



Saint Luke Serbian Orthodox Church ✠ Српска Православна Црква Светог Луке

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Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. Let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shone forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free.

*From the Easter Sermon on St. John Chrysostom*

Dear St. Luke Parishioners,  
Dear brothers and sisters,

In one of the masterpieces of Christian thought and eloquence, the Easter Sermon of Saint John Chrysostom, we find a most magnificent description of Christ's Resurrection as the universal gift of God to the human race. Shortly, we will hear it once again and a sense of awe and gratitude to God for His self-sacrificial love will overwhelm us and we will sense the unifying power of Christ's Resurrection. In the Resurrection, we are all given the gift of eternal life and united as members of one sacred family into one holy nation of God.

Saint Paul even states that Christians, by virtue of baptism, have been incorporated into the "one body" of Christ (Ephesians 12:12). Thus, we all become members of one Sacred Body – each member contributing to the fullness of the body in gratitude to Christ's salvific gift of life eternal, which He granted to His members by virtue of His Resurrection.

At this Easter season, reflecting on our parish, I offer wholehearted thanks to our risen Lord for our wonderful and dedicated community. We are truly trying to live up to the sacred calling of becoming contributing members of Christ's body. Despite many difficulties and obstacles, we continue to strive to benefit God's church – one only ought to look to our Church Beautification project, and many other projects and events of our community, as a visible proof of these words.

Thus, offering a resounding praise of gratitude to God, I greet you with much appreciation at this most joyous feast of our Lord, calling on you to continue our endeavors in the unity of mind and heart to benefit our parish and community, and to deserve the high designation of being members of God's sacred body – His Church.

At Easter 2024

Your intercessor before the risen Lord,  
V. Rev. Vasilije Vranic, PhD  
*Episcopal Dean of Washington, DC*

CHRIST IS RISEN!  
INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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