



ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

8:00 AM

Welcome to St. Elisabeth's Church



Get Thee Behind Me, Satan!
James Tissot, c. 1886, Brooklyn Museum

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

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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 ...

Taking up one’s cross is not a call to patiently, passively endure, but to take hold of life and stand up against injustice even if there is a cost for doing so.

Herb Montgomery

Practice: Orthopraxy

What one injustice bothers you the most? What might you do to stand up against this injustice, even if it might be costly to you personally? Would that be life giving to you?

The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

The Word of God

The Prelude

The Opening Acclamation

Please stand as able.

Presider Bless the Lord, who forgiveth all our sins.

Assembly **His mercy endureth for ever.**

The Decalogue

Presider God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Honor thy father and thy mother.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Thou shalt do no murder.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Thou shalt not steal.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Thou shalt not covet.

Assembly **Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Confession and Absolution

Presider Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Assembly **Almighty and most merciful father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter**

**live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name.
Amen.**

Presider The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit

Assembly **Amen.**

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.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever.

Assembly **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7,15-16

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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

The Psalm

Psalm 22:22-30

Read responsively by whole verse, with the reader leading.

22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

**23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.**

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
 and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
 all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord'S for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
 the saving deeds that he has done.

The Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,

being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

Assembly **Thanks be to God.**

Stand for the Gospel, as able.

The Gospel

Mark 8:31-389

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

Assembly **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly **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

Ben Whipple, Susan & Larry Whipple's son

Steve Roemer, Carol Heitman-Mazzocco's son-in-law

Viola Bradshaw

Pat Keeley, Adrienne Zimmerman's brother-in-law

Cheryl Porter, Adrienne Zimmerman's friend

Susan Chadd

Patrick, Larry Handwerk's friend

John Arnell

King Charles III

Lisa

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

The people of Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine

All those affected by gun violence

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 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.

Announcements

Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelers

Birthdays

2-26 Luis Baranco

2-27 Anna Lesperance

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.

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 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 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, February 26	AA Meeting (8:00 PM)
Wednesday, February 28	Boy Scout Meeting (7:15 PM)
Thursday, February 29	Spoken Eucharist Rite II (7:30 AM) Choir Rehearsal (7:30 PM)
Friday, March 1	Bible Study (11:00 AM)
Saturday, March 2	A Quiet Morning in Lent (9:00 AM) AA Meeting (5:00 PM)

Up Next

<u>Sunday, March 3</u>	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 7	Spoken Eucharist: Rite II (7:30 AM) Choir Rehearsal (7:30 PM)
March 8	Bible Study (11:00 AM) Stations of the Cross at Trinity HP (6:00 PM) Fish Fry at Trinity HP (7:00 PM)
March 9	Family Eucharist and Potluck Supper (4:30 PM)

Announcements

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. This week we will be discussing Mark chapters 10-11. For more information, contact Mark Tilton.

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.

A Quiet Morning in Lent: On **Saturday morning, March 2 from 9:00 am – Noon** join Saint Elizabeth's rector Adam Spencer, Associate for Spiritual Wellness Elizabeth Clemmitt, and her spiritual direction colleague Deborah DeManno from Saint Lawrence, Libertyville, and Saint Augustine's in Wilmette as they offer an array of spiritual practices and quiet activities that will help still our minds and soothe our souls. Opportunities for spiritual direction, prayer, healing, confession and more will be available at this mini-retreat morning.

Stations of the Cross and Fish Fry: Last year's first ever Better Together Fish Fry was such a resounding success that we're doing it again on **Friday, March 8!** Join our partner congregations at **6:00 pm** at Trinity (425 Laurel Ave in Highland Park) for Stations of the Cross, followed by a delicious **fish fry at 7:00 pm**. Adam will lead the Stations of the Cross and Walter will sing.

The Next Second Saturday Family Eucharist and Potluck Super will take place on **Saturday, March 9 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*
Carla Arnell
Susanne Arnell
Robert Fischer

Fred Johnston
Robin Lake, *Warden*
Claire Lesperance
Carrie Miller-Mygatt

Ross Shanley-Roberts
Kara Superfine
Mark Tilton, *Treasurer*
John Tuohy, *asst. Treasurer*



Sunday Schedule

8:00 AM Spoken Eucharist: Rite I
9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Choral Eucharist: Rite II
11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Forum, and Sunday School

Office Hours

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