



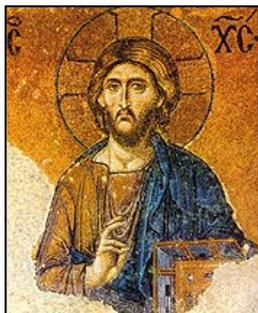
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlanta.goarch.org

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church



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Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, *Chancellor*

Liturgical Guide for Wednesday, November 25, 2020

ON THIS EVE OF THE LEAVE-TAKING OF THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE THEOTOKOS IN THE TEMPLE, THE CHURCH ALSO COMMEMORATES Holy Great Martyr Katherine (+311); the Holy 150 orators who through St. Katherine believed in Christ and perished by fire; the Holy Queen, wife of Maxentios, who died by the sword; St. Porphyrios the Commander, along with 200 soldiers who were put to the sword; Holy Great Martyr Mercurios (+249-251); Righteous Father Peter the Hesychast; and the Holy 670 Martyrs who died by the sword. *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

Thank You for Your Understanding

We welcome our parishioners who pre-registered and are attending services in person today and we also welcome those who are viewing our online video streaming at home. Let us comply with the guidelines we have provided everyone. We

appreciate your kind understanding that our church is beginning phase one of the re-opening of our doors. Fr. George is deeply appreciative to you and all who are assisting during worship services.

Please consider that only baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians in canonical good standing may approach for Holy Communion. All are invited to partake of the Antidoron ("instead of the gifts") distributed at the conclusion of today's Divine Liturgy.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./3./4. Hymn for the Feast of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.182-185):

It is sung *at the end of Orthros* and *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: Today is the prelude of God's generosity, the herald of the coming of salvation for all mankind. In the temple of God the Virgin is revealed to all, her presence foretelling the coming of Christ. With all our hearts let us, therefore, cry out to her: Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's plan.

2./5. Hymn for Great Martyr Katherine – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung at the end of Great Vespers and after the Small Entrance: Let us sing praise to the renowned Bride of Christ, to the godly Saint Catherine, Protectress of Sinai, our comforter and our helper. For she silenced brilliantly the refinements of the impious, by power of the Holy Spirit, being crowned as martyr of the Lord, she prays for all, the great mercy.

6. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. Made comely with garments woven from your venerable blood, you stand before the Lord, the King of Heaven and earth, O famed Martyr Christopher. With the choirs of Angels and the Martyrs you chant, singing the thrice-holy hymn and most awesome praises. Thus, by your intercessions with God, save us, your servants.

7. Kontakion for Feast of the Theotokos (11/21) – (Hymnal-pp.236-239):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Behold the temple of the Savior, His precious bridal chamber. Behold the virginal and sacred vessel of God's glory. Today she enters into the house of the Lord, bearing within her the grace of the Holy Spirit. For this, the angels exclaim: She is indeed the heavenly tabernacle.

8. Megalyrnarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (not in Hymnal):

On the occasion of the feast of the Theotokos, the following hymn is sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly it is proper to call you blessed..." When they saw the Entry of

the Virgin Maiden, the Angels were astonished, at how she entered with glory into the Holy of Holies. Now let no uninitiated hand approach the living Ark of God to touch it. Rather let believers' lips sing out in exultation the Angel's salutation unceasingly to the Theotokos and cry out: You, O pure and virgin Maiden, are truly superior to all.

9. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.324):

On the occasion of the feast of the Theotokos, the following hymn is sung instead of “Aineite” or “Praise the Lord”: “I will lift the cup of salvation, and call on the Name of the Lord. (Ps. 115[116]). Alleluia.”

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY

<p><i>The Scriptures were not given us for this only, that we might have them in books, but that we might engrave them on our hearts.</i> – St. John Chrysostom</p>

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Gal. 3:23-4:5)

Gal. 3:23 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. 27 As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. Gal. 4:1 My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; 2 but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. 3 So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Mark 5:24-34)

²⁴So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. ²⁵Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. ²⁶She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. ²⁷She had heard about

Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸for she said, “If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.” ²⁹Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched my clothes?” ³¹And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, ‘Who touched me?’” ³²He looked all around to see who had done it. ³³But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. ³⁴He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

We thank all our parishioners who attended today’s special Divine Liturgy in celebration of the Leave-Taking of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple, the Great Martyr Katherine, and the American holiday of Thanksgiving. *Praise and glory be to God for His rich blessings upon us!*



On this the eighteenth celebration of the Feast of St. Katherine at St. Christopher Church, we continue to thank each of you for your presence and support. Although it may seem like we are just a handful of men, women and children, if we commit ourselves to serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we will experience the miracle of growth as the Holy Spirit brings others into His service to help us build His new church in the Peachtree City area for the glory of God!

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 25 (Feast of St. Katherine, Martyr of Alexandria)

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

Thursday, November 26 (Thanksgiving Day)

"I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your wonderful deeds." (Psalms 9:1)

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!