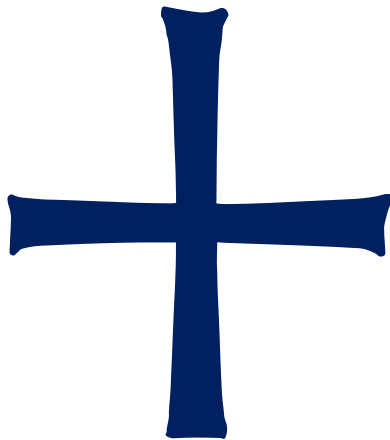


# SAINT ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday Bulletin

November 19, 2023—24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After  
Pentecost.



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## Welcome to St. Elizabeth

WELCOME VISITORS! We are delighted you are here. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church. Please join us after the service for coffee and refreshments in our fellowship hall. If you have questions about any facet of Orthodox worship, our priest—Father John Strickland—would be very happy to meet and assist you in any way possible.

If you are not familiar with the Orthodox Church, you may see some things that are new to you—icons and incense, the sign of the cross, veneration of the saints, and a lot of standing. These elements have been part of traditional Christian worship from ancient times. They reflect the heavenly nature of the Church.

If you would like to learn more about Orthodoxy, we have a small bookstore where Orthodox publications may be purchased and a lending library where many Orthodox books and periodicals can be borrowed. If you would like to learn more about our parish, please visit our website at <https://stelizabethorthodox.org>. There, you can find a link to our parish YouTube page where you can view Father John's Sunday homilies.

Please note that Orthodox priests may serve Communion only to baptized and chrismated members of the Orthodox Church. The Eucharist is the paramount expression of unity among Christians; but the reality today is that many Christians are not united in matters of doctrine and practice. While some Christians are content to agree to disagree, we believe true unity will occur only when modern Christians are reconciled to the ancient Church, with its faith and life delivered “once, and for all.” In light of this, we respectfully request that rather than partaking of the Eucharistic Chalice, our non-Orthodox guests join us in receiving the *antidoron*—or blessed bread—served at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Please feel free to contact Fr. John any time at (360) 598-9700 or [rector@stelizabethorthodox.org](mailto:rector@stelizabethorthodox.org).

—Thank you for joining us today. Glory to Jesus Christ!

## Bulletin News

- ❖ House & Dog Sitter Needed—Grier and Suzanna Jefferis are looking for someone to watch their house and dog while they are away February 1 to March 4, 2024. If interested, please contact them at [pgjefferis@gmail.com](mailto:pgjefferis@gmail.com).
  
- ❖ Barrel Vault Iconography—The council has contracted with our iconographer, Brian Whirledge, a full length icon for our barrel vault ceiling for \$35,100. We have sent him a down payment of \$10,530, which gives a remaining balance of \$24,570. Please refer to the poster on the bulletin board for updated numbers regarding amount collected to date.  
  
If you donate, just indicate “icon” in the memo section of your check or memo of your Zelle payment. If you would like to pledge an amount now and write your check later that works, too. We expect to receive a sketch from Brian soon.
  
- ❖ Meal Teams—If you enjoy our Sunday meals and have not joined a meal team, please join one! We need your help. Contact Joy at [whitetigerofjoy@gmail.com](mailto:whitetigerofjoy@gmail.com) to join a team.

## November Birthdays, Name Days & Anniversaries

- ❖ Name days—St. John Chrysostom (Nov. 13); St. Andrew (Nov. 30)

## This Week at St. Elizabeth

Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup> —Monday 6:30pm Vestal Vigil	Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup> —Thursday Thanksgiving 10:00am Moleben of Thanksgiving
Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup> —Tuesday Entrance of the Theotokos 10:00am Divine Liturgy	Nov. 25 <sup>th</sup> —Saturday 9:00am Men’s Fellowship 6:00pm Great Vespers
Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup> —Wednesday 6:30pm Vespers & Orthodox Studies	

## Today's Hymns

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost—Tone 7.

### **Tone 7      Troparion    *(Resurrection)***

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.  
To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.  
For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,  
and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,  
to proclaim that Thou art risen,//  
granting the world great mercy.

### **Tone 5      Troparion    *(Church)***

O God-wise Elizabeth,  
with humility thou didst hide thy nobility and honor Christ  
especially by imitating the labors of Martha and Mary.  
As a sacrifice to God, thou didst arm thyself with works of mercy,  
patience, and love.  
Seeing thy life of good works and suffering, we sincerely beseech  
thee, our true teacher.  
O Venerable Martyr, Grand Duchess Elizabeth, //  
entreat Christ our God to enlighten and save our souls.

### **Tone 4      Troparion    *(St. Barlaam)***

Armed with youthful fervor,  
thou didst endure martyrdom in old age and didst glorify Christ.  
Thou didst offer Him thy right hand as a whole burnt offering  
and thy holy soul as a blameless sacrifice.//  
Intercede that all that be granted forgiveness, Great-martyr  
Barlaam.

**Tone 7      Kontakion    *(Resurrection)***

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,  
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.  
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:  
“The Savior has come to those in faith; //  
    enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

**Tone 2      Kontakion    *(Church)***

Who can tell of thy great acts of faith,  
O long suffering Grand Duchess Elizabeth,  
while enduring death in the depths of the earth,  
thou didst radiate the brightness of Paradise.  
Rejoicing in psalms and hymns, thou didst pray with the angels for  
thy torturers,  
"O Lord forgive them for they know not what they do." //  
    O Christ our God, through her prayers, have mercy, and save  
    our souls.

**Glory . . .**

**Tone 3      Kontakion    *(St. Barlaam)***

Though weak with old age thou didst vanquish the Evil One  
in thy mighty contest, O Barlaam.  
Thou didst endure the rack like one without a body,  
and didst steadfastly endure the burning of thy hand. //  
    Therefore, God the Word has crowned thee with a crown of  
    glory.

**Now and Ever . . .**

. . . over

## Tone 6      Steadfast Protectress

Steadfast Protectress of Christians,  
constant advocate before the Creator,  
despise not the entreating cries of us sinners,  
but in thy goodness come speedily to help us who call on thee in faith,  
hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos,//  
for thou dost always protect those who honor thee.

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### Today's Scripture Readings

*The Lord shall give strength to His people.  
The Lord shall bless His people with peace. (Ps. 28:11)*

#### Epistle Reading—Ephesians 2:14–22

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

#### Gospel Reading—Luke 12:16–21

And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to

him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

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## Today's Commemorations

### The Holy Martyr Barlaam

Barlaam was born in Antioch. Because of his faith in Christ the Lord, the impious judge tortured him harshly. Finally, the judge decided to mock him by forcing him to offer sacrifice to the idols. For this he took him to the pagan temple and set a burning coal on his palm and incense on the coal. The judge thought that the pain would cause the martyr to shake the coal and incense off his hand before the idols, and thus involuntarily cense them. However, the soldier of Christ heroically held the burning coal on his palm with no thought of casting it before the idols, until his fingers were burned through and fell off and his palm was completely burnt. St. Basil the Great said: "He had a right hand more powerful than fire: although the coal burned his hand, his hand still held the fire as if it were ash." Chrysostom writes: "The angels looked from the heights. The archangels beheld--the scene was majestic, in truth transcending human nature. Behold, who would not wish to see a man who made such an ascetic endeavor, yet did not feel that which is characteristic of men to feel; a man who was himself both the altar of oblation and the sacrifice and the priest?" When his hand burned off, elder Barlaam's whole body fell to the ground dead and his soul went to the eternal rest of our Lord the Savior. This glorious, heroic elder suffered in the year 304 A.D.

### The Holy Martyr Heliodorus

Heliodorus was from the town of Maggido in Pamphylia and suffered for the Christian Faith in the time of Emperor Aurelian. During his harsh tortures, he heard a voice from heaven: "Be not afraid, I am with thee!" Thrown into a glowing-hot brazen ox, he fervently prayed to God and God saved him. All at once, the glowing ox cooled, and Heliodorus emerged alive. The judge cried out to him that he had performed some magic. To this, the martyr replied: "My magic is Christ!" He was beheaded and went to the Lord.

—Prologue of Ohrid

### **The Nicene Creed: the Symbol of Faith** (sung together)

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 Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages: Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; and He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets.

In one Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Pre-Communion Prayers** (said together)

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the Living God, Who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore I pray Thee: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord in Thy Kingdom.

May the communion of Thy Holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body. Amen.

