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Sunday Worship

December 6, 2015 – 10:00 AM

Second 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: Thy Kingdom Come

"Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee the passing ages pray; and faithful souls have yearned to see on earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night not less to God belong; and for the everlasting right the silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills the flags of dawn appear; gird up your loins, ye prophet souls, proclaim the day is near:

The day to whose clear shining light all wrong shall stand revealed, when justice shall be throned in might, and every heart be healed;

When knowledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth abroad; the day of perfect righteousness, the promised day of God.

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 Will Hold On

My times are in your hands. I know I'll never understand, but I'll trust in you. Sometimes my heart grows cold. I'm sorry when I take control. How I'm needing You.

And even when I fall, You help me stand. Even when I'm lost, You take my hand.

(Chorus:) I will hold on, I will hold on, I will hold on, Yes, I will trust in you.

My life is in your hands. You hold the key to who I am and I'll trust in you. Sometimes my heart is stone. I'm sorry when I walk alone. How I'm needing You.

And even when I fall, You help me stand. Even when I'm lost, You take my hand. *(Chorus 2 times)*

***All:** Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from Philippians

(1:3-11)

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Gradual Song: Before You Kneel**

Before You I kneel, my Master and Maker, to offer the work of my hands. For this is the day You've given Your servant; I will rejoice and be glad for the strength I have to live and breathe, for each skill Your grace has given me, for the needs and opportunities that will glorify Your great name.

Before You I kneel and ask for Your goodness to cover the work of my hands. For patience and peace to shape all my labor, your grace for thorns in my path. Flow within me like a living stream, wear away the stones of pride and greed 'til Your ways are dwelling deep in me and a harvest of life is grown.

Before You we kneel, our Master and Maker; establish the work of our hands. And order our steps to seek first Your kingdom In every small and great task. May we live the gospel of Your grace, serve Your purpose in our fleeting days, then our lives will bring eternal praise and all glory to Your great name.

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

(3:1-6)

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

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 Enzo's Chop House, Doug Elliot, owner. That the kingdom of God would spread throughout our area and the business environment would support many growing businesses, 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 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 the clergy and people of Holy Cross, Batesville; Meade Memorial, Alexandria; St. Luke's, Simeon; St. Anne's, Scottsville; St. James, Mt. Vernon; Trinity, Charlottesville that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray to you, O Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For families in Metropolitan Richmond: For single-parent families, adoptive families, foster families, and for households that are communities of friends; for elderly persons living in their own home, in retirement communities, and in nursing homes, 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: You Are Still Holy

Holy, You are still holy even when the darkness surrounds my life. Sovereign, You are still sovereign even when confusion blinded my eyes.

Lord, I don't deserve your kind affection when my unbelief has kept me from Your touch. I want my life to be a pure reflection of Your love.

(Chorus:) So I come into Your chambers and I dance at Your feet. You are my savior and I'm at Your mercy. All that has been in my life up to now all belongs to You.

***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

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): Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart, I want to see You, I want to see You; Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart, I want to see You, I want to see You. To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory; Pour out Your power and love as we sing, "Holy, holy, holy."

Holy Holy Holy, Holy Holy Holy, Holy Holy Holy I want to see You (2x)

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: Agnus Dei

Alleluia, Alleluia, for our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia, Alleluia, for our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia, Holy, Holy are You, Lord God Almighty. Worthy is the Lamb; Worthy is the Lamb.

You are Holy. Holy are You, Lord God Almighty. Worthy is the Lamb; Worthy is the Lamb. Amen.
(Repeat)

***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: Jesus, Hope of the Nations

Verse: Jesus, hope of the nations, Jesus, comfort for all who mourn; You are the source of heaven's hope on earth; Jesus, light in the darkness; Jesus, truth in each circumstance; You are the source of heaven's light on earth;

Chorus: In history You lived and died; You broke the chains, You rose to life. You are the hope living in us; You are the Rock in whom we trust; You are the light, shining for all the world to see; You rose from the dead, conquering fear, our Prince of Peace drawing us near; Jesus our hope, living for all who will receive; Lord, we believe.

Repeat Verse and Chorus

Lord, we believe. Lord we believe. Lord we believe. In history You lived and died; You broke the chains, You rose to life. You are the hope living in us; You are the Rock in whom we trust; You are the light, shining for all the world to see; You rose from the dead, conquering fear, our Prince of Peace drawing us near; Jesus our hope, living for all who will receive; You are the hope living in us; You are the Rock in whom we trust; You are the light, shining for all the world to see; You rose from the dead, conquering fear, our Prince of Peace drawing us near; Jesus our hope, living for all who will receive;

Lord, we believe. (Jesus, hope of the nations) Lord we believe (Jesus, hope of the nations) Lord we believe (Jesus, Lord, we believe) Lord we believe.

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

Other Members: Larry Kidd

Register: Marian Elam

Junior Warden: Richard Walker

Libby Clark

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>
Dec 6	MJ Weatherford	Bill Weatherford	MJ Weatherford, Bill Weatherford	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
Dec 13	Bobbie LeViness	Jack Martin	Marian Elam, Jack Martin	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd
Dec 20	Richard Walker	Larry Kidd	Richard Walker, Susan Kidd	John and Libby Clark, Larry Kidd
Dec 24	Jack Martin	Bill Weatherford	Jack Martin, Bill Weatherford	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
Dec 27	Larry Kidd	Bobbie LeViness	Susan Kidd, Marian Elam	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd
Jan 3	MJ Weatherford	Richard Walker	MJ Weatherford, Richard Walker	John and Libby Clark, Larry Kidd
Jan 10	Bill Weatherford	Bobbie LeViness	Bill Weatherford, Marian Elam	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
Jan 17	Jack Martin	MJ Weatherford	Jack Martin, MJ Weatherford	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd
Jan 24	Richard Walker	Larry Kidd	Richard Walker, Susan Kidd	John and Libby Clark, Larry Kidd
Jan 31	MJ Weatherford	Bill Weatherford	MJ Weatherford, Bill Weatherford	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
Feb 7	Bobbie LeViness	Jack Martin	Marian Elam, Jack Martin	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd

~Announcements~

Upcoming Important Dates:

Wednesday, December 9	Vestry Retreat	St. Francis	9:00 - 3:00
	Pub Theology	Halligan Bar and Grille	6:30 p.m.
	Caregiver's Support Group	Walker's Home	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 13	Worship Service followed by pot luck	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 20	Worship Service, Aspire Dance Academy	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.

Pledge Cards – 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.

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:

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	\$7,646.33	\$7,300.78	\$345.55
December	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
4th Quarter	<u>\$14,671.66</u>	<u>\$15,617.89</u>	<u>(\$946.23)</u>
2015 Year-To-Date	\$78,287.63	\$85,506.97	(\$7,219.34)
Checking Account Balance	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>	
YTD 2015	\$32,005.82	\$24,786.48	(\$7,219.34)

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