

THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 21 AUGUST 2022

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 A.M.

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer p. 323

The Collect for Purity p. 323

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Kyrie eleison p. 324

The Collect of the Day p. 181

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful God, that thy Church, being gathered together in unity by thy Holy Spirit, may manifest thy power among all peoples, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen*.

The Epistle: Hebrews 12:18–29

The Holy Bible (NRSV) p. 1100

Commentary: The writer of Hebrews reiterated the superiority of the New Covenant by comparing it with the Old Covenant, using the illustration of two mountains, Zion and Sinai. The Old Covenant was mediated at Mt Sinai and when God met with Moses there, the sights and sounds were terrifying. The New Covenant, sealed with the blood of Jesus Christ, is represented by Mt Zion, another name for God's heavenly city, the New Jerusalem. Jesus' blood satisfied God's demands and secured God's acceptance of every New Covenant believer. At Mt Sinai, God's voice shook the earth and at the end of the age, God's voice will again shake the earth and the heavens. However, God's eternal kingdom cannot be shaken. How do faithful people respond to the hope and promise of an unshakeable, eternal kingdom? With gratitude for God's gift, with worship pleasing to Him and with an attitude of reverence and awe.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken— that is, created things— so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

(continued overleaf)

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 13:10–17

(NRSV) p. 952

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Homily	The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.
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Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Jo Oakley.

St. James Parish

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