



# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER 2022

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 A.M.

Welcome and Announcements

The Lighting of the Advent Candles

## 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

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

p. 324

The Collect of the Day

p. 160

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

The Lesson: James 5:7–10

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 1104

*Commentary: The author of this letter was a respected leader in the Jerusalem church (see Acts 15). The recipients of this letter were Jewish Christians who had fled persecution in Palestine following the death of Stephen, the first Christian martyr. James wrote to instruct and encourage his scattered flock. This letter is full of practical advice. In these verses, James urged his readers, rich and poor, to practice patience, knowing that their reward awaited at the judgment seat of Christ. Even now, the knowledge that Christ could return at any moment is motivation for His followers to live patiently and sacrificially every day.*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the LORD. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the LORD is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the LORD.

People            The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*People* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

*People* The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**The Sermon**

The Reverend Gray Hodsdon

<b>The Nicene Creed</b>	p. 327
<b>The Prayers of the People</b>	p. 328
<b>Confession of Sin</b>	p. 330
<b>The Peace</b>	p. 332

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

<b>Eucharistic Prayer II</b>	p. 340
<b>Sanctus</b>	p. 341
<b>The Lord’s Prayer</b>	p. 336
<b>The Breaking of the Bread</b>	p. 337
<b>Prayer of Humble Access</b>	p. 337
<b>The Communion of the People</b>	<i>Gluten-free wafers available upon request</i> p. 338
<b>Prayer of Thanksgiving</b>	p. 339
<b>The Blessing</b>	p. 339
<b>The Dismissal</b>	p. 339



*Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon*

*The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Jane Miller Metts, Edwin Anderson Metts, Elizabeth Cotchett Metts  
Elizabeth Metts Brown, James Fred Rippy III, Michael Corbett Brown, Sr.*

**ST. JAMES PARISH**

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

25 South Third Street ♦ Wilmington, NC 28401 ♦ (910) 763-1628 ♦ [admin@stjamesp.org](mailto:admin@stjamesp.org)

[f](https://www.facebook.com/stjamesp) @stjamesp [i](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesparish) @stjamesparish

**stjamesp.org**