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# ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*The Second Sunday of Easter*

April 12, 2026

10:00 AM

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Welcome to Saint 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.*

## 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*

## Today at St. Elisabeth’s

8:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

9:00 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship & Forum, Children’s Sunday School

### **Sunday Forum:**

Each Sunday, we gather after coffee for a discussion on the lessons, music, and sermon from the morning service; with frequent special presentations.

### **Children’s Sunday School**

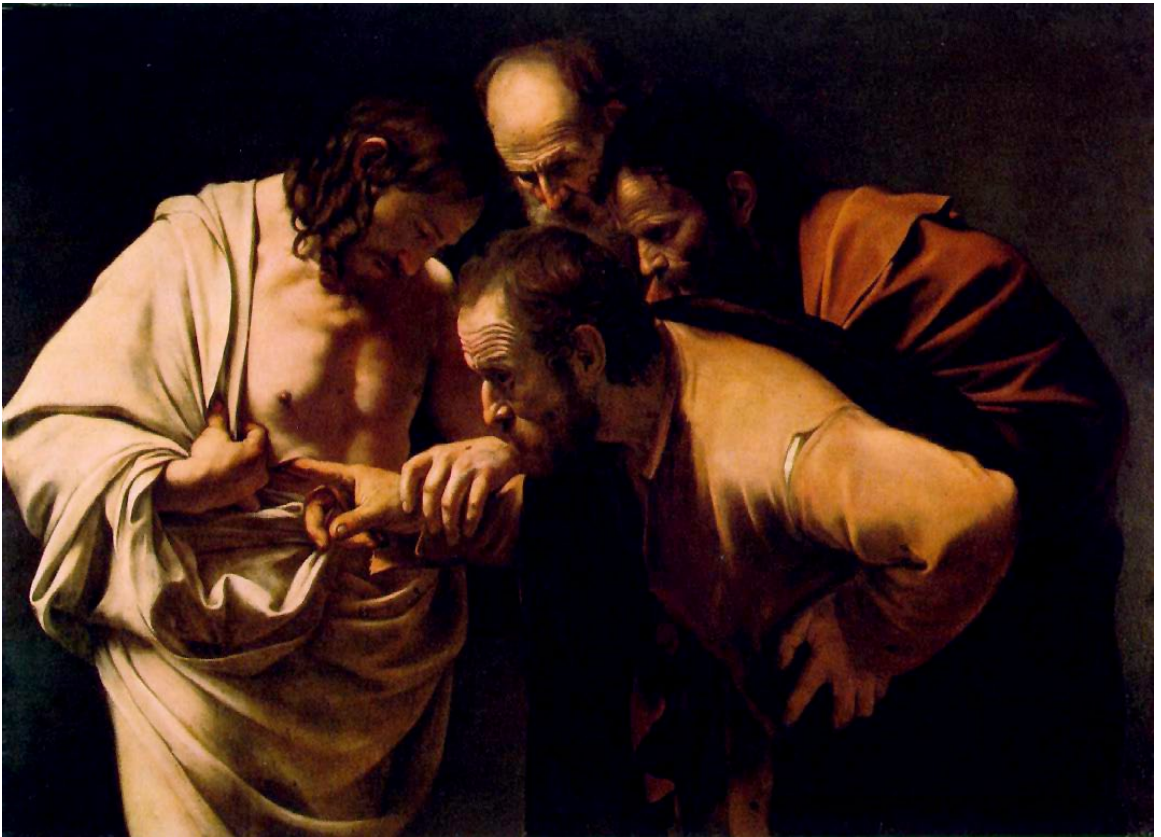
Children of all ages are invited to meet in the classroom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor following the 10 a.m. service to learn about the Bible and have some fun together.

## Entering In

*The following thought and image are intended to reflect something in today's service. The Practice is intended to offer one practical way of living these reflections.*

True, vigorous, vibrant faith comes from the freedom to question, wonder, and doubt. --  
*David Lose*

Practice: Share one question about your faith with a trusted friend. Watch how that deepens your faith.



*The Incredulity of Saint Thomas* – Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio 1573-1610

# Morning Prayer

## Prelude

*Please stand, as you are able, and join in singing.*

## Opening Hymn

“Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness”



1 Sing, ye faith - ful, sing with glad - ness, wake your no - blest,  
 2 Sing how he came forth from hea - ven, bowed him - self to  
 3 So, he tast - ed death for mor - tals, he, of hu - man -  
 4 Now on high, yet ev - er with us, from his Fa - ther's



sweet - est strain, with the prais - es of your Sa - viour  
 Beth - lehem's cave, stooped to wear the ser - vant's ves - ture,  
 kind the head, sin - less one, a - mong the sin - ful,  
 throne the Son rules and guides the world he ran - somed,



let his house res - ound a - gain; him let all your  
 bore the pain, the cross, the grave, passed with - in the  
 Prince of life, a - mong the dead; thus he wrought the  
 till the ap - point - ed work be done, till he see, re -



mu - sic hon - or, and your songs ex - alt his reign.  
 gates of dark - ness, thence his ban - ished ones to save.  
 full re - demp - tion, and the cap - tor cap - tive led.  
 newed and per - fect, all things gath - ered in - to one.

The Hymnal 1982 #492, Text: John Ellerton (1826-1893), Music: *Finnian*, Christopher Dearnley (b 1930)

## The Invitatory and Psalter

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*Assembly* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*Assembly* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*All* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Jubilate

*All* **Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him.  
 Alleluia.**

*Officiant* Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
 serve the Lord with gladness  
 and come before his presence with a song.

*Assembly* **Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
 he himself has made us, and we are his;  
 we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

*Officiant* Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
 go into his courts with praise; \*  
 give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

*Assembly* **For the Lord is good;  
 his mercy is everlasting; \*  
 and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

*All* **Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him.  
 Alleluia.**

## The Psalm of the Day

## Psalm 16

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,  
my good above all other."

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble among the people.

But those who run after other gods \*  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*  
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; \*  
my heart teaches me, night after night.

I have set the LORD always before me; \*  
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*  
nor let your holy one see the Pit.

You will show me the path of life; \*  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

*Choral Response – Gloria Patri*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*Assembly*        **Thanks be to God.**

## The Canticle

Canticle 9 – The First Song of Isaiah  
“Surely It Is God Who Saves Me”

1 Sure - ly it is God— who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not  
2 Make his deeds— known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed



fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing  
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his



help is near. So re - jice as you draw wa - ter from sal -  
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with



va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -  
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the



liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.  
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

The Hymnal 1982 #679, *Thomas Merton*

## The Second Reading

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*Assembly*        **Thanks be to God.**

## The Canticle

## Canticle 16 – The Song of Zechariah “We Bless You, God of Israel”



We bless you, God of Is - ra - el; you come to set your peo - ple free. In  
You prom-ised through the proph-et's word to save your peo-ple from their foes; in  
This child will go be - fore the Lord, the van - guard of Mes - si - ah's way, preach-  
Your ten - der love, like ear - ly dawn, her-alds the day of end - less peace; the



Je - sus, born of Da - vid's line, sal - va - tion springs for all to see.  
free - dom they will wor - ship you, fear - less, de - liv - ered from their woes.  
ing for - give - ness full and free, the pre - lude to God's per - fect day.  
dark - ness of death's shad - ow fades; your jus - tice reigns, and will not cease.

Aldrich/Spencer, *The Eighth Tune, Tallis*

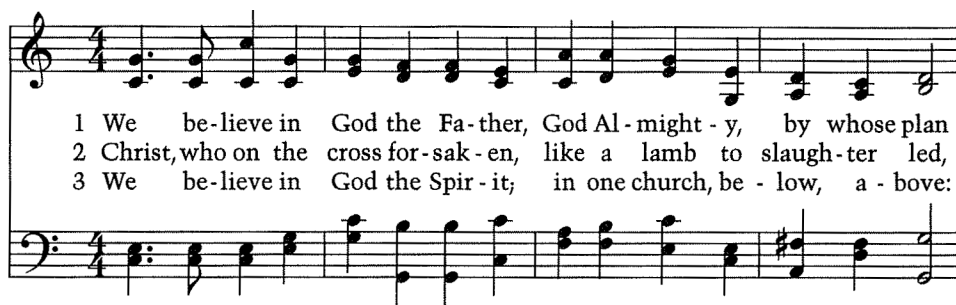
## Sermon

Peter Rossiter

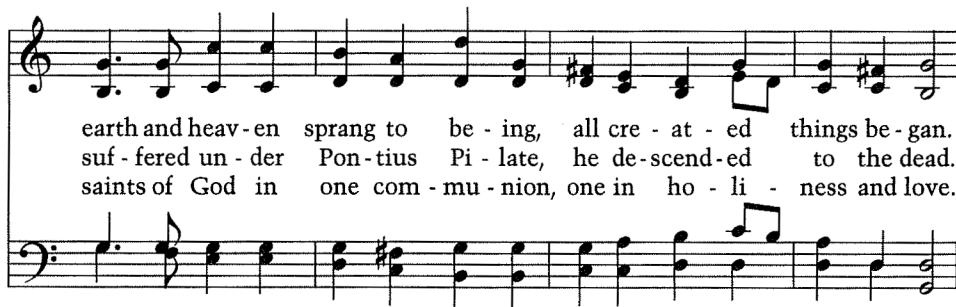
*A period of silence follows the reflection, begun and ended with a chime. Please stand as you are able for the creed and prayers.*

## The Creed

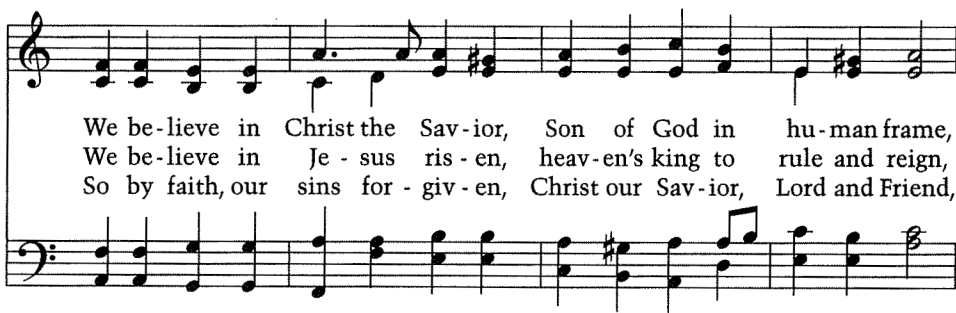
## “We Believe in God the Father”



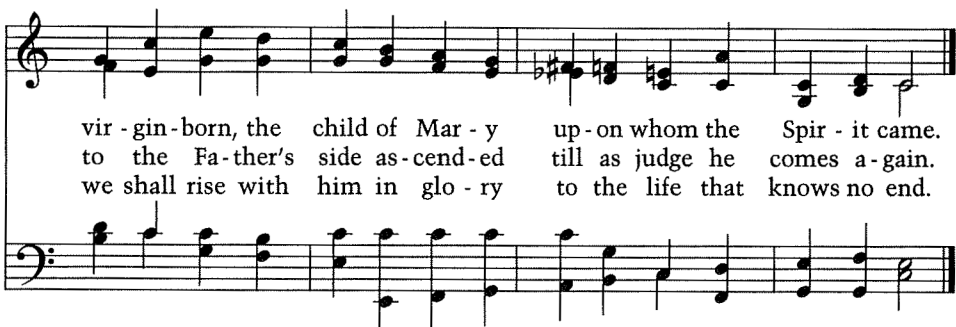
1 We be-lieve in God the Fa-ther, God Al-might-y, by whose plan  
 2 Christ, who on the cross for-sak-en, like a lamb to slaugh-ter led,  
 3 We be-lieve in God the Spir-it; in one church, be-low, a-bove:



earth and heav-en sprang to be-ing, all cre-at-ed things be-gan.  
 suf-fered un-der Pon-tius Pi-late, he de-scend-ed to the dead.  
 saints of God in one com-mu-nion, one in ho-li-ness and love.



We be-lieve in Christ the Sav-ior, Son of God in hu-man frame,  
 We be-lieve in Je-sus ris-en, heav-en's king to rule and reign,  
 So by faith, our sins for-giv-en, Christ our Sav-ior, Lord and Friend,



vir-gin-born, the child of Mar-y up-on whom the Spir-it came.  
 to the Fa-ther's side as-cend-ed till as judge he comes a-gain.  
 we shall rise with him in glo-ry to the life that knows no end.

## The Prayers

*The People stand or kneel.*

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

*Assembly* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*Officiant* Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*Assembly* **And grant us your salvation.**

*Officiant* Clothe your ministers with righteousness.

*Assembly* **Let your people sing with joy.**

*Officiant* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*Assembly* **For only in you can we live in safety.**

*Officiant* Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*Assembly* **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

*Officiant* Let your way be known upon earth;

*Assembly* **Your saving health among all nations.**

*Officiant* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*Assembly* **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

*Officiant* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*Assembly* **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## The Collect of the Day

*Officiant* Blessed are you, O God of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we receive the legacy of a living hope, born again not only from his death but also from his resurrection. May we who have received forgiveness of sins through the Holy Spirit live to set others free, until, at length, we enter the inheritance that is imperishable and unfading, where Christ lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit, one God forever and ever. *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## A Collect for Peace

*Officiant* O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## A Collect for Grace

*Officiant* Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## Offertory Sentence

*Officiant* 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 or use your phone to scan the QR code to donate online.*



## Offertory Hymn

“Christ Jesus lay in death’s strong bonds”

1 Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands for  
 2 It was a strange and dread - ful strife when  
 3 So let us keep the fes - ti - val to  
 4 Then let us feast this ho - ly day on

our of - fens - es giv - en; but now at God's right  
 life and death con - tend - ed; the vic - to - ry re -  
 which the Lord in - vites us; Christ is him - self the  
 the true bread of hea - ven; the word of grace hath

hand he stands and brings us life from hea - ven;  
 mained with life, the reign of death was end - ed;  
 joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us;  
 purged a - way the old and wick - ed lea - ven;

there - fore let us joy - ful be, and sing to  
 stripped of power, no more he reigns, an emp - ty  
 by his grace he doth im - part e - ter - nal  
 Christ a - lone our souls will feed, he is our

God right thank - ful - ly loud songs of al - le -  
 form a - lone re - mains; his sting is lost for  
 sun - shine to the heart; the night of sin is  
 meat and drink in - deed; faith lives up - on no

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ev - er! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 end - ed! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 o - ther! Al - le - lu - ia!

The Hymnal 1982 #186, Text: Martin Luther (1483-1546),  
 Music: *Christ lag in Todesbanden*, Johann Sebastian Bach

## The Prayers of the People

*Book of Common Prayer, Form III*

*Intercessor* O God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*Assembly* **That we all may be one.**

*Intercessor* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly  
serve you;  
*Assembly* **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*Assembly* **That they may be faithful ministers of your 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 your will in all that we undertake;  
*Assembly* **That our works may find favor in your 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, especially James Kim.  
*Assembly* **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Intercessor* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*Assembly* **May we also come to share in your 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  
Anne Tuohy

Ben Whipple, son of Larry & Susan Whipple

Chuck Southwick & family, friend of Susan & Larry Whipple

Heather Reimer, cousin of Kara Superfine

Vicki Whipple, aunt of Kara Superfine

Donna, friend of Walter Aldrich

James, grandson of Deborah

Lexi Valasek, mother of Montessori student

Christine Carlson, mother of Montessori student

Are there others?

*Intercessor* God in your mercy,

*Assembly* **Hear our prayer.**

*Officiant* Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## **The General Thanksgiving**

*All* **Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to**

whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## The Grace

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

“Jesus Lives!”

1 Je - sus lives! thy ter - rors now can no long - er, death, ap -  
 2 Je - sus lives! for us he died; then, a - lone to Je - sus  
 3 Je - sus lives! our hearts know well nought from us his love shall  
 4 Je - sus lives! to him the throne o - ver all the world is

pall us; Je - sus lives! by this we know thou, O  
 liv - ing, pure in heart may we a - bide, glo - ry  
 sev - er; life, nor death, nor powers of hell tear us  
 giv - en: may we go where he has gone, rest and

grave, canst not en - thrall us. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 to our Sa - vior giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 from his keep - ing ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 reign with him in hea - ven. Al - le - lu - ia!

The Hymnal 1982 #194 Text: Christian Furchtegott Gellert (1715-1769),  
 Music: St Albinus, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876)

## Dismissal

*Officiant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

### Coming Up at St. Elisabeth's

#### Book Group Meets this Week

The St. Elisabeth' Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, April 14**, beginning at 1:00 pm. For more information, please contact Joyce Newcomb.

#### Bible Study Resumes This Week

After taking an Easter hiatus, the Bible Study group will meet this **Thursday, April 16**, at 1:30 pm. We will be reading the Didache. The Didache is an early Christian text which - though not in the Biblical canon - provides some real, practical insights into what the lives of the earliest Christians may have looked like.

#### Sunday Supper & Family Worship

The March family worship-potluck will be held on **Sunday, April 19**. The event begins at 4:30, and we will open the church doors at 4:00. We always have plenty of good food, and good people to share it.

#### Family Promise to 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**. The link to sign up is available on the sign up board in the hall or in the e-News. We need volunteers to provide meals as well as overnight supervision.

**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 am to 2:30 pm

*We at St. Elisabeth's share an adventurous spirit and a commitment  
to radiate God's love within and beyond our red doors.*

