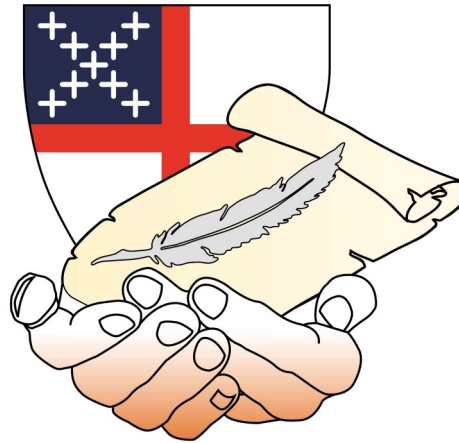


Welcome
to
St. Clement's Episcopal Church
Open Minds + Loving Hearts + Giving Hands



Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 27, 2026

**10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II with
Confirmation and Reception**



A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina
The Right Reverend Samuel S. Rodman III, Bishop of North Carolina
The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop
The Reverend Jamie L'Enfant Edwards, Rector
The Reverend Matthew T. Phillips, Associate Rector
The Reverend Mark A. Davidson, Deacon
John Farmer, Director of Music

Welcome and Announcements

Please take this time to silence or turn off your cell phones and all electronic devices.

Prelude	Sicilienne, Opus 78	Gabriel Faure, (1845-1924) <i>Kirsten Russ, Flute</i>
Entrance Hymn #477	All praise to thee	Engelberg

Opening Acclamation BCP p. 413

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;

People: There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: One God and Father of all.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Psalm 25:1-8 *Ad te, Domine, levavi*

Sung by all



- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
 my God, I put my **trust in you**; *
 let me not be humiliated,
 nor let my enemies triumph **over me**.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to **shame**; *
 let the treacherous be disappointed in their **schemes**.
- 3 Show me your ways, O **Lord**, *
 and teach me your **paths**.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and **teach me**, *
 for you are the God of my salvation;
 in you have I trusted all the day **long**.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and **love**, *
 for they are from ever/**lasting**.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my trans/**gressions**; *
 remember me according to your love
 and for the sake of your goodness, O **Lord**.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the **Lord**; *
 therefore he teaches sinners in his **way**.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing **right** *
 and teaches his way to the **lowly**.

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:21-30

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
 who, though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence,
but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and
trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for
his good pleasure.

Sequence Hymn #686

Come, thou fount of every blessing

Nettleton

The Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Sermon.....The Rt. Rev. William Gregg

Confirmation and Reception

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate for Confirmation BCP p. 415
Brenda Nance Peoples

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates for Reception
Lois Elaine Kolbe
Richard Hugo Kolbe
Carole Mitchell Witte

The Baptismal Covenant	BCP p. 416
Prayers for the Candidates	BCP p. 305
Laying on of Hands with Prayer	BCP p. 418
Concluding Prayer	BCP p. 419
The Peace	BCP p. 419

Diocesan Prayer for Mission (said by all):
Most gracious and loving God: Strengthen the hearts of your people in this diocese that loving you with our whole heart, and loving our neighbors as ourselves, we might, in the power of the Spirit, obey the call of Jesus, to go into our world as disciples making disciples, and making a difference through your saving love. Amen

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn #685 Rock of Ages, cleft for me Toplady

Please note: Your contribution to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund, based on the loose plate offering, is very much appreciated. Your offering helps us to care for and reach out to those who are vulnerable and in need. You can also go to givingtools.com/give/1182/1995 to donate.

The Great Thanksgiving	BCP p. 367
Sanctus S-129	Holy, Holy, Holy

The Lord's Prayer BCP p. 364

Fraction Anthem (*Sung three times*)

Who-ev - er comes to me shall not hun - ger and

who-ev - er be - lieves in me shall nev - er thirst.

Communion music	Air on the G string, from Suite 1	J S Bach (1685-1750) <i>Mark Snow, Viola</i>
Post Communion Prayer	BCP p. 366	
The Blessing		
Recessional Hymn #450	All hail the power of Jesus' name	Coronation
The Dismissal	BCP p. 366	
Postlude	Allegro Maestoso, Opus 55	Flor Peters (1903-1986)

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For your prayers during the Eucharist and this week.

In Our Diocese: We give thanks for Sean, our presiding Bishop; Samuel, our Diocesan Bishop; Jennifer, Assistant Bishop; Jamie, Mark, and Matthew, our clergy. For St. Margaret's in Waxhaw and St. Mark's in Wilson. For our Companion Diocese of Costa Rica and their Bishop, Orlando Gómez, and the Diocese of Botswana and their Bishop, Metlhayotlthe Beleme.

In Our Parish Cycle of Prayer: We give thanks for Deborah Crow.

In Need of Healing: Jim S.; Georgie & Lisa D.; Beverly G.; Pat K.; Jerry K.; Carol Z.; Karen Y.; Debbie M.; John K.; Ann W.; Claudia F.; Aletha J.; Laurie R.; Jim S.; Sharon V.; Marilyn G.; Mary Ann S.; Ken C.; Dot H.; Jack R.; Lee E.; Nicky T.; Don P.; Keith C.; Bim H.; Penny F.; Jay F.; Shantelle F.; Heather T.; Gill W.; Daniel; Jeannette R.; Miriam L.; David K.; John M.; Pat M.; Jane H.; Patty D.; Dave K.; Sallie S.; Sid C.; Warren G.; Rhonda L.; Michael S.; Sylbrina K.; Bradley M.; Sharon F.; Myra A.; Susan G.; Pat K.; Linda H.; Kim S.; Jerry K.; Rick K.; Jimmy E.; Robert E.; Nancy M.; for the Davis & Hanley family; for the Stevens family; for all victims of violence and natural disasters; for our nation's leaders that they will always seek to do God's will.

Military: For all those who serve our country, here and abroad, especially: Will Edwards; Cody Potts; Isaac Hutchins; Sean Mullins; Chris Vestal; David Grocer; Sam Mills; Ryan Tilley; Chris Bailey; Jeremy Almond; Andrew Ellis.

In Thanksgiving: For our Hospitality Committee, and for our visitors.

Birthdays: Rick Kolbe, Bobbie Daniel

Anniversaries: Sid & Tina Chadwick.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, September 27

Rite II Quiet Eucharist @ 8 am

Rite II w/ music @ 10 am

Meet & Greet / Reception with Bishop Gregg

RENTAL: App Strings, 2 pm (PH)

RENTAL: Village Presbyterian, 3-7 pm

Monday, September 28

RENTAL: Alcoholics Anonymous, 5:30-7:45 am

Tuesday, September 29

Bridge & Mahjong Club, 6:30 & 7 pm (PH)

Wednesday, September 30

RENTAL: Alcoholics Anonymous, 5:30-7:45 am

Thursday, October 1

Church office closed

Women's Group, 10:30 am (PH)

Friday, October 2

RENTAL: Alcoholics Anonymous, 5:30-7:45 am

RENTAL: AI Anon, 12-1 pm (PH)

Saturday, October 3

Men's Zoom Group, 8 am via Zoom

In-Person Men's Hour, 10-11 am (PH)

Blessing of the Animals, 11 am (front lawn)

Opportunities for Engagement

- **Men's Breakfast**

Every first Wednesday, 8 am @ Pete's.

- **Bridge Club**

Every Tuesday @ 6:30 & 7 pm (PH)

- **Mahjong**

Every Tuesday @ 6:30 & 7 pm (PH)

- **Women's Group**

Every Thursday @ 10:30 am (PH)

- **AA Meetings**

Every Mon., Wed. & Fri., @ 6:15-7:15 am (PH)

- **AI-Anon Meetings**

Every Friday @ 12 noon (PH)

- **Men's Zoom Group**

Every Saturday @ 8 am via Zoom

- **In-Person Saturday Men's Hour**

Every Saturday, 10 am—11 am in parish hall.

- **Potluck (Costco) Dinner Parties**

Meets periodically on a Saturday evening.

Special Announcements

Welcome, Bishop Gregg

This morning we warmly welcome the Right Reverend William Gregg for our official episcopal visitation for confirmation and reception. Although (ostensibly retired) Bishop Gregg is currently serving as interim rector at St. Luke's in Salisbury, he is also graciously covering for Assistant Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson while she is on sabbatical. Over the years Bp. Gregg has been a source of support to Jamie+, John Farmer, and this parish, and it is our joy to have him with us.

Blessing of the Animals

This Saturday, October 3 @ 11 am

Come celebrate the joy our pets bring to our families and give thanks to God for the wonderful creatures entrusted to our care. Join us on the front lawn for this annual celebration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Animals. Bring your furry pet (on a leash or in a crate, please) for a special blessing from Mother Jamie.

Cherry Street Prison Service

Next Sunday, October 4th. 4:30-7:30 pm

Fall Work Day

Saturday, October 10th. 9 am—noon.

Office Hours

Linda will be out of the office Thursday, 10/1 & Monday, 10/5.

Welcome Visitors!

Welcome to St. Clement's! We are blessed to have you with us. Please visit our welcome table located next to the organ and fill out a name tag and pick up a Visitor's Welcome Postcard. If you would like more information about any aspect of our parish, please do not hesitate to ask! Just look for the blue nametags for members of our Vestry.
Would you like to become a member?
Please ask for a gold registration form.

Lay Ministers Serving this Week

8:00 **Lector:** L. Gerhardt **Acolyte:** T. Zordano

10:00 **Lector:** N. Tesh **Acolyte:** Booth

Ushers: Kight **Altar Guild:** Lyall

Counters: Tom Erickson, Bob Smith

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*Flowers behind the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Sid & Tina Chadwick
in deep appreciation for Mother Jamie and for our parents.*

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Lay Ministry Schedule for Next Sunday, October 4

8:00 **Chalice:** G. Crowe **Lector:** C.L. Franke

Acolyte: G. Crowe **Altar Guild:** Crowe

10:00 **Chalice:** M. McIntosh **Lector:** M. McIntosh

Acolyte: H. Snow **Ushers:** Kight, Kolbe **Altar Guild:** Russ

Counters: Leslie Pugh, Mary Holton

Vestry & Wardens

Sharon Lyall—Senior Warden, Terri Smith—Junior Warden, Nicky Tesh—Treasurer
Laurie Ryan, Sid Chadwick, Jim Studley, Mark Snow, Mary Holton, & Amy Selby.
Shirleen Gilbert—Clerk of the Vestry

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