



ST. JAMES
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CLAYTON, GA

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2026
8:00am and 10:30am

God loves YOU! No exceptions!

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

The Reverend Susan Thisell, Celebrant

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

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.

ABOUT COMMUNION

This is the Lord's Table and not one denomination's table. All are welcome at the altar rail. For Communion. Jesus gave Communion to Judas who betrayed him, Peter who denied Him and the rest of the apostles had no clue as to what it was about. If your tradition does not allow you to take Communion here, then you are invited to come up for a blessing. Simply cross your arms across your chest to indicate to the priest you would like a blessing.

You have the option to drink from the common cup: to dip the bread in the common cup; or take a small glass chalice from the tables in front of the first pews and hold it up so the Chalice Server can pour the wine into it. Taking the bread only is full communion if you do not want to take the wine. We also offer gluten free bread, so please tell the server of bread that you wish to have gluten free.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF ST. JAMES

To join our church, you can request a letter of transfer from your previous denomination. Please speak to Fr. Jim if you'd like to be baptized. Baptism is full initiation into the church and required for anyone who wants to fully participate in the whole life of the church. You may also discuss joining with the Priest-in-Charge over a meal or drink. Simply email the office to receive the membership form and be added to the Parish Directory, allowing you to stay informed on church communications.

We encourage participation in St. James ministries such as Pastoral Care, Outreach, Worship, Altar Guild, Eucharistic Minister, Choir, Flower Guild, Garden Guild, and more. Most members are actively involved, which helps maintain a vibrant and spiritually engaged community.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

OPENING HYMN 304

Land of Rest

I Come with Joy

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.**

The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The people are seated.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 32:22-31

Lector A reading from Genesis.

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, **"You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed."** Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Lector The Word of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 17:1-7,16

Spoken responsively by whole verse.

- 1 Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord;
give heed to my cry; *
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
- 2 **Let my vindication come forth from your presence; ***
let your eyes be fixed on justice.

- 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, *
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 **I give no offense with my mouth as others do; *
I have heeded the words of your lips.**
- 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; *
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- 6 **I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; *
incline your ear to me and hear my words.**
- 7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, *
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand
from those who rise up against them.
- 16 **But at my vindication I shall see your face; *
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding
your likeness.**

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 SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

Lector A reading from The Letter to the Romans.

I am speaking the truth in Christ-- I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit-- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Lector The Word of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Blessed Assurance

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
 O what a foretaste of glory divine!
 Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
 born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
 Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,
 praising my Savior all the day long;
 this is my story, this is my song,
 praising my Savior all the day long.
2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
 visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
 angels descending bring from above
 echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (*Refrain*)
3. Perfect submission, all is at rest;
 I in my Savior am happy and blest,
 watching and waiting, looking above,
 filled with his goodness, lost in his love. (*Refrain*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:13-21

Celebrant A Reading from The Gospel according to Matthew.*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the

crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Reverend Susan Thisell

Silence

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

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, Marian and Greg Martin.

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 Allison, Karen, Melanie, Mike, Dustin, Katy, Rafael, Sandy, Roland, 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

THE PRESENTATION

1 Chronicles 29:14

Celebrant All things come of thee O Lord.

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

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

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 408

Mit Freuden Zart

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

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 Shelley Urban and Susi Roessler.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

BROWN BAG SUNDAY AUGUST 9. This month we will be collecting for “**Back to School Boost**” kid-friendly lunchbox foods, snack packs, granola bars, raisins, fruit cups, pudding cups, peanut butter crackers for Sharing and Caring Food Ministry in Rabun County. Please bring your food items to the basket in the Parish Hall.

BISHOP ROB WRIGHT FROM THE DIOCESE OF ATLANTA will be joining us for worship and lunch on **August 16.**

9:00am Adult Forum with Bishop Wright

10:30am One service with renewal of baptismal vows.

11:30am Fundraising Event for Our Little Roses with a light lunch
St. James has been sponsoring two girls from Our Little Roses for over 30 years. Food with a Honduran flair will be served and a silent auction will take place featuring framed hand drawn pictures and carvings from OLR, pottery made by Zoe Espinosa, and a wooden box hand crafted by John Johnson. We will also have small items available by donation.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to host Coffee Time after the 10:30am Sunday Services, especially August 30. 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.

REGULAR PROGRAMS

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

HOLY CASSEROLE CONVERSATIONS Monday nights, **August 10 and 17**. 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.

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.

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

RETIREES MEET AT NOON EVERY 3RD TUESDAY of each month. Next luncheon will be **August 18 at Ishy's** restaurant in Clayton. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

BOOK CLUB Everyone is invited to join us for our monthly meeting on **Thursday, August 20, at 11:00am**. Contact Becky Callahan, tbcallahan@aol.com, with any questions.

CARD GROUPS If you are interested in joining one of our card groups, contact Linda Sanders linsnd8@aol.com to sign up for Canasta, or Linda Holt-Metzgar, boblindah@yahoo.com to sign up for Bridge.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

August 2-9, 2026

Sunday

8:00 am Holy Communion
10:30 am Holy Communion
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
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
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
10:30 am Holy Communion
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
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Susi Roessler

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Mary Lauren Keeny, Director of Music
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Kathy Booker, Parish Nurse
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Robin Rogers, Organist

Lynn Kilby, Nursery

Melanie Dietz, Bookkeeper
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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
Jim Clayton, airmaleiah@aol.com

MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

Altar Flowers: Annie Westermann

Bread: Traci Cagle

Altar Guild Set Up: Lynda Ann Price

8:00

10:30

VPOD or *Opener	*LT Scott	Shelley Urban
Eucharistic Minister	LT Scott	Susi Roessler Synod Parish Deacon ELCA
Eucharistic Server	Ann Inman	Betty Cobb
First Reading & Psalm	Scotty Greene	Kathleen Johnson
Second Reading & Intercessor	Ann Inman	Shelley Urban
Announcements	Ann Inman	Shelley Urban
Usher(s)	Steve Sweimler	Sandy Hunter Katy Cucho
Altar Guild	Traci and Kevin Cagle	Betty Cobb Lynda Ann Price
Video Tellers		Dustin Emhart Jim Clayton Sandy Hunter



Flowers This Week

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.



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