



# THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 2 JULY 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

**Gloria**

p. 324

**The Collect of the Day**

p. 178

O Almighty God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple acceptable unto thee; 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: Genesis 22:1–14**

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 17

*Commentary: In obedience to God's command, Abraham took Isaac, his promised heir, to the land of Moriah to sacrifice him to the Lord. This was the supreme faith test of Abraham's life, and the supreme victory. We can only imagine the heaviness of Abraham's heart on the two or three days' journey to the land of Moriah, the mountainous region around Jerusalem. Isaac was probably a young man at this time; Abraham displayed faith that obeys and Isaac displayed faith that cooperates. In Abraham's heart, the sacrifice was already accomplished when he raised the knife, and the requirements of God were fully satisfied. Abraham's sacrifice of the ram in Isaac's place expressed thanks and devotion to God. Abraham's faith was strengthened and he now had a greater appreciation of God as the One who will provide. This is the first explicit mention in the Bible of the substitutionary sacrifice of one life for another.*

God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

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.**

Jesus said, “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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

<b>The Sermon</b>	The Reverend Cheryl Brainard
<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
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>	

**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>	
<b>The Dismissal</b>	p. 339



*Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard*

*The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Mr. and Mrs. Louie E. Woodbury, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Doxey*

**ST. JAMES PARISH**

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