



**Holy Transfiguration
Orthodox Church**

a mission parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Twenty-eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, December 29, 2019

*The Holy Righteous Ones: David the King, Joseph the Betrothed
and James the Brother of the Lord*

Fr. Martin D. Watt, Priest-in-Charge

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and rectory:*

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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 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 the Feast – Tone 4)

Your Nativity, O Christ our God,

has shone to the world the light of wisdom.

For by it, those who worshipped the stars,

were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of righteousness,

and to know You,

the Orient from on high.//

O Lord, glory to You!]

(Troparion for the Righteous Ones – Tone 2)

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph,

to David, the ancestor of God;

you saw a Virgin great with child;

you gave glory with the shepherds;

you worshipped with the Magi;

you received the news from the Angel.//

Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

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

(Kontakion for the Righteous Ones – Tone 3)

Today godly David is filled with joy;

Joseph and James offer praise.

The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy.

They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth,

and they cry out: “O Compassionate One, save those who honor You!”

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

(Kontakion for the Feast – Tone 3)

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,

and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One.

Angels with shepherds glorify Him;

the Wise Men journey with the star,//

since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

(then, p. 83)

Prokeimenon, Tone 3

Priest: Let us attend! † Peace be unto all!

Reader: And with your spirit!

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 3rd Tone: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Choir: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Reader: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Choir: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

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!

Epistle: (200) Galatians 1:11-19 (*Sunday after the Nativity*)

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters, 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 3

Reader: And to Your spirit. In the 3rd Tone: Alleluia! In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: (4) Matthew 2:13-23 (*Sunday after the Nativity*)

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

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

Priest: When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise! Take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him." So Joseph arose and took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt. They remained there until the death of Herod, so that what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled:

Out of Egypt I have called my son.

When Herod saw that he had been outwitted by the wise men, he became extremely angry. He dispatched his men and killed all the male children who lived in Bethlehem and all the surrounding countryside, two years old and under, according to the exact time which he had learned from the wise men. And so, what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping and great mourning: Rachel weeping for her children. She would not be comforted, because they are no more.

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream when he was in Egypt, saying: "Arise! Take the young child and his mother, and return to the land of Israel; those who were trying to kill the young child are dead."

Joseph arose and took the young child and his mother, and they came into the land of Israel. However, when Joseph heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in the place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Being warned in a dream, he withdrew into the region of Galilee. He thus arrived and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

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

Sermon

(then p. 89)

(Instead of "It is truly meet," we sing:)

Magnify, O my soul, the most-pure Virgin Theotokos,
more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery:

Heaven — the cave;

the cherubic throne — the Virgin;

the manger — the place where Christ lay —

the uncontainable God, Whom we magnify in song.

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.

St. Basil and Theophany Services:

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.)