

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 Needlecrafters (Parish Hall)

Thursday

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

**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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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 keep 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/len/>

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	Lois Chapman	
Barletta	Lora Salt	
Diane Pring	Margaret	
Donna	Marty Melamed	
Doris	Mary	
Dorothea Hickey	Milt	
	Nancy Schrempp	

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

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

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

Connect with us online!



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