

March 15, 2026
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9:00AM FAMILY HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE
JOYFUL NOISE BAND

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 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

11:00AM CHORAL HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE

Procession In, standing *Be Thou My Vision* Hymnal 488

The Opening Sentences The **Book of Common Prayer** 355

Song of Praise *Kyrie* Hymnal Sg1 BCP 356

The Collect
 Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Note: This first anointing of David is a dangerous moment for the prophet Samuel. The king, Saul, though he has lost the approval of God, is still king, alive and well. Samuel risks treason. At the same time, Samuel has been a mentor to Saul and grieves his downfall. Nevertheless, Samuel goes to Bethlehem as instructed by God to find the new, unexpected king.

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Psalm 23: Dominus regit me

Note: This familiar psalm is often said at funerals. But it is also a psalm for daily living, short enough to memorize and carry with us. It declares a Lenten priority: the LORD is my shepherd. I have no other lord, no other higher authority and, believing and living into that truth leads me on right pathways.

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
 I shall not be in want.

**2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
 and leads me beside still waters.**

3 He revives my soul *
 and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I shall fear no evil; *
 for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil,
 and my cup is running over.

**6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

The Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-14

Note: Paul often reminds his readers of who they are, as if they have forgotten, and by claiming their identity as children of God's light they might become a light to the world. Like the prophets he talks about the "former times" as contrasted to the present time as a learning mechanism: you may not be who you will be, but you are not who you were.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake!
 Rise from the dead,
 and Christ will shine on you."

Sequence Hymn, standing *The King of Love* Hymnal 648

The Gospel: John 9:1-41

Note: One can't miss the humor in this passage, as dark as it may be. But the healing of the blind man points to a key aspect of our life of faith: the providence of God. Jesus tells his disciples that the man's blindness will be the way God shows his provision in the world. God works through things which are opposed to God's will to accomplish God's purposes.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say

was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Homily The Rev. Peter Waggoner
 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 *I Am Jesus' Little Lamb* Choir
The Doxology, standing

The Great Thanksgiving
 The *Sursum Corda* BCP 367
 The *Sanctus* Hymnal 130
 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 *Beautiful Savior* Choir

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.

Recessional Hymn: *I Bind Unto Myself* Hymnal 370,
 vs. 1-3, 6, & 7

The Blessing
The Dismissal Response BCP 366
 Thanks be to God.

WE PRAY FOR:

Our Parish Family, especially

✚ **KELLY, FRAN, LEE, PEGGY, BOB, LINDA, BOBBY, DAVID, MARK, MISSY, LESLIE, BILL, AMANDA, DOTTIE, PAIGE, CLAIRE, MARGE & ALAN, JOAN, ELIZABETH, VICTOR, CAROLE, JUDITH, ANN, AL, JEAN, HUBIE, AMANDA, ROBIN, KIM, TED, DAKOTA, JOANN, 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

✚ **DAVID, AMANDA, NICK, BRANDON, MAGGIE, STEPHEN, ELIJAH, BRIAN & ALEXANDRA**

Others needing Intercessory Prayers

✚ **HEALING: DIANE, SANDRA, RYAN, DAN, MARTHA, PAM, PEGGY & FAMILY, KATHLEEN, STEVE, PATTI, JUSTIN, ADRIAN, MICHAEL, THE PEOPLE OF MAUI, ELVIE, ROB, SONJA, MOLLY, BRUCE, KRISTI, RAYMOND, GRACE, LESLIE, PAUL, JOE, MISTY, LORI, CATHY, JEFF, JOANN, KASEY, CAROL, BEVERLY, LUPINA, LORA, KENNY, COLT, ANDREW, DONALD, KATHY, PRISCILLA & LARRY, LIZ, DAVID, KAREN, JASON, LAURIE, MARKHAM, MARTIN, TOMMY, GEORGE, RUBY, RICH, TOBY, BECKY, LINDA, LIBBY, BETH, GISELA, DONNA, JOY, JAN, PERRY & CHRISTY, KATHY, ROBIN, ANALISA, CHAD, CATHY, MICHELLE, KAY, CURTIS, SCOTTIE, YA YA, KIRSI ANN, BONNIE, LEO, SCOTT, RICHARD, BILL, LEVI, GRACE, REBECCA, IZZY, CHUCK, SAM, SHERRY, ROSS, LORALYE, JEANIE, JOY, BOB, LINDA, CHRIS, SCOT, CHARLES, SHANE, SARA, ANDRE, NOREEN, & GINNI.**

✚ **COMFORT: THE LOEFFLER, BARRE, CROFT & WAGGONER FAMILIES.**

✚ **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.

That the Blind May See

The story of the healing of the man born blind is full of irony. Nobody wants to see what is plainly clear. It raises the question of who is actually blind and what kind of blindness we talking about.

Lent is a time to practice seeing ourselves and the world more clearly. As Paul prays for the Ephesians: *"with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power"*.

First, the story is about the obstacles which get in the way of us seeing clearly. Some don't see the obvious because they have never seen anything like it before and refuse to accept anything different. Some are simply fearful and anxious. Some are simply prejudiced. Lent is a time to sort out our own obstacles to truly seeing others.

Second, as the companion story of the first anointing of David is that we have a tendency to simply look on the surface of things and judge people by their appearance. God's advice to the prophet Samuel is to look deeper, to see the work of God in the unexpected one. Lent is a time to practice patient discernment with our brothers and sisters.

Finally, at the very end of the story of the healing of the man born blind, the man himself comes to believe in Jesus. All the events of the story have also been a time for the man to not only have his physical eyes open, but also "the eyes of his heart" as Jesus, coming to him finally and fully illuminates him to the truth. Lent is a time to recognize that to see clearly, we need the light of God to show us the way and so practice opening ourselves up to his constant presence in our life.

Jamie ✚

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Easter Meal Donations Through 3/22

We will be donating Easter dinners to families at Liberty Elementary this year. Please make your donations online, or use the envelopes you will find in the pews.

Fish Fry Fridays through 3/27

Come enjoy a Fish Fry dinner with all the sides every Friday night in Lent! Dine-in or Take-out, \$12 per plate. All proceeds go to our Outreach Utility Assistance Program.

Adult Education Series led by Father Jamie 3/15

10:15am in Davis Hall "The Way of Love" **ECW 03/16** 7:00pm meeting via Google Meet. Contact Wanda Carr at wandakiddcarr@gmail.com.

Interested in Camp Mikell?

3/22 10:15am in the Vestry Room. There will be an informational meeting about summer camp programs and conferences & overnight facilities—all are welcome!

Lent Cleanout Challenge

Through 3/29 Donate gently used items from your home to be given to those in need over Lent. A box in the Narthex will be available to collect your donations. See the Newsletter for more information

Blood Drive

3/30 Davis Hall The Blood Drive has been rescheduled for 3/30. Please register online for an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org/give. The sponsor code is stclemec.

Easter Services

3/29 Palm Sunday
4/1 Tenebrae 6:15pm Service
4/2 Maundy Thursday 7:00pm Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing
4/3 Good Friday 6:30 Service
4/4 Holy Saturday 9:00am Service
4/5 Easter Sunday 7:30am Sunrise Service
9:00am Contemporary Service
10:15 Easter Egg Hunt
11:00am Choral Eucharist Service

Tuesdays

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

The Rev. Dr. James B. Stutler, *Rector*
The Rev. Peter Waggoner, *Deacon*
770-324-2035

Email
frjamie@stclementscanton.org

Liz Bouis, Parish Administrator
Gloria Blackburn, Parish Assistant
770-345-6722

Email
stclements@stclementscanton.org

The Way Bible Study 1:00pm. 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

12:00pm on Zoom We are studying the Gospel of Matthew.

Holy Eucharist 6:15pm

Bible Study & EYC 7:00pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Thursdays

Grief Support Group 10:30am In the Vestry Room

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

Fridays

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 Middle School has an 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.

Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10am—2pm
Wednesdays: 9am-11am
Please call before coming
Scan to visit our website



Serving Today:

VPOD: Scott Burleson
Crucifer/1st Server: Tim Hodgins
Epistle Torch: Tori Vaughan
Gospel Torch/Bells: Brad Vaughan
LEM: Dell Lyons
Reader: Moetki Sharp
Teller: Bill McArthur

Birthdays this week:

Christian Adams 3/20
Gary Dorminey 3/15
Perry Gearing 3/19
Barbara Tilley 3/21
Margie Woltering 3/19

Anniversary this week:

No known anniversaries

TREASURER'S SUMMARY

as of January, 2026

Pledges YTD	\$ 31,518
Total Income	\$ 37,712
Total Expenses	\$ 24,522



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

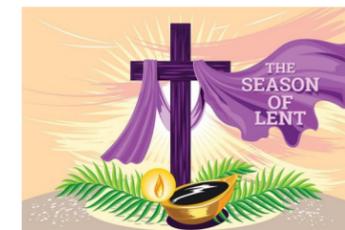
MONDAY
Al-Anon//12:00pm

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

WEDNESDAY
Morning Prayer (online)//9:00am
Women's AA//12:00pm
Rector's Bible Study//12:00pm (Zoom)
Holy Eucharist Service//6:15pm
Bible Study & EYC//7:00pm
(1st and 3rd weeks)

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

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



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