



THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2024

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:15 A.M.

Prelude

Sarabande

Louis Couperin

Processional Hymn 359

“God of the prophets”

Toulon

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

A Song of Praise: S236

“Glory to you”

John Rutter

Glo - ry to you, Lord God of our fa - thers; -
- you are wor - thy of praise; glo - ry to you. Glo - ry to
you for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will praise you and
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. Glo - ry to you
- in the splen - dor of your tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
you. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed be - tween the Cher - u -

bim; we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.
 Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths; in the
 high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to you. Glo - ry to you,
 - Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and
 high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

The Collect of the Day

p. 234

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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: Esther 7:1–6, 9–10, 9:20–22

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 441

Commentary: This reading from Esther presents a dramatic scene and it is helpful to know some of the backstory. Queen Esther's uncle Mordecai had uncovered Haman's plan to exterminate the Jews throughout King Ahasuerus' realm. Esther risked her life when she entered unbidden into the king's presence in order to plead for her people. The king agreed to hear Esther's petition and she invited him and Haman to a banquet. Now, at that banquet, Haman was exposed as the mastermind behind the plot against the Jews. Haman was hanged on the gallows on which he had intended to kill Mordecai. God chose Esther to be the instrument of His sovereign, providential care for His people.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

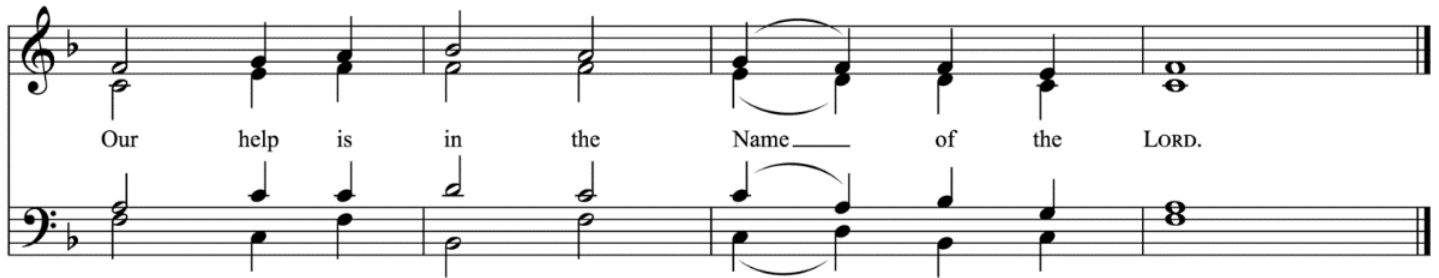
Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

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

Psalm 124

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

Nisi quia Dominus



- 1 If the LORD had not been on / **our side,** *
 let Israel now / **say;**
- 2 If the LORD had not been on / **our side,** *
 when enemies rose up / **against us;**
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up a-/ **live** *
 in their fierce anger / **toward us;**
ANTIPHON
- 4 Then would the waters have over-/ **whelmed us** *
 and the torrent gone / **over us;**
- 5 Then would the raging / **waters** *
 have gone right / **over us.**
ANTIPHON

- 6 Blessed be the /**LORD!** *
 he has not given us over to be a prey for their / **teeth.**
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the / **fowler;** *
 the snare is broken, and we have es-/ **caped.**
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the / **LORD,** *
 the maker of heaven and / **earth.**
ANTIPHON

The Epistle: James 5:13–20

p. 1104

Commentary: As James concluded this letter which focuses on the practice of the Christian faith, he turned to the subject of prayer as the fundamental means of managing trials. James urged his readers to ask their church leaders for prayer in times of weakness, spiritual or physical. The prayer of faith, which expresses trust in God and flows out of commitment to God, is effective. James used Elijah's prayer (see 1 Kings 17:1) to illustrate how much a righteous person's prayer can accomplish. Finally, James explained that a person who has strayed can return to fellowship with God and resume living by faith.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

The Holy Gospel: Mark 9:38–50

NRSV, p. 922

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

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

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Reverend Gray Hodsdon

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:*

...Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.**Confession of Sin and Absolution**

p. 360

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not

loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

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

Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes

Thomas Attwood

Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes,
and I will keep them unto the end.

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, 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: S125

“Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

p. 364

Fraction Anthem: S152

Celebrant

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People

There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Communion of the People

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

Communion Hymns

Hymn 546

“Awake my soul”

Donne secours

Hymn 509

“Spirit divine, attend my prayers”

Slane

Hymn 609

“Where cross the crowded ways of life”

Maryton

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 344

“Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing”

Sicilian Mariners

The Dismissal

p. 366

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Chaconne

Louis Couperin



THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., SEPT. 30 - OCT. 4

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
9:00 - 11:30 AM | Registration Req.
- TELLING YOUR STORY THROUGH
GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY
9:00 - 11:00 AM | Stephen Ministry Room
- MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT
GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER
4:30 - 7:00 PM | Good Shepherd Center

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th Street. Starbucks
- CREATIVE CONNECTIONS
9:00 - 11:00 AM | Green Room
- WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY:
PHILIPPIANS
11:00 AM | Graham Parlor

WEDNESDAY - CONTINUED

- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Chapel

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

- HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
6:00 - 7:00 PM | Handbell Room
(2nd floor next to Bishop Wright Room)
- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
EVENING CLASS RETURNS!
6:30 - 8:00 PM | Registration Req.

- CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 - 8:30 PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

- MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT A
SAFE PLACE
8:00 - 11:00 AM | A Safe Place
- WOMEN’S HIKING RETREAT BEGINS
4:00 PM | Kanuga | Reg. Required.
- BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
5:45 PM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

- WOMEN’S HIKING RETREAT
All Day | Kanuga | Reg. Required.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

- WOMEN’S HIKING RETREAT
All Day | Kanuga | Reg. Required.
- 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 - 10:30 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
- BREAD BREAKERS: HOSPITALITY
AT HOME
4:00-6:00 PM | The Kirby Home | RSVP
- SJP YOUTH - CORN MAZE
4:00-7:00 PM | Meet in Perry Hall Lot |
RSVP to Cookie

THIS SUNDAY

FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, September 29 | 9:10 - 10:00 a.m. | St. James Parish

- CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - Ages 3 - 5th Grade - Meet on 2nd Floor of Milton Hall
- YOUTH, FAITH & FRIENDS - 6th - 12th Grades - Youth Hall
- LIFE IN COMMUNITY: ADULT FORMATION - Great Hall
 - The Rev. Gray Hodsdon leads: *Come to the Table* - Many of our parish family will be gathered at the Trinity Center for the Parish Retreat. Those in town are encouraged to join a special Faith Formation hour inspired by this year's Parish Retreat theme: *Come to the Table*. We will experience a shared program even though we are physically apart.

ALSO THIS SUNDAY

- MEALS ON WHEELS - Volunteers head to Perry Hall Kitchen!
- PARISH RETREAT CONCLUDES

NEXT SUNDAY

FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, October 6 | 9:10 - 10:00 a.m. | St. James Parish

- CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - Ages 3 - 5th Grade - Meet on 2nd Floor of Milton Hall
- YOUTH, FAITH & FRIENDS - 6th - 12th Grades - Youth Hall
- LIFE IN COMMUNITY: ADULT FORMATION - Great Hall
 - The Rt. Rev. Henry Parsley leads: *Community, Prayer, & Creation* - Bishop Parsley introduces the theme of Living in Community. We will engage with what the New Testament has to say about Christian community and why it matters. How does prayer deepen community? How does God call us to care for one another and the community of all life?

LATER NEXT SUNDAY

- BREAD BREAKERS: HOSPITALITY AT HOME - 4:00-6:00 PM
- SJP YOUTH: CORN MAZE - 4:30 Departure from Perry Hall Lot

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Friday, October 4 | 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

All are invited to bring your non-human family members to our Annual Blessing of the Animals on Friday, October 4 at Mt. Lebanon Chapel from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. We'll celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi by blessing our furry, feathered, or even scaled, friends!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

We invite you to save your Wednesday nights (October 9 - 30th) for dinner and fellowship. A donation of \$10 per person/ \$25 per family is requested to help support this family ministry. Stay tuned for how to RSVP. We need hands to help with cooking or organizing each meal. Dinner will be hosted in the Great Hall. All are encouraged to sign up to volunteer or bring a dish. These wonderful nights of fellowship need hands and hearts to serve. Please reach out to Brandon Tully at brandoncandler@me.com or Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

MEN ON A MISSION:

FALL FELLOWSHIP EVENT

October 13 | 3:30- 6:00 p.m. | Cowden Home | RSVP

All men of St. James and their male guests ages 21+ are invited to join the 200+ St. James Men on a Mission guys in the pleasant backyard confines of the Cowden family home Sunday, October 13th from 3:30-6:00 p.m. This event will be catered and include BBQ with great sides and beverages, as well as another specialty brew provided by Steve Thomas and the Brew Crew! More information to follow. Come ready for fun, fellowship, and great food and drink in the shade and friendly confines! Registration link online! \$25/per guest.

ON THE HORIZON

- HAPPENING #81 - October 17-20
- NEWCOMER MINGLE - October 20

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.



*Celebrant: The Reverend Geoffrey Hoare ~ Preacher: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
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 Alexander "Sandy" Johnston

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