



HOLY ASCENSION

ORTHODOX CHURCH

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A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America
His Grace Bishop BASIL, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America

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Saturday, September 19, 2020

Saturday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross; Saints of the Day: Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius & Dorymedon; Plato the new Hieromartyr of Patmos; Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS – We are very happy to have you worshipping with us today. After the service, please join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall so we can get to know you.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION – We believe that the reception of Holy Communion is the highest expression of our unity in the ancient Orthodox Christian faith. While we work and pray for true unity among all Christians, it is not a reality at this time. For this reason, Communion may only be received by members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent confession. Everyone, however, is welcome and encouraged to venerate the Cross and receive blessed bread following the dismissal.

PARENTS & CHILDREN – We enjoy having children with us in worship as much as possible. A little Commotion is no reason to take them out of a service, but sometimes they may need to be taken out of church, so as not to become a distraction. In these situations, parents are welcome to use the alcove to the right of the sanctuary entrance, where there is a window that allows you to see the service. There is also an unstaffed nursery downstairs, which you are welcome to use as needed.

VARIABLES IN TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

The service begins on page 37 in the red pew book ("Orthros and Divine Liturgy"); the letter symbols below are coordinated with the book, to help you follow along.

A The 1st Antiphon

O God, my God, attend to me; why hast thou forsaken me? Far from my salvation are the words of my transgressions.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

My God, I will cry by day, and wilt thou not hearken? And by night, and it shall not be unto folly for me. But as for thee, thou dwellest in the sanctuary, O Praise of Israel.

Through the intercessions...

Glory ... Now...

Through the intercessions...

B The 2nd Antiphon

O God, why hast thou cast us off unto the end? Remember thy congregation which thou hast purchased from the beginning.

Save us, O Son of God, who wast crucified in the flesh, as we sing to thee: Alleluia

This is Mount Zion wherein thou hast dwelt.

Save us, O Son of God, who wast crucified ...

God is our King before the ages. He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

Save us, O Son of God, who wast crucified ...

Glory. . . Now. . .

Save us, O only-begotten Son. . .

C The 3rd Antiphon

The Lord reigneth, let the people rage; he sitteth upon the cherubim, let the earth be shaken. The Lord is great in Zion; and he is high above all peoples. Let them confess thy great name, for it is terrible and holy.

Troparion of the Holy Cross – Tone 1

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, granting to thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of thy cross preserving thy commonwealth.

D The Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship, and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, **who wast crucified in the flesh**, as we sing to thee: Alleluia.

E Troparion of the Holy Cross – Tone 1

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, granting to thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of thy cross preserving thy commonwealth.

Troparion of the Holy Martyrs– Tone 4 (To the melody *Be quick to anticipate*)

Thy martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for thee * received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from thee, our immortal God. * For since they possessed thy strength, they cast down the tyrants * and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. * O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since thou art merciful.

Troparion of the Ascension – Tone 4

Thou ascended in glory, Christ our God, making the disciples rejoice with the promise of the Holy Spirit; assuring them through thy blessing that thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Kontakion of the Holy Cross – Tone 4 (The original melody)

Thou who wast raised up on the cross of thine own will, O Christ our God, do thou bestow thy compassions upon this, thy new commonwealth named after thee. Gladden with thy sovereign might our most Orthodox hierarchs, and vouchsafe them victory over every false teaching; and as thy help in war may they possess the weapon of peace, the trophy invincible.

F The Thrice-Holy Hymn – *As usual...*

G

THE EPISTLE

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous.
Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven.

The reading is from St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (1:26–2:5).

Brethren, consider your call, not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth; but God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong, God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption; therefore, as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast of the Lord." When I came to you, brethren, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in much fear and trembling; and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Alleluia Verses:

- v. Blessed, O Lord, are they whom you have chosen and taken to yourself.
- v. And their remembrance will endure from generation to generation.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John. (8:21-30)

The Lord said to the Jews who came to him, "I go away, and you will seek me and die in your sin; where I am going, you cannot come." Then said the Jews, "Will he kill himself, since he says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?" He said to them, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins, for you will die in your sins unless you believe that I am he." They said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "Even what I have told you from the beginning. I have much to say about you and much to judge; but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." They did not understand that he spoke to them of the Father. So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority but speak thus as the Father taught me. And he who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what is pleasing to him." As he spoke thus, many believed in him.

H The Megalynarion – *As usual...*

I The Communion Hymn for the Feast – **Tone 8**

The light of thy countenance, O Lord, hath been signed upon us. Alleluia.

J "We have seen the true Light..."

THIS WEEK AT HOLY ASCENSION

Today	5pm Great Vespers (open to the public)
Sunday, Sept 20	8:45am Orthros (signup required) 10am Divine Liturgy (signup required)
Monday, Sept 21	7pm Men's Study Group on Zoom
Tuesday, Sept 22	8pm OCF at the Powers home
Wednesday, Sept 23	6pm Paraklesis to the Theotokos (open to the public)
Saturday, Sept 26	9am Divine Liturgy (signup required) 12:30pm Vacation Church School on Zoom 5pm Great Vespers (open to the public)
Sunday, Sept 27	8:45am Orthros (signup required) 10am Divine Liturgy (signup required)