



# ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

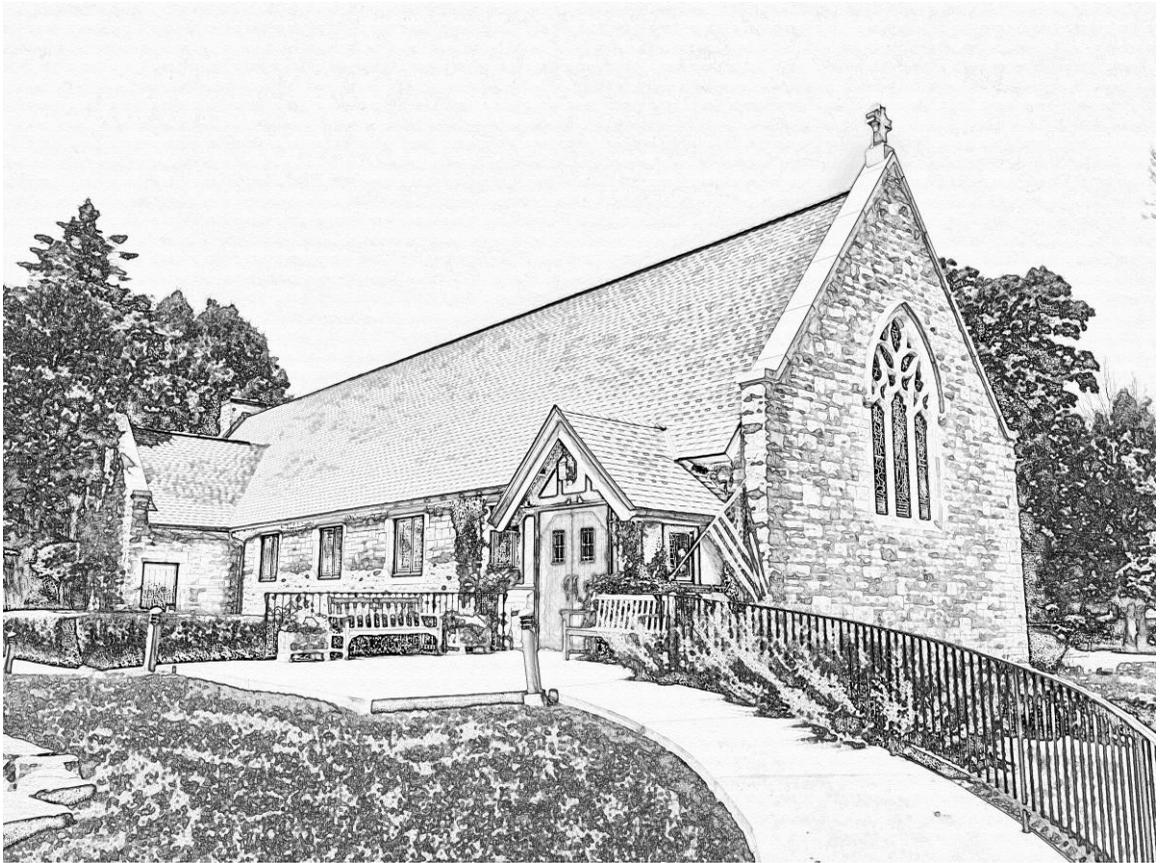
*The Fifth Sunday in Lent*

April 6, 2025

8:00 AM

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Welcome to St. 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.*

## 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...

Mature religion is about transforming history and individuals so that we don't keep handing the pain on to the next generation. For Christians, we learn to identify our own wounds with the wounding of Jesus and the sufferings of the universal Body of Christ (see Philippians 3:10-11), which is Deep Meaning that always feeds the soul. We can then see our own suffering as a voluntary participation in the one Great Sadness of God (Colossians 1:24). Within this meaningful worldview, we can build something new, good, and forever original, while neither playing the victim nor making victims of others. We can be free conduits of grace into the world. – *Richard Rohr*

Where do you see pain being handed on to the next generation in your own life? How might you begin to build something new and good?

## The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

### The Word of God

#### The Prelude

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### The Opening Acclamation

*Presider* Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

*Assembly* **His mercy endureth for ever.**

#### 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.

*Presider* O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

*The people may be seated.*

## The Lessons

### The First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord,  
 who makes a way in the sea,  
 a path in the mighty waters,  
 who brings out chariot and horse,  
 army and warrior;  
 they lie down, they cannot rise,  
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
 Do not remember the former things,  
 or consider the things of old.  
 I am about to do a new thing;  
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
 I will make a way in the wilderness  
 and rivers in the desert.  
 The wild animals will honor me,  
 the jackals and the ostriches;  
 for I give water in the wilderness,  
 rivers in the desert,  
 to give drink to my chosen people,  
 the people whom I formed for myself  
 so that they might declare my praise.

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

## **The Psalm**

Psalm 126

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **The Second Reading**

Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from the letter to the Philippians.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his

sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

*Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.*

## The Gospel

John 12:1-8

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

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

## The Sermon

The Rev. Adam Spencer

*A period of silence follows the sermon, beginning and ending with a chime.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## The Nicene Creed

*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 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 Donald, 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:

Susan Chadd

Sally Graver

Annette Johnston

Ben Whipple, son of Larry & Susan Whipple

Kris McKinnon, sister of Kay Rossiter

David & Jane Barry, Lydia Kutko's parents

Margaret Barry, Lydia Kutko's sister

Are there others?

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Nancy Larsen, grandmother of Walter Aldrich,

beseeking 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 you are 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.*

God so 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.*

*Please be seated for the announcements.*

## **Announcements**

### **Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelers**

John & Anne Tuohy – April 12

McGavock Cline – April 12

## The Holy Communion

### The Offertory

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

### The 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 at the back of the church, or use your phone to scan the QR code to donate online.*



### The Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand as you are 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.

Who dost bid thy 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 thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

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.**

*Please remain standing or kneel, as you are able.*

*Presider*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, 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, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy

Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with 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,

*All*              **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**

*All*              **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.

*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.*

## The Post Communion Prayer

*Please stand as you are able.*

*All*                   **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.**

## Postlude

## Holy Week & Easter

### **Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday, April 13**

8:00 a.m. – Spoken Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 a.m. – Liturgy of the Palms & Sung Eucharist, Rite II

### **Wednesday, April 16**

7:00 p.m. – Tenebrae Service

### **Maundy Thursday, April 17**

7:00 pm – Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing & Stripping of Altar

8:00 pm – Keeping Watch with Jesus Overnight Vigil

### **Good Friday, April 18**

7:00 am – Vigil Ends with Morning Prayer

7:00 pm – Good Friday Service with Veneration of the Cross

### **Holy Saturday, April 19**

9:30 am – Holy Saturday Service in the Chapel

7:00 pm – Great Vigil of Easter @ Christ Church, Winnetka

### **Easter Sunday, April 20**

8:00 a.m. – Spoken Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 a.m. – Festive Eucharist, Rite II, followed by Easter Egg Hunt

**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>Priest Associate</i>
Walter Aldrich	<i>Director of Music</i>
Caryl Medsker	<i>Director of Administration</i>
Abigail Pribble	<i>Director of Children's Formation</i>
Elizabeth Clemmitt	<i>Associate for Spiritual Wellness</i>

**2025 Vestry**

Robert Fischer, *Warden*  
Fred Johnston  
Jamie Kim

Carrie Miller-Mygatt,  
*Warden*

Kara Superfine  
Mark Tilton, *Treasurer*  
John Tuohy, *Asst. Treasurer*

**Sunday Schedule**



- 8:00 a.m. Spoken Eucharist: Rite I
- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Sung Eucharist: Rite II
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Forum, and Sunday School

**Office Hours**

Tuesday -Thursday – 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.