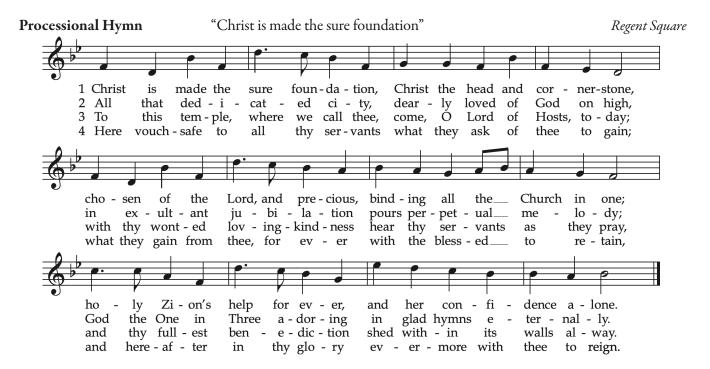


THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II 10:15 A.M.

Prelude



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.

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

CelebrantPeopleCelebrantAnd also with you.Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

The Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14

Commentary: Paul spent many years as a proud Jewish man. His identity and self-worth had everything to do with his heritage and zealous loyalty to the Law of Moses, advantages he believed made him acceptable to God. However, Paul came to realize that his advantages were actually hindrances to his relationship with God because they strengthened his false hope of salvation, which comes not by ancestry or works, but by faith in Jesus Christ. A good family name, growing up in the church, these are certainly privileges, but they are not a ticket to heaven. Paul now understood that absolutely nothing apart from Jesus' work on the cross was of any value in gaining God's acceptance, that no status or good works improve standing before God. Now, Paul lived for the purpose of growing in his relationship with Christ so that Christ's power could be manifested in his life, to the glory of God.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

After the reading, the children leave for Children's Chapel.

Sequence Hymn 546

"Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve"

Siröe

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:33–46

NRSV, p.901

The Holy Bible; NRSV, p. 1072

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

The Nicene Creed p. 358

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: ...Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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

"Christ, whose glory fills the skies"

T. F. H. Candlyn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light, Sun of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o'er the shades of night; Dayspring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee; Joyless is the day's return Till Thy mercy's beams I see; Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief; Fill me, Radiancy divine, Scatter all my unbelief; More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

~ Charles Wesley

Presentation Hymn

Old 100th

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 B

p. 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

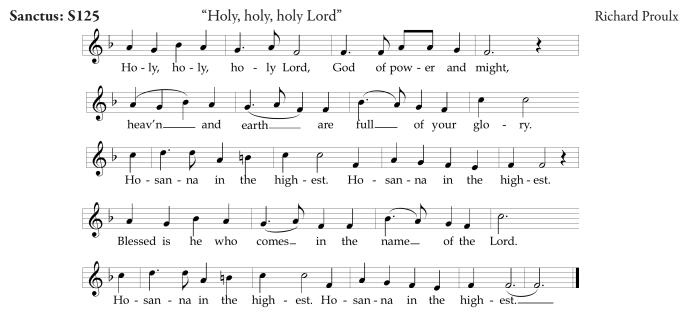
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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:



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.

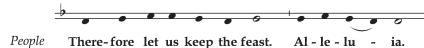
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

p. 364

Fraction Anthem: \$152

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.



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

Communion Hymns

Hymn 698 "Eternal Spirit of the living Christ" Flentge "The great creator of the worlds" Tallis' Ordinal **Hymn 489 Hymn 431** "The stars declare his glory" Aldine

The Postcommunion Prayer

The Communion of the People

p. 366

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. **Closing Hymn 598**

"Lord, Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth"

Mit Freuden zart

The Dismissal p. 366

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. People

Postlude



Celebrant: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr. Organist & Choir Director: John Sullivan

The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Edward Manning Hardin, Lauriston Hardin Clarkson, Virginia Farmer Hardin and Julian Wright Clarkson.

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

FAITH FORMATION HOUR

- DISCIPLES' CLASS: "Fruit of the Spirit, Part I" with the Rev. Robert Bayley- Meets in the Lippitt Room or Via Zoom
- •FAITH DISCUSSIONS: Meets in the Stepehen Ministry Room
- JUBI-LATTE ROUND TABLE: Meets on Youth Hall
- SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR 3 Yrs.-5th GRADES: Meets 2nd Floor Milton Hall

LATER TODAY

- NEWCOMER MINGLE: 4:00 PM Hosted by the Drs. Stuart and Marie Hardy
- IGNITE: THE JOURNEY BEGINS: 5:00 PM Join our St. James Youth in the Bishop Wright Room

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., OCTOBER 9-13

• MORNING PRAYER 8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

- SABBATH EXPLORATION GROUP 5:00 PM | Group Member's Home
- VESTRY MEETING 5:15 PM | Graham Parlor
- FELLOWSHIP AA 7:00 PM | The Great Hall

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 9:00 AM | Register for Location
- COMMUNITY OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING 5:30 PM | Register for Location

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY 7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY CLASS 9:00 AM | Stephen Ministry Room
- HEBREWS FOR EVERYONE $11{:}00~\mathrm{AM}\,|\,$ Graham Parlor or Zoom
- HOLY EUCHARIST 12:10 PM | St. James Parish

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 6:30 PM | Register for Location
- CHOIR PRACTICE 7:00 PM | CHOIR ROOM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

• NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

- COHI TRAINING RETREAT 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM | Registration Required
- 2SHARE: STUFF THE TRUCK 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | St. Paul's
- SERVING OUR NEIGHBOR: ST. MARY'S 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | St. Mary's in Burgaw

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I 8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- FAMILY BREAKFAST 8:30 AM | Great Hall
- FAITH FORMATION | SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:10 AM | St. James Parish
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II 10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Online
- HOSPITALITY AT HOME 4:00 PM | The Clark Home - RSVP
- IGNITE! YOUTH GATHERING 5:00 PM | Bishop Wright Room

FROM THE RECTOR

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:18-20

Dear St. James Parish Family,

What an amazing prayer by Paul - a true affirmation of the power that comes through God's grace and hope for each of us, individually, and also for the mission and ministry of St. James Parish.

When we gather together in worship, or in small groups, support our young people, or offer our time in service, we celebrate that Jesus changed everything and that God is now sending us, every single one of us, into the world to share and live out the good news. That's what we are about as followers of Christ.

This season we now embrace and honor the fellowship and good work that our mutual financial stewardship plants and supports. Your designated and personally meaningful pledge for 2024 allows us to prayerfully plan our programs and outreach for the year to come. Such endeavors require firm and dedicated budgets. With our campus, programs and outreach partners, a strong budget is crucial to our ministries both to our parish family and to our wider community.

I want to echo the words of our 2024 Stewardship Committee leaders and thank you for your strong and faithful investment in St. James Parish. The manner by which you specifically pledge your financial resource allows us to make a real difference in the lives of the people that we serve in Jesus' name. Just like Paul, we

celebrate that there is a power at work within us, as God's people, to accomplish abundantly

far more than all we can ask or imagine. Blessings,

tilup+

The Rev. C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

phillip@stjamesp.org

Stewardship 2024 is underway.

Here's a quick snapshot of where we stand. 53 pledges totalling \$310,084

Thank you to those who have pledged so far!



William Baggett Mark & Chelsey Bartholet Michael & Erin Becker Donald & The Rev. Cheryl Brainard Shari Gardner Henry & Linda Brown Mike & Jamie Brown Zachary Bugg & Scott Judson Rosa Champney Jack Clark & Mary Denison Bram & Rachel Colonna Ron & Wanda Copley Web & Florence Ellen Cowden LucyWest Craig The Rev. Phillip & Jennifer Craig Jim & Andrea Crumpton David & Kay Dougherty Doug & Bailey Echols Mary Evans

Dennis Fish & Beth Souther Tim & Pat Ford John & Mary Ann Furniss Dean & Mary Frere Gornto Hunter & Michelle Gray Tom & Hope Hackler Frank & Berta Hamilton Marilyn Harding The Rev. Gray & Catie Hodsdon Donald & Sue Jaeckel David & Leslie Jarrett David Joyner Jim & Anne Lanier Lloyd & Diane MacAskill Al & Jane Marr Timothy Marvin Jane McGann

Tony & Kristine Montalto Justin & Tammy Norwood Cy & Grace Oberle Greg & Ann Richardson Jane Rippy Turner & Sarah Schaeffer Billy & Jean Smith Lin & Mandy Spears Ann Stuart Allen & Erin Trask William & Ansley Trask Tom & Brandon Tully Allen Van Dyke Ed & Barbara Whitesides Ginny Woodruff Bob Workmon Adair Wright

St. James Parish

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr., Rector

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