



**ST. FRANCIS**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
& DAY SCHOOL

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2025

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

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



## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### FIRST CANDLE - THE CANDLE OF HOPE

#### LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

The Smith Family

**Leader:** Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Leader:** Today is the First Sunday of Advent, in which we recall the hope we have in Christ.

God told Abraham that through him all the nations of the world would be blessed, because he trusted and put his hope in God. The Old Testament spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Savior would be born, a king in the line of King David. He would rule the world wisely and bless all the nations. We too believe in God's promise to send Jesus again to this world to establish his kingdom upon the earth.

*The First Advent Candle is lit.*

**Leader:** Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

**Leader:** Let us pray:

**All:** God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth, to make our hearts ready and to place our hope in you. Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

*Please stand, sung by all.*

**OPENING HYMN:** *Lo! he comes, with clouds descending*

**Hymn 57**

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

*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.

## TRISAGION

Hymnal S101

Ho-ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal

One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,

Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have

mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: John Rutter (b. 1945). Copyright © 1982 Oxford University Press.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**THE FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

**A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah:**

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come  
the mountain of the Lord's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.  
Many peoples shall come and say,

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the Lord!

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Sung by all*  
PSALM 122



- 1 I was glad when they / said to me, \*  
“Let us go to the / house of the Lord.
- 2 Now our feet are / standing, \*  
within your gates, / O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a / City, \*  
that is at un/ity with itself.
- 4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the / Lord, \*  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the / Name of the Lord.
- 5 For there are the thrones of / judgment, \*  
the thrones of the / house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Je/rusalem: \*  
May they pros/per who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your / walls \*  
and quietness with/in your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and com/panions’ sake \*  
I pray for / your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the / Lord our God, \*  
I will/ seek to do you good.”



## THE SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

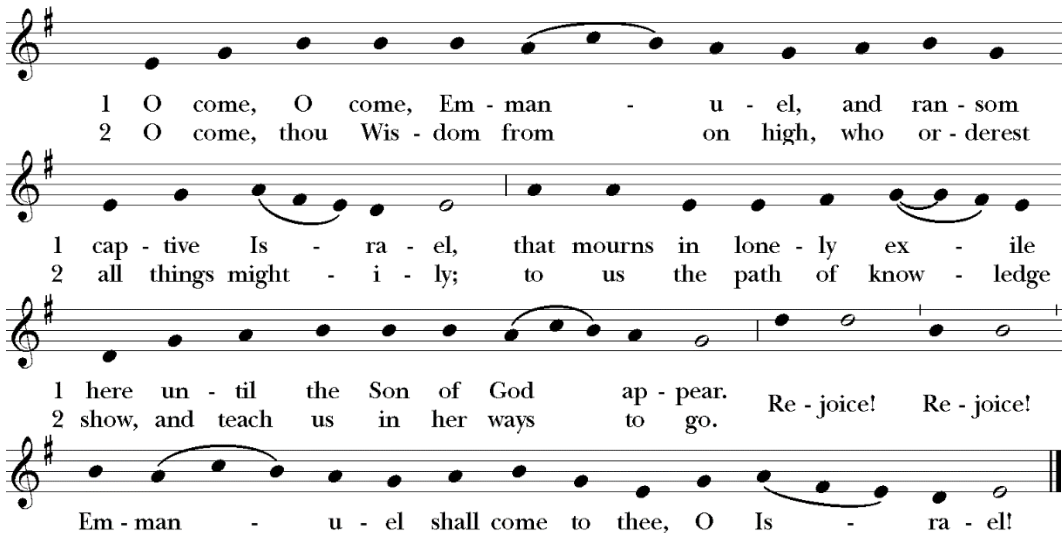
**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand, sung by all.*

### GRADUAL HYMN 56 (VERSES 1-2)

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

*Please stand.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 24:36-44**

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

**People:** Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

**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 – ADVENT 1

**Intercessor:** At the beginning of this Advent season, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord, have mercy:

**Intercessor:** That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Intercessor:** That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's touch in every human embrace, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Intercessor:** That divine love and holy grace may bring our hearts to vigilance and make us see with uncovered eyes the Christ who suffers in his people's agonies, let us pray to the lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Intercessor:** That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer that Jesus the Christ is with us here to make our songs of praise and pleading his own, let us pray to the lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Intercessor:** That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Intercessor:** For those who need our prayers and whom we now remember:

**People:** [pause for silent prayer]

**Intercessor:** For them and for ourselves, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Intercessor:** That those who have died in the hope of the resurrection and for all the departed, let us pray to the lord:

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Intercessor:** We give thanks for the altar flowers in the church given to the glory of God and in celebration of her sister's birthday, given by Thu Bray.  
(silence)

**Intercessor:** Let us pray to the lord

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Celebrant:** Make ready our hearts for your coming, O Lord, and receive our prayers in the name of the one who comes, our gracious Savior, Jesus, the Christ.

**People:** Amen.

## 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

*Dearest Lord Jesus*

Dietrich Buxtehude 1637-1707

Dearest Lord Jesus, How long Thou abidest far from me?  
Come Thou to me for my soul is weary.  
Come Thou and take me into Thy keeping  
Far from the burden of the world.  
It is enough, Lord, come now to deliver my soul from affliction.  
Weak are my senses and foolish my fears,  
Faint is my spirit and spent are my tears.  
Come now, Lord Jesus, how long Thou abidest,  
Come to deliver my soul from affliction.

*Please stand.*

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP p367

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the 'Celebrant' and the 'People'. The second staff is for the 'Celebrant' and the 'People'. The third staff is for the 'Celebrant'. The fourth staff is for the 'People'.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

# SANCTUS

Hymnal S128

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,  
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*Please kneel.*

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B CONTINUES

BCP p368

***Celebrant:*** ...Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***All:*** We remember his death,  
 We proclaim his resurrection,  
 We await his coming in glory...

***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.

***All:*** AMEN.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p364

**Celebrant:** And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**All:** 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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Sung by all.*

**FRACTION:** *I come with joy to meet my Lord*

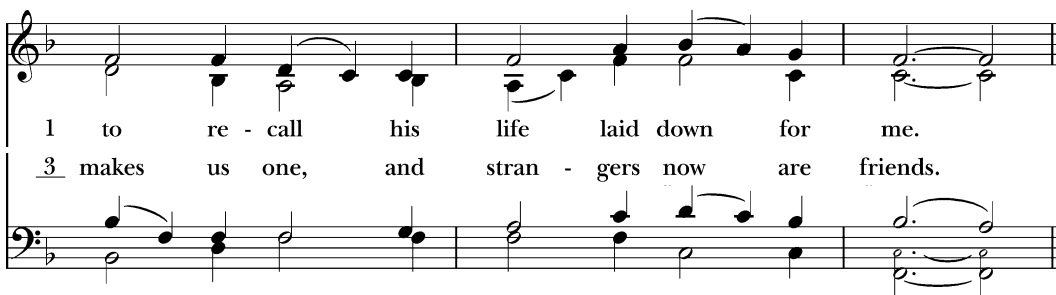
Hymnal 304 vs. 1 and 3

*Unison or harmony*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us





Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

## 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:*** May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

*Please stand, sung by all.*

**CLOSING HYMN:** *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

**Hymn 66**

1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
3 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child, and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e-ter-nal Spi-rit rule in all our hearts a-lone;  
from our fears and sins re-lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de-sire of ev-ery na-tion, joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.  
born to reign in us for ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.  
by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

**THE DISMISSAL**

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

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THE RT. REV. JENNIFER BROOKE-DAVIDSON  
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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

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