



HOLY BAPTISM

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST 2024

9:30 A.M.

Opening Hymn 390

“Praise to the Lord”

9:30 a.m. service only

Lobe den Herren

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 299

Celebrant
People

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.
 There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;
 One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.
 The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
 Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

p. 232

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Commentary: Paul previously stressed the importance of unity within the church. In this passage, Paul turned to the equally important matter of living in holiness. These verses contain five exhortations regarding appropriate Christian conduct. First is to speak truth, because truthful speech is essential to unity within the body. Second is to avoid sinning when angry. Third is to refrain from stealing and work instead, in order to have something to share with the needy. Fourth is to speak, and do, good things. Careless, unkind words disrupt unity and grieve the Holy Spirit. Fifth is to get rid of vices and in their place adopt virtues. As children naturally imitate their parents, so children of God should imitate their heavenly Father's gracious attitudes and generous actions toward us.

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel: John 6:35, 41–51

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Gray Hodsdon

THE HOLY BAPTISM

OF

LUCY GRACE KANE

Parents
Jack & Emily Kane

CAROLINE ELAINE INGE

Parents
Ryan & Rachel Inge

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 301

Priest

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Priest

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Priest

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Priest asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infant

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer **I do.**

The Priest addresses the congregation, saying

Priest Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support them in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Priest Let us join with Caroline and Lucy who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

p. 304

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Priest Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Priest Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Priest Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

p. 305

Priest Let us now pray for Lucy and Caroline who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

p. 306

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Priest touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Priest N, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

N, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Priest Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Priest and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer A

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:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

p. 364

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion of the People

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

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 Dismissal

p. 366

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.



Downtown

*Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Beth Lilly
Interim Director of Music: The Reverend Dr. William J. Weisser*

Mt. Lebanon Chapel

*Celebrant: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.
Preacher: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
Music: Zach Bugg*

St. Mary's, Burgaw

Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Dr. Nancy Jose

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THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., AUGUST 12-16

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 12

- FELLOWSHIP A.A.
7:00 PM | Lippitt Room

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13

- PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - STAFF
RETREAT AND CONTINUING ED.
All Day

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
8:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Chapel

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II
8:30 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel
- HOLY BAPTISM
9:30 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel
- LEMONADE AT MT. LEBANON
10:15 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel
- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II
10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Livestream
- BREAD BREAKERS: HOSPITALITY AT
MT. LEBANON CHAPEL
4:00 - 6:00 PM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel | RSVP

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

LEMONADE AT MT. LEBANON

Through September 1st

As we get ready to open Mt. Lebanon Chapel for the summer, you're invited to share in the ministry of cookies and lemonade! Each Sunday while we worship at Mt. Lebanon Chapel, we're looking for parishioners to sign up to provide and serve lemonade and cookies following the 9:30 a.m. service. Contact Communications@stjamesp.org if you are interested in learning more.

SING FOR JOY!

Now that we're into the hazy, lazy days of summer, fall is just around the corner. This would be a wonderful time to consider joining the choir. Through the first of September the choir meets at 9:15-10:05 in the Choir Room in the Bridger's Memorial Building just behind St. James Church connected by the breezeway. The Choir is looking for some new singers to join us. If you have ever wondered about singing in the Choir join us any Sunday morning through September 1 and try it out to see if you like it without any commitment. You just might like it! Regular Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 5 ---7:00-8:30 pm. and again on Sunday mornings prior to the 10:15 service. The Choir sings regularly on Sunday mornings at the 10:15 service, singing anthems, service music and the Psalm. Just ask any choir member and they will tell just how much fun it is! You may contact Dr. Bill Weisser, Interim Director of Music, for more information, music.director@stjamesp.org.

"How many of us ever stopped to think of Music as a wondrous, magic link with God taking sometimes the place of prayer when words have failed us 'neath the weight of care. Music that knows no country, race or creed but gives to each according to their need".

LET US KNOW!

Life is full of changes! We want to help support you through the bad and the good. If you, or a loved one would like a pastoral care visit or to request prayer, please make sure to reach out to our church office or our clergy. We want to know how we can be there for you. The parish office number is 910-763-1628. Similarly, if you've experienced a job change and have a new preferred email, or maybe you've moved and have a new mailing address, please make sure to let us know. Please reach out to communications@stjamesp.org to update your contact information.

"TELLING YOUR STORY" THROUGH GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Many people would like to share the stories of their lives, but aren't sure where to start, what to include, or what to leave out. Sorting through our own history can be overwhelming!

Guided Autobiography offers wonderful tools to help people recall, write, and organize their stories. After each class, participants write one story at home. During the next class, participants share two pages of what they wrote with a small group of about six other people, all committed to confidentiality.

Research shows that writing stories and sharing them with others is very stimulating for the brain. One researcher said that writing and sharing stories is "like chocolate" for the brain.

As stories are shared, class members often discover:

- a sense of connection with others
- new insights that are not available from journaling or writing alone
- new perspectives on life events
- new appreciation of their own lives.

Guided Autobiography was researched and developed by Dr. James Birren (USC). It has been used for more than 45 years as a method to help people in the US and throughout the world recall and share their stories. Guided Autobiography has been offered at UNCW through the Osher Life Long Learning Institute (OLLI) in Wilmington.

Here at St. James, Mary McKnight, a retired Presbyterian pastor, will be offering Guided Autobiography for 7 weeks in the Fall. From experience, she knows that being in a Guided Autobiography group can be a rich and very meaningful experience.

Classes at St. James will be held on 7 Tuesday mornings, from 9:00 - 11:00. The dates are September 10, 17, 24 and October 1, 8, 15, 22.

Space is limited to 12. Before signing up, please check your calendar to be sure you can commit to the whole 7-week process. The classes and resources build on each other, offering new tools each class, so this is not a "drop-in" class.

Register on the St. James Website: stjamesp.org/blog/story/
Having trouble registering? Contact Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org

The suggested donation is \$45 (scholarships are available).

MEN ON A MISSION

The St. James Men on a Mission continues to serve dinner at Good Shepherd on the *first and third Tuesdays* of the month (4:30-7:00 pm), as well as at the Sgt Ashley Center (5:00-7:00 pm) for homeless veterans on the *fourth Thursday* of each month. If you are interested in signing up to serve, please reach out to Brian McMerty at bmcmetry@arris.partners.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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