

A Service of Liturgy of the Word

The 24th Sunday after Pentecost, November 15, 2020

Proper 28

ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

Our Sunday worship service will be available for you to share in, beginning at 10:15 a.m. each Sunday, on Facebook and Zoom.

This copy of the bulletin contains everything needed for today's worship. You are encouraged to respond and sing out loud with those who are gathered with you.

Prelude

Welcome from the Vicar

Following the welcome, one bell will ring to call all to prayer.

Gathering Hymn

O God, Our Help From Ages Past

H 680

1. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.
2. Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away;
they fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
3. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Opening Acclamations

Officiant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God. Glory to God for ever and ever.

People **Blessed be our God. For ever and ever. Amen.**

The Officiant reads the following

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark

12:29-3

Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept

Almighty God, our heavenly Father: We have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

The Officiant says

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

Amen.

Song of Praise

A Song of God's Love

I John 4:7-II

All recite together

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is Love.

**In this the love of God was revealed among us,
that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through Jesus Christ.**

**In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us
and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.**

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we ought also to love one another.

For if we love one another, God abides in us, and God's love will be perfected in us.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

The First Lesson

The Lector says

A reading from the Book of Judges.

4:I-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud (EE-hud) died. So, the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin (JAY-bin) of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor (HAY-zor); the commander of his army was Sisera (SIS-eh-rah), who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim (hay-ROH-sheth-hah-GOY-ihm). Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth (LAP-pi-doth), was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim (EE-fray-ihm); and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam (Ah-BIN-oh-am) from Kedesh (KEY-desh) in Naphtali (NAF-tuh-lai), and said to him, “The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, ‘Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali (NAF-tuh-lai) and the tribe of Zebulun (ZEH-byoo-luhn). I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon (WAH-dee KIH-shohn) with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.’”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 123 Ad te levavi oculos meos

The Lector reads the first line then all say the remainder of the psalm together.

- 1 To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he shows us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy,

for we have had more than enough of contempt,
5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,
and of the derision of the proud.

The Second Lesson

The Lector says

A reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians.

5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

H 490

1. I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world, the star of my life is Jesus,

Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all, the night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2. I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all, the night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

The Gospel

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

25:14-30

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Laurie Anzilotti

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

The Blessing of Pledges

Officiant

Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving. These cards represent our sweat, they represent our lives, they represent our dreams. The pledges which we make on them are but tokens of the awesome gifts that have been given to us and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place.

People

May they be the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over, so that we may live out as closely as possible how you give to us. May we see them as our offering to you, sacred, holy, yet earthy, filled with possibilities. May we hold this image in our hearts and minds so as we watch our offerings each week come to your table, we can see our very selves being part of this offering, it is us on the table, living sacrifices to you. Amen.

The Nicene Creed

The Deacon invites all to recite the historic words of The Nicene Creed

**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

Deacon

The day of the Lord is soon to be upon us, a day not of wrath but of salvation. As children of the light and of the day, let us await the coming of the Lord in prayer on behalf of the human family around the world saying: grant our prayer.

Intercessor

Blessed are you, our sovereign God: for you do not abandon what you have created but continue to make your grace known among us. We thank you for those you have chosen to speak your reconciling word in this age, and we pray for the grace to receive it. We pray for all leaders of your universal Church, especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, Deon our Bishop, Laurie our vicar, and Rebecca our deacon; for those discerning a call to ordained ministry; for the ministry and leadership of the convention of the Diocese of Missouri; and for theological education for the people of Lui Diocese. God of grace,
Grant our prayer.

Blessed are you, our God of compassion: for you hear the cries of the poor, you see the tears in the eyes of all who mourn, you feel the pain of those in anguish, and you come to the side of the lonely. You call your church to compassion and service. God of grace,
Grant our prayer.

Blessed are you, our God of peace: for you have bid us to make warfare cease and to place our trust in you who bore us up on eagle's wings. Raise up among us peacemakers, and those who work for justice and peace by giving them courage, vision, and strength. For those who police our streets and first responders; for those who speak out against systemic racism and social injustices. God of grace,

Grant our prayer.

Blessed are you, our God of justice: for you desire that all be one. Erase the prejudice and class divisions that plague our nation that together we might share in your vision of harmony. We pray for our elected officials that they may be filled with a desire to embrace truth and righteousness as they exercise their duties of office. God of grace,

Grant our prayer.

Blessed are you, our God of strength: for you do not desire harm, but you favor our health. Give to your people the necessary measures of health, patience, and hope. We pray for our homebound parishioners Darla, Noel, and Jack, and ask for your spirit of healing for Roger, Ernie, Rosie, Paul, Mary, and Arlene. We also remember Hannah, Kenny, Virginia, Nancy, Lela, Beth, Linda Rose, and Al+ and Dayna, as well as others who are afflicted with COVID 19. God of grace,

Grant our prayer.

Blessed are you, our God of life and love: we pray to you for those we love but see no longer, especially parishioner Vernon Alexander who died this past week. May light perpetual shine upon them where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints. Help us also, to remember that in both life and death we are ever surrounded by your love. God of grace,

Grant our prayer.

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

For all who are viewing virtually, you will be “unmuted” at this time to offer your biddings of joy, concern, or thanksgiving.

Officiant

Because you are God, you hear our prayers. Because you are merciful, you promise to answer. We commend to you, merciful God, ourselves and those for whom we pray, through the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Peace

Officiant

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laurie+ wants to meet St. Francis'! Please call, email, or stop by church to say hi to Laurie!
Come find her, or she will come find you!

Wednesday Eucharist at the Timbers

All are welcome to an outdoor Eucharist at The Timbers under the shelter at the end of the parking lot. Gathering begins at 11:30am with Eucharist beginning promptly at 11:45am. We will adjourn no later than 12:10pm. Masks are required!

Thanksgiving Drive-In Service

We are hoping to offer St. Francis' traditional Thanksgiving Eve service as a Drive-In Eucharist on our parking lot. We need help! Join a planning meeting to think through logistics prior to the service and to help that evening with set up, clean up, and ushering in the parking lot during the service. Please email Laurie (laurie@stfranciseureka.com) or call the church (636-938-3733) to join the team! We can't hold the service without help from you!

St. Francis' Church Stewardship Campaign

We are grateful for everyone's generosity to our Stewardship Campaign! If you have not sent in your pledge card, it is not too late! We will continue to bless pledges in the coming weeks as we receive them with a final blessing at our Thanksgiving service.

Communications at St. Francis'

We sent our first *Weekly Worship at St. Francis* bulletin this past Friday at 12pm. Please let us know if you have questions about this new format or if there is someone you would like us to add so they can receive the worship bulletin as well!

Morning Prayer

Join us on Facebook Monday, Wednesday and Friday for morning prayer at 8:30am.

Pastoral Care

In November, please direct any pastoral care matters to Deacon Rebecca by [email](#) or phone (number listed on the last page of the bulletin).

Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations this week:

No birthdays or anniversaries this week

Please let us know if we have missed your birthday or anniversary or if there are corrections to make! Thanks!

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now as 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 Blessing

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Rise Up, Ye Saints of God

H 551

1. Rise up, ye saints of God! Have done with lesser things,
Give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings.
2. Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod; and quickened by the Spirit's power, rise up, ye saints of God!

The Dismissal

The Deacon says

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be swift to love, make haste to be kind and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED, NOW LET OUR SERVICE BEGIN!

PRAYER LISTS

Thanksgivings: For the arrival of our new vicar, The Rev. Laurie Anzilotti
For those whose handiwork has created much needed warm hats and scarves
For the generous spirit of the people of St. Francis' to our Stewardship Campaign

Our homebound parishioners: Darla, Noel, and Jack

Our parishioners: Roger, Ernie, Rosie, Paul, Mary, and Arlene

Weekly Prayer Rota: Darla & Paul, Rosie & Ernie, and Donna & Joe

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: For the ministry and leadership of the convention of the Diocese of Missouri

Companion Diocese of Lui, South Sudan: For theological education for the people of Lui Diocese

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; those who are affected by COVID-19

For those who have asked for prayers: For Hannah, Kenny, Virginia, Nancy, Lela, Beth, Linda Rose, Al+ and Dayna; first responders and healthcare professionals who continue to work on the frontlines of this pandemic; medical researchers searching for a vaccine for COVID-19

For those who have died and those who mourn: For parishioner Vernon Alexander; those who have suffered loss from natural disasters across our country; 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

Today's Ministers of Worship

Officiant	The Rev. Laurie Anzilotti
Deacon	The Ven. Rebecca Barger
Musician	Cheryl Foster
Lector	Tracey Oswald
Intercessor	Kathleen McDonald
Livestream	Paul Jokerst and Jeff Veenstra

Lectionary Year A Daily Office Year 2

The Liturgy of the Word is from The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and Enriching Our Worship 1 (EOW).

Scripture readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version bible.

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

The Schedule for The Week

Sunday, November 15	9:30 am 10:15 am 12:00 N	Adult Forum—Religious Movements in America Liturgy of the Word Bishop’s Committee Meeting
Monday, November 16	8:30 am	Morning Prayer—Facebook live
Wednesday, November 18	8:30 am 11:30am 12:15pm	Morning Prayer—Facebook live Eucharist at the Timbers Women’s Group at the Timbers
Thursday, November 19	6:30 pm	181st Convention of the Diocese of Missouri <i>Please see Diocesan website for full convention agendas</i>
Friday, November 20	8:30 am 10:00 am 4:00 pm	Morning Prayer—Facebook live Bible Study--via Zoom 181st Convention of the Diocese of Missouri
Saturday, November 21	9:00 am	181st Convention of the Diocese of Missouri
Sunday, November 22	9:30 am 10:15 am	Adult Forum—Religious Movements in America, cont. Liturgy of the Word

Readings for next Sunday—November 22, 2020, Proper 29
The Last Sunday after Pentecost
[All of these readings can be found online by clicking here.](#)

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46



The Bishop's Committee

Jackie Selle, *Bishop's Warden* Donna Bernert, *Junior Warden*
Tracey Oswald, *Treasurer* Marsha Smith, *Bishop's Committee Clerk*

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
Convention Delegates Max Starbuck, Paul Jokerst, Michael Booker, *Alternate*



The Rev. Deon Johnson, 11th Bishop of The Diocese of Missouri
The Rev. Laurie Anzilotti, Vicar, laurie@stfranciseureka.com 636-938-3733
The Ven. Rebecca Barger, Archdeacon, rebecca@stfranciseureka.com 713-515-5676
Cheryl Foster, Music Director, music@stfranciseureka.com
Max Starbuck, Choir Director, choir@stfranciseureka.com