

November 23rd, 2025

24th Sunday after Pentecost (9th of Luke) - Tone 7
Afterfeast of the Entrance into the Temple

Scripture Readings

Ephesians 2:14-22 (Epistle 221)

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Luke 12:16-21 (Gospel 66)

Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

The Entry of the Theotokos Into The Holy of Holies

An abridgement, based on the original "Discourse on the Feast of The Entry of our Most Pure Lady Theotokos into the Holy of Holies" as authored by Saint Gregory Palamas -Archbishop of Thessalonica

If a tree is known by its fruit, then the Mother who bore Eternal Goodness is incomparably more excellent than all created good. The Pre-eternal Word of the Father, moved by love and compassion for mankind, took on our nature to renew it and raise it from corruption to the heights of Heaven. For this, He needed a flesh both new and ours, and thus sought a Handmaiden able to offer a pure human nature—the Ever-Virgin whose miraculous Entry into the Temple we now celebrate. God predestined Her before all ages for the salvation of mankind, choosing Her from all generations for Her virtue, piety, and God-pleasing life.

*In the beginning, the serpent rose up against us out of envy, hatred, and deceit, dragging mankind into death. Seeing Adam being led toward Heaven, he attacked him through cunning, instilling his own death-bearing poison. Adam, giving way to sin, became the defeated root of our race and transmitted corruption to his descendants. **continued on back...***

Many Years!

anniversaries

1st - Dale & Haley Drew
20th - Richard & Debbie Molner

birthdays

5th - Georgianna Glover
7th - Becky Fischer
7th - Katrina Molner
9th - Jason Britton
13th - Coy Molner
15th - Abigail Leithead
15th - Greg Olyejar
15th - Terri Volosin
20th - Debbie Hlatki
21th - Camden Robinson
22th - Morgan Sparks
23th - Garth Perry
28th - Josh Leithead
29th - Lori Meier

Calendar

November 26th Adult Study
— Wednesday 6:30p

November 29th Great Vespers
— Saturday 6:30p

November 30th Divine Liturgy
— Sunday 9:30a

*Sacred Alaska Movie and
potluck with director Scimon
Scionka, Immediately
Following Liturgy in the Hall.*

...continued from front Therefore humanity needed a new root—a new Adam—sinless, invincible, and able to forgive sins, restore life, and revive not only the living but also those who had died. Thus, as Saint Paul says, “The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam a quickening spirit” (1 Cor. 15:45). Only God is without sin and life-creating; therefore the new Adam had to be both God and Man, that He might renew Adam by truth, mercy, and righteousness.

As the slayer of mankind rose against us through deceit, the Source of Life raised Himself on the Cross out of love for mankind. By divine justice, our nature—having fallen by its own will—had to fight again for victory. Therefore God united Himself hypostatically to our nature, yet such a union required a perfectly spotless Virgin. For the birth of the Bestower of purity, a Most Pure Mother was required.

Today we celebrate the mysteries that prepared the way for the Incarnation. The Eternal Word, Co-unoriginate with the Father, becomes the Son of Man, born of the Ever-Virgin. He alone practiced no iniquity; His conception was without sin, and although pure, He accepted purification, suffering, and death for our sake, to transmit life to us.

The Virgin herself was above every defilement and even above impure thoughts. She conceived not from fleshly desire but through the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, offering herself wholly to God with the words, “Behold the handmaiden of the Lord” (Luke 1:38). God had chosen Her from eternity, and the divine selection can be traced through the generations beginning with Adam. From his sons God chose the righteous Seth, from whose lineage the Virgin would blossom. His descendants were called “sons of God” because from them the Son of God would be born a son of man.

Just as Seth replaced Abel, whom Cain slew out of jealousy, so Christ is born for us in place of Adam, slain by the envious serpent. Yet Seth could not raise Abel, while Christ resurrected Adam and grants immortal life to those who cleave to Him. The divine choice continued through generations to the Prophet-King David, and when the appointed time arrived, Joachim and Anna—a virtuous, though childless couple—were chosen. They prayed for a child, promising to dedicate it to God. God granted them the Mother of God, who from virtuous parents would be raised all-virtuous.

When the child was weaned, Joachim and Anna fulfilled their vow and brought Mary to the Temple. Even at a young age she was filled with divine gifts and willingly hastened into God’s service. The High Priest, perceiving her grace, led her into the Holy of Holies. God sent an angel to nourish her mystically, strengthening her nature and raising her above the angels in purity. She dwelt in the Holy of Holies, preparing to become the dwelling place of the Word, so that through her the Heavenly Abodes might be opened to believers.

Thus she was chosen from before time, manifest as the Holy of Holies, and made worthy to receive the Hypostatic Word of the Father. Today the Ever-Virgin enters the Holy of Holies like a divine Treasure, destined to enrich all the world by bringing forth Christ God, who glorifies His Mother both before and after His birth.

We who recognize that our salvation began through the Most Holy Virgin offer her praise and thanksgiving. If the grateful woman in the Gospel blessed the Mother of the Lord merely upon hearing His words, how much more should we bless her who bore the Author of our salvation, having received not only His words but His miracles, Passion, Resurrection, and our ascent from earth to Heaven.

Let us therefore turn our minds from earthly things to heavenly, shifting from the flesh to the spirit. Let us reject passing delights and seek the spiritual gifts that endure. Let us raise our reason to the heavenly Holy of Holies, where the Mother of God now dwells. Through her mediation may our prayers find entry, and may we become heirs of the eternal blessings granted through her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Troparion | Tone 7 (Resurrection)

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

Troparion | Tone 4 (Feast)

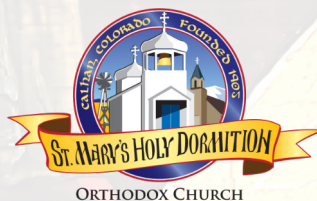
Today is the prelude of the good will of God, of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. The Virgin appears in the Temple of God, in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. Let us rejoice and sing to her: “Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator’s dispensation!”

Kontakion | Tone 7 (Resurrection)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith; enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kontakion | Tone 4 (Feast)

The most pure Temple of the Savior; the precious Chamber and Virgin; the sacred Treasure of the glory of God, is presented today to the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, therefore, the angels of God praise her: “Truly this woman is the abode of Heaven!”



Prayer List living

Met. Tikhon, Abp. Benjamin, Bp. Vasily, Fr. Andreas, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Zechariah, Fr. Dennis, Fr. Silouan, Mother Cassiana, Combs Family

Toni Dell, Tyler, David, Victor, Kyla, Emily, Tony, Diane, Bourg Family, Betty, Muriel, Child Gerhard ✕ Meryl, Harold, Tammy, Litsa, Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Lindy, John, Alicia, Patricia, Danny, Jerry, Roberta, Wendy, Judy, Michael, Jill, Beverly, Infant Dominic, Joseph, Jackie Joan, Trisha, Lee, Carol, Ethan, infant AdaLynn, Nauvlet, Leilah, Austin, Brian, Josh, Mother Magdalena, Kodiak, Miriham, Cheri, infant Gus, April, Madalyn, Makenzie, MaKiya, Hannah, Haylee, Keith, Samantha, Christina, Jake, Jetlyn, Lauren, Bob, Georgianna, Clint, Murl, Carolyn, Millie, child Charlotte, Cathy, Michael.

Those who are confined: Basil, Hannah, Theodore

Commemorations

Afterfeast of the Entry Into the Temple. Repose of Rt. Blv. Great Prince Alexander Nevsky, in schema Aleksy. St. Amphilokhios, Bishop of Iconium. St. Gregory, Bishop of Agrigentum. St. Metrophan, in schema Makáry, Bishop of Vorónezh. Sisinius the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzicus. Martyr Theodore of Antioch.

Nuggets Game!

Join us on November 28 to travel to Denver to watch the Nuggets crush the San Antonio Spurs. Carrie Guy needs to hear from you TODAY regarding your attendance at the upcoming Nuggets Game.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Again today, we will be taking a special offering to purchase Thanksgiving baskets, to donate to the local food pantry. Please consider giving over and above if you are able to.

“Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing, neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could.” — St. Gregory the Theologian

Coffee Hour

Join us in the hall, following liturgy today, for coffee hour. Next week we will be showing the movie ‘Sacred Alaska’, so all families can enjoy the movie, coffee hour will be a potluck. Please consider signing up to sponsor a coffee hour.

November 30 — Potluck | Movie!

December 7 — Potluck | St. Nicholas

December 14 — Vickie Tipton

December 21 — Potluck | Youth Play

December 28 — Available