



ST. FRANCIS
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

www.stfrancisva.org

Sunday Worship

December 13, 2015 – 10:00 AM

Third 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: Joyful, Joyful**

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love; hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness fills us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

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: Wake Up My Soul**

Wake up, my soul. Worship the Lord of truth and life. Have strength my heart. Press on as one who seeks the prize. (Repeat twice)

I'll run for You my God and King, I'll run as one who runs to win. I'm pressing on, not giving in, I will run, I will run for You my King.

Spirit come give life to us, come breathe the Father's love in us. Won't you fill us once again, and we will run and run with Him. We'll run with strength, with all our might, we'll fix our eyes on Jesus Christ. He has conquered death and sin, And we will run and run and run with Him.

***All:** Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from Philippians

(4:4-7)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Gradual Song: Oh Lord, You're Beautiful

Oh Lord, you're beautiful your face is all I seek
And when Your eyes are on this child, your grace abounds to me
Oh Lord, please light the fire that once burned bright and clear.
Replace the lamp of my first love, that burns
with holy fear

(Chorus:) I want to take your word and shine it all around
But first help me just to live Lord. And when I'm
doing well, help me to never seek a crown
For my reward is giving glory to you.

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

(3:7-18)

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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 Air Specialties of Virginia, Paul Leslie, General Manager, that business would increase and the clients would have environmentally safe facilities, 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 Santa Maria, Falls Church; St. James the Less, Ashland; St. Paul's Hanover; Calvary, Hanover; Our Savior, Montpelier, that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray to you, O Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For persons who are lonely or have no family; for persons who are estranged from their families; for persons who are grieving the loss of a loved one; and for all who need to feel the love of God, 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: Faithful One

Faithful one, so unchanging. Ageless one, you're my rock of peace. Lord of all I depend on you. I call out to you, again and again. I call out to you, again and again

You are my rock in times of trouble. You lift me up when I fall down. All through the storm, Your love is, the anchor. My hope is in You alone.

***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: 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 for You are still holy.

***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: Good Things Run Wild**

(Chorus:) Come and build your house among us, with room for every child. Let the doors fly open so that good things run wild. Let every dream you pour upon us, spark a flaming fire. Releasing every hope so that, good things run wild

Pour into our spirits your wisdom and power. We need to walk just like you. Let your mercy flow between every heart and soul. We need to love just like you. (*Chorus*)

Come to take our hours and our days. So our lives will be just like yours. Take our minds, capture our thoughts. Let them be in the stream coming from you. (*Chorus*)

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 Pizarz

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 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:

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.
Thursday, December 24	Christmas Eve Service	St. Francis	6:15 p.m.
Friday, December 25	Christmas Day Communion Service	St. Francis	9:00 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 P.O. 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 as soon as possible. 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>\$1,827.00</u>	<u>\$1,764.78</u>	<u>\$62.22</u>
4th Quarter	<u>\$16,498.66</u>	<u>\$17,382.67</u>	<u>(\$884.01)</u>
2015 Year-To-Date	\$80,114.63	\$87,271.75	(\$7,157.12)
Checking Account Balance	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>	
YTD 2015	\$32,005.82	\$24,848.70	(\$7,157.12)

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