



**Holy Transfiguration
Orthodox Church**

a mission parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, December 15, 2019

The Holy Forefathers of 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 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. 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 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,
You rose on the third day, O Savior,
Granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Your Kingdom!//

Glory to Your dispensation, O you who love mankind!”

(Troparion for the Forefathers – Tone 2)

Through faith You justified the Forefathers,
betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles.

These saints exult in glory,
for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:
she who bore You without seed.//

So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

*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 Forefathers – Tone 6)

You did not worship the graven image,
O thrice-blessed ones,
but armed with the immaterial Essence of God,
you were glorified in a trial by fire.

From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying:
“Hasten, O compassionate One!

Speedily come to our aid,//

for You are merciful and able to do as You will!”

(then, p. 83)

Prokeimenon, Tone 4

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 4th Tone, the Song of the Fathers:
Blessed are You, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified
is Your Name forever!

Choir: Blessed are You, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and
glorified is Your Name forever!

Reader: For You are just in all that You have done for us!

Choir: Blessed are You, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and
glorified is Your Name forever!

Reader: Blessed are You, O Lord God of our Fathers, ...

Choir: ... and praised and glorified is Your Name forever!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Epistle: (257) – Colossians 3:4-11

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and Sisters, when Christ who is our life is revealed, then you will also be revealed with him in glory. Therefore, put to death what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, depraved passions, lust and greed (which is idolatry). Because of these things, the wrath of God is coming on the children of disobedience.

You also used to live in them when you lived among these people; but now, put them all away: anger, rage, evil, slander, and shameful language.

Do not lie to one another. You have put off the old self with his doings and you have put on the new self who is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of his Creator. Here, there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free; but Christ is all, and in all!

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: Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: They called to the Lord and He answered them.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: (76) – Luke 14:16-24

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

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

Priest: The Lord said this parable: “A certain man gave a great banquet and invited many people. At supper time, he sent out his slaves to tell those who were invited, ‘Come, for everything is ready now!’ But they all began to make excuses.

The first told him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please have me excused!’ Another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen and I must go try them out. Please have me excused!’ Another said, ‘I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come!’

That slave came back and reported these things to his lord. At this, the master of the house became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the city, and bring in the poor, the maimed, the lame, and the blind.’

The servant said, 'Lord, it is done as you commanded, and there is still room!'

The lord then told the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled! For I tell you that none of those who were invited will taste of my supper.'"

Indeed, many are called, but few are chosen!"

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

Sermon

(then p. 89)

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!

Calendars for 2020: The new calendars with the readings for each day, and the fast days indicated, are available in the Narthex on the literature table. Make sure to take one for your family!

Optina Reading Plan: Also on the literature table is a grid of readings that allows you to read the entire New Testament in 89 days – four times per year. Feel free to take a copy and if no copies are left, see Fr. Marty who can send it to you.

Upcoming Chrismations: Allison Boyd Justus will be chrismated Saturday evening, December 21, immediately after Vespers. Please keep her in your prayers as she approaches her uniting with the Church.

Nativity (Christmas) and Theophany Services:

December 24 (Tuesday), 6:30 PM – Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

December 25 (Wednesday), 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

December 28 (Saturday), 6:30 PM – Great Vespers (as normal)

December 29 (Sunday), 10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy (as normal)

December 31 (Tuesday), 6:30 PM – Great Vespers

January 1, 2020 (Wednesday), 10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

January 4, 2020 (Saturday), 6:30 PM – Great Vespers (as normal)

January 5, 2020 (Sunday), 10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy (as normal)

January 5, 2020 (Sunday) 4:30 PM – Great Blessing of the Water, Outdoors, Squaw Creek at Stuart Smith Park. (Great Vespers and indoor blessing of water to follow at Holy Transfiguration.)