



THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER 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

Kyrie

p. 324

The Collect of the Day

p. 183

Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 2:1–8

The Holy Bible *NRSV*, p. 1077

Commentary: Paul wrote this epistle to encourage the Thessalonian believers and he also wanted to correct misinformation about himself that was being circulated by some of his critics. Paul reminded the Thessalonians that the motivation for his ministry was, above all else, the desire to please God. He did this to strengthen their confidence in him and to counteract the effects of accusations being directed against him. Paul declared his message was true, his motives pure and his methods straightforward. Paul had acted as God's faithful servant and his life and ministry powerfully demonstrated love for God and neighbor.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1–6, 13–17

read responsively by whole verse

Domine, refugium

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
“Go back, O child of earth.”

4 For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

- 13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.
- 14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.**
- 15 Make us glad by the measure of the days
that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
- 16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.**
- 17 May the graciousness of the LORD
our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:34–46

NRSV, p.902

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet”’?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Gray Hodsdon

The Nicene Creed

p. 327

The Prayers of the People

p. 328

Confession of Sin

p. 330

The Peace

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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 423	"Immortal, invisible, God only wise" <i>St. Denio</i>



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

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

The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
John Nelson & Mable Davis Alexius, John Nelson Alexius Jr.,
Harold Davis and Margaret Bellamy Alexius, and Catherine Alexius Emerson

UPCOMING EVENTS

TONIGHT SOCK HOP: PARISH DANCE

Sunday, October 29 | 5:00-7:00 pm | Perry Hall

Our St. James Youth invite you to participate in our Sock Hop: Parish Dance. Come with a bag of socks for our neighbors in need and get ready to dance the night away. We'll be enjoying some classic tunes from the 50's & 60's, root beer floats, and some old fashioned fun! Help us stock our ice cream bar by letting us know you plan to attend! RSVP now online.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY | REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

Due date for name submissions: Wednesday, November 1st

During our morning services on Sunday, November 5 (All Saints' Sunday), we will remember the dearly departed as we toll the bell during the Prayers of the People. If you have someone from the past year whom you wish to remember, please call the church by Wednesday, November 1st (910-763-1628) or fill out the form online.

ST. JAMES ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS

Sessions on November 2, 9, & 16 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Newcomers, those who have been a part of our community for less than a year, are encouraged to be a part of our St. James Orientation for Newcomers (SJON) Series. Meet us in the Great Hall to learn about the Episcopal tradition, St. James Parish's mission and ministries, and meet the clergy. The SJON Series is a great way to connect with others in our parish family and find programs and ministries to suit your interests. Childcare provided with reservation. Have questions about the SJON Series? Reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK & LUMINARIES

Sunday, November 5 | 2:00 - 5:30 p.m. | New Hanover High School

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's (AFSP) Wilmington area "Out of the Darkness Community Walk" will take place on Sunday, November 5, at New Hanover High School, Market Street. The "St. James Youth Ministries 2023 Out of the Darkness Team" would like to invite ST. JAMES Parishioners, Families, Friends and Neighbors to join our 2023 Out of the Darkness Team. Please You may volunteer to help during the event and/or you may support this cause by asking friends and family to donate money to support this extremely important Walk. You may also support this important event by donating to the St. James Youth Out of the Darkness Project or purchasing a Luminary in honor or in memory of someone who has been impacted by suicide or is a guiding light in the fight against the darkness. Please direct any questions to Jane Rippey - janeripppy@yahoo.com, Louise Rippey Lane - louise.Lane@tritech.com, or to Cookie Cantwell - cookie@stjamesp.org.

LECTOR TRAINING

Sunday, November 5 | 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | St. James Parish

Want to read or lead the prayers of the people on Sunday Mornings? New and established Lectors are invited to join us for Lector Training on Sunday, November 5th following the 10:15 a.m. Service.

UPCOMING OUTREACH PROJECTS

ANGEL TREE PROJECT

Sunday, November 5 | Gifts Due Dec. 3

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern North Carolina's Christmas Gift program is in full flight! This year St. James Parish has adopted 125 Angels. You can start picking up your Angel Tree tags on Sunday, Nov. 5 outside of the church service. We have such generous hearts at St. James! We would like to remind everyone to please make sure to keep within the spending limit of \$25-35 to help prevent accidental disparities between what each child receives. If you'd like to give more, please consider adopting additional children. If you have questions about this year's participation in the Angel Tree Project, please reach out to Rachel Colonna at rcolonna85@gmail.com.

MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER

Tuesday, November 7th | 4:30- 7:00 p.m.

The MoM Squad has agreed to serve meals to the homeless on the first and third Tuesday of each month and the fourth Thursday of each month. Please let us know if you would like to serve. Shifts run from 4:30 PM to about 7 PM. The guys who have already done this found it to be a very simple, yet highly rewarding, experience. If you can stand for 45 minutes, you can do this! Reach out to Brian McMerty at bmcmetry@arris.partners to volunteer!

2SHARE FURNITURE PICK-UP

2Share is a small group of local volunteers who take in furniture donations that we then delivered to those in need in our community. There are regular opportunities to serve alongside this group! If you would like to participate, please contact: Alex Murchison, alexmurchison@gmail.com.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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