



# ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*The Third Sunday of Advent*

December 17, 2023

10:00 AM

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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.*

## 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.

*-From Daily Prayer for All Seasons*

## Entering in...

When the Kingdom comes in its fullness it will be mostly the triumph of small things. The widow’s mite; the boy’s five barley loaves and two fish that fed thousands. Even the smallest gestures of kindness, love, compassion, patience, generosity. These are the flags of dawn.

*-Br. Mark Brown, SSJE*

## Practice

What signs of God’s kingdom have you seen in small things this season? Celebrate them. Share them.



# Holy Eucharist

## Prelude

## Opening Hymn

Hymnal 76

"On Jordan's Bank"

*Winchester New*

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

## Opening Acclamation

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

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

## Kyrie

*Presider* Lord, have mercy.

*Assembly* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Presider* Lord, have mercy.

## Collect of the Day

*Presider* God be with you.

*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

Merciful God of peace, your word, spoken by the prophets, restores your people's life and hope. Fill our hearts with the joy of your saving grace, that we may hold fast to your great goodness and in our lives proclaim your justice in all the world through Jesus the Christ.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## Word of God

### First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

A Reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the

mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

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

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

## Psalm

Psalm 126

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

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.

**2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The Lord has done great things for them."

**4 The Lord has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.**

5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.**

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**Second Reading**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A Reading from the First letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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

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

*Please stand and face the Gospel book*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Hymnal 56

“O Come, O Come”

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

*Verses 4 and 5 before the Gospel*

*Verse 8 after the Gospel*

*Music on the next page*



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from  
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to  
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.  
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.  
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

**The Gospel**

John 1:6-8,19-28

*Gospeler*            The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.  
*Assembly*           **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

*Gospeler*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*Assembly*           **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**

The Rev. Adam Spencer

*A period of silence follows*

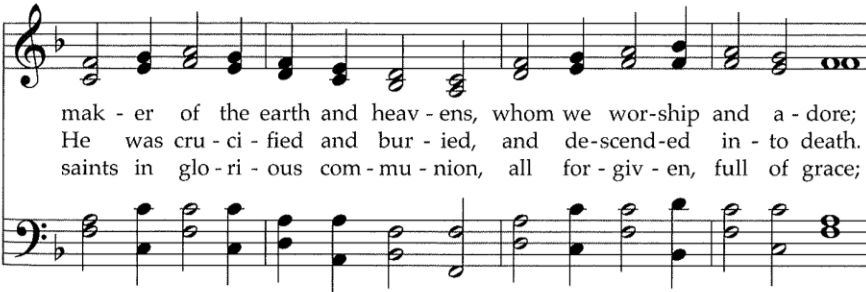


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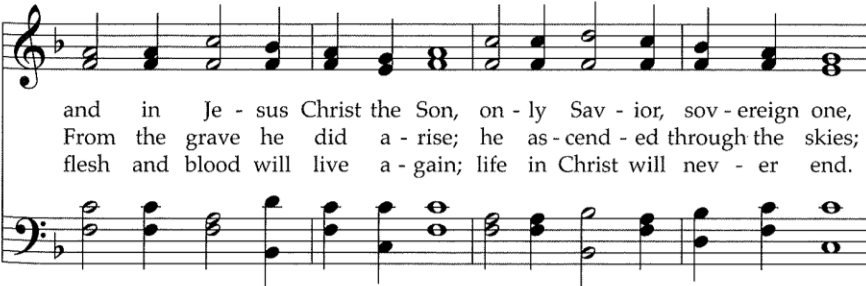
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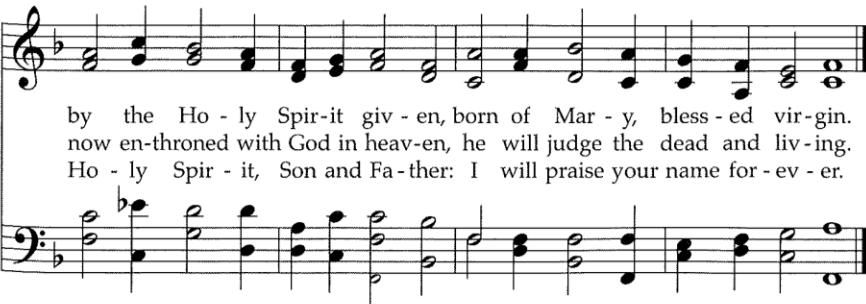
1 I be-lieve in God the Fa - ther, mer - ci - ful and might-y Lord,  
 2 Un - der Pi - late, Je - sus suf - fered, faith - ful to his fi - nal breath.  
 3 I be-lieve in God the Spir - it, and the church in ev - ery place;



mak - er of the earth and heav - ens, whom we wor-ship and a - dore;  
 He was cru - ci - fied and bur - ied, and de - scend - ed in - to death.  
 saints in glo - ri - ous com - mu - nion, all for - giv - en, full of grace;



and in Je - sus Christ the Son, on - ly Sav - ior, sov - ereign one,  
 From the grave he did a - rise; he as - cend - ed through the skies;  
 flesh and blood will live a - gain; life in Christ will nev - er end.



by the Ho - ly Spir - it giv - en, born of Mar - y, bless - ed vir - gin.  
 now en - throned with God in heav - en, he will judge the dead and liv - ing.  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, Son and Fa - ther: I will praise your name for - ev - er.

**Prayers of the People***New Zealand Prayer Book*

*Intercessor* Merciful God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the church:

*Assembly* **that we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.**

*Intercessor* Breathe fresh life into your people.

*Assembly* **Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.**

*Intercessor* Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace.

*Assembly* **That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.**

*Intercessor* Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.

*Assembly* **Teach us to care creatively for its resources.**

*Intercessor* God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others.

*Assembly* **That all may act with integrity and courage.**

*Intercessor* Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours

*Assembly* **May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

*Intercessor* We pray for those in need: and for those who have asked for our prayers, especially:

Bishop Michael Curry

The people of Israel and Palestine

Isabelle Thomson

John Arnell

Joe Foley, Brian Green's friend

Ginger Sully, Anne & John Tuohy's niece

Walter Tuohy, John Tuohy's brother

Henry Carrigan, Carla Arnell's friend

Carol Johnston, Robert Fischer's friend

Wayne Gutenmann, Pam Green's cousin

Vicki Handwerk

Linda Staubitz

are there others?...

God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.

*Assembly*

**May they know the power of your healing love.**

*Intercessor*

Make us willing agents of your compassion.

*Assembly*

**Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.**

*Intercessor*

We remember those who have died.

*Assembly*

**Lord, into your hands we commend them.**

*Intercessor*

Give comfort to those who mourn.

*Assembly*

**Bring them peace in their time of loss.**

*Intercessor*

We praise you for all your saints who have entered your eternal glory.

*Assembly*

**May their example inspire and encourage us.**

*Intercessor*

Lord, you have called us to serve you.

*Assembly*

**Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Silence*

### Concluding Collect

*Presider*

Your word is a lamp for our feet. In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us, O God, to trust your love, to serve your purpose, and to praise your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assembly*

**Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

*Presider* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Assembly* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Presider* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## Peace

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you..

*Assembly* **And also with you.**

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

## Welcome and Announcements

### Birthdays

### Anniversaries

*None on record this week*

*Those celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

## Celebration of Birthdays

*Presider* God, thank you for the days of our lives: Look with joy, we pray, on N. and all celebrating birthdays as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## Celebration of Anniversaries

*Presider* God of our strength and joy, we thank you for the love we witness between two people because through their love for each other we get a glimpse of the love you have for each and every one of us. Through the power of your spirit may N.& N. live in fidelity and peace and obtain those eternal joys prepared for all who seek and love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## 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 Anthem

Hymnal 66

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

*Stuttgart*



1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,  
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

**Doxology**

*Please stand as able.*

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Old 100th*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble staff begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host:

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff melody includes quarter notes E5, F#5, G5, and A5, followed by a half note B5. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The final system concludes the doxology. The treble staff melody includes quarter notes B5, A5, G5, and F#5, ending with a half note G5. The bass staff concludes with a final chord and a double bar line.

**Great Thanksgiving***Eucharistic Prayer B*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*Assembly* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Assembly* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

*Assembly* **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Presider* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.



On the night before he died for us, our Lord 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 he 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Assembly*

**We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.**

*Presider*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Elisabeth and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

## 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.*

## 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

Hymnal 67  
*Music on the next page*

“Comfort, comfort”

*Psalm 42*



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus  
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert  
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



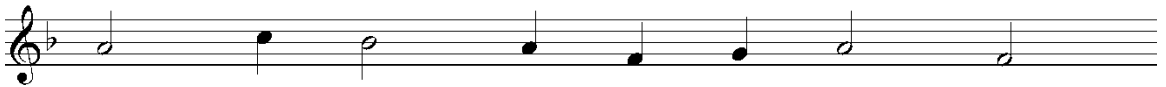
saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness  
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance  
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



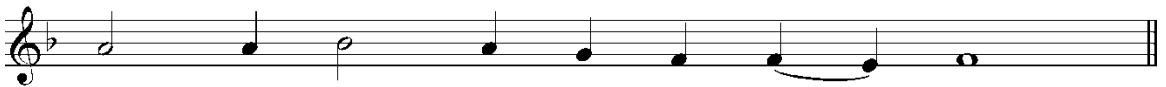
mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -  
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing  
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,  
 let the val - leys rise to meet him  
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
 and the hills bow down to greet him.  
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

## Post Communion Prayer

*Presider* Let us pray.

*Assembly* **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.**

## Blessing

*Common Worship*

*Presider* The peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

Hymnal 65

“Prepare the Way”

*Bereden vag for Herran*



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
 His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



*Refrain*  
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

## Dismissal

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

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

## Postlude

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** For the ecumenical relationships between the churches in full Communion with the Episcopal Church: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Church of North India; Church of South India; Church of Pakistan; Church of Bangladesh; the Old Catholic Churches; the Philippine Independent Church; the Mar Thoma Syrian Church of Malabar; and the Moravian Church in America, Northern and Southern Provinces.

## Assisting Today

First Reading	Polly Baur
Second Reading	Carla Arnell
Prayers	Peter Rossiter
Altar Guild	Polly Baur
Usher	Larry Whipple
Coffee Hour	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>

## This Week

Monday, December 18	AA Meeting (8:00 PM)
Wednesday, December 20	Boy Scout Meeting (7:15 PM)
Thursday, December 21	Spoken Eucharist Rite II (7:30 AM) Choir Rehearsal (7:30 PM)
Saturday, December 23	AA Meeting (5:00 PM)

## Up Next

<u>Sunday, December 24</u>	Spoken Eucharist: Rite I (8:00 AM) Choir Rehearsal (9:00 AM) Choral Eucharist: Rite II (10:00 AM) Family Christmas Eve Service & Pageant (4:00 PM) Christmas Eve with Choir & Sermon (9:00 PM)
December 25	Morning Prayer (10:00 AM)
December 28	Spoken Eucharist: Rite II (7:30 AM)

## Announcements

**TODAY is the last day to put in Christmas Flower & Music Dedications.** If you would like to make a donation and dedication for the flowers and/or music for Christmas, there are forms at the back of the church, please print legibly. **Put it in the plate today to be included in the dedications.** Please write “*Christmas Flowers & Music*” in the memo line of your check.

Join Adam in the Guild Room **after the 10:00 AM service TODAY** for a continued Introduction to Saint Paul as we discuss the apostle's life and ministry.

**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 Mark Tilton. There will be no bible study on December 22 or 29. We will resume on Friday, January 5.

**Climate Forum:** Our seminarian, **Seán Hansen**, recently attended the United Nations' COP28 at Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's request. Join us in the Guild Room after the 10:00 AM service on **Sunday, January 7** to hear Seán speak about his experiences, the outcome of the conference, and our moral duty as Episcopalians to care for God's creation.

**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>Assisting Priest</i>
Walter Aldrich	<i>Director of Music</i>
Pam Green	<i>Director of Administration</i>
Elizabeth Clemmitt	<i>Associate for Spiritual Wellness</i>
Seán Hansen	<i>Seminarian</i>

**Vestry**

Leslie Alter, <i>Warden</i>	Tasker Generes, <i>Treasurer</i>	Ross Shanley-Roberts
Carla Arnell	Robin Lake, <i>Warden</i>	Kathy Svetina, <i>Treasurer</i>
Lizzy Arnell	Carrie Miller-Mygatt	Mark Tilton
Robert Fischer	Susan Newcomb	John Tuohy, <i>asst. Treasurer</i>

**Sunday Schedule**

8:00 AM	Spoken Eucharist: Rite I
9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM	Choral Eucharist: Rite II

**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.*