

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 18

September 6, 2020

ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Welcome to St. Francis' Episcopal Church where all are accepted and validated!

Lectionary Year A Daily Office Year 2

The Liturgy is from The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and other approved liturgical sources. Scripture readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version bible. All music is reproduced under One License # A-707318

The Prayers of the People are adapted from "Intercessions for the Christian People" The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota, Gail Ramshaw, editor, and are modified for use at St. Francis' Episcopal Church.

In the absence of the Deacon the Celebrant assumes those liturgical roles.

In the absence of the Celebrant the Deacon serves as Officiant.

Holy Eucharist

*Our Sunday worship service begins at 10:15 a.m. each Sunday and is **live streamed** from St. Francis' Church. It is available for you to share in on Facebook and Zoom. All of us look forward to the time when in person worship is permitted.*

This copy of the bulletin contains everything needed for today's worship. You are encouraged to respond and sing out loud with all persons gathered in your home.


Prelude

Gathering Hymn


Joyful, joyful we adore thee

Hymnal 376


All Verses




1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933) Copyright © reprinted with the permission of Charles Scribner's Sons. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
 Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Celebrant greets the People and they respond

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

BCP 355

The Celebrant then says

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.**

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God in the Highest

Hymnal S277

1. Glo - ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

2. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
4. you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.

6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

The Collect/Prayer of the Day

BCP 233

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Labor Day

All together say

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lessons

The First Reading

The Lector says

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149

Cantate Domino - Sing to the Lord

BCP 807

The Lector reads the first verse to the asterisk then all say the remainder of the psalm together.

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the LORD a new song; *

sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

- 2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *
let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.**
- 3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.**
- 4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his people *
and adorns the poor with victory.**
- 5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.**
- 6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand;**
- 7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;**
- 8 To bind their kings in chains *
and their nobles with links of iron;**
- 9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!**

The Second Reading

The Lector says

A reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans.

13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Hymn

Awake, my soul, and with the sun

Hymnal 11

Verses 1-3

1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy
 2 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new; dis -
 3 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all
 *4 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and
 perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of
 I de - sign, or do, or say; that all my powers, with
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye

joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice:
 thought and will, and with thy - self my spi - rit fill.
 all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711), alt.

Music: *Morning Hymnal*, melody François Hippolyte Barthélemon (1741-1808); harm. *The Church Hymnal for the Church Year*, 1917

The Gospel

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

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

18:15-20

Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

After the Gospel the Deacon says

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon *Children & Adult*

Father Alfred Jewson

To allow for your personal reflection, a time of silence will be kept following the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

All say together

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

The Deacon introduces the Prayers of the People

With expectant faith, let us place before God earnest petitions for our world, our Church, and ourselves, saying: Hear us, O Lord.

Intercessor

For our world, in need of healing, and in search for a savior, yet far from Jesus, together praying,
Hear us, O Lord.

For the churches and their leaders, at times narrowed by institutional concerns and blind to differing manifestations of faith, we pray especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Deon our Bishop, Alfred our priest, and Rebecca our deacon; for the people and ministry of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. We pray for Lea, their Interim Priest; Camie, their Associate Rector; and Sue and Nathaniel, their Priest Associates. In our companion Diocese of Lui we pray for Wiroh Parish, and Matayo, their priest. Together praying,
Hear us, O Lord.

We raise before you our families, those who are placed in our care, those with whom we disagree, and those who we struggle to love, all of which, whose needs are known to you. Together praying,
Hear us, O Lord.

Strengthen for ministry those who work to educate and minister to others, for Friends of St. Francis Childcare Center, for the chaplains, staff, and volunteers at the Episcopal City Mission, and the youth in detention. Help us also in our parish ministry areas that we may live into the call your Holy Spirit beckons us to. Together praying,

Hear us, O Lord.

That leaders of our nation whose decisions influence the lives of many, may discern with wisdom and act with compassion. And that we might also be advocates for the unemployed and the underemployed, defenders of liberties for those who live in society's margins, and models of justice. We pray for those whom you have called to guard and protect your creation, those who work the land, who police our streets and first responders, and those who defend our nation, especially Kyle deployed to Iran. Together praying,

Hear us, O Lord.

Help us to be mindful of those who are isolated due to health issues, especially our homebound parishioners Darla, Noel, and Jack. We ask your spirit of healing to be upon parishioners Kathleen, Roger and Sue; we remember Gene, Allen, Virginia, Patsy, and Pansy, and all who are afflicted with COVID-19, and we pray that those who are troubled by demons of mind and body, and for those who must watch others suffer, be not forgotten. Together praying,

Hear us, O Lord.

For the victims and survivors of recent hurricanes and of violence in our cities, especially Portland, Oregon and Kenosha, Wisconsin. For those whom we love but see no longer, that they may come into the fullness of life and be united with God in the community of the faithful. Together praying,

Hear us, O Lord.

At this time, I bid your prayers and intercessions, either silently or aloud.

All will be “unmuted” at this time to offer their biddings of joy, concern, or thanksgiving.

Celebrant brings the Prayers of the People to a close with the following sentences
Blessed and praised are you, O Lord, for you listen to all who call to you in faith. And you have promised to hear our prayers if we raise them in the name of Jesus, and so we do. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Confession of Sin

EOW 19

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept, then the Minister and People say

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest gives the Absolution from sin

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 Exchange of Peace

BCP 360

The Celebrant says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We invite you to take a moment and extend the peace of God to the members of your household and then to people in the world that you love and struggle to love.

The Holy Communion

When we receive Christ's Body and Blood in corporal Holy Communion, we take into ourselves the Sacrament of Our Lord Jesus in the form of Consecrated Bread and Wine and are reminded of who we really are.

When we engage in spiritual Holy Communion, we are still reminded of who we really are. We are Christ's body and blood to each other and those whom we encounter in our daily lives.

The Celebrant says

I appeal to you, sisters and brothers, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as

a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Offertory Hymn

At the Lamb's high feast

Hymnal 174

All Verses

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,
2 Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
3 Might - y vic - tim from on high, hell's fierce powers be - neath thee lie;
4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.

who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;
Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:
From sin's power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.

praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;
now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;
Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:

gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
 with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.
 thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.
 ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.

Words: Latin, 1632; tr. Robert Campbell (1814-1868), alt. Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Doxology

The Celebrant says

To you, Lord, belongs the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory and the majesty.

All that is in the heavens and the earth is yours, and of your own we give you.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

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 everywhere to give thanks, to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymnal S125

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.

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, St. Paul, _____ 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

The Celebrant says

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

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

Fraction Anthem

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Hymnal S154

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Prayer after Spiritual Communion

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

All together say

Almighty God, giver of life and destroyer of death, you have graciously reunited us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ and have hid us with him in you.

Fix that morning star which never sets, the risen light of Christ, in our lives that together we will walk in your presence, serving one another, with your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills, until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people

Loving God, send us anywhere in the world you would have us go, only go there with us. Place any burden upon us that you desire, only stand by us to sustain us; and break any tie that binds us, except the one that binds us to you. And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Singing songs of expectation

Hymnal 527

All verses

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody features several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes). The lyrics are aligned with the notes below the staves.

1 Sing - ing songs of ex - pec - ta - tion, on - ward
2 One the light of God's own pres - ence, o'er his
3 One the strain the lips of thou - sands lift as

goes the pil - grim band, through the night of
ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the
from the heart of one; one the con - flict,

doubt and sor - row, march - ing to the prom - ised land.
gloom and ter - ror, bright - ening all the path we tread:
one the per - il, one the march in God be - gun:

Clear be - fore us through the dark - ness gleams and
one the ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the
one the glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the

burns the guid - ing light: trust - ing God we
faith which nev - er tires, one the ear - nest
far e - ter - nal shore, where the one al -

march to - geth - er step - ping fear - less through the night.
look - ing for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.
might - y Fa - ther reigns in love for ev - er - more.

Words: Bernard Severin Ingemann (1789-1862); tr. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924), alt. Music: *Ton-y-Botel*, Thomas John Williams (1869-1944)

Birthday

Polly Morse

September 11

Anniversary

John & Sue Schmidt

September 11

Birthdays and Anniversaries

If your birthday or anniversary does not get listed in our bulletin it is because we do not know the date. Please send an email to ajewson.stfranch@gmail.com.

Announcements

The Dismissal

The Deacon gives the dismissal

Grace and peace remain with you and keep you in the love of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER LISTS

Our homebound parishioners: Darla, Noel, and Jack

Our parishioners: Kathleen, Roger, and Sue

Weekly Prayer Rota: Sheila, Troy, Tatum & Jude McCart, and Skip & Patti Moreland

Parish & Diocesan related prayer requests:

Friends of St. Francis Childcare Center

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Lea, Interim Priest; Camie, Associate Rector; and Sue and Nathaniel, Priest Associates

Companion Diocese of Lui, South Sudan: Wiroh Parish, and Matayo, their priest

For those committed to our ongoing prayers: Deaconess Anne House interns; those discerning a call to ordained ministry; the ministry of the chaplains, staff, volunteers at Episcopal City Mission, and the youth in detention and their families; patients, families, & communities affected by substance use disorders; those suffering from untreated & undertreated pain and chronic diseases; those who serve in our military, especially Kyle (USMC) deployed to Iran; those who are affected either through illness or bereavement by COVID-19 in our communities, across our nation, & throughout the world

For those who have asked for prayers: For Gene, Allen, Virginia, Patsy, and Pansy; first responders and healthcare professionals who continue to work on the frontlines of this pandemic; medical researchers searching for a cure & treatment for COVID-19

For those who have died and those who mourn: For those killed in violence in our cities, especially Portland, Oregon and Kenosha, Wisconsin and their families. For the law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty in 2020 and their families; and for the youth in St. Louis who have suffered directly from gun violence this year and those whose lives were lost and their families

*St. Francis is a Two rule Church
Love God
Love Each Other*

Bible Study Questions

Exodus 12:1-14

1. Do you remember a time when you felt delivered from a place of hardship? How do you commemorate that deliverance?
2. What is the connection between blood and death in this passage?
3. Why is blood a protection against death? What is the relationship between this passage and the sacrifice of Christ?

Romans 13:8-14

1. When Paul quoted the commandments he left out six of them. Why do you suppose he omitted those six? What is the significance of the ones he did quote? What does this have to do with love?
2. What does Paul infer when he writes about sleep and the night? What does he mean by “the armor of light”?
3. What do you think he means when he speaks of salvation being nearer now? Didn't Jesus accomplish such through his death and resurrection?

Matthew 18:15-20

1. How does this passage reconcile with Jesus' words in Matthew 7: 1-5?
2. Can you think of an example of a confrontation that resulted in reconciliation? What are some practical steps to take that may result in reconciliation after confrontation?
3. Looking at the history of the Church since Pentecost, how well has the Church lived up to Jesus' words about reconciliation? How has it failed?
4. Compare and contrast Jesus' words in this passage about Gentiles and tax collectors with the way Jesus treated them.

Something to Think About

Brought to you by the Stewardship of Life

What about your spiritual health? Paul reminds us that we need to be stewards of our spirituality as well as our bodies. Start to claim at least 10 minutes each day exclusively for “putting on Christ”. During his quiet time use this mantra: “God loves me and forgives me. I can forgive because I am forgiven. Thank you, Lord Jesus.”

Readings for next Sunday, September 13, 2020

The First Lesson: Exodus 14: 19-31

Psalm 114

The Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

The Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Guidelines for in person Worship

The entire set of guidelines are available on our website

At the direction of Bishop Deon a Regathering Team has been formed to insure that in person worship follows mandatory guidelines from the Diocese of Missouri and St. Louis County. The members of the team: Father Alfred Jewson, Interim Vicar, the Venerable Rebecca Barger, Deacon, Bishop's Warden, Jackie Selle, Junior Warden, Donna Bernert, Bishop's Committee member, William Thompson, R.N. The members of this team have received the entire set of Updated Guidelines for Gatherings in the Episcopal Diocese of December. The Regathering Team will meet in person at St. Francis' Church on Monday, September 6 at 10:00 am to begin to develop a set of guidelines for our church.

It is possible that in person worship could be postponed or periodically delayed dependent on the number of COVID-19 cases in St. Louis County. It will be the responsibility of this team to keep the congregation informed.

Sunday and Wednesday Holy Eucharist

Starting Sunday, September 20 St. Francis' Church will initiate Sunday in person Holy Eucharist at 10:15 am and a duplicate in person Holy Eucharist on the following Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm. Only Sunday morning Holy Eucharist will be live streamed. With two worship services each week we will be able to accommodate more people.

Lectors and Intercessors

Some of our Lay Ministers wish to read the Lessons and Intercessions from home while others are willing to do so in the church and some wish to participate as Lay Ministers only on Sundays. As a result, Paul Jokerst has revamped the schedule. On Sundays there will be a Lector who will read the 1st Lesson, Psalm and 2nd Lesson and an Intercessor who will lead Prayers of the People. On Wednesdays there will be one Lay Minister who will read the Lessons and Psalm and lead the Prayers of the People.

If you are interested in becoming a Lay Minister as Lector and Intercessor, please contact Archdeacon Rebecca Barger.

Today's Ministers of Worship

Celebrant	The Rev. Alfred Jewson
Deacon	The Ven. Rebecca Barger
Musician	Cheryl Foster
Lector	Della Thompson
Intercessor	Tracey Oswald
Livestream	Paul Jokerst

The Schedule for The Week

Sunday, September 6	9:30-10:00am 10:15 am	Adult Forum – Michael Booker “How we got the Bible” Spiritual Communion followed by Virtual Coffee Hour
Monday, September 6	8:30 am 10:00 am	Morning Prayer Congregation Regathering Team
Tuesday, September 7	8:30 am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday, September 8	8:30 am 11:30 am	Morning Prayer Women’s Lunch – Drewell Park
Thursday, September 9	8:30 am	Morning Prayer
Friday, September 10	8:30 am 10:00 am	Morning Prayer Bible Study with Kathleen McDonald on Zoom
Sunday, September 13	9:30-10:00am 10:15 am	Adult Forum – Michael Booker “How we got the Bible” Spiritual Communion followed by Virtual Coffee Hour

St. Francis' Episcopal Church

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The Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson, 11th Bishop of the Diocese 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

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

The Bishop's Committee

Jackie Selle, *Bishop's Warden* Donna Bernert, *Junior Warden*

Class of 2021

Mike Rohan
Barb Sacco
Bob Smith

Class of 2022

Sylvia Ahmad
Donna Bernert
Jackie Selle
Herb Smith

Class of 2023

Mary Ann Kinder
Doris Schaefer
Bill Thompson

Tracey Oswald, *Treasurer*

Convention Delegates

Max Starbuck Paul Jokerst
Michael Booker, *Alternate*

The Discernment Committee (Vicar's Search)

Paul Jokerst, *Chair*
Michael Booker
Jack Laules
Jerry Smith

Mike Rohan, *BC Liaison*
Suzanne Jones
Barb Sacco
Marsha Smith

Friends of St. Francis Day Care

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