

Tone 1 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:

“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Thy Kingdom!//

Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Tone 2 Troparion (Prophet Zephaniah)

We celebrate the memory
of Thy prophet Zephaniah, O Lord;
through him we beseech Thee://
“Save our souls!”

Tone 3 Troparion (St. Matthew)

From the tax desk you eagerly followed the call of Christ the master,
Who of His goodness, revealed Himself on earth to man.

You appear as a chosen apostle & eloquent proclaimer of the Gospel to
the universe!

Wherefore, we revere your honorable memory, O Divinely speaking
Matthew!

Pray to the merciful God that He will grant remission of sins to our souls.

Glory... Tone 1 Kontakion (Resurrection)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,
raising the world with Thyself.

Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished.

Adam exults, O Master!

Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee://

“Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Now and Ever... Tone 4 Kontakion (Prophet Zephaniah)

Thou hast been revealed by the Spirit of God to be brilliant, O Prophet
Zephaniah,

for thou didst proclaim the coming of God:

“Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!

Proclaim Him, O Jerusalem!//

Behold, your King is coming to save mankind!”

Confession: Now that we are in Advent, preparing to celebrate the Nativity of Christ, it is a traditional time to schedule a Confession to get in one's regular "spiritual check-up." Please do not hesitate to reach out to schedule a Confession, or if you have any questions about Confession.

St. Matthew Orthodox Church

607 Ravenswood Drive, Green Bay, WI 54302

www.smocgb.com



Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the Midwest



Rector: Father John Thetford

frjohnthetford@gmail.com

(920) 412-8974 (Cell)

pastor@smocgb.com

(920) 455-0744 (Church)

December 3, 2023

26th Sunday After Pentecost

Ephesians 5:9-19 (Epistle)

Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth, finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord!

Luke 18:18-27 (Gospel)

At that time, a certain ruler asked Jesus, saying, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’” And he said, “All these things I have kept from my youth.” So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” And those who heard it said, “Who then can be saved?” But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

Liturgical Schedule

Tuesday, December 5, 6:00 PM Vespers Divine Liturgy (St. Nicholas)
Wednesday, December 6, 6:00 PM Daily Vespers
Saturday, December 9, 5:00 PM Great Vespers
Sunday, December 10, 8:30 Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
Wednesday, December 13, 8:45 AM Akathist to St. Herman
Wednesday, December 13, 6:00 PM Daily Vespers
Saturday, December 16, 5:00 PM Great Vespers
Sunday, December 17, 8:30 Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
Sunday, December 17, 9:30 Hours, 9:50 Typika in Waupaca
Wednesday, December 20, 6:00 PM Compline (Forefeast of Christmas)
Saturday, December 23, 5:00 PM Great Vespers (Eve of Christmas Eve)
Sunday, December 24, 8:30 Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
(Christmas Eve)
Sunday, December 24, **4:30 PM Great Vespers (Christmas)**
Monday, December 25, **8:30 Matins, 9:30 Divine Liturgy (Christmas)**
Wednesday, December 27, NO Daily Vespers
Saturday, December 30, 5:00 PM Great Vespers
Sunday, December 31, 8:30 Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Adopt - A - Family

**** All donations needed on or before Sunday, December 10 ****

Once again we will be adopting a local family through the Salvation Army for Christmas. The Salvation Army works with the school system, local agencies and local organizations to identify the families in greatest need. Look for the sign up folder and sheets in Herrick Hall to join in. Questions? See Nana. Thank you for your support!

December - Ministry Team

Our focus this month is supporting House of Hope and the A&A Alexandrina Crisis Pregnancy Center. These two programs support homeless moms and mothers who are finding themselves in a crisis pregnancy situation. House of Hope cares for and supports young homeless moms by providing a safe, structured place to live. A&A supports women, men and their children with support in a time of a crisis pregnancy. A&A provides pregnancy testing and free ultrasounds. Both organizations provide counseling, support with material goods and referrals to other local agencies.

Help us support them this month by filling the laundry basket with items from their wish lists. (The list of suggested items will be on the Ministry Team table in Herrick Hall.)

Thank you for your faithful support as we continue to reach out to the vulnerable in our community.

Christmas Services: Looking forward to the weekend of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, which fall on a Sunday and a Monday this year, do your best to plan ahead to figure out which services you will be able to attend. While we remain committed to spending time to relax and enjoy the feast with our families, we must also not forget "the reason for the season!" There will be a service on December 23, two services on December 24, and service in the morning of December 25.

SMOC News and Events Schedule

- **Book Study/Bible Study** is meeting every **Tuesday at 10:30 am**.
- **Adult Education class** is meeting every **Wednesday** after Daily Vespers at **6:00 pm**.
- **Adult Choir Practice** will be **today, Sunday December 3**, and on **Sunday, December 10**.
- **On Sundays December 3, 10, and 17**, instead of regular Sunday School, the children will practice singing Christmas Carols. Then, **on Sunday, December 24, the children will perform a Christmas Carols concert at the end of Liturgy**. It will be great to have the kids there to sing together on Christmas Eve for our newborn Lord!
- **Friday, December 8: Lenten Cookie Workshop at 10 am in Herrick Hall:** there will be a Serbian almond vanilla cookie (lenten) baking class with Dorothy Olson held in the St. Matthew kitchen. Depending on the participation, there may be a light potluck as well. If you are interested and can attend, please email or call/text Dorothy Olson at 920-716-1099 or dolson421.do@gmail.com
- On **Saturday, December 9, from 3 pm - 4:45 pm**, all of the kids are invited to decorate the Church and hall for Christmas. Every kid will get the opportunity to make their own custom ornaments to hang on the trees, and to decorate the two trees, one in the nave of the church and one in the hall. There will also be hot chocolate, popcorn, and singing of Christmas Carols.
- **Parish Council** will be meeting via Zoom on **Tues., December 12 at 6:00 pm**. If you would like to attend as a guest, please let President, Paul Novak, know at paulnovak11@gmail.com
- This year a Christmas Tree will be in the nave of the Church. Placing a tree in the nave of the church is done in most Orthodox Churches during the holiday season. While the children will help to decorate this full size tree, we are also asking for donations of one christian-based ornament to help decorate the tree. You can drop off your ornament in Herrick Hall or bring it with you on December 9th and help us decorate the tree.
- If you are able, **please consider a monetary donation for flowers to decorate the church for Christmas**. Please indicate your donation on your check and/or giving envelope. Thank you for your generosity!

Church Cleaner.....

Julian - week of 12/3 for 12/10/23