



The Messenger

Sunday, November 20, 2022
Κυριακή, 20 Νοεμβρίου

9th Sunday of Luke
Κυριακή Θ' Λουκά

Weekly Worship Guide

The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation • Atlanta, GA

The Forefeast of the Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple,
Gregory the Righteous of Decapoli, Proclus, Archbishop of Constantinople

Sunday's Memorials

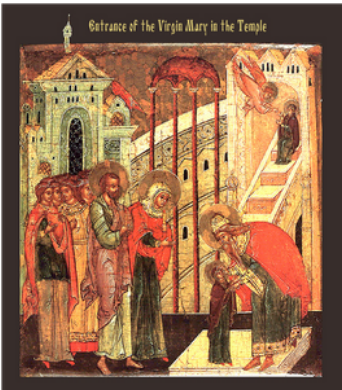
Memorial Service can be found on p. 127 of the Divine Liturgy Book.

- 40 Day Memorial for Maria Eliadou
(Sister of Kathy Galloway)
- 1 Year Memorial for Stavroula Costarides
- 1 Year Memorial for George Demas
- 2 Year Memorial for Maroulla Ioannou
- 14 Year Memorial for Anna Likis Stappas
- 25 Year Memorial for Theodore (Terry) Stappas

Coffee hour sponsored in loving memory of Anna Stappas and Terry Stappas by their family.

May their memory be eternal!

The Forefeast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple



Tomorrow, November 21st, is the Feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple. Hymnography today and tomorrow laud Sts. Joachim and Anna for bringing the Theotokos, their daughter, to the Temple in Jerusalem where she lived her childhood. The Theotokos was greeted by the High Priest, Zachariah who is St. John the Baptist's father (Luke 1.5-25).

The three Old Testament readings at Great Vespers refer to the Temple. The first lesson (Exodus 40:1-5, 9-10, 16, 34-35) refers to the arrangement of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation (a portable sanctuary which was carried by the Israelites in their wanderings). The second lesson (III Kings/I Kings 7:51; 8:1, 3-7, 9-11) describes the dedication of Solomon's Temple. The third lesson (Ezekiel 43:27-44:4) speaks of the gate of the sanctuary which faces east.

God enters through gate, which is shut so that no one else can enter by it. The assignment of these readings detailing the fixtures of the Temple is no coincidence because they are interpreted to be reflections on the Theotokos herself. The Theotokos' relationship to the Temple of God is evident in her special relationship with the Temple space; the Theotokos walked into the Holy of Holies (where God's presence appeared and which is reserved only for the High Priest to go) where she stayed and was fed by angels.

Sts. Joachim and Anna visited their daughter regularly until their deaths. The Theotokos remained at the Temple until her betrothal to Joseph (Matthew 1 and Luke 1).

(Compiled by Theo Mantzikos)

Order of Hymns Following The Small Entrance

Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον. Ἦχος πλ. β'.

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμᾳ σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄϊδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωροῦμενος τὴν ζωὴν, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Προεόρτιον. Ἦχος δ'.

Ταχὺ προκατάλαβε.

Χαρὰν προμνηστεύεται, σήμερον Ἄννα ἡμῖν, τῆς λύπης ἀντίθετον, καρπὸν βλαστήσασα, τὴν μόνην Αἰεπάρθενον· ἦν περὶ δὴ καὶ προσάγει, τὰς εὐχὰς ἐκπληροῦσα, σήμερον γηθομένη, τῷ Ναῷ τοῦ Κυρίου, ὡς ὄντως ναὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ Λόγου, καὶ Μητέρα ἀγνήν.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ. Ἦχος δ'.

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαίρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Κοντάκιον τῶν Κεκοιμημένων. Ἦχος πλ. δ'.

Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, ὡς ἀγαθὸς τῶν δούλων σου καὶ ὅσα ἐν βίῳ ἡμαρτον συγχώρησον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰ μὴ σὺ ὁ δυνάμενος καὶ τοῖς μεταστάσι δοῦναι τὴν ἀνάπαυσιν.

Κοντάκιον Προεόρτιον. Ἦχος δ'.

Ἐπεφάνης σήμερον.

Εὐφροσύνης σήμερον, ἡ οἰκουμένη, ἐπληρώθη ἅπασα, ἐν τῇ εὐσήμεῳ Ἑορτῇ, τῆς Θεοτόκου κραυγάζουσα· Αὕτη ὑπάρχει, σικηνὴ ἐπουράνιος.

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode pl. 2.

The Angelic powers appeared at your tomb, the soldiers guarding it became like dead men, and Mary stood at your grave seeking, seeking your most pure body. But you made hades a captive; you were untouched by its might. You came to the virgin and granted life. O Lord, who rose from the dead, glory to you.

Apolytikion of the Forefeast. Mode 4.

Come quickly.

Today righteous Anna solicits joy for us all, * the opposite of pain and sorrow, having brought forth her fruit, * the only ever-virgin Maid; * and today in fulfillment of her prayer and her promise, * to the Temple of the Lord she joyfully leads her * who is truly the temple and pure * Mother of God the Word.

Apolytikion of the Church. Mode 4.

Today is the beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the mystery which was hidden from eternity. The Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel announces the grace of this Good News. Let us also join with him, calling to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Woman full of grace; the Lord is with you.

Kontakion for the Departed. Mode pl. 4.

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who have power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

Kontakion of the Forefeast. Mode 4.

You appeared today.

On this day the whole wide world is filled completely * with great joy and merriment on the occasion of the feast * of the Theotokos and cries aloud: * "She is the heavenly tabernacle indeed."

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Κυριακή Θ' Λουκᾶ

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians
2:4-10

Luke 12:16-21

Readings

Epistle

Read by Katy Constantinides

PROKEIMENON: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

VERSE: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Gospel

The Lord said this parable: The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 51 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK

Reminders for Receiving Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and/or chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Faith. To participate in Holy Communion one must be in good standing with the Church spiritually (for example, married people must have had their marriage blessed in the Church; and, all must be without grave sin on their hearts). For all Orthodox Christians, the proper preparation for Holy Communion must be observed: that is, examination of conscience, confession, reading the prayers for Holy Communion, and the proper fasting. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with the clergy. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy Communion. Please let parents with their babies and the elderly approach first. Thank you.

Support our Cathedral

Welcome, everyone!

We extend a warm welcome to our visitors worshipping with us today in our Cathedral. You are invited to join us for our fellowship following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in Carlos Hall next to the Church. Thank you for your visit! Please stop by our hospitality table and sign the register in the Narthex.

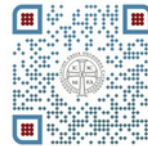
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