

St. Elisabeth's Episcopal Church

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024 10:00 AM

Welcome to Saint Elisabeth's. We are delighted to have you with us this today.



The Brazen Serpent, 20th Century Giovanni Fantoni

Atop Mount Nebo in Jordan, this serpentine sculpture represents the Old Testament story of the serpent on the pole in Numbers 21:4-9 integrated with the New Testament cross of Christ.

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.

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

Entering in...

Union: If God is at the center, we want to be moving inward to that center. It's like spokes on a wheel: as we come closer to the center, we come closer to others, who are also bound toward that center. That is Jesus' intention: gathering around himself the children of God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

-Br. Curtis Almquist, Society of Saint John the Evangelist

Practice: Orthopraxy

Reach out to someone from another tribe, language, people or nation. What did you experience?

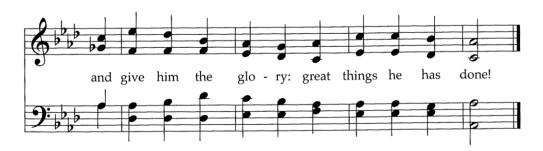
Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Glory to God 634 "To God Be the Glory" To God Be the Glory God be the glo-ry; great things he 1 To has done! things he has taught us; great things he 2 Great has done, So loved he world that the he his Son, gave us re - joic - ing through great our Je - sus the Son; who yield ed his life tone - ment for sin, an but er and high - er will great - er be and.





A Penitential Order

Presider Blessed be the God of our salvation.

Assembly Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Presider Let us lay before God our regrets and sorrows.

All kneel, as able. A period of silence is kept.

Assembly God of all mercy, w

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen

Absolution

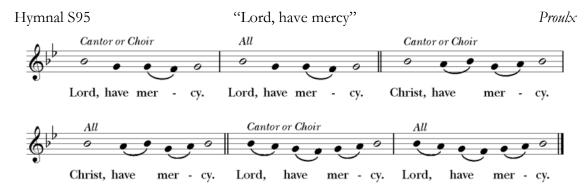
Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the

grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of

the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Assembly Amen.

Kyrie



Collect

Presider Blessed be God who forgives our sins.

Assembly God's mercy endures for ever.

Presider Let us pray.

Steadfast God, you reach out to us in mercy even when we rebel against your holy call and prefer to walk in disobedience rather than in the way of your divine truth. Soften our hearts with the warmth of your love, that we may know your Son alive within us, redeeming us and raising us up into your eternal presence.

Assembly Amen.

First Reading Numbers 21:4-9

A Reading from the Book of Numbers.

Steadfast God, you reach out to us in mercy even when we rebel against your holy call and prefer to walk in disobedience rather than in the way of your divine truth. soften our hearts with the warmth of your love, that we may know your Son alive within us, redeeming us and raising us up into your eternal presence.

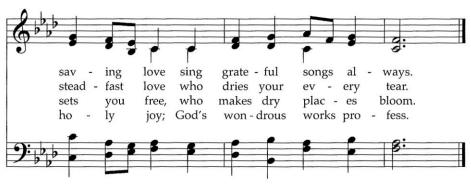
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Assembly Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

1 54III 107.1 3,17 22





- 5 If you have felt your courage fail before a violent sea and cried to God, who stilled the storm, and made the wild wind flee, then in the congregation praise the One who heard your plea.
- 6 So praise the One whose love is great, whose kindness is well-known. Consider well the healing hand and help you have been shown, and tell the world what God has done. Praise God and God alone!

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

Assembly Thanks be to God.

Gradual



All face the Gospel Book.

Gospel John 3:14-21

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

Assembly Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Seán Hansen

A period of silence follows.



Prayers of the People

Common Worship Times and Seasons

The Assembly may kneel or stand.

Intercessor We pray for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves to God

this Lent.

O God, give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with

herself and to give more time to your mission in the world.

God, meet us in the silence,

Assembly give us strength and hear our prayer.

Intercessor Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness, and hatred, and to

seek peace.

God, meet us in the silence,

Assembly give us strength and hear our prayer.

Intercessor Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife, and jealousy in our families,

neighborhoods, and communities.

God, meet us in the silence,

Assembly give us strength and hear our prayer.

Intercessor Give us the courage to give up our selfishness as we live for others, and to give time, care, and comfort to those who are sick or suffering. We pray

today especially for:

Ben Whipple, Susan & Larry Whipple's son

Viola Bradshaw

Susan Chadd

Carla Arnell

Paul Lucas

Hall Healy

Lisa

Jamie Whaley, Kara Superfine's relative

Anna, Ian & their unborn baby, Fred Johnston's friends

John Arnell

The people of Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine

All those affected by gun violence

are there others?...

May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch, and the light of his presence fill their lives.

God, meet us in the silence,

Assembly give us strength and hear our prayer.

Intercessor Give us the courage to give up our fear of death and rejoice with those

who have died in faith. We pray for all who have died...

God, meet us in the silence,

Assembly give us strength and hear our prayer, here and in eternity. Amen.

Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

Assembly And also with you.

Please offer one another a sign of God's Peace.

Welcome and Announcements

Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelers

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

Birthdays		Anniversaries
3-13	Courtney Mygatt	
3-15	Cathy MacKinnon	
3-15	Kay Rossiter	
3-16	Jocelyn Miller	

Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Presider

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

Ephesians 5:2

Collection

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.

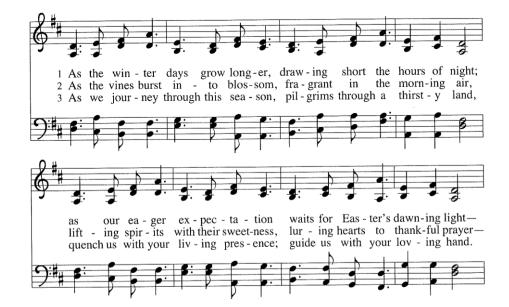


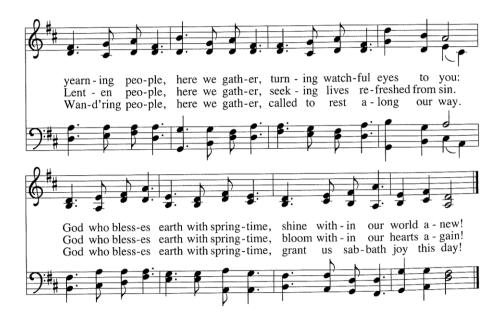
Offertory Music

All Creation Sings 924

"As the Winter Days Grow Longer"

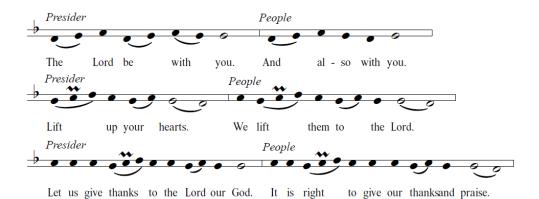
All Creation Sings





Great Thanksgiving

Expansive Language Prayer A

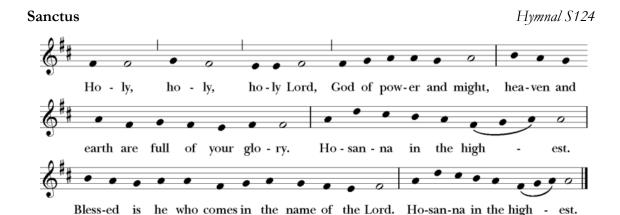


Presider

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where to give thanks to you, O God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Presider

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Assembly

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

Presider

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever

Assembly

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Presider

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Assembly

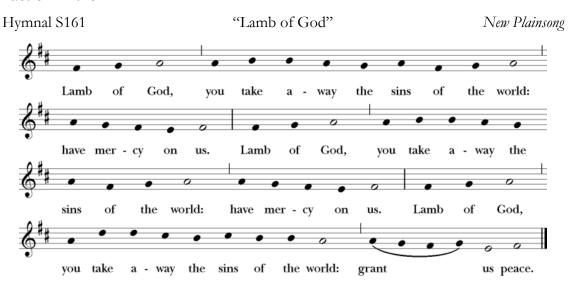
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

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

Fraction Anthem



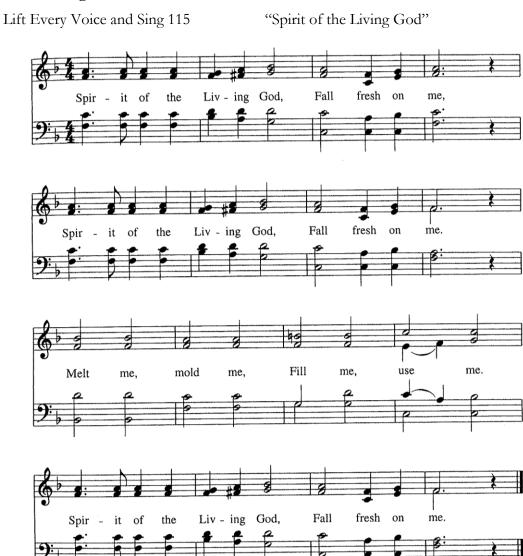
Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to come forward to receive Communion or a blessing at this time. Gluten-free host available upon request.

If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament, please cross your arms over your chest.

Music during Communion



Post Communion Prayer

Presider

Let us pray.

Assembly

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Prayer Over the People

Presider Look with compassion, O God, upon this your people; that, rightly

observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to

serve you with more perfect will; through Christ our Lord.

Assembly

Amen.

Closing Hymn

Moravian Book of Worship 618

"O Christians, Haste"

Tidings

(music on the next page.)

Dismissal

Presider

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Assembly

Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Assisting Today

First Reading Polly Baur

Second Reading Susan Newcomb

Prayers John Tuohy
Altar Guild Polly Baur
Usher Larry Whipple

Coffee Hour Mark Tilton

This Week

Monday, March 11 AA Meeting (8:00 PM)

Tuesday, March 12 St. E's Book Group (Noon)

Vestry Meeting (7:00 PM)

Wednesday, March 13 Boy Scout Meeting (7:15 PM)

Thursday, March 14 Spoken Eucharist Rite II (7:30 AM)

Choir Rehearsal (7:30 PM)

Friday, March 15 Bible Study (11:00 AM)

Stations of the Cross at Trinity HP (6:00 PM)

Fish Fry at Trinity HP (7:00 PM)

Saturday, March 16 Confirmation and Christianity 101 At Trinity (4:30 PM)

AA Meeting (5:00 PM)

Up Next

Sunday, March 17 Spoken Eucharist: Rite I (8:00 AM)

Choir Rehearsal (9:00 AM)

Choral Eucharist: Rite II (10:00 AM)

Coffee Hour, Forum, & Sunday School (11:00 AM)

March 19 Vestry Meeting (7:00 PM)

March 21 Spoken Eucharist: Rite II (7:30 AM)

Choir Rehearsal (7:30 PM)

March 22 Bible Study (11:00 AM)

Holy Week and Easter at St. Elisabeth's

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

March 24 8:00 AM Spoken Eucharist Rite I

10:00 AM Choral Eucharist Rite II

Maundy Thursday

March 28 7:00 PM Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the

Altar at St. E's

Good Friday

March 29 7:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy at St. E's

Holy Saturday

March 30 7:00 PM Easter Vigil at St. Lawrence, Libertyville

With our Better Together Partner Parishes

The Feast of the Resurrection: Easter Day

March 31 8:00 AM Spoken Eucharist Rite I

10:00 AM Choral Eucharist Rite II

Refreshments follow the 10:00 AM Service.



Announcements

Easter Flower & Music Donations: Please consider donating to the Easter Flower and Music Fund. Forms and payment are **due** to the office by **March 17**. Forms are at the back of the church, in the March issue of the Voice newsletter, or you can click the link in the Thursday eNews to download the page and mail it along with your check to the office.

Today - Adam Preaching at St. Thomas Fifth Avenue: Adam has been invited to preach at his former parish in New York City, St. Thomas Fifth Avenue, on Sunday, March 10th as part of the Lenten portion of their Bicentennial year celebration. Adam will be preaching at the 4:00pm Choral Evensong service (3:00 pm Central time!) which will be webcast on the St. Thomas website. Walter will host a viewing of the live stream of the service in the Guild Room at St. Elisabeth's at 3:00 PM, This afternoon, for anyone interested in watching with friends.

Sing for Easter! All are invited to join our festival choir on Easter Sunday! We'll be rehearsing Sundays at 9:00 AM and Thursdays at 7:30 PM from now until Holy Week – make what you can, every voice is welcome. An Easter Festival choir is a great way to give choir a try, or to join for a service without a long-term commitment! If you're interested in singing, or have any questions, talk to Walter or any member of the choir.

Sunday School for Children, upstairs after the 10 o'clock service. This is a weekly offering.

Weekday Worship: Come join Adam before work or school at 7:30 AM every Thursday for a short service of Holy Communion with a brief homily on the readings assigned for the day.

St. Elisabeth's Bible Study meets weekly on **Fridays at 11:00 AM** in the Guild Room. For more information, contact Larry Whipple.

Sunday Forum: We will gather weekly at Coffee Hour after the 10:00 AM service in the Guild Room. We will discuss the day's readings, sermon, liturgy, music and whatever else is on folks' minds. These conversations will be facilitated by the Rector. On select Sundays, we will continue to have guest speakers and teachers on various topics.

The Next Second Saturday Family Eucharist and Potluck Supper will take place on Saturday, April 13 at 4:30 PM. We will gather for Communion around the table and then share a potluck meal and some fun and fellowship together. We will have these gatherings every Second Saturday through May. Please contact Susan Whipple or Anne Tuohy with any questions.

The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop

Saint Elisabeth's Episcopal Church

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Adam Spencer

The Rev. Larry Handwerk

Walter Aldrich Pam Green

Elizabeth Clemmitt

Seán Hansen

Abigail Pribble

Rector

Assisting Priest Director of Music

Director of Administration

Associate for Spiritual Wellness

Seminarian

Director of Children's Formation

2024 Vestry

Leslie Alter, Warden Fred Johnston

Carla Arnell Susanne Arnell

Robin Lake, Warden Claire Lesperance Robert Fischer Carrie Miller-Mygatt Ross Shanley-Roberts

Kara Superfine

Mark Tilton, Treasurer John Tuohy, asst. Treasurer

Sunday Schedule



Spoken Eucharist: Rite I 8:00 AM

9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM Choral Eucharist: Rite II

Coffee Hour, Forum, and Sunday School 11:00 AM

Office Hours

Tuesday by appointment, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Pastoral Care Number: 847-786-3082

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