



ST. FRANCIS
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

www.stfrancisva.org

Sunday Worship

December 21, 2014 – 10:00 AM

Fourth 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 Come, O Come, Emmanuel – Verses 1, 2, 3

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. *(Refrain:) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily; to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. *(Refrain)*

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in Ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *(Refrain)*

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:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel – Verses, 4, 5, 6

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *(Refrain:) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O Come thou Day spring from on high, and cheer us by the drawing night disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *(Refrain)*

O come, desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; Bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our king of peace. *(Refrain)*

↑All: Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from Romans

(16:25-27)

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Song: Mary Did You Know - Aspire Dance Academy

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

(1:26-38)

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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 Air Specialists of Virginia, Paul Leslie, Manager, that this business would grow under a new business plan and be of great service to home owners in Central Virginia, let us pray to the Lord:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For the congregations and clergy of Immanuel – Old Church, Mechanicsville; Calvary, Hanover; St. James', Mt. Vernon; Creator, Mechanicsville; St. Paul's, Hanover 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 families of Metropolitan Richmond: For the care and protection of infants, children, and youth: and for the intimate knowledge that each one is a beloved child 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: The King Shall Come - Aspire Dance Academy

↑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: Blessed Be The Name Of The Lord

I am standing beneath Your wings. I am resting in Your shelter. Your great faithfulness has been my shield. It makes me want to sing

Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord. I will bless Your holy name for all my days. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

I sing praises to Your name oh Lord for You daily bear my burden. Your great faithfulness is my reward. It makes me want to sing.

↑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: Joy to the World

Joy to the world the Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

↑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.
Richard Carchman

Larry Kidd, Jr.

Linda Eggleston

Your Vestry Members are:

Senior Warden: Jack Martin
Other Members: Larry Kidd

Junior Warden: Bill Weatherford
Richard Walker

Register: Marian Elam

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>
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:

Wednesday, December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	St. Francis	6:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 28	Worship Service	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, January 4	Worship Service	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, January 11	Worship Service followed by Pot Luck Lunch	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, January 14	Vestry Meeting	St. Francis	6:00 p.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>
2014			
1st Quarter	\$21,208.00	\$23,425.59	(\$2,217.59)
2nd Quarter	\$22,568.00	\$20,086.30	\$2,481.70
3rd Quarter	\$19,716.50	\$21,206.99	(\$1,490.49)
October	\$7,335.00	\$7,333.04	\$1.96
November	\$7,113.00	\$7,244.44	(\$131.44)
December	<u>\$6,140.00</u>	<u>\$4,276.77</u>	<u>\$1,863.23</u>
4th Quarter	<u>\$20,588.00</u>	<u>\$18,854.25</u>	<u>\$1,733.75</u>
2014 Year-To-Date	\$84,080.50	\$83,573.13	\$570.37
Checking Account Balance	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>	
YTD 2014	\$32,916.73	\$33,424.10	\$507.37

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