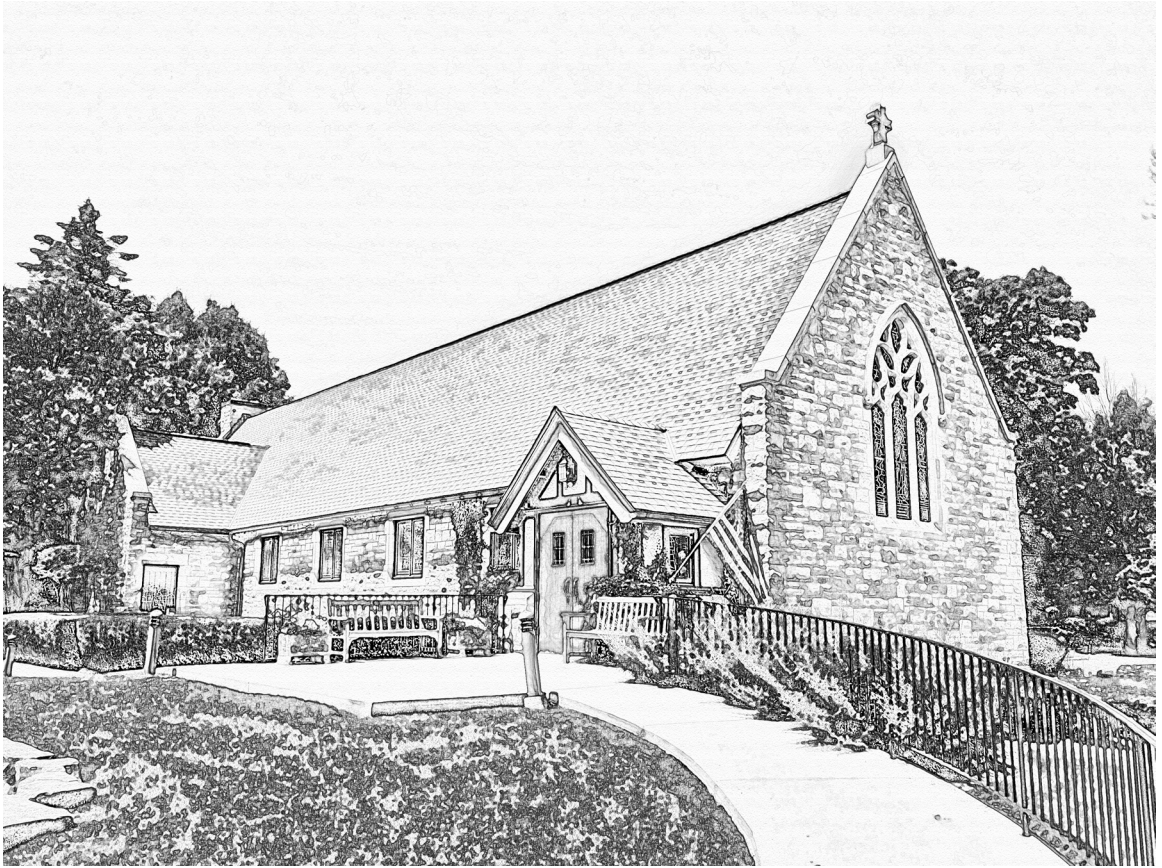

ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

8:00 AM

Welcome to St. Elisabeth's. We are delighted to have you with us today.



This faith community invites all persons to all levels of participation, leadership, and decision-making within the church regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, education, socioeconomic and marital status. We seek to establish meaningful connections with one another through work and play and worship as we strive to understand God's purpose for us in the church and in the world.

Today at St. Elisabeth's

8:00 am – Spoken Eucharist
9:00 am – Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am – Sung Eucharist
11:00 am – Coffee Hour,
Sunday Forum: Carter Superfine,
and Sunday School

In the Church Year: Easter

Easter, the oldest celebration of the Christian year, is not a single day but an entire season: Easter lasts fifty days, from Easter Day (the Sunday of the Resurrection) through the Day of Pentecost. The season also includes the feast of the Ascension, when the resurrected Jesus ascended to heaven and was seen on earth no longer. Throughout the year every Sunday — even during Lent — is considered a little Easter, a mini feast of the resurrection on what Christians have called the first day of the week. The primary theme of Easter is the resurrection: on this day Jesus was raised from the dead, overcoming the power of death and the grave. We celebrate that we, too, are raised to everlasting life with him in our baptism.

At Pentecost we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the ongoing life of the Holy Spirit in the church today. It is the Holy Spirit who breathes life into the Body of Christ, the church; it is the Holy Spirit who provides the gifts and guidance needed to sustain our life. At every Eucharist we pray that the Holy Spirit will sanctify the bread and wine of communion to be “the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.” We also pray that the Spirit will “sanctify us also” so that we may receive the Eucharist with faith and serve God “in unity, constancy, and peace.” It is the Holy Spirit who makes God present and alive in our hearts. — *Daily Prayer for All Seasons*

Entering In

God so loves us – and the world – that he comes looking for us, like the shepherd who leaves his ninety-nine sheep to go find the one who has gone astray. This is grace: God's gift of himself to us. It has nothing to do with our efforts, nothing to do with pumping iron or spiritual gymnastics. God longs to restore us to relationship with him, but that is only the beginning. -- Br. Geoffrey Tristram, SSJE

Practice: Do you know someone who is constantly striving to be loveable? What might you do or say to them to help them to understand that they are already loved by God, by you?

The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

The Word of God

The Prelude

Please stand as you are able.

The Opening Acclamation

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Assembly **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Assembly **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

Assembly **And also with you.**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever.

Assembly **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

The Lessons

The Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter.

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

Assembly **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

Please stand as you are able.

The Gospel

John 10:1-10

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Assembly **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Adam Spencer

A period of silence follows the sermon, beginning and ending with a chime.

Please stand as you are able.

The Nicene Creed

Assembly

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceeded from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

The Book of Common Prayer, Form III

- Intercessor* Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church;
Assembly **That we all may be one.**
- Intercessor* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly
serve thee;
Assembly **That thy Name may be glorified by all people.**
- Intercessor* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
Assembly **That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and
Sacraments.**
- Intercessor* We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of
the world;
Assembly **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**
- Intercessor* Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;
Assembly **That our works may find favor in thy sight.**
- Intercessor* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
Assembly **That they may be delivered from their distress.**
- Intercessor* Give to the departed eternal rest,
Assembly **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**
- Intercessor* We praise you for blessed Elisabeth and all thy saints who have
entered into joy;
Assembly **May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.**
- Intercessor* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
- Silence*

Intercessor

Today we pray especially for:

Sally Graver

Sherry Schellenbach

Aidan Thomson

Isabelle Thomson

Heather Reimer, cousin of Kara Superfine

Vicki Whipple, aunt of Kara Superfine

Norris Byrnes, cousin of Libby Hinds

Donna, friend of Walter Aldrich

James, grandson of Deborah

Lexi Valasek, mother of Montessori student

Christine Carlson, mother of Montessori student

Are there others?

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Presider

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

Please kneel as you are able.

Assembly

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word or deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presider

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assembly

Amen.

The Peace

Presider

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Assembly

And with thy spirit.

Please offer one another a sign of God's Peace.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Thank you for your generous giving to the mission and ministry of St. Elisabeth's church. You can leave a donation in the offering plate at the back of the church, or use your phone to scan the QR code to donate online.



The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand as you are able.

Presider The Lord be with you.

Assembly **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

Assembly **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

Assembly **It is meet and right so to do.**

Presider It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Assembly

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Please remain standing or kneel, as you are able.

Presider

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

Assembly

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for
ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Prayer of Humble Access

All **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.**

Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are welcome to come forward to receive Communion or a blessing. Please stand or kneel
at the altar rail. Assist the minister to guide the chalice to your lips. If you would prefer to receive a
blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free host available upon request.*

The Post Communion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

All

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

Presider

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always.

Assembly

Amen.

The Dismissal

Presider

Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Assembly

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude

Coming Up at St. Elisabeth's

Family Promise at St. Augustine in partnership with St. Elisabeth's

Our next opportunity to help with a week of Family Promise coverage will be **Sunday, May 3 through Saturday, May 9**. Scan the QR code to sign up to help. We need volunteers to provide meals as well as overnight supervision.



Sunday Forum: The Church – Whys and Wherefores

In this Easter season, as our youth prepare for Confirmation and we get ready for a visit from our bishop, let's reflect together a bit about the Church. What is it? Why is it? How do we organize ourselves? What is a bishop for? And why does any of it matter to your life? On **Sunday, May 3**, come experience one of Adam's Confirmation sessions for yourself!

Spring Clean Up Day

It's time to get ready for Spring! Meet at the Church at 9:00 am on **Saturday, May 9**. We'll put away the winter things, wash a few windows, and haul out items we don't need anymore for Glencoe Trash Day. Questions? please see Larry Handwerk or Annette Johnston.

Feeding People with Interfaith Action

It's time again to host diners at the Evanston Methodist Church. On **Thursday, May 14** we will need help with preparing sack lunches at St. Elisabeth's and then preparing a hot meal at the Methodist Church. Keep us in mind! — Susan Newcomb and John Tuohy

Living in Community

St. Elisabeth's Choir

All are invited to join the St. Elisabeth's Choir - no experience, background, or skill is required. Rehearsals are **Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.** in the Choir Room. Questions: s, you can reach Walter at music@steglencoe.org or catch him after a Sunday service.

St. Elisabeth's Bible Study

The Bible Study group meets weekly on **Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. on the second floor**. Questions: contact Larry Whipple.

Prayer List

After the last Sunday of each month, the prayer list is reset. Submit prayers and thanksgivings by the first of each month to Caryl in the office at office@steglencoe.org

Pastoral Needs and Pastoral Visitation

If you have a pastoral need or emergency and would like to speak to Fr. Spencer, or know of someone who would like to schedule a pastoral visit, please contact Adam by phoning the office at 847-835-0458. You can also email Adam at rector@steglencoe.org.

The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago
The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop*

Saint Elisabeth's Episcopal Church

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Adam Spencer	<i>Rector</i>
The Rev. Larry Handwerk	<i>Priest Associate</i>
Walter Aldrich	<i>Director of Music</i>
Caryl Medsker	<i>Director of Administration</i>
Abigail Pribble	<i>Director of Children's Formation</i>
Elizabeth Clemmitt	<i>Associate for Spiritual Wellness</i>

2026 Vestry

Polly Baur	Fred Johnston	Kara Superfine
Robert Fischer, <i>Warden</i>	Jamie Kim	Mark Tilton, <i>Treasurer</i>
Hall Healy	Carrie Miller-Mygatt, <i>Warden</i>	John Tuohy, <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>

Sunday Schedule



8:00 a.m.	Spoken Eucharist: Rite I
9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist: Rite II
11:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour, Forum, and Sunday School

Office Hours

Tuesday -Thursday – 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.