



# ST. ELISABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

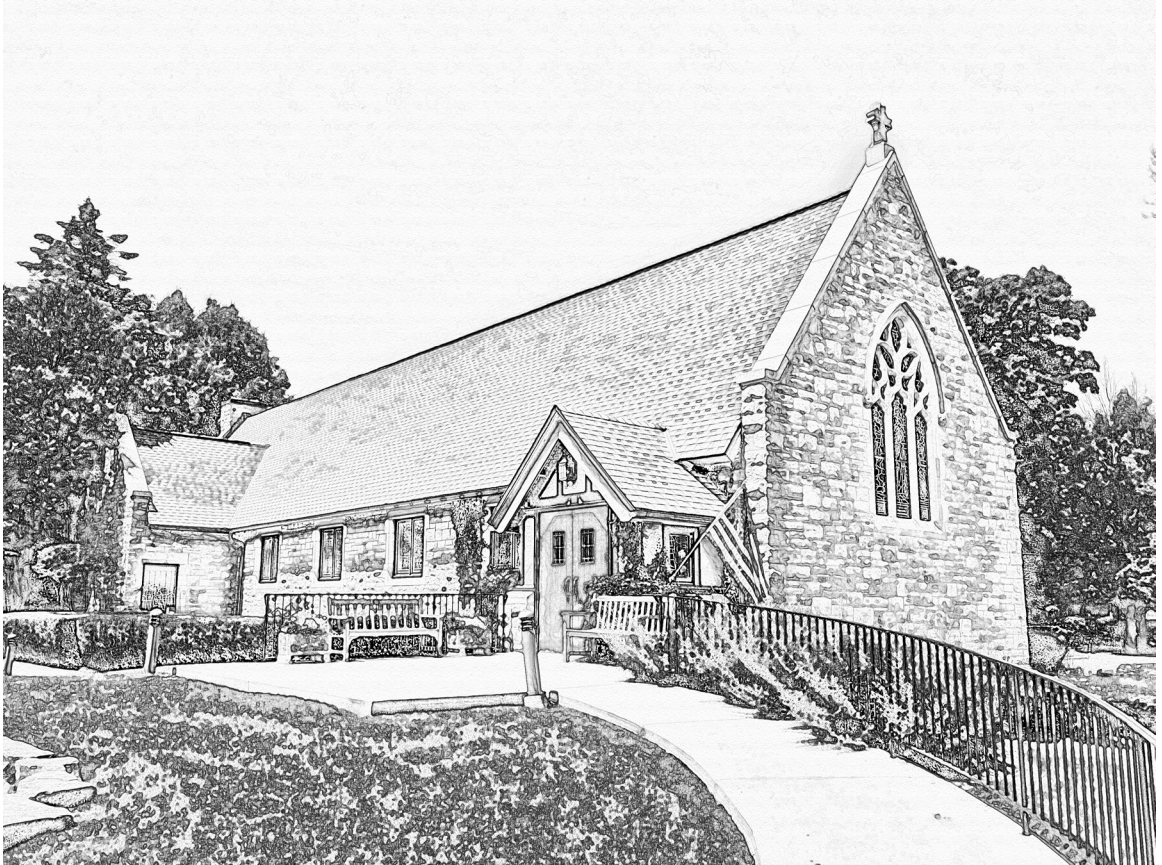
*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*

May 18, 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.*

## 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. — *Daily Prayer for All Seasons*.

## Entering in...

Jesus said: “everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”  
— *John 13:35*

God refuses to be known intellectually. God can only be loved and known in the act of love; God can only be experienced in communion. — *Richard Rohr*

Reach out in compassion, deep listening or an act of kindness to someone you find difficult. Be a disciple.

## The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

### The Word of God

#### The Prelude

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### The Opening Acclamation

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*Assembly* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

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 Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Assembly* **Amen.**

*The people may be seated.*

## The Lessons

### The First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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

## **The Psalm**

Psalm 148

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

Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; \*  
praise him in the heights.

**Praise him, all you angels of his; \*  
praise him, all his host.**

Praise him, sun and moon; \*  
praise him, all you shining stars.

**Praise him, heaven of heavens, \*  
and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the Name of the Lord; \*  
for he commanded, and they were created.

**He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \*  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

Praise the Lord from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

**Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;

**Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
creeping things and winged birds;**

Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;

**Young men and maidens, \*  
old and young together.**

Let them praise the Name of the Lord, \*  
for his Name only is exalted,  
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

**He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
Hallelujah!**

## **The Second Reading**

Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from the Revelation of John.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them as their God;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then

he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

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

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **The Gospel**

John 13:31-35

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

*Assembly*       **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

*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**

*All*               **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

The Rev. Larry Handwerk

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

Clarie Choiniere, friend of Robert Fischer

Connelly Davis, son of Kara Superfine's friend.

Father Alonzo Pruitt, friend of Adam Spencer

Howard Prossnitz, a friend of John Tuohy

Barbara & John Franzen, friends of the Johnston family

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.

*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.*

## 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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

*All* **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.

## The 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 Gloria

*All* 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**

## Coming Up at St. Elisabeth's

### Sunday Supper and Family Worship

Our next Sunday evening worship service and potluck supper is **this evening**. We welcome everyone. If you have a family with young, active children, we are grateful for young and active kids. If you want to bring a friend, bring a friend. If you want to come by yourself, then come on in. Please bring a dish to share--whether it's a salad, a side, a main course or dessert. We will provide tableware and non-alcoholic drinks. (If you want to bring some wine to share, that's fine with us.) The doors open at 4 pm and the worship service starts at 4:30 pm. The meal commences immediately after the prayer service. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board. If you have questions, please contact Fred Johnston at 847-964 -0140 or [frederickpjohnston@gmail.com](mailto:frederickpjohnston@gmail.com)

### Sunday Forum: Worship in the Summertime

Adam and Walter invite you to join them after the 10 am service on **Sunday, May 25**, for the next in a seasonal forum series on our worship together. They will share a bit about the changes to the liturgy and some of the musical selections upcoming in the Summer and will reflect with you about our common prayer.

### Clean-Up Day, Part 2

St. Elisabeth's is organizing another cleanup day on **Sunday, June 1**, following the 10 am service. Please come dressed to work, and lunch will be provided.

### Annual Parish Picnic

The *BIG JOHN GRILL* will be busy on **Sunday, June 8**, cooking brats, burgers, chicken, etc. which will be complemented with a table of salads, chips and desserts. Rain or shine this church event of fellowship happens after the 10:00 a.m. service.

Mark your calendar, and add to the enjoyment of the day by signing up to help with:

- Set up
- Bringing a salad
- Bringing a dessert
- Clean-up

Please contact [Phil Miller](#) if you can do any of the above. Look forward to seeing everyone at the picnic. -- Phil Miller and the Grill Masters

# 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.