

The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday 3 September 2023

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 a.m.

Prelude



The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

People

Celebrant

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.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Collect for Pu	urity	p. 355
Gloria: S278	"Glory to God in the Highest"	William Mathias
The Collect o	of the Day	p. 233
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.	

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen**.

The First Lesson: Exodus 3:1-15

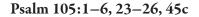
Commentary: Although Moses was raised in Pharaoh's palace, he never forgot his Hebrew roots. However, Moses' early and misguided attempt to help his brethren resulted in forty years' exile from his kinsmen and the land of his birth (see Exodus 2:11-25). In this passage, the Angel of the Lord is clearly not a messenger but God Himself. God explained to Moses the reason for this revelation: He had heard the cries of His people and now intended to deliver them. During his years as a shepherd in Midian, Moses had become genuinely humble and he distrusted his fitness and ability to lead. Moses still needed to learn that success in God's service did not depend on natural talent but on trust in, and obedience to, the Lord, who is sovereign and unchanging. The God who had been and always will be is the God who equips those He calls to serve.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

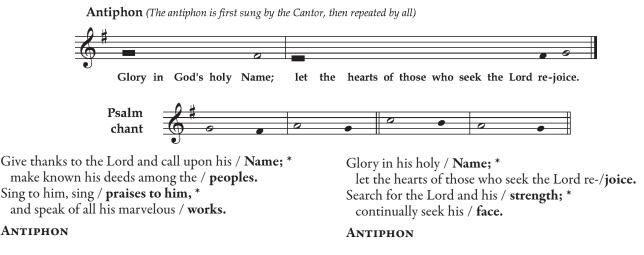
But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I he Is

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



People

Confitemini Domino



Remember the marvels he has / done, * his wonders and the judgments of his / mouth, O offspring of Abraham his / servant, * O children of Jacob his / chosen.

ANTIPHON

Israel came into / Egypt, * and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of / Ham. The Lord made his people exceedingly / fruitful; * he made them stronger than their / enemies;

ANTIPHON

Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his / people, * and dealt unjustly with his / servants. He sent Moses his / servant, * and Aaron whom he had chosen. Halle-/lujah

The Epistle: Romans 12:9–21

Commentary: In this part of his letter, Paul stressed the importance of sincere love as the basis for appropriate Christian behavior. Through the changing circumstances of life, believers can continue to look for ways to serve the Lord and His people. Prayer is a great resource for believers, one that is to be used faithfully. Feelings of superiority are neither reasonable nor appropriate for those who owe everything to God's grace. Paul advocated being a peacemaker whenever possible; instead of showing unkindness to an enemy, the believer should do him good. Basically, Paul was saying that the best way to get rid of an enemy is to turn him into a friend. Paul's words in these verses bear a strong resemblance to Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount (see Matthew 5-7).

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

"Book of books, our people's strength" Sequence Hymn 631 Liebster Jesu

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:21–28

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

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

The Sermon

People

The Reverend Jay Sidebotham

NRSV, p. 1036

NRSV, p. 896

The Nicene Creed *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:	
We glory in your holy name,	And offer to you our prayer, O Lord.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

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THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

King's Weston; Ralph Vaughan Williams *arr*. John Sullivan

Summer suns are glowing over land and sea; happy light is flowing, bountiful and free; everything rejoices in the mellow rays; all earth's thousand voices swell the psalm of praise.

God's free mercy streameth over all the world, and his banner gleameth, everywhere unfurled; broad and deep and glorious, as the heaven above, shines in might victorious his eternal love. Lord, upon our blindness thy pure radiance pour; for thy lovingkindness we would love thee more. And when clouds are drifting dark across the sky, then, the veil uplifting, Father, be thou nigh.

We will never doubt thee, though thou veil thy light; life is dark without thee, death with thee is bright. Light of light, shine o'er us on our pilgrim way; go thou still before us to the endless day.

~William Walsham How

Old 100th

Presentation Hymn

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer A

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd 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

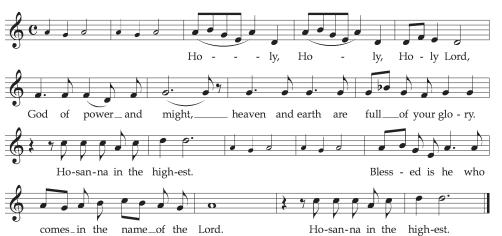
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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: S128

"Holy, holy, holy Lord"



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Mathias

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues, saying in the midst of the prayer: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues, concluding with:

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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,

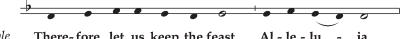
The Lord's Prayer

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

Fraction Anthem: \$152

Cantor Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.



There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia. People

The Communion of the People

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

Communion Hymns

Hymn 679	"Surely it is God who saves me"	Thomas Merton
Hymn 635	"If thou but trust in God to guide thee"	Wer nur den lieben Gott
Hymn 582	"Where charity and love prevail"	Cheshire

The Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

> And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

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Closing Hymn	"L	ord, whose l	love through humbl	e service"	Hyfrydol
6 • •	• • •	P			• .
2 Still 3 As		en wan - de ip, grant us	er home - less; still 1s vis - ion, till	the weight of hu - the hun - gry cry your love's re - veal - in your dear name	for bread;
& •	• • •	P •		• • • •	• 0.
who still in	the cap - tiv its height ar	es long for d depth and	- sak - en, of - free - dom; still l great - ness, dawns	in grief we mourn up - on our quick - e	fect deed; our dead. ened sight,
to	the child, the	e youth the	a - ged, love	in liv - ing deeds	to show;
•) we, As, mak	O Lord, yo		- pas - sion healed	of voicea - lone, the sick and freed com - passion bids	but heart, the soul, us bear,
hope	and health, go	od will and	com - fort, coun -	sel, aid, and peace	we give,
use	_ the love your - ring us to	Spir - it tire - less	kin - dles still striv - ing, your	to save and make u	m - part. 1s whole. to share. nd live.

The Dismissal

People

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

Postlude

* * *

Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Jay Sidebotham ~ Organist & Choir Director: John Sullivan The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paul Ingle and William Hale.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., SEPTEMBER 4-8

• MORNING PRAYER 8:00-8:30 AM| Zoom

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED All day
- FELLOWSHIP AA 7:00 PM| The Great Hall

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- SJDS ORIENTATION 10:00 - 11:13 AM |St. James Day School
- MEN ON A MISSION SERVE AT GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER 4:30-7:00 PM | Good Shepherd Center
- MEN'S AL ANON 5:15 PM | Lippitt Room
- COMMUNITY OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING 5:30 PM | St. James Parish

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- SJDS FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM| St. James Day School
- HIGH SCHOOL STARBUCKS BIBLE STUDY 7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- HOLY EUCHARIST 12:10 PM| St. James Parish

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- EVANGELISM COMMISSION MEETING 11:00 AM | Tatum Parlor
- CHOIR PRACTICE 7:00 PM| CHOIR ROOM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

• NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

• RISE AGAINST HUNGER 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM | Perry Hall

• CAPE FEAR RIVER WATCH CLEAN-UP

9:00-11:00 AM | Register for Location

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

• HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I 8:00 AM | St. James Parish

- WELCOME SUNDAY FAMILY BRUNCH 8:30 AM | St. James Parish
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II 10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Online
- LEMONADE & COOKIES 11:15 AM | St. James Lawn
- IGNITE: ILLUMINATE YOUTH & PARENTS 5:00 PM | BISHOP WRIGHT ROOM

UPCOMING EVENTS

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Saturday, September 9th | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Perry Hall

We're partnering again this year with Rise Against Hunger to combat food shortages around the globe. Rise Against Hunger allows us to serve folks in 76 different countries who are experiencing hunger and food insecurity. Our goal this year is to sign up 250 volunteers to pack over 50,000 meals! Register online now. If you have any questions about this event, please reach out to Don Brainard at *dabrainard12@gmail.com*.

WELCOME SUNDAY

Sunday, September 10th | St. James Parish

We are so excited to be worshiping this fall with a new Sunday service schedule. Make plans to join us on September 10, 2023 to help us kick off a new season of worship, faith formation, and fellowship. Visit the website to see all of the wonderful things happening on Welcome Sunday, *stjamesp.org/welcomesunday/*. Learn about our new evening Youth Gathering: IGNITE! and this year's Blessing of the Backpacks.

1st ANNUAL JAZZ & RACE SYMPOSIUM

Saturday, September 16th | 1:30-7:30 p.m. | RSVP Deadline Sept. 8 The Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina invites you to participate in the 1st Annual Jazz and Race Symposium. This educational event will focus on the intersectionality of jazz and African American history. Attendees will hear from Presidential Volunteer Service Award Winner Dr. Catherine Meeks and jazz musician the Rev. Skip Walker. The event is free, suggested donations start at \$25.

"TELLING YOUR STORY" GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY CLASS

7 Wednesday mornings, September 20 to November 1, 2023 9:00 to 11:00 Guided Autobiography Class offers a series of themes and resources to help you recall, organize and write your stories, two pages at a time. Research shows that this class is very stimulating for the brain. Telling your story can be deeply satisfying and may help you to grow spiritually. Some stories may become legacy gifts for your family. Please note that classes and resources build on each other, so this is not a "drop-in" class. To register, please contact the Rev. Cheryl Brainard at *cheryl@stjamesp.org* by September 11th. The cost is \$45 (scholarships available) and space is limited.

PARISH RETREAT

September 29 - October 1

The 2023 Parish Retreat will be here before we know it. Make plans to join the St. James Parish family at the Trinity Center September 29-October 1. Registration is online now. Come and be a part of some spiritually driven, fun and engaging offerings for all ages! Have questions about the retreat? Reach out to Erin Becker at *communications@stjamesp.org*.

FALL WEEKDAYS AT-A-GLANCE

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER Monday-Friday | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

MONDAYS

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY Mondays beginning September 11 | 11:00 AM

GRIEF MINISTRY: LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF & LOSS 1st and 3rd Mondays | 5:00 PM | Zoom & Graham Parlor

SABBATH EXPLORATION GROUP

2nd & 4th Mondays beginning September 25th | 5:00 p.m. | Youth Room

TUESDAYS

COMMUNITY OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING Tuesdays beginning September 5 | 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

HIGH SCHOOL STARBUCKS BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays beginning September 6 | 7:00 a.m. | 16th St. Starbucks

TELLING YOUR STORY Through guided Autobiography

Wednesdays beginning September 20 | 9:00 a.m. | Graham Parlor

WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY: HEBREWS FOR EVERYONE Wednesdays beginning September 13 |11:00 a.m. | Graham Parlor or Zoom

HOLY EUCHARIST Wednesdays | 12:10 p.m. | St. James Chapel

THURSDAYS

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY Thursdays beginning September 14th | 6:30 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSAL Thursdays beginning September 7 | 7:00 p.m.

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the September 11th Digital Grapevine is Thursday, September 7th. The deadline for the October Grapevine Magazine is September 24th. Email *communications@stjamesp.org*.

St. James Parish

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr., Rector

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