

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON  
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DECEMBER 6, 2020

**PRESENTATION of the THEOTOKOS in the TEMPLE**  
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Epistle Readings**  
Ephesians 5:8-19  
Hebrews 9:1-7

**Gospel Readings**  
Luke 12:16-21  
Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

**CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST!  
HE IS AND EVER SHALL BE!**

**Troparion** (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!"

**Troparion for the Presentation of the Theotokos into the Temple**

Today is the prelude of the good will of God, of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. The Virgin appears in the temple of God, in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. Let us rejoice and sing to her: "Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation."

**Kontakion** (Resurrection)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: "Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!"

**Kontakion for the Presentation of the Theotokos into the Temple**

The most pure Temple of the Savior; the precious Chamber and Virgin; the sacred Treasure of the glory of God, is presented today to the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, therefore, the angels of God praise her: "Truly this woman is the abode of heaven."



**Icon of the Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple**

Left: Joachim & Anna with the 3year old Theotokos escorted by pious virgins.  
Right: The High Priest receives her into the Temple.  
Top Right: He places the Most Holy Virgin into the Holy of Holies.

**Welcome** to everyone praying with us today in person. Thank you for following our safety guidelines. May all who are in the Church and those livestreaming experience the great joy of the Divine Liturgy. Coffee Hour follows each gathering

**Nativity Fast and the Sacrament of Confession – Before January 7**

Fr. John: In preparing ourselves for Christ to be born within us during this season, all parishioners are encouraged to go to the Sacrament of Confession during the Nativity Fast. I can hear your Confession either in person or over the phone. It is by appointment only -- [john.vitko@gmail.com](mailto:john.vitko@gmail.com), 925-667-6451.

**St. Luke Stewardship and Building Fund**

The financial support of our members and guests is essential to our parish health and a great blessing in these challenging times. Thank you for your stewardship. Secure online donations can be made [By Credit Card or ACH Bank Transfer](#).

**Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, December 9 – Online at 7PM**

Everyone is welcome to join the discussion on "The Return of the Prodigal Son" with this week's focus on the Father. Fr. John will email notes and a Zoom link.

**Faith in Action Annual Christmas Outreach – Northern Virginia Family Services**

"Gifting for Families" welcomes our donations of new toys for needy children of all ages. [Donate](#) online through December 7 or order from Amazon and Target Wish lists for delivery to NVFS. The link also has information for check donations.