

What Kind of Church is St. Clare's?

St. Clare's is an Episcopal church. As a community, we strive to Worship with Joy, Grow in Faith, and Act for Justice.



As Episcopalians, we affirm God's presence both in the world and in the spirit of scientific inquiry. We are open to the Spirit, and we love sacramental, liturgical worship. We welcome all people, young and old, advantaged and disadvantaged, those of every political persuasion and religious background, and of diverse sexual orientation, to join with us in a loving fellowship of all of God's children.

Our beliefs are expressed in our worship, where, with congregational participation, we seek to give praise and thanks to God in the name of Jesus Christ.

How Can I Participate in the Service?

Feel free to sit anywhere. We routinely use two books during the service, The Book of Common Prayer (red book) and the 1982 Hymnal (blue book). Frequently, we also use supplemental hymnals or music printed in the service bulletin.

We stand or kneel to pray. You may stand, sit, and kneel with the congregation as you feel comfortable and are able.

We take an offering, which supports the many ministries at St. Clare's and the worldwide church. We welcome any financial gift your wish to make.

As Episcopalians, Holy Communion, the liturgical remembrance of Christ's Last Supper, is a central

focus of most worship services. People of every age are welcome to take Communion at God's table. But, if your tradition doesn't permit you to participate, cross your arms, to request an ecumenical blessing at the altar.

If you are unable to drink wine or have a wheat allergy, please let the bread or chalice bearer know. Consecrated grape juice and rice wafers are also available. If your mobility is limited, please tell an usher before the service, and Communion will be brought to you at your seat.

We receive the bread in our hands and respond with "Amen." We receive wine from the cup, either guiding it to our lips after consuming the bread or by "intinction" (dipping the bread partway into the wine in the chalice before consuming it).

If you are participating for the first time, movement to receive communion is not controlled by ushers. Follow the lead of those around you, or, if uncertain, ask someone nearby for guidance.

What Are Service Times?

Thursday

8:45am Morning Prayer (Chapel)
10:30am Bible Study (Adult Lounge)

Sunday

7:45am Communion (quiet service)
9:00am Intergenerational Worship
10:15am Church School
10:30am Communion (Adult Choir)

A Coffee Hour follows each service
Nursery care is provided at the 9:00am and 10:30am services.



Welcome to St. Clare's

We look forward to greeting you personally and hope you feel at home.



St. Clare of Assisi Episcopal Church

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(734) 662-2449

office@saintclareschurch.org

What Makes St. Clare's Unique?

The first thing many visitors notice about St. Clare's is that a Cross and a Star of David stand side-by-side in front of our building.



These symbols show our participation in Genesis through which St. Clare's and the reformed Jewish congregation of Temple Beth Emeth jointly own, operate and share our facilities in the Genesis partnership. St. Clare's and the Temple jointly participate in a number of outreach activities, including support for homeless families through Alpha House and the Rotating Shelter, highway cleanup, and together with Muslim Social Services, provide food for the hungry at the Backdoor Food Pantry. We also join together yearly to give thanks for God's bounty at our Thanksgiving Eve service.

How Can I Learn More About St. Clare's?

Please fill out a contact card in Guest Book found on the lectern near the ramp as you enter the sanctuary. Our clergy will contact you.

Additional information, including many pictures of our parish life can be found on our web site:

<http://www.saintclareschurch.org>

The web site also offers a way for you to sign up to receive information about activities that interest you.

After each Sunday service, we have a Coffee Hour which provides a great way to meet both clergy and St. Clarians and to ask any questions you may have. Please join us in fellowship and introduce

yourself. We want to get to know you. In addition, information on upcoming educational opportunities and parish events is often on display at coffee hour.

We hope you will join us. We are glad you are here!

How Can I Become Involved?

Very easily! Opportunities for involvement at St. Clare's abound. Tell one of our clergy or someone at Coffee Hour about your interests, and you will be introduced to the right persons to talk to and learn more.

Grow in Faith

- Join an ongoing cell group
- Attend a Newcomers' class
- Participate in Thursday morning bible study
- Join an adult education class
- Teach church school
- Lead Middle and High school groups
 - Teen Ministry, Happening
 - Youth mission trips

Worship with Joy

- Sing in a Choir
 - Adult & Intergenerational
 - Beginners (ages 2-6)
 - Elementary, Youth
 - Hand Bell and Tone Chimes
- Provide worship support
 - Altar Guild
 - Serve as usher, vergger, greeter, Lector, Chalice bearer, or intercessor

Act for Justice

- Help feed the hungry
 - Back Door Food Pantry
 - Ypsilanti Salvation Army
- Help shelter the homeless
 - Alpha House shelter (families)
 - Delonis Center (adults)
 - Rotating Shelter
- Support the Haiti Outreach Mission
 - Work on benefit events
 - Support relief projects
- Participate in a St. Clare's Outreach Sunday project

Hospitality and Fellowship Ministries

- Bake food for Coffee Hour
- Visit the sick & housebound

- Take meals to distressed parish families
- Attend or host Fellowship dinners

Organizational Support

- Provide office assistance
- Join a Commission: Fellowship, Children and Youth, Stewardship, Adult Education, Parish Resource, Worship.
- Become a plate counter
- Join the Vestry, our governing board

How Can I Join St. Clare's?

To join St. Clare's call (734-662-2449) or email (office@saintclareschurch.org) the Parish Office and request a new member information form. Contact cards are also on the Guest Book lectern. Join us for worship on a regular basis, participate in parish life and our ministries as God calls you, and support St. Clare's through your time, talent, and treasure. If you have any questions about your faith or transferring your membership, our clergy will be glad to talk with you. Welcome to St. Clare's!

What About Name Tags?

We want to meet and get to know newcomers among us. Single-use visitor name tags are available. If you would prefer, ask an usher, and we will have a clip-on name tag ready to use the next time you visit.

