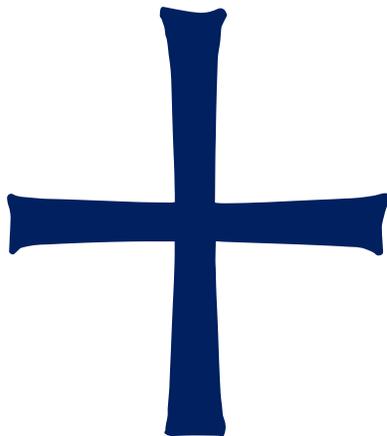


SAINT ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday Bulletin

June 25, 2023—Third 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.

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

Bulletin News

- ❖ New Choir Director Podium Needed—Christine Adam, our choir director, is seeking someone who can build a larger (wider and longer) director stand / podium for safety purposes. If you think you can help, please speak to her after liturgy or email her at christineadam.choirdirector@gmail.com or christine.pocock@gmail.com or
- ❖ 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 or talk to her at church to join a team.
- ❖ Electrician and Plumber Needed—Danielle and Fraser are looking for an electrician and a plumber. If you have recommendations, please contact them at chantrieri@hotmail.com.
- ❖ Cleaning Teams—Are you looking for a ministry where nobody sees you but everyone sees the results of your labor? Cleaning the narthex, nave and bathrooms is the job for you! We need a cleaning team for the last week of the month. You can clean any day of the week post Sunday service through mid-afternoon Saturday. Two people are best. Maybe your spouse or friend would like to join you. Please see Nancy.

This Week at St. Elizabeth

June 28th—Wednesday
6:30pm Great Vespers

June 29th—Thursday
10:00am Divine Liturgy

July 1st—Saturday
6:00pm Great Vespers

July 2nd—Sunday
Divine Liturgy (normal schedule)

Today's Hymns

Third Sunday After Pentecost—Tone 2. All Saints
of Britain and Ireland

Tone 2 **Troparion** *(Resurrection)*

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

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** *(Forerunner)*

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ,
although we cannot praise thee worthily,
we honor thee in love at thy nativity,
for by it thou hast ended thy father's silence and thy mother's
barrenness,//
proclaiming to the world the incarnation of the Son of God!

Tone 4 Troparion *(All Saints of Britain)*

From the ends of the earth, O Lord, the Isles of the Sea offer Thee
all the Saints

Who have shone forth therein as the fair fruit of Thy saving
splendour.

Through their supplications and through the Theotokos, //

 Preserve Thy Church and Thine Isles in peace profound, O
 most Merciful One.

Tone 2 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,

seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!

The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with
Thee, //

 and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Tone 3 Kontakion *(Forerunner)*

Today the formerly barren woman gives birth to Christ's
Forerunner,

who is the fulfillment of every prophecy;

for in the Jordan,

when he laid his hand on the One foretold by the Prophets, //

 he was revealed as Prophet, Herald, and Forerunner of God
 the Word.

Glory . . .

. . . over

Tone 6 Kontakion *(All Saints of Britain)*

Today the choir of Saints who pleased God in our land standeth
before us and invisibly prayeth to God for us.
With them the Angels glorify Him,
and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festival with them.//
And they all together pray for us to the eternal God.

Now and Ever . . .

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.

Today's Scripture Readings

Epistle Reading—Romans 5:1–10

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Gospel Reading—Matthew 6:22–33

“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he

not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.

Today’s Commemorations

All Saints of Britain and Ireland

It is here that I wish to speak of England and her hallowed ones who stand in this Kingdom of Heaven and I would like to consider the significance of our land, one of the most ancient of Christian lands, in this light. For there stands in Paradise a holy company of Englishmen and Englishwomen, who in their earthly lives confessed a noble and a gentle faith, an English faith, which encompassed all that is finest and most beautiful, all that is spiritually fragrant in the heart of this people. There stands St. Alban, who stood up for his faith and suffered martyrdom for his independence of spirit, who witnessed to the presence of God in this world and at once was filled with a great and holy gift, the grace to work miracles. St. Oswald, a king on earth, who “toiling for the heavenly kingdom in continual prayer,” showed forth his heavenly kingship also, raising up a great cross to the honor of God and so overcoming the heathen at Heavenfield. Cuthbert, long famed as the Wonderworker of Britain, a man warm and beautiful in heart, who “served his Creator and saw Creation serving him,” and who struggled with the demons on his desolate island off the rugged, northern coasts and “sent forth his spirit to the bliss of Paradise.” Guthlac, another desert-father in spirit, who lived in the marshes and lonely fenlands of Lincolnshire, and fought a great war against that ancient foe of mankind, that Old Dragon, the Adversary, and who “spoke with the angels of the heavenly mysteries,” from whose mouth there came forth “a fragrance like unto the scent of the sweetest flowers” and whose passing away was marked by the appearance of “a fiery tower, reaching from the earth to the height of heaven, turning the light of the sun itself to paleness.” Bede the Venerable, the writer of that history of the early spiritual moulding of England, a righteous and a learned man, “a candle burning with the Holy

Ghost” at a time of darkness, whose soul “longed to see Christ his King, in His Beauty.” And that mild and Blessed bishop of Winchester, St. Swithin, the English rain-saint, who shone through his miracles, which came all from the Living God. And he of whom it is written: “The English land is not deprived of the Lord's saints, since in English earth lie such saints as this holy king . . . Edmund the blessed, King and Martyr, wise and honorable, ever glorified, amongst men as one of them . . . He was bountiful to the poor and to widows even like a father, and ruled over his people with goodwill, ever to righteousness.” St. Edmund, the Royal Passion-Bearer, who, as Christ in the garden of Gethsemane, chose to suffer the anguish of death at the hands of non-believers rather than defend himself by the sword.

There also stands Alfred, who is called “the Great” and who became a legend among the English, “England's Darling,” famed for his wisdom and skill in all crafts, for not only did he save his land from the heathen, but also he greatly encouraged learning and monasticism at a time when they were all but dead. St. Dunstan, who came forth from that most ancient of England's holy places, Glastonbury, at a time of the nation's greatest need, to be the holy Archpastor of his people and the father of the spiritual flowering of England, of the homilist who wrote of “Christ the Golden-Blossom, Who liveth and reigneth with all holy souls,” and of those in Winchester who illuminated manuscripts with icons of an English beauty and grace, of an English homeliness, of which neither Rome nor Constantinople knew. Byrhtnoth, the ealdorman of Maldon, who in defeat spoke with the manliness of the English: “Thought shall be the harder, heart the keener, courage the greater, as our might lessens.” By Our Lord's side stands St. Mary, the Mother of God, who at this time shone forth in the Norfolk hamlet of Walsingham, holding a promise of the Heavenly Kingdom to all those who would remain faithful in the dark days ahead, a promise to protect the English land from the Evil One, a promise of consoling warmth and calm, which abides to this day . . .

—from *The Harrowing of England*, Archpriest Andrew Phillips
<https://orthochristian.com/95232.html>

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.

