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“Lord, it is good for us to be here!”

(Peter, an Apostle, on Mount Tabor at the Transfiguration of our Lord, Gospel of St. Matthew 17:4)

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 and notes for the Divine Liturgy – if you find it useful, please ask to take one of those with you, with our compliments. Please leave the hardback versions for future parishioners to use.

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 8)

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!

You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

(Troparion from the Pentecostarion – Tone 4)

As with fine porphyry and royal purple,

Your Church has been adorned with Your martyr's blood shed
throughout all the world.

She cries to You, O Christ God:

“Send down Your bounties on Your people,//

grant peace to Your habitation and great mercy to our souls!”

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

(Kontakion from the Pentecostarion – Tone 8)

The universe offers You the God-bearing Martyrs

as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator.

By their prayers keep Your Church, Your habitation, in abiding peace//

through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One! *(then p. 83)*

Epistle: (330) – Hebrews 11:33-12:2

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: In the Fourth Tone, God is wonderful in His saints, the God of
Israel.

Choir: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, through faith, the saints overpowered kingdoms,
administered justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,
quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became
strong in weakness, grew mighty in war and caused foreign armies to
flee.

Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, not
accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.

Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, by chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted and they were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted, and ill-treated. And yet the world was not worthy of them! They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth. All of them received a testimony through their faith but they did not receive the promise because God had made provision for us to have something better, and they were not to reach perfection apart from us.

And so, seeing that we are surrounded by such a great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us. Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith.

Priest: † Peace be to you.

Alleluia: Tone 4

Reader: **And to Your spirit.** In the 4th Tone: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: The righteous cried and the Lord heard them and delivered them out of all their troubles.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: Many are the afflictions of the righteous; the Lord will deliver them out of them all.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: **(38)** Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; **(mid-79)** 19:27-30

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

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

Priest: The Lord said to His Disciples: Whoever confesses me before men I will also confess before my Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies me in front of others I will also deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

Whoever does not take his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.

Then Peter said, "Behold, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?"

Jesus said to them, "Amen, I tell you that you who have followed me, at the regeneration, when the Son of Man will sit on the throne of his glory, you also will sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Everyone who has left houses, brothers, sisters, father, mother, wife, children, or lands for my Name's sake will receive a hundred times more

and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first!”

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

Sermon

(then p. 89)

Communion Hymn

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!
(then p. 132)

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

Fasting: Beginning tomorrow (Monday) we enter into the Apostles' Fast, honoring Ss. Peter and Paul. The fasting period lasts through Friday, June 28, the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul.

Upcoming Events:

Today, George Belitsos has invited us to his home in West Ames after liturgy to join the UCC faithful for a potluck and visit with his animals. He has quite a collection of animals that children and adults both love. 5508 W Lincoln Way, in west Ames.

“The lives and praises of the saints are like the stars in brilliance. Because of their number, we do not know the names of all the saints; still, they amaze us by their radiant majesty, as do the stars, which while fixed in their position in the heavens, illumine all that is below, being seen by the Indians, yet not concealed from the Scythians, shining upon the land and guiding by their light those at sea. Similarly, the radiance of the saints, though their relics be entombed in sepulchers, is not bounded by the ends of this earth here below. Therefore, we marvel at their lives and are amazed at how God has glorified them that please Him.”

+ St. Dimity of Rostov, The Great Collection of The Lives of the Saints, Vol. 1

“By the death of martyrs religion has been defended, faith increased, the Church strengthened; the dead have conquered, the persecutors have been overcome. And so we celebrate the death of those of whose lives we are ignorant. So, too, David rejoiced in prophecy at the departure of his own soul, saying: ‘Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.’ He esteemed death better than life. The death itself of the martyrs is the prize of their life. And again, by the death of those at variance hatred is put an end to.”

+ St. Ambrose of Milan, On Belief in the Resurrection