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# WELCOME

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## *St. Clare's Episcopal Church*

**The First Sunday in Lent**

**February 18, 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 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, 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

Opening Voluntary  
Silent Procession  
The Great Litany

*Prelude on "Forty Days and Forty Nights"*

C.S. Lang

See booklet  
*(please return booklet after the service)*

The Collect of the Day

BCP 218

The First Lesson: Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

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

Psalm 25:1-9 (spoken)

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \*  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

Sequence Hymn

*Christ, when for us you were baptized*

Hymn 121

The Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

*People: Glory to you Lord Christ.*

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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 Peace

BCP 360

## **The Holy Communion**

Choral Anthem

*Lead Me Lord*

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Presentation Hymn

Take my life and let it be

Hymn 707

### Enriching Our Worship, Prayer 2

*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*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

The Sanctus

Hymn S-129\*

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

*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.*

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Blessed St. Clare and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer and The Breaking of the Bread BCP 364  
Agnus Dei Hymn S-161\*  
Distribution of Communion BCP 364

*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.*

*The congregation is encouraged to join in singing the communion hymns.*

Communion Hymns *Now let us all with one accord* Hymn 142  
*O saving Victim, opening wide* Hymn 310

Post Communion Prayer BCP 365

Solemn Prayer Over the People

*The Celebrant says*

Bow down before the Lord (*the people kneel as able*).

*The Celebrant says*

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Processional *Now throughout these forty days* Hymn 142

Postlude *Allegretto* Antonio Vivaldi

***You are invited to join us for fellowship after the service, downstairs in the Parish Hall.***

#### **Prayers of the People**

**For the sick or in need:** Deborah, Merle, John, Jack, Susana, Fran, Sandy, Rick, the Bunns-Bryant family, Jay and family, Ceci, Renea, Carolyn, MaryAnn, Travis, Jane, Mary, Joy, McKinley, Katie, Edwina, Terri, Herb H., Al, Josh, Roz, Bob, Ann, Delores, Mary Lou, Pat, and Joan.

**For those who travel:** John and Lamar.

**For those who have died:** Beverly Moore, Seiji Ozawa, all who have died in the conflict between Russian and Ukraine, and all who have died in the war in the Middle East.

**For those celebrating birthdays:** Benton Gregory, Rick Richtarcik, Sherry Wilson, Kim Siekmann, and Dick Bell.

## Weekly Services

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

**Join Liz+ next Sunday**, February 24th at 9:30 AM for Adult Christian Education.

**Ken Alexander will host a Lenten series** in March which we will recount the events of the last week of Jesus' life and consider some of the ways theologians over the centuries have thought about the meaning of his death on the cross. All three sessions will use slide presentations and discussion to explore the Gospel narratives about Jesus' final week and why those narratives retain their power to inspire us two thousand years later.

- March 3: The Last Week, Part One: Palm Sunday through Holy Wednesday (also known as "Spy Wednesday")
- March 10: The Last Week, Part Two: Maundy Thursday through Holy Saturday
- March 17: What was the reason for Jesus' death?: Some answers from Christian theologians across the centuries.

**Lenten Meditation Booklets** are available in the narthex. You can also view the online version using the link in the eClare. Many thanks to all who contributed words and art for this year's booklet, and to Tommy Westbrook for the final design.

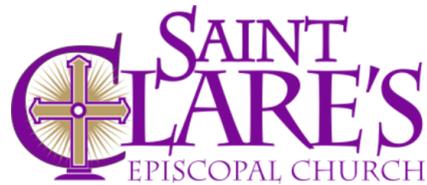
**Our next Sacred Ground group** will begin on February 20th. This is a film and reading-based dialogue that will take place over 11 sessions and is built upon an online curriculum and Zoom streaming format. Please contact Pat Murray at [pamurray@mindspring.com](mailto:pamurray@mindspring.com) for more information.

**St. Clare's will host a bed build** for Sleep in Heavenly Peace on Saturday, March 9th from 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM in the parking lot. The final product will provide a bed, mattress, linens, and a pillow for a child in Union County. No experience is needed to volunteer. Please use the link in the eClare to sign up.

**Our Spring Parish Clean-up Day** is scheduled for Saturday, March 16th. See the announcement in the eClare for more information.

**Each Wednesday morning** a group meets in the Assisi Chapel for Centering Prayer (CP). CP is a silent prayer, focused on making space for God's movement and action in our lives. Beginning at 11:30, the first 10 minutes are set aside for helping newcomers to be introduced to the practice. The prayer time lasts 20 minutes and is followed by Holy Eucharist at 12:15 in the chapel.

**Thursday Book Study Group** is reading Christian Wiman's [Zero at the Bone](#). We meet at 4:00 PM on Zoom. Please use the link in the eClare to join. All are welcome!



**Those Who Serve**

Sunday February 18, 2024  
Verger – Eli Smith-Foot  
Crucifer – Michael Smith-Foot  
Lector 1 – Lisa McElfresh  
Lector 2 – Susan Marr  
Eucharistic Minister – Lynnae Boudreau  
Ushers – Scotti & Skip Kershner  
Greeter – Michelle Wilson  
VPOD – Pat Murray & Frank Kinmonth  
Altar Guild – Kathy McNeese  
Videographer – Haley Dyer  
Fellowship – Mary Beth Wiles & Leslie Davis

2024 Vestry

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

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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