

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
Saint Ambrose of Milan, Bishop & Confessor, AD 397
December 7, 2025

MATINS

Versicle and Response 11
Venite 11
Psalms: 80, 82
Lesson: Isaiah 35
Versicle & Response*

Benedictus 15
Resurrection Gospel
Lord's Prayer
Prayers
The Grace

**Officiant: The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the Lord.
People: Make straight the paths of our God.*

(Page numbers are for Western Rite Service Book and St. Ambrose Hymnal)

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. GREGORY THE DIALOGIST

Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the Chalice for Holy Communion, but everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy.

Opening Hymn: 39

Preparation 83
Introit
Kyrie
Collect of the Day
Lesson & Gradual
Epistle & Alleluia
Sequence: 33, vs. 1-2 / 3-4
Holy Gospel
Sermon & Nicene Creed
The Litany

Offertory Hymn: 183

Censing & Cherubic Hymn 159
Secret & Sursum Corda 88
Sanctus 89
Canon of the Mass 89
Lord's Prayer and Fraction 92
Agnus Dei 93
Communion Hymn: 157
Postcommunion Prayer
Dismissal and Blessing 95
Hymn: 26

COLLECT - Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way of Thine only-begotten Son: that through His coming we may attain to serve Thee with purified minds. Who liveth and reigneth, with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God . . .

LESSON: Malachi 3:1 -7 "Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness

to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. "Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts. "For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?'

EPISTLE: Romans 15:4-13 Brethren, What things soever were written, were written for our learning: that, through patience and the comfort of the Scriptures, we might have hope. Now the God of patience and of comfort grant you to be of one mind and with one mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive one another, as Christ also hath received you unto the honor of God. For I say that Christ Jesus was minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers: but that the Gentiles are to glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: Therefore will I confess to Thee, O Lord, among the Gentiles, and will sing to Thy Name. And again He saith: Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with His people. And again: Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles, and magnify Him, all ye people. And again, Isaias saith: There shall be a root of Jesse; and He that shall rise up to rule the Gentiles, in Him the Gentiles shall hope. Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing: that you may abound in hope, and in the power of the Holy Ghost.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-10 At that time, when John had heard in prison the works of Christ, sending two of his disciples, he said to Him: Art thou He that art to come, or look we for another? And Jesus, making answer, said to them: Go and relate to John what you have heard and seen. The blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead rise again, the poor have the gospel preached to them: and blessed is he that shall not be scandalized in Me. And when they went their way, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: What went you out into the desert to see? A reed shaken with the wind? But what went you out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Behold they that are clothed in soft garments are in the houses of kings. But what went you out to see? A prophet? Yea I tell you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written: Behold, I send my Angel before Thy face, who shall prepare Thy way before Thee.

POST COMMUNION - Filled with the food of spiritual nourishment, we humbly entreat Thee, O Lord, that by our partaking of this Mystery, Thou wouldst teach us to despise the things of earth, and to love those of heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son . . .

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 7

Wednesday, December 10

Thursday, December 11

Saturday December 13

Sunday, December 14

Festival of Lessons and Carols 4pm

Liturgy 6pm

Jesus Prayer 7pm

Vespers 4:30pm

Advent III 9:45a Matins 10am Liturgy

ADVENT FASTING: Fasting and abstinence throughout. Fasting is not mandated on Sundays

SAINT AMBROSE OF MILAN (c. 339–397 AD) was a prominent theologian, statesman, and one of the four original Great Latin Doctors of the Church, best known for his influential preaching, his strong stance against heresy and imperial power, and his role in the conversion and baptism of St. Augustine of Hippo. Born into a high-ranking Roman Christian family in modern-day Germany, Ambrose was educated in law and rhetoric in Rome and became the governor of Liguria and Aemilia, with headquarters in Milan. In 374, during a heated dispute over the election of an Arian bishop for Milan, Ambrose intervened to keep the peace. Both factions, inspired by his eloquence and character, unanimously acclaimed the unbaptized layman as their new bishop. After initially fleeing to avoid the post, he accepted his calling and was baptized, ordained, and consecrated bishop within a week. As bishop, Ambrose adopted an ascetic lifestyle, gave his personal wealth to the poor, and devoted himself to the study of Scripture and the Greek Church Fathers. He was a beloved and popular leader who used church property to ransom citizens captured by the Goths, famously stating that "It is far better to preserve souls than gold for the Lord. Ambrose established a precedent for the church's authority over secular rulers, notably by imposing public penance on Emperor Theodosius I for the massacre of 7,000 citizens in Thessalonica. He asserted the principle, "The emperor is in the church, not above the church". Ambrose's profound influence on Western Christianity is primarily due to his writings, his work in liturgy and music, and his mentorship of St. Augustine. He was a fierce opponent of Arianism, the heresy that denied the full divinity of Christ, and his theological works and sermons were instrumental in strengthening Nicene Christianity in the West.

SAINT AMBROSE, PRAY FOR US.

THE FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS is this afternoon at 4pm Please bring Christmas cookies for the reception following the service. This is an wonderful holiday service to invite your friends and relatives to come and enjoy. Because it has its origin at King’s College Cambridge University it will be very comfortable to most Protestants.

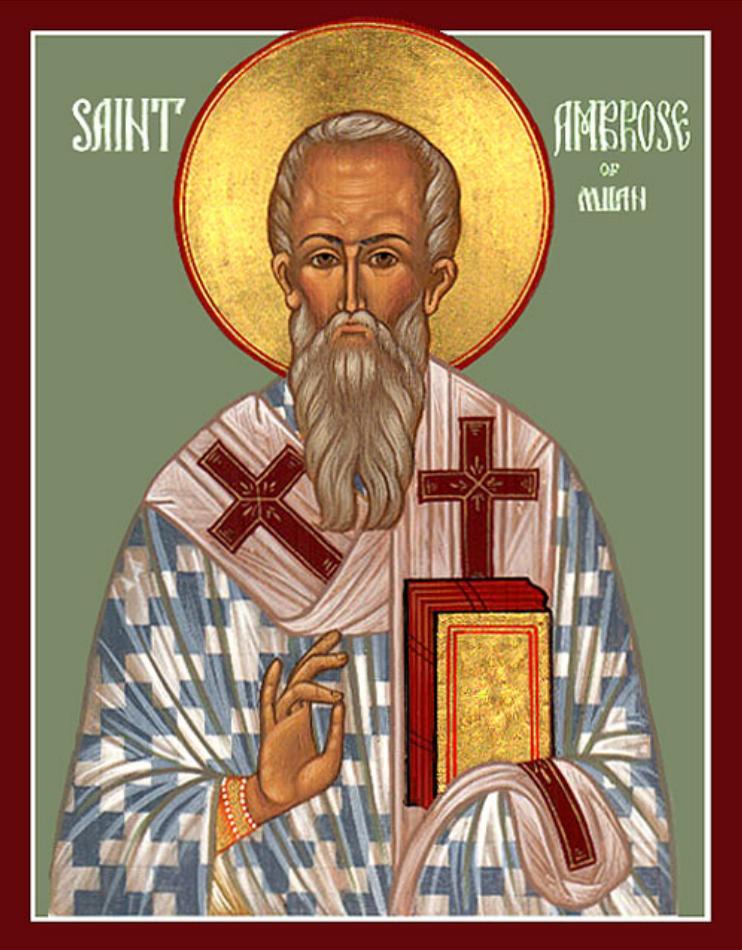
PLEDGE SUNDAY is December 14th. During the singing of the offertory hymn we will present our completed pledge forms in the alms basin to be presented at the Altar.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS The sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall. Please make a contribution to the Flower Fund for Christmas flowers for the Altar. Indicate the Memorial or Thanksgiving to be made at the Christmas Eve liturgy.

REMEMBER TO BRING FOOD FOR THE FOOD PANTRY’S HOLIDAY FOR DRIVE.

ST. MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 A Parish (Western Rite) of the
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
 Metropolitan SABA Primate

The Rt. Rev. Calinic Berger, Archbishopial Vicar Email: dowama.chancery@yahoo.com Chancery: (316) 285-4119
 The Very Rev. Dr. John Flora, Pastor e-mail: jfflora@icloud.com (316) 648-4438
 The Rev. Basil Anderson, Associate e-mail: williamlanderson@sbcglobal.net (316) 655-4576
 Sally Buxton, Organist e-mail: sallybuxtonwks@gmail.com (316) 250-7687
 Frank Tritschler, Head Chanter email: fritschler@att.net (316) 519-9742
 David Shrewsbury, Server (316) 612-7549



*Saint Michael the Archangel
 Western Orthodox Church
 2710 E. 61st Street
 Park City, Kansas 67219
www.saintmichaelorthodoxchurch.com
 (316) 648-4438*

Never, never, never let anyone tell you that, in order to be Orthodox, you must be Eastern. The West was fully Orthodox for a thousand years, and her venerable liturgy is far older than any of her heresies. Saint John Maximovitch