

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

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

Procession In *Now Let Us All* Hymnal 147

The Opening Sentences The Book of Common Prayer, 355

Song of Praise The Kyrie Hymnal S591 BCP 355

The Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Note: When God declares his covenant, he declares a change in names to both seal and memorialize the covenant. Abram ("Noble Father") becomes Abraham ("Father of Multitudes"). Sarai ("Princess") becomes Sarah ("Mother of Nations"). Abraham and Sarah, therefore, literally embody the covenant of God's promise of abundance.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The Psalm 22:22-30

Note: A rousing hymn to God. Who could not, singing this hymn, not turn to God in complete confidence and hope and commend the same to others.

Deus, Deus meus

22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *

stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;

all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

23 **For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;**

neither does he hide his face from them; *

but when they cry to him he hears them.

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 **The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 **For kingship belongs to the LORD; ***

he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 **My soul shall live for him;**

my descendants shall serve him; *

they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *

the saving deeds that he has done.

The Epistle: Romans 4:13-25

Note: The great theme of Romans is that, in this world of many distractions and anxieties, we must put our full faith in God. Here he speaks of Abraham's trust in God as the basis for his relationship with God, his "righteousness".

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Sequence Hymn *Wilt Thou Forgive* Hymnal 141

The Holy Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

Note: Peter has confessed Jesus as Messiah but now complains that Jesus isn't going to be the kind of Messiah he expected or wants. God in Christ has changed the popular meaning of Messiah: not a conquering military or political figure for Israel, but the savior of the world through death and resurrection.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "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, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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 BCP 359
The Peace *standing* BCP 360

THE HOLY COMMUNION
The Offertory *I want Jesus to Walk with Me* Choir
The Doxology *standing* Hymnal 380 v.3

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer B BCP 367

The Sursum Corda
The Sanctus Hymnal S125

The Canon *kneeling or standing.* BCP 368

THE GREAT AMEN, BCP 364

The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

Breaking of the Bread BCP 364

Choir Anthem *Now My Tongue* Hymnal 329 v.1,2,3,5

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.

Processional Hymn: *In The Cross of Christ...* Hymnal 441
The Dismissal Response BCP 366

Thanks be to God.

WE PRAY FOR...

Our Parish Family, especially

✠ **JOAN IMMKE & FAMILY, JOAN C., TONY, DALE, BOBBY, AL, JEAN, JULIA, HUBIE, MABRY FAMILY, ANNA MARIE, AMANDA, ROBIN, KIM, TED, FRED, REBA, JOHN D., SCOTT, MARTI, FRAN, DAKOTA, DEACON JUDITH, MARGARET C. & JOSEPH.**

✠ **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. & ADRIAN.**

Others needing Intercessory Prayer:

✠ **HEALING: HILARY, BONNIE, GRIFFEN, JOHN, JIM, COURTNEY, SHONDA, DIANE, SANDRA, BEVERLY, DAN, DON, MARTHA, PAM, CHUCK, MICHELLE, TROY, MICHELLE, KATHLEEN, STEVE, JAN, ANDY, ORSON, SHI SHI, PAPA RED, MAX, PATTI, PATTY, JUSTIN, ADRIAN, MICHAEL, ANN, TED, ROBIN, DEVENA, MARY, TOM, THE PEOPLE OF MAUI, ELLIOT, ELVIE, AMY, BETTY, HEATHER, WANDA, PAIGE, GAYLE, AMANDA, MARK, CHRIS, ELIZABETH, ROB, BILL, ANDREW, BRITTANY, SONJA, TOM, FRANK, MOLLY, MAUREEN, PARENTS OF CHAD MORGAN, LOU, TRAVIS, BRUCE & KRISTI.**

✠ **COMFORT: RYAN, PEGGY & FAMILY & KENDRICK & FAMILY.**

✠ **ARBORS: PHYLLIS, MELANIE, MICHELLE, CAROLINE, TODD & SARAH. & PETER.**

WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALL OUR BLESSINGS.

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

Those from the parish family & intercessory prayer list remain on the list for two months and then are deleted unless notification is given to extend, update re condition, or delete sooner because special prayers are no longer needed. Those in the armed forces remain for one year with the same conditions as above. Notice may be given to Carlotta Ford at the Ministry Center, 770-345-6722 Prayer request cards are in the church pews, or requests can be made by calling Carlotta. Please email or call Trish Cole (770-377-4348) to update your prayer requests.

The Covenant of Abundant Life

The promise of God is always the promise of God's own presence. We are never alone, there is never a time or place where God is absent. This promise takes different emphases in the series of covenants God makes in scripture.

We saw with Noah the emphasis is on the patience of God, that God will stick with us despite our failures. This Sunday we see the covenant with Abraham. Here God's promise of presence is one of abundance of blessings, beyond what we can imagine.

This creates a problem for us, of course. We have a limited imagination. The best we can often do is be optimistic. What the promise, on the other hand, seeks to do is elicit hope. Optimism is limited to our checkered experience; hope opens us up to trust in God regardless of the evidence to the contrary.

This is Peter's problem when Jesus speaks of his death and resurrection. Peter can't trust that somehow God will work abundance through something the disciple doesn't want and can't accept. The issue for him and for us is the meaning and gravity of faith.

Paul's letter to the Romans speaks of Abraham's faith as the way he is found to be righteous in God's eyes. He trusts in God to do things beyond his experience, his imagination, and even beyond his lifetime and that is what puts him in a right relationship with God.

Abraham's salvation is a function of his faith and, therefore, the function of the faith of a disciple. Our trusting faith in God is what makes it not only possible but desirable to take up our cross, for ourselves but also for the sake of the world. We participate in the covenanted presence of God by being part of the promised abundance of God.

What cross, what need in the world is Christ calling us to bear?

Jamiet

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lent Cleanout Challenge:

Each day of Lent find a gently used item in your home (clothing, shoes, books, home goods etc.) that you no longer need and set it aside to donate to those in need. Bring donations to the narthex on Sunday mornings during Lent. Volunteers will collect and sort the donated items and arrange for them to be delivered to nonprofits and mission programs such as No Longer Bound and MUST Ministries. Contact Beth Vaughan elizabeth.m.w.vaughan@gmail or see any ECW member.

Centering Prayer:

We are organizing a Centering Prayer group at St. Clement's! Centering Prayer is a receptive method of silent prayer in which we experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. The group will meet regularly for about half an hour once a week. More information can be found at www.comtemplativeoutreachatlanta.com. If interested contact Fr. Jamie (770) 324-2035 or Diane Hodgins (850) 339-8540

Share the Love:

This February let's turn love into action! Share the Love 2024 is a month-long social media campaign dedicated to raising critical funding for Path to Shine. You can make a positive impact with as little as \$1 a day! February is all about SHARING THE LOVE So please join with us as we continue to inspire and empower every child at Path to Shine to reach for the stars! Put a check in the plate made out to St. Clement's marked for Path to Shine or donate online via the website or at pathtoshine.org.

Fish Fry

Annual Fish Fry continues through 3/22. Contact Katie McDonald to sign up.

Lay Eucharistic Visitor Ministry

3/5 10:30am Davis Hall.

Daughters of the King Quiet Day

3/16 9am until 2p.m. a retreat held in Davis Hall. We invite you to join Confessing Joy: Living the good life by letting go.

Episcopal Church Women

3/19 currently meeting via Google Meet. Regular meetings are the third Monday of the month. April meeting will be held 4/22. Contact Wanda Carr wanda.kiddcarr@gmail.com

Book Club

3/11 1:30 p.m. Davis Hall to discuss **The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store** by James McBride. April is **The Year of Living Biblically** by AJ Jacobs. May is **The Villa** by Rachel Hawkins. June is **The Things We Cannot Say** by Kelly Rimmer. July is **The Personal Librarian** by Marie Benedict and August **The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post** by Alison Pataki. Contact: Sallee Macknik sallee_m@yahoo.com or (770) 714-6340

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

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

Women's Group/Inbetweeners:

3/11 11:00 a.m. J. Christopher's, 1437 Riverstone Pkwy, Canton. Susan Gensel is leading contact: hickoryfarms@comcast.net

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 \$50. Please contact Trish Cole (770)-377-4348 or trishcole4@gmail.com

The Men's Group

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

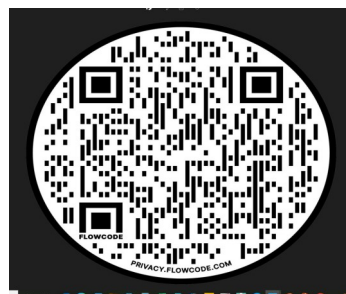
Rector's Bible Study

Every Wednesday at noon via Zoom currently studying Proverbs. Contact the office for the link.

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.

Scan to visit our website for more information.



Serving Today:
VPOD: Kay Morrison
Crucifer: Jeff Pawlik
Gospel Torch: Dell Lyons
Epistle Torch: Wayne Smoak
LEM: Janelle Walker
Reader: Al Irvine
Teller: Al Irvine

 **Anniversaries this week:**
Jim & Wanda Carr 2/28

 **Birthdays this week:**
Larry Ellis 2/27
Joseph Burford 2/29

TREASURER'S SUMMARY
as of December 2023

Pledges YTD	\$241,277.69
Total Income	\$394,475.45
Total Expenses	\$393,476.65



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) // 9:00am
Grief Share // 3:00pm

THURSDAY
Centering Prayer // 1:00pm
Path to Shine // 1:40pm
Canton AL-Anon // 7:00pm.

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

FRIDAY
Morning Prayer (online) // 9:00am.
Holy Eucharist @ The Arbors // 10:00am
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
Meal // 6:40pm
EYC // 7:00pm
Bible Study // 7:00pm

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