

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Holy Eucharist: Rite II
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 20

September 24, 2023
10 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 loving memory and thanksgiving of all whose lives have touched and blessed us.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

PRELUDE: Morning Song

Joseph M. Martin

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 opening and procession

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Not here for high and holy things

Hymnal 9 (v. 4-6)

- 4 Awake, awake to love and work! The lark is in the sky,
the fields are wet with diamond dew, the worlds awake to cry
their blessings on the Lord of life, as he goes meekly by.
- 5 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;
see how the giant sun soars up, great lord of years and days!
So let the love of Jesus come and set thy soul ablaze,
- 6 to give and give, and give again, what God hath given thee;
to spend thyself nor count the cost; to serve right gloriously
the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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: Glory to God

Hymnal S280

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 16:2-15

A reading from the Book of Exodus

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

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

PSALM 105:1-6, 37-45 (read responsively)

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
Make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.

Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.

Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.

He led out his people with silver and gold; *
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them.

He spread out a cloud for a covering *
and a fire to give light in the night season.

They asked, and quails appeared, *
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.

He opened the rock, and water flowed, *
so the river ran in the dry places.

For God remembered his holy word *
and Abraham his servant.

So he led forth his people with gladness, *
his chosen with shouts of joy.

He gave his people the lands of the nations, *
and they took the fruit of others' toil,

That they might keep his statutes *
and observe his laws.

Hallelujah!

ANTHEM: Fill the Earth with Music

Milburn Price

*Fill the earth with music, spread the news abroad.
Give to all your witness; Jesus Christ is Lord.
Psalms and hymns and heart songs in you richly dwell,
Centered on the Savior, Christ, who does things well.*

*Ring, you bells, with gladness! Sing, you choirs, with joy!
Take to heart your mission; all your tunes employ.
With your hearts united, all with common voice,
Each in your own language in your Lord rejoice!*

*In your loft anthems, by your hymns of peace,
Give the Prince of Goodness His own rightful place.
Raise the cross of Jesus, lift it high above,
That the world may find their Christ, the Lord of love.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:21-30

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN: Come, labor on

Hymnal 541 (v. 1&5)

- 1 Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain,
while all around us waves the golden grain?
And to each servant does the Master say, “Go work today.”
- 5 Come, labor on. No time for rest, till glows the western sky,
till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,
and a glad sound comes with the setting sun, “Servants, well done.”

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

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: Form IV

BCP 388

Deacon 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. We pray especially for Daniel, our Bishop; Kevin, our Priest; Diane, our Deacon; Joe, our Music Director; and for all Bishops and other ministers.

Silence

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. We pray for Josh, our Governor, Joe, our President, all elected officials, and all who serve our communities.

Silence

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. Make us mindful of our own exploitation of the Earth for selfish ends, and lead us, through your wisdom, to responsible and faithful choices.

Silence

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. We pray this week for the parishes of the Delaware Deanery, especially St. Mary's Church, Chester, and all who find Christ in and through their faith community.

Silence

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.

Silence

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We give thanks and ask your blessing on those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Elizabeth, Sarah, Rowan, Charlotte, and Cynthia.

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.

The congregation observes a period of silence, after which spontaneous prayers are invited.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:” Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

Silence

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

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

MEDITATION MUSIC

OFFERTORY HYMN: Rock of ages, cleft for me

Hymnal 685

- 1 Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood from thy wounded side that flowed,
be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
- 2 Should my tears for ever flow, should my zeal no languor know,
all for sin could not atone: thou must save, and thou alone;
in my hand no price I bring, simply to thy cross I cling.

3 While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I rise to worlds unknown and behold thee on thy throne,
Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

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 A

BCP 361

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 every where to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, for by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Hymnal S129

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.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty 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

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

Hymnal S163

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: O Master, let me walk with thee

Hymnal 660

- 1 O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
- 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.
- 3 Teach me thy patience; still with thee in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong,
- 4 in hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Creator, 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

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Hymnal 690

- 1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, bread of heaven
feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee, I will ever give to thee.

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: Dialogue sur les grands Jeux, from *Ave Maris Stella* Nicolas De Grigny

Music in Ministry

by Mr. Joe Perry, Music Director

This Sunday, I'd like to examine the tune that you will hear both during the prelude and the processional hymn. This tune known in our hymnal as MORNING HYMN (all caps signifies a hymn tune, I'm not yelling) is of unknown origin. Despite having some similarities to an old English tune “Old King Cole”, this tune was first published in Harrisburg, PA. It was published in 1813 in John Wyeth's collection “Repository of Sacred Tunes”, one of the early collections of American hymnody. At the time, the tune of the hymn, like most hymns, was placed in the tenor line with the sopranos singing harmony. In the late 1800's the shift was made to make sopranos the melody part to make the tune easier to hear in congregational singing.

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
ANNOUNCEMENTS – September 24, 2023

September 24: Church School returns to St. Francis!

Church School will be held on TODAY, September 24th during church. Going forward, church school will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month and is open to children ages 3 and up. Children will be brought up before communion so that they can join their families for the Eucharist. If you are interested in helping or assisting to teach or supervise a craft, please contact Sherri Lewis. Cell 610-716-4882 Email slewisx2@comcast.net.

September 27 (Wednesday): Circle of Friends

The Circle of Friends will meet in person, in the library, on **Wednesday, September 27 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.

October 1: St. Francis' Day & Blessing of the Animals

The *Feast of St. Francis* will be celebrated on Sunday, October 1 with indoor Eucharist at 8:00am, and outdoor Eucharist with the Blessing of the Animals at 10:00am. If weather is bad, the service and pet blessings will be in the Parish Hall. **Bring your pets to worship with you at 10am!** Dogs, cats, horses, guinea pigs, tarantulas (in a cage, please...) – All are welcome. Invite your friends and their pets, too!

- At Eucharist: The names of pets who have died over the last 3 years will be read from the Altar. If you have a name you would like to be ready, please notify the office by Monday, September 25.
- After Eucharist: All pets in attendance are invited to receive a blessing. If the pet is unable to come, a stuffed animal is welcome to be blessed in its place.

We will also collect items for the animals at the Brandywine SPCA. A list can be found in the narthex. This service will be live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube. Helpers will be needed for both setup and cleanup.

Deadline – October 1st:

Field Trip to the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C.

Want to learn more about the Bible and its place in history? The Brandywine Deanery (our Deanery) is offering a field trip to the *Museum of the Bible*. The cost is \$75.00 per attendee, and includes transportation on a quality coach bus and tickets to the museum. Lunch and snacks are not included. The bus will depart St. Francis around 8:30am and return at

7:30pm. Space for this event is limited to 50 people! To reserve your place, please contact the parish office. The deadline to register is October 1.

October 4, Jazz Concert Benefitting Thistle Hills

On Wednesday, October 4, at 7pm, St. Francis will host *The Jazz Sanctuary* and their live concert ensemble. Complimentary snacks, coffee, and wine will be offered. Donations will be accepted and encouraged, with all proceeds going toward the Thistle Hills House in Coatesville. Trinity Church, Coatesville's mission is to serve women from the Chester County and Coatesville areas who are survivors of trafficking, prostitution, and addiction that deserve a second chance at life. Invite friends and join us for a relaxing evening of live jazz music!

October 12: New Christian Discipleship Class!

“I Will, With God’s Help”: A Study in the Baptismal Covenant

The Baptismal Covenant in our *Book of Common Prayer* (see pg. 304) is at the heart of the vision for discipleship in the Episcopal Church. This fall, join Fr. Kevin on a multi-week exploration of faith and practice as we look more closely at the Baptismal Covenant, including how belief unfolds into practice. This will be a wonderful and worthwhile journey for anyone, but especially those seeking Confirmation in the Episcopal Church. 9am each Sunday in the library. Digital format TBD.

October 13: Fellowship Event

Our next Francis and Friends Fellowship event will take place on October 13th at the home of Jane and David Brooks. Please join us from 6:00 till 9:00 for a fun filled evening! Bring a beverage of your choice and an appetizer to share. Soft drinks and water will be provided.

Deacon Collection

Each year at Convention time (10/20-10/21), the deacons of the diocese organize an outreach effort. This year's effort of creating and distributing First Aid Kits focuses equally on engaging in community, both in our parish, as well as those in need. The goal is to get First Aid Kits into the hands of people who will not seek medical treatment for simple cuts and are at risk of infection. A list of needs is in the Narthex along with a bin for donations. Please be as generous as you can.

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour hosts needed. Please consider hosting a Sunday or two. Contact Sue Kelly by email at tkelly1839@aol.com or 267-304-2419.

Ministry to Refugees

Refugee assistance update: the seventh furniture collection for refugees, in collaboration with Nationalities Service Center, will take place either the final week of September or the first week of October. To make a donation, please text photos of the items to John Groch at 610-547-3583. Include your address. Detailed info about pickup date and time TBA.

Weekly Lectionary Bible Study

This weekly study group meets Wednesdays at 10 am 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.

Walking with St. Francis & Friends

This will be no pressure, easy walking, approximately 45 minutes - no sign up required. Please join us at East Goshen Park (Paoli Pike entrance at traffic light) on Mondays at 9 am during September. We'll be in the first parking area. Come - walk with us. Hope to see you there/then.

West Chester Food Cupboard & Thistle Hills House

PLEASE REMEMBER that St. Francis-in-the-Fields donates to the Food Cupboard and Thistle Hills House year-round and depends on your donations. Please be as generous as you are able. **A list for donations is in the Narthex.**

Altar Flowers

With the holidays approaching there are many opportunities to donate flowers for the altar, which are given to parishioners who are not well or are homebound. The flower book has been updated with pages until December 2024. There are many opportunities to sign up for flowers in October, November, and December. Multiple entries can be made on one Sunday. With regards to next year, I copied any entry which was placed in ink from the previous year. Please check your entries if you have entered a permanent request to be sure it is correct. The donation for the flowers is the same- \$50. Thanks, for the support. If you have questions contact Pam Hudson, pchudson715@gmail.com.

This week we pray for: Andrew, Kaye Archer, Melanie Blasingame, Mary Brown, Athena Carrigan, Christine, Ellis Comfort, Joan Corr, Doris, Stephen Dougherty, Sarah Dutton, Katie Egan, George Giamboy, Hortense Gordon, Gretchen Hall, Susan Hicks, Dianne Kronenberg, Dorothy Langton, Skip Lewis, Beth Maggio, Matt, Jane Moynihan, Julie

Palminteri, Perry-Hunter Family, Sammy Petersen, Jim Sampson, Bill Spane, Mary Alice Spane, Bill Speaker, Baylee Walsh, Franklin Zemel, Cliff Zwerver.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week especially Elizabeth Pitt, Sarah Dutton, Rowan Doyle, Charlotte Ackerman, and Cynthia VanHefter.

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.

St. Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church

689 Sugartown Road, Malvern, PA 19355

(610) 647-0130; stfrancisfields@stfrancisfields.org

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday - Friday

The Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria, Rector

Diane Faison, Parish Administrator & Deacon

Joe Perry, Music Director

Our Vestry:

Jill Quinn, *Rector's Warden*; Nancy Needhammer, *Accounting Warden*;

Kathy Schilling, *Secretary*; Anne Crowley, Susan Lenkaitis,
Sherri Lewis, Susan Nangle, Ed Damerau, Roberta Torian, John Groch

MINISTERS OF WORSHIP & SERVICE

	September 24	October 1
Acolytes 10	Charlotte Goff Charlotte Ackerman	Sarah Neely, Fiona Neely
Altar Guild	Sherri Lewis	
Flower Guild	Carolyn Marchitell	Mahala Renkey
Flower Delivery	Susan Thomas	Judy Culver
Intercessor 10	John Healey	John Healey
Reader 8	Ed Simek	Robert Bruce
Readers 10	Connie Scanga Charlotte Ackerman	Tom Neely, Sarah Neely
Oblation Bearers 10	John & Katherine Gallagher	
Coffee Hour 10	Laura Peterson, Bruce Hartlein	Cindy & Doug Claffey
Greeter/Usher 10	John McGovern, Mike Quinn	

Audio/Visual 10	Ed Damerau	Gav Dellaria
Vestry Member of the Week	Ed Damerau 610-400-5639	Jill Quinn 610-888-7409

BROWN BAG LUNCH - OCTOBER 17, 2023

We welcome The Rev. Sherry Deets, Rector of Episcopal Church of the Trinity and Thistle Hills to the Brown Bag Lunch on Tuesday, October 17th Noon-1PM.

Thistle Hills is a relatively new non-profit organization, officially established in 2020, and modeled after a highly successful program based in Nashville, Tennessee (Thistle Farms). Thistle Hills has a mission to provide long-term residential programming that has the capacity to create lasting change for our participants/survivors. We offer holistic healing and empowerment to assist survivors of trafficking, prostitution and addiction transform their lives in a safe, supportive, loving residential environment. The two-year program model addresses the physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs of each resident. Our staff and volunteers assist the women on their journey by providing ongoing treatments, educational tools and case management to successfully matriculate through a four-phased process.

This is one of the many programs that St. Francis parishioners support so we hope to see you there. Pack a sandwich and we will provide beverage and snacks.