



Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

306 W. Main Street Emmitsburg,
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<http://EntranceMission.org>

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Christ is Ascended: In Glory
June 1, 2025

Christ is Ascended! In Glory!

Glory. Doxa. Slava.

The central word of our lesson from chapter 17 of John. The High Priestly Prayer. Jesus prays that we may be One – united in our closeness, our relationship, our faith in the Father through Him, the son. It's interesting that the context of glory is not at all what we think about the word. Splendor, magnificence, wealth, beauty, power, awe-inspiring magnificence. His greatness, His overpowering wonder. Holiness that requires us to hide as Moses did within the cleft of the rock.

But that's not the way the word is used in our lesson. The glory of the Father is His humility, His abasement, His humiliation, His bowing inexplicably to His servants. We saw that played out in the Holy Eucharist Service of Great and Holy Thursday, when we remembered Him, What He had done and will do, how the Master bowed before His servants and washed their feet.

The glory of Jesus Christ is His self-giving, His serving, His Life totally for the well-being of others. And eventually, within the context of *Chronos*, time as one moment following another, it is a return to His Oneness with the Father, the source of all that is good and right and true.

This Sunday, the Sunday after the Ascension, is a striking reminder of Who He Is and How He Is and why He did what He did and does what He does. It is to fulfill the glory of the Father by drawing us to Himself, Whom to know is to know the Father.

Kindness, service, self-giving, ascetical self-discipline, reaching out to others to impart comfort, healing, aid; giving hope to those who see no hope; loving the unlovable and treating friend and enemy, relative and stranger, alike. To embody the charity and love that the Father pours out upon us. That is glory.

Doxa. Slava.

There is no gap between what we say here and remember here on a Sunday and how we are to live the rest of the week, Brothers and Sisters. Our great task and honor is to embody that kindness, that service, that self-giving, that ascetical self-discipline, that reaching out to others to impart comfort, healing, and aid; that kind of love that flows from faith to love the unlovable. That is what this Sunday reminds us of one short week before the glory of Father is poured out upon all flesh on the great Day of Pentecost!

Christ is Ascended! In glory!

Fr. Elias

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