,

and destroying the sting of death.

You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man,//

and we cry to You: “O Lord, save us!”

*Epistle: (215) – Galatians 6:11-18 (Sunday before the Elevation)
(170) – 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4*

Prokeimenon, Tone 6

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 6th Tone: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Choir: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Reader: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me.

Choir: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

Reader: In the Third Tone, the Song of the Theotokos: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Choir: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Deacon: Wisdom!

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters, see with what large letters I write to you with my own hand! Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised, only so that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh. As for me, I shall find glory in nothing, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. In Christ Jesus, circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; only a new creation matters. To those who live by this rule, may there be peace and mercy upon them, and on the Israel of God. From now on, let no one cause me any trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus branded on my body.

Brothers and sisters, the One who establishes us with you in Christ and who has anointed us is God. He has also sealed us and given us the pledge of the Spirit in our hearts. I call God as a witness to my soul, that to spare you I did not come to Corinth. It is not that we have lordship over your faith: we are fellow workers with you for your joy, as you stand firm in faith.

But I resolved this for myself: that I would not return to you in sorrow. If I cause you distress, who will bring me joy except for you, the very ones whom I grieve? Indeed, I wrote to you as I did, so that when I came, I would not have sorrow from the ones who should be my joy; but I trust in you all, that my joy would also be shared by all. It was out of much affliction and anguish of heart that I wrote to you with many tears, not to cause you distress but to let you know what overflowing love I have for you.

Priest: † Peace be to you.

Alleluia: Tone 1

Reader: **And to Your spirit.** In the 1st Tone: Alleluia, I have exalted one chosen out of My people.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: In the Eighth Tone, Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: (9) – John 3:13-17 (Sunday before the Elevation)

(89) – Matthew 22:1-14

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

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

Priest: The Lord said, no one has ascended into heaven, except for the one who came down out of heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven.

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, likewise, the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone believing in him should not perish but have eternal life. Indeed, God so loved the world that he gave his uniquely-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. Certainly, God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world should be saved through him.

The Lord said this parable: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a king who planned a wedding feast for his son. He then sent out his slaves to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they refused to come. Again, the king sent out other slaves, saying: ‘Tell those who are invited, “Behold, I have prepared my dinner! My cattle and my fatted calves have been killed and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast!’” But those who were invited made light of it and went off, one to his own farm, another to his merchandise, and the others seized the king’s slaves, treated them shamefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. He sent out his soldiers to destroy those murderers and to burn their city.

Then the king said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the crossroads of the highways, and as many people as you may find, invite to the wedding feast.’ Those slaves went out into the highways and gathered as many people as they could find, both good and bad. Thus, the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man who was not wearing a wedding garment. He asked him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here, not wearing a wedding garment?’ And the man was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and throw him into the outer darkness where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.’ Indeed, many are called, but few are chosen!”

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

Instead of “It is truly meet ...”

Magnify, O my soul, the most glorious birth of the Mother of God!
Virginity is foreign to mothers;
childbearing is strange for virgins.
But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished./
Therefore all we nations of the earth unceasingly magnify you.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest. I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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