



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2024

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:15 A.M.

Prelude

Processional Hymn 379

“God is Love, let heaven adore him”

Abbot's Leigh

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.**

Gloria in excelsis

William Mathias

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right ___ hand ___ of the Fa - ther; re -
 ceive our prayer. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, _____
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly ___ Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. _____ A - - - - men.

The Collect of the Day

p. 225

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

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: Acts 8:26–40

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 1002

Commentary: After the stoning of Stephen, the first Christian martyr (see Acts 7), a great persecution broke out against the Jerusalem church and believers were scattered throughout the region. Philip left Jerusalem and enjoyed a fruitful ministry in Samaria, but now God sent him into the desert, where he met an Ethiopian official who had made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to worship God. Philip recognized what the Ethiopian was reading and struck up a conversation with him, then Philip explained how Jesus had fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy of the Suffering Servant. The Spirit of God used the word of God through a man of God to bring salvation to a child of God.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this

scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24–30

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:



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: 1 John 4:7–21

NRSV, p. 1114

Commentary: The theme of this passage, sincere Christian love, is central to John's epistle. Christians love as a response to God's own love and to His loving activity in Christ and in the church. Everything God does is motivated by love, because love is God's nature. If God creates, He creates in love, if God judges, He judges in love. The proof of God's love for humankind is that He sent His Son to provide eternal life for us. That demonstration of God's love is our impetus for showing sacrificial love to others. As believers love one another, the invisible God is made visible to the world and love for the unseen God finds expression in love for others.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not

love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

Sequence Hymn 424

“For the fruit of all creation”

East Acklam

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

The Holy Gospel: John 15:1–8

NRSV, p. 985

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

Jesus said to his disciples, “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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:

...O living God,

We give you glory and praise.

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

Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may bide with you forever,
e'en the spirit of truth.

John 14:15-17

Presentation Hymn 618

“Ye watchers and ye holy ones” *fourth stanza only*

Lasst uns erfreuen

O friends, in glad-ness let us sing, su-per-nal an-thems ech-o-ing,
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! To
God the Fa-ther, God the Son, and God the Spi-rit, Three in One,
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,
lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

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

“Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Mathias

Ho - - - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, heaven 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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.

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

Fraction Anthem: Hymn 417

sung by all

vv. 1 & 2

Festival Canticale

Antiphon
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!
1 Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
2 Bless- ing, hon- or, glo- ry, and might
whose blood set us free to be peo- ple of God.
to God and the Lamb for ev- er. A- - - men.

Final Antiphon
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

The Communion of the People

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

Communion Hymns

Hymn "Where charity and love prevail" *Land of Rest*

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail there
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear his
 3 For - give we now each o - ther's faults as
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known, let
 5 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells
 6 Love can ex - clude no race or creed if

1 God is ev - er found; brought here to - geth - er
 2 char - i - ty we learn; let us with heart and
 3 we our faults con - fess; and let us love each
 4 all con - ten - tion cease; be his the glo - ry
 5 God's be - got - ten Son; As mem - bers of his
 6 hon - ored be God's Name; Our com - mon life em -

1 by Christ's love by love are we thus bound.
 2 mind and strength now love him in re - turn.
 3 o - ther well in Chris - tian ho - li - ness.
 4 that we seek, be ours his ho - ly peace.
 5 Bo - dy joined we are in him made one.
 6 brac - es all whose Fa - ther is the same.

Words: Latin, tr. J. Clifford Evers
 Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan

- Hymn 531 "O Spirit of the living God" *Melcombe*
- Hymn 662 "Abide with me: fast falls the eventide" *Eventide*

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

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 616 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Postlude



*Celebrant: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard
 Organist & Choir Director: John Sullivan*

*Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.
 Children's Chapel: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon*

St. Mary's, Burgaw: The Reverend Dr. Nancy Jose

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sam Mann

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

CELEBRATING THE BRAINARDS

Sunday, April 28, 2024 | 11:30 a.m. | Parish Lawn

After the 10:15 a.m. service, we'll be offering a time of fellowship with the Rev. Cheryl and Don Brainard. While we get to keep them a little while longer (through the beginning of June), we'd like to set aside a time of thanksgiving and fellowship before Cheryl's time away in May. Come and spend some time with Cheryl and Don and enjoy something sweet.

BREAD BREAKERS: HOSPITALITY AT HOME

Sunday, April 28, 2024 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | The Currin Home | RSVP

The St. James Bread Breakers are hosting Hospitality at Home in April! The Currin Family is signed up to host this great event. We invite everyone to bring a side dish and join us at 4:00 p.m. today to enjoy time together in a family-friendly atmosphere for a potluck-style dinner. Kids, Friends, and Guests are welcome! RSVP link is up now on the SJP website. If you are interested in helping to host a Hospitality at Home gathering, please reach out to Rachel Colonna at rvolonna85@gmail.com.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- May 5 - Bishop Visit and Confirmation
- May 19 - Pentecost
- May 26 - Summer services open at Mt. Lebanon Chapel
- June 2 - Parish Picnic and Send-Off for The Rev. Cheryl Brainard

ST. JAMES SPEAKER SERIES: BONHOEFFER IN A TIME OF RESPONSIBILITY

Part III - Tuesday, April 30, 2024

6:00 Dinner | 6:30- 7:30 PM Program

The St. James Speaker Series is pleased to announce this very special upcoming four-part evening series on the writings and work of theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Led by Bonhoeffer scholar, Dr. Wayne Floyd (husband of The Rev. Dr. Nancy Jose!), we invite you join for Bonhoeffer In a Time of Responsibility. Series installments for April will be held in the Great Hall, 6:00-7:30pm, and will begin with a light dinner, followed by Wayne Floyd's presentation and concluding with a time for questions and brief closing Compline. While the series is open to all, reservations for dinner (\$15 per person) are required. RSVP online.

NOW ACCEPTING ST. JAMES YOUTH SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

In 2024 young people and adults from St. James will be participating in a variety of mission and outreach opportunities, learning new skills, helping other people, strengthening relationships, exploring our world and glorifying God through worship and in our daily lives. As a result of our activities, we hope to come away with a keener sense of God at work in us both here in Wilmington and in the world. Please help our 2024 Youth Ministries Outreach and Mission. We thank you for your investment in the lives of our young people. Contact Cookie at cookie@stjamesp.org to learn more!

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., APRIL 29-MAY 3

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

MONDAY, APRIL 29

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
9:00 AM | Register for Location
- SPEAKER SERIES: BONHOEFFER IN A TIME OF RESPONSIBILITY
6:00 - 7:30 PM | Great Hall & Zoom
* 6:00 for Dinner - Please RSVP each time
* 6:30 Program Start

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Parish

THURSDAY, MAY 2

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
6:30 PM | Register for Location
- CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 PM | Choir Room

FRIDAY, MAY 3

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, MAY 4

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SUNDAY, MAY 5

BISHOP VISITATION

- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- FAMILY BREAKFAST
8:30 - 9:10 AM | Great Hall
- PARISH SHOP OPEN
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 & CONFIRMATION, RECEPTION, & REAFFIRMATION
10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Livestream

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the May 6th Weekly Digital Grapevine is Friday, May 3rd.

The deadline for the June Grapevine Magazine is May 24th. Email communications@stjamesp.org.

St. James Parish

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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

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