



THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2024

8:00 A.M.

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 323

The Collect for Purity

p. 323

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria

p. 324

The Collect of the Day

p. 181

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: James 1:17–27

p. 1102

Commentary: The purpose of James' letter was to exhort believers toward Christian maturity and holiness of life. To that end, this letter deals more with the practice of the Christian faith than with its precepts. Every act of gift giving, every perfect gift, has its source in God, and the greatest of God's gifts is new life in Jesus Christ. James advised silence and calm over complaining and anger in order to grow in righteousness. Not only are believers to listen to the Word, they are to put into practice what they profess to believe. The law of God is perfect and it is a law of liberty, because in obedience is found true freedom. Consistent commitment to God, obedience to His Word, love for others and holy living are hallmarks of genuine religion.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

- 1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
- 2 You are the fairest of men; ***
grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.
- 7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.
- 8 Therefore God, your God, has anointed you ***
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- 9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.
- 10 Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; ***
on your right hand is the queen,
adorned with the gold of Ophir.

The Holy Gospel: Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

NRSV, p. 919

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

People

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Beth Lilly

The Nicene Creed

p. 327

Prayers of the People

p. 328

Confession of Sin

p. 330

The Peace

p. 332

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer II

p. 340

Sanctus

p. 341

The Lord’s Prayer

p. 336

The Breaking of the Bread

p. 337

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

***Downtown***

*Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Beth Lilly
Guest Organist: Lisa Nichol*

Mt. Lebanon Chapel

*Celebrant: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.
Preacher: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
Music: Steve Mueller*

St. Mary's, Burgaw

Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Bill Milholland

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paul Ingle & William Hale

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.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., SEPTEMBER 2-6

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 **LABOR DAY**

- ST. JAMES PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
All Day
- MORNING PRAYER ON LABOR DAY
8:00 AM | Zoom
- LIVING WELL IN MIDST OF GRIEF
5:00 PM | Graham Parlor & Zoom
- FELLOWSHIP A.A.
7:00 PM | Lippitt Room

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- ST. JAMES DAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE
10:00 - 11:30 AM | SJDS
- MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT
GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER
4:30 - 7:00 PM | Good Shepherd Center

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th Street. Starbucks
- ST. JAMES DAY SCHOOL - FIRST DAY
OF SCHOOL
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM | SJDS
- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Chapel

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- HAPPENING #81 TEAM
REGISTRATION DEADLINE TODAY
All Day | Diocesan Website
- CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 - 8:30 PM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT A
SAFE PLACE
8:00 - 11:00 AM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

WELCOME SUNDAY

- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- WELCOME SUNDAY BREAKFAST
8:30 - 9:45 AM | Great Hall
- ST. JAMES PARISH SHOP OPEN
8:30 - 11:30 AM | Parish Shop
- CHOIR REHEARSAL
9:15 - 10:00 AM | Choir Room
- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II &
BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS
10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Online
- MINISTRY FAIR & CELEBRATION ON
THE LAWN
11:30 AM | St. James Parish
- SJP YOUTH & PARENTS GATHERING
5:00 - 6:30 PM | Perry Hall

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

LEMONADE AT MT. LEBANON

Through September 1st

You're invited to share in the ministry of cookies and lemonade! Come enjoy fellowship following the 9:30 service at Mt. Lebanon Chapel. We'd love to see you!

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY: REGISTER NOW

Tuesdays or Thursdays | This Fall | Registration Required

The Education for Ministry (EfM) Tuesday morning EfM is a 4-year program taken one year at a time. This program has been provided through the School of Theology in Sewanee, TN for nearly 50 years. It helps participants explore and deepen their Christian belief through study of the Bible, Christian history, and theology. We examine our own beliefs and reflect on applying scripture to our everyday lives. The goal is to deepen our faith and to discover how to express it in service to others. To learn more about EfM and the Tuesday morning program contact Rachel Pace at rppace@hotmail.com, prior to our first class on September 10th and she will help you register for the course. To learn more about the Thursday evening program, contact Karen Clark at clarklc11@gmail.com.

TELLING YOUR STORY: GUIDED

AUTOBIOGRAPHY RETURNS

Tuesday, Sept. 10 | 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. | Regis. Req. | St. James Parish

Mary McKnight, a retired Presbyterian pastor, will be offering Guided Autobiography for 7 weeks (September 10, 17, 24 and October 1, 8, 15, 22) in the Fall. From experience, she knows that being in a Guided Autobiography group can be a rich and very meaningful experience. If you want to write your stories but aren't sure where to start, we can help! This course is perfect for those who have never thought of themselves as a "real writer" but would like to hand on some stories to children and grandchildren! Each week, we will focus on a new theme and share fresh resources to boost memory recall. Visit the St. James website to learn more.

LET US KNOW!

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 information.

ADULT CHOIR RETURNS

Begins Thursday, September 5 | 7:00 p.m. | Choir Room

All who are interested are warmly invited to join the St. James Choir for our weekly evening practice. Remember when you sing for church you pray twice. And the Lord says make a joyful noise! So come join the fun in the choir room—we always have an extra chair! Want to learn more about joining the St. James Choir? Please reach out to our Interim Director of Music, Dr. Bill Weisser at music.director@stjamesp.org.

WELCOME SUNDAY & MORE

Sunday, September 8 | St. James Parish

Make plans to be in town on Sunday, September 8th. Our Parish family will be reuniting downtown for Welcome Sunday. This special morning together will include a **Welcome Sunday Breakfast**, and the **Blessing of the Backpacks**, and a **Ministry Fair**. Students of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks or school bags to worship. The 10:15 a.m. service on Welcome Sunday will include a special blessing lifting up children and students of all ages, dedicating them to God's glory as we begin a new school year.

SIGN UP FOR HANDBELL CHOIR

Calling all Handbell Ringers and those who are interested in ringing bells, especially Youth and Adults! Beginning in September we are organizing a Handbell Choir. We need approximately 10 ringers to cover 3 octaves of bells. Being able to read music and having some body coordination is a real asset. Each ringer is assigned specific notes of the scale. Each bell (note) is then rung at the appropriate time found in the musical score. Please consider joining us. Once we have enough ringers to begin we will establish a regular day and time to rehearse. The Handbell Choir will play regularly for Preludes, accompany the Adult Choir, and various seasons of the year, especially Advent and Christmas. Please contact Dr. Bill Weisser at music.director@stjamesp.org.

SPEAKER SERIES: WHY WE NEED EACH OTHER - WHAT CHRISTIAN FAITH OFFERS TO MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Wednesday, September 18 | First Presbyterian Church

6:30 p.m. Reception | 7:00 p.m. Program | | RSVP Requested
St. James and First Presbyterian are once again joining forces to share a wonderful speaker opportunity with our community. Join psychiatrist and theologian Dr. Warren Kinghorn for a conversation about how we can move from isolation and loneliness to connection and belonging. All are warmly welcome! This event is free. RSVP's are highly encouraged if you plan to attend the 6:30 p.m. Reception. The Plenary & Conversation will begin at 7:00 p.m.

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 [ig](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesparish)@stjamesparish

stjamesp.org