
WELCOME

St. Clare's Episcopal Church

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 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	Chorale #2 and Two Pieces #2	J.C. Walther and J.J. Charpentier
Processional Hymn	Joyful, joyful, we adore thee	Hymn 376
Opening Acclamation		BCP 355
Gloria		Hymn S-236*
The Collect of the Day		BCP 233
The Lessons		
The First Lesson: Exodus 14:19-31		See right
Psalm 114		BCP 756
The Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12		See right
Sequence Hymn	Go down, Moses	LEVAS* 228
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35		See right
The Sermon		The Rev. Dr. Paul Roberts
	<i>A period of silence is kept</i>	
The Nicene Creed		BCP 358
The Prayers of the People Form I		BCP 383
The Confession		BCP 360
The Peace		BCP 360

The Holy Communion

Choral Anthem	Blessed, How Blessed	David M. Cherwien
		Text by Susan Palo Cherwien
Presentation Hymn	Not here for high and holy things <i>(verses 4-6)</i>	Hymn 9
Eucharistic Prayer C		BCP 369
The Sanctus		Hymn S-125*
The Lord's Prayer and The Breaking of the Bread		BCP 364
Fraction Anthem		Hymn S-152*
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	Come with us, O blessed Jesus Come down, O Love divine	Hymn 336 Hymn 516
Post Communion Prayer		BCP 365
Processional Hymn	Go forth for God; go to the world in peace	Hymn 347
Postlude	Fugue in C Major	George Frederic Handel

**All hymns beginning with "S" (Service Music) are found in the front of the blue hymnal
All hymns beginning with LEVAS are found in Lift Every Voice and Sing.*

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

Scripture reprinted from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. The Word of the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God.*

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God. The Word of the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God.*

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (18:21-35)

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." The Gospel of the Lord. *People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

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. Dr. Paul Roberts as supply.***

Those Who Serve

Sunday September 17, 2023
Verger – Michael Smith-Foot
Crucifer – Eli Smith-Foot
Lector 1 – Amy Nicolson
Lector 2 – JC Eriksen
Eucharistic Minister – Michael Smith-Foot
Ushers – Carlene & Tony Dockery
Eucharistic Visitor – Steve Wilson
VPOD – Michael Smith-Foot
Altar Guild – Kathy McNeese
Flower Guild – Kees Schellingerhoudt
Videographer – Michelle Crawford
Fellowship – Diana & Richard Guimond

2023 Vestry

Lynnae Boudreau, Senior Warden
Lamar Barber, Treasurer
Jo Ellen Clow, Clerk
Sandy Calloway
Amy Cox
Katherine Duello
Lynne Joynes
Lisa McElfresh
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

Prayers of the People

For the sick or in need: Janette, Linda, Greg, Kristi, Roger, Hilda, and Donald; for Jane, Herb P., Sally, Friederich, Mary, Billy, Anne, Joy, McKinley, Katie, Annie, Edwina, Terri, Herb H., Al, Josh, Roz, Bob, Ann, Delores, Mary Lou, Pat, and Joan.

For those who travel: Barry & Rebecca, and Henry & Tommy.

For those who have died: Naudy Pereira, Bob Murphy, and Jimmy Buffett.

For those celebrating birthdays: Asa Smith-Foot, Chad Berry, Jessica Berry, Kathy McNeese.

For those celebrating anniversaries: Pat & Bill Murray, Sue & Mark Groesbeck, Scotti & Skip Kershner.

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, September 24th at 9:30 AM for Conversations in the Parish Hall.

Music in the Garden

Save the date for our next Music in the Garden event on Friday, September 29th. Weather permitting, we will begin with a reception in our gardens at 5:30 and move indoors for a lively performance by our own Tamara and Jamey Whiting. If you are able to help plan the reception, contact Kitty at admin@stclaresepiscopal.org.

Feast of St. Francis

We will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on Sunday, October 1st. This outdoor service will include the blessing of animals. All leashed or crated pets are welcome.

ESOL

Our English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program is back in session. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. Additional teachers and substitutes are needed. If you are interested, please contact Kitty at admin@stclaresepiscopal.org to be connected with our ESOL coordinator, Luz Rondon.