

The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee who scrupulously observed the requirements of religion: he prayed, fasted, and contributed money to the Temple. These are very good things, and should be imitated by anyone who loves God. We who may not fulfill these requirements as well as the Pharisee did should not feel entitled to criticize him for being faithful. His sin was in looking down on the Publican and feeling justified because of his external religious observances.

The second man was a Publican, a tax-collector who was despised by the people. He, however, displayed humility, and this humility justified him before God (Luke 18:14).

The lesson to be learned is that we possess neither the Pharisee's religious piety, nor the Publican's repentance, through which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation.

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

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St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Port Townsend, WA



Sunday, February 9th, 2020

*Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee; Leavetaking of the
Meeting of the Lord in the Temple
34th Sunday after Pentecost*

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34th Sunday After Pentecost

Readings

Epistle 2 Timothy 3:10-15; Hebrews 7:7-17
Gospel Luke 18:10-14; Luke 2:22-40

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 1 Troparion (Feast)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, thou didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, //Who grants us the Resurrection!

Tone 4 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior: "Have mercy on us, //O only merciful One!"

Tone 1 Kontakion (Feast)

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb and didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, // O only Lover of Man!



This Week at St. Herman's

Sunday, February 9th - *Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee*

- 9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy
- Coffee Hour in the parish hall

Monday, February 10th- *Hieromartyr Haralambos*

- 6:30 PM - Daily Vespers for St. Blaise

Tuesday, February 11th- *Hieromartyr Blaise*

- 10:00 AM - WOCA Meeting at Holy Apostles Shoreline

Wednesday, February 12th- *St Meletius*

No Fast

- 6:45 AM - Coffee and books

Saturday, February 15th - *Apostle Onesimus of the 70*

- 6:00 PM - Jesus Prayer
- 6:30 PM - Great Vespers