

A vertical composition featuring a deep blue night sky. In the upper left, a bright star with a four-pointed diffraction pattern is visible. A long, thin, light blue comet tail extends vertically from just below the star, passing through the text. The bottom of the image shows a dark silhouette of evergreen trees against a lighter blue horizon, with a hint of a snowy ground in the foreground.

Hope
Peace

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

December 4, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Live on Facebook and YouTube

Welcome to St. Francis-in-the-Fields!

Whether you're a guest or a member, rich or poor, young or old; whatever your political alignment, racial background, gender, ethnicity, or country of origin; no matter if you're a cradle Episcopalian, from another faith expression, or claim no faith at all – we're glad you've joined us for worship today. Please help us get to know you by completing the Guest Card in the rack at each end of the pew and placing the detachable part in the offering plate. There is a welcome table in the narthex (foyer) where you can receive more information about our parish, along with a small gift. Our clergy and greeters look forward to meeting you after the service.

Worship: Our liturgy follows the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP), found in the book rack, with some material from *Enriching our Worship* (EOW). Our hymns come from the blue and green hymnals in the pews, along with other resources. All text for the service is printed in the bulletin. You are invited to prepare your soul for worship by kneeling silently in your pew before the service begins.

Children: We welcome all young children in our worship services, and ask you not to worry if your child is active or makes noise. “Busy Bags” for kids are available from the Ushers. Our “Children’s Room” in the office hallway is available if at any time your infant or child needs a change of scenery.

Accessibility: At different times during worship, the congregation may stand or kneel according to custom. Those who suffer physical discomfort are invited remain seated, or stand or kneel as they are able. During Communion, please notify an Usher if you are unable to come forward and we will bring Communion to you. Gluten-free communion wafers are available.

Facilities: Two public restrooms are located in the office hallway.

COVID: Masking is optional. Please consider the health and safety of others. Full protocols can be found at www.stfrancisfields.org

*(Congregational words and responses are in **bold** text.)*

The Altar Flowers this Sunday are given to the Glory of God
and in thanksgiving for their mothers given by Pamela and Richard Hudson

PRELUDE: My Lord, What a Morning

arr. Marianne Kim

THE GREAT SILENCE

*After the bell rings once, please observe a time of silence.
When the bell rings three times, please stand as able for the Procession.*

THE CANDLE OF PEACE

A Reading from Isaiah:

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness, prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” (Isaiah 40:3-5)

The second Advent candle is lit, after which the following is said:

A Prayer for Peace: (said together):

**God of all peace, help us to make a way for you in our tangled and weary lives.
Kindle in our souls the gift of expectation, and build in us your vision of justice
for all creation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Comfort, comfort ye my people

Hymnal 67

- 1 Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.
- 2 Hark, the voice of one that crieth in the desert far and near,
calling us to new repentance since the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.
- 3 Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token that the word is never broken.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

You come to your people and set them free.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: O come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymnal 56 (v. 3-4)

- 3 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.

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

- 4 O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny
that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. *Refrain*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire
of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches
Thanks be to God

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19 (read responsively)

Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

ANTHEM: Keep Your Lamps

arr. Andre Thomas

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
the time is drawing nigh.
Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian, journey soon be over,
the time is drawing nigh.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4-13

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,

the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Here what the Spirit is saying to the Churches
Thanks be to God

SEQUENCE HYMN: Lord, be thy word my rule

Hymnal 626

- 1 Lord, be thy word my rule; in it may I rejoice;
thy glory be my aim, thy holy will my choice;
- 2 thy promises my hope; thy providence my guard;
thine arm my strong support; thyself my great reward.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the

ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Kevin Dellaria

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks and ask your blessing on those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Carol and Zac.

In the Parish Prayer Cycle we pray for our Discipleship leaders and groups of all ages, that they may help us be formed in the image of Jesus Christ.

Let us pray for our own needs, and those of others, offered now silently or aloud.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Celebrant: Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Silence

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

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.**

ABSOLUTION

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.**

THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

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 consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; 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.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN: Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hymnal 616

- 1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.
- 2 He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.
- 3 He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.
- 4 Kings shall bow down before him, and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
- 5 O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
his Name shall stand for ever, his changeless Name of Love.

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 380 (v. 3)

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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 triumph 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:

SANCTUS: Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S124

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.

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 God,

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

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 the blessed Virgin Mary, the blessed St. Francis, 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 God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 FRACTION

God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

FRACTION ANTHEM: Lamb of God

Hymnal S161

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. (x2)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, all who feel called to a closer relationship with God through Jesus Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. Those unable to come forward may signal an Usher to receive communion in their seat.

COMMUNION HYMN: My Lord, what a morning

LEVAS II 13

My Lord, what a morning, My Lord, what a morning,

O my Lord, what a morning, When the stars begin to fall.

1 You'll hear the trumpet sound, To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand, When the stars begin to fall.

Refrain

2 You'll hear the sinner mourn, To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand, When the stars begin to fall.

Refrain

3 You'll hear the Christian shout, To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand, When the stars begin to fall.

Refrain

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

NZPB

Blessed be God who calls us together.

Praise to God who makes us one people.

Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.

Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.

Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.
Praise to God who is revealed as love.

Blessed be God who alone has called us.
Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.

Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.
Amen. Accept our thanks for all you have done.
Our hands were empty, and you filled them.

SEASONAL BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Prepare the way, O Zion

Hymnal 65

- 1 Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy Name.
- 2 He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. *Refrain*
- 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

Our microphones are still on! Please take any post-service conversations into the Narthex so those who wish, including our streaming audience, can enjoy the organ postlude.

POSTLUDE: Every Time I Feel the Spirit

arr. Marianne Kim

Music in Ministry

by Mr. Joe Perry, Music Director

For this Sunday during advent, our music will be honoring the tradition of the American Spiritual. Advent is an always especially wonderful time for Spirituals. When you consider the life of our African American siblings in the Pre-Civil War United States, the value of hope and anticipation becomes not only important but paramount! When their lives were met with the hardships they dealt with on a daily basis, the concept of the end times comes as a welcome sight. When you listen to the choir anthem and communion hymn, I ask you to listen past the surface level of the notes, rhythms, and lyrics. Hold in your mind the lives and memories of the enslaved people of America and live into the hope and anticipation that they felt for Jesus' second coming.

St. Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church
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Fr. Kevin Dellaria, Rector
The Rev. Diane E. Faison, Deacon
Mr. Joseph Perry, Minister of Music

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-FIELDS
WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS – December 4, 2022

Youth Group Collection

During the Advent Season the Youth Group are asking for donations for the women in the Thistle Hills House in Coatesville. Please be as generous as you can for the ladies that are in recovery. The needs are as follows: Sanitizing Wipes, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Krud Kutter (glass and surface cleaner), Carpet Cleaner (spot cleaning), Conditioner for hair, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, and Shower Gel. Thank you for your donations!

December 6: Brown Bag Lunch

Tuesday, December 6, Noon till 1 pm Tracy Behringer, Chester County Hospital will speak about mental health. These will be in-person sessions.

December 9: Festive Christmas Gathering

You are invited to a **Festive Christmas Party on December 9** from 6 to 9 PM. Please dress in your finest and come for an evening of celebration during this holiday season! Food and beverages will be provided by the fellowship committee. There's a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please sign up and indicate how many will attend. We hope everyone will join us for this final fellowship event of the year!

December 12: Red Cross Blood Drive

Register for the Blood Drive at St. Francis on December 12! St. Francis will host our next blood drive with the American Red Cross on **Monday, December 12 from 2-7 pm**. Please consider donating blood to help patients in need in our community. If you are healthy and eligible, roll up your sleeve, **book your appointment at www.redcrossblood.org** (search **St. Francis Malvern**) and become a part of the lifesaving mission of the Red Cross! Questions, contact Sue Lenkaitis at 610-570-1112.

December 21: Christmas Lunch Fellowship

St. Francis will host a Christmas Fellowship on Wednesday, December 21, from 12pm to 2pm, in the Parish Hall. A light lunch and desert will be served and Old-Fashioned Christmas Carols will be sung! (There may even be a few door prizes!) Volunteers are needed to transport members who don't drive to and from the event. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Bring a friend and celebrate the season!

January 6: Open House at the Dellaria's

The Dellaria's will be hosting a come-and-go event at their home on Friday, Jan. 6, the Feast of the Epiphany. Watch for more information coming soon!

Refugee Program

There will be another pickup soon, so everyone is invited to donate additional items. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this valuable effort to assist refugees. Please contact John Groch (610-547-3583) about further donations.

Advent, Christmas, and New Year's Services

Holy Eucharist will be held each Sunday in Advent at 8am and 10am, and on Wednesdays following Lectionary Bible Study. The Feast of the Nativity (Christmas) will be celebrated with Holy Eucharist on Saturday, December 24, at 5pm and 10pm, and Sunday, December 25 at 10am only. The first Sunday after Christmas Day, January 1 (also the Feast of the Holy Name) will likewise have Holy Eucharist at 10am only. Our two-service schedule of 8am and 10am returns on Sunday, January 8.

Weekly Lectionary Bible Study (LBS)

This weekly study group meets both in-person and on Zoom to discuss the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Those who attend in-person gather after for a brief service of Holy Eucharist. A weekly email link is sent out for those who desire to attend virtually. Everyone is invited to attend. This group is a great way to get to know other people in the parish. Winter Break – Dec. 21 and 28.

Circle of Friends

Circle of Friends is a pastoral care ministry of note writing (birthday, get well, thank you, encouragement, etc.) The Circle of Friends will meet in person, in the library, on **Wednesday, December 28** at 5:30 pm. If you are unable to join us in person but would still like to participate, please contact Sue Lenkaitis at suelenk@verizon.net or 610-570-1112. Packets can be prepared for pickup or delivery as needed. **Additionally, if you know someone who would benefit from a note of encouragement, well wishes or any other message from our ministry, please contact Sue and we will add them to our list. We want to ensure we're reaching those who need it most.**

Sight & Sound: *Moses*

Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster offers theatrical productions of biblical stories that are stunning in scope. Fr. Kevin is *gauging interest* on taking a church group this spring. No date has been chosen, but tickets run from \$74 to \$89 for adults, and \$39 for children 3 – 12. If might be interested in going, please put your name on the “Interested” sheet in the Narthex. If there is enough interest, you will be contacted soon. Thanks!

Baptisms

Baptism is the rite of the Church initiating a new member into the Body of Christ. As declared in the *Baptismal Covenant*, Baptism comes with expectations and responsibilities for the Baptized, their sponsors (i.e., parents & Godparents), and the Congregation as a whole. Additionally, according to *The Book of Common Prayer* (pg. 312), there are four Sundays on the liturgical calendar (the “Church Year”) when Baptisms are most appropriate: The Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (1st Sunday after the Epiphany), the Great Vigil of Easter, Pentecost, and All Saint’s Day (or the Sunday after). A fifth option includes any service of Holy Eucharist over which the Bishop presides. Beginning this liturgical year, St. Francis will follow this schedule for Baptisms (to include Easter Sunday). Baptisms should be scheduled with the Rector a minimum of six weeks in advance, and time should be set aside by the candidate and/or their sponsors for education on the meaning of Baptism. Scheduled dates for Baptisms at St. Francis in 2023 are April 9 (Easter Sunday), May 28 (Pentecost), and November 5 (All Saints’ Sunday). Please contact Fr. Kevin for more information.

This week we pray for: Kaye Archer, Bill, Melanie Blasingame, Norman Broadbelt, Charlie Brown, Athena Carrigan, Christine, Amadeo Cianci, Ellis Comfort, Claire, Cynthia, Noel Dutton, Linda Fisher, Hortense Gordon, Gretchen Hall, Electa Mary Huber, Jen, Justin, Karin, Dorothy Langton, Skip Lewis, Linda, Leslie, Matt, Lyla Jewell Newberry, Nancy Orlando, Steve Pietrzak, Lori & Becca Rohrbach, Edith Rowland, Bill Spane, Mary Alice Spane, Bill Speaker, Lois & Andy Steiner, Bill Torian, Baylee Walsh, Franklin Zemel, Cliff Zwerver.

Youth Group Prayers: I pray for a free world; Pray for LGBTQ+ people around the world, especially in Uganda and Qatar; Pray for the elderly, disabled, and for the mentally ill.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week: Carol Hatton-Holmes and Zac Peter Jones.

In the Parish Prayer Cycle we pray for our Discipleship leaders and groups of all ages, that they may help us be formed in the image of Jesus Christ.

Our Vestry:

Jill Quinn, *Rector's Warden*; Nancy Needhammer, *Accounting Warden*;
Cindy Claffey, *Secretary*; Anne Crowley, Brian Friedrich, Don Jenkins, Susan Lenkaitis,
Sherri Lewis, Suzanne Steinberg, Ed Damerau, and Roberta Torian

Vestry Member of the Week – 12/4/22 – Anne Crowley – 610-563-8340

MINISTERS OF WORSHIP & SERVICE

	December 4	December 11
Acolytes 10	Gav Dellaria, Trinity Dellaria Josiah Dellaria	Paige Dutton, Noah Alconera Lana Alconera
Altar Guild	Jane Brooks, Sheila Rees	Dutton Family
Flower Guild	Susan Lenkaitis, Shelley Steel	Sharon Fernandes
Intercessor 10	Jane Brooks	Kathy Schilling
Reader 8	Carolyn Brown	Ed Simek
Reader 10	Carol Cashon, Trinity Dellaria	Ed Damerau, Paige Dutton
Oblation Bearer 10	Edith Rowland Georgeann Speaker	Brian Friedrich
Coffee Hour 10	Anne Crowley	Sarah & John McGovern
Greeter/Usher 10	Shirley & Everett Warren	Jamie Watson, Mike Quinn
Audio/Visual 10	Ed Damerau	Gav Dellaria
Vestry Member of the Week 10	Anne Crowley	Brian Friedrich

St. Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church

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Parish Office Hours: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday – Friday
Fr. Kevin - Cell: 610-212-2083; Email: frkevin@stfrancisfields.org

The Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria, *Rector*
Diane Faison, *Parish Administrator & Deacon*
Joe Perry, *Music Director*