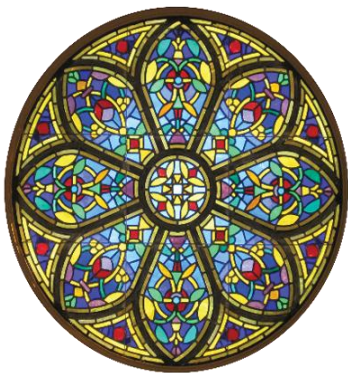




ST. JAMES
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CLAYTON, GA

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026
8:00am and 10:30am

God loves YOU! No exceptions!

The Reverend Dr. Jim Shumard, Priest-in-Charge
The Reverend Scott Kidd, 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 525

Aurelia

The Church's One Foundation

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

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Lector A reading from Exodus.

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” **But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live.** So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months.

When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Lector The Word of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 124

Spoken responsively by whole verse.

- 1 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;
- 2 **If the Lord had not been on our side, ***
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 **Then would the waters have overwhelmed us ***
and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

6 Blessed be the Lord! *

he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

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 12:1-8

Lector A reading from The Letter to the Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Lector The Word of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 524

St. Thomas

I Love Thy Kingdom Lord

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

Celebrant A Reading from The Gospel according to Matthew.

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

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Reverend Scott Kidd

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, Jim Clayton, Ann Inman, Marian Martin, Lee Burson and Jan and Bill Bomar.

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 Pete, Allison, Karen, Melanie, Mike, Dustin, Katy, Rafael, Kyler, 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.**

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

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

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

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 The Will Thompson family.

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.

BROWN BAG SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13. We will be collecting for "Protein Powder Month" 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.

MORNING PRAYER Monday,—Friday 7:30am - 8am via ZOOM ONLY.
Meeting ID: 218 094 8164 Passcode: 682287

HOLY CASSEROLE CONVERSATION Monday night September 7. 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 **September 15 at Ishay'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, September 17, 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.

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.

THE ST. JAMES ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN-UP CHART FOR 2026 is located downstairs in the Parish Hall. Sign up for a Sunday you would like to sponsor for \$45, and let the church office know how you would like your gift to appear in the bulletin.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

August 23-30, 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
Priest-in-Charge

jshumie@aol.com 912-844-7412

Susi Roessler

Deacon Synod Parish Deacon ELCA
susiroessler@gmail.com

Samantha Joedicke, Parish Administrator
admin@stjamesclayton.org

Bonnie Klinect, Office Coordinator
bcklinect@gmail.com

Mary Lauren Keeny, Director of Music
marylaurenkeeney@gmail.com

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
Jim Clayton, airmaleiah@aol.com

MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

Altar Flowers: Maggie Hatcher

Bread: Dottie O'Brien

Altar Guild Set Up: Bonnie Klinect

8:00

VPOD or *Opener	*Steve Sweimler
Eucharistic Minister	Marcus Booker
Eucharistic Server	Kathy Booker
First Reading & Psalm	Steve Sweimler
Second Reading & Intercessor	Kathy Booker
Special Music	
Announcements	Ginny Heckel
Usher(s)	David Tatum

Altar Guild	Janet Sweimler Dottie O'Brien
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Video

Tellers

10:30

David Bellaire
Susi Roessler
Synod Parish Deacon ELCA
Erika Farr
Matt Price
Erika Farr
Lee J. Howard
David Bellaire
Dave and Karen Bellaire
Marian Martin
Linda Sanders
Scott Thompson
Jim Clayton
Tim McCabe
Tom Callahan



THE ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory of God by Jan and Bill Bomar in celebration of their 66th wedding anniversary on August 27.



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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