

**Beginning of the Liturgical Year
Sanctification of the Church (Qudos Eetho)**

Mark 8:27-30

- 27 Now Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"
- 28 They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets."
- 29 And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Messiah."
- 30 Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

Exodus 10:1-5

- 1 Then the LORD said to Moses: Go to Pharaoh, for I have made him and his servants obstinate in order that I may perform these signs of mine among them and that you may recount to your son and grandson how I made a fool of the Egyptians and what signs I did among them, so that you may know that I am the LORD.
- 2 So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and told him, "Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews: How long will you refuse to submit to me? Let my people go to serve me.
- 3 For if you refuse to let my people go, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your territory.
- 4 They will cover the surface of the earth, so that the earth itself will not be visible. They will eat up the remnant you saved undamaged from the hail, as well as all the trees that are growing in your fields.

1 Kings 6:1-8

- 1 In the four hundred and eightieth year after the Israelites went forth from the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv (the second month), he began to build the house of the LORD.
- 2 The house which King Solomon built for the LORD was sixty cubits long, twenty wide, and thirty high.
- 3 The porch in front of the nave of the house was twenty cubits from side to side along the width of the house, and ten cubits deep in front of the house.
- 4 Windows with closed lattices were made for the house,

- 5 and adjoining the wall of the house he built a substructure around its walls that enclosed the nave and the inner sanctuary, and he made side chambers all around.
- 6 The lowest story was five cubits wide, the middle one six cubits wide, the third seven cubits wide, because he put recesses along the outside of the house to avoid fastening anything into the walls of the house.
- 7 The house was built of stone dressed at the quarry, so that no hammer or ax, no iron tool, was to be heard in the house during its construction.
- 8 The entrance to the middle story was on the south side of the house; stairs led up to the middle story and from the middle story to the third.

Ezekiel 10:1-5, 18-22

- 1 Then I looked and there above the firmament over the heads of the cherubim was something like a sapphire, something that looked like a throne.
- 2 And he said to the man dressed in linen: Go within the wheelwork under the cherubim; fill both your hands with burning coals from the place among the cherubim, then scatter them over the city. As I watched, he entered.
- 3 Now the cherubim were standing to the south of the temple when the man went in and a cloud filled the inner court.
- 4 The glory of the LORD had moved off the cherubim to the threshold of the temple; the temple was filled with the cloud, the whole court brilliant with the glory of the LORD.
- 5 The sound of the wings of the cherubim could be heard as far as the outer court; it was like the voice of God Almighty speaking.
- 18 Then the glory of the LORD left the threshold of the temple and took its place upon the cherubim.
- 19 The cherubim lifted their wings and rose up from the earth before my eyes as they departed with the wheels beside them. They stopped at the entrance of the eastern gate of the LORD's house, and the glory of the God of Israel was up above them.
- 20 These were the living creatures I had seen beneath the God of Israel by the river Chebar. Now I knew they were cherubim.
- 21 Each of them had four faces and four wings, and something like human hands under their wings.
- 22 Their faces looked just like the faces I had seen by the river Chebar; and each one went straight ahead.

Isaiah 6:1-8

- 1 In the year King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, with the train of his garment filling the temple.
- 2 Seraphim were stationed above; each of them had six wings: with two they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they hovered.
- 3 One cried out to the other: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts! All the earth is filled with his glory!"
- 4 At the sound of that cry, the frame of the door shook and the house was filled with smoke.
- 5 Then I said, "Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"
- 6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, holding an ember which he had taken with tongs from the altar.
- 7 He touched my mouth with it. "See," he said, "now that this has touched your lips, your wickedness is removed, your sin purged."
- 8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here I am," I said; "send me!"

1 Peter 2:1-12

- 1 Rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, insincerity, envy, and all slander;
- 2 like newborn infants, long for pure spiritual milk so that through it you may grow into salvation,
- 3 for you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- 4 Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God,
- 5 and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- 6 For it says in scripture: "Behold, I am laying a stone in Zion, a cornerstone, chosen and precious, and whoever believes in it shall not be put to shame."
- 7 Therefore, its value is for you who have faith, but for those without faith: "The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"
- 8 and "A stone that will make people stumble, and a rock that will make them fall." They stumble by disobeying the word, as is their destiny.
- 9 But you are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises" of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

- 10 Once you were “no people” but now you are God’s people; you “had not received mercy” but now you have received mercy.
- 11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and sojourners to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against the soul.
- 12 Maintain good conduct among the Gentiles, so that if they speak of you as evildoers, they may observe your good works and glorify God on the day of visitation.

Ephesians 2:14-22

- 14 For he is our peace, he who made both one and broke down the dividing wall of enmity, through his flesh,
- 15 abolishing the law with its commandments and legal claims, that he might create in himself one new person in place of the two, thus establishing peace,
- 16 and might reconcile both with God, in one body, through the cross, putting that enmity to death by it.
- 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near,
- 18 for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.
- 19 So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God,
- 20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone
- 21 Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord;
- 22 in him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Mathew 16:13-23

- 13 When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”
- 14 They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”
- 15 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”
- 16 Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”
- 17 Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.
- 18 And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

- 19 I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”
- 20 Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Messiah.
- 21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.
- 22 Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, “God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you.”
- 23 He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”