St. Francis' Anglican Church Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

Rector: Fr. Craig J. Lister - frcraig75@gmail.com

Associate Rector: Fr. Matthew Garrison - matt.garrison44@gmail.com

Holy Eucharist

Processional Hymn: How bright appears the Morning Star See page 6 for words and music

Acclamation

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

Collect for Purity

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*.

Holy God: *Trisagion* See page 7 for words and music

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, 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 forever. *Amen*.

The First Reading Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, ¹⁶ for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 (to be read in unison led by the Crucifer)

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Second Reading Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God ² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, ⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. ⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. ⁶ And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. ⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn O come, O come, Emmanuel

See page 7 for words

Gospel Matthew 1:18-25

Celebrant: (+) The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But after he had considered 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 home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Special Music

Joe Hanna on the harp

Homily Fr. Matthew Garrison

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten 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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

Intercessor: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Foley, Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America, Steven and Quigg, our Bishops, and for all the clergy and people of our diocese, Christ Our Hope, and for our parish family at St. Francis.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People Hear our prayer.

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For our nation, for those in authority and for all in public service.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially _____].

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For all those who departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection [especially].

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes with the following prayer

Heavenly Father grant these our prayers for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. *Amen*.

The Confession and Absolution of Sin (the people may kneel)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. *Amen*.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon (+) and deliver you from

all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Announcements

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.

"Our fathers' God, to Thee,

Author of liberty, to thee we sing;

long may our land be bright, with freedom's holy light; protect us by thy might, great God, our King." *Amen*.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with your spirit. Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The celebrant continues:

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

The Sanctus (sung by the congregation)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full, 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.

Prayer of Consecration (the people may kneel)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become. subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace. On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took

bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me" Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us (+) also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face. 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 forever. *Amen*.

The Lord's Prayer

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 forever and ever. *Amen*.

The Prayer of Humble Access (celebrant and people together)

We do not presume to come to this, your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen*.

Breaking of the Bread (sung by the congregation)

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us Jesus, Redeemer, Redeemer of the world Give us your peace, Give us your peace

Holy Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving (the people may kneel)

Heavenly Father, We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen*.

Blessing (+)

Closing Hymn People, look East

See page 8 for words and music

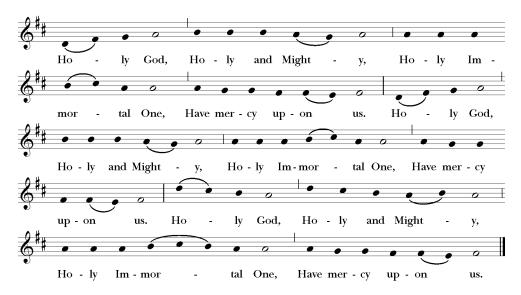
Dismissal

How bright appears the Morning Star



Words: William Mercer (1811-1873), after Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608) Music: Wie schön leuchtet, melody att. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Holy God: Trisagion



O come, O come, Emmanuel

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.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

People, look East



Announcements

Sunday School - All classes will meet today.

Check out - Look for Bob Nelson's slide show at coffee hour.

Choir Practice - Today at 4:00 pm.

Christmas Eve Service - Tuesday, December 24, 2019 at 4:00 pm.

Christmas Day Service - Wednesday, December 25, 2019 at 10:00 am.

Next Sunday – Christmas Lessons and Carols, 9:00 am.

Holy Eucharist – Wednesday, January 1, 2020 at 11:30 am.

JANUARY 2020 WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENTS



Pizza night and a movie Monday, January 13, 5:30 pm St. Francis Fellowship Hall



We'll be watching "I Can Only Imagine," a movie about the story behind the powerful song written by Bart Miller of the Christian band, MercyMe. A troubled relationship with his abusive father eventually leads to healing for both father and son and inspires the writing of the song. Come and enjoy pizza with various toppings, and of course, no respectable movie night would be complete without popcorn and movie candy! So that we may provide enough food, please sign up on the women's bulletin board (near the piano in the Fellowship Hall).

"GIFTS OF THE MAGI"-AN ESSENTIAL OILS CLASS



Saturday, January 25, 2:30 pm St. Francis Fellowship Hall



In the context of the season of Epiphany, Rebecca Peterson will offer an opportunity to learn what the Magi's gifts represent and their prophetic significance. We'll explore the multitude of ways essential oils were used in Scripture AND learn how we can use oils as a Biblical solution for our own and our families' health. (We rescheduled this event because many indicated an interest but were unable to attend in November.) No cost for the class, with optional opportunities for additional classes. Signup sheet on the women's bulletin board, and friends are most welcome.

St. Francis Anglican Parish Prayer List

For the concerns weighing on the hearts and minds of members of this congregation:

*Sandy West	Jennifer	Chase Serry
Martha Connolly	*Mackenzie Stinson	*Betty Pittman
*Helen Frechette	Jo Maddox	*Karen Tatum
*Paul Dempster	Donna Norman	Joe Lawrence
Dennis Wicker	Brent Sloan	Murray Ingerham
Kris	Aiden Hague	Tommy McDonald
Billie Edwards	Claudia Key	*Harriett Tice
Larry Wicker	RD Carson	*Charles Wick
Mabel M.	Ed McCoy	Marjorie J
Lisa Anne Callis	Chad Blackwelder	Joann Duke
James Cox	* Derrick Smith	Linda McCaskle
*Ted Lawrence	Mina Townsend	Gordon Caldwell
*Ann Hodges	Robyn Milano	Tom Daughtrey
Sallie Daughtrey	Tim Young	Dan Abernathy
Ethan Martin	Brent Jackson	*Lew Andersen
Beth Main	David Kimmons	John Wood
	*Member of St. Francis	

To add or remove a name from the prayer list contact Sue Comstock at 919-498-9154 or email her at suectrace@gmail.com.

Pray for strength and divine guidance: Jason, Shannon, Cindy and Joseph.

Pray for those serving all over the world in our military: Matthew Pate, Ben Hodsdon, William Puckett, Katherine Campbell, Brian Gille, George Walter, Jim Makepeace, Rick Smith, Jody Gordon, Raymond DeSantos, Eliza, Josh Pratt, Greg, Ben Gumpton, Jeremy, Lucas Rees, Daniel Hardin, Jared Oldham, Noah Gibson, Nick Stavlund, Jason Williams, Fortune Egbulefu, James Rozak, Logan Peterson, Levi Whiteman, Stephen and Patrick Hart.

Altar Flowers - The flowers on the altar are given by April Stephenson and Ken Coldren to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Nancy and Norman Coldren.

Pray for the departed: Winslow Smith, James Schuyler, Melissa Smith, Gerhard Hettler, Noah Sadler, Don Kowell, Hilda Slack, Mervyn Smith, Sadie Robards.

Those serving today:

Ushers: Ted Lawrence and Jerry Davis
Chalice Bearers: Dwight Edmonds and Amy Davis
Lectors: Juli Anne Lawrence and Scott Bruce
Acolytes: Jonathan Hanna and Charlie Puckett
Coffee Hour: Bob and Phyllis Stone and Jean Dabbs

Nursery: Isabella Oberkirsch Music Director: Audrey Hanna Organist: Rosemary Parten

Altar Guild: Linda Bruce, Mary Ann Dusenbury, Emily Hewett and Charlene Jeffries

Vestry

Through 2020: Scott Bruce, Susan Lewis, Clerk, Marty Pate, Senior Warden Through 2021: Bruce Ledford, Tom Reese, Jimmy Washburn, Junior Warden Through 2022: Oliver Crawley, Joe Hanna, Beth Puckett St Francis' Mailing Address: 1089 Wilkins Drive, Sanford, NC 27330 (910)-773-1155 St. Francis Parish information website: http://stfrancisnc.org





St Francis Anglican Church Christmas Week Services 2019

1089 Wilkins Drive, Sanford, NC 910-773-1155 • http://stfrancisnc.org

December 22 Last Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist 9 am

December 24 Festival Choral Eucharist 4 pm

December 25 Christmas Day Holy Eucharist 10 am

December 29 Christmas Lessons & Carols 9 am

January 5 Holy Eucharist & Epiphany Party 9 am

Regular service schedule: Sunday 9am-10am and Wednesday 11:30am-12pm