



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY 19 MARCH 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

9:00 A.M.

Prelude

Processional Hymn 493

“O for a thousand tongues to sing”

Azmon

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **His mercy endures forever.**

Collect for Purity

p. 355

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

Kyrie

“Lord, have mercy”

Holy Ghost



The Collect of the Day

p. 219

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: Ephesians 5:8–14

NRSV, p. 1069

Commentary: Living out your faith consistently is one emphasis of Paul's letter to the Ephesians. In this passage, Paul reminded his readers that they were now light in the Lord because they had been sealed by the Holy Spirit as children of God, and they ought to live accordingly. The 'fruit of the light' refers to qualities that

reflect God's nature. The child of God, walking in the light, tries to discover and live out God's will in order to please Him. When light shines on evil deeds, it exposes them for what they are. Eventually God will bring all things, including evil things, into the light, so it is important for sleepers (another word for sinners) to wake up. Christ will then shine on them in blessing, as the sun warms what its rays touch.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

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

Psalm 23

“The Lord is my shepherd”
read by all in unison

Dominus regit me

The LORD is my shepherd; *
 I shall not be in want.
 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
 and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *
 and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I shall fear no evil; *
 for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil,
 and my cup is running over.
 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me
 all the days of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

After the Psalm, the children leave for Children's Chapel.

Sequence Hymn

*After the organ introduces the theme,
 the antiphon is sung first by the Choir, then repeated by all.*



Verse



The Holy Gospel: John 9:1–41

NRSV, p. 978

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and

came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

The Nicene Creed

p. 358

Celebrant and People

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The response to each petition:

...Light of the world,

Open our eyes.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

p. 360

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

p. 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Richard Shephard

Bread of the world, in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul, in mercy shed,
By Whom the words of life were spoken,
And in Whose death our sins are dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
Look on the tears by sinners shed;
And be Thy feast to us the token,
That by Thy grace our souls are fed.

~ Reginald Heber

Presentation Hymn 143

“The glory of these forty days” *fifth verse only*

Erhalt uns, Herr

O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to
thee be ev - ery prayer ad-dressed, who art in three - fold
Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
 Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here, a proper preface is said, then the Celebrant continues...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S—124

“Holy, holy, holy Lord”

David Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in
 the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues, saying in the midst of the prayer:

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues, concluding with:

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

p. 364

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

p. 364

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers are available at the main altar upon request.

Communion Hymns

Hymn 339	"Deck thyself, my soul with gladness"	<i>Schmücke dich</i>
Hymn 645	"The King of love my shepherd is"	<i>St. Columba</i>
Hymn 466	"Eternal light, shine in my heart"	<i>Jacob</i>

The Postcommunion Prayer

p. 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.
The people kneel

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 671 "Amazing Grace!"

New Britain

The Dismissal

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Celebrant: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
Children's Chapel: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.
Organist & Choir Director: John Sullivan

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Charles P. Graham.

ST. JAMES PARISH

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

BREAD BREAKERS: HOSPITALITY AT HOME

Sunday, March 19 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | The Hartman Home~ RSVP for Directions

The St. James Breadbreakers' are hosting the first Hospitality at Home of 2023 in March! The Hartmans will have BBQ, hush puppies, and fried chicken. Please bring whatever appetizer, side or dessert you would like to go with the entrees. We will have juice boxes, water, and some beer and wine. On street parking will be available RSVP online or by reaching out to Lizzie Hartman at ehwellons@gmail.com.

FULL-COURT FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, March 19 | 7:15-9:00 p.m. | Perry Hall

Ready to get out and active? Men of the parish are invited to join our High School boys for pick-up basketball games on Sunday evenings at 7:15 p.m. following Youth Group. We'll take a break midway for a reflection or devotional of some sort. Let's work together to build faith-based relationships between a community of mutual support for our youth and adults! Have questions about this offering? Please reach out to Mark Bartholet at mark.bartholet@gmail.com or Cookie Cantwell at cookie@stjamesp.org.

ECW: LADIES NIGHT OUT WITH SHERI CASTLE

Tuesday, March 21 | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | St. James Parish

The St. James Parish Episcopal Church Women are very excited to host an evening of wine, food and fellowship on March 21st. We invite the community to join us in celebrating our first gathering of 2023. The ECW has invited guest speaker Sheri Castle to kick off the celebration. Sheri is the host and producer of her PBS show THE KEY INGREDIENT. She has been the Contributing Food Editor at Southern Living Magazine since 1998. Sheri is coming to St. James ECW to share some good southern storytelling with a dash of great recipes and fellowship. Join us on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 for this special presentation. At 6:00 p.m. there will be a reception for Sheri Castle in the Lippitt Room followed by her presentation at 7:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. You may find more information about parking and facilities access on the St. James Parish website.

Copies of Ms. Castle's cookbooks will be available for purchase in the Parish Shop.

RACIAL UNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 22 | 5:00-6:00 p.m. | Graham Parlor

The Committee on Racial Unity will meet on Wednesday, March 22nd in the Graham Parlor. Please join us if you are interested in learning more about the work of this committee at St. James Parish. Please consider joining us in this important ministry.

MEN ON A MISSION: FELLOWSHIP EVENT

Sunday, March 26 | 3:30-6:00 p.m. | Pleasant Oaks Plantation ~ RSVP for Directions

Mark your calendars! Men on a Mission is having its first-ever all-inclusive fellowship event on Sunday, March 26th at Pleasant Oaks Plantation. Come enjoy this beautiful setting with wonderful church friends, a catered barbeque with all the fixin's, drinks of all varieties (including a Steve Thomas Oktoberfest), a bluegrass band, and lots of great fellowship. You're invited to bring a spouse, partner, friend, or come solo. Each MoM member may bring one 21+-year-old guest of any gender. We'll have a large tent available for shade and we will have fun, rain or shine.

Register now online, or call the Parish Office! Cost \$25 for one, and \$40 for two. As always, net proceeds from MoM events go toward MoM outreach efforts. We hope to see you all out at Pleasant Oaks Plantation!

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

FAITH FORMATION

- **DISCIPLE'S CLASS** - What Is Worship? - Speaker: The Rev'd Geoffrey M. St. J. Hoare - *The Lippitt Room or via Zoom*
- **FAITH DISCUSSIONS** - What does it mean to love God? - *The Stephen Ministry Room*
- **JUBI-LATTE ROUND TABLE** (6th-12th grades) - *Cookie's Office*

- **FAITH ADVENTURERS** (4th & 5th grades): *2nd Fl. Milton Hall*
- **FAITH BUILDERS** (2nd and 3rd graders): *2nd Fl. Milton Hall*
- **FAITH FOUNDATIONS** (K-5 & 1st grade): *2nd Fl. Milton Hall*
- **FAITH BUILT THROUGH WONDER** (3's & 4's): *2nd Fl. Milton Hall*

THIS EVENING

- **BREADBREAKERS: HOSPITALITY AT HOME** March 19 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | *The Hartman Home* ~ RSVP for Directions
- **SJP YOUTH: WATCH JESUS REVOLUTION** March 19 | 2:45 p.m. | *The Pointe 14*
- **FULL-COURT FELLOWSHIP** March 19 | 7:15-9:00 p.m. | *Perry Hall*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., MARCH 20-24

- MORNING PRAYER
8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom

MONDAY, MARCH 20

- LIVING WELL IN MIDST OF GRIEF
5:00 PM | Graham Parlor or via Zoom

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

- ECW: LADIES NIGHT OUT WITH SHERI CASTLE
6:00 PM Reception | Lippitt Room
7:00 PM Presentation | Great Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

- SJP YOUTH STARBUCKS BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY
11:00 AM | Graham Parlor or via Zoom

WEDNESDAY CONTINUED

- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Parish
- COMMITTEE FOR RACIAL UNITY
5:00 PM | Graham Parlor
- CHILDREN'S CHOIR
5:45 PM | St. James Parish
- WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER
6:00-7:00 PM | Perry Hall
- LENTEN SERIES: PASSION NARRATIVES OF JESUS CHRIST
7:00 PM | Great Hall or Zoom
- ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 PM | Choir Room

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

- PRAYING SHAPES BELIEVING
6:00 PM | Lippitt Room
- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
6:30 PM | Graham Parlor or Zoom

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- FAMILY BREAKFAST
8:30 - 9:30 AM | Great Hall
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
9:00 AM | St. James Parish & Online
- FAITH FORMATION HOUR
10:10 AM | St. James Parish
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
11:15 AM | St. James Parish & Online
- MEN ON A MISSION FELLOWSHIP
3:30-6:00 PM | Pleasant Oaks Plantation
- YOUTH GROUP: BASKET BUILDING
5:00-7:00 PM | Youth Room
- FULL COURT FELLOWSHIP
7:15 PM | Perry Hall

*To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Saviour;
to all who are idle and look for service; to all who are strangers
and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to whosoever will come—this church opens wide her doors.*

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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