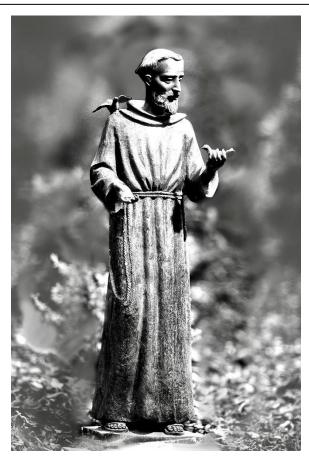


THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM



Welcome to St. Francis Episcopal Church. You are invited to participate throughout the service. May God bless you this and every day.

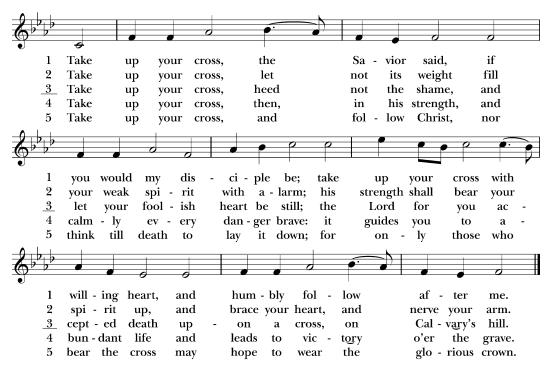
WELCOME AND **A**NNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Please stand, sung by all.

OPENING HYMN: Take up your cross, the Savior said

Hymn 675



Words: Charles William Everest (1814-1877), alt. Music: *Bourbon*, melody att. Freeman Lewis (1780-1859); harm. John Leon Hooker (b. 1944).

Please remain standing.

THE WORD OF GOD

BCP p355

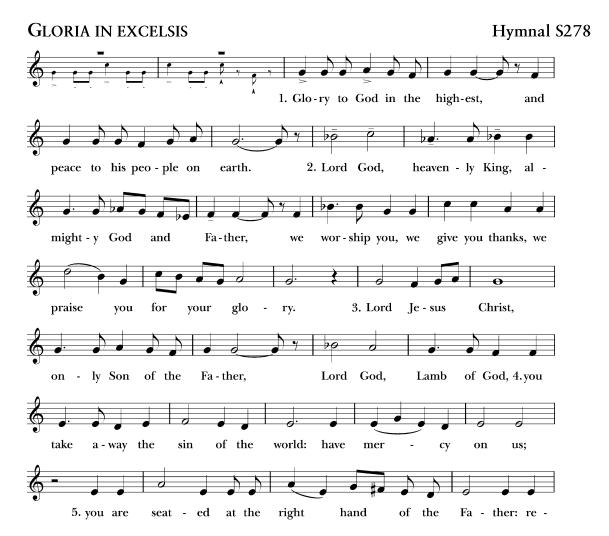
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

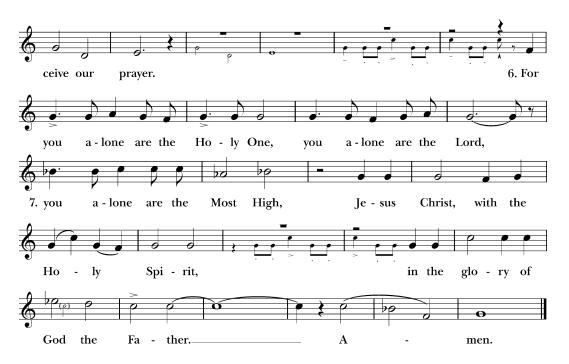
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: 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.





Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 18:1-11

A reading from the Book of the prophet Jeremiah:

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

Sung by all PSALM 1

Anglican Chant by Sam Doyle



- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the / wicked, * nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the / scornful!
- Their delight is in the law of the / LORD, * and they meditate on his law day and / night.
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not / wither; * everything they do shall / prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the / wicked; * they are like chaff which the wind blows a- / way.
- Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment / comes, * nor the sinner in the council of the / righteous.
- For the LORD knows the way of the / righteous, * but the way of the wicked is / doomed.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to Philemon:

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

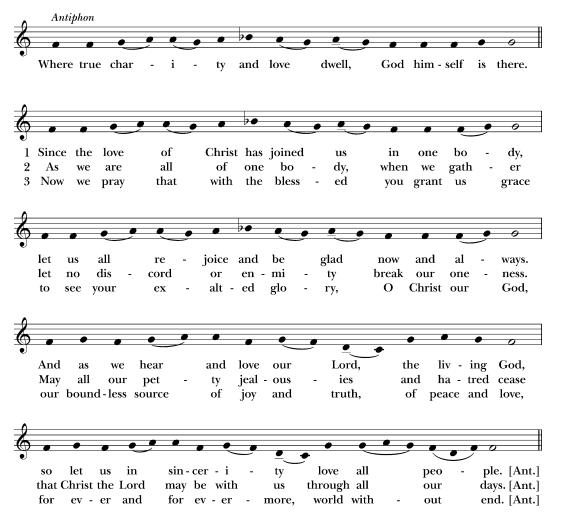
So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand, sung by all.

GRADUAL HYMN: Where true charity and love dwell

Hymn 606



Words: Latin: tr. Joyce M. Glover (b. 1923). Copyright © 1982, Joyce M. Glover. Music: *Ubi caritas*, plainsong, Mode 6; acc. David Hurd (b. 1950).

Please stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.
THE SERMON

The Rev. Meghan F. Froehlich

Please stand.
THE NICENE CREED

BCP p358

Celebrant and People:

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

Intercessor: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God saying, "Lord hear our prayer"

For all people in their daily life and work; for our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For this community, the nation, and the world; for all who work for

justice, freedom, and peace, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the just and proper use of your creation; for the victims of

hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; for those

who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy, we pray to

you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the peace and unity of the Church of God; for all who proclaim

the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Sam and Jennifer our own

Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers; for all who serve

God in his Church, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

(silence)

Intercessor: We pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Hear us, Lord; for your mercy is great, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

(silence)

Intercessor: We pray to you, O Lord. People: Lord hear our prayer.

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

and ever, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your

eternal kingdom.

(silence)

Intercessor: We pray to you, O Lord. People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; who put their trust in

you, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: We give thanks for the altar flowers in the church given to the glory

of God and in loving memory of Frank and Dorothy Griffin, given

by Debra Martin.

(silence)

Intercessor: We pray to you, O Lord. People: Lord hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP p360

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

All: 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.

Celebrant: 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 HOLY COMMUNION

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord

Psalm 100 William Mathias 1965

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands,

Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing.

Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and nor we ourselves: We are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:

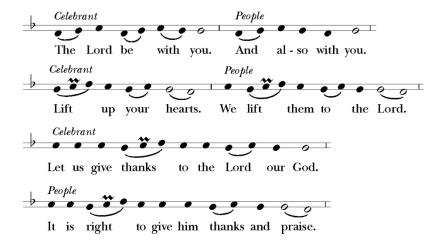
Be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good,

His mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth, from generation to all generations. Amen.

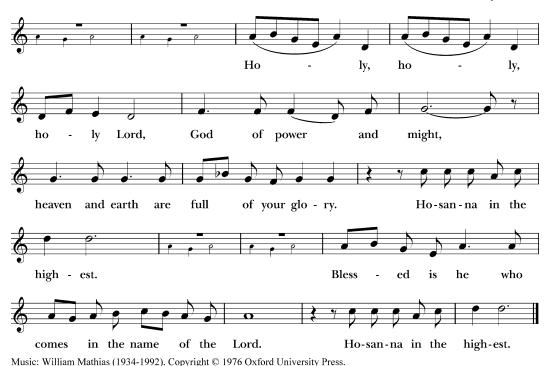
Please stand.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP p361



SANCTUS Hymnal S128



Please kneel.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A CONTINUES

BCP p362

Celebrant: ... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: ... By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all

honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p364

Celebrant: All:

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.

8:00am only

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

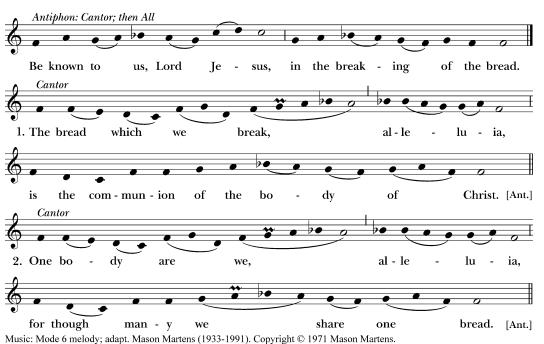
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

10:00am only

FRACTION

Hymnal S171



THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant: 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.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To receive bread only, place one palm of the hand in the other and the clergy will offer the Body of Christ to you. If you would like to receive bread and wine keep your hands by your side, and the clergy will intinct the body into the wine and place the body and blood on your tongue. To receive a blessing in lieu of communion, cross your arms over your chest and the clergy will give you a blessing.

Please be seated.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Please stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with

the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the

Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant:

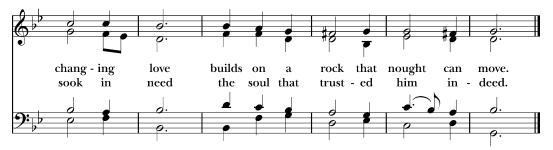
The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Please stand, sung by all.

CLOSING HYMN: If thou but trust in God to guide thee

Hymn 635





Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878), alt. Music: Wer nur den lieben Gott, Georg Neumark (1621-1681).

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3506 Lawndale Drive, Greensboro, NC 27408 / (336) 288-4721 / www.stfrancisgreensboro.org

THE RT. REV. SAMUEL RODMAN BISHOP OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE RT. REV. JENNIFER BROOKE-DAVIDSON
ASSISTANT BISHOP
OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE VERY REV. MILTON C. WILLIAMS, JR. RECTOR milton@stfrancisgreensboro.org (ext 101)

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THE VESTRY

Senior Warden: Janice Sund, Junior Warden: Teresa Schrader, Clerk: Laura Kilmartin, Treasurer: Rick Saunders

Thu Bray, Pat Brookshire, Donna Ehinger, Rachel Gallagher, Beverly Grier, Tom Porter, Pat Russell, Lynn Sandlin, David Smith

Vestry may be contacted at: vestry2025@stfrancisgreensboro.org