

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON  
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[www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org) [www.wdcoca.org](http://www.wdcoca.org) [www.stlukemclean.org](http://www.stlukemclean.org)  
ARCHPRIEST JOHN VITKO – 925-667-6451 (c), 703-893-1759 (Church office)

MARCH 28, 2021  
**ST. GREGORY PALAMAS**  
SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

**Epistle Readings**  
Hebrews 1:10-2:3  
Hebrews 7:26-8:2

**Gospel Readings**  
Mark 2:1-12  
John 10:9-16

*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** (St. Gregory Palamas)

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation, O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

**Kontakion** (St. Gregory Palamas)

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, together we sing thy praises, O God-inspired Gregory. Since thou now standest before the Original Mind, guide our minds to Him, O Father, so that we may sing to thee: “Rejoice, preacher of grace!”

**Kontakion** (Lenten Triodion)

Now is the time for action! Judgment is at the doors! So let us rise and fast, offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: “Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea; but forgive us, O Master of all, so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!”

St. Gregory (1296-1359) was a gifted well educated 20yr. old when he first went to Mt. Athos to undertake his spiritual struggles in ascetism. He lived in various monasteries developing his use of mental prayer (or prayer of the heart), solitude and quiet, known as “Hesychasm”. For many years he defended its relevance and truth against the criticism and heresy of a philosopher, Barlaam. He suffered persecution and imprisonment during the disputes, eventually writing a “Triad” and other texts which were accepted by three 14<sup>th</sup> century Church Councils vindicating him and Hesychasm. It was known as the second triumph of Orthodoxy. He was set free in 1347 and named bishop of Thessalonika. Read more [here](#).



**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

**Memory Eternal+**

We pray for the newly-departed Archpriest Basil Summer and long-time St. Luke member George Mihich, for Nelly Mudrezow on the 1st anniversary of her repose, and for Maureen, Amanda Costello’s mother, on her 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary. With the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of Thy servants. Večnaja Pamjat+

**St. Luke Annual Assembly - Sunday, March 28 at 3PM**

Our virtual annual meeting will be convened this afternoon at 3PM via Zoom. There will be a pastoral report from Fr. John and administrative reports from the Board of Trustees, the Audit Board, committees and ministries. A vote will be taken on a slate of candidates for one-year terms on the Board. The highlight will be the Building Campaign update. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

**Lenten Triodion Service Schedule**

Sundays in Lent 10:30AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great  
Wednesdays in Lent 7PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy; Fasting for the Eucharist begins after the midday meal  
Wednesday, April 7 7PM Vespertal Liturgy for the Feast of the Annunciation

**Sacrament of Confession**

Fr. John encourages us to prepare and come for Confession during Great Lent. Schedule an appointment with him: 925-667-6451 or [john.vitko@gmail.com](mailto:john.vitko@gmail.com).

**Holy Assumption Monastery Offering Free Downloads of Children’s Books**

The Holy Assumption Monastery in Calistoga, CA is offering free downloads of their children’s books in PDF format on the [Annunciation](#) and [Palm Sunday](#) [here](#).