

St. Matthew Orthodox Church



Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of the Midwest



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September 13, 2020
14th Sunday after Pentecost

Gospel Reading - Matthew 22:1-14

And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.'" But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

from Great Vespers at the Exultation of the Cross

Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross:
invincible triumph of godliness,
gate of Paradise, and protection of the faithful!
The Cross is the might of the Church,
through which corruption is abolished,
through which the power of death is crushed.
and we are raised from earth to heaven.
O invincible weapon, the adversary of demons,
the glory of martyrs, the true adornment of ven'erable saints,
and the haven of salvation,
which grants the world great mercy.

Rejoice, O Cross of the Lord,
through which mankind has been delivered from the curse!
Thou art a sign of true joy,
shattering our enemies by thine Exaltation.
O Cross, worthy of all honor,
thou art our help, thou art the strength of kings.
Thou art the power of the righteous.
Thou art the majesty of priests.
All who sign themselves with thee are freed from danger.
O rod of strength, under which we like sheep are tended,
thou art a weapon of peace round which the angels stand in fear.
Thou art the divine glory of Christ,
Who grants the world great mercy.

Rejoice, O guide of the blind,
physician of the sick and resurrection of all the dead;
thou hast raised us up when we were fallen into mortality,
O precious Cross!
Through thee corruption has been destroyed,
and incorruption has blossomed forth.
We mortals are made divine,
and the devil is completely overthrown.
Today, as we see thee exalted by the hands of bishops,
we exalt Him Who was lifted up upon thee,
and we fall down in worship before thee,
drawing rich streams of great mercy.

**14th Sunday after Pentecost/Forefeast of the Exaltation of the Cross,
Sunday before the Exaltation/Commemoration of the Founding of the
Church of the Resurrection (Holy Sepulchre) at Jerusalem**

Troparion (TONE 5) Resurrection

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion (TONE 4) Holy Sepulchre

Thou hast revealed the beauty of the holy dwelling place of Thy glory on earth
to be like the splendor of the heavenly firmament, O Lord.
Through the prayers of the Theotokos,
strengthen it for ever and ever
and accept our supplication
which we ceaselessly offer Thee therein, //
the life and resurrection of all!

Troparion (TONE 4) Forefeast

We offer in supplication
the life-creating Cross of Thy goodness, O Lord,
which Thou hast granted to us
although we are unworthy. //
Through the Theotokos, save all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of man!

Glory...Kontakion (TONE 5) Resurrection

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior,
shattering its gates as Almighty,
resurrecting the dead as Creator,
and destroying the sting of death.
Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, //
and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

Now and ever...Kontakion (TONE 4) Holy Sepulchre

The Church has been revealed to be a heaven filled with light,
which enlightens all the faithful. //
Standing within it we cry: "Establish this house, O Lord!"

Parish Activities

14 Sept, Mon	9:30am	Divine Liturgy Exaltation of the Cross (all welcome)
16 Sept, Wed	6:00pm	Vespers (all welcome)
19 Sept, Sat	5:00pm	Great Vespers (all welcome)
20 Sept, Sun	9:30am	Divine Liturgy (<u>email invitation only</u>)

Epistle Reading - 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Announcements:

Church Cleaner.....

Katherine Weiland - week of Sept. 14, for Sunday, September 20

The September Ministry Team focus is on benevolence.

Benevolence: an act of kindness / a generous gift.

Your act of kindness to our Benevolence Fund helps those who are in our church family and our community. Cash or a check made out to St. Matthew with Benevolence fund on the outer envelope will be greatly appreciated.