

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY 3 MARCH 2024

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:15 A.M.

Prelude "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" Robert Graham

Processional Hymn 518 "Christ is made the sure foundation" Westminster Abbey

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.

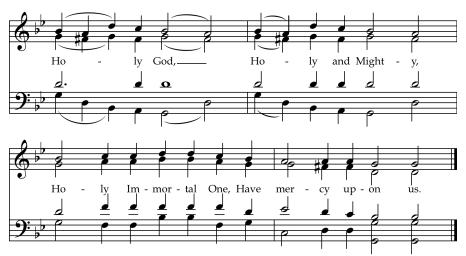
Collect for Purity p. 355

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



The Collect of the Day

p. 218

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

The First Reading: Exodus 20:1–17

Commentary: The foundation of biblical ethics and morality was laid out in the Ten Commandments and the ordinances included in the Law of Moses, which taught Israel how to apply the concepts found in the commandments. One reason God gave the commandments and the entire Mosaic Law to Israel was to codify unifying principles that made the establishment of the nation possible. God allowed the Israelites much personal freedom, there were comparatively few restrictions on their behavior. The people were to obey God on the double basis of who He is and what He had done for them. The commandments stressed two things: the importance of exclusive worship of the one true God and the honor due to other people.

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19 Caeli enarrant **Antiphon** (The antiphon is first sung by the Cantor, then repeated by all)

The heavens declare the glory of / God, * and the firmament shows his / handiwork. One day tells its tale to a-/nother, * and one night imparts knowledge to a-/nother.

ANTIPHON

Although they have no words or / language, * and their voices are not / heard, Their sound has gone out into all / lands, * and their message to the ends of the / world.

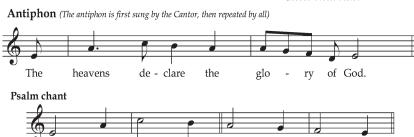
ANTIPHON

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the / sun; * it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its / course. It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it a-/gain; * nothing is hidden from its burning / heat.

ANTIPHON

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the / soul; * the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the / innocent. The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the / heart; * the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the / eyes.

ANTIPHON



The Holy Bible; NRSV, p. 65

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for / ever; * the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous alto-/gether. More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine / gold, * sweeter far than honey, than honey in the / comb.

ANTIPHON

By them also is your servant en-/lightened, * and in keeping them there is great re-/ward. Who can tell how often he of-/fends? * cleanse me from my secret / faults.

ANTIPHON

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion / over me; * then shall I be whole and sound. and innocent of a great of-/fense. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your / sight, * O Lord, my strength and my re-/deemer.

ANTIPHON

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18–25

NRSV, p. 1040

Commentary: The Corinthians admired brilliant oratory, but Paul's argument in this passage contrasted God's wisdom with the fine sounding words of human wisdom. Paul used Old Testament support to show that what God had intended and foretold through the prophets had now been accomplished by the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Quoting Isaiah, Paul showed that it had always been God's intention to expose the futility of merely human wisdom. In contrast to human wisdom, God's wisdom centers on the cross. The message of the cross did not appear to make sense; how could anyone believe in and submit to a Savior who could not save Himself? However, God does things His way. Only the foolishness of the cross has power to set people free.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

Sequence Hymn 471

People

"We sing the praise of him who died"

Breslau

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

The Holy Gospel: John 2:13–22

NRSV, p. 969

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ. The Sermon The Reverend Kitty Davis

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

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.

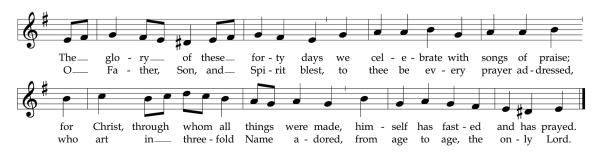
Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem Richard Shephard

The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament showeth His handiwork. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be always acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength And my redeemer.

~ Psalm 19: 1,14



The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer B

p. 367

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.

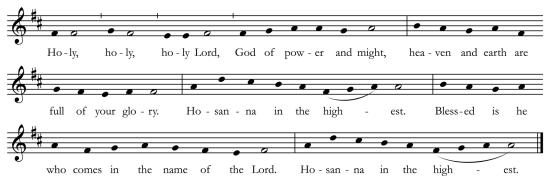
Here, a proper preface is said, then the Celebrant continues...

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



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,

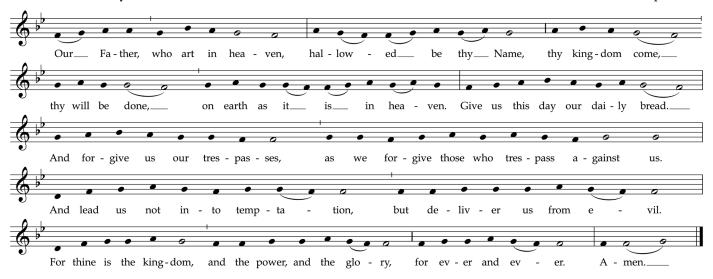
We await his coming in glory;

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,

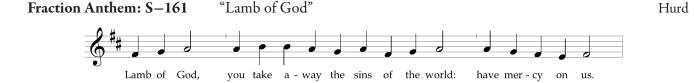




The Breaking of the Bread

p. 364

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





The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers are available at the main altar upon request. The sacrement of Healing and Anointing is available in the Chapel.

Communion Hymns

Hymn 313	"Let thy Blood in mercy poured"	Jesus, meine Zuversicht
Hymn 431	"The stars declare his glory"	Aldine
Hymn 51	"We the Lord's people"	Decatur Place

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.

peace.

The Blessing

Celebrant

Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn 495

"Hail, thou once despised Jesus"

In Babilone

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Praeludium in F"

Vincent Lubeck







Celebrant: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr. Children's Chapel: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard Preacher: The Reverend Kitty Davis Guest Organist & Choir Director: Kira Garvie

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joel Cook Pretlow, Jr., Marguerite Kerr Pretlow, Earl Glass Neas, Harriet Stokes Neas, & Sarah Lisabeth Pretlow

this week at st. James

MON.- FRI., MARCH 4-8

• MORNING PRAYER 8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom

MONDAY, MARCH 4

• LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF 5:00 PM | Graham Parlor or Zoom

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

• EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

9:00-11:30 AM - Registration Required

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

- •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, MARCH 7

- PRAYING SHAPES BELIEVING 5:30 PM | Lippitt Room
- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 6:30 - 8:00 PM | Registration Required
- CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:00 PM | Choir Room

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

• NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

- LENTEN MINI RETREAT 9:00 - 11:30 AM | Lippitt Room
- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY UNITY

BUILD #2 OPPORTUNITIES

All Day | Register Online

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

- 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
- SHOP'N' BUNNY HOP 5:00 PM | Walmart & IHOP

St. James Parish

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr., Rector

25 South Third Street ♦ Wilmington, NC 28401 ♦ (910) 763-1628 ♦ admin@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 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

5:30-615 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 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.