

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9AM Family Holy Eucharist,

The words of the liturgy and music are projected on the east wall.

Processional Song

Opening Sentences,

Book of Common Prayer 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 BCP364

The Breaking of the Bread

The Administration

Communion Song

Postcommunion Prayer BCP 365

The Blessing

Song for the Procession Out

The Dismissal BCP366

11:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Jesus Shall Reign

Hymnal 544

The Opening Sentences

The Book of Common Prayer, 355

Song of Praise

The Gloria

Hymnal S278

BCP 355

The Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21

Note: The story of Joseph towards the end of the Book of Genesis is a story which begins in a great betrayal and is followed by a long narrative of Joseph's ups and downs without once mentioning God. Only when its time to forgive is God spoken of. What role does God play in your life when it comes to forgiveness?

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Psalm 103:1-13

Note: This is a song of praise. What does praise of God have to do with forgiveness?

Benedic, anima mea

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.
- 3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The LORD executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

The Epistle: Romans 14:1-12

Note: The flipside of forgiveness is judgement. If I am not forgiven, then I stand judged. Paul encourages the church to remember that judgement is in God's hands, if for no other reason than he knows us through and through. Who do we stand in judgement of?

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.

Sequence Hymn

Faith of Our Fathers

Hymnal 558

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Note: The parable of the unforgiving slave is pretty tough. Having been forgiven, he refuses to forgive and the master hands out a pretty serious punishment and squeezes out every penny of the formerly forgiven debt. Is that what we can expect of God? What do you think Jesus is saying to us?

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. James B. Stutler

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

The Peace

standing

BCP 359

BCP 360

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

The Doxology

If God Be For Us

standing

Choir

Hymnal 380 v.3

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer B

The Sursum Corda

The Sanctus

The Canon

kneeling or standing.

THE GREAT AMEN,

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Choir Anthem

Come Risen Lord

BCP 367

Hymnal S130

BCP 368

BCP 364

BCP 364

Hymnal 306

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 in 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.

Processional Hymn:

The Dismissal Response

All Hail the Power

Hymnal 450

BCP 366

Thanks be to God.

WE PRAY FOR...

Our Parish Family, especially

✠ LINDA, DIANE, HUBIE, MARGIE, MABRY FAMILY, SHARON, ANNIE, KAREN, JOSEPH, SARAH, EMILY, PAT, ANNA MARIE, AMANDA, ROBIN, BILL W., KIM, TED, FRED, REBA, JOHN D., SCOTT, MARTI, FRAN, DAKOTA, DEACON JUDITH & MARGARET C.

✠ FR . JAMIE.

✠ THE MINISTRIES OF ST. CLEMENT'S.

✠ HEIDI AND RUSS, missionaries to Chile.

Those in the Armed Forces, especially

✠ MARNYCE, JERRY, NICK, BRANDON, MAGGIE, STEPHEN, JAKE, ROSE, DAVID, NOAH, KEVIN, NATHAN, JACKSON & NATHAN K.

Others needing Intercessory Prayer:

✠ HEALING: HILARY, BONNIE, GRIFFEN, JESS, JOHN, JIM, SHONDA,, DIANE, SANDRA, BEVERLY, DAN, LARAMIE, DON, MARTHA, PAM, CHUCK, THOMAS, TIM, MICHELLE, TROY, MICHELLE, KIMBERLY, DALE, KATHLEEN, STEVE, JAN, ANDY, JOHN, ORSON, SHI SHI, PAPA RED, MAX, GILL, TERRY, PATTI , PATTY, JUSTIN, MR. B, CHRIS, BRANDON, ANN, DAVID, ADRIAN, MAN AT KROGER, HEIDI, MICHAEL, LIZ, ANN, TED, CHRISTINE, BILL, PETE, ROBIN, MARY, ALEX, SANDY, TIMOTHY, SAM, MARINA, DAVENA, WILLS, MARY, TOM, NICOLE, NORM, THE PEOPLE OF MAUI, IVY, ROBIN, KAY, HENRY, ELLIOT, ELVIE, AMY & BURT.

✠ COMFORT: PAT, RYAN & PEGGY & FAMILY.

WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALL OUR BLESSINGS.

Please take the bulletin home and pray for these concerns during the week.

Prayer request cards are available on the back of the pews.

The Gift of Forgiveness

The word for this Sunday is forgiveness. It is a simple enough concept, but it is nothing less than miraculous to be carried through such a process so full of God's grace.

But let's make sure we understand. To forgive is not to forget. It is not to deny the severity of the injury. It is not to let somebody off the hook. It is to acknowledge the reality of the pain caused. It is to face the responsibility of the injury. And then there is this sometimes-unimaginable leap that says that this is not the end of it, that there remains, in some form, hope. Hope for the injured and hope for the injurer. And in hope there is always freedom. Forgiveness creates an epicenter when freedom erupts all around.

Forgiveness is miraculous because only God can grant such freedom. In forgiveness we walk with Christ who forgives us that we might be a people of forgiveness. But even so, we cannot take forgiveness for granted or expect it as if it were an entitlement. Nor can we bargain for forgiveness as if it were a commodity we can exchange in the marketplace. We must face the fact that we may never be forgiven regardless of what we might do or how much we might desire it or think we deserve it. It is a gift and as much a gift as love itself. It cannot be forced, it cannot be taken, it can only be given.

In all our brokenness all we can do is place ourselves in the hands of God. Injured and injurer alike, we face God in truth and open ourselves to the only healing we can completely trust in the love of the living God and allow the grace to happen, in God's time. Forgiveness is finally God's gift to us all.

Jamiet

UPCOMING EVENTS

50th Anniversary Fund:

We are accepting donations for the fund through today to upgrade the kitchen and improving accessibility and appearance of the front and back entrance to the church.

Junior Acolytes,

If you are age 7 or above and are interested in serving at the gam service and/or combined service, contact Amy MacNeill macneill7201@gmail.com or see her in person.

ECW

9/18 7 p.m. Davis Hall . Contact Wanda Carr (404) 861-5011 or wandakiddcarr@gmail.com

Daughters of the King

10/8 1 p.m. Davis Hall to begin Faith Moves Mountains by Harris Faulkner. Trish Cole trishcole4@gmail.com.

Women's Group/Inbetweeners:

10/10 11: a.m. J. Christopher's, 1437 Riverstone Pkwy, Canton. Susan Gensel is leading contact: hickoryfarms@comcast.net

Episcopal Youth Community:

7p.m. Wednesdays. Meal begins at 6:40 with activities following. **No meeting this week due to Fall Break.**

Book Club

10/9 1:30 p.m. Davis Hall Contact: Sallee Macknik sallee_m@yahoo.com.

Rector's Wednesday Zoom Noon Bible Study

Study of the Gospel of John continues. Contact the office for the Zoom link.

The Altar Guild has dates available on the flower chart if you have someone or something special you would like to commemorate. The chart is in the notebook in the narthex and cost is now \$50.. Please contact Trish Cole (770)-377-4348 or trishcole4@gmail.com to join the team.

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The Men's Group

Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. (IHOP, 3010 Northside Parkway, Canton) Contact: stclementsmentgroup@gmail.com.

The Rev. Dr. James B. Stutler, *rector*

770-324-2035

email frjamie@stclements canton.org

Carlotta Ford, *administrator*

770-345-6722

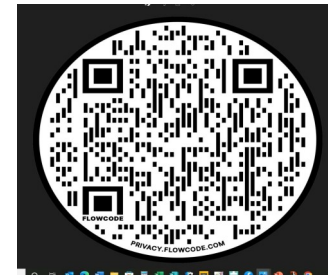
email stclements@stclements canton.org

St. Clement's music ensemble is the **Joyful Noise Band**. If you play a musical instrument, we'd love to have you join us! The band plays 9 a.m. every 3rd Sunday. Contact Judy Reardon-judy.reardon@icloud.com.

Online Giving available through our website www.stclements canton.org or by the Vanco app on your smart phone.

If you have an item you would like included in the newsletter or bulletin, please submit it to the office no later than 2:00pm on Thursdays.

Scan to visit our website for more information.



Anniversaries this week:

Bruce & Joan Immke
9/20
Mike Schirk & Rita O'Brien
9/24
Mark & Cate Stewart 9/24

Birthdays this week:

Jade Leffingwell 9/17
Philip Nelson 9/17
Bill Doran 9/17
Nancie Hobby 9/18
Jamie Lyons 9/20
Mark Stewart 9/20
Kennedee Waters 9/21
Arthur Carlan 9/21
Art Koblasz 9/22
Janelle Walker 9/22
Mary Ann Hindman 9/24
Alan Loeffler 9/24

TREASURER'S SUMMARY
as of June 2023

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Pledges YTD | \$145,405.90 |
| Total Income | \$195,939.39 |
| Total Expenses | \$162,775.06 |



September 17, 2023
16th Sunday After Pentecost

We give you thanks and praise, O God, because Jesus crucified looked down upon us and said: forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing.

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 a.m. Contemporary //11 a.m. Traditional

MONDAY
9:00am Morning Prayer (online)..

THURSDAY
Canton Al-Anon // 7:00pm.
Path to Shine // 1:40pm

TUESDAY
Men's Group, IHOP // 11:30am
Alcoholics Anonymous // 8:00pm.

FRIDAY
Morning Prayer (online) // 9:00am.
Women's AA// 12:00 noon

WEDNESDAY
Morning Prayer (online) // 9:00am.
Women's AA // 12:00pm.
Rector's Zoom Bible Study // 12:00pm
Holy Eucharist.// 6:15pm
No Meal // 6:40pm
No EYC // 7:00pm
No Bible Study // 7:00pm

The Altar Flowers today are given by Marge Loeffler to the Glory of God & in Loving Memory of dear Lucy & Ino Martinez & to honor their service to St. Clement's Church.

Mailing address: PO Box 4156, Canton, Georgia 30114
Phone 770-345-6722 | **Web** www.stclements canton.org