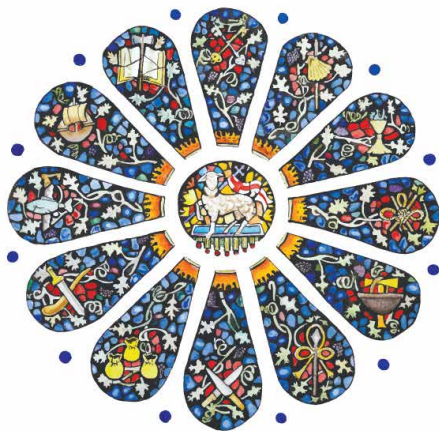


NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

welcome home

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026

10:00 A.M.

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

THE WEEK OF JUNE 21 - JUNE 27

Sunday

10:00 am Prepare the Way Celebration Sunday & Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (Church)
11:15 am Prepare the Way Festive Lemonade / Iced Tea Hour (Parish Hall)

Monday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)

Tuesday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)

Wednesday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)

Thursday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
10:00 am Morning Needlecrafters (Parish Hall)

Friday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
6:00 pm Family Dinner & Game Night (Parish Hall)

Saturday

10:00 am Baptism Rehearsal (Church)

*Morning Prayer is on Zoom only, Monday through Friday at 8:30am
Questions? Contact Jim Alimena at jim.alimena@gmail.com*

**Morning Prayer Zoom - Meeting ID: 858 4728 7483 Password: Morning*

WELCOME

Families with Young Children Welcome!

Quiet activity “pew bags” and Children’s Worship materials are available outside the Narthex. A staffed nursery for infants–5 years is open upstairs (2nd floor). Changing tables are in all restrooms.

Baptism

The upcoming baptism dates are July 19, August 23, September 13, October 11, November 1, and November 22. If you are interested in baptism for yourself or a child, please contact Rev. Andy or Rev. Melina for more information.

Summer Parish Office Hours

Summer office hours are 9am - 2pm Monday - Friday. Either Stephanie or Grace will be in the office during those times.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blessing Shelf

School's out, hunger isn't. Let's fill the shelves this summer! No child should spend summer hungry. Help us to fill empty plates and full hearts! Donate tuna, pasta, dry goods, snack items, paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, and canned goods. Every donation makes a difference no matter how big or how small. The collection period is from June 10th to August 1st. Contact Emily Olkowski at olkowskiemily@hotmail.com with any questions.

Final Friday Family Dinner & Games

Friday, June 26th at 6pm
(Parish Hall)

Bring the whole family and join us for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship! Enjoy a delicious casual pizza dinner, connect with friends old and new, and challenge each other with games for all ages. RSVP by 6/25 to bvanemburgh@stesridgewood.org. Online signup link found in E-News.

Parish Office Closed

Friday, July 3rd for Independence Day
(observed)

Please contact The Rev. Melina Dezhbod at (203) 709-0503 for pastoral emergencies.

Summer Storytime

Tuesday, June 30th at 10am
(Parish Hall)

Join us for a fun-filled Storytime designed especially for children ages 8 and under! Bring your little ones for a morning of imagination, friendship, and faith in a welcoming and joyful environment. Each session includes an engaging story, a creative craft, and a tasty snack as we learn, create, and grow together. All children are welcome - bring a friend!

Food for the Spirit

Tuesday, June 30 at 5:30pm
Charcuterie

Once a month this summer, gather with us for food, fellowship, and conversation as we explore the things that truly nourish us. As we create a different themed board each month, we'll reflect on what feeds our minds, bodies, and spirits, and how to let go of the things that drain us, and how to cultivate the things that bring life and joy. We will also explore and try different spiritual practices together as part of our time.

RSVP: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49ADA72AA3FFC07-64442637-food>

Progressive Dinner

Saturday, October 3
Save the date!

CHURCH SCHOOL 2026-2027

Join our Leadership Team

In the fall, we will be in need of new members of our Church School Leadership team! We have several leaders graduating or moving at the end of this year. All materials are provided, including lesson, reading, talking points, activities, and craft ideas. Teens in 9th and 10th grade who are Confirmed may volunteer with an adult. Teens in 11th and 12th grade who are Confirmed may volunteer in pairs. All volunteers must complete the required Safe Church training. Classes will start in mid-September. Contact Beth bvanemburgh@stesridgewood.org with any questions about helping with our Church School programs!

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Morgen, Op. 27, No. 4*

*Transcription by Max Reger (1873-1916)
Virginia Stephens, piano*

*Richard Strauss
(1864-1949)*

*The Prelude is the first act of worship and sets the tone for all that follows in the service.
You're invited to pause from the busyness of life and connect with God during this
sacred time.*

OPENING HYMN 525 "The Church's one foundation"

Verses 1, 3, 5

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

GLORIA, Hymnal S-280

THE COLLECT FOR THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

BCP 241

Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Savior by preaching repentance: Make us so to follow his teaching and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and, following his example, constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

PREPARE THE WAY COLLECT

Almighty and everliving God, just as your prophet John the Baptist came as a messenger to prepare the way of the Lord, you call us to that very same ministry. May all your faithful people who gather here to worship your Son be devoted caretakers of this sacred space so that we and future generations may know the Good News of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit be honor, praise, and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,

that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”
See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 65 “Prepare the way, O Zion”

Verses 1-2

THE GOSPEL

Luke 1:57-80

Response before the Gospel: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and

they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, “What then will this child become?” For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty saviour for us
in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand
of all who hate us.

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our
enemies,
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness
before him all our days.”

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.

By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Response after the Gospel: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HYMN 65 “Prepare the way, O Zion”

Verse 3

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Andy Olivo

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM VI

BCP 392

THE ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARE THE WAY THANKSGIVINGS

THE HOLY COMMUNION



An offering is taken at this time. You may place your offering in the plate as it is passed or use the QR code to donate securely on-line.

THE OFFERTORY *Godspell*

*Stephen Schwartz
(b. 1948)*

I. Prepare Ye (the Way of the Lord)

II. All Good Gifts

III. Prepare Ye

Anastasia Swope, soprano

DOXOLOGY, Hymnal 380, stanza 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below,

Praise God above ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP 361

PROPER PREFACE OF ADVENT

BCP 378

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

SANCTUS, Hymnal S-129

The Congregation may remain standing or kneel after the singing of the Sanctus.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP 337

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.

AGNUS DEI, Hymnal S-163

Sung while the Clergy prepare the communion vessels.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are invited to receive the consecrated bread and wine at St. Elizabeth's. Those who are not baptized, or those who do not wish to receive communion, are invited to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest when you come forward. Gluten-free hosts (bread) are available upon request. When directed by the Ushers, the Congregation is invited to receive the Eucharist at the altar rail or at the station on the floor. After you receive communion, return to your pew via the side aisles. If you need communion brought to you, please let the Ushers know.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

HYMN 314 "Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen"

HYMN 304 "I come with joy to meet my Lord"

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

THE BLESSING

BCP 366

HYMN 608 "Eternal Father, strong to save"

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Prélude, Op. 12, No. 7*

*Sergei Prokofiev
(1891-1953)*

Virginia Stephens, piano

PEALING OF THE BELLS FOR PREPARE THE WAY THANKSGIVING

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Guest Organist & Pianist: Virginia Stephens

Crucifer: David Barrand

Torchbearers: Annabelle MacLaren, Lucas MacLaren

Lector: Joan Cooke

Eucharistic Ministers: Debra Anderson, David Barrand, Catherine Carter

Ushers: Jim Alimena, Don Chappell, Chris Walsh

Altar Guild: Debra Anderson, Pilar Meola, Sherry Kock, Joan Cooke, Sue Reid

Bell Ringers: David Barrand, Barbara and Kevin Burns, Jeff Marchetti, Steve Gorey

Lemonade / Iced Tea Hour: Prepare the Way Festive Celebration

Nursery Attendant: Gabriella Ragazzo

Livestream Guild: Matthew Hoffman

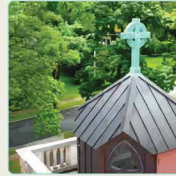
Pledge Update

Please pledge! Please fill out and return a pledge card today, or pledge online using the QR code provided here.



Update from the Wardens

Use the QR code to the left to read a letter from the Wardens that was sent to the Parish on June 1.



Prepare^{the}Way
Caring For Our Sacred Space



ST. ELIZABETH'S
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

June 21

Worship at 10 a.m.

followed by

Festive Coffee Hour

We invite you to join us in giving
thanks to God for all we have
accomplished together



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our beloved father Peter Gray Meek by his daughters Susan, Katherine and Ellen; and our fathers William Hickey Sr. and Harold Salmon by Bill and Joan Hickey.

Mary Szurly is our flower memorial coordinator. Contact the church office if you are interested in honoring a loved one with altar flowers.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Al | Frankye Crump | Peter Flannery |
| Alex Casazza | Frederick Bruno | Prasse Family |
| Alice | George & Shelley Mackey | Qian (Chen) Liu |
| Amy Brink | Gretchen | Quinn |
| Bill Brancato | Gunnip Family | Rick |
| Blanca Rojano | Jack | Robbie |
| Bob | Jaime | Robert |
| Bob Bell | Jamie Whaley | Robyn Pring |
| Bob C. | Jane Winer | Rochelle Kilzy |
| Bruce | John Berryman | Ruth |
| Bruce Neandross | John Mills | Ruthie |
| Catherine | Juan | Sarah |
| Catherine O'Connell | Julie & Jim Robertson | Sarah |
| Chris C. | June Bové | Segovia Pasichniak |
| Christian | Justine and Tom Boylan | Sophie |
| Christina Olkowski | Kate | Sr. Maureen Mitten |
| Claire | Ken Thiess | Sue VanderPloeg |
| Connie | Kim Heitzenrater | Thomas Maloney |
| Cookie C. | L Russ | Valerie |
| Danikka Dillon & Family | Lequan & Stephen Dudzik | Vincent Colling |
| David Barrand | Linda | Vincent Desimone |
| David Hawthorne | Lois Chapman | Virginia DuDeck |
| David Thurston | Lora Salt | Virginia Leahy |
| David Y. | Lori Cardinale | Wes Pace |
| Dawn | Marcus Noble | Winston |
| Denny | Margaret | Yochio Kurahashi |
| Diane and Frank Barletta | Marty Melamed | |
| Diane Pring | Mary | |
| Dick Davies | Mary Ann Newcomb & | |
| Donna | Family | |
| Doris | Matthew Garcia | |
| Dorothea Hickey | Michael Colling | |
| Effie | Midge | |
| Elizabeth Sofia | Milt | |
| Ellen Ingber | Nancy Schrempp | |
| Evelyn & Steve Dyke | Nancy Teichman | |
| Family of Mary Ann | Norma Hensler | |
| DeGraw | Pat | |
| Frank | Pauline Fiore & Family | |

We remember also those who have died, especially Stephen DePhillips,
Henry Factor-Leak, and Grace Behringer.

Prayer List Renewal

The prayer list has been refreshed for Pentecost. To add a name—whether for intercessions or thanksgivings—please contact the Parish Office.

ST. ELIZABETH'S STAFF & VESTRY

Rector

The Rev. D. Andrew Olivo

Assistant Rector

The Rev. Melina Dezhbod

Associate Priests

The Rev. Susan Schink

The Rev. Dr. Richard Sloan

Organist & Choirmaster

Garah Landes

Associate Choirmaster

Jennifer Hommeez

Associate for Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

Beth Van Emburgh

Director of Finance & Administration

Grace Arscott

Parish Life Coordinator

Stephanie Doyle

Sexton

Fredy Reyes

Soloists

Jeffrey Castellano, Alicia Luick,

Daniel Peretto, Anastasia Swope

Wardens

Sandy Sullivan '28, Mike Dickson '27

Treasurer

Steve Gorey

Assistant Treasurer

Denise Barrand

Clerk

Catherine Carter

Vestry

Denise Barrand '27

Catherine Cardew '27

Bruce Firkins '27

Steve Gorey '27

Steve Anderson '28

Joan Cooke '28

Jeremy Sabella '28

Elizabeth Thauer '28

Christopher Aquilino '29

Catherine Carter '29

Stacy Wilson '29

Lauren Winter '29



St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

welcome home

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