

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
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OCTOBER 24, 2021  
**HOLY FATHERS OF THE 7<sup>th</sup> ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**  
EIGHTTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Epistle Readings**

II Corinthians 9:6-11  
Hebrews 13:7-16

**Gospel Readings**

Luke 7:11-16  
John 17:1-13

**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 Your most pure body, You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your Kingdom! Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!"

**Troparion** (Holy Fathers)

You are most glorious, O Christ our God! You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them You have guided us to the true Faith. O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

**Kontakion** (Resurrection)

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

**Kontakion** (Holy Fathers)

The Son who shone forth from the Father was ineffably born, two-fold in nature, of a woman. Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form, but depict it piously and revere it faithfully. Thus, keeping the True Faith, the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

**Kontakion** (St. Luke)

Let us praise the godly Luke: he is the true preacher of piety, the orator of ineffable mysteries and the star of the Church; for the Word, Who alone knows the hearts of men, chose him, together with wise Paul, to be a teacher of the gentiles!

The second Council of Nicaea is the seventh and last Ecumenical Council recognized by the Orthodox Church. It convened in 787 during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI. Patriarch Tarasios presided. It ended almost fifty years of iconoclast persecution and established the veneration of the holy icons as basic to the belief and spirituality of Christ's Church. As the Synaxarion says, "It was not simply the veneration of the holy images that the Fathers defended in these terms but, in fact, the very reality of the Incarnation of the Son of God."

Excerpt from OrthoChristian.com



**Welcome** to all guests with us today by livestream and in person as we celebrate the Divine Liturgy. Join us for light refreshments at Coffee Hour immediately following Liturgy. If you are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith and St. Luke parish life, feel free to talk with us and Fr. John. Come again for prayer, study and fellowship.

**The Church Working in Council**

The OCA [Holy Synod of Bishops](#) and [Metropolitan Council](#) gathered in Cleveland, OH for their regular Fall Sessions in person this past week. Also in attendance were Diocesan Chancellors, representatives from the three OCA Seminaries, and four Monastic Superiors. Although not unprecedented, an expanded joint meeting comprised of various leadership bodies in the Church has not taken place in decades. In addition to administrative affairs, discussions focused on vocations and the July 2022 20th All-American Council theme, "Becoming Vessels of Grace."

To learn more about this meeting and the conciliar work and process inherent to the very structure of the Orthodox Church in America, all the faithful are invited to hear His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon in an [Ancient Faith Live](#) interview with Archpriest Thomas Soroka. Four other participants were interviewed including our Popadija Kitty Vitko. (63 minutes)

**Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, October 27 at 7PM**

Plan to join this week's Zoom discussion of Elder Thaddeus' teaching "On the Spiritual Realm" from *Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives*. Fr. John will email the link and notes.

**Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke Patron Saint Day/Slava - Sunday, October 31**

We joyfully resume our annual Slava celebration even if with some Covid modifications. After the Divine Liturgy, the Slava Prayers and Cutting of the Kolach will take place with Mark and Maria Damjan and Family as the honored Kumovi (Hosts) for the day. A luncheon will follow with our Sisterhood's hospitality.

**God Grant You Many Years!**

May God bless Nicole Bidy on her 12<sup>th</sup> birthday and Mark and Maria Damjan on their 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Mnogaja ljeta! Grant, O Lord, a peaceful life, health, salvation and furtherance in all good things to Your servants, keep and preserve them for many years!