



HOLY BAPTISM

THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2023

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

Prelude

Processional Hymn 494

“Crown him with many crowns”

Diademata

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 299

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**
There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

p. 236

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 788

Commentary: The last major section of Ezekiel, chapters 33-48, focuses on the future restoration of Israel's blessing due to the faithfulness of Israel's glorious God. Although Israel would be judged for her sins, the nation would not remain under judgment forever. God set Israel apart as His special people and He will fulfill His promises to her. The Lord promised to search for His people, care for them and bring them back to their own land. The Lord also promised to set over His sheep one shepherd, His servant, David. David was the model shepherd of sheep and the model king of Israel, preparing the way for his greater descendant and Israel's true King, Jesus Christ.

Thus says the LORD GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the LORD GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the LORD GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 100

Jubilate Deo

Antiphon (The antiphon is first sung by the Cantor, then repeated by all)



Be joyful in the LORD, all you / **lands**; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a / **song**.
Know this: The LORD himself is / **God**; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his / **pasture**

ANTIPHON

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with / **praise**; *
give thanks to him and call upon his / **Name**.
For the LORD is good;
his mercy is ever-/**lasting**; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to / **age**.

ANTIPHON

The Epistle: Ephesians 1:15–23

NRSV, p. 1066

Commentary: In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul's emphasis is on the church as Christ's body, where Jewish and Gentile believers are united in love for God and for each other. Paul wrote that intellectual understanding is a starting point, not a destination; it is important to use what we know to deepen our relationship with God. By making us His inheritance, God has shown His love. By promising us a wonderful future, God has encouraged our hope. By raising Jesus from the dead and seating Him in heaven where He presently reigns over the church, God demonstrated His all-surpassing power. In the future, God's power will be manifested when Jesus Christ is made the Head over all creation.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 645

“The King of love my shepherd is”

St. Columba

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:31–46

NRSV, p.906

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

Baptism Hymn 295

"Sing praise to our creator"

Christus, der ist mein Leben

**THE HOLY BAPTISM
OF
ALDEN LYON DAWSON**

Parents - James and Kate Dawson

Godparents - Chat Coble and Edward Dawson

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 301

Priest

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present Alden Lyon Dawson to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Priest

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Priest

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Priest asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infant

Question

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer

I renounce them.

Question

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer

I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer **I do.**

The Priest addresses the congregation, saying

Priest Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Priest Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

p. 304

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Priest Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Priest Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Priest Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidate

p. 305

Priest Let us now pray for Alden who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Priest Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

p. 306

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Priest touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

p. 307

Priest Alden, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
 Alden, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.
Amen.

Priest Let us pray.
 Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Priest and People
We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

p. 308

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Christopher Tye

Give almes of thy goods, and turn never thy face from any poor man,
and then the face of the Lord shall not be turned away from thee.

Offertory Sentence from The Book of Common Prayer

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 A

p. 361

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:

Sanctus: S129

“Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Robert Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

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

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: S152

Cantor Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.



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

The Communion of the People

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

Communion Hymns

Hymn

“Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face”

Penitencia



1 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
2 Here would I feed up - on the Bread of God,
3 I have no help but thine; nor do I need
4 Mine is the sin, but thine the right - eous - ness:



here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen;
here drink with thee the roy - al Wine of heaven;
an - oth - er arm save thine to lean up - on;
mine is the guilt, but thine the cleans - ing Blood.



here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,
it is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;
Here is my robe, my re - fuge, and my peace;



and all my wea - ri - ness up - on thee lean.
here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - given.
my strength is in thy might, thy might a - lone.
thy Blood, thy right - eous - ness, O Lord my God!

Hymn 382

“King of glory, King of peace”

General Seminary

Hymn 383

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

St. Elizabeth

The Postcommunion Prayer

p. 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 544

"Jesus shall reign where'er the sun"

Duke Street

The Dismissal

p. 366

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



Celebrant: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
Children's Chapel: 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
Marsden Bellamy Sr. & Sue Clark Bellamy; Marsden Bellamy Jr. & Jane Snyder Bellamy;
Virginia Bellamy Ruffin & Peter Browne Ruffin; Betty & Clark Bellamy;
W. Victor Venters, II & Marsden Bellamy Venters, Jane Bellamy Venters
Hugh MacRae II*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., NOV. 27 - DEC. 1

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- SABBATH EXPLORATION GROUP
5:00 PM | Member Home
- FELLOWSHIP AA
7:00 PM | The Great Hall

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
9:00 AM | Registration Req.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- ADVENT BIBLE STUDY
11:00 AM | Graham Parlor or Zoom
- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Chapel

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
6:30 PM | Graham Parlor
- CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 PM | Choir Room

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

- QUIET REFLECTION
7:30 - 8:30 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel
- ADVENT MINI-RETREAT:
WATCHING & WAITING
9:00-11:30 AM | RSVP Online
- OLD WILMINGTON BY CANDLELIGHT
4:00-8:00 PM | St. James Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- FAMILY BREAKFAST
8:30 AM | Great Hall
- ADVENT WREATH EVENT
9:10 AM | BISHOP WRIGHT ROOM |
RSVP ONLINE or BY PHONE
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Online
- OLD WILMINGTON BY CANDLELIGHT
1:00-5:00 PM | St. James Church
- LESSONS & CAROLS
5:00 PM | St. James Church

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the December 4th Digital Grapevine is Friday, December 1st.
The deadline for the January Grapevine Magazine is December 27th. Email communications@stjamesp.org.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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