

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON  
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DECEMBER 5, 2021  
**ENTRANCE OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS  
INTO THE TEMPLE**

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Epistle Readings**

Ephesians 2:14-22  
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)

By Your Cross You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy. And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen, granting the world great mercy.

**Troparion** (Entrance of the Theotokos)

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)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: "The Savior has come to those in faith; enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

**Kontakion** (Entrance of the Theotokos)

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."

**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!

† Please schedule a time to meet with Fr. John for Confession during the Nativity Fast. †

**Icon of the Entrance of the Theotokos**

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



**Welcome** to all guests with us today in person and by livestream as we celebrate the Festal Divine Liturgy. Join us for Coffee Hour following Liturgy. If you are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith and St. Luke parish life, talk with Fr. John or any of us.

**Prison Ministry Clothing Drive**

Last Sunday's collection of men's and women's coats and outerwear was a great success. Louise Romanchak declared it a wonderful response as her car was packed full. She will make the delivery to OAR (Offender Aid & Restoration) that provides services to inmates who have completed their terms and are being released. "Thank you and God bless."

**Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, December 8 at 7PM on Zoom**

Join us this week when our class discusses a new book by Fr. Lawrence Farley, *The Gospel of St. Luke – Good News for the Poor*. Fr. John will email the link.

**Free Concert: Hymns of the Nativity – Friday, December 10 at 7:30PM**

A special choral performance will be livestreamed from St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary this Friday evening. The seminarians, conducted by Dr. Harrison Russin, will sing favorites in English and Slavonic from the Russian Orthodox choral tradition, hymns in Latin and German, Byzantine chant, contemporary compositions by American Orthodox composers, and traditional western Christmas carols. Register for the Free concert at:

<https://www.svots.edu/registration/hymns-of-the-nativity>

**Sisterhood Annual Holiday Bake Sale - Set-up Today for Saturday, Dec. 11, 9AM–2PM**

- The Holiday Bake Sale is this Saturday. Help is needed after Liturgy to arrange tables and tablecloths, chairs, signs and Christmas decorations. Please lend a hand.
- The Sisterhood's famous nutrolls, poppyseed rolls and other specialties will be available on Saturday. Parishioners are asked to donate their own home-baked goods and to invite friends to attend. Bake Sale Coordinator, Alexia Kalias, can answer any and all questions.
- Help will also be needed at 2PM on Saturday to rearrange the Hall for Sunday Liturgy.

**God Grant You Many Years! Mnogaja Ljeta!**

We send birthday greetings - across the miles - to Fr. Deacon Patrick Gariano.