
WELCOME

St. Clare's Episcopal Church

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023

*We invite you to prepare for the service in quiet meditation and prayer.
Please silence all cell phones. Flash photography is not allowed.*

Welcome to St. Clare's! We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here, and welcome to join us in Holy Communion.

If this is your first time visiting with us, we invite you to take a moment to fill out the Visitor's Card located in the pew, or the Visitor's Book in the Narthex, so that we may get to know you better. We hope that you will consider joining our community as we grow together in relationship with God and with one another.

We use the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) in our Sunday worship together. The bulletin you are holding will guide you to the page numbers. The BCP is red. Our Hymnal 1982 is blue. If you need assistance, please don't hesitate to turn to the person next to you to ask. We are happy to guide you.

If you have a pastoral concern or need, or would like more information about the Episcopal Church, please feel free to call the church office at 706-745-0607 to make an appointment with me.

Blessings,
Liz+



An Invitation to Communion

We hope that you will accept our invitation to join us at the Table. All are welcome. The usher will signal when it is time for your pew to come forward. You may stand or kneel at the altar. There are several ways that you may participate with us. When the bread is offered, place one hand on top of the other and extend them forward to accept the bread. To receive the wine, guide the bottom of the chalice to your mouth with one hand. If you would like to receive the wine without drinking from the cup, hold the bread in the palm of your hand and the chalice bearer will dip the bread in the chalice (called intinction). If you prefer not to receive the wine, consume the bread and then cross your arms over your chest and the wine will pass by you. If you would like to participate, but not receive communion, you may come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest, and the priest will give you a blessing.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

The Word Of God

Prelude	Pastorale	Charles Wesley
Processional Hymn	Guide me, O thou great Jehovah	Hymn 690
Opening Acclamation		BCP 355
Gloria		Hymn S-278*
The Collect of the Day		BCP 236
The Lessons		
The First Lesson: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25		See right
Psalm 78:1-7		BCP 694
The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18		See right
Sequence Hymn	“Sleepers, wake!” A voice astounds us	Hymn 61
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13		See right
The Sermon		The Rev. Liz Schellingerhoudt
	<i>A period of silence is kept</i>	
The Nicene Creed		BCP 358
The Prayers of the People Form II		BCP 385
The Confession		BCP 360
The Peace		BCP 360

The Holy Communion

Choral Anthem	Keep Your Lamps! <i>David Duke, drums</i>	Andre Thomas
Presentation Hymn	Not here for high and holy things <i>(verses 4-6)</i>	Hymn 9
Eucharistic Prayer D		BCP 372
The Sanctus		Hymn S-128*
The Lord’s Prayer and The Breaking of the Bread		BCP 364
Fraction Anthem		Hymn S-154*
Distribution of Communion		BCP 364
<i>All persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Those not receiving may come to the communion rail to receive a blessing; please cross your arms over your chest. If you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer, please say “gluten-free” to the priest.</i>		
Communion Hymns	Let all mortal flesh keep silence Once he came in blessing	Hymn 324 Hymn 53
Post Communion Prayer		BCP 365
Processional Hymn	Rejoice! Rejoice believers	Hymn 68
Postlude	Keep Your Lamps!	Andre Thomas

**All hymns beginning with “S” (Service Music) are found in the front of the blue hymnal.*

You are invited to join us for fellowship after the service, downstairs in the parish hall.

Joshua 24:1-3a, 214-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. "Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.
The Word of the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God.*

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.
The Word of the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God.*

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (25:1-13)

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord. *People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Prayers of the People

For the sick or in need: Greg, Mary, Michael, Fran, Richard, Denise and Don, Donald, Cary, Charlie, Lisa, Jerry, Lamar, Sharon, Michelle W., Dennis and Rita, Faith, Alice, Linda, Marie, Leah Marie, Doug S., Clinton, Richard, MaryAnn, Travis, Annie, Jane, Sally, Mary, Anne, Joy, McKinley, Katie, Edwina, Terri, Herb H., Al, Josh, Roz, Bob, Ann, Delores, Mary Lou, Pat, and Joan.

For those who travel: Dick and Sandy, Amy C.

For those who have died: Sam Ensley, The Lewiston, Maine victims, Matthew Perry.

For those celebrating birthdays: Avary Smith-Foot, Bucky Buchmaier, Kacie Berry, Holly Smith-Foot.

For those celebrating anniversaries: Caroline & Rick Workman.

Those Who Serve

November 12, 2023

Verger – Lynnae Boudreau
Crucifer – Lamar Barber
Lector 1 – Missie Kirkland
Lector 2 – JC Eriksen
Eucharistic Minister – Steve Wilson
Ushers – Carlene & Tony Dockery
VPOD – Pat Murray
Altar Guild – Lisa McElfresh
Flower Guild – Darlene Pilcher
Videographer – Michelle Crawford
Fellowship – Diana Symins & Bucky Buchmaier

2023 Vestry

Lynnae Boudreau, Senior Warden
Lisa McElfresh, Junior Warden
Lamar Barber, Treasurer
Jo Ellen Clow, Clerk
Sandy Calloway
Amy Cox
Katherine Duello
Lynne Joynes
Pat Murray
Herb Pilcher
Michael Smith-Foot

Clergy and Staff

Bishop of Diocese of Atlanta
The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright
Rector—The Rev. Liz Schellingerhoudt, OA
Liz@StClaresEpiscopal.org
Parish Administrator—Kitty Taylor
Admin@StClaresEpiscopal.org
Treasurer—Lamar Barber
treasurer@stclaresepiscopal.org
Organist-Choirmaster—Karen Calloway
edwins@windstream.net
Sunday Sexton—Billy Clayton

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Phone: 706-745-0607
Email: Admin@StClaresEpiscopal.org
On the Web: StClaresEpiscopal.org

Weekly Services

Sundays, HE Rite II, 10:30 AM
Wednesdays, HE Rite II, 12:15 PM
Morning Prayer is 8:00 AM M-F
Compline is 7:30 PM M-F
Choral Compline, First Sundays, 7:00 PM

Adult Formation

Join Liz+ next Sunday, November 19th, at 9:30 AM for Adult Christian Education. We will complete our study of the Gospel of Mark.

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting and potluck lunch will be held next Sunday, November 19th, following our 10:30 AM service. During the service, we will have our pledge ingathering. Please complete the Annual Parish Survey sent last week by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, November 14th.

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer is now being offered in the Assisi Chapel on Wednesdays at 11:30 AM. This practice will continue through the end of Advent. Our 12:15 Eucharist follows in the chapel. This service will not be offered on Wednesday, November 22nd (the day before Thanksgiving).

Evening Prayer

Evening Prayer will be held in the Assisi Chapel on weekdays during Advent (December 4-22) at 5:00 PM. It will also be streamed on Facebook.

Office Hours

Our Parish Administrator, Kitty Taylor, will be on vacation this week (Nov 13-17). The office will be open Tues-Thurs. Please call before stopping by.

Thanksgiving Meal Reservations

House of Prayer is offering Thanksgiving meals for members of our community in need. Delivery, pick-up, and dine-in options are available. Please call the church (706-745-0607) for more information, or to make a reservation for yourself or someone else.

Church Calendar

November

23-24 - Office closed for Thanksgiving

December

2 - 2:00 PM, Greening of the Church
3 - First Sunday of Advent; Wreath-Making during Fellowship
3 - 6:00 PM Valley River Ringers handbell choir
7:00 PM Choral Compline