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# ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany*

February 1, 2026

8:00 a.m.

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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.*

## In the Church Year: Epiphany

Epiphany is a Greek word meaning “manifestation, showing forth, revelation.” This feast proclaims our faith that in Jesus, God is revealed to all people — not just to an inner circle or a chosen few, but to all people, in all places, and throughout all time. Christians believe that in the person of Jesus we see who God is, and in the words and actions of Jesus we see God at work in the world. Epiphany marks a series of occasions at which Jesus was revealed to be God’s Son.

The feast of Epiphany and the weeks that follow are a time when we reflect on several “manifestations” of Jesus, as he was recognized as the Messiah (or Christ) by many different people. We hear about Jesus’ baptism in the river Jordan by John the Baptist and the visit of the magi, or wise men, who followed the star to Bethlehem at Jesus’ birth. We share the amazement of the guests at the wedding party at Cana as Jesus performs his first miracle by turning water into fine wine. And at the end of the season we see Jesus’ glory shown to three of his disciples on the mountain as he is transfigured before them in a blaze of light.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries this week

None this Week

### Entering In

*The following thought by a spiritual author, religious, theologian or one of our clergy is intended to reflect something in today’s service. The Practice is intended to offer one practical way of living these reflections.*

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus challenges us to go beyond the surface of the "law". He asks us to go deeper into our relationship with God and each other. These are not constrictions; they are invitations to new relationships - with God, ourselves, and each other and freedom.-- *Richard Rohr*

**Practice:** In your life, where do you need to move from "ought to" to "embracing?" Seek out ways to do that with a close friend, a partner, a family member, a colleague.

## The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

### The Word of God

#### Prelude

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### The Opening Acclamation

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Assembly* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Presider* 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 with thy spirit.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

*Presider* Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

*The people may be seated.*

## The Lessons

### The Reading

Micah 6:1-8

A Reading from the Book of the prophet Micah.

Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the Lord has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;

and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,

and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,  
with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

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

## **The Psalm**

Psalm 15

*Read responsively by whole verse, with the reader leading.*

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?

**Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.**

There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

**In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the LORD.**

He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.

**He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**

Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## The Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

*Gospeler*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*Assembly*      **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

*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

*All*      **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 proceedeth 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

*Book of Common Prayer, Form I*

- Intercessor* With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."
- Intercessor* For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.
- Assembly* **Lord, have mercy.**
- Intercessor* For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.
- Assembly* **Lord, have mercy.**
- Intercessor* For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.
- Assembly* **Lord, have mercy.**
- Intercessor* For this village of Glencoe, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.
- Assembly* **Lord, have mercy.**
- Intercessor* 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  
Are there others?



*Silence*

Let us pray to the Lord.

*Assembly*      **Lord, have mercy.**

*Intercessor*      For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Assembly*      **Lord, have mercy.**

*Intercessor*      For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially Melvin Niepagen, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

*Assembly*      **Lord, have mercy.**

*Intercessor*      In the communion of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, the holy patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, Elisabeth and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

*Assembly*      **To thee, O Lord our God.**

## **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.

*All*

**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*

## The Collection

*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.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

*All*

**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, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for 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 to thee, he broke 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 this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, 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, we thy people do celebrate and make, 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; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in 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.

## The 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 line up at the altar rail. You may stand or kneel. Please assist the minister to guide the chalice to your lips. Gluten-free host available upon request. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## The Post Communion Prayer

*Presider* Let us pray.

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

*Assembly* Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

# 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.