Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

welcome home

Sunday, October 4, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Week of October 4 - October 9

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Church School and Chapel
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Worship Service (Church)
11:15 a.m. Give the Gift of Sight Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)
11:15 a.m. Lector and Eucharistic Minister Training (Church)
11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
3:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals (Front Lawn)
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class (Parish Hall / Courtyard)

Monday

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Zoom*)

Tuesday

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
12:00 p.m. Before Lunch Book Talk (Garden Room)

Wednesday

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
12:00 p.m. Midweek Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
7:00 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting (Conference Room)

Thursday

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
10:00 a.m. Needlecrafters (Parish Hall)
5:30 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting (Conference Room)

Friday

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Zoom*)

Morning Prayer is offered on Zoom only, Monday through Friday, at 8:30 a.m.
Questions? Contact Jim Alimena at jim.alimena@gmail.com
**Morning Prayer Zoom - Meeting ID: 858 4728 7483 Password: Morning*

Welcome

Families with Young Children Welcome!

Quiet activity "pew bags" and children's worship materials are available outside the Narthex. A staffed nursery for infants through age 3 is open upstairs (second floor). Changing tables are in all restrooms. The nursery attendant is Akshara Puli.

Baptism

The upcoming baptism dates are November 15, January 10, and February 7. If you are interested in baptism for yourself or a child, please contact Rev. Andy for more information.

Parish Office Hours

Office hours are 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Monday–Friday. Stephanie or Grace will be in the office during those hours.

Upcoming Events

Give the Gift of Sight
St. Elizabeth's 11th grader, Shivani Heltzel, will be hosting coffee hour TODAY and giving a presentation about her Girl Scout Gold Award project to help people who don't have access to proper eyeglasses. Her project will be collecting used prescription glasses and there will be a donation bin at St. Elizabeth's from 10/4-11/29. Any donations are greatly appreciated!

Lector and Eucharistic Minister Training
TODAY following Sunday worship in the Church.
If you have any questions about Lector Training, contact Catherine Outten Olivo. If you have questions about or interest in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, contact Rev. Andy.

Blessing of the Animals
TODAY at 3 p.m.
St. Elizabeth's Front Lawn
Bring clean bath towels, sheets, or blankets to donate to a rescue shelter.

Before Lunch Book Talk
Tuesday, October 6, at noon in the Garden Room and on 12:00 p.m. The group will be discussing *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk: A Novel of Chinese Immigration to the Pacific Northwest (Inspired by True Events)* by Kelli Estes followed by lunch (bring your own).
Meeting ID: 823 8050 3238
Passcode: Book

Midweek Holy Eucharist
Resumes on Wednesday, October 7, at 12:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

Parish Office Closed
Monday, October 12 for Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day

Blessing Shelf
Please bring snack sized bags of chips and new and used (in great condition) Halloween costumes and coloring supplies. Collection will be from September 21-October 18.

Serve Together Ministry Fair
Sunday, October 18 following 10am Worship. Save the date!

Blessing of the Costumes and the Holy Ghost Weenie Roast
Sunday, October 25 at 10am

Church School 2026-2027

Registration is open on our website! Class leaders are still needed, so please consider growing in faith alongside your children. All materials and lessons are provided. Class will not happen without two adult leaders in each class. Contact Beth for more information at bvanemburgh@stesridgewood.org.

The Order of Service

The Call to Worship

Prelude *Impromptu in Gb Major, Op. 90, No. 3* *Franz Schubert (1797-1828)*

The Prelude is the first act of worship and sets the tone for all that follows. You are invited to pause from the busyness of life and connect with God during this sacred time.

Opening Hymn 372 "Praise to the living God!"

The Opening Acclamation *BCP 355*
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity *BCP 355*

Gloria, Hymnal S-280

The Collect *BCP 234*
Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson *Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20*
Then God spoke all these words:
I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.
You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.
Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.
Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
7 The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
8 The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
9 The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.
11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.
14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

The Second Lesson *Philippians 3:4b-14*

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.
Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 456 "O Love of God, how strong and true" *Verses 1-2*

The Gospel *Matthew 21:33-46*

Response before the Gospel: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do

to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."
Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."
When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Response after the Gospel: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Hymn 456 "O Love of God, how strong and true" *Verses 3-4*

The Homily *The Rev. Andy Olivo*

The Nicene Creed *BCP 358*

The Prayers of the People, Form VI *BCP 392*

The Absolution *BCP 360*

The Peace *BCP 360*

Announcements

The Holy Communion

An offering is taken at this time. You may place your offering in the plate as it is passed or use the QR code to donate securely online.

The Offertory *The Creation (1798) Hob. XXI:2* *Franz Joseph Haydn*
The Heavens are Telling *(1732-1809)*
Libretto by Gottfried van Sweiten (1733-1803)
Soloists Trio: Gabriel; Anastasia Swope, Uriel; Jeffrey Castellano
Raphael; Daniel Peretto

Chorus:
The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament;

Trio:
Today that is coming speaks it the day,
The night that is gone to following night.

Chorus:
The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament;

Trio:
In all the lands resounds the word,
never unperceived, ever understood.

Chorus:
The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament.

Doxology, Hymnal 380, stanza 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.
People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

Eucharistic Prayer A *BCP 361*

Proper Preface of God the Son *BCP 377*

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Sanctus, Hymnal S-129

The congregation may remain standing or kneel after the singing of the Sanctus.

The Lord's Prayer *BCP 364*

The Breaking of the Bread

The Prayer of Humble Access *BCP 337*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Agnus Dei, Hymnal S-163

Sung while the clergy prepare the Communion vessels.

The Administration of Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to receive the consecrated bread and wine at St. Elizabeth's. Those who are not baptized, or those who do not wish to receive Communion, are invited to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest when you come forward. Gluten-free hosts (bread) are available upon request. When directed by the ushers, the congregation is invited to receive the Eucharist at the altar rail or at the station on the floor. After you receive Communion, return to your pew via the side aisles. If you need Communion brought to you, please let the ushers know.

Music at Communion

Hymn 474 "When I survey the wondrous cross"
Hymn 336 "Come with us, O blessed Jesus"

Post Communion Prayer *BCP 365*

The Blessing *BCP 366*

Hymn 525 "The Church's one foundation"

The Dismissal *BCP 366*

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Pastorale in F Major, BWV 590* *Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

Participants in the Service

Crucifer: David Barrand
Torchbearers: Lucas MacLaren
Lectors: Catherine Outten Olivo, Peter Jordan
Eucharistic Ministers: Debra Anderson, David Barrand, Catherine Carter
Ushers: Steve Gorey, David Jones
Altar Guild: Debra Anderson, Gigo Lee-Taylor, Sue Reid
Coffee Hour: Shivani Heltzel
Nursery Attendant: Akshara Puli
Livestream Guild: Matthew Hoffman

Is giving a spiritual practice? How is it connected to my faith?

Giving is a deeply scriptural and spiritual practice, rooted in our most ancient traditions. Scripture reminds us to give freely (Matthew 10:8); and to do good and share with others (Hebrews 13:16); and that even the smallest gifts matter (Luke 21:1 4). Our traditions remind us that giving alms, giving as we have received, is a part of our commitment to our community of faith and our neighbors.

As with any spiritual practice, it needs - practice! The more we imagine ways to share what we have learned, acquired, received, and understood with our church and the world, the more deeply connected to the original gift of Creation we become.

What is a pledge?

Your pledge is an act of love and hope for your congregation. It's a vote of support for the ministry that you offer to your fellow members and your neighbors. It is a way to support the long-term goals and physical needs of your church while supporting your members in the pastoral needs that they have now. Your pledge, or promise, is a commitment to give time, talent, and treasure to your congregation in the year to come.

Use the QR Code to pledge online.

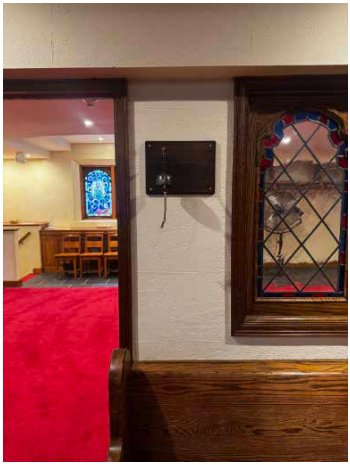
A Word from the Rector: A New Bell for St. E's

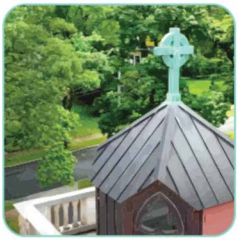
Our collection of bells recently grew a bit more at St. Elizabeth's. A new bell now hangs inside the sanctuary at the west end of the nave—that is, at the back of the church near the center doors leading into the narthex. It is called a Sanctuary Bell, and while it is much smaller than the other bells we have, it is still important. Its purpose is to get our attention and let us know that something holy is about to happen: our worship of God.

The Sanctuary Bell allows the ministers to alert the congregation that the service is beginning, and so you will hear it just before the opening procession and hymn on Sunday mornings. It is also helpful on those occasions when a silent procession into the sanctuary takes place: the ringing of the bell will be the signal to stand. Lastly, the Sanctuary Bell gives the ministers preparing to process in a way to signal to those at the front of the church—in particular, the Organist—that everyone is present and ready to go. If you were in church on September 20th, you were likely surprised by its sound, but over time we will all get used to its presence in our weekly worship.

A few more words about this particular bell that now hangs in our church: For several years, I had been looking for a Sanctuary Bell for St. E's, and this past summer I finally found one. Our bell is cast bronze and was made at a small foundry called U.S. Bells in Prospect Harbor, Maine. When I heard it ring, I thought it sounded lovely. But when the bell-founder told me that he calls this type of bell a "dinner bell," I knew it was the right one for us. Just as a family might use a bell like this to let everyone know that dinner is ready, we will use this bell to tell our parish family that God welcomes us all at his table for the Lord's Supper.

The opening words of Psalm 122:1 are *Laetatus sum*, which is Latin for "I was glad." The full verse is one that many of us know well: "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD." I pray this Sanctuary Bell will remind us all of the great blessing it is that we are able to gather in this beautiful house of the Lord.





Prepare the Way

Caring For Our Sacred Spa

ST. ELIZABETH'S PROJECT UPDATES

Sanctuary Work Begins: What to Expect

Soon we will begin construction both inside and outside the sanctuary. This phase of the work will take longer to complete, and will be much more visible to us all. The primary projects beginning this fall are the installation of HVAC components to cool the sanctuary during the sweltering summer months, the replacement and insulation of the church roof, and preparatory work for the new organ pipes that will be installed next summer. **These are major projects, and they will all be happening essentially at the same time.** While complex, we believe this approach is more efficient and cost-effective, while also reflecting our commitment to being good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

There is one significant disruption we want you to know about: during this work, the organ will go offline so that it can be covered and protected from dust and construction debris. The covering will consist of plastic sheeting around the exposed pipes and organ console. It won't be particularly beautiful, but it is necessary to protect this important instrument. We will be mindful of other ways we might beautify the sanctuary while the plastic covering is in place, especially during the beloved Advent and Christmas seasons. **The last Sunday when we will hear the organ will be October 11, and we anticipate that it will be out of commission until early 2027.**

The construction will also be noticeable from outside the church, especially on Fairmount Road. There will be a large dumpster, a portable toilet, and other necessary equipment that may not always be pleasant to look at. This, too, is simply part of what happens when undertaking major capital improvements.

Now to the good news (remember, there is always Good News in the Church): Although this work will take several months to complete, we expect to be able to continue gathering in the sanctuary for Sunday services. **There may be an occasional Sunday when we need to move to the Parish Hall, but the team doing this work understands how important it is for our parish family to gather for worship in the sanctuary.**

Throughout the capital campaign, we said that this work is necessary not only for those of us who call St. Elizabeth's our parish home today, but also for future generations who will one day continue the good work that has been taking place here for over 103 years. **Let us continue looking ever forward to the bright future God has planned for St. Elizabeth's**!

Curious
about how you can be part of transforming
the world here in Northern New Jersey?

Wondering
if your gifts can support the mission of the Diocese of Newark, the Episcopal Church in Northern New Jersey?

Then this INVITATION is for YOU!

The Nominations Committee of the 152nd Annual Diocesan Convention invites YOU to prayerfully consider serving on one of the many Boards, Committees, and Councils of the Diocese. There are opportunities that appeal to a broad variety of gifts, interests, and availability. Some deal with governance, others deal with grant making. Some meet monthly, others less frequently than that. Some meet in person, others meet virtually or in a hybrid setting. All of them are looking for members who desire to be part of a diocese known by God's love, mercy, and justice.

Scan the QR Code to get more detailed information about open seats and information about the Nominations Process.

See something that interests you?
Talk to your priest or warden. **Talk** to your friends and family.
Talk to God. Then **Act**. You'll already be changing the world.

Memorials and Honoraria

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ronald E. Hermance Jr. by his wife Kris Hermance and Family; Rachel Calabrese by the Dowling Family; and Jane P. Pruett, mother of Sally and grandmother of Claire, Sarah, Charlie Falck; and Amanda Bell by her parents Bob and Gretchen Bell.

Mary Szurly is our flower memorial coordinator. Contact the parish office if you are interested in honoring a loved one with altar flowers.

Parish Prayer List

Al
Alex Casazza
Alice
Amy Brink
Anita
Anne
Barbara
Bill Brancato
Blanca Rojano
Bob
Bob Bell
Bob C.
Brianna and Cole Harrison
Bruce
Bruce Neandross
Catherine
Catherine O'Connell
Chris
Chris C.
Christian
Christina Olkowski
Claire
Connie
Cookie C.
Danielle Meri
Danikka Dillon and Family
David Barrand
David Hawthorne
David Y.
Dawn
Denny
Diane and Frank Barletta
Diane Pring
Dick Davies
Donna
Doris
Dorothea Hickey
Effie
Elizabeth Sofia
Evelyn and Steve Dyke
Family of Mary Ann DeGraw
Francine Pascal
Frank
Frankye Crump
Frederick Bruno
Gaye
George and Shelley Mackey
Gretchen
Gunnip Family
Jack
Jaime
Jamie Whaley
Jane Winer
Joan
Joanne
John Berryman
John Mills
Juan
Julie and Jim Robertson
June Bové
Justine and Tom Boylan
Kate
Ken Thiess
Kim Heitzenrater
L Russ
Lequan and Stephen Dudzik
Linda
Lois Chapman
Lora Salt
Marcus Noble
Margaret
Marty Melamed
Mary
Mary Ann Newcomb and Family
Mary Jane Wisneski
Matthew Garcia
Michael Colling
Midge
Milt
Mina
Nancy Schrempp
Nancy Teichman
Pat
Paula Paulson
Pauline Fiore and Family
Penny
Peter Flannery
Prasse Family
Qian (Chen) Liu
Quinn
Richard Brunelle
Rick
Robbie
Robert
Robyn Pring
Rochelle Kilzy
Ruth
Ruthie
Sarah
Sarah
Segovia Pasichniak
Sofia
Sophie
Sr. Maureen Mitten
Sue VanderPloeg
The Rev. Dean Weber
Thomas Maloney
Valerie
Vincent Colling
Vincent Desimone
Virginia DuDeck
Virginia Leahy
Wes Pace
Winston
Yochio Kurahashi

We remember those who have died, especially Christi Pope Merrell, Sara Fitzmaurice, Alice Oehlschlager, Evelyn Burns, and Arsalus Hazarian.

St. Elizabeth's Staff and Vestry

Rector
The Rev. Andy Olivo
Associate Priests
The Rev. Susan Schink
The Rev. Dr. Richard Sloan
Organist and Choirmaster
Garah Landes
Associate Choirmaster
Jennifer Hommez
Associate for Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
Beth Van Emburgh
Director of Finance and Administration
Grace Arscott
Parish Life Coordinator
Stephanie Doyle
Sexton
Fredy Reyes
Soloists
Jeffrey Castellano, Alicia Luick,
Daniel Peretto, Anastasia Swope
Wardens
Sandy Sullivan '28, Mike Dickson '27
Treasurer
Steve Gorey
Assistant Treasurer
Denise Barrand
Clerk
Catherine Carter
Vestry

Denise Barrand '27
Catherine Cardew '27
Bruce Firkins '27
Steve Gorey '27
Steve Anderson '28
Joan Cooke '28
Jeremy Sabella '28
Elizabeth Thauer '28
Christopher Aquilino '29
Catherine Carter '29
Stacy Wilson '29
Lauren Winter '29

St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

welcome home

Connect with us online!

www.stesridgewood.org
Instagram: @stesridgewood
Facebook: facebook.com/stesridgewood
YouTube: youtube.com/@stesridgewood
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