



THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 A.M.

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. 164

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins and give us, we beseech thee, the liberty of that abundant life which thou hast manifested to us in thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: 1 Corinthians 2:1–16

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 1041

Commentary: As Paul continued to address conflicts and challenges in the Corinthian church, he expanded on a theme previously introduced, the contrast between God's wisdom and man's wisdom. As an illustration, Paul used the example of his own preaching to show what the wisdom of God can do as opposed to what the words that people consider wise can do. Paul centered his preaching on one message, the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. Paul's goal was to focus his hearers on the excellence of the Savior, not the excellence of the preacher, and his point was this: the wisdom of God is manifested in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. With help from the Holy Spirit, every believer can grow in understanding of God's wisdom.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who

are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

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

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:13–20

NRSV, p. 882

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

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Gray Hodsdon

The Nicene Creed

p. 327

The Prayers of the People

p. 328

Confession of Sin

p. 330

The Peace

p. 332

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer II

p. 340

Sanctus

p. 341

The Lord's Prayer

p. 336

The Breaking of the Bread

p. 337

Prayer of Humble Access

p. 337

The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers available upon request

p. 338

Prayer of Thanksgiving

p. 339

The Blessing

p. 339

The Dismissal

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 James Carroll Fox.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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

 @stjamesp  @stjamesparish

stjamesp.org