



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2024

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I
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

Grant us, O Lord, we pray thee, to trust in thee with all our heart; seeing that, as thou dost always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so thou dost not forsake those who make their boast of thy mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: James 2:1-10, 14-17

p. 1102

Commentary: James continued to urge his readers to grow in Christian maturity and holiness through the practice of their faith. In this passage, James dealt with the problem of favoritism, a manifestation of inconsistent love for other people. James' advice was to treat every individual, regardless of circumstances, as we would treat ourselves. Showing favoritism breaks the fundamental law of love for neighbor. Obedience to God's law cannot be selective because the entire law expressed God's will for His people. Hearing God's word and talking about God's word cannot substitute for doing God's word. Christians are not saved by good works, they are saved for good works.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

- 1 Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, *
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.
- 2 **The hills stand about Jerusalem; ***
so does the LORD stand round about his people,
from this time forth for evermore.
- 3 The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just, *
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.
- 4 **Show your goodness, O LORD, to those who are good ***
and to those who are true of heart.
- 5 As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
the LORD will lead them away with the evildoers; *
but peace be upon Israel.

The Holy Gospel: Mark 7:24–37

NRSV, p. 919

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

*People***Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People***Praise be to thee, O Christ.****The Sermon**

The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

The Nicene Creed

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Prayers of the People

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Confession of Sin

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The Peace

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Welcome and Announcements**THE HOLY COMMUNION****Eucharistic Prayer I**

p. 333

Sanctus

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The Lord's Prayer

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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.

The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers available upon request

p. 338

Prayer of Thanksgiving

in unison

p. 339

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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 602

“Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love”

Chereponi

The Dismissal

p. 340

*Celebrant: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon**Preacher: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.**Interim Director of Music: The Reverend Dr. William J. Weisser**Children's Chapel: Taber Stockstill-Tornes*

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Llewellyn Cardiff Oakley, Jr., Mary Agnes Herring Oakley, Joseph Stanley Peck, Mary Fraser McCollum Peck, Mary Jo Oakley

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THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., SEPTEMBER 9-13

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- VESTRY MEETING
5:15 PM | Graham Parlor
- FELLOWSHIP A.A.
7:00 PM | Lippitt Room

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- HAPPENING #81 TEAM
REGISTRATION DEADLINE TODAY
All Day | Diocesan Web site
- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
9:00 - 11:30 AM | Registration Req.
- TELLING YOUR STORY THROUGH
GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY
9:00 - 11:00 AM | Stephen Ministry Room
- COHI CONTINUING EDUCATION
5:00 PM | Graham Parlor

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- MORNING PRAYER ON 9/11
8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom
- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th Street. Starbucks
- WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY:
1 PETER
11:00 AM | Graham Parlor
- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Chapel

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 - 8:30 PM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- FAMILY BREAKFAST
8:30 - 9:00 AM | Great Hall
- ST. JAMES PARISH SHOP OPEN
8:30 - 11:30 AM | Parish Shop
- FAITH FORMATION & SUNDAY
SCHOOL HOUR
9:10 - 10:00 AM | St. James Parish
- CHOIR REHEARSAL
9:15 - 10:00 AM | Choir Room
- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II
10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Online
- HOSPITALITY: LEMONADE & COOKIES
11:30 AM | St. James Parish Lawn
- GREETER TRAINING
11:30 AM | St. James Parish Church
- IGNITE! MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH
5:00 - 6:30 PM | Perry Hall
- IMPACT! HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH
7:00 - 8:00 PM | Perry Hall

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

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, school bags, or lunch boxes 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. We also invite teachers, aides, principals, administrators, secretaries, cafeteria workers, librarians, janitors, and bus drivers...come to church to be blessed, affirmed in your vocation, and encouraged as you serve children and families in your daily work!

NEXT SUNDAY

FAITH FORMATION & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, September 15 | St. James Parish

- **Introducing Life in Community: Joint Sessions of Adult Faith Formation**

Speaker: The Rev. Gray Hodson

All are invited to join us in the Great Hall as we introduce "Life in Community" and our plans for a robust Faith Formation year ahead.

- **St. James Youth, Faith & Friends**

Middle and High School Youth are invited to join us in the Youth Room for a Sunday morning full of faith, friends, and youth driven discussion.

- **Sunday School (ages 3 - 5th Grade)**

Join us on 2nd Floor of Milton Hall as we help our students grow with age appropriate expressions of faith in a safe and happy environment.

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.

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

Begins Tuesday, September 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. Visit the St. James website to learn more.

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

Begins Wednesday, September 18 | 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. | Green Room

Creative Connections returns this fall! Come craft with us on Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. - 11 a.m. in the Green Room (located above the Parish Shop in the Parish House). Drop-in as you're able. We'll enjoy this time of creation and fellowship. All are welcome. Bring your creative projects and join us in conversation. Need help on your project? Come and learn to sew, knit, or crochet from the pros. Want to learn more about this offering? Please reach out to communications@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

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