



THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER 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

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Kyrie

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The Collect of the Day

p. 184

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that, by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

The Holy Bible *NRSV*, p. 1079

Commentary: Because Jesus Christ could return to earth at any time, Paul exhorted the Thessalonians to be watchful, to stay alert and be ready. Paul reiterated what he had previously taught, that the day of the Lord would come as a surprise. For Christians, deliverance from divine wrath is certain because Jesus Christ died as our substitute and took all of God's wrath against our sin on Himself. This sure hope is a firm basis for mutual encouragement and edification among believers awaiting Christ's return.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 123

read responsively by whole verse

Ad te levavi oculos meos

1 To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the LORD our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

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

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People

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Confession of Sin

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The Peace

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Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer II

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Sanctus

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The Lord’s Prayer

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The Breaking of the Bread

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Prayer of Humble Access

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The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers available upon request

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

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The Blessing

1 O Christ, the Word In-car-nate, O Wis-dom from on high,
 2 The Church from our dear Mas-ter re-ceived the word di-vine,
 3 O make thy Church, dear Sa-vior, a lamp of pur-est gold,
 O Truth, un-changed, un-chang-ing, O Light of our dark sky;
 and still that light is lift-ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be-fore the na-tions thy true light as of old;
 we praise thee for the ra-diance that from the scrip-ture's page,
 It is the chart and com-pass that o'er life's surg-ing sea,
 O teach thy wan-dering pil-grims by this their path to trace,
 a lan-tern to our foot-steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid till, mists and rocks and quick-sands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.
 clouds and dark-ness end-ed, they see thee face to face.

The Dismissal

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Celebrant: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

Preacher: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

Organist: John Sullivan

*The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
 Charlotte S. Murchison, David R. Murchison, Jr., David R. Murchison III,
 Sallie L. Harrison, and Horace H. Harrison.*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., NOVEMBER 20-24

- MORNING PRAYER
8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF
5:00 PM | Graham Parlor or via Zoom
- FELLOWSHIP AA
7:00 PM | The Great Hall

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
9:00 AM | Register for Location
- SJDS THANKSGIVING PROGRAM
11:00 AM | Great Hall
- MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER
4:30 PM | Good Sheperd Center

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- SJDS & SJP OFFICE CLOSED**
- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY AT JIMBOS
8:00 AM | Jimbo's on College Road

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23**THANKSGIVING DAY****SJDS & SJP OFFICE CLOSED**

- THANKSGIVING MORNING PRAYER
8:00 AM | Zoom
- MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER
4:30 PM | Good Sheperd Center

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- SJDS & SJP OFFICE CLOSED**
- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- SUNRISE SERENITY AL ANON
8:00 AM | Bishop Wright Room

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- 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

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the November 27th Digital Grapevine is Friday, November 24th.

The deadline for the December Grapevine Magazine is November 27th. Email communications@stjamesp.org.

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

FAITH FORMATION & SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR *Sunday, November 19 | 9:10 a.m. | St. James Parish*

- DISCIPLE'S CLASS: "Living Into What Matters" Speaker: The Rev. Geoffrey Hoare- *Meets in the Lippitt Room - ZOOM*
- FAITH DISCUSSIONS: *Meets in the Stephen Ministry Room*
- JUBI-LATTE ROUND TABLE: *Meets in the Youth Room*
- SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR 3 Yrs.-5th GRADES: *Meets on the 2nd Floor of Milton Hall*

THIS AFTERNOON AT ST JAMES

- THANKSGIVING SERVICE: 5:00 PM at Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Our St. James Youth will be leading us in a special time of thanksgiving and worship at Mt. Lebanon Chapel. Join us as "we gather together to ask the Lord's Blessing" and as we ponder all for which we can be thankful! Everyone is welcome... people of all ages. Let's share our Blessings and Thanksgivings!

UPCOMING EVENTS

THANKSGIVING MORNING PRAYER

Thursday, November 23, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

Join us for a special edition of Morning Prayer as we gather to greet the day on Thanksgiving Day! Before turning into the parade, join us online as we gather in prayer to give thanks to God. Questions? Reach out to communications@stjamesp.org.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

Begins Nov. 29 | 11:00 AM | Grabam Parlor or Zoom

The Wednesday following Thanksgiving, our Wednesday Bible Study group will kick off their Advent Study. Please come as you are able.

ADVENT MORNING-MINI RETREAT: WATCHING & WAITING

Saturday, December 2 | 9:00-11:30 a.m. | Lippitt Room

Join us for a mini-retreat led by Linda Murchison and Rev. Mary McKnight. Through poetry, Scripture and prayer practices, we will explore waiting and watching for Jesus to be born again in our lives, our hearts, our communities, our world. Along with Mary, the mother of Jesus, we will wait, watch, make space, ponder, and anticipate anew what the birth of Jesus means. Childcare is available with advance registration.

OLD WILMINGTON BY CANDLELIGHT

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023 | 4:00-8:00 p.m. & Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023 | 1:00-5:00 p.m.

This December, St. James will be joining the Latimer House and other historical downtown landmarks in opening our doors to our community for a candlelight tour. If you would like to learn more about this event or join us in greeting our neighbors, please email communications@stjamesp.org.

LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, December 3, 2023 | 5:00 p.m.

Make plans to join us for Lessons and Carols featuring our St. James Choir! Together we'll welcome the season of Advent with song and scripture.

UPCOMING OUTREACH PROJECTS

ANGEL TREE PROJECT

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 may pick up your Angel Tree tags on Sunday, outside of the church service. If you'd like to give more, please consider adopting additional children. 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

Thursday, November 23rd | 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. If you can stand for 45 minutes, you can do this! Reach out to Brian McMerty at bmcmetry@arrispartners.com to volunteer!

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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