



ST. FRANCIS  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

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

# Sunday Worship

December 29, 2013 – 10:00 AM

First Sunday after Christmas

## 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.

### Call to Worship

#### ↑Gathering Song #1: It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all gracious King. The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

For lo! The days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old, when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold, when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

*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: The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*(Refrain:)* Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *(Refrain)*

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *(Refrain)*

**↑All:** Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 Isaiah**

(61:10-62:3)

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**↑Gradual Song: What Child Is This?**

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

*(Chorus:)* This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing. Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. *(Chorus)*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. *(Chorus)*

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

(1:1-18)

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*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 Yardworks that all employees would be healthy and strong, and the community would be well served.

**All:** That every business would prosper in our county.

**Leader:** We pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For an end to child abuse; for healthy relationships between children and their caregivers; for families going through divorce; and all in the midst of life transitions.

**All:** That you would watch over everything we do and guide our steps.

**Leader:** For the baptized in their daily life and work, in particular, for all the Regions of the Diocese; their presidents and deans; the members that serve on regional councils.

**All:** That your church would continually walk in the power of your spirit.

**Leader:** That you would send into our fellowship the person you have chosen to lead children's ministry.

**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):* **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:* 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: O Little Town Of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

**↑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: Angels From The Realms of Glory**

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth: Ye who sang creations story now proclaim messiah's birth.

*(Refrain:)* Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with man is now residing; yonder shines the infant light. *(Refrain)*

All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the Eternal Three in one. *(Refrain)*

### **↑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

**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."*

**Today's guest priest is The Rev. Doug Burgoyne.**

**Your Vestry Members are:**

Senior Warden: Jack Martin  
Other Members: Peter LeViness  
Ann James

Junior Warden: Bill Weatherford  
Larry Kidd  
Richard Walker

Register: Marian Elam

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>
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:

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>
2013			
<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><u>(\$3,512.18)</u></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>	
YTD 2013	\$32,627.98	\$31,498.86	<b>(\$1,129.12)</b>

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