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# ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

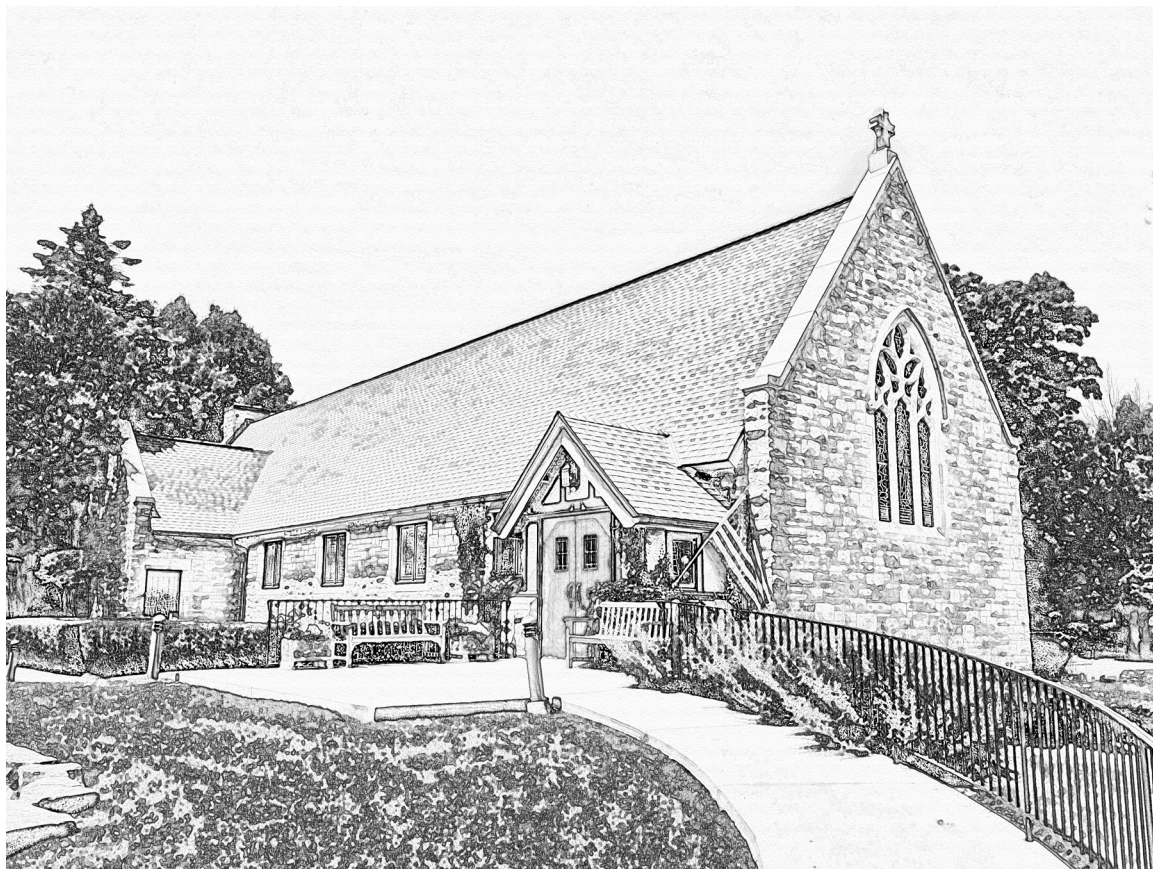
*The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

October 4, 2026

8:00 AM

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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: Season of Creation

From September 1 to October 4, Christians observe the Season of Creation, a relatively recent development in the liturgical calendar.

In 1989, the ecumenical patriarch of the Eastern Orthodox Church, Dimitrios I, proclaimed September 1 a day of prayer for the environment, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. In 2000, a Lutheran congregation in Australia developed a four-Sunday program to follow it – and the idea for a “season” of creation began. Others adopted it, first across Australia and then more widely. Eventually, the Vatican picked up the practice, and the World Council of Churches promoted the new liturgical season. In the final years of the twentieth century, a mini church season, or a season within a larger season, was added to the year.

During these weeks, Christians are urged to recognize this theological centrality of God the Creator, Creation itself, the human vocation of caring for Creation, and the need to do justice on behalf of the earth and all her inhabitants.

Few words echo through the ages as profoundly as God’s directive to Moses: *Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.*

Holy ground. The same soil from which God created Adam—the sacred dust of our very being. Take off your shoes. Feel the earth underfoot, your toes in the sand or mud, or loam, the stuff of creation.

Those words surely never left him. *What if we let them haunt us, too? What if we recalled them daily? How would they change who we are, our experience of God, and how we act toward the earth?*

-- Diana Butler Bass

## Entering In

Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance. Where there is patience and humility, there is neither anger nor vexation. Where there is poverty and joy, there is neither greed nor avarice. Where there is peace and meditation, there is neither anxiety nor doubt. - St. Francis of Assisi

Practice: What in your life and relationships is calling for charity and wisdom, patience and humility, poverty and joy, or peace and meditation. Chose one or two and pay particular attention to them this week. Do St. Francis’ words ring true to your experience?

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Adrienne Zimmerman – October 6    Larry Whipple – October 10

## The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

### The Word of God

#### The Prelude

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### The Opening Acclamation and Kyrie

*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.**

*Presider* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Assembly* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

*Presider* Lord, have mercy upon us.

## The Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*Assembly* **And with thy spirit.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son 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

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

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

## **The Psalm**

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

**One day tells its tale to another, \***  
**and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,

**Their sound has gone out into all lands, \***  
**and their message to the ends of the world.**

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

The law of the Lord is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the Lord is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

**The statutes of the Lord are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the Lord is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the Lord is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

## **The Gospel**

Matthew 21:33-46

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

Jesus said, “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord’s doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes?”

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

*Gospeler*        The Gospel of the Lord.  
*Assembly*        Praise be to thee, O Christ.

## The Sermon

The Rev. Mary Haggerty

*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 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**

*The Book of Common Prayer, Form VI*

*Intercessor* In peace, we pray to thee, Lord God.

*Silence*

*Intercessor* For all people in their daily life and work;

*Assembly* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who  
are alone.**

*Intercessor* For this community, the nation, and the world;

*Assembly* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Intercessor* For the just and proper use of thy creation;

*Assembly* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Intercessor* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*Assembly* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the  
needy.**

*Intercessor* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*Assembly* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Intercessor* For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Paula, our Bishop; and for all  
bishops and other ministers;

*Assembly* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Intercessor* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially

Sally Graver

Sherry Schellenbach

Isabelle Thomson

Norris Byrnes, cousin of Libby Hinds

Donna, friend of Walter Aldrich

Leigh, niece of Fred & Annette Johnston

Patricia & Richard, friend of Annette & Fred Johnston

*Silence*

*Intercessor* Hear us, O Lord;

*Assembly* **For thy mercy is great.**

*Intercessor* We thank thee, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*Intercessor* We will exalt thee, O God our King;

*Assembly* **And praise thy Name for ever and ever.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in thine eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*Intercessor* Lord, let thy loving-kindness be upon them;

*Assembly* **Who put their trust in thee.**

*Presider* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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, 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.*

*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 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. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## 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*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*Assembly*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

## Coming Up at St. Elisabeth's

### Family Promise Returns in October

Family Promise is returning to St. Augustine's in Wilmette the week of **October 11 through 17**, and we at St. E's are excited to partner with them both again. Dinner and overnight hosts are available throughout the week, so scan the QR code for specific dates and times.



Also, it's wonderful to announce that I'm taking over the coordinating responsibilities from Robert Fischer; many thanks to Robert for his work over the years and I'll do my best to keep it moving forward smoothly. Family Promise continues to be a wonderful program keeping families together as they work through challenging housing situations. We at St. E's are grateful that we can be a part of such a vital ministry. – Jim Baur & Rocky Baur

### Sunday Forum: A (Re)Introduction to Christian Teaching and Practice

On **Sunday, October 11**, Adam will continue the Sunday Forum series, focusing on the book written by former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Willaims, *Discovering Christianity: A Guide for the Curious*. We will be reading and discussing Chapter 2, "What is Christianity?" Copies of the chapter will be available at the back of the church. Feel free to get a copy of your very own from your favorite local bookstore or from anyplace online where books are sold.

### October Book Group Meeting

This year St Elisabeth's Book Group is reading selections from *The Art of the Short Story* (Gioia and Gwynn). In October, we will talk about **Paul's Case** by Willa Cather. This is the story of a high school student whose version of the life he wants doesn't correspond to the life he has. We will meet in the Chapel at 1:00 PM on **Tuesday, October 13**. Linda Illes will lead the discussion.

## Living in Community

### Celebrating Success!

Our summer canned food drive was a success! We delivered dozens and dozens of canned food, and other containers of food, to the New Trier Township Food Pantry. The Pantry staff was happy to receive such a large donation. Our thanks go to Victor, Hero and Val Kim for suggesting canned fruit--there was a LOT of fruit. Our thanks also go to all the parishioners who donated food. Well done St. E's! – Fred Johnston

### St. Elisabeth's Bible Study

The St. Elisabeth's Bible Study group meets on Thursday afternoons at 1:30 pm in the Chapel. All are welcome!

We are currently reading *Dominion: How the Christian Revolution Remade the World* by historian Tom Holland. A history of the Christian idea throughout time, as the dust jacket says, "From Babylon to the Beatles, Saint Michael to #MeToo, Dominion tells the story of how Christianity transformed the modern world." For more information, contact Chuck Chadd.

### **St. Elisabeth's Choir**

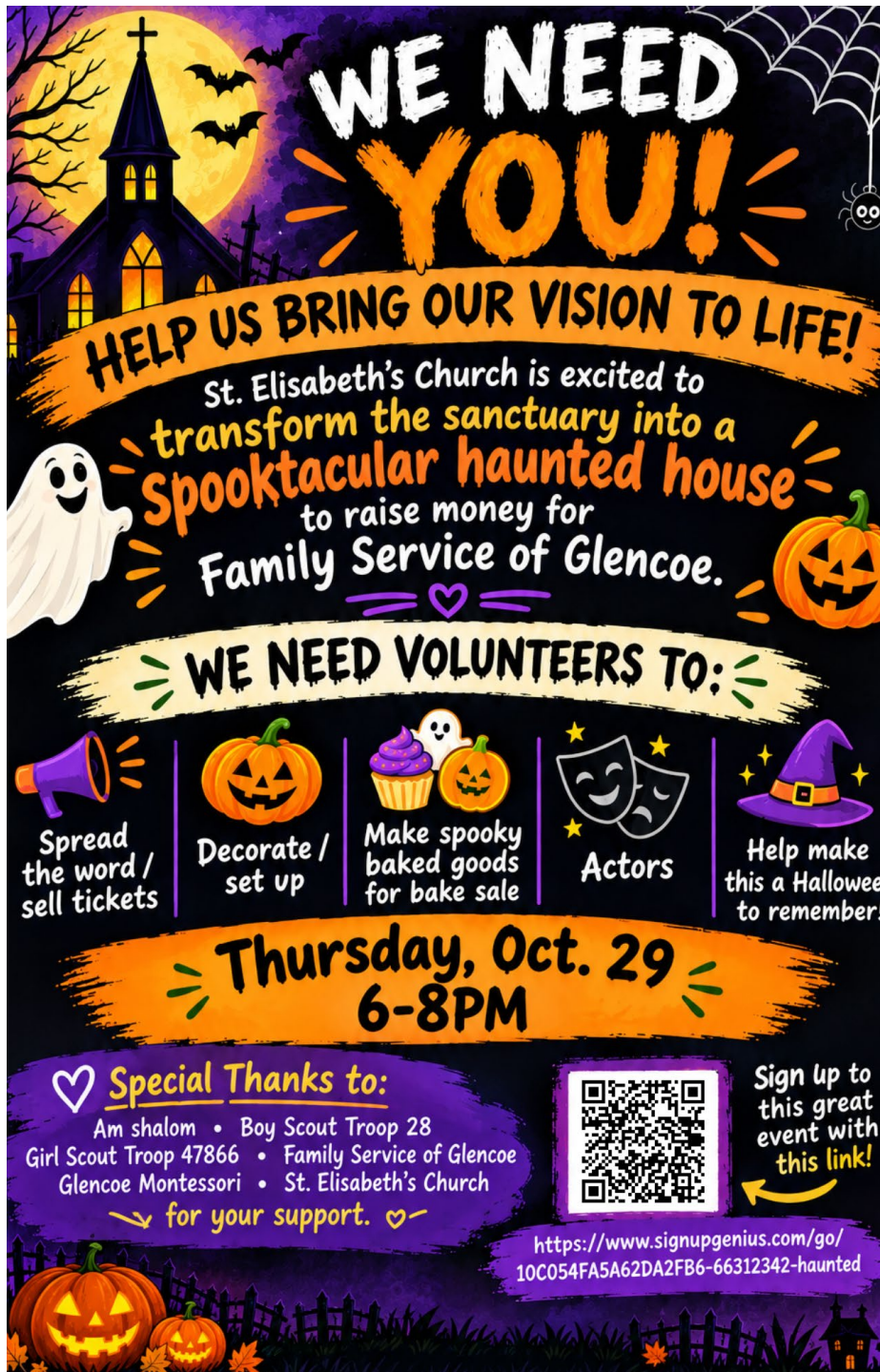
All are invited to join the St. Elisabeth's Choir. Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings, beginning at 7 p.m. (Please note the earlier start time this year.) All are welcome - no experience, background, or skill is required. If you have any questions, you can reach Walter at [music@steglencoe.org](mailto:music@steglencoe.org) or catch him after a Sunday service. See you there!

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:rector@steglencoe.org)



# WE NEED YOU!

**HELP US BRING OUR VISION TO LIFE!**

St. Elisabeth's Church is excited to  
**transform the sanctuary into a Spooktacular haunted house**  
 to raise money for  
**Family Service of Glencoe.**

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO:**

-  Spread the word / sell tickets
-  Decorate / set up
-  Make spooky baked goods for bake sale
-  Actors
-  Help make this a Halloween to remember.

**Thursday, Oct. 29  
6-8PM**

 **Special Thanks to:**  
 Am shalom • Boy Scout Troop 28  
 Girl Scout Troop 47866 • Family Service of Glencoe  
 Glencoe Montessori • St. Elisabeth's Church  
 ➔ for your support. ♥



Sign up to this great event with **this link!**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FA5A62DA2FB6-66312342-haunted>

# 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 (September to June)
- 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.