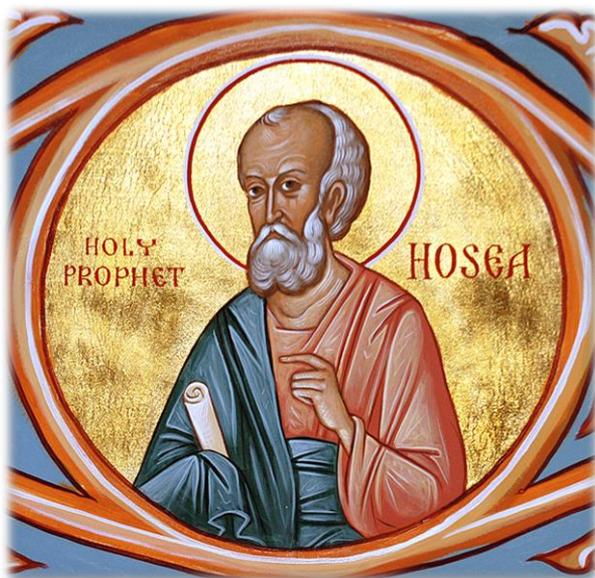


Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania + Wilkes-Barre Deanery

Elevation of the Holy Cross
Orthodox Church
Williamsport, PA.



Prophet Hosea
Monk-Martyr Andrew of Crete

17th Sunday After Pentecost

October 17th, 2021

Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church

1725 Holy Cross Ln
Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701-2749
www.holycrosswilliamsport.org

Rev. Fr. Seraphim Reynolds, Pastor
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Today's Scripture Readings:

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

Gospel: St. Luke 8:5-15

A very warm welcome to everyone, and especially to our visitors this morning! Please join us for some fellowship after in the Parish Hall!

Services, Events & Announcements

- + *Compline/Bible Study* – Wednesday October 20th @ 5:30pm
- + *Great Vespers* – Saturday October 23rd @ 4pm - *Parish Pig Roast following, sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Hall.*
- + *Divine Liturgy* - Sunday October 24th @ 10am (Hours @ 9:40), fellowship following in the Hall.
- + Giant gift cards are available! See Mat. Mary and help support the Parish!

Our Giving – October 10th, 2021

Tithes/Offerings - \$1,127.00

Online Giving - \$270.00

Candle Offerings – \$68.00 / Love Offerings - \$410.00

Regarding Holy Communion: Only those faithful who are Orthodox Christians and have **properly prepared themselves** by **fasting, prayer [i.e., Prayers Before Communion], recent confession**, and who were at least present for the reading of the Epistle and Gospel should approach to receive the Holy Eucharist. *We should all be at peace with each other too.*
If you have any questions about Communion, please see Fr. Seraphim. 😊

Holy Scripture and Holy Tradition

The Church's Holy Tradition is our guide to the Holy Scriptures

The Bible can only be understood through the interpretation of the Church, for the Holy Scriptures came forth from the Church. The reformers dumped the papacy only to replace that institution with themselves as the ultimate authority. Since reason and logic ruled, there was no room for the intuitive, noetic nature of the heart. Thus the interpretation of the Bible became a debatable subject between believers, ending in new denominations proliferating like rabbits.

The Bible is the written account of the first Christians experience with God and was a living, oral tradition inspired by the Holy Spirit, and put down in written form. To think that it is therefore open to personal interpretation, apart from the Church from which it sprang, is the cause of over thirty-five thousand different denominations today!

The Orthodox Church has kept the early teachings and liturgical traditions precisely because she has refused to interpret Scripture apart from that which was always taught. Her Divine services connect us to the early Church precisely because they are the same liturgical services used by the early Church.

Orthodoxy is increasingly becoming known in the West, and more and more people are being drawn to her. But we don't convert people to Orthodoxy by words and debate, but by the example of our lives. Judging others cannot be a part of our witness to the truth of Orthodoxy. Giving witness to the transformational power of the Church is what convicts others of the truth of our faith.

We must pray for our friends and loved ones who do not yet know Orthodoxy, yet we should also give thanks for those who know Jesus Christ. It is a joy to have God as our Father and an extra benefit to have the Church as our Mother. But lest we forget, it is of no value whatsoever to be Orthodox if we do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

*Love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon*

All Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA.

Prayers For the Health and Salvation of those in need: Many Years!

Priestmonk Ambrose (Young), Abbot Tryphon, Mitred-Archpriest Nicholas (Harris), Mitred-Archpriest Daniel & Mat. Myra (Kovalak), Pres. Eva (Koutroulelis), Mat. Seraphima (Hunter) and the child to be born of her, Helen Mayo, Paul Beard, Evelyn Chabal, Phoebe Davis, Michael Kuzmiak, Juliana Matusiak, Elizabeth Almasy & Benjamin Almasy

Prayers for the Newly Departed: Memory Eternal!

Mitred Archpriest Sergei Glagolev +9/1, Archpriest Anastasy Richter +9/5, Matushka Anisia Boldireff +9/1, & Emilia Klar +9/3

WEEKLY OFFERING: "WHERE AM I?"				
Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$37	\$30	\$15
\$1,000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1,500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2,000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40