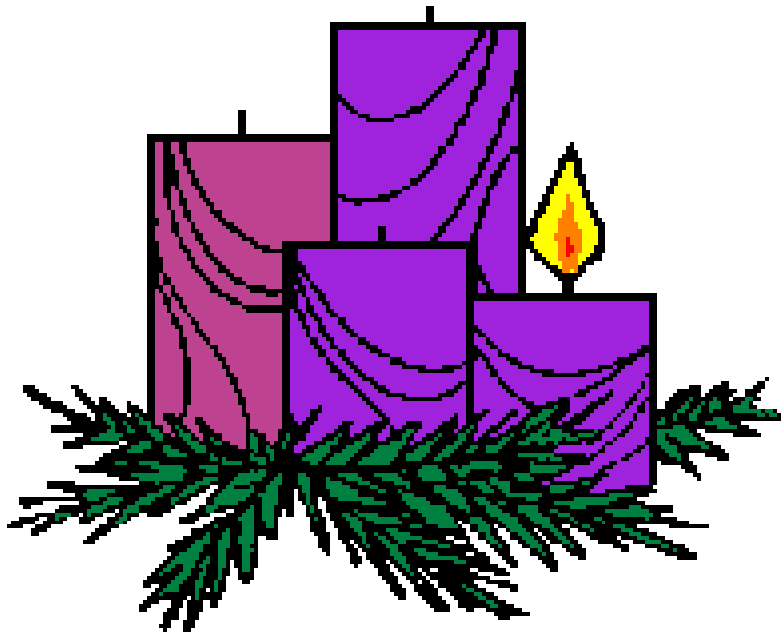


The First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2019
Lectionary Year A, Daily Office Year 2

S
T
F
R
A
N
C
I
S'



E
P
I
S
C
O
P
A
L
C
H
U
R
C
H

Advent is a season of preparation and expectation in anticipation of the coming of our Lord Jesus on the Last Day. Jesus Christ is the One who came by Bethlehem's crib and Calvary's cross, who comes to us now in Word and Holy Eucharist, and is the One who will come in glory to raise us from the dead and give eternal life to all who believe in him.

Welcome! We're glad that you are here!

A children's play area (for little ones) is located toward the back of the church.

Young Children at 10:15 a.m. Worship

If you require nursery help, please see the Greeter or Usher. Sunday School for children (2-10) takes place during worship. The children are led out by a teacher during the opening hymn and return at the peace.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The Church's liturgical year begins with a four Sunday season called Advent. The word "advent" comes from the Latin phrase *ad venire*, "to come". The word refers to both the coming of Christ in the flesh, which began the messianic age, and to his coming in glory, when he will bring his work of redemption to its completion in the resurrection of the dead.

Holy Eucharist Rite II at 8:00 & 10:15 A.M.

The Holy Eucharist, also known as the Holy Communion, the Mass, or the Lord's Supper, is the true Christian thanksgiving meal in which we remember and celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day.

Biblical Texts are from The Revised Standard Version.

Liturgical texts are from The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) & other liturgical sources.

Hymn selections are from The Hymnal 1982 or other approved musical resources.

We invite you to fill out a Visitors Information Card and to stay for beverages and refreshments after Worship.

Are you interested in the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation, or being received into the Episcopal Church? Please see Fr. Jewson

Prayers of the People for Advent are adapted from those written for the Advent Season by the Rev. Deacon Susan Watson Epting, author and presenter.

The few minutes before the service are an opportunity for quiet meditation and prayer. Please be respectful of those who are preparing for worship by keeping visiting in the pews to a minimum.

This congregation is committed to being an open, affirming and welcoming church to all who come here.

The Word of God

Prelude

All stand

Prayer for Purity

During the Advent Season this prayer will be said by the Celebrant before worship.

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.**

Gathering Hymn Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Hymnal 66

All Verses

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

During the Advent Season all children present are invited to join the ministers in procession to the Advent Wreath.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Deacon says

Hear the words of Isaiah the Prophet:

Isaiah 9: 2

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

May this green wreath with its bright candles help us to prepare for the real coming of Jesus which happens within our hearts.

A person or family appointed lights the first candle while all say,

O Blessed Jesus, the Light of all people, bless this candle which we light in honor of you. Fill our hearts with the fire of your love. May we receive you with joy and gladness and hold you close this season. Come Lord Jesus!

10:15 am

After the lighting of the Advent candle, the children are lead down the center aisle for Sunday School in the Children's Room. They will return during the Peace.

The Celebrant says

Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.

Canticle for Advent Surely It Is God Who Saves Me Hymnal 679

During Advent Season the Glory to God will not be said or sung, we have replaced it with a Canticle of Hope.



1 Sure - ly it is God — who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not
2 Make his deeds — known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed



fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his

help is near. So re - joice as you draw wa - ter from sal -
 might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with
 va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -
 you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the
 liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
 great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah* Copyright ©1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr. Music: *Thomas Merton*, Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950) Copyright ©1984, Ray W. Urwin. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayer for the Advent Season

All together say

Lord Jesus, master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet

seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen.

Advent Prayer by Fr. Henri Nouwen

All sit for the Lessons. The Reader says

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122 *Laetatus sum I am with joy*

Psalm Tone 410

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

8:00 am The Reader reads the first verse to the asterisk then all say the remainder of the psalm together.

- 1 I was glad when they said to / me, *
- "Let us go to the house of the / LORD."**
- 2 **Now our feet are / standing ***
within your gates, O Je/rusalem.
- 3 **Jerusalem is built as a / city ***
that is at unity with it/self;
- 4 **To which the tribes go up,**
the tribes of the / LORD, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the / LORD.
- 5 **For there are the thrones of / judgment, ***
the thrones of the house of / David.
- 6 **Pray for the peace of Je/rusalem: ***
"May they prosper who / love you.
- 7 **Peace be within your / walls ***
and quietness within your / towers.
- 8 **For my brethren and companions' / sake, ***
I pray for your pro/sperity.
- 9 **Because of the house of the LORD our / God, ***
I will seek to do you / good."

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

Thanks be to God.

All stand

Hymn before the Gospel Hark, A Thrilling Voice is Sounding Hymnal 59
All Verses

Descant

The musical score is written for three staves: a vocal line at the top, a piano accompaniment in the middle, and a bass line at the bottom. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line begins with a descant. The lyrics are as follows:

2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 “Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day.”
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: *Merton*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)
Copyright © by permission of Cambridge University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Gospel

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew. 24:36-44

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People sit

The Sermon

Fr. Alfred Jewson

After the Sermon all sit for a time in silent reflection.

All Stand

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

**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 Deacon calls the people to prayer

God of wonder and awe, we watch for your signs in sun, moon and stars, as we pray to you saying, “Stay with us while we wait.”

Intercessor

For the Church that watches and waits for you; for those who seek, or lead or follow, that the path be made straight for your coming. We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Wayne our Bishop, Deon our Bishop-Elect, Alfred our priest, Rebecca our deacon, and the interns at Deaconess Anne House. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we ask for prayers for the people and ministry of Christ Church Cathedral, St. Louis, and Kathie their priest, and Susan and Barbi their deacons. In our companion Diocese of Lui, South Sudan, for the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, and Archbishop Justin Badi Arama. *The people add their prayers for the Church, silently or aloud.*

God who has come and is coming again,
Stay with us while we wait.

For our nation and it’s people, as we seek our own mind, that a spirit of mutual respect may inform and instruct those who share power with those they have pledged to serve. *The people add their prayers for the country and those in authority, silently or aloud.*

God who has come and is coming again,
Stay with us while we wait.

For the welfare of the whole world, that we might hold whatever is true and honorable, just or pure, or pleasing in our hearts, joyfully living into your vision for all of creation. We pray for Ryan and Lauren Smith who are working in Afghanistan. *The people add their prayers for the whole world, silently or aloud.*
God who has come and is coming again,
Stay with us while we wait.

For this community, that our love may grow with knowledge and insight as we discern the gifts and the challenges of the community around us. We remember the staff and students of St. Francis' Childcare Center, the members of our Discernment Team, and those on our weekly prayer Rota: Noel, Polly Morse and Kevin Broom, and children Alex, Jackson, Jonah, Amanda, and Lydia. *The people add their prayers for the local community, silently or aloud.*

God who has come and is coming again,

Stay with us while we wait.

For all who suffer, that we may share in their suffering, bless them as gifts, and honor their presence with us as we ask for your healing touch for parishioners Jackie, Caitlin, Cristin, Roger, Jack, Annie, Linda, Darla, and Tracey. We remember those who are sick, the homebound, and whose needs are known to you, particularly Deacon Dayna, Sarah, Morgan, Mike, Jeanne, Dick, Gigi, Virginia, Nancy, Abby, Madison, Frank, Pat, Bob, Lynn, and Benjamin. *The people add their prayers for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, silently or aloud.*

God who has come and is coming again,

Stay with us while we wait.

For those who have died, especially Howard Westmoreland, friend of Barb Sacco, Andy Kirn, cousin of Lynn Main and Deacon Bryan England that they may be at peace and find eternal rest. We pray for the fullness of their joy in you and their place in the company of heaven, that they too, may be present while we wait.

The people add their prayers for those who have died, silently or aloud.

God who has come and is coming again,

Light our way to you.

Celebrant

Let us pray:

Creator God, we praise you for your love in coming to us. Give us grace to accept the Christ who comes in your name, and the courage to be Christ for others. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Minister 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 our Savior 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 Absolution

The Celebrant gives the Absolution

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

The Peace

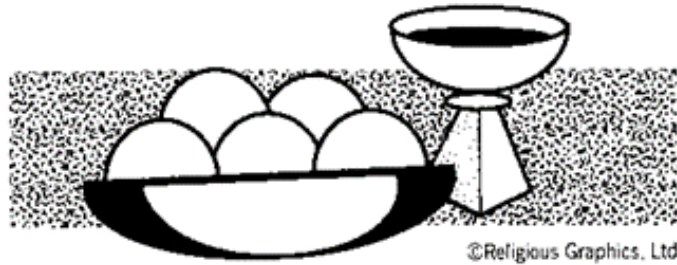
The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ. First welcome the visitor, then greet new friends, then greet old friends.

The Holy Communion



The Celebrant begins the offertory with these words

Sisters and brothers present yourselves as living sacrifices to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn

Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel
Verses 1, 2, 6, 7

Hymnal 56



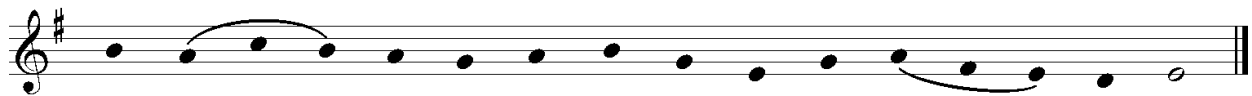
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adpt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright ©1975, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The people stand while the bread and wine and money offerings are presented and placed on the altar. The bread and wine will become the gift of Christ to us. Our money offerings will become one of the gifts we offer back to Christ.

Then is sung by all

**Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Hymnal 400, verse 7

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

The Celebrant says
The Lord be with you.
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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

8:00 am
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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven 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.

10:15 am Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus

Hymnal S125

Then the Celebrant continues:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Francis, Jeremiah the Prophet, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

People and Celebrant

**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.**

BCP 364

Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

8:00 am

Then the Celebrant says

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

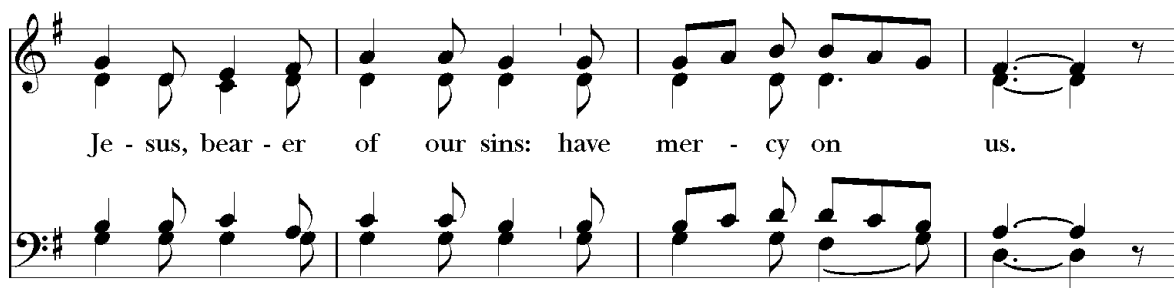
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

10:15 am

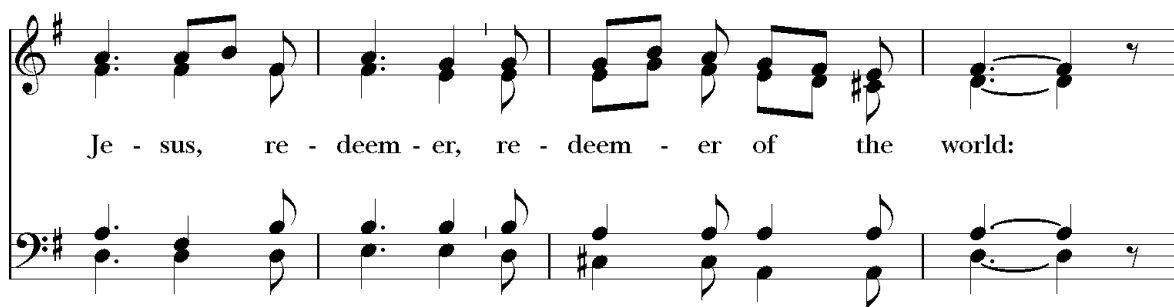
Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S165

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



give us your peace, give us your peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation
 The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Holy Communion is deeply rooted in the Passover Meal and is a communion with God and through God with each other.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. If you wish not to partake of the cup, please cross your arms over your Heart as the cup is brought to you.

The Body and Blood of Christ are shared with all who are baptized. A blessing is given to anyone who would like to come forward but does not want to receive Holy Communion.

The Communion Hymn As We Gather At Your Table

WLP 763

1. As we gath - er at your
 2. Turn our wor - ship in - to

Ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your Word, help us
 wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life; send us

know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be
 forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is

stirred. Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we
 strife. Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for -

claim it as our own; teach us through this ho - ly
 give as you for - gave; may we still be - hold your

ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
 im - age in the world you died to save.

Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitors

Deacon sends forth Eucharistic Visitors to bring Holy Communion to the home-bound and infirm.

In the healing name of Jesus, you the members of St. Francis' Church send forth *name* bearing these holy gifts of bread and wine that *name* may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup.

Prayer after Communion

BCP 365

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

Advent Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People

Come, long expected Jesus. Excite in us wonder and awe at the power of your Father and ours as we watch for signs of your presence as Emmanuel – God with us. May your Holy Spirit stir in us the yearning to seek you that we might find you. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Prepare the way, O Zion

Hymnal 65

All Verses



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920) Copyright ©1982, Charles P. Price. Music: *Bereden väg för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt. Copyright ©1930 by permission of Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Announcements

Dismissal

The Deacon dismisses the People with these words

Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Bible Study Questions

Isaiah 2:1-5

1. What are your "swords" and "spears"? Has God transformed them into tools for peace?
2. How do the New Testament writers treat Isaiah's vision? Has Jesus really inaugurated the kingdom of peace? If so, when will it be completed?
3. How might Isaiah's vision of God's kingdom shape your hope, prayers, and values?

Romans 13:11-14

1. How does Paul's insistence in Verse 11 influence your perspective on life?
2. What is meant by the light and darkness theme found in verses 12-14?
3. What does it mean to "put on" (clothe) oneself in Jesus Christ? Have you done this? If not, how might your life be different if you were to clothe yourself in Jesus Christ?

Matthew 24:37-44

1. If Jesus returned at 7:00 PM next Friday, what would you be doing?
2. What does it mean to be ready? Are you ready for his return?
3. How would you explain the second coming to a person new to Christ?

Readings for next Sunday, December 8, 2019

The First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10
The Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13
The Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

J

Blue Christmas Service with Eucharist

Thursday, December 12, at 7:00 pm.

Advent and Christmas are seasons of joy and celebration for many people. But we also know that these celebrations can ring hollow in our hearts if we are experiencing grief, depression, or pain. We may not feel like joining in the celebration if we are walking in sadness or distress. There are many kinds of losses that trouble us in these days of darkness. Blue Christmas is a special service especially designed to give voice and encouragement to those who are grieving, or who are experiencing other types of losses, or feelings of exclusion or despondence. You are invited to join us as we seek God's hope giving comfort, healing, and restoration.



Adopt-A-Family

If you wish to participate, please choose an ornament from the tree in the Community Room. Please return wrapped, labeled gifts to the community room or Kathleen by Sunday, December 15th.

Contact Kathleen O'Reilly for information and questions,
314-706-2330.



Wade Hall-December 1
Jonah Broom-Morse-December 3
Jackie Selle-December 5
Kevin Broom-December 7



Paul Jokerst &
Jeff Veenstra
December 8

Episcopal City Mission Holiday Gifts Program



Please help Episcopal City Mission continue one of its greatest traditions. ECM believes that the children in the St. Louis Juvenile Justice System should know the magic of the holiday season. With your help, ECM makes sure that all the children they serve during this season has at least one gift to unwrap. The message the children receive is the true gift—that someone cares about them and believes they can change their life paths.

If you are interested in participating in the Holiday Gifts Program, take a tag from the ECM tree in the Community Room, and record your name and tag number on the sign-up sheet. **UNWRAPPED gifts** need to be brought to the church by **Sunday, December 8**. Please contact Mary Ann Kinder if you have questions; by cell phone 636/634-1188 or by email at kinderkar@att.net.

Trinity Central West End is in need of men's white socks and white underwear in size large and extra large. Items may be placed in the marked box outside the Parish Administrator's Office. Items will be collected through the end of December. Thank you to those who have already donated!

Episcopal calendars for 2020 are available in the Narthex. Suggested donation is \$5.00.

Advent & Christmas Devotionals are available in the Narthex. Suggested donation is \$2.00

Something to Think About

Happy New Year! Today we begin the new church year at St. Francis' Church. We are preparing with expectation for the birth of Jesus on December 25th and looking forward to the heavenly kingdom. We are told by the world around us to buy, buy, buy to show our love for our loved ones. We are told by the world to use money we do not have, to buy things we do not need, to impress people we may not even like. Our gifts given at church each week show our appreciation for God's love for us. It is our gift, given to God weekly. Thank you for your stewardship that enables us to proclaim the Son of God, Jesus.

Brought to you by the Stewardship of Life

Prayer List

Homebound parishioners: Noel Choweller

Weekly Prayer Rota: Polly Morse and Kevin Broom, and children Alex, Jackson, Jonah, Amanda, and Lydia

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: For the people and ministry of Christ Church Cathedral, St. Louis, and Kathie their priest, and Susan and Barbi their deacons

Companion Diocese of Lui, South Sudan: For the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, and Archbishop Justin Badi Arama

For our parishioners:

Jackie, Caitlin & Cristin Selle, Roger Reese, Jack Doerr, Annie Rayman
Linda Doolittle, Darla Becker, Tracey Oswald
St Francis' Discernment Team
Friends of St. Francis' Childcare Center

For those working abroad, especially Ryan & Lauren Smith

For those who have asked for prayers:

Deacon Dayna Jewson, Sarah, Morgan, Mike Dewey, Jeanne Steinbrueck, Dick Brinson, Gigi Nolen, Virginia Stemme, Nancy Richard, Abby Jones (Friend of St. Francis' teacher) Madison Erb, Frank Baldwin, Pat Jacobi, Bob Sweeney, Lynn Stemme and Benjamin Cra

For those who have died:

Howard Westmoreland, friend of Barb Sacco, who died November 20, 2019
Andy Kirn, cousin of Lynn Main, who died November 23, 2019, Deacon Bryan England, Diocese of West Missouri, friend of Fr. Al and Deacon Dayna, who died November 30, 2019

The Gospel of Luke Challenge

By: Paul Jokerst

How much do you know about Jesus?
Do you know of His life and ministry?

I challenge you through the month of December; take a journey with myself, and Luke, through the life of our Lord and Savior. During this time of the church calendar, we usually focus on Christ's birth. However, this year, let us also focus on why His birth is so significant.



If you have heard or read the Gospel of Luke, you know just how detailed he was as his Gospel truly corroborates the other Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and John. Additionally, Luke tells us about additional events in Jesus' life including his early childhood.

Therefore, I issue to you the Gospel of Luke Challenge. There are twenty-four chapters in the Gospel of Luke. The challenge is this, each day between December 1 and December 24 read one chapter from the Gospel of Luke.

By the time we get to Christmas Eve, we will have a better understanding of Jesus and his ministry. Maybe, by December 24, we will wholeheartedly praise God with the angels and declare, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men! (Luke 2:14)

As you read the Gospel, keep notes in a journal on specific highlights that stand out to you in the reading. That is the challenge, read and learn Jesus. Let's take this trip together through Luke's account of the life and ministry of our Lord, our Savior, the Messiah, the King!



2019 Convention Makes History

Nearly 300 people gathered at Christ Church Cathedral and hundreds more watched live on Facebook as the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri elected our 11th bishop.

The Rev. Deon K. Johnson, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brighton, MI, was elected by an overwhelming majority of lay and ordained members on the first ballot.

Although the bishop election was definitely the highlight, there is a lot of other important news coming out of the 180th Convention.

Transitional Prayer for our Bishop-elect.

Good and gracious God, we stand on the threshold of a new time for our diocese. As we cross that threshold hand in hand in thankfulness with our new Bishop-elect, Deon Johnson, pour upon us an abundance of your grace and guidance that together we may seek to be about the building up of your Kingdom in this place. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scheduled Monthly Happenings

Food Pantry offerings are blessed at late service every week.

First Sunday	Loose plate offering goes to clergy discretionary fund during both Services.
Second Sunday	Blood Pressure taken in Community Room between Worship Services.
Third Sunday	Pot-luck after 10:15 am Worship Bishop's Committee Meeting
Fourth Sunday	Holy Anointing takes place immediately after distribution of Holy Communion at both Services.
Fifth Sunday	Trinity Hot Lunch

This Week at St. Francis' Church

Sunday December 1 1st Sunday of Advent	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:15 am 11:30 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Holy Eucharist Choir Practice Holy Eucharist Adult Forum-Vicar's Forum Finance Committee Meeting <i>Al-Anon- Community Room</i>
Monday December 2	5:00 pm 6:00 pm	Evening Prayer & Intercessions Worship & Music Committee
Tuesday December 3	8:30 am 10:00 am 7:00 pm	Morning Prayer <i>Al Anon-Children's Room</i> <i>Overeaters' Anonymous -Community Room</i>
Wednesday December 4	1:30 pm 5:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Crafternoon –Community Room Handbell Rehearsal Centering Prayer Tutoring
Thursday December 5	8:30 am 1:00 pm 2:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:45 pm	Morning Prayer Staff Meeting Marketing & Communications Meeting FOSF Board Meeting-Children's Room <i>AA-Community Room</i>
Friday December 6	10:00 am 10:00 am	Bible Study <i>Open OA Group-Children's room</i>
Saturday December 7	7:00 am	<i>AA—Community Room</i>
Sunday December 8 2nd Sunday of Advent	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:15 am 11:45 am 6:00 pm	Holy Eucharist Choir Practice Holy Eucharist Adult Forum-Thomas Merton, Herb Smith <i>Al-Anon- Community Room</i>

Today's Ministers of Worship

Celebrant	The Rev. Alfred Jewson
Deacon	The Ven. Rebecca Barger
Musician	Cheryl Foster
Choir Director	Max Starbuck
Christian Formation	Kathy Regnier
Altar Guild	Kathleen O'Reilly
Advent Wreath Lighters 8:00am	Sheila, Troy, Tatum & Jude McCart
Acolyte 8:00am	Tatum McCart
Lector & Intercessor 8:00am	Tracey Oswald
Announcements 8:00am	Tracey Oswald
Greeter	Linda Doolittle
Usher	Chris Kinder
Advent Wreath Lighters 10:15am	Scott, Katie, Colton, & Sarah Quade
Acolyte 10:15 am	Paul Jokerst
Lectors 10:15 am	Michael Booker & Kathleen McDonald
Intercessor 10:15am	Paddy Wrob
Torchbearers 10:15 am	Laurie Dailey & Arlene Underwood
Eucharistic Minister 10:15 am	Suzanne Jones
Eucharistic Visitor	Paddy Wrob
Tellers	Joe O'Reilly & Brenda Russell
Announcements 10:15 am	Joe O'Reilly

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of time. *Matthew 28:19-20*

St. Francis' Episcopal Church

602 Rockwood Arbor Dr., Eureka, MO 63025
636-938-3733

website: stfranciseureka.com

e-mail: stfranch@sbcglobal.net

<https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisEpiscopalChurchEureka/>

The Rt. Reverend George Wayne Smith, *Bishop of Missouri*
The Rev. Alfred Jewson, *Interim Vicar*, ajewson.stfranch@gmail.com 314-560-1375
The Ven. Rebecca Barger, *Deacon*, rsbarger@charter.net 713-515-5676
Lynn Main, *Parish Administrator* stfranch@sbcglobal.net 636-938-3733

Cheryl Foster, *Music Director*, stfranch@sbcglobal.net

The Bishop's Committee

Herb Smith, <i>Bishop's Warden</i>	Mike Rohan
Sylvia Ahmad	Brenda Russell
Paul Becker	Barb Sacco
Donna Bernert, <i>Junior Warden</i>	Jackie Selle
Joe O'Reilly	Bob Smith

Treasurer

Tracey Oswald

Bishop's Committee Clerk

Caitlin Selle

Convention Delegates

Bob Schaefer	Max Starbuck
Michael Booker, <i>Alternate</i>	

The Search Committee

Michael Booker	Paul Jokerst, <i>Chair</i>
Suzanne Jones	Jack Laules
Jerry Smith	Jackie Selle, <i>Clerk</i>
Marsha Smith	Mike Rohan, <i>BC Liaison</i>
Barb Sacco	

Friends of St. Francis Day Care

Kathy Regnier, *Director*, friendsofstfran@gmail.com, 636-333-1870
<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofStFrancisChildcare/>