



ST. FRANCIS
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

www.stfrancisva.org

Sunday Worship

November 29, 2015 – 10:00 AM

First Sunday of Advent

The Word of God

Welcome & Quiet Time (* indicates when to stand) Welcome to worship today. We're glad you've come to glorify God with us. We invite you to take part in everything. Follow the singing with the words in this bulletin, and come to the Table for communion. You are invited to stay for refreshments after the service.

Prelude

***Gathering Song: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus**

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art: dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

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

All: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Priest: 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.

***Song of Praise: I Waited For The Lord On High**

(Chorus:) I waited for the Lord on high. I waited, and He heard my cry.

He pulled me out of my despair. He taught me how to walk: From fear into security, from quicksand to the Rock.

(Chorus)

I sing to let the people know that I have been restored. And they will kneel and understand to return and trust in the Lord. *(Chorus)*

And there's a new song in my heart to sing. There's a new song. Praises for my King.

***All:** 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.

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians

(3:9-13)

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Gradual Song: Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord. We will wait upon the Lord. We will wait upon the Lord. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord. We will wait upon the Lord. We will wait upon the Lord.

(Pre-Chorus:)

Our God, You reign forever. Our hope, our strong deliver.

(Chorus:)

You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God. You do not faint; you won't grow weary.

You're the defender of the weak, You comfort those in need, You lift us up on wings like eagles.

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke

(21:25-36)

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon (please be seated)

***Priest:** Let us profess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

All: 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**

Leader: Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: That God may establish among the nation his sceptre of righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: That we may seek Christ in the scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen, especially _____, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For the Sunset Grille, that the employees would have healthy and productive lives, and that business would increase, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For all baptized in their life and work let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For the inclusion of all, regardless of race, age, or jurisdiction of residence, in the economic health of our region; for effective, affordable, regional public transportation, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For All Souls, Atlee, Amilie Wilmer, vicar, and St. Gabriel's, Leesburg, Daniel Velez-Rivera, vicar, that every God given goal would be achieved in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray to you, O Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For all firefighters, EMT's, law enforcement officers, military personnel, and veterans, we pray to you, O Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For those whose calling is to serve families with children in our area, we pray to you, O Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us commend the world, which Christ will judge, to the mercy and protection of God.

All: Have mercy upon us most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

*Exchange of Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Offertory: When Trials Come

When trials come no longer fear for in the pain our God draws near, to fire a faith worth more than gold and there his faithfulness is told, and there his faithfulness is told.

Within the night I know your peace the breath of God brings strength to me and new each morning mercy flows as treasures of the darkness grow, as treasures of the darkness grow.

I turn to wisdom not my own for every battle you have known, my confidence will rest in you, your love endures your ways are good, your love endures your ways are good.

When I am weary with the cost I see the triumph of the cross, so in its shadow I shall run till you complete the work begun, till you complete the work begun.

One day all things will be made new I'll see the hope you called me to, and in your kingdom paved with gold I'll praise your faithfulness of old, I'll praise your faithfulness of old.

***Doxology:** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Eucharistic Prayer from A New Zealand Prayer Book, 1989 (adapted)

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift your hearts to heaven.

People: Where Christ in glory reigns.

Priest: Let us give thanks to God.

People: It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Priest: It is the joy of our salvation God of the universe, to give you thanks through Jesus Christ. You said, 'Let there be light'; there was light. Your light shines on in our darkness. For you the earth has brought forth life in all its forms.

You have created us to hear your Word, to do your will, and to be fulfilled in your love. It is right to thank you. You sent your Son to be for us the way we need to follow and the truth we need to know. You send your Holy Spirit to strengthen and to guide, to warn and to revive your Church. Therefore, with all your witnesses who surround us on every side, countless as heaven's stars, we praise you for our creation and our calling, with loving and with joyful hearts:

All (Sung): Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: Blessed are you, most holy, in your Son, who washed his disciples' feet. 'I am among you,' he said, 'as one who serves.' On that night before he died he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me." After supper, he took the cup, and gave you thanks. He gave it to them and said: "Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you, shed for all, to forgive sin; do this to remember me." Therefore with this bread and wine we recall your goodness to us:

People: God of the past and present, we your people remember your Son. We thank you for his cross and rising again, we take courage from his ascension; we look for his coming in glory and in him we give ourselves to you.

Priest: Send your Holy Spirit, that we who receive Christ's body may indeed be the body of Christ, and we who share his cup draw strength from the one true vine.

People: Called to follow Christ, help us to reconcile and unite. For you, the heavenly one, make all things new; you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first. Praise, glory and love be yours this and every day from us and all people here and everywhere. Amen.

Priest: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

All: 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 priest breaks the consecrated bread and says:

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Priest: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

[NOTE: All are welcome to receive Communion, whatever your faith tradition. Please receive the bread in the open palm of your hand. Then, either consume the bread and move to a chalice and receive from the chalice by guiding the base of the chalice to your mouth or take the chalice from the chalice minister. Or, you may intinct or dip the bread into the chalice and consume it. The glass chalice contains non-alcoholic wine for those who do not wish to consume alcohol. If you do not wish to receive communion but would like a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest.]

Communion Song: God Will Make A Way

You will make a way; Where there seems to be no way. You work in ways we cannot see; you will make a way for me.

You will be our guide; Hold us closely to your side. With love and strength for each new day; you will make a way, you will make a way.

By a roadway in the wilderness; you'll lead me. And rivers in the desert will I see; Heaven and Earth will fade but your Word will still remain. And you will do something new today.

***Post-Communion Prayer (All):** Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

***Blessing**

Song of Dismissal: Knocking On The Door Of Heaven

We will give ourselves no rest 'till Your Kingdom comes on earth; We've positioned watchmen on the wall. Now our prayers will flow like tears, for You've shared Your heart with us. God of Heaven, on our knees we fall.

Come down in power, reveal Your heart again. Come hear our cries, the tears that plead for rain.

We're knocking, knocking on the door of heaven. We're crying, crying for this generation. We're praying for Your Name to be known in all of the earth. We're watching, watching on the walls to see You. We're looking, looking for a time of breakthrough. We're praying for Your Word to bear fruit in all of the earth, all of the earth.

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Remember in your prayers:

Larry Kidd (Jr. & Sr.)
The Symphony Retirement Community
John Madden
Carl Burton
Ken Joyner

Sonny Baharloo
Wayne Conners
Linda Eggleston
MJ Weatherford
Bill Morgan and family

Rachel Pisarz
Ken Killian
Joseph Moore
Allie & Jenni Morris

Your Vestry Members are:

Senior Warden: Jack Martin

Junior Warden: Richard Walker

Other Members: Larry Kidd

Libby Clark

Register: Marian Elam

Treasurer: Susan Kidd

Below is the schedule for greeters, lay readers and chalcers. If you have a problem with the dates on this schedule, please let Larry Kidd know as soon as possible and he will try to make adjustments. Otherwise you will need to find a substitute if you are unable to be at church on your assigned date.

<u>Worship Service Date</u>	<u>Scripture Reader</u>	<u>Prayer Reader</u>	<u>Chalcers</u>	<u>Greeters/Ushers</u>
29-Nov	Richard Walker	Larry Kidd	Richard Walker, Susan Kidd	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd
6-Dec	MJ Weatherford	Bill Weatherford	MJ Weatherford, Bill Weatherford	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd

~Announcements~

Upcoming Important Dates:

Wednesday, December 2	Color Me Friends	St. Francis	6:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 5	Manakin Holiday Market	68 Broad St. Rd.	9:00 - 2:00
Sunday, December 6	Worship Service	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, December 9	Vestry Retreat	St. Francis	9:00 - 3:00
	Pub Theology	TBD	6:30 p.m.
	Caregiver's Support Group	Walker's Home	7:00 p.m.

Pledge Cards – As discussed in John's sermon on November 8th, the pledge cards are located on the credenza in the Narthex. Each card has a return envelope addressed to the St. Francis PO Box if that is your preferred way to return it. We ask that if you plan to make a 2016 pledge, that the card be mailed or placed in the offering plate no later than December 6th. Thank you for your continued support of St. Francis.

Angel Tree - Please select a Christmas Angel to help our Goochland family in need. Purchase items listed on the angel, and please return the wrapped gifts with the tag attached by December 6. If you have any questions, please call Janice Nelson at 749-3231.

Manakin Holiday Market, Saturday, December 5, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We have reserved one booth, which will be under a big tent with other vendors. We will be selling home baked goods prepared, packaged, and priced by those who want to participate, and baby blankets made by Martha Dickerson. We welcome any donations to this endeavor. We may be providing holiday wrapping for a small fee (**volunteer needed for this**). Please volunteer to help on market day, if only for a short period of time. If you have questions, please contact Bobbie LeViness at 750-1277.

Food Collection for the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services Food Pantry every Sunday. Please continue to bring non-perishable food to donate. The Food Pantry takes pet food and will accept open bags. Please place your donation in the box provided in the vestibule.

Our Missional Communities:

The Parke will meet for pot luck and fellowship on tonight, November 29th, at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Richard and Hedy Walker. Contact Richard at richardandhedy@yahoo.com.

Color Me FRIENDS (Ladies Adult Coloring) – Join in the latest craze for adult stress relief and enjoy the camaraderie of other women in a no pressure, fun evening of coloring and conversation. The “no talent needed” activity replaces negative thoughts, creates a state of peace, and relaxes the mind, body, and spirit, while exploring your creative side. First Wednesdays of each month at St. Francis from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Pattie at clapptwice1@aol.com or like us on Facebook at Color Me Friends.

Caregiver’s Support Group - If you are a caregiver for a family member or friend dealing with dementia issues, please join Hedy and Susan Kidd for an informal group discussion on dealing with challenges that you might be experiencing. Meetings are the second Wednesday, of each month at Hedy Walker's house at 1661 Centerville Parke Lane from 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Financial Update - If there are any questions about any of this data, please don’t hesitate to ask your treasurer, Susan Kidd.

	Operating Funds		Net Gain
	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>or (Loss)</u>
2015			
1st Quarter	\$23,344.99	\$24,228.82	(\$883.83)
2nd Quarter	\$20,771.99	\$23,203.94	(\$2,431.95)
3rd Quarter	\$19,498.99	\$22,456.32	(\$2,957.33)
October	\$7,025.33	\$8,317.11	(\$1,291.78)
November	\$7,076.33	\$4,663.64	\$2,412.69
December	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
4th Quarter	<u>\$14,101.66</u>	<u>\$12,980.75</u>	<u>\$1,120.91</u>
2015 Year-To-Date	\$77,717.63	\$82,869.83	(\$5,152.20)
Checking Account Balance	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>	
YTD 2015	\$32,005.82	\$26,853.62	(\$5,152.20)

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