November 15, 2026
The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9AM FAMILY HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE with the Joyful Noise Band

Processional Song
Opening Sentences,
Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355
The Liturgy of the Word
The Collect of the Day
A Reading / Psalm
Song
The Gospel
Sharing the Good News The Creed
The Prayers
The Confession & Absolution
The Peace BCP 360

Welcome & Announcements
The Holy Communion
Offertory
The Great Thanksgiving:
The Lord's Prayer BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread The Administration
Communion Song
Post Communion Prayer BCP 365
The Blessing
Song for the Procession Out
The Dismissal BCP 366

11AM CHORAL HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE

Procession In, *standing* *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Hymnal 405

The Opening Sentences **B**ook of **C**ommon **P**rayer (BCP) 355

Song of Praise *The Gloria* Hymnal S278

The Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Note: This 6-7th c. BC prophet has a very short book in the Bible. His message is one of preparation for the presence of God in judgement. He faults leadership in failing to guide the people toward this encounter.

Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.
At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.
The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12 *Domine, refugium*

Note: This psalm places human beings in the context of the vast context of creation itself. In the end, he reminds us of the gift of life that God has given us and the imperative to cherish it.

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

***The* Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Note: This psalm places human beings in the context of the vast context of creation itself. In the end, he reminds us of the gift of life that God has given us and the imperative to cherish it

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Sequence Hymn, standing He Who Would Valiant Hymnal 565

The Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Note: We are tempted to treat the parables of Jesus as allegories, where each character has a direct correlation to someone. It is better to imagine that Jesus is trying to get us to think about the ideas raised by his, sometimes shocking, stories. What is the story really about? Is it trying to paint a picture of God or is it trying to say something about our relationship with God? I would suggest the emphasis is on the latter.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Homily **The Rev. Dr. James B. Stutler, D. Min**
Followed by silence for reflection.

The Nicene Creed, *standing* BCP 358
The Prayers of the People, *kneeling or standing*
Greetings and Announcements
The Confession of Sin BCP 359

The Peace, *standing* BCP 360

The Holy Communion
Rite II, Prayer B

The Offertory We Gather Together Choir

The Doxology, *standing* Hymnal 380, v3

The Great Thanksgiving
The *Sursum Corda* BCP 367
The *Sanctus* Hymnal S114
The Canon, *kneeling or standing*
.
THE GREAT AMEN BCP 368

The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

Breaking of the Bread BCP 364
Fraction Anthem Hymnal S169
Communion *Because I Have Been Given Much*

Post Communion Prayer, *kneeling or standing* BCP 365

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.

Recessional Hymn: *We Will Extol You (Short)* Hymnal 404

The Blessing

The Dismissal Response BCP 366
Thanks be to God.

WE PRAY FOR:

Our Parish Family, especially
- ✝ **CLAIRE, LINDA, MARK, MISSY, LESLIE, BILL, AMANDA, CAROLE, JUDITH, ANN, AL, HUBIE, ROBIN, TED, DAKOTA, CARL, JEAN, MARY, WAYNE, KAREN, JESSE, and DEACON JUDITH.**
- ✝ **FR . JAMIE.**
- Y **THE MINISTRIES OF ST. CLEMENT'S.**
- ✝ **HEIDI AND RUSS**, missionaries to Chile and for the variety of ministries & lives they impact.

Those in the Armed Forces, especially
- ✝ **TY. NICK, BRANDON, MAGGIE, STEPHEN, ELIJAH, BRIAN, ALEXANDRA, DAVID, & LAUREN.**

Others needing Intercessory Prayer:
✝ **BRUCE, CHRISTOPHER, BOB, MARY, ROBERTO, SARAH, BARBARA, SANTOS, CHUCK, PATTI, BOB, CHRIS, MICHAEL, KIRSI , ROB, LUPINA, JOY, ARLO, KIM & AJ, HELEN, HERB, JACKIE, ERIC, DAVID, DICK & VIRGINIA, AND CARTER.**

✝ **COMFORT: THE BARRE FAMILY**

✝ **ARBOR: THE CONGREGANTS AT THE ARBOR**

WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALL OUR BLESSINGS.

Please take the bulletin home and pray for these concerns during the week.
Parish family & intercessory prayer requests stay on the list for two months unless extended, updated, or deleted sooner. Armed forces requests stay for one year. Notify the church office at 770-345-6722 or Trish Cole at 770-377-4348 to update requests. Prayer request cards are in church pews or call the church office.

Surprised by Joy

Some years ago, at Bible Study, one of our parishioners reminded me of that wonderful, short book by J.B. Philips named "Your God is Too Small", written back in 1952.

It is a book about how individuals and, indeed, the church has a tendency to settle for an image of God that is really a projection of various stereotypes: policeman, wise old man, managing director, and, of course, "god in a box" who safely confines himself to certain areas and not others.

However, if we study the Bible we see a different kind of God, one that is the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of all things and who seeks us out for personal encounter. This, of course, can seem frightening. But it is only frightening if we think we have nothing to bring to this encounter.

This Sunday's Parable of the Talents identifies our trepidation while at the same time reminds us of what we have been given by God in the first place. A "talent" was a monetary unit in Rome, which equated to 15 years of labor: imagine 5 talents, more than a lifetime.

God has already given us a world of abundance, and we are invited to step into that world to live a life which reflects abundance. This is what we bring to the presence of God, ourselves as gifts of the living God.

There is a direct connection, therefore, between how we live our lives and the way we see God. If we see God as restricted to one image or another of our own making, we can only live as far as our egos will take us. But, if we see God biblically, as beyond our imagination, then we can live our lives beyond what we could possibly hope for.

In this pre-Advent season, we are reminded again this Sunday of the crucial difference between optimism and hope. Optimism is the best we can expect, according to our experience. Hope is expecting the very presence of God, leading us, guiding us, and urging us on toward his compassion and peace beyond what we could ever expect.

In the true God, as CS Lewis once wrote, we are always "surprised by joy"

Jamie ✠

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please join us immediately after the services for **HOSPITALITY** across the parking lot in Davis Hall!

11/15 Annual Meeting at 10:00 in Davis Hall

11/15 Turkey Dinners for Veterans. Donations are being collected till Nov. 17. Find giving envelopes in your pew.

11/15 Coat Drive for Veterans. Please donate jackets of any size (gently used) in the box located in the narthex. Thank you!

11/15 The Angel Tree. Located in the narthex. Please help make a holiday wish come true.

11/16 Episcopol Church Women (ECW)
7:00pm Virtual Monthly meeting

11/17 Adult Seminars continue!
10:00am In Davis Hall These seminars deal with issues common to our congregation. Don't miss the next meeting covering AI, Spam & Medicare Fraud. Future seminars include Aging, Wellness, and Community Care, then a visit to the Emergency Management & 911 Center.

11/15 Christmas Play Practices
Davis Hall Sunday Morning between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. services
12/05 In the Church Saturday at 11:00 a.m.

12/06 Christmas Play
Rise and Shine Canton
In the Church Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday
The Men's Group 11:30am at IHOP, 3010 Northside Parkway, Canton
Contact: stclementsmensgroup@gmail.com

Bible Study:The Way 1:00-3:00pm in The Vestry Room The group studies the previous Sunday's Readings found in your bulletins. For information contact Anna Marie Smith at 717-713-5819

Wednesday
Rector's Bible Study 12:00 noon via Zoom.

Holy Eucharist 6:15pm Hear a homily about a Saint each week 11/18 St. Hilda of Whitby. On the 1st & 3rd Wed., also scheduled is the:
- 6:45 meal
- 7:00 EYC
- 7:00 Bible Study

Thursday
Grief Support Group
10:30 am Davis Hall in the Hearth Room

Path to Shine
2:00-5:00pm This mentoring program for under-served children and youth teaching arts, crafts, and sports is held in Davis Hall.

Friday
Centering Prayer 12:30pm in the Ministry Center.All are welcome and encouraged to attend. If interested, please contact Fr. Jamie (770.324.2035) or Diane Hodgins (850.339.8540)

Liberty Elementary School has an ongoing need for peanut-free snacks for its underprivileged children, nearly 25% of its Student Body. There is a box in the Narthex for collecting your donations. Every donation counts! Big or small!

Online Giving available through our website www.stclementscanton.org. Use the dropdown button by Pledged Giving to choose another ministry. Or, you can give online on the Realm app, with the same options.

Want to Get Involved?
But not sure where to start? Contact Brad Vaughan– he'll help you find your fit! 931-265- 6087 or bradford.vaughan25@gmail.com.

The Altar Guild
Dates are available for flower dedications if you have someone or some event special to commemorate. See the flowered notebook in the narthex; the cost is $50. Please contact Trish Cole (770)-377-4348 or trishcole4@gmail.com.

Office Hours
Tues - Thurs: 9am-2pm
Please call first:
770-345-6722
Scan to visit our website

The Rev. Dr. James B. Stutler, *rector*
770-324-2035
Email
frjamie@stclementscanton.org

Catherine Bergman, Parish Administrator
Gloria Blackburn, Parish Coordinator
770-345-6722
Email
stclements@stclementscanton.org

Serving Today:

VPOD: Mike Woltering/Kay Morrison
Crucifer: Brad Vaughan
Gospel Torch: Doug Blackburn
Epistle Torch: Jack Ferraro
LEM: Doug Blackburn
Reader: Gloria Blackbrun
Teller: Scott Burleson

Birthdays this week:

Cliff Broughton 11/19
Janine Jones 11/18
Clyde MacKenzie 11/17
Bob Mowery 11/19
Ben Peelo 11/18
Lois Songster 11/21

Anniversaries this week:

None known this week.

TREASURER'S SUMMARY
as of Setember 2026

Pledges YTD	$184,330
Total Income	$255,530
Total Expense	$275,370

St. Clement's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

November 15, 2026
The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Encourage one another.

Welcome Visitors!
If you are visiting for the first time, let us know you are here by filling out a visitor's card and ask an usher about a gift we have for you in the narthex (foyer).

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

Sunday Services //9:00am Contemporary //11:00am Traditional
First Sunday of each month// 10:00am Combined Service
Wednesday Holy Eucharist // 6:15pm

MONDAY
Al-Anon//12:00pm

TUESDAY
Men's Group, IHOP//11:30am
Bible Study: The Way//1:00—3:00pm
Alcoholics Anonymous//8:00pm

WEDNESDAY
Morning Prayer (online)//9:00am
Rector's Zoom Bible Study//12:00pm
Women's AA//12:00pm
1st and 3rd weeks:
Meal //6:45pm
Bible Study & EYC//7:00pm

THURSDAY
Grief Support//10:30am
Path-to-Shine//2:00-5:00pm
Canton Al-Anon & Alateen//7:00pm

FRIDAY
Morning Prayer (online)//9:00am
Service @ the Arbor//10:30am
Women's AA//12:00pm
Centering Prayer//12:30pm

The Altar Flowers today are given by Cary Happe & Family in Loving memory of Bill Happe on the anniversary of his passing 11/9, & by Wanda & Jim Carr to the Glory of God & in celebration of their Granddaughter Fraya's 9th birthday.

Physical address: 2795 Ridge Road, Canton, GA 30114
Mailing address: PO Box 36, Holly Springs, Georgia 30142-0001
Phone 770-345-6722 | **Web** www.stclementscanton.org