

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY 26 MARCH 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

11:15 A.M.

Prelude

Processional Hymn 567

"Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old"

St. Matthew

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

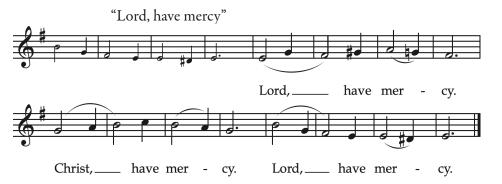
Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People His mercy endures for ever.

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**.





The Collect of the Day

p. 219

Holy Ghost

CelebrantPeopleCelebrantAnd also with you.Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1–14

The Holy Bible; NRSV, p.791

Commentary: Ezekiel was unique among Old Testament prophets in his focus on Israel as the holy people of the holy temple, the holy city and the holy land. By practicing defiled, idolatrous worship, Israel had become

unclean and therefore had corrupted the temple, the city and the land. Because of their willful disobedience, God withdrew from His people, judging them with national destruction and exile. However, Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones pictured the manner in which God would restore His people. God's faithfulness to His covenant and His desire to save meant that He would revive His people once more, cleansing them from defilement. God's promise was to restore Israel nationally and spiritually.

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O LORD GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the LORD GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the LORD GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

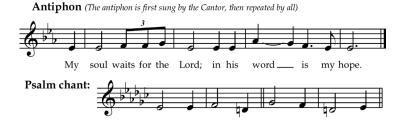
People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

"Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord"

De profundis



Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;

LORD, hear my / voice; *

let your ears consider well the voice of my suppli-/cation.

If you, LORD, were to note what is done a-/miss, * O LORD, who could / stand?

Antiphon

For there is forgiveness with / you; * therefore you shall be / feared.

I wait for the Lord; my soul / waits for him; * in his word is my / hope.

Antiphon

The Epistle: Romans 8:6–11

My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the / morning, * more than watchmen for the / morning.

O Israel, wait for the / LORD, * for with the LORD there is / mercy;

Second half of chant:

With him there is plenteous re-/demption, * and he shall redeem Israel from all their / sins.

Antiphon

NRSV, p. 1031

Commentary: Sanctification means progressive growth in Christ-likeness and sanctification is made possible through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, who indwells every believer. In these verses, Paul contrasted what it means to be controlled by the fallen human nature with what it means to be controlled by the Spirit. One path leads to death, the other leads to life. Although the mortal body is subject to death because of sin, the Holy Spirit is the source of unending spiritual life. The link connecting believers with Jesus Christ, making them participants in His resurrection, is the presence of the Holy Spirit.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. People

Sequence Hymn 510 "Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove"

Saint Agnes

The Holy Gospel: John 11:1–45

NRSV, p. 980

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ. People

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound

with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Nicene Creed Celebrant and People

The Sermon

p. 358

The Reverend Gray Hodsdon

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:

...We call to you, O Lord;

Lord, hear our voice.

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 Tune: Lytlington arr. John Sullivan

God be in my head, and in my understanding;

God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;

God be in my heart, and in my thinking;

God be at mine end, and at my departing.

Christ be in my mind, and in my seeking;

Christ be in my ears, and in my hearing;

Christ be in my hands, and in my serving;

Christ be in my feet, and in my walking; Christ, be at mine end, and at my departing.

Spirit be in my hope, and in my helping;

Spirit be in my soul, and in my praying;

Spirit be in my joy, and in my laughing;

Spirit be in my love, and in my learning;

Spirit be at mine end, and at my departing.

Presentation Hymn 143 "The glory of these forty days" fifth verse only Erhalt uns, Herr ther, Son, Spi - rit blest, three - fold prayer ad-dressed, who art

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the

on ly Lord.

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer B

Name

p. 367

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.

a - dored,

from

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.

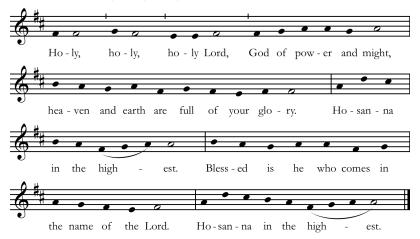
Here, a proper preface is said, then the Celebrant continues...

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



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,

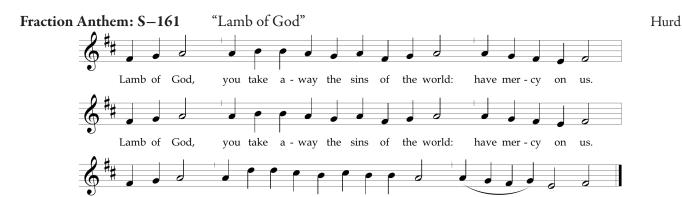
The Lord's Prayer p. 364

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.



you take a - way the sins of the world:

The Communion of the People

Lamb of God,

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

grant.

Communion Hymns

Hymn 457	"Thou art the Way, to thee alone"	St. James
Hymn 547	"Awake, O sleeper, rise from death"	Marsh Chapel
Hymn 508	"Breathe on me, Breath of God"	Nova Vida

The Postcommunion Prayer

p. 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

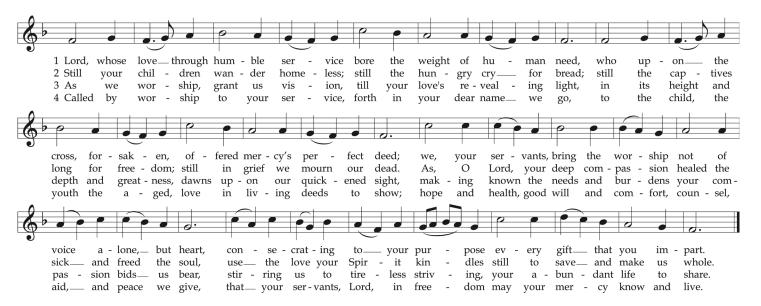
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

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 with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Celebrant: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard Organist& Choir Director: John Sullivan



Preacher: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon Clarinetist: Coleman Burgess

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Martha Patterson Kidder, George Everard Kidder, and Pat Kidder Crittenden

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

MEN ON A MISSION: CO-ED FELLOWSHIP EVENT

March 26 | 3:30-6:00 p.m. | RSVP for Directions Men on a Mission is having its first-ever all-inclusive fellowship event. Come enjoy this beautiful setting with a catered barbeque, drinks of all varieties, a bluegrass band, and lots of great fellowship. Each MoM member may bring one 21+-year-old guest of any gender. Cost \$25 for one, and \$40 for two. Net proceeds from MoM events go toward MoM outreach efforts. See you all out at Pleasant Oaks Plantation!

FULL-COURT FELLOWSHIP

March 26 | 7:15-9:00 p.m. | Perry Hall
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.
We'll take a break midway for a reflection
or devotional of some sort. Have questions
about this offering? Please reach out to Mark
at mark.bartholet@gmail.com.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

QUIET REFLECTION AT MT. LEBANON CHAPEL

April 1 | 7:30-8:30 a.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel Our lives, our communities, our world is noisy. We are bombarded all day long with much that asks for our attention. There is little space to slow down, be quiet, rest our spirits. If your spirit longs for this kind of quiet and rest, join us at Mt. Lebanon Chapel on the first Saturday of each month, beginning April 1, for a time of spiritual refreshment. This quiet space is offered from 7:30-8:30 AM. You are welcome to come for as much or as little of the hour as you wish. There will be interludes of quiet piano music during the hour. Some poems and prayers will be provided should you wish to have something to read in the silence, or bring your own reading material. There are no rules about how to do this, just an invitation and an offering to a beautiful, sacred space in which to sit and rest. ALL ARE WELCOME! Questions - email Linda at lindamurchison65@gmail.com.

MT. LEBANON CHAPEL CLEAN UP DAY

April 1 | 9:00-11:00a.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel Please mark your calendars and join a day of fun on Saturday, April 1st at Mount Lebanon Chapel starting at 9:00 am. We will be finetuning this sacred place of worship (building and grounds) for our spring services. There will be activities for everyone of all ages and abilities. Those attending are encouraged to bring gloves, eyewear, sturdy shoes, tarps, pruners of all sizes, blowers, and rakes.

BREAD BREAKERS: TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Sunday, April 2 | 1:00 p.m. | UNCW
Save the date for April 2nd! Instead of our usual Hospitality at Home potluck, we'll be gathering together for the UNCW vs. NC
A&T Baseball Game. The game starts at 1:00 p.m. Plan to RSVP for tickets by March 28th.
We've got a block of 50 (12&Up need tickets-Under 12 get in Free!) set aside for St. James
Breadbreakers thanks to Kevin and Taber
Tornes! RSVP online today!

ST. JAMES PARISH

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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.

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St. James Parish

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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