



# THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 30 JULY 2023

8:30 A.M. & 9:30 A.M.

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

### The Collect for Purity

p. 355

### Kyrie

p. 356

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

### The Collect of the Day

p. 231

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

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

### The Lesson: Romans 8:26–39

*Commentary: In the first part of Romans 8, Paul pointed out what God has done for believers. Now, Paul said believers have an obligation to respond appropriately to God, which can only be done with the Holy Spirit's help. The Spirit does not compel or force anyone to do God's will as slaves of God. Rather, the Spirit appeals to us to submit voluntarily, as children of God. As adopted children of God we are heirs, along with Jesus Christ, our brother. In light of eternity we can view the cost of suffering with Jesus Christ now as insignificant. Paul says that all creation suffers, even as it anticipates the day of full redemption. God's gift of the Holy Spirit at the beginning of the Christian life is His pledge that He will complete the process of salvation. Christian hope is based on faith that God has more in store for believers than is presently theirs.*

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of

God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52**

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

*People*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **The Sermon**

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

### **The Nicene Creed**

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*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:*

...Spirit, help us in our weakness.

**Intercede for us.**

*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

## The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer C

p. 369

*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.**

*Celebrant*     God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
*People*        **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Celebrant*     At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
*People*        **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Celebrant*     From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People*        **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Celebrant*     Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People*        **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Celebrant*     And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

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

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*Celebrant and People*

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

*The Celebrant continues...*

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*Celebrant and People*

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

*The Celebrant continues...*

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**The Communion of the People**

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

**The Postcommunion Prayer**

p. 365

**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**

**The Dismissal**

p. 366

*People* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**



*Celebrant: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard; Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.; Music: Steve Mueller*

## ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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