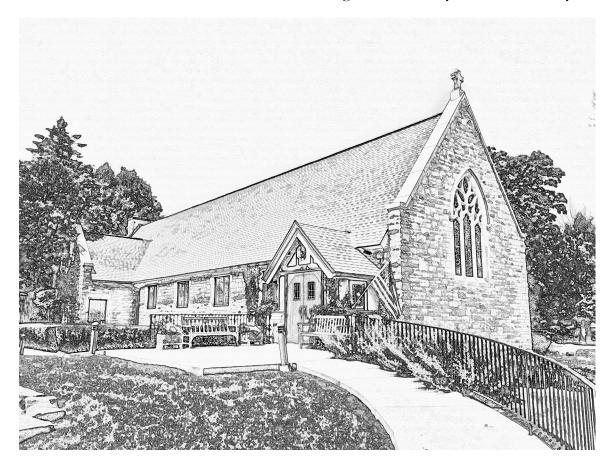
# ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# The First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025 10:00 a.m.

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: Advent

The Christian calendar begins its new year not on January 1, but on the first Sunday of Advent — which is always four Sundays before Christmas (December 25) and the Sunday closest to St. Andrew's Day (November 30). Our word "Advent" derives from the Latin Adventus, which means "coming," and originally referred just to the coming of the feast of Christmas. But over time the season of Advent took on a double meaning. Today it refers both to the "first coming" of Jesus Christ in his birth at Christmas and to his "second coming" at the end of time.

It is important to remember that Advent is not just a season in which we recall an event of the past — Jesus' birth — but also a time in which we look to the present and the future. When will Jesus come again? When will we see the kingdom of God on earth, as it is in heaven? Of course no one knows. And so the more important questions are: What can we do as the Church, Christ's body here on earth, to welcome God's reign of justice and peace today? What can we do as individuals to reorder our lives in the light of God's love? What would it mean to live as a people who believe in Jesus as the Savior of all the earth and who expect him to come again at the fulfillment of time? Each Advent we turn to these questions anew.

# Today at St. Elisabeth's

8:00 a.m. - Spoken Eucharist

9:00 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. - Sung Eucharist

11:00 a.m. - Coffee Hour, Sunday 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 2nd floor following the 10 am service, to learn about the Bible and have some fun with our Director of Children's Formation Abigail Pribble.

# **Entering In**

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

The Advent cry, "Come, Lord Jesus", is not a cry of desperation, but an assured shout of cosmic hope. – Richard Rohr

**Practice:** What expectations and demands of life can you let go of so that you can be more prepared for the "coming" of Jesus?



Swords into Plowshares— Jasper Ejsing

# The Holy Eucharist – Rite II The Word of God

#### The Prelude

Please stand at the ringing of the bell.

# The Opening Acclamation

Enriching Our Worship

Blessed are you, holy and living One. Presider

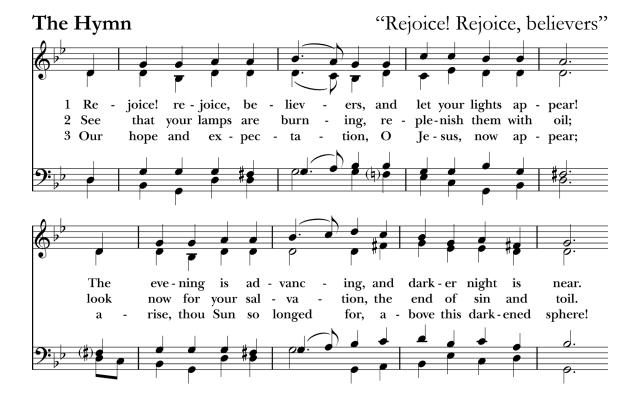
For ever and ever. Amen. Assembly

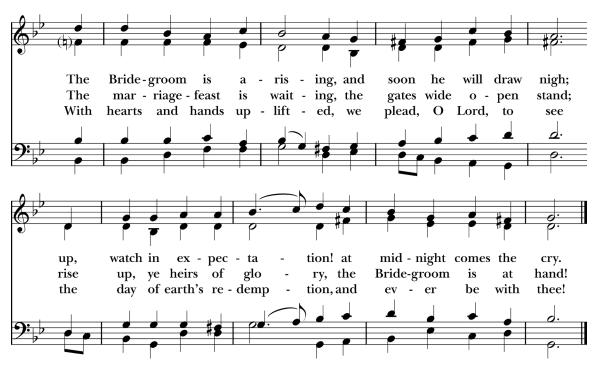
God our rock and refuge: keep us safe in your care and strengthen Presider

us with your grace, that we may pray to you faithfully and love one another boldly, following the example of Jesus, who with you Veronese Sacramentary

and the Holy Spirit lives for ever and ever.

Amen. Assembly





The Hymnal 1982 #68, Text: Laurentius Laurenti, Music: Llangloffan

# The Collect of the Day

Book of Common Prayer

Presider God be with you.

Assembly And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Assembly Amen.

Please be seated.

## The Lessons

The Reading Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Assembly Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated for the psalm.

# The Psalm Psalm 122

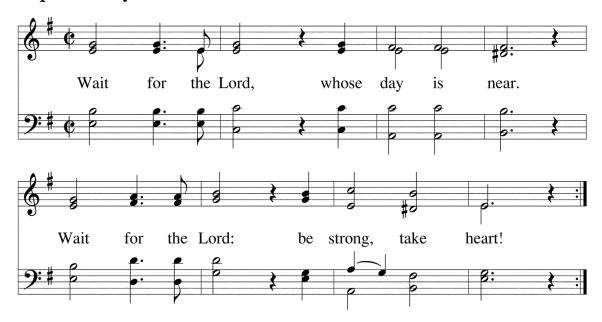


- A I was glad when they said to me, \*
  "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
- B Now our feet are <u>standing</u> \* within your gates, O Je<u>rusalem.</u>
- A Jerusalem is built as a <u>city</u> \* that is at unity with it<u>self;</u>
- B To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the <u>Lord</u>, \* the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the <u>Lord</u>.
- A For there are the thrones of judgment, \* the thrones of the house of <u>David</u>.
- B Pray for the peace of Je<u>rusalem:</u> \*
  "May they prosper who <u>love you.</u>
- A Peace be within your <u>walls</u> \* and quietness within your <u>towers</u>.
- B For my brethren and companions' <u>sake</u>, \* I pray for your pro<u>sperity</u>.
- B Because of the house of the Lord our <u>God</u>, \* I will seek to do you <u>good."</u>
- A Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
- B as it was in the beginning, is <u>now</u>, and will be for ever. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

# Sequence Hymn

"Wait for the Lord"



Evangelical Lutheran Worship #262, Text and Music: Taize Community

# The Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

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

Assembly Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night

the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

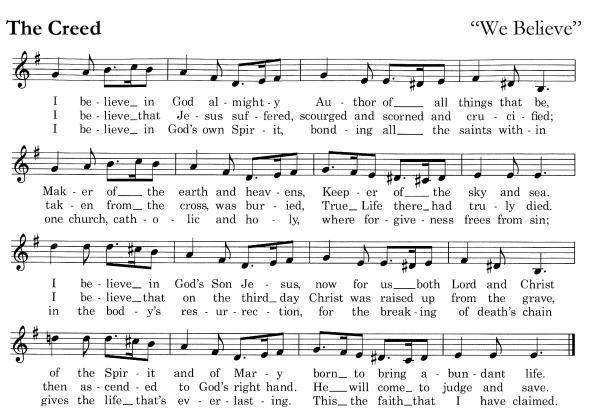
Assembly Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### The Sermon

The Rev. Larry Handwerk

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

Please stand as you are able for the Creed and the Prayers.



Aldrich/Spencer; Text: Apostles Creed paraphrased, Music: Greensleeves

# The Prayers of the People

Written by the Rev. Samuel Wells

Intercessor God be with you,
Assembly And also with you.

*Intercessor* Let us pray.

Intercessor

God of glory, your prophet Isaiah prayed that you would tear the heavens and come down. Come down today, that your hungry people may find food and may find their hunger deeply met in you; that your faithless people may see you face to face and find their hope restored; that your lonely people may find companions for their journey and know in you a companion who will never leave them alone; that your grieving people may find a shoulder to share their sorrow and speak with you the words of eternal life, that your angry people may find in you a fire greater than their own and a passion deeper than justice; that your despairing people may find a reason to live and in you see a beauty beyond beholding; that your tired people may find strength to go on and in you find rest for their souls. Bring the hope of your coming kingdom to the fears of Gaza, of Nigeria, of Sudan, of Ukraine, of all refugees and migrants, of those living with mental illness and the effects of trauma. In a moment of quiet we ask you to tear the heavens and come down in a place or circumstance where we know not what might be for the best. (Silence)

Intercessor

God in your mercy,

Assembly

Hear our prayer.

Intercessor

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. God of wonder and joy, fix our eyes on the form of his appearing, that we may see the wounds his dazzling body bears and in them know the wounds we seek to nurse in one another and fear to reveal in ourselves. Let us know those who set at naught and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree, that we may perceive where

terrible crimes take place today, that we may be among those who repent and regret and bewail and lament, and that we may know when it is we who have perpetrated or abetted those crimes through economic interest or political force or social neglect. Give us grace to discover what it means to gaze on those glorious scars with rapture, and so empower us to look back on our own scars, our hurts, our bitterness, our regrets, our failures, or betrayals, and our wounds, and see them transformed by the scars of your Son, so that each scar be a point of entry to your broken body, each nail mark a binding to your sacrifices of love, and each thornwound an anticipation of your crown of glory; in you who reigned from the tree and now reigns forever, world without end.

Intercessor Assembly God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

Intercessor

O God, we bring to you all those in need of your healing and your help today.

Sally Graver

Sherry Schellenbach

Aidan Thomson

Ben Whipple, son of Larry & Susan Whipple

Cheryl, friend of Adrienne Zimmerman

Griffin, friend of Adrienne Zimmerman

Doug, brother-in-law of Andrienne Zimmerman

Sam Weisbard, friend of Fred & Annette Johnston

Nicholas & Alice, friends of Tobi Ellis

<u>Lexi</u> Valasek, mother of a Montessori student

Charlotte Margolis, baby sister of a Montessori student

<u>James</u> Green, sibling of a Montessori student

Are there others?

Intercessor

God in your mercy,

Assembly **H**o

Hear our prayer.

Presider

Almighty God, as your blessed Son Jesus Christ first came to seek and to save the lost; so may he come again to find in us the completion of his redeeming work; for he is now alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. *Common Worship* 

Assembly

Amen.

#### The Confession of Sin

Common Worship

Presider

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence

All

Eternal God, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

Presider

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on 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 Christ be always with you.

Assembly And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the peace of God.

# **Holy Communion**

## The Offertory Sentence

Presider Walk in love.

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

Ephesians 5:2

If you are financially able to support the mission of St. Elisabeth's, please put your offering in the collection plate as it is passed or use the QR code to donate online.

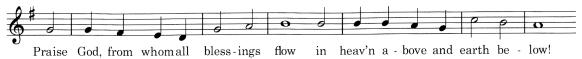


Wonder, Love, and Praise #795, Text: Geonyong Lee, Music: O-so-so

Please stand as you are able.

Presider

## The Doxology





Music: Old 100th

## The Great Thanksgiving

Joining the Angels' Song, Advent 4

Presider God be with you.

Assembly And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

Assembly We lift them up to the Lord.

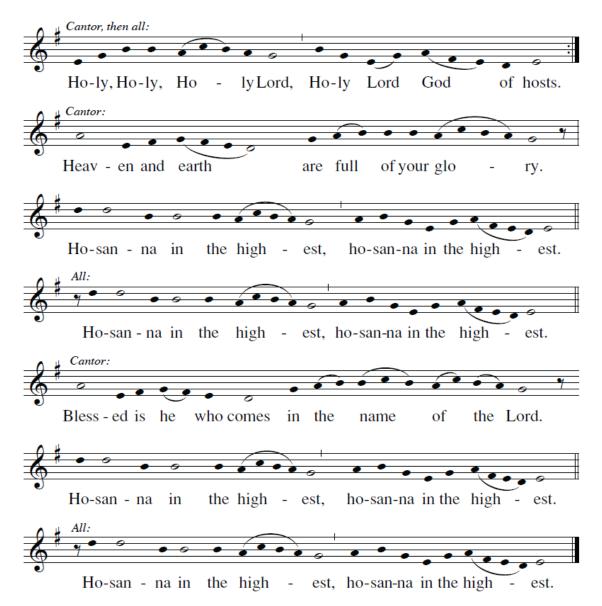
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is a good and joyful thing to give thanks to you, O Ancient of Days, for from of old you have called forth life. You brought into being every detail of creation and gave birth to your covenant people.

When the time drew near, you called upon Bethlehem to bear the hope you promised, and summoned Mary to bear your holy child. By your grace the child grew to be the one to bear not only our sins but the sins of the world. In his dying and rising you gave birth to everlasting life for all your children.

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we sing your praise and join the unending hymn.



Missa Emmanuel

You are invited to remain standing or to kneel.

Presider

God of Mary, whose womb bore the sacred fruit of our salvation, bring forth from this fruit of the vine your cup of blessing. As we remember around this table your Son's saving passion poured out for us, send your Holy Spirit upon your church to make us bearers of your Christ, your mercy and your hope.

Sanctify this bread and this cup that they may be for us the body and blood of Jesus our Lord. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Presider
Assembly

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Presider

God of holy expectation, let your face shine upon us and your dawn break upon us that we may be saved. Make your church expectant in faith as we labour for what we cannot yet see.

Come and dwell with your people who yearn to be restored, to be forgiven, to belong. Let the warmth of your face shine upon those who seek the peace long promised for Bethlehem, for Jerusalem and for all your waiting world.

Bring us, with all the saints who have looked for your coming, to the day when we and all your children shall celebrate and leap for joy in your holy presence, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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.

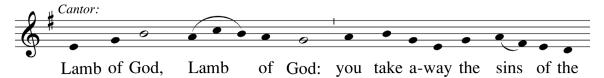
Give us this day our daily bread.

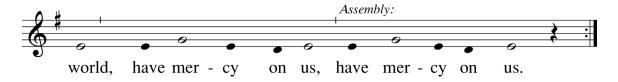
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

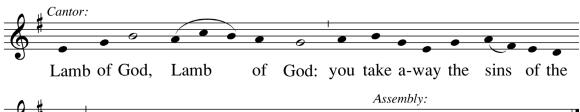
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.







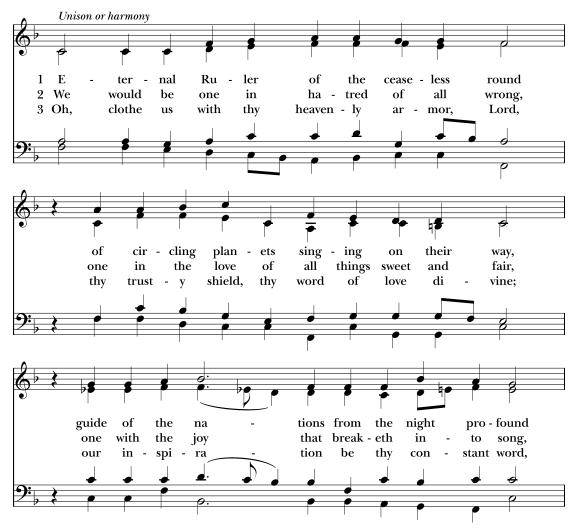


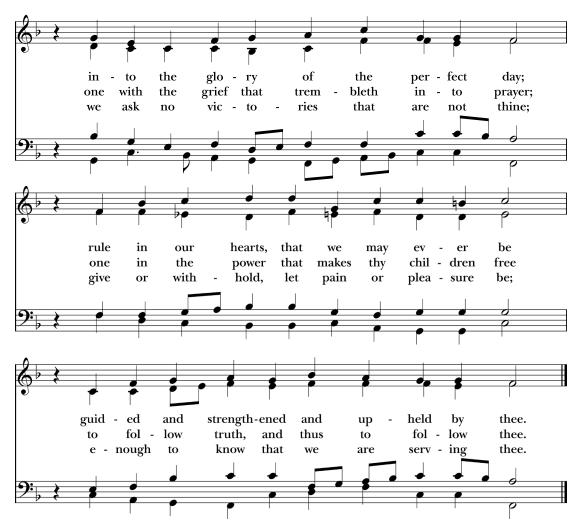
#### The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to come forward to receive Communion or a blessing. Please stand or kneel at the altar rail as the choir does. 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 Communion Hymn "Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round"





The Hymnal 1982 #617, Text: John White Chadwick (1840-1904), Music: Orlando Gibbons, Ralph Vaughan Williams

Please stand as you are able.

# The Post Communion Prayer

Common Worship

Presider Let us pray.

All Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body

and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your

praise and glory. Amen.

Please be seated for the announcements.

#### **Announcements**

# Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelers

Those traveling and those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries are invited to come forward for a blessing.

## The Blessing

Book of Occasional Services

Please stand as you are able.

Presider God be with you.

Assembly And also with you.

Presider May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the

darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God

Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you,

and remain with you always.

Assembly Amen.



The Hymnal 1982 #666, Text: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847), Musi:, Bereden vag for Herran

## The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Assembly Thanks be to God.

#### The Postlude

#### This Week at St. Elisabeth's

#### Monday, December 1

8:00 p.m. – AA Meeting

#### Thursday, December 4

1:30 p.m. – Bible Study 7:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

#### Saturday, December 6

8:00 a.m. – Women's Al-Anon Meeting 10:30 a.m. – The Hanging of the Greens 5:00 p.m. – AA Meeting

#### Sunday, December 7

8:00 a.m. – Spoken Eucharist 9:00 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal 10:00 a.m. – Advent Lessons & Carols with Sung Eucharist 11:00 a.m. – Christmas Ornament

Extravaganza
(The Budget Forum originally schedule for

(The Budget Forum originally schedule for the 7<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled for January 11.)

# Coming Up at St. Elisabeth's

## ReVive Christmas Basket Program

This year we will once again be participating in the ReVive Christmas Basket Program to provide Christmas gifts for clients of the ReVive Center for Housing and Healing in Chicago. We have **three families** yet to be adopted. Stop by the Guild Room this morning to sign up and pick up the information packet. Pick-Up day is **Friday, December 12**: All boxes and donations are due at St. Elisabeth's by 9:00 am that morning. If you have any questions, please contact Rene Surgi, Ph.D. Phone: 847-835-0983 Mobile: 847-254-0934

#### The Hanging of the Greens

Whether you're a wreath-hanging hero, a garland-stringing elf, or simply someone whose Christmas spirit is stronger than their biceps (we'll take that too!), come join the fun on **Saturday, December 6**, at 10:30 a.m. Together we'll make the church sparkle for the season! Coffee and donuts will be waiting.

#### Advent Lessons and Carols

Begun in Truro, England in 1880, the Festival of Lessons and Carols has become a favorite holiday tradition in Anglican churches around the world. St. Elisabeth's will celebrate our Lessons and Carols service at 10am on Sunday, December 7. Please join us for this special service as we enter more deeply into the Advent and Christmas season.

## Ornament Decorating Extravaganza!

Bring your creativity, and your Christmas cheer because after church we're turning St. E's into Santa's very own craft workshop after the 10:00 a.m. service on **Sunday, December 7.** Join us as we decorate ornaments for your tree or for St. E's tree. We'll have food, Christmas music, and festive fun for all ages.

# Christmas Pageant Prep

#### Sunday, December 14 – Pageant Prep Party! Child Stars needed!

Calling all families! Please join us after church to discuss roles, explore costumes, and begin sharing the story of Baby Jesus. We can't wait to get our little stars ready for the big day!

#### Sunday, December 21 - Pageant Rehearsal!

A quick rehearsal, after church will take place in the sanctuary to get ready for our magical day. A second run through will be put together for those who can't make this rehearsal. Time and day TBD as we cross that bridge. Thank you and look forward to this day! Any questions regarding the pageant please talk to Carrie at 202-714-7741 or Abigail after church.

# Life in Community

## **Bible Study**

The St. Elisabeth's Bible Study group meets on **Thursday afternoons** at 1:30 pm on the second floor at the church. The group is studying Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. All are welcome! For more information, 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, hospital calls, nursing/rehab & home-bound parishioners

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 and leave a private message in the rector's voicemail. You can also email Adam at <a href="mailto:rector@steglencoe.org">rector@steglencoe.org</a>.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries this week

None this week.

# **Assisting Today**

Reading	Polly Baur
Prayers	Robert Fischer
Altar Guild	Kara Superfine
	Barb Ferry
Usher	Robert Fischer
Coffee Hour	Mark Tilton

# The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop

# Saint Elisabeth's Episcopal Church

## Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Adam Spencer Rector

The Rev. Larry Handwerk Priest Associate

Walter Aldrich Director of Music

Caryl Medsker Director of Administration
Abigail Pribble Director of Children's Formation

## **2025 Vestry**

Robert Fischer, Warden Fred Johnston Jamie Kim Carrie Miller-Mygatt

Warden

Kara Superfine

Mark Tilton, Treasurer

John Tuohy, Asst. Treasurer

## 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.

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