

**:: The Life and Ministry of the Holy Apostle Luke ::**

*Adapted from [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)*

The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, was a native of Syrian Antioch, a companion of the holy Apostle Paul, and a physician enlightened in the Greek medical arts. Hearing about Christ, Luke arrived in Palestine and fervently accepted the preaching of salvation from the Lord Himself. As one of the Seventy Apostles, St Luke was sent by the Lord with the others to preach the Kingdom of Heaven during the Savior's earthly life (Luke 10:1-3). After the Resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Sts Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus.

Luke accompanied St Paul on his second missionary journey, and from that time they were inseparable. When Paul's coworkers had forsaken him, only Luke remained to assist him in his ministry (2 Tim. 4:10-11). After the martyric death of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul, St Luke left Rome to preach in Achaia, Libya, Egypt and the Thebaid. He ended his life by suffering martyrdom in the city of Thebes.

Tradition credits St Luke with painting the first icons of the Mother of God. ... St Luke's Gospel was written in the years 62-63 at Rome, under the guidance of the Apostle Paul. In the preliminary verses (1:1-3), St Luke precisely sets forth the purpose of his work. He proposes to record, in chronological order, everything known by Christians about Jesus Christ and His teachings. By doing this, he provided a firmer historical basis for Christian teaching (1:4). He carefully investigated the facts, and made generous use of the oral tradition of the Church and of what the All-Pure Virgin Mary Herself had told him (2:19, 51).

In St Luke's Gospel, the message of the salvation made possible by the Lord Jesus Christ, and the preaching of the Gospel, are of primary importance.

St Luke also wrote the Acts of the Holy Apostles at Rome around 62-63 A.D. The Book of Acts, which is a continuation of the four Gospels, speaks about the works and the fruits of the holy Apostles after the Ascension of the Savior. At the center of the narrative is the Council of the holy Apostles at Jerusalem in the year 51, a Church event of great significance, which resulted in the separation of Christianity from Judaism and its independent dissemination into the world (Acts 15:6-29). The theological focus of the Book of Acts is the coming of the Holy Spirit, Who will guide the Church "into all truth" John 16:13) until the Second Coming of Christ.

*Any announcements for the Sunday bulletin? Please submit by Friday each week to Fr. Andrew. If you do not receive the bulletin by email and would like to, let Father know.*



**St. George Orthodox Church  
of Spring Valley**

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**Sunday, October 18, 2015**

**Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke**

**Matins: 9:00 AM :: Deacon's Typika: 10:00 AM**

**Epistle Reader:** David Anderson

**Holy Bread/Coffee Hour:** Matthew and Nan McNatt

**Next Week's Holy Bread/Coffee Hour:** Mike Kasap

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 3):**

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

**Troparion for St. Luke (Tone 3):**

O holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, intercede with the merciful God, to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

**Troparion of St. George the Great Martyr (Tone 4):**

Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and succour of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among martyrs, the victory-clad George: Intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

**Kontakion for Ordinary Sundays (Tone 2):**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

St. George is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH  
The Right Reverend Bishop ANTHONY, Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest  
[www.antiochian.org](http://www.antiochian.org)

## Epistle and Gospel Readings

His voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians (4:5-11, 14-18)**

Brethren, conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone. Tychicus will tell you all about my affairs; he is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts, and with him Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place. Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, receive him), and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you. Give my greetings to the brethren at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. And say to Archippus, “See that you fulfill the ministry which you have received in the Lord.” I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my fetters. Grace be with you. Amen.

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (10:16-21)**

The Lord said, “He who hears you hears Me, and he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me.” The Seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Thy Name!” And Jesus said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” In that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the spirit and said, “I thank Thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou hast hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes; yea, Father, for such was Thy gracious will.”

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**“THE CHURCH IS LIKE NOAH’S ARK THAT WAS FULL OF BOTH CLEAN AND UNCLEAN ANIMALS. IT MUST HAVE HAD AN UNHOLY SMELL, AND YET IT WAS CARRYING EIGHT PERSONS TO SALVATION. THE WORLD TODAY IS TEARING UP THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF A GOOD SOCIETY, A GOOD FAMILY, A HAPPY, INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL LIFE. BUT THE CHURCH IS KEEPING THE NEGATIVES. AND WHEN THE MOMENT COMES WHEN THE WORLD WANTS A REPRINT, WE WILL HAVE THEM.”  
(ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN)**

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

*For a full calendar of events and services at St. George, see our website, [www.stgeorgeorthodox.org](http://www.stgeorgeorthodox.org).*

### Upcoming Events and Services:

- **Today:** Sunday school for kids, downstairs immediately after Holy Communion.
- **Today:** Parish Council meeting, upstairs in the church after Liturgy.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 21:** Evening Prayers and Bible study, 6pm. *Father Andrew will be available for Confession or Anointing.*
- **Saturday, Oct. 24:** Vespers, 6pm. *Father Andrew will be available for Confession or Anointing.*
- **Next Sunday, Oct. 25:** Matins, 9am and Divine Liturgy, 10am. Epistle Reader: Matthew McNatt. Holy Bread/Coffee Hour: Mike Kasap.

**Special thanks to Mary Majerus,** for donating a nice wooden shelf and an icon of our Lord Jesus as a youth, both to our Sunday School program.

**Seminary tray:** During the month of October, we take up a collection for our Antiochian seminarians. Please be generous, as you are able: many of our seminarians and their families make great sacrifices as they seek to become our future priests, deacons, chanters, and other kinds of church workers.

**Special Olympics:** In addition to the seminarians, our Archdiocese is also collecting this month for the Special Olympics program. This is one of the major outreach efforts of our wider Church, and is worthy of our full support.

**Building project:** The parish council is beginning discussions on the possibility of expanding our current building to accommodate our growing families and increasing attendance. More information will be made available in the coming weeks. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to talk with Father Andrew or with our building exploratory committee, Mark Kerasotes, Mike Kasap, and Matt Rowan.