



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 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. 182

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: Romans 14:1–12

The Holy Bible *NRSV*, p. 1036

Commentary: God does not specify exactly what to do in every situation and as Christ's followers live out their faith, Paul realized that some would do one thing and some another, both within God's will. Here was the dilemma: how should these differences of opinion and application be handled? Paul explained that believers can disagree on nonessentials while maintaining unity within the church. Paul stressed the importance of not judging one another. What matters is seeking to please the Lord in all that is done. Every Christian is a servant of God and it is to that Master all must answer, not to any other fellow servant. We are to treat each other with forbearance and respect, remembering that Jesus is Lord of all.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.**

The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

**The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

**You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?**

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21–35

NRSV, p.898

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

The Nicene Creed

p. 327

The Prayers of the People

p. 328

Confession of Sin

p. 330

The Peace

p. 332

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer II	p. 340
Sanctus	p. 341
The Lord's Prayer	p. 336
The Breaking of the Bread	p. 337
Prayer of Humble Access	p. 337
The Communion of the People	<i>Gluten-free wafers available upon request</i> p. 338
Prayer of Thanksgiving	p. 339
The Blessing	
Closing Hymn 478	<i>Monk's Gate</i>

1 Je - sus, our might-y Lord, our strength in sad - ness,
2 Good shep - herd of your sheep, your own de - fend - ing,
3 Glo - rious their life who sing, with glad thanks - giv - ing,
the Fa - ther's con - quering Word, true source of glad - ness;
in love your chil - dren keep to life un - end - ing.
true hymns to Christ the King in all their liv - ing:
your Name we glo - ri - fy, O Je - sus, throned on high;
You are your - self the Way: lead us then day by day
all who con - fess his Name, come then with hearts a - flame;
you gave your - self to die for our sal - va - tion.
in your own steps we pray, O Lord most ho - ly.
the God of peace ac - claim as Lord and Sa - vior.

The Dismissal	p. 339
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Celebrant: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Louis B. & Bessie S. Orrell
Thomas R. Orrell, Elizabeth O. & Charles S. Parker

UPCOMING EVENTS

BREAD BREAKERS: SEPTEMBER HOSPITALITY AT HOME

Sunday, September 24th | 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. | The Trask Home

The St. James Bread Breakers' are hosting Hospitality at Home in September! The Trask Family is signed up to host this great event.

We invite everyone to bring a side dish and join us at 4:00 p.m. on the designated day to enjoy time together in a family-friendly atmosphere for a potluck-style dinner. Kids, Friends, and Guests are welcomed! If you'd like an adult beverage and are of age, please feel free to BYOB. Have questions? Reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

PARISH RETREAT - IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER!

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.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Wednesday, October 4 | 5:45-6:15 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

All are invited to bring your non-human family members to our Annual Blessing of the Animals on Tuesday, October 4 at Mt. Lebanon Chapel from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. We'll celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi by blessing our furry, feathered, or even scaled, friends!

Please make sure all pets are appropriately leashed or contained.

NEWCOMER MINGLE - AKA - THE HARDY PARTY

Sunday, October 8 | 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

This fall, the 'Hardy Party' is BACK and all newcomers are invited. Sunday, October 8, Join us at the beautiful waterside home of Drs. Marie and Stuart Hardy off of Greenville Loop Road. Directions will be shared with those who RSVP as we draw closer to event day. Get to know each other, the Vestry and the Clergy at this fun event featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres, plenty of parking and childcare onsite with advance registration. This is the premier church community event for newcomers and you'll want to attend. Stay tuned for how to RSVP!

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY: STUFF THE TRUCK

Saturday, October 14 | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | St. Paul's

2SHARE Inc. is hosting its first Stuff the Truck fundraiser on Saturday October 14th from 10am-2pm in the parking lot of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. They are asking for donations of new linens and household items including twin & full sheets sets, twin & full blankets/quilts/comforters, pillows, sets of flatware, sets of pots and pans, bath towel sets, bath mats, shower curtains and curtain rings, mattress covers, lamps, lamp shades, and metal platform bed frames. Please stop by and help us Stuff the Truck! For more information on 2SHARE visit 2shareinc.org.

FALL WEEKDAYS AT-A-GLANCE

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER

Monday-Friday | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

MONDAYS

GRIEF MINISTRY: LIVING WELL
IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF & LOSS

*1st and 3rd Mondays | 5:00 PM | Zoom &
Graham Parlor*

SABBATH EXPLORATION
GROUP

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

TUESDAYS

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Tuesdays | 11:00 AM

COMMUNITY OF HOPE
INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

Tuesdays beginning September 5 | 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY
AT STARBUCKS

Wednesdays | 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 | 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 | 7:00 p.m.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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