



THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2024

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. 165

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1–12 The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 328

Commentary: Elijah knew that he had come to his last day on earth. By granting Elisha permission to stay behind, Elijah was testing Elisha's commitment to Elijah and to his calling as Elijah's successor. Elisha did not want to speak of Elijah's departure, probably indicating his sorrow at losing his friend and mentor. It was not uncommon for prophets to bestow a significant parting blessing, something Elisha did not want to miss. Elijah's cloak was the symbol of his authority as God's spokesman. Elijah was miraculously swept up into heaven, but God's work in the world would continue through Elisha.

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

- 1 The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 **Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, ***
God reveals himself in glory.
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.
- 4 **He calls the heavens and the earth from above ***
to witness the judgment of his people.
- 5 “Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice.”
- 6 **Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; ***
for God himself is judge.

The Holy Gospel: Mark 9:2–9

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

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

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. Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise,
 2. Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro - phet, Priest, and King su - preme;
 3. Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
 4. Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen - dent light,



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
 and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God - head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
 where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
 man - i - fest— in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest— in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
 When from there— thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

The Dismissal



Celebrant: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard ~ Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr. ~ Organist: John Sullivan
The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bishop Thomas H. Wright,
Hannah K. Wright, James B. Lindsey, Ruth Lindsey, Kay Lindsey Ellington, and James B. Lindsey Jr.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., FEBRUARY 12-16

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- VESTRY MEETING
5:15 PM | Graham Parlor

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

SHROVE TUESDAY

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
9:00-11:30 a.m. - Registration Required
- YOUTH & ADVISORS: PANCAKE SUPPER SET UP
4:00 PM | Lee Parish Hall
- COHI CONTINUING EDUCATION
5:00 PM | Stephen Ministry Room
- SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER
5:30-7:00 PM | Lee Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

ASH WEDNESDAY

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
7:00 AM | St. James Parish
- ASH WEDNESDAY: MORNING PRAYER
8:00 AM | Zoom
- ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
12:10 PM | St. James Parish
- ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
7:00 PM | St. James Parish

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 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 16

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY UNITY BUILD #2 KICK OFF
All Day | Register Online

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 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 EUCHARIST - RITE II
10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Livestream

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 Balderson's delicious pancakes! Proceeds from this event support the outreach efforts of our St. James Youth! Go online to RSVP/donate.

VBS 2024: REGISTRATION IS ON THE WAY

August 5th - 8th | Registration Opens on March 4, 2024

VBS returns August 5th-August 8th. Mark your calendars now and stay tuned for announcements about this year's theme! As we begin to dive into planning for another wonderful VBS, we're calling on our parish family to help us make it happen. There lots of ways to get involved! We have opportunities for all ages and abilities. Look for our email with registration and volunteer information on **March 4th**.

SAVE THE DATE: LENTEN MINI-RETREAT

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

The season of Lent is a time for introspection and self-reflection. It is an invitation to consider the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. You are invited to a morning of centering and prayer during a mini retreat on Saturday, March 9, from 9:00-11:30. Through Scripture, poetry and prayer, we will spend an unhurried morning together as we consider what the ancient practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving might mean for us on our faith journey, in our busy lives, in a world full of uncertainty and change. We will meet in the Lippitt Room. This mini retreat will be led by Linda Murchison. Childcare is available with advance registration online. Questions, please email Linda, lindamurchison65@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL HIKING RETREAT

October 4-6, 2024 | Kanuga - Registration Deadline: April 1, 2024

Women of Saint James, if you enjoy hikes in the mountains and would like to join a retreat focused on a healthy body and spirit, please consider the fall women's hiking retreat. We will hike 4-8 miles (short and long options) on Saturday and have shorter hikes on Friday afternoon and/or Sunday morning. There will be a short program each evening. Please email Hannah Brownlow (hannabrownlow@msn.com) or Linda Murchison (lindamurchison65@gmail.com) if you have questions. Registration is online through the St. James website. Space is limited.

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 worshippers 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.

Morning Prayer 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 | 5:30-6:15 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 offering.

LENTEN DINNERS

Feb. 21 - Mar. 20 | 6:15-7:00 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.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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