



ST. FRANCIS  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

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

# Sunday Worship

December 1, 2013 – 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 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

#### Call to Worship

#### ↑Gathering Song #1: 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 forever. Amen.

**Priest:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you know 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### ↑Gathering Song #2: Let It Rise

Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us. Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us. Let the praises of the King, rise among us. Let it rise.

Let the songs of the Lord, rise among us. Let the songs of the Lord, rise among us. Let the joy of the King, rise among us. Let it rise. Oh, let it rise. Oh, let it rise.

Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us. Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us. Let the praises of the King, rise among us. Let it rise. Oh, let it rise. Oh, let it rise.

Let it rise. Let it rise.

Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us. Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us. Let the praises of the King, rise among us. Let it rise.

Oh, let it rise. Oh, let it rise. Oh, let it rise. Oh, let it rise.

**↑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.

(Please be seated) **A Reading from Romans**

(13:11-14)

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**↑Gradual Song:** Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see. Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, perfect in power, perfect in wisdom, perfect in mercy, love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God, heavenly Father, God, our Lord Jesus, God, Holy Spirit, blessed Trinity!

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

(24:36-44)

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

**Priest:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you Lord Christ.

**Message** (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: Form VI

**Leader:** In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

**All:** For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

**Leader:** For this community, the nation, and the world;

**All:** For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

**Leader:** For all who serve in our country's military. Defend and strengthen them with courage to deal with the perils they face.

**All:** For all veterans who helped keep our country free.

**Leader:** For the just and proper use of your creation;

**All:** For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

**Leader:** For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**All:** For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

**Leader:** For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**All:** For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

**Leader:** For Kathryn, our Presiding Bishop, and Shannon, Susan and Ted, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers; for all who serve God in his Church; for the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *[Please feel free to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.]* Hear us, Lord;

**All:** For your mercy is great.

**Leader:** For the Rumble Seat Grill that business would increase.

**All:** That all businesses in our community would increase.

**Leader:** We pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For single-parent families, adoptive families, foster families, and for households that are communities of friends.

**All:** That you would bless every family under heaven.

**Leader:** For the baptized in their daily life and work, in particular, for all Committees and Commissions in the Diocese; their chairs and members.

**All:** That your church would walk on the power of Your Spirit.

**Leader:** For the person called, anointed and equipped to work with children in this neighborhood and area to be added to this fellowship.

**All:** That all children would come to Jesus.

**Leader:** We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *[Please feel free to add your own thanksgivings.]* We will exalt you, O God our King;

**All:** And praise your Name for ever and ever.

**Leader:** We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *[Please feel free to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.]* Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

**All:** Who put their trust in You.

**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

↑ **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. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. 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 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: Eagles Wings**

Here I am waiting, abide in me, I pray; Here I am longing for You. Hide me in Your love, bring me to my knees; May I know Jesus more and more.

(Chorus:) Come, live in me, all my life take over; Come, breathe in me, I will rise on eagles wings. Come, live in me, all my life take over; Come, breathe in me, I will rise on eagles wings.

↑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: Hosanna

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You. We turn to You; Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You; We long for You:

*(Chorus;)* 'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day; In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away. Hosanna, hosanna, You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises; Hosanna, hosanna, come have Your way among us; We welcome You here, Lord Jesus.

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You; We turn to You; In Your Kingdom broken hearts are made new. You make us new; *(Chorus)*

*(Chorus)*

### ↑Announcements, Prayer Requests, and Dismissal

Priest: Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.

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

### Remember in your prayers:

Neale Dickinson  
Arielle Niemeyer  
Christian Families in Pakistan  
Nancy Palmore  
Vivian Murad  
Michelle Lambert  
Chuck Haack

Mike Kennedy  
Brian  
Lauren & Paul Dorman  
Linda  
Simon Bauers  
Louise & Chris Bennett  
Sonny B.

Helen  
Jan Gladd  
Carolyn Messimer  
Virginia Gammon & Family  
Anna Hawk  
Amanda

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**Make yourself comfortable!**

Welcome to worship today. We're glad you've come to glorify God with the people of St. Francis Church.

**There is no "one right way" to participate. Join in as much as you want.**

If you wish to sing, all our music is included in the bulletin. We have a lively contemporary band and music is a significant part of our worship experience. However, we recognize that visitors may not know the music. If you and your family are among these, we encourage you to hum along or simply sit back and enjoy the sound.

Filling out a name tag and placing it on your person will permit us all to greet each other by name while visiting here at St. Francis. Likewise, signing our guest roster will permit us to follow-up with you following this Sunday's worship.

If you are a guest today, don't feel obligated to make a financial contribution to the offering.

Rest rooms are located in the entrance Narthex and in the mobile office/classroom building adjacent to the worship hall.

*"We are a welcoming community seeking to share God's unconditional love with all."*

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**Your Vestry Members are:**

<b>Senior Warden:</b>	Jack Martin	<b>Junior Warden:</b>	Bill Weatherford
<b>Other Members:</b>	Peter LeViness Ann James		Larry Kidd Richard Walker
<b>Register:</b>	Marian Elam	<b>Treasurer:</b>	Susan Kidd

**Below is the schedule for greeters, lay readers, and chalciers for today's service.**

<u>Worship Service Date</u>	<u>Scripture Reader</u>	<u>Prayer Reader</u>	<u>Chalciers</u>	<u>Greeters/Ushers</u>
1-Dec	Larry Kidd	Missy Rand	Susan Kidd, Ann James	Paul and Ann James, Larry Kidd

## ~Announcements~

### Upcoming Important Dates:

Thursday, December 5	Vestry Meeting	St. Francis	6:00 p.m.
Friday, December 6	Kindred Spirits	St. Francis	7:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 8	Communion Service followed by Pot Luck Lunch	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 15	Communion Service	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 22	Communion Service	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, December 24	Christmas Eve Service	St. Francis	TBA
Sunday, December 29	Communion 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>2013</b>			
<b>1st Quarter</b>	<b>\$24,463.00</b>	<b>\$20,486.48</b>	<b>\$3,976.52</b>
<b>2nd Quarter</b>	<b>\$21,422.00</b>	<b>\$21,276.96</b>	<b>\$145.04</b>
<b>3rd Quarter</b>	<b>\$20,693.00</b>	<b>\$22,431.50</b>	<b>(\$1,738.50)</b>
October	\$5,883.00	\$8,044.51	(\$2,161.51)
November	\$6,867.00	\$6,817.88	\$49.12
December	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>4th Quarter</b>	<b><u>\$12,750.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$14,862.39</u></b>	<b><u>(\$2,112.39)</u></b>
<b>2013 Year-To-Date</b>	<b>\$79,328.00</b>	<b>\$79,057.33</b>	<b>\$270.67</b>
<b>Checking Account Balance</b>	<b><u>Beginning</u></b>	<b><u>Ending</u></b>	
<b>YTD 2013</b>	\$32,627.98	\$32,898.65	\$270.67

St. Francis Episcopal Church  
 1484 Hockett Road  
 Manakin Sabot, Virginia 23103  
 Phone: (804) 784-6116  
 The Rev. Dr. John Maher: (Cell phone) 804-461-0449

Please visit our website: [stfrancisva.org](http://stfrancisva.org)  
 E-Mail Addresses:  
 The Rev. Dr. John Maher: [johnwinded@icloud.com](mailto:johnwinded@icloud.com)  
[vicar@stfrancisva.org](mailto:vicar@stfrancisva.org)  
[office@stfrancisva.org](mailto:office@stfrancisva.org)