

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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FEBRUARY 14, 2021
THE MEETING OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE
THIRTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Epistle Reading
Hebrews 7:7-17

Gospel Reading
Luke 2:22-40

*Christ is in our midst!
He is and ever shall be!*

Troparion for the Meeting of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace! From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness! Rejoice, and be glad, O righteous elder; Thou didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the Resurrection.

Kontakion

By Thy nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of man!

Troparion for Zacchaeus Sunday

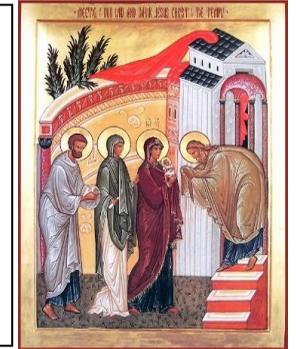
Thou didst treasure the wealth of salvation and hate unjust gains, O blessed Zacchaeus. When the Saviour came to thy house, thou didst bring forth the fruits of repentance: the righting of wrongs, protection of the poor, and a new, God-pleasing life.

Today's Feastday Hymn to the Theotokos

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians, protect, preserve, and save those who hope in thee! In the shadow and letter of the Law, let us the faithful discern a figure: every male [child] that opens the womb is holy to God. Therefore, we magnify the firstborn Word of the Father Who has no beginning, the Son firstborn of a Mother who had not known man.

The Meeting of Our Lord in the Temple

Before Christ was born, righteous men and women lived by faith in the promised Messiah, and awaited His coming. Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the last righteous people of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet the Savior in the Temple. Anna holds a scroll which reads, "This Child has established Heaven and earth." Simeon took the Child in his arms saying: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32).



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

Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, February 17 – Online at 7PM

Fr. John is leading the discussion of "Acquiring the Mind of Christ" by Abbott Sergius of St. Tikhon's Monastery. He will email a Zoom invite and chapter notes on "Monasticism: Ancient and Contemporary Values for a Timeless Tradition."

The Lenten Spring and Pascha

In addition to the Meeting of Our Lord, today is also Zacchaeus Sunday with its familiar teaching for both children and adults as it heralds the approaching Lenten season. Here is a comment from St. John Orthodox Church in Tri-Cities, WA: "This Sunday we learn that we are like Zacchæus himself: we strain on tip-toes to look over the busyness of our lives to see Christ, but we cannot, due to our short spiritual stature."

Sunday, February 21 Beginning of the 10-week Triodion
Monday, March 15 Great Lent begins
Sunday, April 25 Palm Sunday
Sunday, May 2 Holy Pascha (Easter)

Resource for Great Lent

Ancient Faith Publishing has released a new book, "Pilgrimage to Pascha: A Daily Devotional" by Fr. Steven Belonick. All royalties from the book will go toward the "Father Steven Belonick Seminarian Fund" of the OCA Diocese of New England to help fund the education of seminarians at both St. Vladimir's and St. Tikhon's. Order [here](#) to have in time for the start of Great Lent on March 15.