

September 20, 2026

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Daily Morning Prayer: Rite II

9:00AM FAMILY SERVICE WITH THE JOYFUL NOISE BAND		
Processional Song Opening Sentences, Book of Common Prayer 78 The Confession of Sin Invitatory and Psalter The Lessons The First Lesson Canticle The Second lesson Canticle Song Gospel Lesson Sharing the Good News The Apostles Creed The Offertory The Doxology		
The Peace Song The Prayers The Lord's Prayer The Suffrages The Collect for the Day Other Collects Prayer for Mission The Prayers of the People Welcome and Announcements Song The General Thanksgiving The Grace Song		

11:00AM CHORAL SERVICE		
Procession In, <i>standing</i>	<i>O For a Thousand Tongues</i>	Hymnal 493
The Opening Verse The Book of Common Prayer 78 Officiant: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.		
Confession of Sin		BCP 79
The Invitatory Psalm ., reading together		BCP 80
Come, let us sing to the Lord; * let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving * and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.		
For the Lord is a great God, * and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth, * and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, * and his hands have molded the dry land.		
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, * and kneel before the Lord our Maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. * Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!		

The Appointed Psalm: 145:1-8 Exaltabo te, Deus

Note: This beautiful psalm praise God's power and might while, at the same time praises his mercy.

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.

- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The People say: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson: Jonah 3:10-4:11

Note: We usually think about this prophet being swallowed by a whale and unceremoniously disgorged on the beach. But the whole point is that he was running away from God's mission: to bring God's grace to people he despised. How easy is it to pray for those who trouble us? How important is it?

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Canticle 17: The Song of Simeon BCP 93

The Epistle: Philippians 1:21-30

Note: We begin this Sunday with a series from this letter of Paul to the church in Phillipi. This letter has a particularly tender tone to it. It has even greater meaning to us when we remember that Paul wrote this letter from prison.

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Canticle 18:	<i>A Song to the Lamb</i>	BCP 93
Sequence Hymn, <i>standing</i>	<i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i>	Hymnal 691

The Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Note: Among the rich details of this parable of the Laborers in the Field is that all the laborers are looking for work all day long, but only some are chosen during the various hours. One could see this as an illustration of a precarious work environment and a precarious life. Another detail is that the landowner takes the initiative and comes to them. Perhaps this speaks to our availability to a God who desires us to come on board at any time in our lives.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Homily	Mr. Cory DeBord Followed by silence for reflection	
The Apostles' Creed, <i>standing</i>		BCP 96
The Offertory The Doxology	<i>Consider the Lilies</i>	<i>Choir</i>
The Peace, <i>standing</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you. R: And also with you.	
The Prayers The Lord's Prayer		
The Suffrages		BCP 97

The Collect of the Day
Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect for Guidance BCP 100
Prayer for Mission
The Prayers of the People
Welcome and Announcements

The General Thanksgiving BCP 102
The Grace

Recessional Hymn: God of Grace Hymnal 594

The Dismissal Response
Thanks be to God.

WE PRAY FOR:
Our Parish Family, especially
✚ **CLAIRE, MARGE, FRAN, LINDA, DAVID MARK, MISSY, LESLIE, BILL, AMANDA, CAROLE, JUDITH, ANN, AL, HUBIE, ROBIN, TED, DAKOTA, CARL, JEAN, MARY WAYNE, MIKE, ELIZABETH, KAREN, JOAN, and DEACON JUDITH.**
✚ **FR . JAMIE.**
✚ **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, DAVID, ALEX-ANDRA & LAUREN.**
Others needing Intercessory Prayer:
✚ **HEALING: KAIAH, MAKEIGHLA, DOMINIC, BOB, RACHEL, MARY, EZRA, ROWEN, CHRIS, JEFF, PATTI, BOB, MICHAEL, KIRSI, SANDRA, DIANE, ROB, LUPINA, JOY, BRUCE, CHRISTOPHER, JANICE, BAILEY, ROBERTO, SARAH, & MICHELLE**
✚ **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

Power and Compassion

Can we reconcile power and compassion? Does our definition of power today leave room for compassion? This Sunday we might be led to wonder about the power of compassion.

In the psalm this Sunday we are given a sense of the awe with which the psalmist regards God such that *"I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty/ and all your marvelous works"* (145:5).

Later he will reiterate the ancient description of that awesome God, *"The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, / slow to anger and of great kindness"* (145:8; also found in Exodus 34:6, Number 14:18, Psalm 103:8, Jeremiah 32:18, and also, in Sunday's Old Testament reading, Jonah 4:2).

The parable of the laborers in the field often leaves us with real questions of fairness, or at least, a fair critique of the business practices Jesus seems to advocate. Paying everyone the same wage regardless of how long they worked doesn't seem like a good model. Wouldn't it just encourage lazy and bad behavior (a similar charge could be directed toward the parable of the Prodigal Sone).

But, as the landowner in this parable hypothetically questions: am I not allowed to do what I choose to do with what belongs to me? God chooses to forgive. That is God's prerogative but that is also God's power. It may not seem fair to us but, at the same time, we are all the beneficiaries of this powerful compassion and should properly stand in awe of it.

Can we also, in our lives, choose to be for others the vessel of God's unfair, indiscriminate grace?

Jamie ✚

UPCOMNG EVENTS

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

AED Machines have been installed in the Church and Davis Hall. First Aid/AED Training has been scheduled for **Monday, September 28 at 11:00am** in Davis Hall for anyone who is interested.

10/3 Blessing of the Animals 10:00am Bring your pets to the Davis Hall Patio to celebrate Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of the event!

10/3 Jo Ann Barre Funeral Service 3:00pm The family has requested that no one wear black: Jo Ann would want festive colors. Reception to follow at The Barn at New Ground, 4563 Hickory Flat Hwy.

10/20 Senior Seminars begin! 10:00am This first meeting will cover Fire & Emergency Services during this Fire Prevention Month. The meeting is the beginning of a series of seminars dealing with issues common to our seniors and others. Men's Group members don't worry! You'll have plenty of time to attend and then drive to IHOP for your Luncheon. Future seminars will include Medicare Fraud Prevention, Aging, Wellness, and Community Care, and a visit to the Emergency Management & 911 Center.

Tuesdays
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 717.713-5879

Wednesdays
Rector's Bible Study WILL NOT BE HELD THIS WEEK!

Holy Eucharist WILL BE CANCELLED THIS WEEK,

Thursday
Grief Support Group
10:30 am Davis Hall

Path to Shine
2:00—5:00pm in Davis Hall. This is a school children's mentoring group.

Friday

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

Liz Bouis, Parish Administrator
Gloria Blackburn, Parish Assistant
770-345-6722
Email
stclements@stclementscanton.org

Centering Prayer 12:30 pm in church. 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 on ongoing need for peanut-free snacks, bottles of water, and toiletries for its underprivileged children, nearly 25% of its Student Body. There is a box in the Narthex for collecting your donations.

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.

The Diocese of Atlanta ECW is collecting new or slightly used purses filled with trial sized personal hygiene products for My Sister's House. There is a box in the Narthex for collecting your donations. This collection goes through 2026.

Online Giving available through our website www.stclementscanton.org or by the Vanco app, or you can give online on the Realm app.

Office Hours
Tuesdays and Thursday: 9am—2:00pm
Please call before coming by to make sure someone is in the office.

Scan to visit our website



Serving Today:
VPOD: Scott Burleson
Crucifer/1st Server: Wayne Smoak
Epistle Torch: Jeff Pawlik
Gospel Torch/Bells: Dell Lyons
LEM: Janelle Walker
Reader: Moetki Sharp
Teller: Al Irvine

Birthdays this week:
 Jamie Lyons 9/20
Mark Stewart 9/20
Tori Vaughan 9/21
Wayne Smoak 9/22
Janelle Walker 9/22
Mary Ann Hindman 9/24
Rocky Rokovitz 9/25
Ted Peykoff 9/26

Anniversaries this week:
 Bruce & Joni Immke 9/20
Mark & Cate Stewart 9/24

TREASURER'S SUMMARY as of July 2026	
Pledges YTD	\$154,609
Total Income	\$215,715
Total Expenses	\$218,931



September 20, 2026
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Live your life
in a manner worthy
of the gospel of Christ.**

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

Regular Sunday Services //9am Contemporary //11am Traditional
First Sunday of each month// 10am Combined Service

MONDAY
AL-Anon//12:00pm

WEDNESDAY
Morning Prayer (online)//9:00am
Rector's Zoom Bible Study//12:00pm
Women's AA//12:00pm
Holy Eucharist//6:15am
Adult Bible Study & EYC
1st & 3rd weeks

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

THURSDAY
Grief Support//10:30 am
Path to Shine//2:00pm-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 to the Glory of God
by Sandy and Tim Woltering in Loving Memory of their
parents Beverly & Bill and Olga & Ralph.**

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