

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude,

The Procession, *please stand as able.*

Praise to the Lord

Hymnal 390

The Opening Sentences

The Book of Common Prayer, 355

Song of Praise: The *Gloria*

Hymnal S278 BCP 355

The Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 15:15-21

please be seated.

Note: It seems like nobody wants to hear what Jeremiah has to say. Judah is on the verge of collapse to the current empire on the rise, Babylon, and all he talks about is a revival of the faith, a turning to the Lord. He is very unpopular and very stressed out. He is unrestrained in his complaint to God. Have you ever been? Like the psalms it can be a form of prayer which God will answer. God, it seems, can take the criticism.

O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you

to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Psalm 26:1-8

Note: This psalm almost seems like a bit over the top. Who could be such a faithful person? But perhaps it is more about desire, about wanting to be faithful, about desiring a kind of union with God. How much desire, how much of a priority is such a desire in our lives?

Judica me, Domine

- 1 Give judgment for me, O LORD,
for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- 2 **Test me, O LORD, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.**
- 3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.
- 4 **I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**
- 5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,**
- 7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.**

The Epistle: Romans 12:9-21

Note: This is a kind of summation from the letter from Paul. It lists all those good and noble things that just about any decent person could agree with. What makes them Christian? Where do we see the cross in this list of virtues?

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Sequence Hymn: *How Lovely How Lovely* Joyful Noise Band

The Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests

and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The Homily,

The Rev. Dr. James B. Stutler

Silence for reflection follows.

The Prayers of the People *Kneeling or standing.*

Blessings of Special Intention.

Greetings, News, Thanksgivings, and Acknowledgements.

Closing Prayer

Confession and Absolution

The Peace

Standing, as able.

BCP 360

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

Anthem

Instrumental

The Doxology, *standing.*

Hymnal 380 v.3

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer A

BCP 361

The Sursum Corda . kneeling or standing.

The Proper Preface of the Sunday

The *Sanctus* *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

The People's AMEN

BCP 362 S130

BCP 363

The Preparation for the Distribution

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

Choir Anthem

Instrumental

The Invitation:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Please come and share in the Communion of Christ..

Postcommunion Prayer

kneeling or standing

BCP 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Mighty One of Israel

Joyful Noise Band

The Dismissal Response

BCP 366

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit,
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

WE PRAY FOR...

Our Parish Family, especially

✚ MARGIE, SHARON, 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, PINKIE, MICHELLE, TROY, MICHELLE, KIMBERLY, DALE, KATHLEEN, STEVE, JAN, ANDY, 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, JIM, MARINA, DAVENA, WILLS, MARY, TOM, NICOLE, NORM, THE PEOPLE OF MAUI, IVY, ROBIN, KAY, HENRY, ELLIOT, ELVIE & AMY.

✚ 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.

**Surprising Messiah
Matthew 16:21-28**

Last Sunday in the gospel lesson Peter declared Jesus was the Messiah. The other shoe drops almost immediately when Jesus tells Peter this Sunday what that is going to look like in the reality of the cross and Peter is dumfounded.

When we stand up a say the creed in church on Sundays, what is it we are really signing on to? Is it just a stale bit of theology or does it have some impact on the way we live our lives? Or is it something we don't completely understand, something that needs to be expanded to be acted on?

This last possibility is like what Peter is going through. He has a certain understanding of what Messiah means. It comes through scripture and tradition. It also comes from a deep desire to be free from oppression, from Roman rule, from being a plaything for the latest empire on the rise. It is not so different from our own, contemporary desire for a kind of white knight to come and solve all our problems, personal and political.

Jesus expands the meaning of Messiah by both turning it upside down and turning it around. He turns it upside down by saying he is not in the familiar mold of the conquering hero but has come to serve others to the point of his own death. He turns it around by pointing away from himself to us. We are being called to continue the work. And it's going to cost us.

Every day we are called to expand on our belief in Jesus as the Christ. Every day we are called to listen to him. And sometimes he is going to set us straight and sometimes he is going to fill us with affirmation. One comes with the other.

Yes, we know something about the faith. Peter's lesson, and ours, is that there is always more, and it is frequently surprising and invariably challenging.

When did we last learn this? What is Jesus saying to us now?

Jamie✚

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please join us after the service for a potluck across the parking lot in Davis Hall immediately following the service.

50th Anniversary Fund:

We are accepting donations for the fund through 9/17 to upgrade the kitchen and improving accessibility and appearance of the front and back entrance to the church. Contact Mike Woltering with any questions.

Path to Shine:

9/7 1:40pm returns. Path To Shine®, Inc. is a mentoring and tutoring program for elementary school children in North and Middle Georgia. Our purpose is to provide academic and social support to encourage children to thrive in school and build self-confidence to achieve their dreams. PTS's success stems from our principles to maintain a ratio of no more than one Mentor to two students, to have a flexible structure that adapts to each local community, and to consistently seek collaboration with other organizations. Contact Stephanie Timm stephanietimm@gmail if you are interested in this program.

Holy Eucharist @ The Arbors BridgeMill

9/8 10:00am. Every Friday Fr. Jamie will be leading a service. Especially welcome are those who are unable to attend services otherwise.

Wine 'n Cheese 'n Jazz 'n Art

9/9 4-6 p.m. Davis Hall. An evening celebrating us! Register online

Daughters of the King

9/10 1 p.m. Davis Hall to begin Faith Moves Mountains by Harris Faulkner. Trish Cole trishcole4@gmail.com.

Book Club

9/11 1:30 p.m. to discuss **The House in the Pines** by Ana Reyes. The Book Club will not meet in August. Contact: Sallee Macknik sallee_m@yahoo.com.

Women's Group/Inbetweeners:

9/12 11: a.m. J. Christopher's, 1437 Riverstone Pkwy. Canton. Susan Gensel is leading contact: hickoryfarms@comcast.net

ECW

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

The Rev. Dr. James B. Stutler, *rector*
770-324-2035

email
frjamie@stclementscanton.org

Carlotta Ford, *administrator*
770-345-6722
email stclements@stclementscanton.org

Episcopal Youth Community:
7p.m. Wednesdays. Meal begins at 6:40 with activities following.

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.

The Men's Group

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

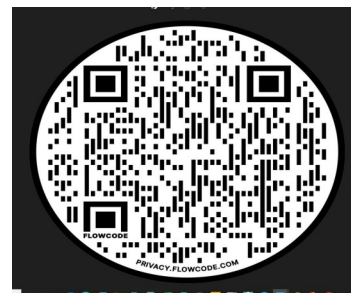
St. Clement's music ensemble is the **Joyful Noise Band**. If you play a musical instrument, we'd love to have you join us! The band plays 9 a.m. every 3rd Sunday. Contact Judy Reardon - judy.reardon@icloud.com.

Online Giving available through our website www.stclementscanton.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.

Office will be closed Monday, September 4th for Labor Day.

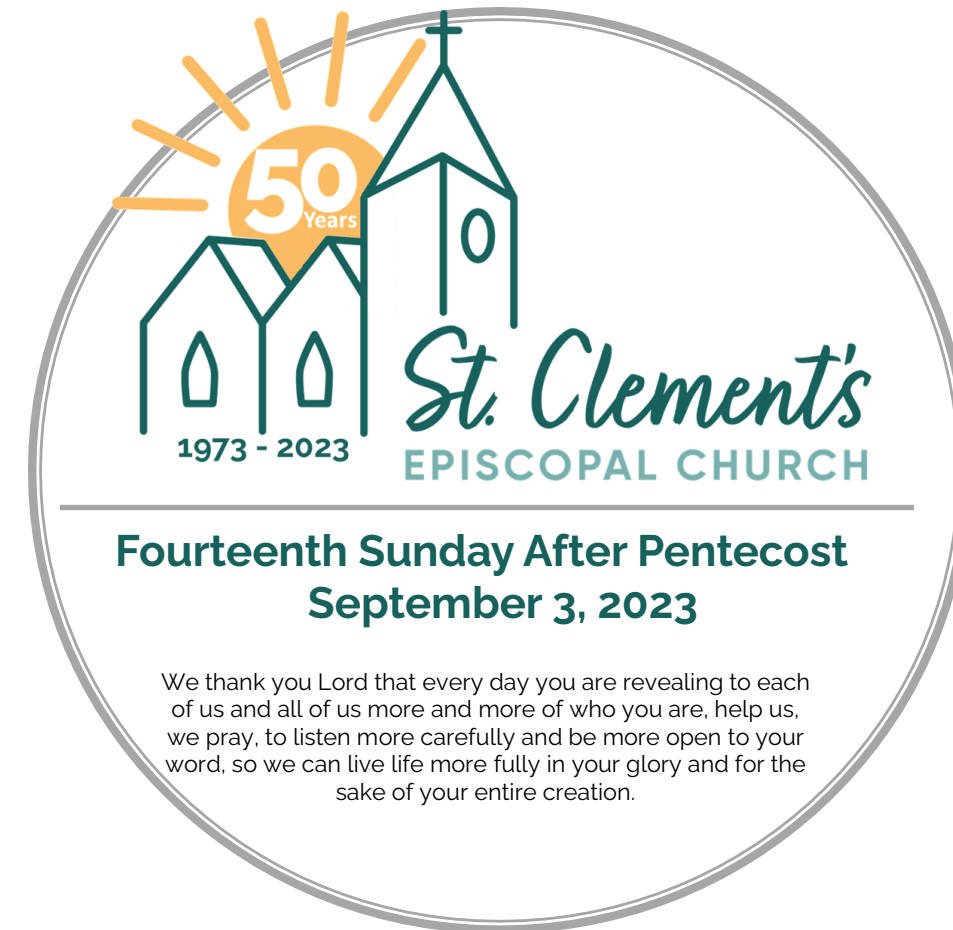
Scan to visit our website for more information.



Birthdays this week
Jenny Cain 9/3
Kayden Bradford 9/5
Linda Werner 9/5

**TREASURER'S SUMMARY
as of July 2023**

Pledges YTD	\$161,266.45
Total Income	\$219,261.91
Total Expenses	\$189,759.81



**Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 3, 2023**

We thank you Lord that every day you are revealing to each of us and all of us more and more of who you are, help us, we pray, to listen more carefully and be more open to your word, so we can live life more fully in your glory and for the sake of your entire creation.

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
Morning Prayer (online) // 9 a.m.

THURSDAY
Canton Al-Anon // 7 p.m.

TUESDAY
Men's Group, IHOP // 11:30 a.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous // 8 p.m.

FRIDAY
Morning Prayer (online) // 9 a.m.
Women's AA // 12 noon

WEDNESDAY
Morning Prayer online // 9 a.m.
Bible Study // 12 p.m.
Women's AA // 12 p.m.
Holy Eucharist // 6:15 p.m.
Meal // 6:40 p.m.
Youth // 7 p.m.
Bible study // 7 p.m.

The Altar Flowers today are given by

The Family of Mary Elizabeth Davis, to the Glory of God & in Loving Memory of a dear Mother & Grandmother. St. Mary's Chapter of the Daughters of the King at St. Clement's Church to the Glory of God & in honor & Loving Memory of Mary Elizabeth Davis, a dear Sister in Christ.

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