

away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

BCP 702

The Second Lesson – 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

The Lord will come and now be slow

Hymnal 462

The Holy Gospel (Mark 13:24-37)

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Liz Schellingerhoudt

A period of silence is kept

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

Lector: Faithful God, stir up your strength and come to help us as we look for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ; hear our prayers and strengthen us to the end as we pray: Restore us, O God of hosts; show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

We give thanks to you, our Loving God, for the grace you have given to us in Christ Jesus: Enrich your Church in speech and knowledge of every kind that she may not be lacking in any spiritual gift and may be awake, alert, and blameless. Restore us, O God of hosts;

Response: Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Come among us with great power and glory, O Shepherd of your people, shine forth and give to all the earth the light of your presence. Restore us, O God of hosts;

Response: Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Be near to this community, at our very gates and within our hearts, and do not hide your face from us, that we may know your glory in the evening and at midnight and at cockcrow and at dawn, and not be found asleep at the day of your coming. Restore us, O God of hosts;

Response: Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Compassionate One, open the heavens and come down with your healing grace for those for whom we pray; give them courage and hope in their troubles now as we say their names responsively: Jason, Kyle, Marykate, Joyce, Lisa, Frank, Kitty, Greg, Bailey, Tamara, Chris, Keri, John, Carolyn, Bonnie, 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.

We give thanks for the grace and peace that come from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, offering our special gratitude for the birthdays of Mackenzie Harkins, Jordan Workman, Connie Carbone, Gil Nicolson, Gail Todd, Bailey Crawford, Nancy Cobb, and Terri Byrd; and the anniversaries of Sue & Rick Richtarcik, and Kathleen & Ben Edwards..

May your angels gather your beloved into the day of triumph as we remember those who have died, including Joan Cholomitis, Paul Poole, Rosalynn Carter, Willis Swanson, Richard Benson, Carolyn Bell Greer, Sam Ensley, all who have died in the conflict between Israel and Hamas, and all who have died in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

The People may add their own petitions.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

Response: Show us the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

Celebrant:

No one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, O Holy One; you are the potter and we are the clay, the work of your hand: Shine forth upon your creation, stir up your strength and come to help us, as we put our trust in you, O Father, through our Savior Jesus Christ in the power of your Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

The Peace

BCP 360

The Holy Communion

Choral Anthem

Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing

J.G. Walther

Presentation Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel (vs. 6-8)

Hymnal 56

Eucharistic Prayer 3 from *Enriching Our Worship*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

The Sanctus

Hymnal S-114

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing the wine to be consecrated.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and people

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Celebrant continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed St. Clare all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer (*contemporary, sung*)

Hymnal S-148

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-157

Distribution of Communion

BCP 364

Communion Hymns

*Once he came in blessing
Jesus came, adored by angels*

Hymnal 53

Hymnal 454

Commissioning of Eucharistic Visitors

Priest: On behalf of this congregation, I give you these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: We send you forth with the body and blood of Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 366

The Blessing

Recessional

Rejoice! rejoice believers

Hymnal 68

Dismissal

Closing Voluntary

Savior of the Nations, Come

Johann Heinrich Buttstedt

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Announcements

Handbell Concert and Choral Compline – Join us tonight at 6:00 PM for the Valley River Ringers Handbell Choir prelude concert, which will be followed by Choral Compline at 7:00 PM.

Evening Prayer – Every weekday during Advent (Dec 4-22), we will hold Evening Prayer in the Assisi Chapel at 5:00 PM.

Lessons and Carols – Join us next Sunday, December 10 at 7:00 PM as our Chancel Choir presents a service of Advent Lessons and Carols, followed by cookies and hot chocolate in the parish hall.

Christmas Flowers - It's time to think about making the church look festive for Christmas! You will find envelopes in the pews to make your donations for flowers. You can also indicate your dedication when you send your check. To include your dedication in the bulletin, please send in your donation no later than December 18th. All donations help provide flowers throughout the year and support our beautiful gardens.

The Advent Outreach Tree is back! Paper ornaments adorn the tree in the Narthex, and each donation of \$10 or more to Sleep in Heavenly Peace earns an ornament that may be given to friends and family, or placed in stockings, to let them know that a gift was made in their honor. Sleep in Heavenly Peace provides beds for children in Union County.

Church Calendar

Advent II, Sunday, December 10th

9:30 AM Adult Ed, The Music of Advent with Ken Alexander

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

7:00PM Advent Lessons and Carols

Advent III, Sunday, December 17th

9:30 AM Adult Ed, The Art of Advent with Ken Alexander

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Advent IV, Sunday, December 24th

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

12:00 PM Decorate the church for Christmas

Christmas Eve Service

7:15 PM Children's Crafts in the parish hall

7:30 PM Prelude Music

8:00 PM Festive Eucharist with reception following the service

Holidays/Office Closings

December 25-Jan 1 – Christmas Week & New Year's Day

Those Who Serve

December 3, 2023

Verger – Eli Smith-Foot

Crucifer – Michael Smith-Foot

Lector 1 – Steve Wilson

Lector 2 – Sandy Bell

Eucharistic Minister – Amy Nicolson

Ushers – Lynne Joynes & Jerome Laux

Eucharistic Visitor - Sandy Bell

VPOD – Amy Cox

Altar Guild – Kathy McNeese & Linda Boyett

Flower Guild – Greening of the Church

Videographer – Haley Dyer

Fellowship – Katherine & Camilla Duello

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

St. Clare's Episcopal Church

777 Ledford Road, Blairsville, GA 30512

Office Hours: Mon—Thurs 9:00-5:00

Phone: 706-745-0607

Email: Admin@StClaresEpiscopal.org

On the Web: StClaresEpiscopal.org



Weekly Services

Sundays, HE Rite II, 10:30 AM (In person and on Facebook)

Wednesdays, Centering Prayer, 11:30 AM (Assisi Chapel)

Wednesdays, HE Rite II, 12:15 PM (Assisi Chapel)

Morning Prayer is 8:00 AM M-F (Facebook)

Evening Prayer is 5:00 PM M-F (Assisi Chapel)

Compline is 7:30 PM M-F (Facebook)

Choral Compline, First Sundays, 7:00 PM (In person and on Facebook)

Welcoming all people to worship with us.

Unapologetically Christian.

Learning to love like Jesus.