



ST. FRANCIS  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

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

# Sunday Worship

December 22, 2013 – 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

#### 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 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### ↑Gathering Song #2: Holy Is The Lord

We stand and lift up our hands, for the joy of the Lord is our strength. We bow down and worship Him now. How great, how awesome is He. And together we sing, ev'ry one sing.

*(Chorus:)* Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The earth is filled with His glory. Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The earth is filled with His glory. The earth is filled with His glory.

We stand and lift up our hands, for the joy of the Lord is our strength. We bow down and worship Him now. How great, how awesome is He. And together we sing, ev'ry one sing. *(Chorus)*

It is rising up all around. It's the anthem of the Lord's renown. It's rising up all around. It's the anthem of the Lord's renown. And together we sing, ev'ry one sing. *(Chorus)*

**↑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.

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

(1:1-7)

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**↑Gradual Song: Let My Life Be A Sacrifice**

Let my life be a sacrifice, holy and acceptable to You. Let each moment of each day be filled with Your praise, let my life be worship, to You. (Repeat)

For to worship is to sacrifice, and to love You, obey. Let my spirit be united with Yours, so I'll know just what to do and how to pray.

Let my life be a sacrifice, holy and acceptable to You. Let each moment of each day be filled with Your praise, let my life be worship, to You.

You have called me to display your love, as a lamp unto the world. Change my heart, ignite my spirit O Lord, so I'll share Your shining light unto the world.

Let my life be a sacrifice, holy and acceptable to You. Let each moment of each day be filled with Your praise, let my life be worship, to You. Let each moment of each day be filled with Your praise, let my life be worship, to You.

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

(1:18-25)

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*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 Wally's Wholesale and Walter Ford, owner: That the employees would have good health, strong families, and productive lives.

*All:* That all businesses in our communities would increase the strength of all who live here.

**Leader:** We pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For the care and protection of infants, children, and youth; for the intimate knowledge that each one is a beloved child of God.

**All:** **That every family would know the presence and power of God.**

**Leader:** For the congregations and clergy of St. Clement's, Alexandria; St. Gabriel's, Ashburn; Christ Church, Lucketts; St. Paul's, Hanover; and Calvary, Hanover.

**All:** **That Your whole church would walk in the power of Your Spirit.**

**Leader:** That You would show us where You are already working in the lives of children in the surrounding area and how we can join in with that work.

**All:** **That all of Your children would come to You.**

**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 A

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

**All:** **And also with you.**

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

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

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

**All:** **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 forever 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 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:** Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

**Priest:** We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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: Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound! That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed.

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares I have already come. 'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we first begun.

**↑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 men their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Joy to the world the Lord is come, let all the earth receive her King, let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing. (Repeat)

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:**

Neale Dickinson

Christian Families in Pakistan

Anna Hawk

Chuck Haack

Don Fitzsimmons

Kathy S.

Helen

Virginia Gammon & Family

Michelle Lambert

Sonny B.

Jane, Brian, and Andrew Hahn

Allie W.

Arielle Niemeyer

Simon Bauers

Amanda

Chris Keller

Ernie Leasure

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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. 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>Chalciers</u>	<u>Greeters/Ushers</u>
22-Dec	Bill Weatherford	Kathy Gammon	Bill Weatherford, Kathy Gammon	John and Libby Clark, Larry Kidd
24-Dec	MJ Weatherford	Larry Kidd	MJ Weatherford, Jack Martin	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
29-Dec	Missy Rand	Richard Walker	Marian Elam, Richard Walker	John and Libby Clark, Larry Kidd
5-Jan	Kathy Gammon	Bill Weatherford	Kathy Gammon, Bill Weatherford	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd
12-Jan	Jack Martin	Kathy Gammon	Jack Martin, Kathy Gammon	Richard Walker, Larry Kidd
19-Jan	Larry Kidd	MJ Weatherford	Susan Kidd, MJ Weatherford	Paul and Ann James, Larry Kidd
26-Jan	Bill Weatherford	Missy Rand	Bill Weatherford, Ann James	John and Libby Clark, Larry Kidd
2-Feb	Richard Walker	Kathy Gammon	Richard Walker, Kathy Gammon	Bill Weatherford, Larry Kidd

## ~Announcements~

### Upcoming Important Dates:

Tuesday, December 24	Christmas Eve Service	St. Francis	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 29	Communion Service (Rev. Doug Burgoyne)	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, January 5	Communion Service	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, January 8	Vestry	St. Francis	6:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 12	Communion Service followed by Pot Luck Lunch	St. Francis	10:00 a.m.
Friday, January 17	Kindred Spirits	St. Francis	7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 19	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	<b>(\$2,161.51)</b>
November	\$6,867.00	\$7,483.71	<b>(\$616.71)</b>
December	<u>\$2,426.00</u>	<u>\$3,159.96</u>	<b>(\$733.96)</b>
<b>4th Quarter</b>	<b><u>\$15,176.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$18,688.18</u></b>	<b>(\$3,512.18)</b>
<b>2013 Year-To-Date</b>	<b>\$81,754.00</b>	<b>\$82,883.12</b>	<b>(\$1,129.12)</b>
<b>Checking Account Balance</b>	<b><u>Beginning</u></b>	<b><u>Ending</u></b>	
<b>YTD 2013</b>	\$32,627.98	\$31,498.86	<b>(\$1,129.12)</b>

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)