

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-FIELDS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

“Lord, make us instruments of your peace.”



Holy Eucharist: Rite II
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 16

August 23, 2026
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.

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

The Altar Flowers this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of their daughter Sarah's birthday given by Pamela & Rich Hudson.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

PRELUDE: *Tribute*

Craig Phillips

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 opening and procession.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord

And we pray that all unity, may one day be restored

And they'll know we are Christians by our love by our love

Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand

And together we'll spread the news, that God is in our land

Chorus

We will work with each other, we will work side by side

We will work with each other, we will work side by side

And we'll guard each one's dignity, and save each one's pride

Chorus

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come

And all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son

And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one

Chorus

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

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.

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God~ what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches

Thanks be to God

PSALM 138

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name, *

because of your love and faithfulness;

For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.

When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.

All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

They will sing of the ways of the LORD, *
that great is the glory of the LORD.

Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

The LORD will make good his purpose for me; *
O LORD, your love endures forever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

SEQUENCE HYMN: Seek ye first

Hymnal 711

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you; Allelu, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you, seek, and ye shall find,
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you; Allelu, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Allelu, alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria

A brief time of silent meditation follows the sermon

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - FORM VI

Deacon In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Daniel our Bishop, Kevin our Priest, Diane our Deacon,
Joe our Music Director, and for all Bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in the Church.

For the Merion Deanery & especially St. John's, Lower Merion; for the Brandywine
Deanery, and St. Paul's, Exton; and for our community of St. Francis-in-the-Fields.

For those we work with in the life of our Diocese.

For our all members of our Worship ministries, that they may help our church render
abundant thanks and praise.

For those we share with in the ministry of our church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, and especially for those celebrating
birthdays this week: especially Ana, Elizabeth, Ellen, Susan, and Larry.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **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

MEDITATION MUSIC: *Prelude on "Dundee"*

Healey Willan

HOLY COMMUNION

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 1

EOW

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 truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

SANCTUS *(Yellow Card in Pew)*

Hymnal S127

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

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the blessed St. Francis and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

Our Father in heaven, holy is your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE FRACTION

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

FRACTION ANTHEM: Lamb of God (*Yellow Card in Pew*)

Hymnal S374

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: One Bread, One Body

LEVAS II 151

One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many, throughout the earth, We are one body in this one Lord.

- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. One Lord. *Refrain*
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. One Lord. *Refrain*
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. One Lord. *Refrain*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

EOW 69

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Now thank we all our God Hymnal 556 (v. 1,2,3,7)

- 1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.
- 2 With all the angel choirs, with all the saints of earth,
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth. *Refrain*
- 3 Your clear hosannas raise, and alleluias loud;
while answering echoes upward float, like wreaths of incense cloud. *Refrain*
- 7 Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your glorious banner wave on high the cross of Christ your King. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

The house 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: *Trumpet Tune in F* *Brenda Portman*

St. Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church
689 Sugartown Road, Malvern, PA 19355
(610) 647-0130; stfrancisfields@stfrancisfields.org;
The Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria, Rector
The Rev. Diane E. Faison, Deacon
Mr. Joseph Perry, Minister of Music

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 23, 2026

TODAY, Sunday, August 23 - Back to School "Family Fun Day" at St. Francis!

After worship, join us in the Parish Hall for a light lunch and games. Depending on the weather, games will be set up either outside or in the Church School area.

TODAY, Sunday, August 23 - West Chester Food Cupboard Quarterly Drive: Our focus this quarter is School Lunch items. Unexpired, non-perishable food items including peanut butter, jelly, healthy snacks, fruit cups, applesauce, etc. would be welcome! Thank you for caring! If you forgot to bring the items today, you can bring them during the week.

Monday, August 31 @ 6:30pm - Creation Eve Prayer Service at the Meadow: The liturgical Season of Creation runs from September 1 thru October 4 (the Feast of St. Francis). We will begin our journey through this season with a creation-centered outdoor prayer service near the vegetable garden and meadow.

Weekly Lectionary Bible Study: This weekly Bible Study meets at 10 am, in-person and on Zoom to discuss the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Holy Eucharist follows at 11:15. A weekly email link is sent out for those who desire to attend virtually.

Women's Small Group: I'd like to extend an invitation to the women of St. Francis to consider participating in a small group using Tish Harrison Warren book *Liturgy of the Ordinary*. The book invites us to consider our daily activities through the lens of the church's liturgy as a means to notice the Mystery of God in our lives. Meeting together monthly, with open hearts and a desire to be present to God and each other we reflect privately and corporately on our spiritual lives. All the while noticing how we are being drawn to a deeper sense of God. **Starting Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026** and all following the third Tuesday of each month at 5:45 - 8pm. at St. Francis. We will meet in person and (when necessary by Zoom). Please contact Meridith Ridington (610-883-3499) text or call or by email - mridington@gmail.com

Save the Date! St. Francis Fair - Saturday, September 26, Noon to 4:00 pm: In the spirit of the Season of Creation, our community will once again sponsor a fair in celebration of community and social and environmental awareness. The fair features social service, health care and environmental agencies along with artisan and food vendors and family fun activities. Invite your family, friends and neighbors to this celebration of community

well-being! Contact John Groch for more information or to get involved (grochjohn@hotmail.com, 610-547-3583). See you at the fair!

Church Farm School Griffin Clothes Closet: The Griffin Clothes Closet will reopen for donations in September when the students return to campus. For your convenience, their item donation request page is available here: <https://www.gocfs.net/giving/griffin-clothes-closet> If no sizes are listed, we seek all sizes. Volunteer Opportunities at Church Farm School: Closet Ambassador- Host Closet open hours and help the boys select items (to be scheduled; weekly) Closet Volunteer- sort and hang donated clothing items during CFS office hours (M-F 8AM-4PM) Please contact Cindy VanHefter if more info is required. cvanhefter@gmail.com.

The Circle of Friends Committee is looking for members to participate in sending cards to parishioners - birthday, sympathy, get well and thinking of you. We will decide a convenient time to meet, once we have members. All supplies are provided. The time commitment is about 30 minutes a month. Questions- anne.r.crowley@gmail.com or 610-563-8340.

Collection for Trinity Church, Coatesville: We are collecting for "Paper Pantry A Go!" for Trinity Church, Coatesville for college students in need and will be an ongoing collection. Collection of shampoo and single-serve meals. **Single-serve meals must be shelf stable and not frozen!** Samples of the single-serve meals will be in the Narthex. A bin is in the Narthex for your donations.

Contemplative Prayer: The group meets in the library on Sunday evenings beginning at 6:00pm. The service includes simple prayers and singing, with 20 minutes of Centering Prayer. Everyone is welcome.

Save the Date . . . for a CRIME at St. Francis! Mark your calendars for the evening of **Friday, October 23rd**, as our parish hosts *The Murder Mystery Company* of Philadelphia for an evening of dinner theater fundraising fun! Tickets will go on sale in September. Invite friends, family, associates . . . or anyone else who looks "suspicious". Proceeds will benefit the Outreach ministries of St. Francis and the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Thank You! – To our **Building Committee**, for recent upgrades to the Parish Administrator’s Office, and repairs to two of our air conditioners, including the Library. Our buildings are well-maintained because of our faithful volunteers! But new members are needed! If you have gifts and skills for this area, please consider joining this ministry. See Fr. Kevin, Bruce Hartlein, Dan Goff, or John McGovern for more information.

News from the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania (DIOPA):

Sunday, August 30, 4pm to 6:30pm - Wild Adventure: Get ready for a fun evening of adventure, music, food, and fellowship to kick off your fall. Youth and their families from across the diocese are invited to our Diocesan Youth Wild Adventure at Valley Forge National Historical Park – on the grounds of the beautiful Washington Memorial Chapel. Come spend an evening outdoors together as we set our hearts toward the coming school year. Visit “Events” at diopa.org to register.

Nominations for Diocesan Committees: Lay leaders are needed to do the challenging work of our Diocese. Diocesan committees do many tasks that are essential to healthy, mission-oriented work in our churches. David Brooks, Jim Crowley, Roberta Torian, and Dcn. Diane, along with our Convention Representatives – Sarah McGovern, Tom Neely, and Roberta – all currently serve in diocesan capacities. Volunteering at this level is a great way to learn the opportunities – and challenges – of the Episcopal Church in our area and around the nation. If you would like to consider serving at the diocesan level, please contact Fr. Kevin, who currently serves as Chair of the diocesan Nominating Committee.

This week we also pray for: Alice, Debbie Bachman, Bob Bark, Patricia Bird, Randy Bisesi, Carrie Hall Borgert, CJ & Family, Carol Cashon, Ken Connor, Carol Estornell, Peggy Ewing, Leslie Fant, Victoria Ford, the Rev. Phil Geleibter, Tom Grady, Gretchen Hall, Sharyn Huffman, Karen, George & Jackie Kennedy, Dorothy Langton, Diane Lemon, Maria, Ruthe Meyer, Alejandro Morales, Matt, Ruth, Ryan & the Newman family, Barbara McCoy, Linda Parker, Barbara Pearse, Shirley Powell, Ryan, Ryan Schmidt, Larry Schroepfer, John Smith, Jock Sommese, Julie Sommese, Bill Spane, Georgeanne Speaker, Rowland Watson.

Birthdays: Ana Cooper, Elizabeth Darnel, Ellen Simek, Susan Vaites, and Larry Doyle.

Our Ministries: In the Parish Prayer Cycle we pray for our all members of our Worship ministries, that they may help our church render abundant thanks and praise.

Our Diocese: The Merion Deanery, especially St. John's, Lower Merion; Brandywine Deanery (Our Deanery) & St. Paul's, Exton. In our Deanery, please pray for Holy Trinity, West Chester, as they proceed in their search process for new Rectors.

Our Vestry:

Roberta Torian, *Rector's Warden*; Lisa Buono, *Accounting Warden*; Tom Neely, *Secretary*; Ed Damerau, John Groch, Carol Forte, Laura O'Brien, John McGovern, Susan Nangle

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Parish Office Hours: 9pm to 2pm, Monday – Friday

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutierrez, *Bishop*; The Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria, *Rector*;

The Rev. Diane Faison, *Deacon & Parish Administrator*; Joe Perry, *Music Director*

Ministers of Worship & Service

	August 23	August 30
Acolytes	Charlotte Goff, Luca Barbato Tim Kelly	Skye Dellaria, Josiah Dellaria
Altar Guild	Laura O'Brien, Shirley Warren	Sherri Lewis, Ellen Simek
Flower Guild	Mer Groch	Suzanne Steinberg
Flower Delivery	Susan Thomas	Jill Quinn
Intercessor	Tom Neely	Earl Needhammer
Readers	Steve Castellan, Tim Kelly	Tom Neely, Skye Dellaria
Summer Fellowship	Cindy VanHeffer	Sarah & John McGovern
Greeter/Usher	Everett & Shirley Warren	John McGovern, Mike Quinn
Audio/Visual	John Groch	Greg Kopia
Front Sign	Ed & Ellen Simek	Mark & Liz Hansler
Counters	Susan Callahan	Karen Richards
Linen Schedule	Shirley Warren	Shirley Warren
Sacred Bread	Janet Galib	Janet Galib
Vestry Member of the Month	Carol Forte	Carol Forte

*Please scan the QR code
to make a donation to St. Francis.
Thank you for your support!***



***Please do not use the QR link to pay your pledge. The fees that are charged
for using the service for pledge payments negatively impacts our budget.*