



# ST. LUKE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*"The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." Acts 11:26*

722 Austin Ave., Erie, CO 80516 • Phone: 303-665-4013 • [www.stlukeorthodox.org](http://www.stlukeorthodox.org)

A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America under His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

## **Clergy**

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## **Welcome to Saint Luke Orthodox Church!**

We're delighted you're here for a visit. Please fill out a visitor card from an usher, and join us for potluck fellowship after the service. We invite all prepared Orthodox Christians to receive Holy Communion. All visitors, catechumens, or penitents may come forward for a blessing & receive the blessed bread from a priest. It's our custom here to welcome new visitors during announcements after Divine Liturgy. If you'd like to be recognized, when the time comes please stand so we know you're here. If you're feeling shy this morning, that's fine too!

## **Parish Council**

Peter Mustian, *Chairman*

Denise McIntyre, *Vice Chair, Choir*

Rob Bell, *Treasurer*

George Rabtzwow, *Secretary*

Betty Duran

Sh. Margaret Ashton, *Antiochian Women*

Steve Knudtsen

Darrin Morkunas

Frances Reda, *Church School*

Gene Roberts

Bee Sturgis

Elizabeth Thompson

☩ December 24, 2023 ☩

**Fourth Tone — Seventh Eothinon**

**Sunday before Nativity of Christ (Sunday of the Genealogy),  
Which Falls on Paramon (Eve) of Nativity of Christ**

*Venerable Martyr Eugenia of Rome and those with her*

**Orthros (8 am)**

**Resurrection Gospel** Eothinon 7 (John 20:1-10)

**Great Doxology (8:55am) - Tone 8** ..... Page 24

**Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (9 am)** *White Service Book - begins on* ..... Page 30

***During the Entrance with the Gospel:***

**Resurrection Apolytikion-Tone 4:** Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy ..... Chanters/All

***After the Entrance with the Gospel:***

**Resurrection Apolytikion-Tone 4:** (*see above*) ..... Chanters/All

**Apolytikion of the Sunday before the Nativity-Tone 2:** Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls ..... Chanters/All

**Apolytikion for the Eve of the Nativity - Tone 4:** As the fruit of David's seed, Mary was registered of old with the Elder Joseph in the little town of Bethlehem, when she conceived with a seedless and pure conception. Behold, the time was come that she should bear her Child, but no place was found within the inn for them; yet the cave proved a delightful palace for the pure Lady and Queen of all. For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforetime ..... Chanters/All

**Apolytikion of St. Luke:** Let us praise, etc. .... Choir/All

**Kontakion of Preparation of Christ's Nativity:** The virgin cometh today, to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word Eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth at the message with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him, Who shall appear by His own will as a young Child, He who is from eternity, God ..... Clergy

**Communion Hymns:** "Praise the Name of the Lord", and Byzantine Hymns ..... Choir/Chanters/All

**Veneration Hymns:** "Heaven and Earth" and Byzantine Hymns ..... Choir/Chanters/All

## ✠ Lectionary ✠

### **The Prokeimenon in Tone 4 (Psalm 104)**

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name unto the ages.

For righteous art Thou in all which Thou hast done for us.

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)**

**B**rethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

### **Alleluia Verses in Tone 4 (from Psalm 4)**

O God, we have heard with our ears.

The righteous cried and the Lord heard them.

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)**

**T**he book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim,

and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

## 🌹 Announcements 🌹

### ***Sunday School for Adults, Children and Youth***

No Sunday School today or next Sunday; See you January 7th.

### ***Adult Education Class Schedule Change***

There will be no class on December 21 and December 28. See you on January 4th at 10:30am.

### ***Christmas Flowers***

Please see the back of the bulletin for donors. Thank you for all for your generosity.

### ***Youth Opportunities in 2024***

- Interested in attending Winter Camp in January 12-15? Contact Mimi Sawaked: [mimisawaked@gmail.com](mailto:mimisawaked@gmail.com)
- Interested in attending Project Mexico next summer? Contact Matt Richardson: [cirrusio@pm.me](mailto:cirrusio@pm.me)
- Interested in attending Camp St. Raphael June 23-29 or Antiochian Village Camp July 14-26? Fr. Raphael is attending both camps. Registration for AV Camp opens on January 7. Contact [admin@stlukeorthodox.org](mailto:admin@stlukeorthodox.org)
- Interested in attending Rocky Mountain Orthodox Camp July 22-25. Contact Steve Knudtsen: [sknudtsen8@gmail.com](mailto:sknudtsen8@gmail.com)

### ***Caregiver Support Group***

As our population ages, more people are providing caregiving. While caregiving can have many rewards, it is also important to remember to care for yourself. A caregiver support group is a great way to receive support and learn about available resources from people who are going through similar experiences each day. If you have interest in this group, please call or email Debby Stephan (303-619-1941 or [debbyk323@icloud.com](mailto:debbyk323@icloud.com)) to sign up and receive additional information by January 14.

### ***Temple Cleaning & Usher Teams Need Volunteers***

The Temple Cleaning Team keeps our church clean and tidy. Please contact MaryDel Hiskey if you can help: mdhiskey@comcast.net

The Usher Team welcomes members, friends and guests every liturgy and special service. Please contact Kelly Hesse if you can help: hessefam9@gmail.com

### ***Alone for the Holidays?***

Let us know if want assistance making connections! admin@stlukeorthodox.org

### ***2024 Calendars Available in the Narthex***

### ***Hail Storm Expenses***

Donations requested to meet additional expenses due to the recent hail storm. Contribute with check or <https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/stlukeorthodox>. Please note in memo: "Hail Storm".

### ***Egypt Pilgrimage***

See Fr. David if you are interested in an Orthodox trip to Egypt, Feb. 21 - March 2 (7).

## **☪ Weekly Schedule ☪**

### **Sunday, December 24 (*Nativity Fast continues*)**

8:00 am Orthros

9:00 am Divine Liturgy, fasting potluck meal following

### **Sunday, December 24: The Feast of the Nativity of Christ**

7:00 pm Orthros

8:00 pm Divine Liturgy

### **December 25-29: Church offices closed**

### **Saturday, December 30**

4:00 pm Great Vespers

### **Sunday, December 31**

8:00 am Orthros

9:00 am Divine Liturgy, Memorial Prayers, Coffee Fellowship

### **Monday, January 1**

8:30 am Orthros

9:30 am Divine Liturgy; Vasilopita, Pastries & Coffee following

11:00 am Youth Council Meeting

# ☞ Stewardship Campaign 2024 ☞

“Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

## This Week's Stewards

Your friends below have made their commitment to God's work through St. Luke Orthodox church for 2024. Please join them by returning your own statement of intent today, keeping in mind that if your situation changes, you may alter or cancel your commitment anytime. God will bless you for your support of His work. Return your commitment by this Lord's Day and be listed among This week's stewards. This list reflects commitments received through December 21, 2023 (names listed in alphabetical order as they were submitted).

Deacon Aidan and Sh. Margaret Ashton	Carol Hynes	Frances Reda
Lydia Bailey	Theophanes John	Sasha Richardson
Michael Basham	Johanna Kasten	Gene and Gwen Roberts
Rob Bell	Stevan Kelly	Jake Roberts
Hierodeacon Mark Berge	Nadia Kuhlmann	Greg and Robin Rold
Deacon John Bourquin	Steve and Nancy Knudtsen	Mike and Rita Rosson
Marie Boyko LaGuardia	John Kuepper	Ken Rott
Christine Brady	Benjamin Kurtz	Ronda Sarris
Ronald Brotzman	Neil and Ellen Latanzi	Gary and Pam Seghieri
Anthony and Candice Cirbo	Larry Lofquist	Joanna Silosky
Fr. Daniel and Kh. Elfriede Daly	Denise and Jerry McIntyre	Edward Stanfield
Fr. Raphael and Kh. Zohreh Daly	Jessica McCrery	Michael and Debby Stephan
Irene Davis	Matt McCrery	Harold and Bee Sturgis
Betty and Roman Duran	Theresa Metzger	Kirk and Lisa Tatusko
Margaret Evans	Marcus Miers	Steve and Liz Thompson
Joe and Rose Faissal	John and Janet Milosovich	Archdeacon John and Sh. Denise Timby
Debra Ferriter	John Milosovich Jr.	Conner Toennis
Rosalind Frasca	Darrin and Kathryn Morkunas	Virginia Tschanz
John and Bethany Fu	Peter Mustian	Christine Twining
Marilyn Geerdes	Fr. David and Kh. Linda Mustian	Larry Tyler
Alex Gerthe	George and Loulou Najjar	Vasquez Family
Kevin Glasshoff	Debra Neeland	Denise Voris
Sierra Hailey	Joyce Neeland	Carol A. Wilson
Quinton Hennigh	Susan Nelson	Katriona Wolff
Kelly Hesse	Renee Newhouse	Alana and Joseph Worth
Marydel and Don Hiskey	Mitchell and Cathy Paxton	Lou and Michelle Zeman
Laith Hodi	David and Janelle Payne	
Michael Holeman	Olga Peyton	
	George Rabtzow	

## Stewardship Goals:

100 Pledges; \$600,000 in commitments

### ***Christmas Flower Donations***

Christ is Born. Glory to God in the Highest! Christmas flowers for the celebration of the nativity of Christ are given in thanksgiving for health and many blessings by Elsa Ghidei & Tzegai Negash; Mike & Rita Rosson; Frances Reda in thanksgiving for Bridger and Anabelle Ellwein, Rosalind Franscona in loving memory of parents, Joe & Jean and in gratitude for Dante. Michelle & Lou Zeman in memory of Jean & Joanne; Gary & Pam Seghieri in memory of Toula Speridon; Sue Nelson in memory of parents, Anthenette & Walter; Elaine Senko in memory of Anna & Michael Senko; Paul & Denise Voris in thanksgiving & in memory of Richardson & Voris relatives; Spencer & Yvonne Clark in memory of Bill & Verla Clark, Kenneth, Edna & Stanley Jorensen.