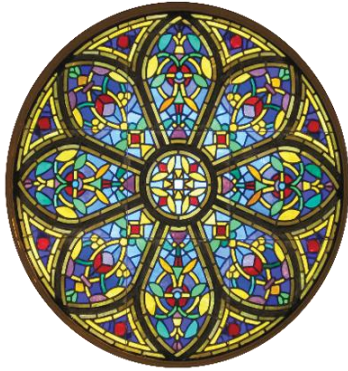




ST. JAMES
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CLAYTON, GA

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2026
8:00am and 10:30am

God loves YOU! No exceptions!

The Reverend Dr. Jim Shumard, Priest-in-Charge

*The mission of St. James Episcopal Church is:
To preach the Gospel,
worship God,
renew our hearts and minds and serve others.*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

OPENING HYMN 376

Hymn to Joy

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **Blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY (*spoken together*)

BCP 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GLORIA HYMN S-280 (*spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 people are seated.

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 14:19-31

Lector A reading from Genesis.

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. **The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.** The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Lector The Word of God for the people of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 114

Spoken responsively by whole verse.

- 1 Hallelujah!
 When Israel came out of Egypt, *
 the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 **Judah became God's sanctuary *
 and Israel his dominion.**
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
 Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 **The mountains skipped like rams, *
 and the little hills like young sheep.**
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
 O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 **You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
 you little hills like young sheep?**
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
 at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 **Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
 and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

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.

Lector A reading from The Letter to the Romans.

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.

Lector The Word of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant A Reading from The Gospel according to Matthew.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Jim Shumard

Silence

Please rise as you are able, spoken in unison.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM III

BCP 387

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader Father, we pray for your holy catholic church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Leader We celebrate those having birthdays and anniversaries this week; especially, Nanette O'Hara, Suzy Downing, Leonard Staiger, Scott Thompson, and Erika Rudolph.

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially Chase, Dee, Lynn, Darrell, Judy, Pete, Allison, Karen, Melanie, Mike, Dustin, Katy, Sandy, and Our Little Roses godchildren, Karla and Cindy.

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest;

People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

You're invited to pray out loud or silently. The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION

BCP 360

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

You're invited to come forward for special prayers including birthdays and anniversaries. Prayers for birthday (pg. 830) and anniversary (pg. 431) can be found in the Book of Common Prayer.

THE PEACE

BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE WELCOME AND COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Bob Moore

Ubi Caritas

THE PRESENTATION

1 Chronicles 29:14

Celebrant All things come of thee O Lord.

People **And of Your own have we given You.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

The people stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is said.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS (*spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with James all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION ANTHEM (*spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

**Alleluia Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

THE PEOPLE RECEIVE COMMUNION

*You are invited to come forward to receive the bread and the wine. You may pick up a small chalice to receive the wine, drink from the common cup, dip the bread in the cup, **or** cross yourself if you do not want to receive the wine. You may also cross yourself for a blessing if you don't want the bread or wine.*

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM

Ruth Elaine Schram

Come, Be Fed

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Let us pray

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE POST COMMUNION HYMN 470

Beecher

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon or Priest

Let us go forth in the name of the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING TODAY'S SERVICE:

8am Service; all are welcome to join some parishioners who eat at “Sunday Diner” after the service.

10:30am Service; please join us downstairs in the Parish Hall following the service for coffee, cookies and conversation hosted by Laura and Rob More.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday, 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Email: admin@stjamesclayton.org • Phone: 706-782-6179

10:30 NURSERY We have a nursery downstairs for anyone interested. Your children are also welcome to stay with you during the service.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available in the narthex.

MORNING PRAYER Monday,—Friday **7:30am - 8am** via ZOOM ONLY.

Meeting ID: 218 094 8164 **Passcode:** 682287

FR. JIM WILL BE ATTENDING THE CLERGY CONFERENCE this week Monday through Wednesday at Rock Eagle.

INTERESTED IN ADDING YOUR VOICE TO THE CHOIR? COME JOIN US -- WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU! The choir ministry at St. James plays a vital role in enhancing the worship experience through music. We rehearse each Sunday at 9:00am in the choir loft.

BROWN BAG SUNDAY TODAY, SEPTEMBER 13. We are collecting shelf-stable proteins, canned chicken, tuna, canned ham, beans, peanut butter, lentils, for Sharing and Caring Food Ministry in Rabun County. Please bring your food items to the basket in the Parish Hall.

HOLY CASSEROLE CONVERSATION Monday night September 28. Please come and enjoy the food, fellowship and conversation **at 5:30pm.** Sign up in the narthex to bring a casserole, bread, salad, or dessert.

WE HAVE ROOM FOR MORE STUDENTS EfM, Education for Ministry

WELCOME VISITORS

We're glad you've joined us for worship today! We would love to know more about you and follow up with you. Please fill out a *Voice from the Pew* and sign the guest register in the narthex. Please call or email the church office with any questions at **706-782-6179** or admin@stjamesclayton.org.

You may also contact Fr. Jim directly at jshumie@aol.com or **912-844-7412**. Parts in bold are read by everyone.

class, will meet today, September 13 at 5:30 for a shared meal and kickoff of the class, which will continue through May, 2027. We have a class of eight, but we can still include a few more. Due to the generosity of a gift, the tuition for this first year will only be \$150. We have a diversity of people from both the 8 o'clock service and the 10:30 service, which includes myself, Steve Sweimler, Betty Cobb, Katherine Buckley, Will Thompson, Paul Niskanen, Christy Simon, and Janine Bethel. Please let me know if you're interested in joining. This is an opportunity to take a deeper dive into your own faith and a deeper dive into theology, church history, and the bible, as we share our own journey of faith.

GATHER & GOSPEL meets **Tuesdays at 10:00am** on Zoom and in person, led by Janine Bethel. A weekly time of fellowship, storytelling, and engaging conversation centered on the life of Jesus in the four Gospels. Together we'll explore Scripture in a relaxed and welcoming setting — asking questions, sharing insights, reflecting on what the stories mean for our lives, and even enjoying a few laughs along the way.

RETIREES MEET AT NOON EVERY 3RD TUESDAY of each month. Next luncheon will be **September 15 at Ishy's** restaurant in Clayton. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY EVERY WEDNESDAY led by Alan White or Tom Buckridge **is at 11:00am** in the Parish Hall in person and via the ZOOM link which is sent out by email on Monday evenings. Everyone is invited as we discuss the lessons for the upcoming Sunday. ***Meeting ID: 218 094 8164***
Passcode: 682287

BOOK CLUB Everyone is invited to join us for our monthly meeting on **Thursday, September 17, at 11:00am**. Contact Becky Callahan, tbcallahan@aol.com, with any questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to host Coffee Time after the 10:30am Sunday Services. Please sign up in the Parish Hall via the sign-up sheet above the coffee pot. Simply bring a plate of cookies and make a pot of coffee! There is always someone around if you have any questions.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

September 13-20, 2026

Sunday

8:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:30 am Holy Communion
5:30 pm EfM
7:00 pm AA

Monday

7:30 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
7:00 pm AA

Tuesday

7:30 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
10:00 am Gather & Gospel
12:00 pm Retirees Lunch
5:30 pm Al-Anon
7:00 pm AA

Wednesday

7:30 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
11:00 am Lectionary Study
7:00 pm AA

Thursday

7:30 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
11:00 am Book Club
1:00 pm Canasta
5:30 pm Children of Al-Anon
7:00 pm AA

Friday

7:30 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
7:00 pm AA

Saturday

8:30 am Women's AA
7:00 pm AA

Sunday

8:00 am Holy Communion
9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:30 am Holy Communion
2:00 pm Chess Club
7:00 pm AA

DIOCESAN LEADERSHIP

The Rt. Reverend Robert Wright,
Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta

ST JAMES STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Jim Shumard
Priest-in-Charge

jshumic@aol.com 912-844-7412

Susi Roessler

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Samantha Joedicke, Parish Administrator

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Bonnie Klinect, Office Coordinator

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Mary Lauren Keeny, Director of Music

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Kathy Booker, Parish Nurse

kbooker@truvista.net

Robin Rogers, Organist

Lynn Kilby, Nursery

Melanie Dietz, Bookkeeper

stjbookkeeper20@gmail.com

TREASURER

Ed Quirk, imedquirk@gmail.com

VESTRY

Class of 2026

Ann Inman, Junior Warden

anninman07@gmail.com

Kathleen Johnson, Senior Warden

rays2ws@gmail.com

Class of 2027

Betsy Elsas, betsyelsas@gmail.com

Shelley Urban, shelleyurban@gmail.com

CLASS of 2028

Dave Bellaire, dbellaire0953@yahoo.com

15 Jim Clayton, airmaleiah@aol.com

MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

Altar Flowers: Lynda Ann Price

Bread: Linda Barden

Altar Guild Set Up: Bonnie Klinect

8:00

10:30

VPOD or *Opener
Eucharistic Minister
Eucharistic Server
First Reading/Psalm
Second Reading/Prayers
Usher(s)

*Joel Daniel
Steve Sweimler
Ginny Heckel
Steve Sweimler
Ginny Heckel
Joel Daniel

Jim Clayton
Matt Price
Lynda Ann Price
Kathleen Johnson
Sandy Hunter
Becky & Tom
Callahan
Marian Martin
Linda Sanders
Scott Thompson
Terry Klinect
Tim McCabe
Tom Callahan

Altar Guild

Traci Cagle
Janet Sweimler

Video

Tellers



THE ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory
of God.



Giving: You may drop your check in the plate as the ushers come down the aisle, or simply scan the QR code on your phone, and give online. You can use the St. James WIFI connection to donate, no password is required.

St. James Episcopal Church • 260 Warwoman Rd. • Clayton, GA 30525
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