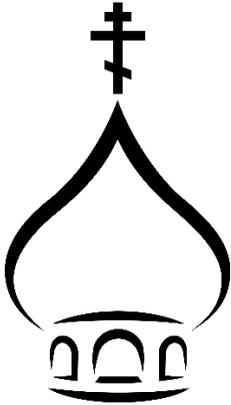


Divine Liturgy
May 25, 2023
The Ascension of Our Lord



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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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.***

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Divine Liturgy

May 25, 2023

The Ascension of Our Lord

The First Antiphon

Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples. Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
(Ps. 46:1)

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

For the Lord, the Most High is terrible; a great God over all the earth. (Ps. 46:2)
(*Refrain*)

He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. (Ps. 46:3) (*Refrain*)

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet! (Ps. 46:5)
(*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

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God. (Ps. 47:1a)

Refrain: O Son of God, Who ascended in glory, save us who sing to Thee:
Alleluia!

Mount Zion in the far north is the city of the Great King. (Ps. 47:2) (*Refrain*)

Within her citadels God is known when He defends her. (Ps. 47:3) (*Refrain*)

For lo, the kings assembled; they came on together. (Ps. 47:4) (*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

Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world! (*Ps. 48:1*)

Tone 4 Troparion

Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to Thy Disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing, they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

The earth-born and the sons of men, rich and poor together. (*Ps. 48:2*)

Troparion of the Feast

My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (*Ps. 48:3*)

Troparion of the Feast

I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle in psalmody. (*Ps. 48:4*)

Troparion of the Feast

Entrance Verse

God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet! (*Ps. 46:5*)

Tone 4 Troparion

Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to Thy Disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing, they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Tone 6 Kontakion

When Thou hadst fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, and united earth to heaven, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love Thee, but remaining with them and crying: "I am with you, and there is no one against you!"

(The Trisagion is sung.)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

Be Thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; and Thy glory be over all the earth!
(Ps. 56:14)

My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast. I will sing and make melody.
(Ps. 56:10)

Epistle

(Acts 1:1-12) The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood

by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey.

Tone 2

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet! (Ps. 46:5)

Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples. Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps. 46:1)

Gospel

(Luke 24:36-53) Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding,

that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

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

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life, Who has ascended from earth to heaven!

We the faithful, with one accord, magnify thee, the Mother of God, who beyond reason and understanding, gave birth in time to the Timeless One.

Communion Hymn

God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet! (*Ps. 46:5*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

(Instead of "We have seen the True Light...", we sing the Troparion of Ascension.)