



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2024

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:15 A.M.

Prelude

Processional Hymn 401

“The God of Abraham praise”

Leoni

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

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.**

Song of Praise

“Holy God, Holy and Mighty”

Trisagion

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

p. 218

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

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Commentary: In these verses, God reaffirmed His covenant with Abram by reiterating the promises of descendants, blessing and land. Also, by changing their names, God gave added assurance to Abram and Sarai that they would have many offspring. Abram meant 'high or exalted father'; Abraham means 'father of a multitude'. Sarai meant 'princess', but Sarah means 'royal princess', from whom kings would come. Abraham's name emphasized the number of his descendants while Sarah's emphasized the royal heritage and nature of their line.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:22–30

Deus, Deus meus

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



All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord,



all na-tions shall bow be-fore him.

Psalm
chant:



Praise the LORD, you that / **fear him**; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give / **glory**.
For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his / **face from them**; *
but when they cry to him he / **hears them**.

ANTIPHON

My praise is of him in the great as- / **sembly**; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who / **worship him**.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall / **praise him**: *
"May your heart live for / **ever!**"

ANTIPHON

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the / **Lord**, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow be- / **fore him**.
For kingship belongs to the / **LORD**; *
he rules over the / **nations**.

ANTIPHON

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in / **worship**; *
all who go down to the dust fall be- / **fore him**.
My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall / **serve him**; *
they shall be known as the LORD's for / **ever**.

Second half of chant

They shall come and make known to a people yet un- / **born** *
the saving deeds that he has / **done**.

ANTIPHON

The Epistle: Romans 4:13–25

NRSV, p. 1029

Commentary: Paul referred to God's covenant with Abraham to explain that righteousness comes by faith, not by works. God promised that many nations would be blessed through Abraham. The promise was given not because of Abraham's obedience but because of his faith. Abraham believed God despite discouraging facts about his and Sarah's physical capabilities. Abraham gave glory to God by believing that God could and would do what He promised. Paul applied God's dealings with Abraham to his readers by reminding them that the same God who kept His life-giving promise to Abraham also raised Jesus from the dead. As in Abraham's day, God continues to reckon righteousness to everyone who turns to Him in faith.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

Sequence Hymn 148

"Now let us all with one accord"

Bourbon

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

The Holy Gospel: Mark 8:31–38

NRSV, p. 921

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

The Nicene Creed

p. 358

Celebrant 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:

...Lord, in your mercy, **Renew us.**

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

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

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Ronald Corp

Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you want to follow me.
 I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.
 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out my wicked transgressions.
 ~ Charles William Everest

Presentation Hymn 143

“The glory of these forty days” *vv. 1 & 5*

Erhalt uns, Herr

The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e - brate with songs of praise;
 O - Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed,
 for Christ, through whom all things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 who art in three - fold Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

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 S-124

“Holy, holy, holy Lord”

David Hurd

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

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues, concluding with:

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 sing,

The Lord's Prayer

p. 364

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed be thy Name, thy king-dom come,
 thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea-ven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread.
 And for-give us our tres-pas-ses, as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us.
 And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil.
 For thine is the king-dom, and the power, and the glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

The Breaking of the Bread

p. 364

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

Fraction Anthem: S-161 "Lamb of God"

Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Communion of the People

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

Communion Hymns

Hymn 338	"Wherefore, O Father"	<i>Lobet den Herren</i>
Hymn 328	"Draw nigh and take"	<i>Song 46</i>
Hymn 691	"My faith looks up to thee"	<i>Olivet</i>

The Postcommunion Prayer

p. 366

Celebrant Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.
The people kneel

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 448 "O love, how deep, how broad, how high"

Deus tuorum militum

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



*Celebrant & Children's Chapel: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
Assisting Priest: 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
Thomas Henry Wright, Eleanor Gilchrist Wright; Thomas Henry Wright Jr., Elizabeth Labouisse Wright;
Sally Cameron Labouisse, John Witherspoon Labouisse*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., FEB. 26 - MAR. 1

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- FELLOWSHIP A.A.
7:00 PM | Great Hall

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- CREATIVE CONNECTIONS
9:00-11:00 AM | Stephen Ministry Room
- LENTEN BIBLE STUDY:
ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS
11:00 AM | Stephen Ministry Room or Zoom
- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Parish

WEDNESDAY, CONTINUED

- CHILDREN'S CHOIR & BIBLE TIME
5:30 PM | Children's Chapel
- WILL YOU? LENTEN STUDY OF OUR
BAPTISMAL PROMISES
5:30 PM | Lippitt Room
- LENTEN DINNER
6:15 - 7:00 PM | Great Hall

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

- 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, MARCH 1

- SJDs CLOSED - TEACHER WORKDAY
- HAPPENING #80 | ALL WEEKEND

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

- HAPPENING #80 | ALL WEEKEND
- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY UNITY
BUILD #2 OPPORTUNITIES
All Day | Register Online

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

- HAPPENING #80 | ALL WEEKEND
- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- FAMILY BREAKFAST
8:30 - 9:10 AM | Great Hall
- PARISH SHOP OPENS
8:45 - 10:30 AM | Parish Shop
- FAITH FORMATION HOUR
9:10 - 10:00 AM | St. James Parish
- CHOIR REHEARSAL
9:15 - 10:05 AM | Choir Room
- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II
10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Livestream

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the March 4th Weekly Digital Grapevine is Friday, March 1st.
The deadline for the March Grapevine Magazine is March 25th. Email communications@stjamesp.org.

*To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Saviour;
to all who are idle and look for service; to all who are strangers
and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to whosoever will come—this church opens wide her doors.*

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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stjamesp.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: UNITY BUILD OPPORTUNITIES

Saturdays through March 16th

The Habitat for Humanity Unity Build is underway with dates to serve in February, and March up online now! This build has plenty of opportunities to get involved.

- March 2nd – Miscellaneous Framing
- March 9th – Vinyl Prep
- March 16th – Vinyl Siding

These dates also have opportunity for lunch donations! To learn more about how to get involved, please visit: stjamesp.org/habitat24

Anyone 16 years old or older is welcome to participate. There are opportunities for all skill levels and abilities - no construction talent is needed.

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.

EASTER LILIES & MUSIC

Submit Names Through March 24th.

Honor someone special with Easter Lilies or Music this spring. Remember someone special this Easter by donating \$25 for Easter Lilies or music! Please complete the online form or call the church office to submit your names. It is one dedication per \$25 Donation, this form will need to be completed for each separate donation to help ensure we honor your requested person(s) correctly in the bulletin. Bulletin printing deadline is Sunday, March 24th. We'll continue to accept donations after that time however, the names may not appear in the bulletin. If you have any questions about the submission process or would like a physical name submission form, please reach out to communications@stjamesp.org.

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

Wednesdays through March 20

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

7:00 AM | S. 16th St. Starbucks

Join our St. James Youth for a time of Bible Study and genuine exploration of faith.

MORNING PRAYER

8:00 AM | Zoom

Log in and pray with us! Come share your prayer requests and your celebrations.

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

9:00 - 11:00 AM | Green Room

Bring your crafts, sewing, and other projects to this time of fellowship and creation.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

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. Every session is stand-alone and handouts will be available.

HOLY EUCHARIST

12:10 PM | St. James Chapel

Come participate in Holy Eucharist.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR & BIBLE TIME

5:30 - 6:15 p.m. | Children's Chapel

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

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

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.