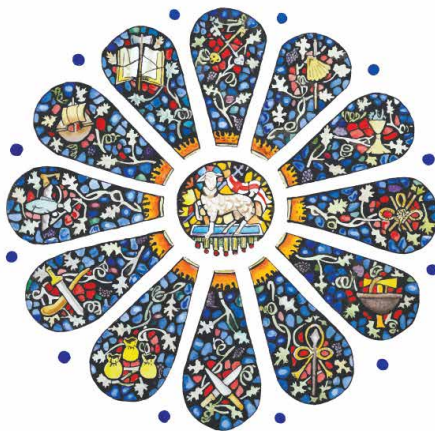


THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

welcome home

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

10:00 A.M.

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE

THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 20

Sunday

9:30 am Church School & Children's Chapel
10:00 am Holy Eucharist: Rite One (Church)
11:15 am Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)
11:30 am Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
12:00 pm Holley Center Pizza Party (Parish Hall)
5:00 pm Contemplative Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

Monday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
5:30 pm SPCDC Paterson Emergency Men's Shelter Dinner

Tuesday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
6:30 pm Sung Compline (Chapel)
7:00 pm Vestry Meeting (Conference Room)

Wednesday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
12:00 pm Midweek Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
7:00 pm Stewardship Committee Meeting (Conference Room)
7:30 pm Evening Needlecrafters (Parish Hall)

Thursday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)
10:00 am Needlecrafters (Parish Hall)
5:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal

Friday

8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)

Saturday

8:45 am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (Church)

Morning Prayer is Zoom ONLY from December 15 - December 23

There will be NO Morning Prayer from December 24 - January 2

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY Holley Center Pizza Party

Sunday, December 14 at
12:00 noon-1:30 pm
(Parish Hall)

TODAY Contemplative Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 14 at 5pm
(Chapel)

Angel Tree

GIFTS DUE TODAY

Gifts to support
West Bergen Mental Healthcare
Gifts can be left in Parish Office

Christmas Memorials

Our Christmas memorials provide all the poinsettias, greens, and bows used to decorate the church for the festive season of Christmas. Anyone wishing to have a Christmas memorial for the first time or to change an existing one should contact Mary Szurly at 201-337-3167 by **TODAY Sunday, December 14th**. If you have had a memorial in previous years and there is no change, there is no need to contact Mary. The cost per memorial is \$35.00. Checks should be made payable to St. Elizabeth's Church with "Christmas memorial" written in the memo area.

Midweek Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, December 17 at 12pm
(Chapel)

The Sins & Virtues in American Public Life

Thursday evening from 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Dr. Jeremy Sabella
113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood

Christmas Pageant

Dress Rehearsal Saturday, December 20 at
8:45am
Pageant on Sunday, December 21 at 10am

Parish Office Closed

December 25 - January 2, 2026

Before Lunch Book Talk

Tuesday, January 6 at 12pm
(Garden Room or via Zoom)

Join us to discuss *Hercule Poirot's Christmas* by Agatha Christie moderated by Gretchen Bell.

Baptism

Upcoming baptism dates are January 11, February 15, 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.

Come celebrate Christmas at



St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

Wednesday, December 24th

Thursday, December 25th

Christmas Eve 4:00 pm & 10:00 pm

Christmas Day 10:00 am

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Sonata in F Major, KV 332-
Mvt. II- Adagio*

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)*

*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

OPENING HYMN 76 "On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry"

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 323

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

MAGNIFICAT, Hymnal S-185

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 160

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
 and streams in the desert;
 the burning sand shall become a pool,
 and the thirsty ground springs of water;
 the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
 the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
 A highway shall be there,
 and it shall be called the Holy Way;
 the unclean shall not travel on it,
 but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
 No lion shall be there,
 nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
 they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
 and come to Zion with singing;
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain joy and gladness,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146:4-9

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
 whose hope is in the Lord their God;

**5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
 who keeps his promise for ever;**

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
 and food to those who hunger.

**7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
 the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
 the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;**

8 The Lord loves the righteous;
 the Lord cares for the stranger; *
 he sustains the orphan and widow,
 but frustrates the way of the wicked.

**9 The Lord shall reign for ever, *
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
 Hallelujah!**

THE SECOND LESSON

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for

the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 70 “Herald, sound the note of judgement”

Verses 1-2

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN 70 “Herald, sound the note of judgement”

Verses 3-4

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Melina Dezhbod

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 326

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 328

THE CONFESSION

BCP 331

THE ABSOLUTION

BCP 332

THE PEACE

BCP 332

THE RECOGNITION OF THE MUSICAL GIFTS OF ANTHONY ALBERTI

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 *E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*

Text: Revelation 22

Adapted by Ruth Manz (1919-2008)

*Paul Manz
(1919-2009)*

*Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.*

*Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!*

*Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!*

*E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!*

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 ADVENT

BCP 345

Because thou didst send thy 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-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

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-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 341 "For the bread which you have broken"

HYMN 73 "The King shall come when morning dawns"

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 339

THE BLESSING

BCP 339

HYMN 68 "Rejoice! rejoice, believers"

THE DISMISSAL

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Prelude and Fugue in F Major-*

*Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Crucifer: Don Taylor

Lectors: Cynthia Gorey, Karla Tombaugh

Eucharistic Ministers: Debra Anderson, Don Taylor

Ushers: Bruce Firkins, Steve Gorey

Altar Guild: Gigo Lee-Taylor, Diane Firkins, Ben Miller, Sue Reid

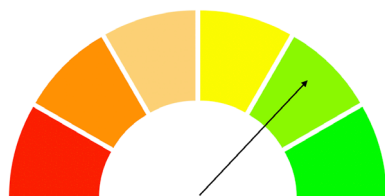
Coffee Hour: Kate Freeborn, Sharron Halpert

Nursery Attendant: Gabriella Ragazzo

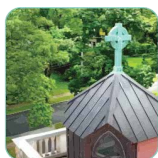
Livestream Guild: Matthew Hoffman

LEGACY OF FAITH: Generations of Giving

2026 Pledge Meter



Pledges received: 111 Goal: 150 pledges
\$896,960 \$1.1MM



Rector Andy Olivo has written a letter regarding the capital campaign. The letter was mailed on December 1 to the homes of our St. Elizabeth's family members and also emailed. If you haven't already opened your mail, you may read it here.



Prepare the Way
Caring For Our Sacred Space



Help us meet the campaign goal of 100 percent participation. If you did not receive a pledge card, please contact the church office or pledge online using the QR code provided here. (QR Code). If you are among those who have already submitted a capital campaign pledge card, *thank you*. Your generous commitment is much appreciated and puts us on the path to preparing the way!

Please note: The Prepare the Way capital campaign is distinct from the annual stewardship appeal that supports our ongoing ministries and operating budget.

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Daisy and Clarence E. Mathe and Fritz F. and Suzanne Godart by Jerry and Jill Mathe and grandchildren Denise and Gregory; Marian, Neil and Ian Macdonald by Peter and Maritza Macdonald; James B.M. Carroll by his son Randy; Amy Marie LaBruna sister of Kristin, by Kristin, Scott, Patrick and Kelli Kuenzel.

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

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Alex Casazza	Effie	Marty Melamed
Alice	Elizabeth Sofia	Mary
Bill Brancato	Family of Mary Ann	Matthew Garcia
Bob	DeGraw	Nancy Teichman
Carlos Pinto Family	Frankye Crump	Pat
Catherine	Frederick Bruno	Pauline Fiore & Family
Catherine O'Connell	George & Shelley	Peter Flannery
Christian	Mackey	Robert
Christina Olkowski	Gunnip Family	Robyn Pring
Claire	Jack Geraghty	Rochelle Kilzy
Colton	Jamie Whaley	Ruth
Connie	Jane Winer	Sarah
David Barrand	John Berryman	Sophie
Denny	Juan	Sr. Maureen Mitten
Diane & Frank	Julie & Jim Robertson	Thomas Maloney
Barletta	June Bové	Vincent Desimone
Diane Pring	Justine & Tom Boylan	Donna Neal
Donna	Kim Heitzenrater	Grace Behringer
Dorothea Hickey	Linda	Bob C.
Dot Meyer	Lois Chapman	Chris C.
Edna	Lora Salt	Lauren

We remember also those who have died, especially Sybil Nadel,
Bill Cook, Corky Carlisle, Albert Thomas Bowyer,
David Dennis Libenson, Jacque King

Prayer List Renewal

The prayer list has been refreshed for Advent. 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

Anthony Alberti, Jeffrey Castellano,

Alicia Luick, Anastasia Swope

Wardens

Sandy Sullivan '26, Mike Dickson '28

Treasurer

Steve Gorey

Assistant Treasurer

Denise Barrand

Clerk

Catherine Carter

Vestry

Catherine Carter '26

Bruce Firkins '26

Sheryl Jordan '26

Emma Reichert-Pasterick '26

Denise Barrand '27

Catherine Cardew '27

Steve Gorey '27

Steve Anderson '28

Joan Cooke '28

Jeremy Sabella '28

Elizabeth Thauer '28



St. Elizabeth's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RIDGEWOOD

welcome home

Connect with us online!



www.stesridgewood.org

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Facebook: facebook.com/stesridgewood

YouTube: youtube.com/@stesridgewood

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