# ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

**sthermanshillington.org**

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**August 10, 2025: 9th Sunday After Pentecost**
**Afterfeast of the Transfiguration**
Afterfeast of the Glorification of St Herman of Alaska

## This Week

*The Dormition Fast continues until this Friday, August 15.*

Sat Aug 9, 4:30pm – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sun Aug 10, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship

***August 15 is the Great Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God.***

Thurs Aug 14, 6:00om – Great Vespers w/ Litya
Fri Aug 15, 9:00am – Festal Divine Liturgy *with Blessing of Flowers & Herbs*

Sat Aug 16, 4:30pm – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sun Aug 17, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship

## Hymns of the Day

*Troparion for the Resurrection (Tone 8)*

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

*Troparion for Transfiguration (Tone 7)*

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, O Christ God, / revealing Thy glory to Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. / Let Thine everlasting Light shine upon us sinners, // through the prayers of the Theotokos; O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

*Troparion for the Glorification of St Herman (Tone 7)*

O joyful North Star of the Church of Christ, / guiding all men to the heavenly Kingdom, / teacher and apostle of the true faith, / intercessor and defender for

the oppressed, / adornment of the Orthodox Church in America: / blessed father Herman of Alaska, / pray to our Lord Jesus Christ // for the salvation of our souls!

*(Glory...) Kontakion for the Resurrection (Tone 8)*

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. / Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, // and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

*(Now & ever...) For the Transfiguration (Tone 7)*

On the mountain Thou wast transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they would behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world, // that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father!

## Today's Scripture

*Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17*

*Brethren:* We are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

*Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34*

*At that time,* Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary.

Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.

## Prayers

***For health of:*** Archbishop Nathaniel Popp, Archbishop Alexander Golitzin, Archbishop Benjamin, Mat. Myra Kovalak, Marcia Lutz, Bernard Kusior, Julia Jay, Nina Fatula. *Especially remember in prayer Rebecca Ream, who is acutely ill, together with her family (Dave, Jesika, and Justin).*

***The newly-departed:*** Apr. Paul Kucynda (7/9). Vera (Ressetar) Bortniak (7/21). All those departed in the attacks in Syria, and all victims of natural disasters. *Please also remember in prayer the newly-departed William, father-in-law of our parishioner Tiffany. May his memory be eternal!*

## Announcements

We were very blessed to celebrate a wonderful **patronal feast of St Herman** this past Friday and Saturday! We were especially grateful that our friends from other parishes in the Reading and Lancaster areas as well as across our deanery were able to join us. *Thank you* to Fr. Tim Hojnicki (and family), Fr Theodore Patrides, and Fr Emmanuel Maginas for coming. *Thank you so much* to everyone who helped with fellowship afterwards, especially Marie and Stephanie. Venerable father Herman, pray for us and continue to guide our parish! May we continue his missionary zeal here for years to come.

The **Dormition Fast** ends with the *Feast of the Dormition (falling-asleep) of the Mother of God* this coming Friday. This is one of the *four major fasting seasons* of the Liturgical Year. If you have not observed this fast before, perhaps this is a good time to begin, even with only a few days remaining. *We hope to see you this Thursday evening and Friday morning at the services to honor our Lady at the time of her repose and translation to heaven.*

*The Faith We Hold*

Just as Christ has both a divine and a human nature, so has the Church. On its human side the Church is susceptible to errors, weaknesses and failings, but it has consolation in the promise: “I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Mt 16:18) This means that though the storms of time may ravage the human substance of the Church, they will not destroy the Church. The Church will endure until the next period of God's rule over the world is ushered in, until the *parousia* or Second Coming of Christ.

– Abp Paul of Finland, *The Faith We Hold* (SVS Press, 1980), 16-17.

*Attendance*

Sun Jul 6 Liturgy: 27 adults, 2 children (Communion: 23 adults, 2 children)
Sun Jul 13 Liturgy: 22 adults, 2 children (Communion: 16 adults, 2 children)
Sun Jul 20 Liturgy: 23 adults, 2 children (Communion: 17 adults, 1 children)
Sun Jul 27 Liturgy: 20, 0 children (Communion: 15)
Sun Aug 3 Liturgy: 28 adults, 2 children (Communion: 15 adults, 2 children)

***Welcome*** to all visitors who have prayed and celebrated the Divine Liturgy with us this morning! We invite all of you downstairs for fellowship after the conclusion of the Liturgy. If you have any questions at all, please reach out to Fr. John at any time. *We hope to see you again!*

*Please note: In the Orthodox Church, the receiving of Holy Communion is the sign of one's full participation in the mystery of the Faith, and all Orthodox Christians should receive it frequently.*

*For this reason, Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive it (through prayer, fasting, and confession) and are at peace with each other. Those who partake of the Eucharist normally fast from food and drink in the morning before the Divine Liturgy, if they are able.*