



ST. FRANCIS  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

[www.stfrancisva.org](http://www.stfrancisva.org)

# Sunday Worship

December 14, 2014 – 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 today. Follow the singing with the words in this bulletin. Come to the Table for communion. You are invited to stay for refreshments after the service.

### Prelude

↑**Gathering Song:** O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing - Hymn 493

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease; 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ; ye blind, behold your savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Glory to God praise and love be now and ever given by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

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

**All:** And blessed be His kingdom now and forever. 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:** Better Is One Day

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty, my soul longs and even faints for you. For here my heart is satisfied, within Your presence I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

Better is one day in Your courts; Better is one day in Your house; Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek, to see Your beauty, to find you in the place Your glory dwells.

My heart and flesh cry out for You, the living God. Your spirit's water to my soul. I've tasted and I've seen, come once again to me. I will draw near to You; I will draw near to You.

**↑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 1 Thessalonians**

(5:16-24)

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

### **↑Gradual Song: Song of Mary - John Maher 2014**

*(Chorus:)* My soul shouts out the greatness of the Lord. My heart is dancing because of God my Savior. My soul shouts out the greatness of the Lord. My heart is dancing because of God my Savior.

The Lord has favored me all ages will proclaim that God has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. On those who fear The Lord his mercy will abide, He showed the strength of his right arm, the proud are scattered wide. *(Chorus)*

The mighty are cast down and lowly ones are raised. He fills the hungry with good things and sends the rich away. He comes to us to keep the promise that was made before to Abraham and all his heirs of mercy evermore. *(Chorus)*

### **↑The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John**

(1:6-8, 19-23)

**All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* Praise to you Lord Christ.

## Sermon (please be seated)

↑**Leader:** Let us stand and 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 nations 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, 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:** 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:** For the Wells Fargo branch in Centerville, Tommy Cahoon, manager, that this branch would serve a growing number of customers, that businesses and households would prosper in our county through the work of this branch, let us pray to the Lord:

*All:* Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** For the congregations and clergy of Santa Maria, Falls Church; St. Timothy's, Herndon; Trinity, Charlottesville; St. Luke's, Simeon that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord:

**All:** Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** For All Souls, Atlee, Amilee Wilmer, vicar, and St. Gabriel's, Leesburg, Daniel Velez-Rivera, vicar, that each would have the power of the Holy Spirit to pursue the mission of God, let us pray to the Lord:

**All:** Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** For the families of Metropolitan Richmond: 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 love one; for all who need to feel the love of God, let us pray to the Lord:

**All:** Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** That leaders whose calling is to bring the gospel to whole families with young children may be added to our fellowship, 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.  
**Amen.**

**Leader:** We pray to You also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**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, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### ↑Exchange of Peace

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

**People:** And also with you.

## The Holy Communion

**Offertory:** 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.

**↑ 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 A**

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**Priest:** 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:

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

**Priest:** 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. 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,

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**Priest:** And we offer this 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 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.**

**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 for any reason. 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 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: Everlasting God**

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, wait upon the Lord; we will wait upon the Lord. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, 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.

## ↑Announcements, Prayer Requests, and Dismissal

*Priest:* Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

### Remember in your prayers:

John Maher, Sr.

Larry and Shirley Kidd

Larry Kidd, Jr.

### Your Vestry Members are:

**Senior Warden:** Jack Martin

**Other Members:** Larry Kidd

**Register:** Marian Elam

**Junior Warden:**

Bill Weatherford

Richard Walker

**Treasurer:**

Susan Kidd

Below is the schedule for greeters, lay readers, and chalicers. 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>Chalicers</u>	<u>Greeters/Ushers</u>
14-Dec	Jack Martin	Kathy Gammon	Jack Martin, Kathy Gammon	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd
21-Dec	Bobbie LeViness	Jack Martin	Susan Kidd, Jack Martin	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
24-Dec	Bobbie LeViness	Jack Martin	Marian Elam, Jack Martin	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
28-Dec	Kathy Gammon	Richard Walker	Kathy Gammon, Richard Walker	John and Libby Clark, Larry Kidd
4-Jan	Bill Weatherford	MJ Weatherford	Bill Weatherford, MJ Weatherford	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd
11-Jan	Kathy Gammon	Larry Kidd	Kathy Gammon, Susan Kidd	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
18-Jan	MJ Weatherford	Bill Weatherford	MJ Weatherford, Bill Weatherford	John and Libby Clark, Larry Kidd
25-Jan	Jack Martin	Larry Kidd	Jack Martin, Susan Kidd	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd
1-Feb	Bill Weatherford	MJ Weatherford	Susan Kidd, Jack Martin	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd

## ~Announcements~

### Upcoming Important Dates:

Sunday, December 21	Worship Service with liturgical dance by the Aspire Dance Academy	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	St. Francis	6:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 28	Worship Service	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.

**Financial Update** - If you have 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>
<b>2014</b>			
<b>1st Quarter</b>	<b>\$21,208.00</b>	<b>\$23,425.59</b>	<b>(\$2,217.59)</b>
<b>2nd Quarter</b>	<b>\$22,568.00</b>	<b>\$20,086.30</b>	<b>\$2,481.70</b>
<b>3rd Quarter</b>	<b>\$19,716.50</b>	<b>\$21,206.99</b>	<b>(\$1,490.49)</b>
October	\$7,335.00	\$7,333.04	<b>\$1.96</b>
November	\$7,113.00	\$7,244.44	<b>(\$131.44)</b>
December	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<b><u>\$0.00</u></b>
<b>4th Quarter</b>	<b><u>\$14,448.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$14,577.48</u></b>	<b><u>(\$129.48)</u></b>
<b>2014 Year-To-Date</b>	<b>\$77,940.50</b>	<b>\$79,296.36</b>	<b>(\$1,355.86)</b>
<b>Checking Account Balance</b>	<b><u>Beginning</u></b>	<b><u>Ending</u></b>	
<b>YTD 2014</b>	\$32,916.73	\$31,560.87	<b>(\$1,355.86)</b>

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