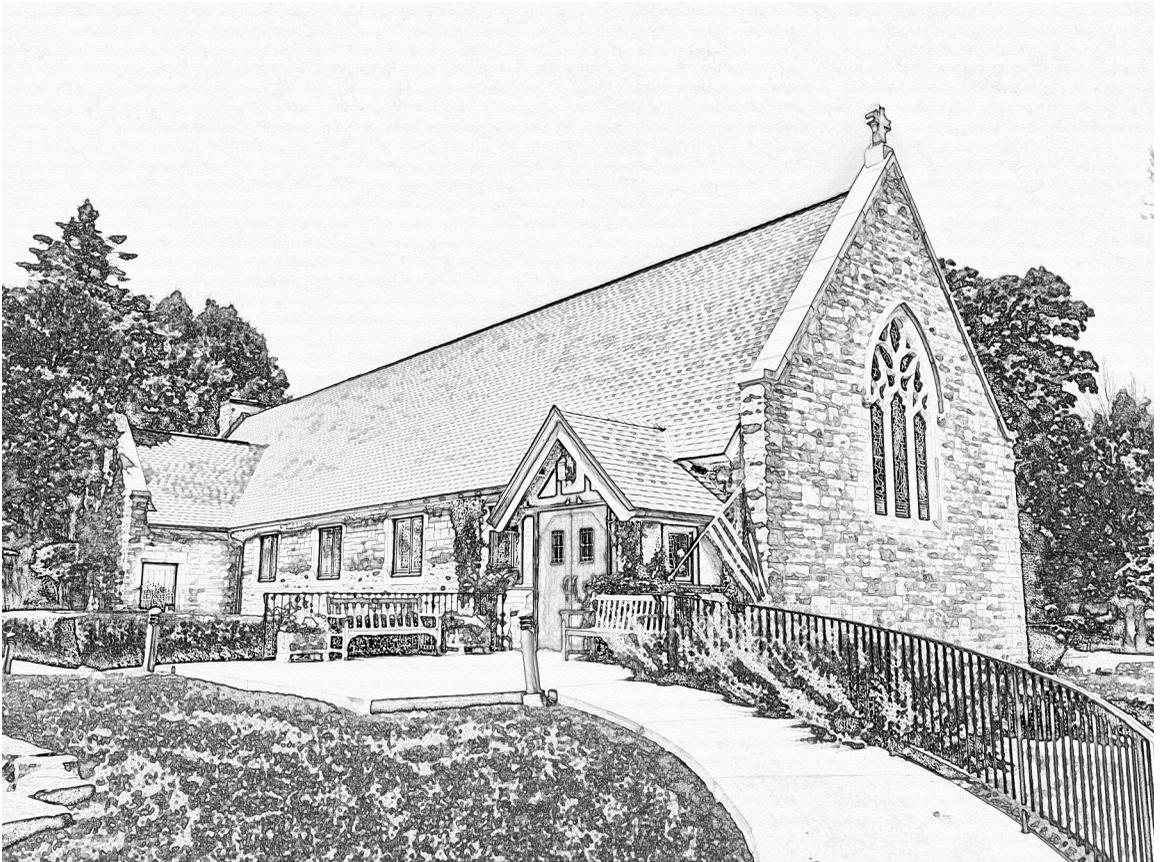

ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

8:00 AM

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: Lent

Figuring out how to keep a holy Lent can be a challenge, but if we move beyond the popular conceptions (and misconceptions), Lent holds the possibility for real change — or to use the church’s word, conversion — in our lives, as well as for rich and lasting spiritual growth. (The word “lent” comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencton*, referring to the springtime of the year when the days grow longer and warmer and brighter.)

Lent emerged in our history as a season of final preparation for those who would be baptized at the Great Vigil of Easter. The entire Christian community was highly invested in walking alongside those who were about to commit their lives to Christ. In time, the season took on some extra layers of meaning, and many people now associate it with listening for a deeper awareness of our own sin — how we fall short of the ideals God sets before us — and the need for ongoing repentance and amendment of life.

That said, joy in the new life we have found in the Christian faith should never be overwhelmed by our struggles to live out that faith or our awareness of the ways we fall short. We can see Lent as an opportunity to deepen our spiritual lives. In Lent we step back and consider the ways we need to repent, to turn around — to be converted.

During Lent we as individual Christians and as a church — the Body of Christ — consider our spiritual health. How are we living the gospel in our lives, our homes, our churches, our towns, our schools, our places of work? What areas of growth or signs of renewal should we celebrate with gratitude and joy? In what ways have we fallen short, grown stagnant or cold-hearted, or failed to love God by embracing new life when we encounter it? These are the kinds of questions we ask ourselves during the weeks of Lent. ~ *Daily Prayer for All Seasons*

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week

Jim Baur – March 3 Andrew Edelston – March 4

Entering in...

Jesus said, “Unless the grain of wheat die it remains just a single grain.” This means that this concocted False Self, this manufactured identity that is who we all think we are, has to go. That's what the language of being “born again” really means. It’s not some kind of magical transaction that takes place between you and God, but the death of the passing self, the one you have created for yourself. -- Richard Rohr in *The Immortal Diamond*

Practice: Take time this week to look into the mirror, your medicine cabinet, your check book, and your journal, if you keep one. What can you learn there about your “false self” and your “true self”?

Morning Prayer

Prelude

Please stand, as you are able.

Opening Sentence

Officiant Rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God; for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. *Joel 2:13*

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

All **Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.**

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen

All **The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open thou our lips.
Assembly **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

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

Response – Gloria Patri

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 **The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: O come, let us adore him.**

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 **The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: O come, let us adore him.**

The Psalm of the Day

Psalm 121

Read responsively by full verse.

I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

**Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;**

The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

**So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.**

The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.

**The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.**

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

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to

remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**

Assembly **Thanks be to God.**

The Canticle

Canticle 9 – The First Song of Isaiah

The Canticle is read together.

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

**Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.**

**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.**

**Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

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 Second Reading

John 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from

Sermon

Mark Tilton

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 Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

The People stand or kneel.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Assembly **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

Assembly **Christ, have mercy.**

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

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.

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

Assembly **And grant us thy salvation**

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness

Assembly **And make thy chose people joyful.**

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

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

Officiant Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

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

Officiant Let thy way be known upon earth;

Assembly **Thy 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 thy Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

Officiant O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever.

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.**

The Prayers of the People

Book of Common Prayer, pages 328-330

Intercessor Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world. Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Intercessor Lord, in thy mercy,

Assembly **Hear our prayer.**

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Paula our Bishop, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Intercessor Lord, in thy mercy,

Assembly **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Donald, our President, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Intercessor Lord, in thy mercy,

Assembly **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

Intercessor Lord, in thy mercy,

Assembly **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Particularly:

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 Lord, in thy mercy,

Assembly **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Elisabeth and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

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.

Assembly **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Assembly **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Coming Up at St. Elisabeth's

Sunday School Food Drive

The Sunday School students are beginning their food drive project. This is an opportunity for our youth to make decisions that positively impact their community. All items received will go to the New Trier food pantry. Carter and Amelia Superfine have decided that the donation for March will be canned beans and tomato soup. All items will go to New Trier Food Pantry. Please check the backs of your pantries and consider donating!

A Quiet Morning in Lent

On **Saturday, March 21**, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, you are invited to come to St. Elisabeth's for "A Quiet Morning in Lent." Elizabeth Clemmitt, our Associate for Spiritual Wellness, will facilitate a morning of self-directed quiet time during which you will be invited to explore various silent activities and spiritual practices that promote peaceful reflection and spiritual growth.

We will meet in the Guild Room at St. Elisabeth's where there will be stations with instructions and materials for activities including some crafts, puzzles, and books to peruse as well as prayer beads, journals and instructions for meditation. Participants can stay in the Guild Room or spread out into the sanctuary and outdoor spaces, including the labyrinth, weather permitting. Elizabeth and another spiritual companion, Patti Snickenberger, will be available for half-hour meetings of spiritual direction, and Adam will lead an optional session on the Ignatian Examen. He will also be available in the chapel to offer prayers one-on-one, including prayers for healing or a time of confession.

Fruit, cheese and beverages will be available starting at 9:00 AM. We will begin the morning together at 9:15 with a short introduction, and then quiet will be observed until 11:40 AM, when we will gather again to reflect on our experiences and close with a prayer. You are encouraged to come for the entire time, but if you can only come for part of it, you are also welcome. Please register in advance by emailing Elizabeth at elizabeth.clemmitt@gmail.com. We hope you can join us!

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

The Church of St. Elisabeth

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. – 2:30 p.m.

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

