

THE ST. ELIZABETH NEWS

A loving Community of Orthodox Christians

St. Elizabeth Orthodox Mission Church
 2265 E. Cherokee Drive Woodstock, GA 30188
*A parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
 Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople*
 Ruling Hierarch: His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa



Reverend Father Matthew Dutko Pastor/Administrator
 Father Deacon Steven Hanes
Phone: 404-268-6359 **Email:** fatherdutko@gmail.com
www.stelizabethga.org



36th Sunday after Pentecost
Epistle: [1 Timothy 4:9-15](#)
Gospel: [Matthew 15:21-28](#)



Christ is Among us!

Christ is among us! He is and always shall be! Welcome to St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church and thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us!! What a joy it is to be together in God's House. If you have never been to an Orthodox Church before, you are about to participate in the Divine Liturgy. The Liturgy is the work of the people and that means that all of your prayers are necessary and you have a job to do this morning! We hope you will stay and join us for coffee hour in the atrium. Please feel free to ask Fr. Matthew any questions you might have! May God's blessing be with all of you!



This Week's Music...

Tropar & Kondak Tone 3 - Page 87

Kondak Tone 6 - O unashamed intercessor of Christians, * ever loyal advocate before the Creator, * do not disregard the prayerful voice of sinners * but in your goodness* hasten to assist us who trustfully cry out to you: ** Intercede always, O Mother of God, in behalf of those who honor you!



O Mary Mother of God Pray for Us!



Tuesday 02/13 9 am- Divine Liturgy **Followed by Pirohi Making at 10 am**

Thursday 02/15 9am- Divine Liturgy: Followed by Coffee and Catechism Class

Saturday 02/17 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 02/18 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 02/20 9 am- Pirohi Making

Saturday 02/24 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 02/25 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 02/27 9 am- Divine Liturgy **Followed by Food Prep at 10 am**

Wednesday 02/28 5:30 pm- Lesser Blessing of Water followed by Question & Answer Session

Friday 03/01 9am- Divine Liturgy: Followed by Coffee and Catechism Class

Saturday 03/02 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 03/03 10 am- Divine Liturgy: Winter Parish Meeting After Liturgy

Tuesday 03/05 9 am- Divine Liturgy **Followed by Food Prep at 10 am**

Wednesday 03/06 5:30 pm- Moleben followed by Question & Answer Session

Saturday 03/09 9am- Divine Liturgy: All Souls
4pm Great Vespers

Sunday 03/10 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 03/12 9 am- Divine Liturgy **Followed by Food Prep at 10 am**

Thursday 03/14 9 am- Divine Liturgy: Followed by Coffee and Catechism Clas

Saturday 03/16 4 pm- Great Vespers

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

using the Blue Pew Book

“Blessed Is the Kingdom”	;:2
The Great Litany of Peace	2
First Antiphon.....	145
Second Antiphon.....	145
Hymn of the Incarnation.....	10
The Beatitudes	14
Hymn at The Little Entrance	148
Resurrection Tropar and Kondak Tone 3	87
Seasonal Kondak.....	Front Page of the Bulletin
The Trisagion (#2).....	19
Prokimenon (Tone 3)	88
Epistle	<u>Colossians 3:4-11</u>
Alleluia (#2)	23
Verses	88
Glory to You, O Lord.....	24
The Gospel	<u>Matthew 22:35-46</u>
The Sermon.....	Fr. Matthew
The Triple Litany.....	25
Cherubic Hymn #2.....	28
The Great Entrance and Cherubic Hymn (Continued)	33
The Creed	37
The Anaphora	39
Holy, Holy, Holy (#2).....	42
The Hymn of Praise	45
Hymn to the Birthgiver of God.....	47
The Litany of Supplication.....	50
The Lord’s Prayer (#2).....	53
The Communion Prayer	58
Communion Hymns.....	59-62
In the Fear of God Come Forward.....	63
The Reception of Communion	61
We have seen the True Light (#1).....	64
Thanksgiving Hymn (#1)	65
Thanksgiving Litany	67
Amvon Prayer.....	69
Blessed be the Name of the Lord (#4).	70
Announcements.....	Fr. Matthew
The Dismissal.....	71
Intonation for the Living.....	72
Post Communion Prayers of Thanksgiving.....	73

Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves, non-Orthodox visitors and inquirers are invited to come forward at the end of the Liturgy to venerate the cross and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread).

Faith and Mercy: The Story of the Canaanite Woman

In today's Gospel reading, we hear the story of the interaction between Christ and a Canaanite Woman. The encounters of Christ with this foreign women shows us the power of faith and the boundlessness of God's mercy. Christ and his disciples, seeking rest from their ministry, encounter a woman whose faith transcends the cultural boundaries of the time and resounds throughout the ages.

This woman is a mother desperate to heal her demon-possessed daughter. According to the customs of the day, this person was in no position to approach Christ and ask anything of Him. Yet she exhibits unwavering faith and humility as she comes meekly before Christ. Despite initial silence from Christ and protests from his disciples, she persists, expressing her belief in Christ's divine power and her humble acknowledgment of her unworthiness with the words, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David." Christ's response seems initially dismissive, focusing on his mission to the people of Israel. Yet, the woman's steadfast faith and humility prevail as she responds with remarkable meekness, acknowledging her place before the Lord and expressing her trust that even the smallest gesture of his grace can bring healing – "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Her faith moves Christ, who commends her for the greatness of her faith and grants her request, healing her daughter.



This encounter illustrates the profound connection between faith and mercy. The woman's faith, demonstrated through her persistence, humility, and trust in Christ's power, leads to her daughter's healing. Her example reminds us that even the smallest measure of faith, when coupled with genuine humility and trust in God's mercy, can produce miraculous outcomes.

The significance of faith and mercy is further underscored in the ancient prayer of the Church, "Lord, have mercy." This simple yet powerful invocation, echoing through the centuries in Orthodox tradition, embodies the essence of Christian faith. It is a plea for mercy, an acknowledgment of our dependence on God's grace, and a declaration of faith in His power to heal us and to save us.

In the Gospel, we see that every miracle performed by Christ is preceded by an expression of faith. The Canaanite Woman's plea, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me!" exemplifies this truth. Because her faith is great her daughter is healed. Likewise, when we cry out the prayer "Lord, have mercy," we express our faith in Christ's saving power and open ourselves to receive His healing and saving grace.

When we pray the "Jesus Prayer," we also participate in this ancient tradition of Christian faith and humility. By repeating the words "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner," we acknowledge our need for God's mercy and affirm our trust in His love and in His saving plan for mankind.

Ultimately, these prayers and the example of the Canaanite Woman remind us that faith and mercy are inseparable. When we approach God with genuine faith, humility, and a plea for His mercy, we open ourselves to receive His abundant grace and healing. May we, like the foreign woman, embody such faith and humility in our lives, trusting in God's mercy to transform us, heal us, and save us.

LENTEN SEASON OF GIVING

EASTER MEAL FOOD DRIVE

Helping people of Cherokee



Enjoy God's
Love at
Easter

Please let us know if you would like to donate \$30 to provide a ham and other

staples for families to enjoy an Easter meal. The goal is to provide 30 hams this year.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050844A4AC29A4FD0-47044291-donate>



★ NATIONAL ACRY ★

CHURCH FAMILY WEEKEND

ANNUAL
BOWLING
TOURNAMENT

A WEEKEND
WITH OUR
BISHOP AND
OUR
DIOCESAN
FAMILY!



HOSTED BY SAINT
ELIZABETH'S MAY 24-27
2024

FAITH

FELLOWSHIP

FUN

Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church

Woodstock, GA

"This woman, who was a stranger to the worship of the Godhead, did not fall down before Him for the sake of the promises made to the fathers, nor for fear of chastisement, nor through the desire of any benefit, nor in obedience to any command; but in simplicity of faith she sought a cure for her daughter, being influenced by her natural affection." -St. Gregory of Nyssa
"The Lord Jesus here tests the faith of the Canaanite woman, saying that He was not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, in order to show to His disciples the abundant fruit of her faith."

- St. Cyril of Alexandria

Become a Member of
Saint Elizabeth's!

www.stelizabethga.org

Announcements:

- **New Sunday School Format Begins Today-** Going forward we will be having a new format for Sunday School Students in our community! ***The youngest group consisting of toddlers, pre-school, and kindergarten aged students will meet in the room formally known as the Library.*** This will be the new area for our youngest students to eat and learn about their faith with their families during coffee hour. ***The next age group, 1st grade - 5th grade will be meeting in the Sunday School Room. The Middle School and High School Students (6-12) will be meeting temporarily in the room formally known as the kids play room.*** A new dedicated space for those students and instructors is currently being prepared. If you would like to help out with Sunday School, please see Rachel Prince!
- **Annual Winter Parish Meeting Date Set for Sunday 03/03/2024:** After a few conflicts were raised, the Parish Council has officially set the Winter Parish Meeting Date for Sunday March 3rd after the Divine Liturgy.WQ
- **Will you serve the Church in a Greater Way?-** Are you interested in serving on the Parish Council or being an active leader in the different ministries of the Church? Please prayerfully consider how you can help in the ministry of Saint Elizabeth's!
- **Easter Ham Donation:** Please see Janet Jones or click the link if you are interested in helping provide a ham for a family in need at Easter. Donations will be collected in the beginning of March. [Click here to sign up!](#). T
- Do you have questions about something we do or believe in the Orthodox Church? You are probably not the only one wondering! Let Fr. Matthew know and an article will be placed in the bulletin.
- **Important Note:** Please take the time to fill out a Stewardship Commitment / Membership Card for the 2024 Calendar Year - Every Orthodox Christian Needs a Parish Home, and Saint Elizabeth's is Yours!



Parish Family Prayer List

For the Health of: The Melnikoff Family, Pani Betty Jean Baranek, Fr. James Gleason, The Paccio Family, Kara, Joanna, James, Athanasia, Ethel, Tyler, Maria, Page Family, Dean, Margaret, Metropolitan Gregory and his family, David, Joseph, Maria Starcova, David & Paulette Novak, Suzette, Bob, David, Marilyn & family, Mark, Fr. Dcn. Stephen, Michelle, James, Rachel, Kate, Fr. Blaschak & Family, Larry, Alexandra, Tammy, Trahan & Skiba Family, The Hood Family, the Mileszko Family, the Blonar Family, Burt, Sandy, Stephanie, Mary, Tommy, Stephen, Emilia, Simon, Alisha, & Aaron Zak, the Puziculiks Family, Fr. Andy, Davina, & Alexandra, Stan, Fr. Dcn. Charlie & Family, Justin, Charlie, Herbert Schleining, Spencer, Julie, Anna, Galina & Family, Irinia & Family, Fr. Jim & Pani Kathy Dutko, Rick, Katlain, Elenor, Teddy, Mark, Robert & Cindy, Melissa, Ben, Anthony, Rachel, Christine, Cora, Rick, Michelle, Tim, Robert, The Kelemecz Family, Leonard, Leo, & the Olaru Family, Joanna Price, Kim, Isaiah, the Wells Family, Dave, Ashley & family, Mary, Tim, Andrew, Robert, Derrick, Michael, Eli, Ean, Ellie, Amber, Christopher, Deborah, Nick & Rosemary, Mike, Elaiane, Roy, Lin, Dave, Sarah, George, & Edward, Stephen, Caleb, Amelia, Simon, David, the Gdovin Family, the Rodgers Family, the Kundrat Family, Yvone, George, Amberly, & baby Stella, Jessie, Dexter, Julia, Dan, Cora, Gabriel, Ethan, Tripp, Rachel, Lilly, Emmie, Charlie, Michelle, Serge, Mark, Johnny, Yvette Christine, Johanna, Nicole, Caroline, Alexander, Kelly, Henery, & Benjamin

For the Departed: Evelyn & Boris Melnikoff+, Patricia+, James+, Stephen+, Anna+, Charles+, Robert+, Loraine+. Helen+, Lewis+, Jean+, Vera+, George+, George+, Ernie+, Eddie+, Maria+, Carl+, Mark+, Barry+, Josph+, Phillip+, Jenny+, Peter+, Bryan+, Rebecca+, Fr. Paul+, Maria+, Fr. Hazuda+, George Smisko+, Helen Spanovich+, Bob+, Alma+, Bo+, Saddy+, Fr. William George+, Violet+, Fr. Kozar+, Benjamin+, John Haddad+, Fred & Helen Mileszko+, Anna+, Natalie+, Lilly+, Christine+, Anna+, Tamara+, Anastasia+, Yvonne+, John+, Betty+, Ada+, Peter+ & Wanda+, George+, Jerry+, Barb+ & Harry+, Beth+, Louise+, Nikolay+, David+, Fr. Michael+, Natalie+, Helen+, Ted+, Tom+, Mike+, Madeline+, Tim+, Fr. John Baranek, Reader Stephen+, Dean+, Fr. Larry+, Kris+, Wathen+, Pani Elenor+, Fr. Michael+, Sally+, David+, Gene+, Kenny+, Ava+, Fr. Tony Josph+ & Pani Patsy+, Anatoly+, Fr. Scott+, Steve+, Claudia+, Dave+, Fr. John Duranko, Michael+, Sarah Elizabeth+ Ester+, Julie+, +Michael, +Joe, Mary+

Through the prayers of the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, St. Elizabeth, The Holy Fathers & Mothers, and all the Saints, may our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us!

Holy Saint Elizabeth Pray for us!



Keep Your Parish Family in Your Prayers!

Eternal Memory!



Christ is Among us!



ST. ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH

Stewardship Offering / Membership Form



Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church Become a Steward

I chose you and appointed you that you
should go and bear fruit.

John 15:16

All parishoners and regular
attendees are asked to fill out
our new online membership
form here!