

THE AKATHIST TO
THE HOLY HIERARCH LUKE THE CONFESSOR
ARCHBISHOP OF SIMFEROPOL & THE CRIMEA



For those facing surgery, for healing and physical health,
for fruitful soil, deliverance from famine, for those who
need hope, and for those who have lost their way

Kontakion 1

O chosen hierarch of the Orthodox Church and confessor, who shined in Russia in the land of Crimea like a radiant beacon, labored well and endured persecution for the name of Christ! Glorifying the Lord Who has glorified you and gave you to us as a new advocate and helper, we send up hymnody of laudation. As one who has great boldness before the Master of heaven and earth, free us from every sickness of soul and body, and strengthen us to stand well in Orthodoxy, that in compunction we may all cry out to you:

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Ikos 1

O all-glorious Luke, converser with the angels and instructor of men, like the Apostle and Evangelist Luke, whose namesake you are, you received the gift of healing the infirmities of men from God, undertaking many labors in the treatment of the diseases of your neighbors. And though clad in flesh, you paid no heed to the flesh, and by your good works glorified the heavenly Father. Wherefore, in thanksgiving we cry out to you with compunction:

Rejoice, from your youth you submitted your reason to the yoke of Christ!

Rejoice, you became the all-honored abode of the Holy Trinity!

Rejoice, you, in the words of the Lord, inherited the blessedness of the merciful!

Rejoice, you healed many of the sick by faith in Christ and God-given skill!

Rejoice, physician who took pity on those suffering bodily ailments!

Rejoice, healer of officers and soldiers in the time of battle!

Rejoice, guide of all physicians!

Rejoice, speedy helper for those amid sicknesses and sorrows!

Rejoice, confirmation of the Orthodox Church!
Rejoice, beacon of our land!
Rejoice, boast of the Crimean flock!
Rejoice, adornment of the city of Simferopol!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 2

Seeing in men, as in a mirror, the wisdom and glory of the Creator of all things while you were treating them, O divinely wise one, you offered yourself up to Him continually in the Spirit. With the light of your divine understanding illumine us also, that with you we may cry: **Alleluia!**
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 2

You enlightened your reason with divine teachings, O most glorious Luke, putting aside all carnal mindedness and with understanding you submitted your will to the Lord. Like the Apostles, who, hearing the words of Christ, "Come, follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men," left all and followed Him, you O holy one, hearing the Lord Jesus calling you to His ministry through His servant Archbishop Innocent of Tashkent, accepted straightway the priesthood in the Orthodox Church. Wherefore, blessing you as a divinely wise instructor, we cry out:

Rejoice, delight of your guardian angel!
Rejoice, for you never caused him grief!
Rejoice, you excelled in teaching and amazed the wise of this world!
Rejoice, you avoided those who committed iniquities!
Rejoice, you contemplated and proclaimed the wisdom of God!
Rejoice, golden-worded teacher of true theology!
Rejoice, observer of the traditions of the apostles!
Rejoice, lamp lit by God, dispelling the gloom of ungodliness!

Rejoice, star pointing to salvation!
Rejoice, zealot of Orthodoxy!
Rejoice, denouncer of those who cause division!
Rejoice, you thirsted for the commandments of the Lord!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 3

Even during this transitory life, O holy Luke, you received the gift of healing infirmities through the power of the grace of God, that all who earnestly have recourse to you may be vouchsafed the healing of sickness of body, and even more of soul, crying to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 3

Tirelessly caring for the salvation of the souls entrusted to you by God, O blessed Luke, like a shepherd you continually guided them to the soul-saving life by your words and your very deeds. Wherefore, accept from our fervor these praises of you:

Rejoice, you were full of divine understanding!
Rejoice, you were overshadowed by the grace of the Holy Spirit!
Rejoice, you imitated the poverty of Christ!
Rejoice, good shepherd who sought out those who had fallen away from the Orthodox Faith and went astray in the mountains of superstition!
Rejoice, laborer in the vineyard of Christ, who strengthens the children of God in the true Orthodox Faith!
Rejoice, shield defending piety!
Rejoice, unshakable foundation of Orthodoxy!
Rejoice, hard rock of faith!

Rejoice, denouncer and uprooter of soul-destroying unbelief and wickedly devised renovationism!
Rejoice, wise strengthener of those who struggle in spiritual work!
Rejoice, guide to a calm haven for those who are driven from the world!
Rejoice, for taking up your cross, you followed after Christ!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 4

Having within him a tempest of many thoughts, the servant of God was perplexed by what the Lord was saying to him when they deemed him worthy to be the bishop of the city of Tashkent; yet he committed himself wholly to Christ God, sending up thanks to Him for all things, and crying: "Blessed is God Who has revealed His grace in His hierarchs!" And he chanted to Him: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 4

The persecuted Orthodox Christians, hearing of the right fruitful virtues of your soul, O God-bearing Luke, beheld you in the hierarchal rank as a worthy vessel of the divine grace that heals all infirmities and fills that which is lacking; and they marvel at the wondrous providence of God for you, and offer you such goodly praises as these:

Rejoice, hierarch designated beforehand by the Lord Himself!
Rejoice, you in the title of your book predicted you would receive the episcopal rank!
Rejoice, adornment of hierarchs!
Rejoice, good pastor, for you were ready to lay down your life for your noetic sheep!
Rejoice, greatly radiant beacon of the Church!

Rejoice, you who shared in the tasks of the Apostles!
Rejoice, ornament of the confessors!
Rejoice, you put aside all care for yourself!
Rejoice, assuager of sorrows!
Rejoice, you mourned the ignorance of the people!
Rejoice, you with right doctrine catechized those seeking salvation!
Rejoice, by your way of life you did not put this teaching to shame!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 5

Preserving from everlasting death those redeemed by the divinely shed Blood, O holy hierarch Luke, when with the blessing of the holy Patriarch Tikhon you received the episcopal rank from Orthodox bishops in a time of dread persecution. You fulfilled well the task of evangelist, reproving, denouncing, entreating with teachings and longsuffering, chanting to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 5

The ranks of the angels beheld your great struggles, when, following the commandment of the Lord, “Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” You without complaint endured imprisonment and exile to Siberia for the name of the Lord and the Holy Church of Christ, working out your salvation with great patience, and by your example edifying the souls of the faithful. And fervently venerating you with love, we honor you with such praises as these:

Rejoice, lamp set upon the lampstand of the Church!
Rejoice, for the words of the Scriptures, "Love is long-suffering," were justified in you!
Rejoice, you did not allow the faithful to defend you!
Rejoice, you yielded to the authorities and voluntarily gave yourself into the hands of soldiers at night!
Rejoice, you were belittled by the minions of unjust judges!
Rejoice, you went to prison with humility and without murmuring!
Rejoice, for your righteousness, you were driven from Tashkent which you governed!
Rejoice, you were lamented by your flock!
Rejoice, you were wounded and buffeted for the love of the crucified Lord!
Rejoice, you shut the mouths of lying infidels!
Rejoice, you even in exile with a righteous mouth uttered heavenly truths!
Rejoice, for in the heavens the martyrs rejoice in your forbearance!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 6

Even in prison you were a constant preacher of the mystery of the All-holy, consubstantial and indivisible Trinity, enduring hunger, the cold of a northern land and the cruelty of the minions of the godless in the cities of your Siberian banishment. Wherefore, the Church of Crimea proclaimed the mighty works of God revealed in you, O holy hierarch Luke, for you received the gift of healing infirmities of soul and body even in the land of exile, that we all may with one heart and one mouth send up to God the hymn: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 6

You shone forth like a star of radiant splendor upon the flock of Krasnoyarsk and Tambov, illumining the souls of the faithful and dispelling the darkness of impiety and ungodliness. And the words of Christ, “Blessed are you when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for My sake,” were fulfilled in you. But you, who were driven from city to city and endured slander, diligently carried out your arch pastoral ministry, and with the sweetness of your writings has nurtured all who hunger and thirst for righteousness, who cry out to you in thanksgiving:

Rejoice, O guide who directs all to heaven!
Rejoice, true zealot of the glory of God!
Rejoice, invincible warrior of Christ!
Rejoice, you endured prison and beatings for Christ the Lord!
Rejoice, true imitator of His humility!
Rejoice, dwelling place of the Holy Spirit!
Rejoice, you with the wise have entered into the joy of your Lord!
Rejoice, denouncer of avarice!
Rejoice, you showed the perniciousness of vainglory!
Rejoice, you called the iniquitous to repentance!
Rejoice, you by whom Satan was put to shame!
Rejoice, you by whom Christ has been glorified!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 7

Desiring to complete worthily the struggle assigned to you by God, you put on the full armor of God and stood forth to do battle against the mighty rulers of this age and the spirits of wickedness in high places. Having girded your loins with the truth and donned the breastplate of

righteousness, you quenched all the arrows of the evil one, O confessor Luke, chanting to God the Creator: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 7

A new persecution rose up iniquitous and ungodly men against the Orthodox Church, and they banished you to the depths of the distant northern forests, O holy hierarch Luke. Near to death by the hand of God you were preserved, and with the Apostle Paul cried out, "To this present hour we hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and suffer, and have no certain dwelling place; being persecuted, we suffer it; we are made as the filth of the world, the off scouring of all things to this day." Therefore, knowing such things, we bless you:

Rejoice, blessed confessor of Christ!

Rejoice, you endured grievous cold!

Rejoice, you, near death, were preserved by the Lord!

Rejoice, you demonstrated complete self-denial!

Rejoice, you betrothed your soul to Christ the Bridegroom!

Rejoice, you held in your mind's eye, Christ crucified on the Cross!

Rejoice, you remained without tiring in vigils and prayers!

Rejoice, true lover of the consubstantial Trinity!

Rejoice, speedy unmercenary physician of every disease!

Rejoice, treater of rheumatic pains and malignancies!

Rejoice, you restored to health infected bones and wounds deemed incurable!

Rejoice, for by your faith and medical labors you healed the paralyzed!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 8

As a sojourner in this earthly valley, you provided an example of patience, temperance and purity, O confessor Luke. You showed forth evangelical love when your native land stood in peril of foreign invasion and labored in hospitals day and night. You healed the illnesses and wounds of many officers and soldiers of your earthly homeland by your love and refusal to remember wrongs. Amazing all who had caused you trials, you brought many to Christ and to chant to Him: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 8

Filled with the love of Christ, O kind-hearted Luke, you laid down your life for your friends. You were like a guardian angel for those near and far, subduing the malicious, reconciling those at enmity, and arranging the salvation of all. Wherefore, mindful of your labors for the good of the people of your native land, in thanksgiving we cry out to you:

Rejoice, you showed wondrous love for your earthly homeland!
Rejoice, teacher of humility and guilelessness!
Rejoice, you courageously endured persecution and cruel tortures!
Rejoice, you suffered torment for Christ!
Rejoice, you steadfastly confessed Him!
Rejoice, you vanquished the malice of enemies by the love of Christ!
Rejoice, kind-hearted father, who sought the salvation of many!
Rejoice, you were tempted by great tribulations!
Rejoice, amid persecutions, you showed wondrous endurance!
Rejoice, you entreated the Lord for physicians!
Rejoice, you whose love triumphed over all enmity!
Rejoice, you whose guilelessness subdued hardened hearts!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 9

Like Saint Paul, you were all things to all men, that you might save some, O holy hierarch Luke, with many labors carrying out the arch pastoral struggle in the region of Tambov. Restoring and building churches and strictly observing the canons of the holy Fathers, you did not cease to serve the salvation of your flock, chanting to God in purity: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 9

Human orators are unable to describe the multitude of your benefactions you made when you appeared in the Crimean land as a solicitous father, O holy hierarch Luke. Your generous right hand extended to every place and desiring to imitate your kind-heartedness, we cry out to you in amazement:

Rejoice, ray of the love of God!

Rejoice, inexhaustible treasury of the loving kindness of the Savior!

Rejoice, you distributed all that you had to those who had nothing!

Rejoice, you loved your neighbor more than yourself!

Rejoice, feeder and nurturer of motherless orphans!

Rejoice, you cared for helpless elderly men and women!

Rejoice, you visited the sick and those in prison!

Rejoice, you anticipated the needs of the indigent in diverse corners of your native land!

Rejoice, mindful of the poor, you provided meals for them!

Rejoice, you appeared as an angelic comforter to those who found themselves amid bitter trials!

Rejoice, earthly angel and heavenly man!

Rejoice, the Mother of God rejoiced over the depths of your loving kindness!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 10

Over the course of many years you never ceased to minister to the salvation of your Crimean flock and following the example of Christ, the Chief Shepherd, you took upon your shoulders lost human nature and bore it to God the Father. Comforting with loving kindness and by your instructive words you led many to correct their lives, that they many chant to God with a pure heart: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 10

As a faithful servant of Christ God, the King of heaven, O holy hierarch Luke, you tirelessly proclaimed the word of truth in all the churches of our Crimean land. Through soul-saving poverty and instructing your faithful children in the teaching of the Gospels, you strictly charged them to observe the canons of the Church. Wherefore, we glorify you as a good shepherd:

Rejoice, tireless preacher of the truths of the Gospel!

Rejoice, you tended well the flock entrusted to you by God!

Rejoice, you protected your noetic sheep from soul-destroying wolves!

Rejoice, strict maintainer of the order of the Church!

Rejoice, preserver of the purity of the Orthodox Faith!

Rejoice, through you the Holy Spirit wrote words of salvation!

Rejoice, you revealed to us the mysteries of theology in spirit, soul and body!

Rejoice, your discourse was clothed in the mystery of faith as in a golden raiment!

Rejoice, bolt of lightning striking down pride!

Rejoice, clap of thunder frightening those who live iniquitously!

Rejoice, planter of piety in the Church!

Rejoice, arch pastor, teacher, and constant instructor of spiritual pastors!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 11

In the days of your blessed repose hymnody never ceased by your grave, O favorite of God. Many knew you to be an angelic God-bearer, they assembled from all parts of your earthly motherland. Praying for your soul which was taken up to the lofty mansions of the heavenly homeland, they raised a hymn, chanting to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 11

You are a candle in the Church of Christ, burning with the immaterial light of the grace of God, O holy hierarch Luke, illumining all the ends of the Russian lands. And when the time of your departure arrived, the angels of God received your holy soul and bore it up into the mansions of heaven. Wherefore, remembering your blessed repose, your passage to the heavens, and your glorification on earth, with joy we offer you these praises:

Rejoice, inextinguishable lamp of the never-waning Light!
Rejoice, beacon shining with the uncreated Light of grace!
Rejoice, many came to glorify the heavenly Father through your good works!
Rejoice, the light of your good deeds shined before men!
Rejoice, favorite of God, who finished the course of piety!
Rejoice, you acquired faith, hope and love from the Lord!
Rejoice, you are forever united with Christ!
Rejoice, inheritor of the kingdom of heaven and glory eternal!

Rejoice, hierarch filled with gifts of grace by Christ, the eternal High Priest!

Rejoice, speedy helper of those who call upon you!

Rejoice, new lamp and confirmation of the Crimean land!

Rejoice, gracious protector of the Christian race!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 12

Recognizing the grace given to you from above, with reverence we kiss the precious face of your image, O holy hierarch Luke, hoping to receive through you what we ask of God. Wherefore, falling down before your holy icon, with compunction we entreat you: Strengthen us to stand well in the Orthodox Faith, pleasing God with good deeds and chanting without ceasing: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 12

Hymning God, Who is wondrous in His saints, we praise you, the confessor of Christ, holy hierarch and intercessor before the Lord. Though you are now in the heights of heaven, you never forsake those below. O holy hierarch Luke, you reign always with Christ and mediate for us sinners before the throne of God. Wherefore, in compunction we cry out to you:

Rejoice, you behold unapproachable light!

Rejoice, you rejoice with angels and men find joy in you!

Rejoice, you taught the commandments of Christ and kept them!

Rejoice, you are shown to be worthy of the kingdom of heaven!

Rejoice, by the path of confession, you attained the abodes of paradise!

Rejoice, you tread the straight and narrow way to the kingdom on high!

Rejoice, you endured mockery for Christ's sake and received eternal glory with Him!

Rejoice, you guide our souls to the heavenly realm!

Rejoice, intercessor for us sinners before the throne of God!

Rejoice, boast of Orthodoxy and joy of our land!

Rejoice, you are accounted worthy to be in the company of the saints!

Rejoice, you are numbered among the council of all the saints of Crimea!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

**Kontakion 13
(To be read three times)**

O great and all-glorious favorite of God, holy hierarch Luke our father! Accept this hymnody of praise from us, the unworthy, for we offer it to you with filial love. By your intercessions and supplications at the throne of God, establish us all in the Orthodox Faith with good works. From all misfortunes, tribulations, sickness and perils, preserve us in this life and deliver us from torments in the age to come. And vouchsafe us in life everlasting, with you and all the saints that we may chant to our Creator: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!)**

Ikos 1

O all-glorious Luke, converser with the angels and instructor of men, like the Apostle and Evangelist Luke, whose namesake you are, you received the gift of healing the infirmities of men from God, undertaking many labors in the treatment of the diseases of your neighbors. And though clad in flesh, you paid no heed to the flesh, and by your good works glorified the heavenly Father. Wherefore, in thanksgiving we cry out to you with compunction:

Rejoice, from your youth you submitted your reason to the yoke of Christ!
Rejoice, you became the all-honored abode of the Holy Trinity!
Rejoice, you, in the words of the Lord, inherited the blessedness of the merciful!
Rejoice, you healed many of the sick by faith in Christ and God-given skill!
Rejoice, physician who took pity on those suffering bodily ailments!
Rejoice, healer of officers and soldiers in the time of battle!
Rejoice, guide of all physicians!
Rejoice, speedy helper for those amid sicknesses and sorrows!
Rejoice, confirmation of the Orthodox Church!
Rejoice, beacon of our land!
Rejoice, boast of the Crimean flock!
Rejoice, adornment of the city of Simferopol!

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Kontakion 1

O chosen hierarch of the Orthodox Church and confessor, who shined in Russia in the land of Crimea like a radiant beacon, labored well and endured persecution for the name of Christ! Glorifying the Lord Who has glorified you and gave you to us as a new advocate and helper, we send up hymnody of laudation. As one who has great boldness before the Master of heaven and earth, free us from every sickness of soul and body, and strengthen us to stand well in Orthodoxy, that in compunction we may all cry out to you:

Rejoice, O Luke, holy hierarch and confessor of Crimea, good and merciful physician!

Prayer to St. Luke for the sick

O most blessed confessor, holy hierarch Luke our father, great favorite of Christ! Bending the knees of our hearts with compunction and falling before your precious icon, we pray most earnestly to you as a child does to its father. Listen to us sinners and bear our prayers to the merciful God Who loves mankind, before Whom you now stand in the joy of the saints and with the choirs of the angels. For we believe you love us as much as you loved your neighbor during your sojourn on earth.

Beseech Christ our God to make us firm in His Holy Orthodox Faith and in piety to grant our pastors holy zeal and care for the salvation of the people entrusted to them. Preserve believers and strengthen those weak and feeble in faith, instruct the ignorant, and rebuke the contrary. Grant to each the gift best suited to him and all things necessary in this transitory life which will lead to eternal salvation. To our cities, fruitfulness of the soil, and deliverance from famine and plague; to the sorrowful, consolation; to the sick, healing; to the erring, return to the path of truth; to parents, blessings; to children, an upbringing in the fear of the Lord; to orphans and paupers, aid and assistance.

Grant your arch pastoral and holy blessings to us all, that sheltered by you, we may be delivered from the snares of the evil one and may avoid all enmity and disorders, heresies and schisms.

Grant that we may pass through the arena of this transitory life in a God-pleasing manner, guide us to the path which leads to the habitation of the righteous and deliver us from the aerial toll-

houses. O holy hierarch, Luke, you are the steady hope of the sick and troubled, do not neglect to grant our brother/sister (*name*) healing and all good things, that we might with you glorify the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the one Godhead and Kingdom, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

*Glorifying God Through His Light
50 Hour Prayer Vigil*

Prayer from Three Hierarchs Publishing
Prepared, edited, and provided by
50 Hour Prayer Committee
520-903-8857