Divine Liturgy

April 17, 2023

Bright Monday





Reverend Nikolai Breckenridge, Rector

Cell: 570-604-4277

Email: nikolai.breckenridge@gmail.com

Mitred Archpriest James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Patricia Stetz Grammes, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

Karen Gowarty, Church School Administrator

Phone: 610-810-6290

Email: kareng18020@gmail.com

Jennifer Bzik, Administrative Assistant

Email: assistant4stnicholas@outlook.com

Note to our Guests and Friends Visiting St. Nicholas:

We offer a most sincere and heart-felt welcome to St. Nicholas Church! Please be advised that according to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive the Holy Sacrament.

(Please note - Information to be included in next Sunday's bulletin must be submitted by noon on Thursday. Thank you! ~ Jennifer N. Bzik)

Please turn off or silence your electronic devices before entering the church. Thank you.

980 Bridle Path Road | Bethlehem, PA 18017-3120 | T: 610-867-0402 stnicholasoca.org

Divine Liturgy

April 17, 2023 **Bright Monday**

(After "Blessed is the Kingdom..." and "Amen.":)

Clergy:

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (thrice)

Choir:

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (thrice)

(The clergy then chant the Paschal verses with the choir singing the Troparion "Christ is risen..." after each verse.)

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face! (Ps. 67:1)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire! (Ps. 67:2a)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad! (Ps. 67:2b-3a)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it! (Ps. 117:24)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Clergy: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,

Choir: and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

The First Antiphon

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His Name, give glory to His praise! (Ps. 65:1)

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Say to God: "How awesome are Thy deeds! So great is Thy power that Thine enemies cringe before Thee!" (Ps. 65:2) (Refrain)

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee! Let it praise Thy Name, O Most High! (Ps. 65:3) (Refrain)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. (Refrain)

The Second Antiphon

God be bountiful and bless us! Show the light of Thy countenance upon us and have mercy on us! (Ps. 66:1)

Refrain: O Son of God Who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all nations. (Ps. 66:2) (Refrain)

Let the people give thanks to Thee, O God! Let all the people give thanks to Thee! (Ps. 66:3) (Refrain)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

("Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God...")

The Third Antiphon

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face! (Ps. 67:1)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire! (Ps. 67:2a)

Troparion: "Christ is risen from the dead..."

So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad! (Ps. 67:2b-3a)

Troparion: "Christ is risen from the dead..."

Entrance Verse

Bless God in the churches, the Lord, O you who are of Israel's fountain! (Ps. 67:27)

Troparion (Pascha)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Tone 8 Hypakoe (Pascha)

Before the dawn Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard the angelic voice: "Why do you seek among the dead as a Man the One Who is everlasting Light? Behold the clothes in the grave; go and proclaim to the world: 'The Lord is risen; He has slain death, as He is the Son of God, saving the race of man.'"

Tone 8 Kontakion (Pascha)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming, "Rejoice!" to the Myrrhbearing Women, granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Tone 8 Prokeimenon

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe. (Ps. 18:4)

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. (Ps. 18:1)

Epistle

Read by John W. Heitzenrater

(Acts 1:12-17, 21-26) Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey. And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples (altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty), and said, "Men and brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus; for he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry." Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection." And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place." And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The heavens will praise Thy wonders, O Lord; and Thy truth in the congregation of the saints. (Ps. 88:5)

God is glorified in the council of the saints! (Ps. 88:7a)

Gospel

(John 1:18-28) No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him. Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the LORD,' as the prophet Isaiah said." Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

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

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, thy Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead." Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on thee. Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of thy Son!

Communion Hymn

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! Alleluia, Alleluia!