

# THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday 4 February 2024

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

#### Prelude

**Processional Hymn 381** 

"Thy strong word did cleave the darkness"

Ton-y-Botel

#### THE WORD OF GOD

#### **Opening Acclamation**

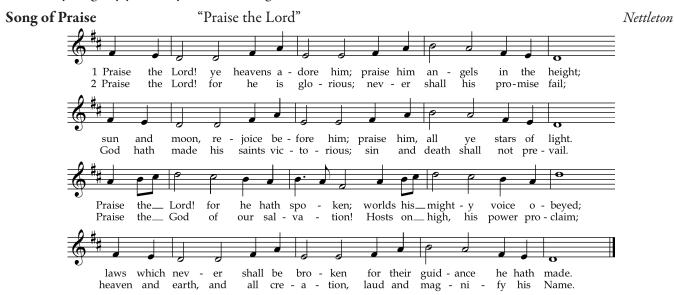
The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Presider 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 p. 215

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

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Commentary: Isaiah's emphasis in these verses is God as the ruler of all creation. God has given to human beings both the objective revelation of Himself and the ability to understand its implications. The same God who created the world presides over its affairs. All decision makers in the world are really under God's authority; He is sovereign. The Jewish people thought God had forgotten them, but Isaiah encouraged them to open their eyes and ears to what they knew about their God. He is eternal, the covenant-keeper, the untiring Creator; He is beyond human comprehension. Circumstances may overcome the most vigorous young people, but those who wait on the Lord will receive divine strength to face all obstacles.

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:1–12, 21c Laudate Dominum

#### Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our / God! \* how pleasant it is to honor him with / praise! The Lord rebuilds Je-/rusalem; \* he gathers the exiles of / **Israel.** 

#### ANTIPHON

He heals the broken-/hearted \* and binds up their / wounds. He counts the number of the / stars \* and calls them all by their / names.

#### ANTIPHON

Great is our Lord and mighty in / power; \* there is no limit to his / wisdom. The Lord lifts up the / lowly, \* but casts the wicked to the / ground.

#### ANTIPHON

Sing to the Lord with / thanksgiving; \* make music to our God upon the / harp. He covers the heavens with / clouds \* and prepares rain for the / earth;

#### ANTIPHON

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





He makes grass to grow upon the / mountains \* and green plants to serve man-/kind. He provides food for flocks and / herds \* and for the young ravens when they / cry.

#### **ANTIPHON**

He is not impressed by the might of a / horse; \* he has no pleasure in the strength of a / man; But the Lord has pleasure in those who / fear him, \* in those who await his gracious favor. Halle-/lujah!

#### ANTIPHON

Commentary: Paul had defended his right to the Corinthians' support (see 1 Corinthians 9:1-15). Now, Paul argued for his right to do without that support. It was Paul's decision to support himself while he preached freely, the Lord did not require this of him. Since Paul chose not to receive pay for his ministry he was indebted to no one, leaving him free to become the slave of all. Paul's decisions about what he did or did not do were based on two things: obedience to God and the welfare of others. The work of the gospel was Paul's divine calling. As the Lord's servant, Paul made himself subject to all so that he might win some to Christ.

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. People

During the Sequence Hymn, the children leave for Children's Chapel.

Sequence Hymn 531

"O Spirit of the living God"

Melcombe

The Holy Gospel: Mark 1:29–39

NRSV, p.913

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. James Hawkey

The Nicene Creed p. 358

Presider 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:* 

...Great is our God and mighty in power,

there is no limit to God's wisdom.

#### 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

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

"How Great Is the Goodness of God Almighty" Offertory Anthem

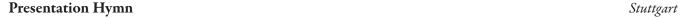
Robert J. Greene

Let all consider what God has given. All that we have are gifts from God above. The Lord has not forgotten us. And we should not forget this love.

How great is the goodness of God almighty! Is there anyone who has not known such goodness? For all gifts come from God almighty. All praise and honor belong to our Lord.

Oh grant us comfort in time of trouble; Guide us, oh Lord, through joyful days, For we would not forget your goodness; With thankful hearts we sing your praise. Refrain.

O God, let your goodness and love be boundless; Always remaining before our eyes. O strengthen us with your great power. So we may give back to you our lives. Refrain.





#### **The Great Thanksgiving:** Eucharistic Prayer A

p. 361

Celebrant People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you. Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

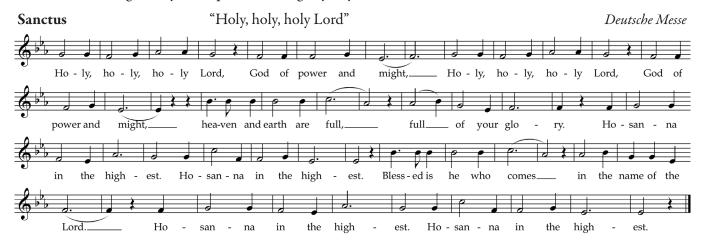
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

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 Eucharistic Prayer continues until the Celebrant says the following words

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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

#### The Fraction

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia

#### The Communion of the People

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

Motet "I know the Lord has laid his hands on me"

Spiritual

Oh, I know the Lord, I know the Lord, I know the Lord has laid his hands on me. Did ever you see the like before? King Jesus preaching to the poor. Oh, wasn't that a happy day when Jesus washed my sins away?

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"Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face"
Hymn 318
                                                                                                          Nyack
Hymn 699
                                "Jesus, Lover of my soul"
                                                                                                    Aberystwyth
Hymn: (WLP773)
                                "Heal me, hands of Jesus"
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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 598

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

Mit Freuden zart

p. 366

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**







Preacher: The Reverend Canon Dr. James Hawkey Presider: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr. Organist & Choir Director: John Sullivan

Celebrant: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard Assisting Priest: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon Children's Chapel: Ansley Trask

### THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

#### MON.- FRI., FEBRUARY 5-9

• MORNING PRAYER 8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom

#### **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

- BRUNSWICK STEW PICK UP All Day | Call ahead
- LIVING WELL IN MIDST OF GRIEF 5:00 PM | Graham Parlor or Zoom
- ST. JAMES SPEAKER SERIES: AN EVENING WITH WESTMINSTER ABBEY 7:00 PM | St. James Parish & Livestream Reception to follow in the Great Hall

#### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

• EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 9:00-11:30 a.m. - Registration Required

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY 7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- CREATIVE CONNECTIONS 8:30 - 11:00 AM | Stephen Ministry Room
- THE ARTS & THE BIBLE 11:00 AM | Stephen Ministry Room
- HOLY EUCHARIST 12:10 PM | St. James Chapel

#### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

- EVANGELISM COMMISSION MEETING 11:00 a.m. | Tatum Parlor
- PRAYING SHAPES BELIEVING 5:30 p.m. | Lippitt Room
- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 6:30 - 8:00 PM | Registration Required
- CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:00 PM | Choir Room

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

• DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA 141st CONVENTION

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

• DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA 141st CONVENTION

#### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I 8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- FAMILY BREAKFAST 8:30 - 9:10 AM | Great Hall
- FAITH FORMATION HOUR 9:10 - 10:00 AM | St. James Parish
- HOLY BAPTISM WITH EUCHARIST 10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Livestream
- IGNITE! YOUTH GATHERING 5:00 - 6:30 PM | Youth Room

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the February 12th Weekly Digital Grapevine is Friday, February 9th. The deadline for the March Grapevine Magazine is February 23rd. Email communications@stjamesp.org.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## WESTMINSTER ABBEY COMES TO WILMINGTON

#### ST. JAMES SPEAKER SERIES: AN EVENING WITH WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Monday, February 5 | 7:00 p.m. | St. James Parish St. James Episcopal Church in downtown Wilmington is thrilled to announce our first speaker event of 2024. On Monday, February 5, 2024, the St. James Speaker Series has invited The Rev. Dr. James Hawkey, Canon Theologian of Westminster Abbey, and Mr. Martin Castledine, Dean's Verger of Westminster Abbey, to share with us their experiences as clergy and staff of the royal church. Join us on Monday, February 5, at 7:00 p.m. at St. James Parish for this special presentation. A brief time of Q&A in the sanctuary and a reception will follow. This event is free to our community.

#### GUARDIAN ANGEL PRAYER EXPERIENCE SIGN **UPS CLOSE!**

Signups Open Through February 6th!

One of our St. James traditions is the Guardian Angel Prayer experience. We invite adults to take time this Lent to pray for a young person in our parish. If you agree to be a "Guardian Angel" during Lent, you will receive information about the young person who will be assigned to you. Please remember to keep your identity as their "angel" a secret and to pray for them each day. Complete the form online or reach out to Cookie Cantwell at cookie@stjamesp.org to sign up!

#### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 13 | 5:30 - 7:00 PM | Perry Hall February 13th is Shrove Tuesday. It's one of those days that we Episcopalians love to celebrate. Christians started celebrating Shrove Tuesday in the 16th Century. In the days preceding Lent, a season of fasting, was observed. Fatty foods, such as milk and butter, were consumed prior to the fasting. The goal was to use up these ingredients, as they wouldn't be able to be consumed during Lent. So, on Shrove Tuesday, we celebrate with pancakes, rich in butter and milk. We also eat meat, bacon and sausage, and indulge ourselves one last time before Lent.

Shrove Tuesday is an important time to join with your parishioners, have a meal, and enjoy each other's company. Bring a friend or two and join us on Tuesday, February 13 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. as we celebrate the last day before Lent with John Baldersons' delicious pancakes! Proceeds from this event support the outreach efforts of our St. James Youth! Stay tuned for how to RSVP/donate.

# LENT AT ST. JAMES

#### ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 14 | Multiple Services Ash Wednesday is the first of the forty days of Lent, named for the custom of placing blessed ashes on the foreheads of worshipers at Ash Wednesday services. This year we will offer three services with the imposition of ashes.

- 7:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m.
- 7:00 p.m.

A Morning Prayer service will be offered online without the imposition of ashes. 8:00 a.m. on Zoom.

#### **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

Begins Wednesday, February 21 | 11:00 AM | Stephen Ministry Room or Zoom

Bring your Bible and join us as we examine Jesus' encounters and conversations with 5 very different people and the effect the encounters had on their lives. Each of these people has something to teach us as once again we make our Lenten journey. Every session is stand-alone and handouts will be available.

#### WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT CHILDREN'S CHOIR PRACTICE

Wednesdays | 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. | Children's Chapel Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays in the late afternoon. This year we'll offer a faith formation opportunity alongside the choir practice. The children's choir will sing on Palm Sunday.

#### WILL YOU? LENTEN STUDY ON OUR **BAPTISMAL PROMISES**

Wednesdays | 5:30-615 p.m. | Lippitt Room Adults and youth are invited to join us for a combined time of study during this Lenten season. Our clergy will lead this combined offering.

#### LENTEN DINNERS

Feb. 21 - Mar. 20 | 6:00-7:00 p.m. | Great Hall We invite you all to save your Wednesday nights for dinner and fellowship. A donation of \$10 per person/\$25 per family is requested to help support this wonderful family ministry. RSVP Online

#### **SAVE THE DATE: LENTEN MINI-RETREAT**

Saturday, March 9, 2024 | 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. | Lippitt Room

### St. James Parish

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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stjamesp.org