ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA

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Welcome Home! We are glad you are with us today.
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October 18, 2026 – 20th Sunday After Pentecost. 4th Sunday of Luke.
Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke

Sat Oct 17, 4pm – Great Vespers & confessions
Sun Oct 18, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship. Parish Council Meeting.

Sat Oct 24, 4pm – Great Vespers & confessions
Sun Oct 25, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship. Inquirers' Fellowship after coffee hour (all visitors invited).

Sat Oct 31, 4pm – Great Vespers & confessions
Sun Nov 1, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship

Our Harvest Dinner is Sunday, November 8 (Sunday before the Nativity Fast).

Hymns of the Day

Troparion for the Resurrection (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death. / He has become the first born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted the world // great mercy.

Troparion for the Apostle Luke (Tone 5)

Let us praise with sacred songs the holy Apostle Luke, / the recorder of the joyous Gospel of Christ / and the scribe of the Acts of the Apostles; / for his writings are a testimony of the Church of Christ. / He is the physician of human weaknesses and infirmities. / He heals the wounds of our souls, // and constantly intercedes for our salvation.

Kontakion for the Resurrection (Tone 3)

On this day, Thou didst rise from the tomb, / O Merciful One, / leading us from the gates of death. / On this day, Adam exults as Eve rejoices.// With the

prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

(Glory) Kontakion for the Apostle Luke (Tone 2)

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, with the wise Paul, to be a teacher of the Gentiles!

(Now & ever) To the Mother of God (Tone 6)

Protection of Christians never failing, / Mediatress before the Creator, ever constant. / Do not despise the voice of prayer of sinners, / but in your goodness come to help us who faithfully call upon you. / Hasten to entreat, hurry to pray, O Theotokos, // interceding always for those who honor you.

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Brethren: I make known to you that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Gospel: Luke 8:5-15

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold."

...Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.'

"Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the

ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience." ... When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

The story of two feuding brothers, deacon Evagrius and priest Titus

There were two brothers in Christ – deacon Evagrius and priest Titus. They loved each other purely and sincerely, and all the other brothers were amazed by their unanimity and limitless love. But the devil, who is constantly looking for a victim, just like a wild lion, managed to break their friendship and make them hate each other. Their hatred was so strong, that they could not even look at each other. The brethren asked them to make peace many times, but Titus and Evagrius did not want to listen to them. And so they lived in that sinful darkness for a long time, and partook of the Holy Mysteries – Titus without asking for forgiveness, and Evagrius being furious.

Once, Titus was near death because of a serious sickness. He began to lament about his sin and sent one of the brothers for Evagrius to ask for forgiveness, "For heaven's sake, forgive me, brother, for my senseless hatred to you". However, Evagrius did not honor his request and cursed him even more. When the monks understood that Titus was dying, they decided to bring Evagrius to him by force. When the sick priest saw his friend, he fell down to his feet and said: "Father, bless me and forgive me!" Cold-hearted Evagrius answered: "I will never forgive him, neither in this life nor in the future one". And suddenly Evagrius wrested out of the monks' hands and fell on the floor. They wanted to help him to stand up, but he was already dead. And they could not lay his hands and close his mouth and eyes, as if his body was dead for a long time. At the same time Titus stood up, as if he had not been sick at all. Everyone present stood in fear: when one of them died, the other one became cured. With great sorrow, they buried Evagrius: his mouth remained open and his hands were stretched out.

Then they asked Titus: "How could that happen?" And he told them everything: "I saw the crying angels, who stepped back from me, and I saw the demons, which were happy to see my anger. And then I began to pray, as I wanted my brother to forgive me. When you brought him to me, I saw another angel – he was taking a fire spear in his arms. When Evagrius said he would not ever forgive me, that angel hit him with the spear, so that Evagrius fell down dead." When they heard that, the fear of God engulfed them, Who said once: "Forgive, and then you will be forgiven". As the Lord said: "Each person, who is angry with his own brother for nothing, will be tried".

If Evagrius will not find joy in his future life, then woe betide him, who was defeated by such a passion! You be careful as well, brother, and do not let the demon of anger corrupt you. One, who listens to him at least once, will be enslaved by him. You have to bow to the one, who quarrels with you, in order not to be defeated by the ungracious angel. May the Lord preserve you from anger. One of His apostles said: "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath".

– via *The Catalogue of Good Deeds*, St Elisabeth Convent

Prayers

The newly departed: Fr. Peter Bodnar (9/26). *Anniversaries:* Met. Theodosius (Lazor) (10/19/2020), Fr. Peter Telencio (10/15/2024), Fr. Andrew Diehl (10/15/2022), Fr. Dionysius (Dennis) Swencki (10/20/2024).

For health of: Abp. Nathaniel, Abp. Alexander, Abp. Benjamin, Apr. Thomas Edwards, Apr. James Weremedic, Dn Gregory Hubiak, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Mat. Katherine White, Pani Anna Marie Slovesko, Mat. Mary Reynolds, Mat. Alexandra Black, Bernard Kusior, Nina Fatula, Gloria Spitko, Philothea (Jessica) Sullivan & infant Lucas, Richard Kawood, Peggy Hay, Cindy Kauffman, Melissa Hinshaw, Vera Timko *(Mat. Anna Hughes' mother)*, Cheryl Terenchin.

Homebound, hospitals, nursing homes: Olga Frimenko, Gloria Spitko.

For our Catechumens: Brian Craig, Zaden Mershon, Sheridan Klippel, Christina Monarek.

For our diocese's seminarians and families: Subdeacon Jacob & Mariana Kurtz *(Luka, Noah, & Magdalena)*, Reader Alexander Koropsak, Nicholas & Abigail Sheridan *(Theodore)*.

Social Hour & Church Cleanup Schedule

	Social Hour	Church Clean-up
Sept 6	Tina Gurnavage & Marcia Lutz	Marie Drosdak & Traci Weinstein
Sept 13	Kathy Wanenchak & Stephanie Selis	Tina Gurnavage & Stephanie Drosdak
Sept 20	Elaine Dougherty & Karin Holm	John Lorchak & Phyllis Kawood
Sept 27	**Vicky McDonnell & Phyllis Kawood	Marie Drosdak & John Waselus
Oct 4	Peggy Hay & Traci Weinstein	Kyle & Daria Teter
Oct 11	**Christina Monarek & Natalya Borobina	Eugene & Kathy Wanenchak
Oct 18	Marie Drosdak & Stephanie Drosdak	Marie Drosdak & John Waselus
Oct 25	Karen Sichak & Becky Kauffman	Russ & Peggy Hay
Nov 1	Daria Teter & Marina Long	Brad & Becky Kauffman

Welcome to all visitors who have prayed and celebrated the Divine Liturgy with us this morning! We invite all of you downstairs for fellowship after the conclusion of the Liturgy. If you have any questions, please reach out to Fr. John at any time. *We love you and hope to see you again!*

In the Orthodox Church, the receiving of Holy Communion is the sign of one's full participation in the mystery of the Faith, and all Orthodox Christians should receive it frequently. For this reason, Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who are prepared to receive it (through prayer, fasting, and a recent confession) and are at peace with each other. Those who partake of the Eucharist normally fast from food and drink in the morning before the Divine Liturgy, as they are able.