



THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

SUNDAY 19 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. 165

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: 2 Peter 1:16–21

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 1109

Commentary: In these verses, Peter emphasized two themes, the trustworthiness of the apostles' witness, and the divine origin of Scripture. False teachers were attacking the faith, so Peter reminded his readers that the apostles' testimony rested on historic events they had personally observed. Peter was an eyewitness to Jesus' transfiguration, which was indisputable evidence that God Himself had appointed His beloved Son to be the Savior of the world and had bestowed upon Him unique honor for the task. Peter affirmed that the witness of the apostles, as well as the witness of Scripture, was from God. Until the Lord returns, Peter urged his readers to give attention to the Old Testament prophecies and to the apostles' teaching so they would not be misled by false teachers. False teaching flows from human minds. Truth flows from the heart and mind of God.

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

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

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

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THE HOLY COMMUNION

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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
Joseph Ward Hooper, Louise Smallbones Hooper
Joseph Ward Hooper Jr., and Margaret Hooper Turner, Terry Forrest Turner.*

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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

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