



# ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

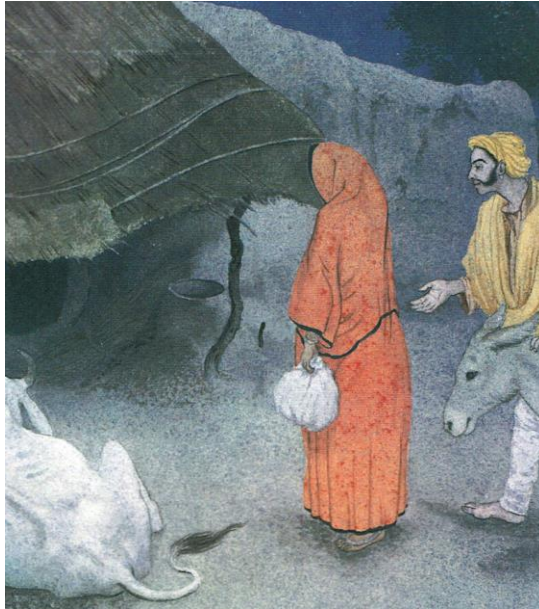
*First Sunday after Christmas*

December 31, 2023

8:00 AM

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Welcome to St. Elisabeth's Church



*The Only Room*  
*Indian Frank Wesley, 1923-2002,*  
*Fifth generation Christian of Hindu and Muslim descent.*

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

556 Vernon Avenue, Glencoe IL 60022 ♦ 847.835.0458 ♦ [www.steglencoe.org](http://www.steglencoe.org) ♦ [office@steglencoe.org](mailto:office@steglencoe.org)

## Christmas

For the church, Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. We celebrate this birth not because Jesus was simply a “good man” but because we believe Jesus was — and is — both the human son of Mary and the divine Son of God. That makes Christmas a time to reflect on a mystery that the church calls the doctrine of the Incarnation. This important theological term comes from the Latin word *carne*, which means “flesh,” and has to do with the divine taking on human flesh and coming among us in human form.

In one of his Christmas sermons Augustine, the fifth-century bishop of Hippo, described the mystery of the Incarnation this way: “Beloved, our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal creator of all things, today became our Savior by being born of a mother. Of his own will he was born for us today, in time, so that he could lead us to his Father’s eternity. God became human like us so that we might become God. The Lord of the angels became one of us today so that we could eat the bread of angels.”

*From Daily Prayer for All Seasons*

## Entering in...

Through the Incarnation, God in Jesus became flesh; God visibly moved in with the material world to help us overcome the illusion of separation... The Incarnation proclaims that matter and spirit have never been separate. Jesus came to tell us that these two seemingly different worlds are—and always have been—one.

--Richard Rohr

## Practice

Take an object, any object (Julian of Norwich used a hazelnut). Sit with it for five or ten minutes and look for its oneness of spirit and matter. It may take a while, but don’t give up. Come back to it again and again. It will change the way you see your world.



## The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

### The Word of God

#### The Prelude

#### The Opening Acclamation

*Please stand as able.*

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

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

#### The Collect for Purity

*Presider* Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

#### The Summary of the Law

*Presider* Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

## The Kyrie

*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 God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
*Assembly* **Amen.**

## The Lessons

### The First Reading

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

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. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.  
*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm**

Psalm 147

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

1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

**2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \* he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

3 He heals the brokenhearted \* and binds up their wounds.

**4 He counts the number of the stars \* and calls them all by their names.**

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \* there is no limit to his wisdom.

**6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, \* but casts the wicked to the ground.**

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \* make music to our God upon the harp.

**8 He covers the heavens with clouds \* and prepares rain for the earth;**

9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \* and green plants to serve mankind.

**10 He provides food for flocks and herds \* and for the young ravens when they cry.**

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \* he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

**12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \* in those who await his gracious favor.**

13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \* praise your God, O Zion;

**14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \* he has blessed your children within you.**

15 He has established peace on your borders; \* he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**16 He sends out his command to the earth, \* and his word runs very swiftly.**

17 He gives snow like wool; \* he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \* who can stand against his cold?**

19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \* he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

**20 He declares his word to Jacob, \* his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

21 He has not done so to any other nation; \* to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

### **The Second Reading**

Galatians 3:22-25;4:4-7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

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

*Stand for the Gospel, as able.*

**The Gospel**

John 1:1-18

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

The Rev. Larry Handwerk

*A period of silence follows.*

## The Nicene Creed

*Please stand as able.*

*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***BCP pgs. 328-330**Intercessor*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Paula our Bishop, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Joseph, our president, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. Particularly:

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  
Cheryl, Pat, and Doug, Zimmerman family friends  
Liam & Nathan Farrell, Green family friends

Are there others? .....

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Elisabeth and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

*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 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.**

*Presider*

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

*St. Matt. xi. 28.*

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

*St. John iii. 16.*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

*1 Tim. i. 15.*

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins.

*1 St. John ii. 1, 2.*

## 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 Announcements

### Birthdays

12-31        Rod Zimmerman

1-4         Peter Wittleder

1-5         Susan Newcomb

### Anniversaries

## The Offertory Sentence

*Presider*        Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

## The Collection

*If you are financially able to support the mission of St. Elisabeth's, please put your offering in the collection plate at the back of the church, or you can use this QR code as a shortcut.*



## The Holy Communion

### The Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand as able.*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*Assembly* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*Assembly* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Presider* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

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.**

*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.

*Presider*

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,

*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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

## The Prayer of Humble Access

*Assembly* **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.

*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.*

## The Post Communion Prayer

*Please stand as able.*

*Assembly*                    **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 Gloria***Assembly*

Glory be to God on high,  
 and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
 We praise thee, we bless thee,  
 we worship thee,  
 we glorify thee,  
 we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
 O Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
 that takest away the sins of the world,  
 have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
 receive our prayer.  
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
 have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;  
 thou only art the Lord;  
 thou only, O Christ  
 with the Holy Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. 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.****The Postlude**

## This Week

Monday, January 1	AA Meeting (8:00 PM)
Wednesday, January 3	Boy Scout Meeting (7:15 PM)
Thursday, January 4	Spoken Eucharist Rite II (7:30 AM)
Friday, January 5	Bible Study (11:00 AM)
Saturday, January 6	AA Meeting (5:00 PM)

## Up Next

<u>Sunday, January 7</u>	Spoken Eucharist: Rite I (8:00 AM) Choir Rehearsal (9:00 AM) Choral Eucharist: Rite II (10:00 AM)
January 9	Deadline for Annual Reports to the office St. E's Book Group (12:00 noon) Vestry Meeting (7:15 PM)
January 11	Soup Kitchen Spoken Eucharist Rite II (7:30 AM) Choir Rehearsal (7:00 PM)
January 12	Bible Study (11:00 AM)

# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & FESTIVE MUSIC

In thanksgiving for our family Katherine, Dan, Maren, Ethan, and Avery Darnell

*By Anne & Hall Healy*

In memory of Charles Seccombe

*By Robert Seccombe*

In memory of Eleanor & Bill Griggs

*By the Briggs family*

In thanksgiving for the Morley and Whipple families.

*By Susan and Larry Whipple*

In memory of Michael and Charles Newcomb

*By Joyce Newcomb*

In memory of Alicesnow & Norman Rickards

*By Joyce Newcomb and Carol Heitman-Mazzocco*

In thanksgiving for our families

*By Glenna & Bud Foley*

In Memory of Karen J. Samuelsen

*By Margaret Samuelsen*

In thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren

*By Anne & John Tuohy*

In Memory of Dr. Marshall & Ruby Cook

*By Elaine (Cook) Rand*

In memory of Helen & Don Reid

*By the Green family*

In thanksgiving for our incredible and loving family both near and far

*By James & Barbara Ferry*

In memory of Paula Y Arnell and Ted & Jean Lucas

*By the Arnell-Lucas family*

*The Handwerk family*

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