



THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST 2024

10:15 A.M.

Prelude "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now" J.S. Bach
Opening Hymn 408 "Sing praise to God who reigns above" *Mit Freuden zart*

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355
Collect for Purity p. 355
Gloria in excelsis S280 Robert Powell
The Collect of the Day p. 232

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: 1 Kings 8:22–30, 41–43 The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 308

Commentary: Perhaps Solomon's greatest contribution to Israel's life was the building of a magnificent temple to the glory of God. Now it was time to dedicate the temple. The ark of the covenant was installed in the most holy place, symbolizing the enthronement of God as Israel's true king. Solomon led the prayer of dedication for the temple and he began by emphasizing God's past faithfulness to Israel. Solomon asked that God would continue to hear the prayers of His people and would show them mercy. In addition, Solomon prayed for God's grace on everyone who seeks to draw close to the Lord.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive. "Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in

heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.”

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84

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

Quam dilecta!

How dear to me is your dwell - ing, O LORD of hosts!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the / LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living / God.</p> <p>2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her / young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my / God.</p> <p>ANTIPHON</p> <p>3 Happy are they who dwell in your / house! *
they will always be / praising you.</p> <p>4 Happy are the people whose strength is in / you! *
whose hearts are set on the / pilgrims' way.</p> <p>ANTIPHON</p> <p>5 Those who go through the desolate valley will
find it a place of / springs, *
for the early rains have covered it
with pools of / water.</p> | <p>6 They will climb from height to / height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in / Zion.</p> <p>7 LORD God of hosts, hear my / prayer; *
hearken, O God of / Jacob.</p> <p>ANTIPHON</p> <p>8 Behold our defender, O / God; *
and look upon the face of your A-/ nointed.</p> <p>9 For one day in your courts is better than
a thousand in my own / room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the / wicked.</p> <p>ANTIPHON</p> <p>10 For the LORD God is both sun and / shield; *
he will give grace and / glory;</p> <p>11 No good thing will the LORD with-/ hold *
from those who walk with in-/ tegrity.</p> <p>12 O LORD of / hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in / you!</p> <p>ANTIPHON</p> |
|--|--|

The Epistle: Ephesians 6:10–20

p. 1069

Commentary: Earlier in Ephesians, Paul encouraged strength and unity within the body of Christ and now he explained the need and reason for this: the church is at war with a spiritual enemy. Anyone who wants to obey God and resist the devil can expect a struggle. To be strong in the Lord, human cooperation must be combined with divine enabling. God provides the armor, but the believer has to put it on. The armor of God is designed for offensive and defensive use. Successful spiritual warfare is undergirded with prayer; the best preparation for spiritual battles is constant prayer. Paul appreciated and relied on the power of prayer, asking his readers to pray for the effectiveness of his witness and ministry.

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

Sequence Hymn 440 “Blessed Jesus, at thy word” *Liebster Jesu*

The Holy Gospel: John 6:56–69 *NRSV*, p. 975

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

Jesus said, “Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

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

The Sermon The Reverend Gray Hodsdon

The Nicene Creed p. 358

Prayers of the People - Form III p. 387

Confession of Sin and Absolution p. 360

The Peace p. 360

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem “Build thee More Stately Mansions” Gordon Young

“Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea!”
~ Oliver Wendell Homes

Presentation Hymn 380 *third stanza only* *Old 100th*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer A p. 361

Sanctus S129 “Holy, holy, holy Lord” Powell

The Lord’s Prayer p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread p. 364

Fraction Anthem: S152 Mason Martens

The Communion of the People *Gluten-free wafers are available at the main altar upon request.*

Communion Hymns

Hymn 509 “Spirit divine, attend our prayers” *Nun danket all und bringet Ehr*

Hymn 524 “I love thy kingdom, Lord” *St. Thomas*

Hymn 301 “Bread of the world, in mercy broken” *Rendez à Dieu*

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

Closing Hymn 632 “O Christ, the Word Incarnate” *Munich*

The Dismissal p. 366

Postlude “Our Father who art in heaven” *Bach*



Downtown

*Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
Interim Director of Music: The Reverend Dr. William J. Weissler*

Mt. Lebanon Chapel

*Celebrant: The Reverend Jay Sidebotham
Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.
Music: Tim Ford*

St. Mary’s, Burgaw

Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Alan Howard Bede

COPYRIGHTS: The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights Reserved. The Book of Common Prayer is in the public domain. St. James Parish holds CCLI Licenses #11051308 and #1407118, and OneLicense.net License #A-718078.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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

[f](https://www.facebook.com/stjamesp) @stjamesp [i](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesparish) @stjamesparish

stjamesp.org