

St. Elisabeth's Episcopal Church

The Feast of the Ascension

May 12, 2024 10:00 AM

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



In the Time of Harmony: The Joy of Life--Sunday by the Sea Signac, Paul, 1863-1935

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.

Easter

Easter, the oldest celebration of the Christian year, is not a single day but an entire season: Easter lasts fifty days, from Easter Day (the Sunday of the Resurrection) through the Day of Pentecost. The season also includes the feast of the Ascension, when the resurrected Jesus ascended to heaven and was seen on earth no longer. Throughout the year every Sunday — even during Lent — is considered a little Easter, a mini feast of the resurrection on what Christians have called the first day of the week. The primary theme of Easter is the resurrection: on this day Jesus was raised from the dead, overcoming the power of death and the grave. We celebrate that we, too, are raised to everlasting life with him in our baptism.

At Pentecost we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the ongoing life of the Holy Spirit in the church today. It is the Holy Spirit who breathes life into the Body of Christ, the church; it is the Holy Spirit who provides the gifts and guidance needed to sustain our life. At every Eucharist we pray that the Holy Spirit will sanctify the bread and wine of communion to be "the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him." We also pray that the Spirit will "sanctify us also" so that we may receive the Eucharist with faith and serve God "in unity, constancy, and peace." It is the Holy Spirit who makes God present and alive in our hearts.

-From Daily Prayer for All Seasons

Entering in

Jesus praying for his disciples in the upper room said "Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Practice (Orthopraxy)

In what ways to you see Jesus prayer that we may be one as he and the Father are one becoming a reality in your life and in the life of this community? What might you do to become an answer to this prayer.

Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Please stand, as you are able, and join in singing.

Opening Hymn

Hymnal 460 "Alleluia Sing to Jesus" Hyfrydol ia! sing his the to Je sus! lu ia! not phans are we as or Thou lu ia! bread of Hea ven, on le lu ia! King ter nal, thee the \mathbf{e} le lu ia! sing to Je sus! his the his Al his scep ter, the throne; ia! the left in Al ia! he is sor row now; lu 3_ earth food, Al lu the our our stay! ia! here 4 Lord of lords own: Al lu ia! born of we 5 scep his the throne; Al ia! his the ter, umph, his tri the vic - to Hark! the ry lone; ques -2 near faith be lieves, nor how: though the us, tions day: ful flee thee from In ter - \sin to day to Ma earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with ry, umph, vic - to tri his the lone; Hark! the a ry

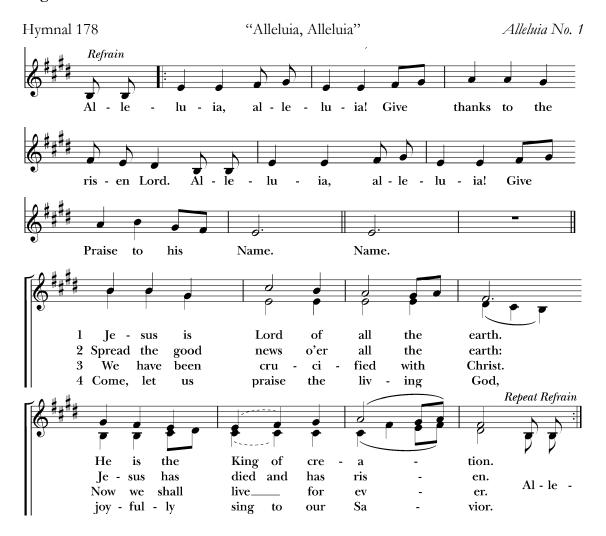


Opening Acclamation

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Assembly The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Song of Praise



Collect

Presider God be with you.

Assembly And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Gracious God, in the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you have given us life eternal and glorified your name in all the world. Refresh our spirits with the living streams of your truth that, in our unity, your joy may be

complete.

Assembly Amen.

Please be seated for the readings.

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

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

Assembly Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 22:24-30



Second Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Assembly Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation



All face the Gospel Book.

Gospel Luke 24:44-53

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

Assembly Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Seán Hansen

A period of silence follows. Please stand as you are able for the creed and prayers.

Creed

"We Believe in God the Father" Lux Eoi Moravian Book of Worship 699 be-lieve in God the Fa-ther, God Al-might - y, by whose plan 2 Christ, who on the cross for-sak-en, like a lamb to slaugh-ter led, God the Spir - it; in one church, be - low, be-lieve in earth and heav - en all cre - at - ed things be - gan. sprang to be - ing, suf - fered un - der Pon-tius Pi - late, he de-scend-ed to the dead. saints of God in one com - mu - nion, one in ho - li ness and love. We be-lieve in Christ the Sav-ior, Son of God in hu-man frame, We be-lieve in Je - sus ris - en, heav-en's king to rule and reign, So by faith, our sins for - giv - en, Christ our Sav-ior, Lord and Friend, child of Mar - y vir - gin - born, the up - on whom the Spir - it came. to the Fa-ther's side as-cend-ed till as judge he comes a-gain.

him in glo-ry

to the life that

knows no end.

we shall rise with

Prayers of the People

BCP Form VI, adapted

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, O God.

(Silence)

For all people in their daily life and work;

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

alone.

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

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

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

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

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

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

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

Intercessor For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Paula our Bishop; and all bishops

and other ministers;

Assembly For all who serve God in his Church.

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, those who have

asked for our prayers, especially:

Susan Chadd

Anna, Ian and their baby Raymond, Fred Johnston's friends

Benjamin Whipple and family

The people of Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine

All those affected by gun violence

are there others?... (Silence)

Hear us, O God.

Assembly For your mercy is great.

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. (Silence)

We will exalt you;

Assembly And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternity.

(Silence)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Assembly Who put their trust in you.

Confession and Absolution

All Creation Sings

Assembly

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

To you, O God, all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in

Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Presider By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the

death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in

eternal life.

Assembly Amen.

Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

Assembly And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the peace of God. Please be seated for the announcements.

Welcome and Announcements

Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelers

Blessing of Graduates.

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

| Birthdays | | | | | Anniversaries |
|-----------|-----|-----|---|---|----------------------|
| F 40 | T 7 | . 1 | 0 | 1 | |

5-18 Katherine Seccombe

Litany of Farewell

For Seán Hansen and Matthew Carey

Good Christian people, I bid you now pray for the saving presence of our living God.

In this world:

Christ is risen.

In this community:

Christ is risen.

In our Diocesan Family:

Christ is risen.

In the hearts of all faithful people:

Christ is risen.

But especially I bid you pray and give thanks now for Seán and Matthew, who are leaving this community.

For expectations not met:

Holy One have mercy.

For grievances not resolved:

Holy One have mercy.

For wounds not healed:

Holy One have mercy.

For anger not dissolved:

Holy One have mercy.

For gifts not given:

Holy One have mercy.

For promises not kept:

Holy One have mercy.

For this portion of their lifelong pilgrimage which they have made with us in this place:

Thanks be to God.

For friendships made, celebrations enjoyed, and for moments of nurture:

Thanks be to God.

For wounds healed, expectations met, gifts given, promises kept:

Thanks be to God.

For trust and confidence shared; times of good humor and moments of gentle and fierce leadership:

Thanks be to God.

For the Table we have shared with Jesus' gift of himself in bread and wine:

Thanks be to God.

And so, to continue the journey with new friends, a new adventure, new gifts to give and receive:

Go in peace.

To offer wisdom and experience, competence and compassion, in the ministry to which they are called:

Go in peace.

With whatever fears, whatever sadness, whatever excitement may be theirs:

Go in peace.

With our faith in them, our hope for them, our love for them:

Go in peace.

Holy God, we pray, be with Seán and Matthew who leave and with those who stay; and grant that all of us, by drawing nearer to you, may always be close to each other in the communion of your saints. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our friend and redeemer.

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

Thank you for your generous giving to the mission and ministry of St. Elisabeth's church. You can leave a donation in the offering plate or use your phone to scan the QR code to donate online.



Offertory Music

"How Can I Keep From Singing"

Arr. By Robert Wadsworth Lowry

Solo by Matthew Carey

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation. I hear the real though far off hymn, that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul, How can I keep from singing?

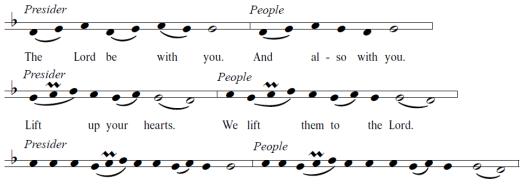
What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth; What though the darkness gather round! Songs in the night He giveth: No storm can shake my inmost calm While to that refuge clinging; Since Christ is Lord of Heav'n and earth, How can I keep from singing?

I lift mine eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it; And day by day this pathway smooths Since first I learned to love it: The Peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A fountain ever springing: All things are mine since I am His; How can I keep from singing?

The Great Thanksgiving

All Creation Sings

Please stand as you are able.



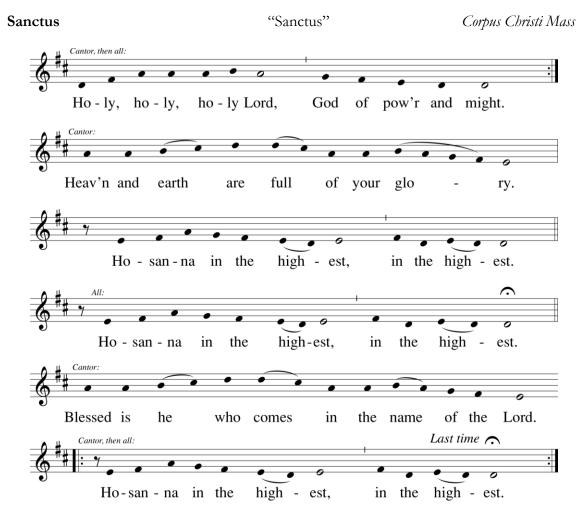
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanksand praise.

Presider

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

Who, enthroned forever at your right hand, intercedes for us as our great high priest.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Please remain standing or kneel, as you are able.

Presider

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying; This is my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Assembly

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

Presider

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this sacred meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

Assembly

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Presider

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

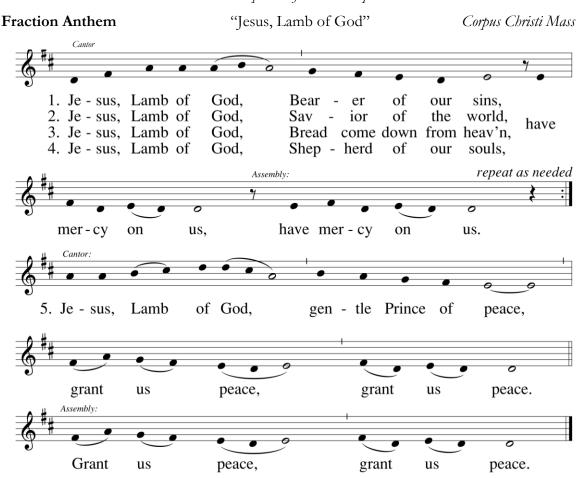
Assembly

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.



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, simply cross your arms over your chest.

If you are unable to come forward for any reason,

please inform an usher so our clergy can bring communion to you in the pew.

Communion Anthem

All are invited to sing.

"Soul of Christ, Sanctify Me"

by Philip WJ Stropford

St. Elisaeth's Choir

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Today you shall be with me in Paradise.
Blood of Christ, refresh me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesus, hear me; within your wounds, hide me;
Let me never be separated from you; from the darkness, defend me.
In the hour of my death, call me,
And bid me come to you,
That with your saints I may praise you
Forever and forever.
Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Presider Let us pray.

Assembly O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your

presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the

earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Presider The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with

grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Assembly Amen.

Closing Hymn

Glory to God 634

"To God Be the Glory"

To God Be the Glory

(Music on the next page)

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Assembly Thanks be to God.

Postlude

You are invited to come forward to listen to the postlude. If you need to leave before the conclusion, please do so quietly.

All are invited for coffee hour and conversation down the hall in the dining room immediately following the service. Sunday school for children is offered on the second floor.





Assisting Today

First Reading Larry Whipple Second Reading Anne Tuohy

Prayers John Tuohy

Altar Guild Lauren Edelson, Carrie Mygatt, Polly Baur

Usher Robert Fischer

Coffee Hour Linda Illes

This Week

Monday, May 13 AA Meeting (8:00 PM)

Tuesday, May 14 St. E's Book Group (12:00 PM)

Wednesday, May 15 Boy Scout Meeting (7:15 PM)

Thursday, May 16 Spoken Eucharist Rite II (7:30 AM)

Soup Kitchen

Choir Rehearsal (7:30 PM)

Friday, May 17 Bible Study (11:00 AM)

Saturday, May 18 Family Worship & Potluck (4:30 PM)

AA Meeting (5:00 PM)

Up Next

| Sunday, May 19 | 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) | | |
| May 21 | Vestry Meeting (7:00 PM) | | |
| May 23 | Spoken Eucharist: Rite II (7:30 AM) | | |
| | Choir Rehearsal (7:30 PM) | | |
| May 24 | Bible Study (11:00 AM) | | |

Announcements

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday evening June 11** as St E's LGBTQ Team joins forces with the **Glencoe Public Library** for a **Pride month event focusing on Trans and Non-binary questions and issues**. With our support, the library will feature our favorite facilitator Lizzy Appleby, Pride/Share Director of Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook, to host a panel discussion in honor of Transgender Day of Visibility aka TDOV, whose official date fell on Easter Sunday. Lizzy has put together a Transgender and Non-binary panel to engage the community in open and deeper conversation around these timely and relevant issues. **The event will take place at 7:00 PM at the library.** We hope to see you there. More details to follow!

Announcements

Volunteer with Soup Kitchen For some 30 years we have been partnering with First United Methodist Church of Evanston to staff a soup kitchen 6 times a year. Typically we take the second Thursday of every odd numbered month (January, March, etc.). We provide the food and the volunteers to pack and serve that food. The time requirement is not great: either 1-2 hours in the afternoon in Glencoe and/or 2-3 hours in the early evening in Evanston.

We also welcome contributions to the fund to purchase the food. We typically cater to 60-80 diners, serve them a hot dinner and a sack lunch for the next day. We welcome newcomers. Just contact John Tuohy or Susan Newcomb for details, dates, directions and the like.

Volunteers Needed: Have you ever wondered how we get communion set up for each of our church services or why we use different colors for different seasons in the church? Did you know that the Altar Guild has its roots in the most ancient and sacred traditions of Jesus' ministry? And it's not just for women... in fact at several churches Altar Guilds include men, women and even teenagers.



Our Altar Guild at St. Elisabeth is responsible for the preparation of the Altar including setting up communion supplies, changing of the church linens and refilling our candles. It is also an opportunity to work closely with Adam as we set up and clean up after services. It is also a relatively low time commitment and easy way to help our community.

We are now in need of new volunteers to join our small but mighty crew that help with our set up and clean up after our services. If you are interested, please reach out to Polly Baur (polly.baur@gmail.com / 773-818-3738) or Adam.

Pastoral needs, hospital calls, nursing/rehab and home-bound parishioners: If you have a pastoral need or emergency and would like to speak to Fr. Spencer, or know of someone who would like to schedule a pastoral visit, please contact Adam by phoning the office at 847-835-0458 and leave a private message in the rector's voicemail. You can also email Adam at rector@steglencoe.org

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.

Sunday School for Children, upstairs after the 10:00 am service every Sunday. Children of all ages are invited to come learn about the Bible and have some fun with our Director of Children's Formation Abigail Pribble.

St. Elisabeth's Bible Study meets weekly on **Fridays at 11:00 AM** in the Guild Room. At the next study, we will be reading Luke chapters 11-12. 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.

Family Promise provides free family shelter to families with children – keeping families together during a time of homelessness, unlike other homeless shelters separate families by female/male. Family Promise also offers training, budgeting and other support to help families move from homelessness to success. Because St. Elisabeth cannot house families in our church; we partner with two other churches.

We need volunteers to help cook meals, stay overnight or just help serve meals. Homeless families with children want someone to talk with and someone to interact with their children.

We help three to five times per year for one week at a time. There is a sign-up online for dinners or sleepovers. It is easy, helpful, fulfilling and very efficient. It is good to share a meal with people in need.

For more information, please contact Robert Fischer, Lauren Edelston, Carrie Mygatt or Carla Arnell.

The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop

Saint Elisabeth's Episcopal Church

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Adam Spencer Rector

The Rev. Larry Handwerk

Walter Aldrich Pam Green

Elizabeth Clemmitt

Seán Hansen

Abigail Pribble

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



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.