

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE HALLOWING OF THE CHURCH, CALLED "THE DEDICATION"

The Anthem of the Chancel

You have made your sanctuary the foundation of your dwelling-place, O Lord.

You have established a harbor of tranquillity on earth for those who glorify you as a type of your heavenly habitation, and while you sit at the right hand of the Father on high, you fill your Church, O King of Glory, with the excellence and beauty of your Cross. Therefore, watchers and men rejoice in her, singing praise in her Sanctuary, for the Father establishes her foundations, the Son builds and perfects her, and the Spirit descends and sanctifies her. We beseech you to be a mighty bulwark for her, and keep her in extended peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; from everlasting, and for ever and ever. Amen.

Through your holy Cross, O our Savior, angels and men are made one flock, and lo, the heavenly and earthly rejoice in one Church. Behold, all creatures cry out, O Lord of all, glory be to you.

The Lections

Exodus 40:17-end

And in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. Moses erected the tabernacle; he laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars; and he spread the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent over it, as the LORD had commanded Moses. And he took the testimony and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark, and set the mercy seat above on the ark; and he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the testimony; as the LORD had commanded Moses. And he put the table in the tent of meeting, on the north side of the tabernacle, outside the veil, and set the bread in order on it before the LORD; as the LORD had commanded Moses. And he put the lampstand in the tent of meeting, opposite the table on the south side of the tabernacle, and set up the lamps before the LORD; as the LORD had commanded Moses. And he put the golden altar in the tent of meeting before the veil, and burnt fragrant incense upon it; as the LORD had commanded Moses. And he put in place the screen for the door of the tabernacle. And he set the altar of burnt offering at the door of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting, and offered upon it the burnt offering and the cereal offering; as the LORD had commanded Moses. And he set the laver between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water in it for washing, with which Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet; when they went into the tent of meeting, and when they approached the altar, they washed; as the LORD commanded Moses. And he erected the court round the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work.

Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting, because the cloud abode upon it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would go onward; but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not go onward till the day that it was taken up. For throughout all their journeys the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel.

Isaiah 6

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and his train filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."

And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Then flew one of the seraphim to me, having in his hand a burning coal which he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin forgiven." And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." And he said, "Go, and say to this people:

'Hear and hear, but do not understand;
see and see, but do not perceive.'
Make the heart of this people fat,
and their ears heavy,
and shut their eyes;
lest they see with their eyes,
and hear with their ears,
and understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed."

Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said:

"Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without men,
and the land is utterly desolate,
and the LORD removes men far away,
and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.
And though a tenth remain in it,

it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak,
whose stump remains standing
when it is felled."
The holy seed is its stump.

The Shuraya

All the glory of the daughter of the King is within. *Let us honor the Hallowing of the Church with spiritual songs.*

Her clothing is adorned with fine gold. *Let us honor the Hallowing of the Church with spiritual songs.*

The Apostle

1 Corinthians 12:28-13:all

And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

And I will show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends; as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophecy is imperfect; but when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall understand fully, even as I have been fully understood. So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

The Zumara

How lovely are your tabernacles, O LORD of hosts! My soul has waited, yea, longed for the courts of the LORD. (2)

The sparrow has found a home for herself, and the turtle-dove a nest. They have reared their young, beside your altar, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house. (2)

The Gospel

St. Matthew 16:13-19; 21:12-13

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." . . .

And Jesus entered the temple of God and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer'; but you make it a den of robbers."

The Anthem of the Mysteries

Text: *Rejoice and sing praise together, O waste-lands of Jerusalem.*

Be merry, sing, and offer praise.

Exult and be glad, O faithful Church, daughter of the King of the Ages, in the Bridegroom who betrothed you and brought you into his bridechamber. For a dowry he gave you his own Body and precious Blood, and through the sacrifice of himself he pardoned you and sanctified you, making you his own adorned bride. He mixed within you a spiritual drink for all your children, and lo, they refresh themselves within the Sanctuary while rejoicing; and with them we too shall cry out and say, Glory be to you!

Attend, my daughter, and see, and bow your knee.

Exult and be glad, O faithful Church, daughter of the King of the Ages, in the Bridegroom who betrothed you and brought you into his bridechamber. For a dowry he gave you his own Body and precious Blood, and through the sacrifice of himself he pardoned you and sanctified you, making you his own adorned bride. He mixed within you a spiritual drink for all your

children, and lo, they refresh themselves within the Sanctuary while rejoicing; and with them we too shall cry out and say, Glory be to you!

The Anthem of the Bema

Give thanks, O Church, through the mouths of your children, to Christ, who suffered for you and built and assembled you upon the rock of Simon Peter's truth. He adorned you with priests and teachers who are well-pleasing to him, and fashioned and set up within you the Table of the Kingdom for his own Body and precious Blood.

And lo, watchers and men sing glory at your wedding feast to your betrothed, who was sacrificed for you and breaks his Body and gives it to you. Let us cry out and say, Hallelujah!

Verses:

Isaiah in ancient times foretold, while prophesying, that your gates would be of beryl, and your edifices of rock crystal.

And lo, watchers and men sing glory at your wedding feast to your betrothed, who was sacrificed for you and breaks his Body and gives it to you. Let us cry out and say, Hallelujah!