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# WELCOME

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## *St. Clare's Episcopal Church*

### **The Feast of the Epiphany**

**January 7, 2024**

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

**W**elcome 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 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, then cross your arms over your chest and the wine will pass you by. 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	<i>O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright</i>	Wilbur Held
Processional Hymn	<i>The First Nowell</i>	Hymn 109
Holy Eucharist Rite II		BCP 355
Gloria		Hymn S-280*
The Collect of the Day		BCP 214
The Lessons		
The First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6		See right
Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14		BCP 685
The Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12		See right
Sequence Hymn	<i>What star is this, with beams so bright</i>	Hymn 124
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12		See right
The Sermon		The Rev. Ceci Duke
	<i>A period of silence is kept</i>	
The Nicene Creed		BCP 358
The Prayers of the People Form V		BCP 389
The Confession		BCP 360
The Peace		BCP 360

## The Holy Communion

Choral Anthem	<i>We Three Kings of Orient Are</i> <i>(congregation is invited to join in refrain)</i>	
Presentation Hymn	<i>Not here for high and holy things</i> <i>(verses 4-6)</i>	Hymn 9
Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP 367
The Sanctus		Hymn S-130*
The Lord's Prayer and The Breaking of the Bread		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>		
Fraction Anthem		Hymn S-152*
Distribution of Communion		BCP 364
	<i>The congregation is encouraged to join in singing the communion hymns.</i>	
Communion Hymns	<i>Now the silence Now the peace</i> <i>In the bleak midwinter</i>	Hymn 333 Hymn 112
Post Communion Prayer		BCP 365
The Blessing		
Processional Hymn	<i>As with gladness men of old</i>	Hymn 119
Postlude	<i>G Major</i>	Dietrich Buxtehude

*\*All hymns beginning with "S" (Service Music) are found in the front of the blue hymnal*

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The word of the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God.*

**Ephesians 3:1-12**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The word of the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God.*

**Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (2:1-12)**

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

**Prayers of the People**

For the sick or in need: Martha, Tom, Missie, Keri, Carolyn, MaryAnn, Travis, Annie, Jane, Sally, Mary, Joy, Anne, McKinley, Katie, Edwina, Terri, Herb H., Al, Josh, Roz, Bob, Ann, Delores, Mary Lou, Pat, and Joan.

For those who have died: Bonnie Magar, Calvin Collins.

For those celebrating birthdays (12/31/2023 - 1/13/24): Tony Dockery, BJ Foster, Henry Batten, James Duello, Donna Carey, Nancy Logan, Presley Berry, Kathleen Edwards, Estelle Alexander, Missie Kirkland.

For those celebrating anniversaries (12/31/23 - 1/13/24): Carli & Cameron Lejeune, Susan & Wayne Stokke.

**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.*

***Today we welcome the  
Rev. Ceci Duke as supply.***

**Those Who Serve**

Sunday, January 7, 2024  
Verger – Michael Smith-Foot  
Crucifer – Eli Smith-Foot  
Lector 1 – BJ Foster  
Lector 2 - Haley Dyer  
Eucharistic Minister – Michael Smith-Foot  
Ushers - Kathy McNeese & Steve Kinmonth  
Eucharistic Visitor – Steve Wilson  
Greeter - Jo Ellen Clow  
VPOD - Pat Murray  
Altar Guild – Linda Boyett & Diana Symins  
Flower Guild - Darlene Pilcher  
Videographer - Michelle Crawford  
Fellowship - Darlene Pilcher

**2024 Vestry**

Frank Kinmonth Senior Warden  
Lamar Barber, Treasurer  
Jo Ellen Clow, Clerk  
Mary Buonagura  
Amy Cox  
Butch Duryea  
Lisa McElfresh  
Pat Murray  
Michael Smith-Foot  
Steve Wilson

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

**Weekly Services**

Sundays, HE Rite II, 10:30 AM  
Wednesdays, Centering Prayer, 11:30 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, 7:00PM

***Choral Compline is tonight at 7:00 PM. Join us in person or on Facebook for this contemplative service.***

**Join Liz+ next Sunday, January 14th at 9:30 AM for Conversations in the Parish Hall.**

**We will celebrate the music ministry of Bill Fox next Sunday, January 14th, during Fellowship. Join us as we recognize his many gifts to St. Clare's and the community.**

**Thursday Book Study Group** will resume on January 11th. Our next selection is Roberta Bondi's To Love as God Loves. The book is based on her extensive research into the writings of the desert fathers and mothers in the fourth century. We will meet from 4:00-5:00 PM on Zoom. Use the link in the eClare to join. All are welcome!

**Food Pantry donations** are collected and delivered on Thursday morning. Please help us nourish our neighbors in this new year.

**We are currently taking submissions** for the Lenten Meditation Booklet. Our theme this year is giving and receiving. How have you received a gift by giving to another? How have you received a gift by accepting something from someone else? Submit your written reflections, artwork, or photography to Kitty at admin@stclaresepiscopal.org by Monday, February 5th. All submissions must be original work.

**Ash Wednesday is soon!** Mark your calendars for February 14th. We will have both a Noon and 7:00pm service.

**St. Clare's will host a bed build** for Sleep in Heavenly Peace on Saturday, March 9th in the parking lot. The final product will provide a single bed for a child in Union County. No experience is needed to volunteer. Please use the link in the eClare to sign up.

**Office Closings**

January 15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day