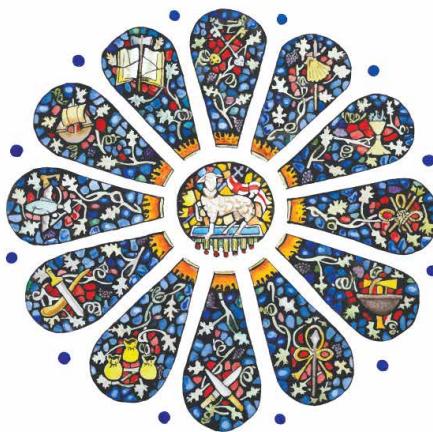


# FIRST SUNDAY

## IN LENT



# St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

*welcome home*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

10:00 A.M.

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE

# THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22 - FEBRUARY 27

## Sunday

9:30 am Church School & Children's Chapel  
10:00 am Great Litany Holy Eucharist: Rite One (Church)  
11:15 am Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)  
11:30 am Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
11:45 am Youth Confirmation (Confirmation Room)  
5:00 pm Contemplative Holy Eucharist & Chili Potluck (Chapel & Parish Hall)

## Monday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom\*)  
6:30 pm Rector's Lenten Series: Soup, Class, & Compline (Parish Hall)

## Tuesday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom\*)

## Wednesday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom\*)  
12:00 pm Midweek Holy Eucharist & Healing Prayers (Chapel)  
7:30 pm Evening Needlecrafter (Parish Hall)

## Thursday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom\*)  
10:00 am Needlecrafter (Parish Hall)  
10:30 am Moms Group - Book discussion chapters 2-5 (Garden Room)  
5:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

## Friday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom\*)

*Morning Prayer is on Zoom only, Monday through Friday at 8:30am*

*Questions? Contact Jim Alimena at [jim.alimena@gmail.com](mailto: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-3 years is open upstairs (2nd floor). Changing tables are in all restrooms.

### Baptism

Upcoming baptism dates are April 12 and May 24. If you are interested in baptism for yourself or a child, please contact Rev. Andy or Rev. Melina for more information.

### Parish Office Hours

Regular office hours are 9am - 4pm Monday - Friday. Either Stephanie or Grace will be in the office during those times.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### TODAY 5 PM Contemplative Eucharist

Our 5 PM Contemplative Eucharist will now be held monthly, followed by a potluck-style family dinner. Join us February 22 for prayer, worship, and good food. Questions? Contact Rev. Andy or Rev. Melina. RSVP and sign-up for the potluck <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A5AC2EA6FFC25-62128347-chili?useFullSite=true#/>

### 2026 Rector's Lenten Series

#### *Half Truths: Things the Bible Doesn't Say*

This year's theme will feature a short video by the United Methodist pastor Adam Hamilton, followed by guided discussion about some of the most common platitudes. Join us on **Mondays in Lent** as we gather together for food, discussion, and prayer.

### Holy Eucharist and Healing Prayers

We invite you to join us for a time of Intercessory Prayer immediately after the noon service of Holy Eucharist on the **Wednesdays of Lent**. Together, we will pray over parish prayer list and lift up any other prayers on our hearts and minds. We will also offer Anointing with Holy Oil for anyone who would like to receive additional prayers of healing. You're invited to come to one or both services.

### Moms Group: Special Lenten Session

Thursdays from 10:30-11:30am  
(Garden Room)

Special Topic: *To Be Made Well: An Invitation to Wholeness, Healing, and Hope* by Amy Julia Becker; 2/26 chs. 2-5

### Before Lunch Book Group

**Tuesday, March 3 at 12pm**  
(Garden Room or via Zoom)

Join us to discuss *Under the Tulip Tree* by Michelle Shocklee moderated by Joan Hickey

### *Requiem for the Living- Dan Forrest*

**Forum, Sunday, March 8th**

#### **Requiem Performance, Sunday, March 22nd at 10 am**

On Sunday, March 8th, at the conclusion of the 10 am service, please join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and a Forum on the upcoming Requiem.

The Requiem will be performed at the 10 am service on Sunday, March 22nd.

### Family Hockey Game Day

Sunday, March 8 at 7pm

Prudential Center, Newark

\$39 per ticket

<https://dioceseofnewark.org/event/family-hockey-game-day/>

### Movie Screening

**Sunday, March 15 at 11:30am**

You're invited to the screening of the documentary "The Philadelphia Eleven," about the trailblazers who became the first women to be ordained priests in the Episcopal Church. Come and explore the story of women's ordination as we enter our 52nd year.

RSVP <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49ADA72AA3FFC07-61981136-thescreening#/>

### Art Exhibit

**Through April 3**

Jim Alimena's paintings will be on exhibit at the Louis Bay 2nd Library & Community Center, 345 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne. M-Th 9am-9pm, Fri 9am-5:30pm, Sat 10am-5pm.

### Volunteers Needed April 14th & 16th for the Midland Park Thrift Store

We need 3 volunteers from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon and then again in the afternoon from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. St. Elizabeth's receives funding from this shop. We are asked to volunteer at the store only once a year.

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

**PRELUDE** *Kleine Präludien und Intermezzi, Op. 9-  
II- Intermezzo in B minor*

*Hermann Schroeder  
(1904-1984)*

*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.*

## WELCOME FROM THE RECTOR

**THE GREAT LITANY**, Hymnal S-67

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*BCP 166*

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan:  
Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations;  
and, as thou knowest their several infirmities, let each one find thee mighty to  
save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### THE FIRST LESSON

*Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7*

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and  
keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every  
tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall  
not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God  
had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any  
tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of  
the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree  
that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But  
the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when  
you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good  
and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it  
was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise,  
she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was  
with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that  
they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for  
themselves.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All:      Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 32

1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
and whose sin is put away!

**2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, \***  
**and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
because of my groaning all day long.

**4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \***  
**my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
and did not conceal my guilt.

**6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." \***  
**Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**8 You are my hiding-place;**  
**you preserve me from trouble; \***  
**you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
I will guide you with my eye.

**10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \***  
**who must be fitted with bit and bridle,**  
**or else they will not stay near you."**

11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

**12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; \***  
**shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

*Romans 5:12-19*

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN 150** "Forty days and forty nights"

*Verses 1-3*

**THE GOSPEL**

*Matthew 4:1-11*

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'

and 'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him.'

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**HYMN 150** "Forty days and forty nights"

*Verses 4-5*

**THE HOMILY**

*The Rev. Andy Olivo*

**THE NICENE CREED**

*BCP 326*

**THE PEACE**

*BCP 332*

# 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 online.*

**THE OFFERTORY** *Jesus, so lowly*  
Text by Edith Williams (1878-1969)

Harold Friedell  
(1905-1958)

*Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth:  
Christen me wholly, bring me new birth.  
Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad;  
teach me that only love maketh glad.  
Jesus, so broken, silent and pale;  
be this the token love will not fail.  
Jesus, victorious, mighty and free;  
teach me how glorious death is to be.*

## DOXOLOGY, HYMN 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.

## EUCARISTIC PRAYER I

BCP 333

## PROPER PREFACE FOR LENT

BCP 346

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

## SANCTUS, Hymnal S-114

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 336

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 337

## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP 337

## AGNUS DEI, Hymnal S-158

*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 147** "Now let us all with one accord"

**HYMN 149** "Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church"

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 339

## THE BLESSING

BCP 339

**HYMN 142** "Lord, who throughout these forty days"

## THE DISMISSAL

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Prelude and Fugue in A minor, BWV 559*

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

(1685-1750)

## PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Crucifer: Jim Alimena

Lectors: Mary Hayes, Peter Jordan

Eucharistic Ministers: Joan Cooke, Jim Alimena

Ushers: Jeff Marchetti, Daniel Rosario

Altar Guild: Debra Anderson, Pilar Meola, Mary Wynn Seiter, Sue Reid

Coffee Hour: Courtney Hanson

Nursery Attendant: Gabriella Ragazzo

Livestream Guild: Matthew Hoffman

## 2026 Outreach Auction

**Boots, Blessings, & BBQ**

**Save the Date April 18 6:00-9:00 pm**

Join us for a Line-Dancing & Fellowship Event to raise funds for St. Elizabeth's Outreach Programs

No dance experience necessary

Email invitation to follow

## LENT 2026 AT ST. ELIZABETH'S

- **Purple hangings and matching vestments.** At St. Elizabeth's, the altar frontal is purple, with matching hangings on the lectern and pulpit, and the clergy will also wear purple stoles. Purple is the liturgical color for Lent (or an off-white, unbleached linen in some places), and it symbolizes the pain and suffering that Christ endured on the way to the cross. It is also the traditional color for royalty, reminding us of Christ's Resurrection and Kingship in heaven.
- **Changes to the Holy Eucharist.** We will use the Rite One service during Lent, which has features that are closely related to the themes of Lent. For instance, the longer bidding to Confession in Rite One (which dates to 1549), begins, "Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins" (BCP, p. 330). The Rite One service allows for sentences of scripture to be said after the Confession and Absolution. These sentences, sometimes called the "Comfortable Words," do not appear in the Rite Two service. These four passages of scripture are helpful reminders of the forgiveness of sins we, and the whole world, receive from Jesus our Lord.
- **Kyrie instead of Gloria.** Again, in keeping with the spirit of penitence, we ask the Lord for mercy instead of singing a more jubilant Gloria or other song of praise. "Kyrie" is the Latin word for "Lord," but we will sing this text in English (i.e. "Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.")
- **A different musical setting for the Sanctus.** During the Holy Eucharist, you will notice different music for the Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy, Lord). The setting is a simpler version than we are accustomed during other seasons of the year, which is appropriate during Lent.
- **No "Alleluias."** In keeping with the spirit of penitence, saying and singing "Alleluia" is omitted from all services during Lent. The exception to this rule occurs if the Burial Rite (funeral) takes place during Lent. As our prayerbook says, "The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy (page 507)." Even during Lent, funerals are appropriate times to say and sing "Alleluia" because those services find all their meaning in the Resurrection.
- **The Great Litany, the Exhortation, and the Decalogue.** These various parts of our prayerbook are wonderful ways for us to do the Lenten work of self-examination, repentance, and amendment of our lives. We will use these various opportunities for prayer on the different Sundays of Lent.

### 40-Day Lenten Reflection with Rev. Melina

During Lent, we are invited to turn our hearts back toward God. In this season of preparation, this 40-day reflection offers simple, daily practices of prayer, reflection, fasting, forgiveness, and love. Information about the 40-Day Lenten Reflection can be found on the bulletin board outside of Rev. Melina's office as you enter the Parish Hall.

### Holy Habits Lenten Meditations from Sister Monica Clare

Beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing throughout the Season of Lent, Episcopal Relief and Development will once again offer daily meditations. This year explores the theme of "Holy Habits." You can learn more about the series on the ERD website and also sign up to receive the free, daily meditations in your inbox. <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/>

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Karen's father, Cyril Sergeant by Karen, Andy, Isabella, Nicholas, and Victoria Hoy.

*Contact the church office if you are interested in honoring a loved one with altar flowers.*

### PARISH PRAYER LIST

|                          |                         |                        |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Alex Casazza             | Dot Meyer               | Nancy Teichman         |
| Alice                    | Effie                   | Pat                    |
| Bill Brancato            | Elizabeth Sofia         | Pauline Fiore & Family |
| Blanca Rojano            | Evelyn & Steve Dyke     | Peter Flannery         |
| Bob                      | Family of Mary Ann      | Qian (Chen) Liu        |
| Bob Bell                 | DeGraw                  | Rick                   |
| Bob C.                   | Frankye Crump           | Robbie                 |
| Bruce Neandross          | Frederick Bruno         | Robert                 |
| Carlos Pinto Family      | George & Shelley Mackey | Robyn Pring            |
| Catherine                | Grace Behringer         | Rochelle Kilzy         |
| Catherine O'Connell      | Gunnip Family           | Ruth                   |
| Chris C.                 | Jack                    | Ruthie                 |
| Christian                | Jamie Whaley            | Sarah                  |
| Christina Olkowski       | Jane Winer              | Segovia Pasichniak     |
| Claire                   | John Berryman           | Sophie                 |
| Colten                   | John Mills              | Sr. Maureen Mitten     |
| Connie                   | Juan                    | Thomas Maloney         |
| Cookie C.                | Julie & Jim Robertson   | Vincent Desimone       |
| Danikka Dillon & Family  | June Bové               | Winston                |
| David Barrand            | Justine and Tom Boylan  |                        |
| Dean Hawthorne           | Kim Heitzenrater        |                        |
| Denny                    | Linda                   |                        |
| Diane and Frank Barletta | Lois Chapman            |                        |
| Diane Pring              | Lora Salt               |                        |
| Donna                    | Margaret                |                        |
| Doris                    | Marty Melamed           |                        |
| Dorothea Hickey          | Mary                    |                        |
|                          | Milt                    |                        |
|                          | Nancy Schrempp          |                        |

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We remember also those who have died, especially Jaylin Rainford, Chiemelie Okonkwo, Charles Colton, Nancy McAllen, Dorothy Catherine Lohman, Jack Keyhoe, and Frank Archer

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### Prayer List Renewal

*The prayer list has been refreshed for Lent. 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 Hommez

### **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

Jeremy Sabella '28

Catherine Cardew '27

Elizabeth Thauer '28

Bruce Firkins '27

Christopher Aquilino '29

Steve Gorey '27

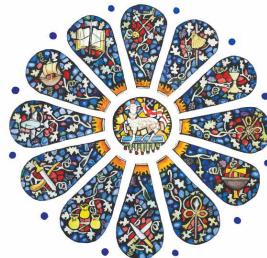
Catherine Carter '29

Steve Anderson '28

Stacy Wilson '29

Joan Cooke '28

Lauren Winter '29



# St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

*welcome home*

**Connect with us online!**



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YouTube: [youtube.com/@stesridgewood](https://youtube.com/@stesridgewood)

169 Fairmount Rd.

Ridgewood, NJ 07450

201.444.2299

[info@stesridgewood.org](mailto:info@stesridgewood.org)

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