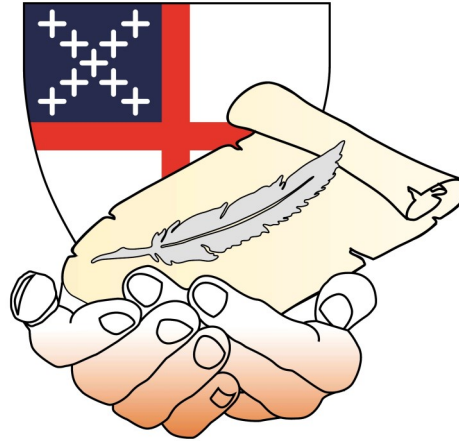


*Welcome*  
to  
**St. Clement's Episcopal Church**  
Open Minds + Loving Hearts + Giving Hands



**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 7, 2025**

**8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II**

**10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II**



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 Mark Davidson, Deacon

John Farmer, Director of Music

## The Order for Holy Eucharist

Welcome and Announcements

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

Prelude	Offertoire	Joseph Jongen (1873-1953)
Entrance Hymn #68	Rejoice! rejoice, believers	Llangloffan
Opening Acclamation	BCP p. 355	

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

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

Collect for Purity

Hymn of Praise #56	O come, O come, Emmanuel Stanza 2	Veni, Veni
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### The Collect of the Day

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath*

### First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child

shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19      Deus, judicium**

- 1      Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
         and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2      That he may rule your people righteously \*  
         and the poor with justice;
- 3      That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
         and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4      He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
         he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5      He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
         from one generation to another.
- 6      He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
         like showers that water the earth.
- 7      In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
         there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18     Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, \*  
         who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19     And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \*  
         and may all the earth be filled with his glory.  
         Amen. Amen.

**Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of

God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sequence Hymn #678      Surely it is God who saves me      College of Preachers

**The Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
`Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Sermon.....Rev. Jamie Edwards

The Nicene Creed BCP p. 358

The Prayers of the People  
Response: ***hear our prayer.***

Confession of Sin BCP p. 360

The Peace BCP p. 360

## The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn #676      There is a balm in Gilead      Balm in Gilead

The Great Thanksgiving                      BCP p. 367  
                  Sanctus S-125                      Holy, Holy, Holy

The Lord's Prayer BCP p. 364

Fraction Anthem  
S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God

Communion Music      I heard the Voice of Jesus Say  
arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Post Communion Prayer BCP p. 366

## The Blessing

Recessional Hymn #76      On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry      Winchester New

The Dismissal BCP p. 366

**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 our Rector; Mark our Deacon. For our Companion Diocese of Costa Rica and their Bishop, Orlando Gómez, and the Diocese of Botswana and their Bishop, Metlhayotlhe Beleme.

**In Our Parish Cycle of Prayer:** We give thanks for George Ellis.

**In Need of Healing:** Kristen F.; Don H.; James; Todd P.; Tava B.; Patty D.; Kevin M.; Keith C.; Sharon L.; Miriam L.; Noelle N.; Jeannette R. ;Judy R.; John F.; Robbie P.; Dave K.; Sallie S.; Karen F.; Sid C.; Jaci K.; Roger D, Jr.; Sonta H.; Warren G.; Michael E.; Jane H.; Rhonda L.; Michael S.; Sylbrina K.; Gill W.; Bim H.; Bradley M.; Sharon F.; Don G.; Myra A.; Susan G.; Pat K.; Linda H.; Donna P.; Bruce N.; Sandra N.; Kim S.; Heather T.; Jerry K.; Manuel; Rick K.; Vic; Jimmy E.; Robert E.; Pat G.; Nancy M.; Werner K; 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 Memorial Garden Guild; and for our visitors.

**Birthdays:** Andres Valdez, Miriam Lovett.

**For the Repose of the Soul of:** Dorothy Holst (former long-time and beloved member)

**Advent & Christmas**

**Christmas Flower Donations—sign up today**

A sign-up sheet has been posted on the clipboard next to the doors in the narthex for those who want to make donations towards Christmas decorations for the church. Please make checks payable to the church, memo Christmas Flowers and place in the envelope provided. ***(Please print and use 1 line per name.)*** Deadline: Sunday, December 21st.

**Lay Ministers needed to serve at the Christmas Services**

Christmas Eve services- Sign up today in the narthex to serve @ 5 pm or 7:30 pm.

**Greening and Grazing—December 21**

Sunday, 12/21 after the **10 am service**. Help us decorate the church for Christmas. Please bring a snack to share. All ages are encouraged to participate.

**Welcome to our Seekers and 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!

**Would you like to become a member?**

Please ask for a gold registration form.

**Opportunities for Engagement**

- **Men's Breakfast**

Every first Wednesday, 8 am @ Pete's.

- **Bridge Club**

Every Tuesday @ 7 pm (PH)

- **Stitch in Time Crafter's Group**

Every Wednesday @ 9:30 am (PH)

- **Women's Group**

Every Thursday @ 10:30 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.

**Mark Your Calendars**

- **DEADLINE: Storehouse Gifts**

Sunday, December 14th

- **Greening & Grazing**

Sunday, December 21st after the late service

- **DEADLINE: Christmas Flower donations**

Sunday, December 21st

- **Christmas Eve Services— Dec. 24th**

5:00 pm w/ music to begin at 4:30.

7:30 pm w/ music to begin at 7.

- **Office Closed / Holiday Hours**

12/25, 12/29, 12/30, 12/31 (tbd), 1/1.

- **De-greening of the Nave**

Sunday, January 4 after the late service

**Special Announcements**

**Attention, Lay Ministers & Counters**

1Q- Jan. Feb. Mar. 2026 LM schedule requests are due soon. Deadline is THIS Wednesday, December 10th. Email Linda the dates you are unable to serve.

**Advent Wreath Home Kits Still Available**

If you didn't get a kit last Sunday, pick one up today. All the supplies are neatly packaged and will come with a pamphlet with scripture readings and prayers. There are also Advent Calendars available.

**2026 Altar Flower sign up is posted**

Sign up for a Sunday or two to provide altar flowers in 2026. Sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Storehouse for Jesus Giving Tree**

The deadline for all **unwrapped** gifts to be in our Nave for bagging and tagging is next **Sunday, December 14**. Help will be needed after the late service. Contact Lisa, Allison, or Linda if you have any questions, need help, or run into a problem finding the gift you picked. Thank you all for your continued generosity.

**The Week Ahead**

**Sunday, December 7**

Rite II Quiet Eucharist @ 8 am

Coffee & Conversation, 8:30-9 am (PH)

Formation, 9-9:45 am (PH)

Rite II w/ music @ 10am

**Tuesday, December 9**

Bridge Club, 7 pm (PH)

**Wednesday, December 10**

Stitch in Time Group, 9:30-11:30 (PH)

DEADLINE: 1Q LM & Counter schedules

**Thursday, December 11**

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

**Friday, December 12**

RENTAL: AI-Anon, 12–1 pm (PH)

**Saturday, December 13**

Men's Zoom Group, 8 am via Zoom

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

**Serving at the Altar for this Week**

The Rev. Jamie Edwards

The Rev. Mark Davidson

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

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

**10:00** **Chalice:** N. Tesh **Lector:** M. Seeds

**Acolyte:** Booth **Ushers:** Bennett, Meath **Altar Guild:** Bennett, Russ

**Counters:** Leslie Pugh, Mark Snow

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**Lay Ministry Schedule for Next Sunday, December 14**

The Rev. Jamie Edwards

The Rev. Mark Davidson

**8:00** **Chalice:** B. Daniel **Lector:** B. Daniel

**Altar Guild:** Scardina

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

**Acolyte:** H. Snow **Ushers:** McIntosh **Altar Guild:** Lovett, Ellis, Nash

**Counters:** Kirsten Russ, Bob Smith

**Vestry & Wardens**

April Chapel, Senior Warden, Bob Smith, Junior Warden, Nicky Tesh, Treasurer  
Chuck Bohrer, Laurie Ryan, Sharon Lyall, Sid Chadwick, Jim Studley, Mark Snow,  
Terri Smith, Clerk of the Vestry

**2026 Vestry Elect:** Mary Holton, Terri Smith, & Amy Selby.  
Shirleen Gilbert, Clerk of the Vestry

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