

Holy Eucharist

Processional Hymn: *The day of resurrection*

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God. From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky, our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light; and, listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin, the round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein; let all things seen and unseen their notes together blend, for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.

Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.*

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

The Reading

1 Peter 1: 3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him,

you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn *My faith looks up to thee*

My faith looks up to thee, Thou lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away; O let me from this day Be wholly thine.

May thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart, My zeal inspire; As thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee Pure, warm, and changeless be A living fire.

While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs around me spread, Be thou my guide; Bid darkness turn today, Wipe sorrow's tears away; Pure, warm, and changeless be A living fire.

When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll; Blest Savior, then in love, Fear and distrust remove, O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul.

Gospel

John 20: 19-31

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

Fr. Craig J. Lister

Nicene Creed

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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Confession and Absolution of Sin

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 have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *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."

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, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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

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

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

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,

Celebrant and people

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our 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 [_____ and] 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 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.*

Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Blessing

Closing Hymn *The strife is o'er, the battle done*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done, the victory of life is won; the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed: let shout of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

The three sad days are quickly sped, he rises glorious from the dead: all glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

He closed the yawning gates of hell, the bars from heaven's high portals fell; let hymns of praise his triumphs tell! Alleluia!

Lord! by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free, that we may live and sing to thee. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

St. Francis Anglican Parish

Prayer List

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

Pray for those who are ill:

Rick Hager	Les Sadler	*Peggy Nelson
Jack Beyer	*Mackenzie Stinson	*Betty Pittman
*Helen Frechette	Ed Bolt	Dierdre Hearn
*Susan Dixon	Mary Quinn	Sophia Johnson
Richard Quinn	Ken Jeffries	Norman Keith
*Nina Bonti	James Oberkirsch	*Jim Bonti
Carole Womble	Cynthia McNeil	Mary Perkins
*Katie Kerley	Patricia Spaulding	*Linda Pate
Sheila Holland	Ashleigh Stone	*Harriett Tice
Robert Tatum	Lauren Wortman	Norma Parten

*Member of St. Francis

If you need to add or remove a name from the prayer list please call Sue Comstock at 919-498-9154 or you can email her at suectrace@gmail.com. Names will be removed after three weeks unless you contact Sue to extend the time.

Pray for strength and divine guidance: Mari, Bruce, Jeff Johnson.

Pray for those serving all over the world in our military: Matthew Pate, Ben Hodsdon, William Puckett, Katherine Campbell, Tommy Walker, Brian Gille, George Walter, Patrick Hart, Jim Makepeace, Stephen Hart, Rick Smith, Chris Bladgett, Ryan Childress, Greg Poe, Josh Pratt, Jody Gordon, Raymond DeSantos and Eliza.

Pray for the departed: Hazel Pittman, Beatrice Frazier.

Altar Flowers - The flowers on the altar are given by the Lawrence family to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bill Lawrence.

Those serving today:

Ushers:	JJ Cuff and Dana Garrett
Chalice Bearers:	Dwight Edmonds and Juli Anne Lawrence
Lector:	Scott Bruce
Acolytes:	Callie and Brenda Steger
Coffee Hour:	Susan Lewis
Organist:	Rosemary Parten
Altar Guild:	Terry Crawley, Emily Hewett, Susan Lewis and Linda Bruce

Announcements

Sunday School - All Sunday School classes will convene today after this service.

Confirmation class for young people - Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 4:30 pm.

St. Francis website - Please make it a point to visit stfrancisnc.org. There you can get all the latest news about our parish. It's a wonderful website managed by our own Dr. Charles Wick.

Altar Flowers - If you are donating altar flowers please contact Bob Bennetts at rrb23994@gmail.com with the memorial you wish placed in the bulletin no later than the Monday before the designated Sunday.

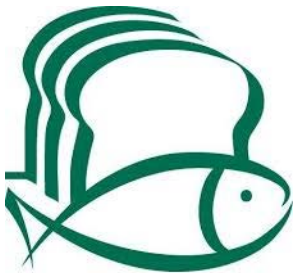
If your child listens better with busy hands, you may let him or her use one of the bulletins located on clipboards at the front of the church where the usher stands. Finished bulletins may be exchanged for a treat at Sunday school. Please return the empty clipboard and colored pencils to the basket after the service. If I can improve the bulletin in any way please let me know. I would love to hear your suggestions. - Pam Kerley

Women's Ministry Events

FLOATING FOOD, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP! Monday evening, April 24 (rain date April 25). All those who signed up should have received an email reminder with directions to Brenda Brown's home and additional information. As of the printing of this bulletin, weather for Monday, April 24 was questionable, so be alert for Sunday announcement and/or email update in case we need to switch to the Tuesday, April 25 rain date.

MOVIE AT HELEN WARD'S HOME, Monday, May 22. "Flywheel," a story about a sketchy used car salesman whose life changes when Jesus comes into the picture. Two showings, 1:30 pm and 6:30 pm. Seating is limited to 10 per showing, so sign up soon! Popcorn and drinks provided!

STRAWBERRY PICKING! Dates will vary depending on weather and berry-availability. We leave from St. Francis parking lot and caravan to the field, usually departing at 9:30 am. Sign up (indicating preference for weekday or Saturday or both) to receive email notifications whenever picking is planned. Berries are \$10 for a heaping bucket.



Do you enjoy a good meal? Theater? Supporting The BreadBasket? On Thursday, April 27, The BreadBasket's annual dinner theater fundraiser provides you with a delicious dinner at the civic center, tickets to see "Legally Blonde" at the Temple and the joy of helping to support the important work of the Bread Basket, feeding the hungry in Lee County. Regular ticket price is \$40, but Tom Reese is offering tickets for just \$25 each. See him after church, call [919-478-1897](tel:919-478-1897) or e-mail rtomreese@aol.com. Thanks so much!