



St. Francis Episcopal Church

First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2019

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II 8:00AM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Opening Acclamation	BCP p356
The Collect for Purity	
Gloria	BCP p356
The Collect of the Day	
The First Reading	Isaiah 2:1-5
The Psalm Appointed	Psalm 122
The Second Reading	Romans 13:11-14
The Gospel	Matthew 24:36-44
The Sermon	The Rev. Dr. Andrew Harmon
The Nicene Creed	BCP p358
The Prayers of the People	
The Confession and Absolution	BCP p360
The Peace	
Welcome and Announcements	

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer B	BCP p367
The Post-Communion Prayer	BCP p366
The Blessing	
The Dismissal	BCP p366

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

10:30 A.M.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

The Girardi 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.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand, sung by all.

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

Hymnal 57

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p355

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP p355

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.

Sung by all.

TRISAGION

Hymnal S-101

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Tone VII



- 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 uni/ty 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: *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

Hymnal 56, vs. 1-3

Please stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Harmon

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP p358

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.

Please kneel and respond to the bidding “Let us pray to the Lord” with “Lord have mercy.”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE CONFESsION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP p360

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.

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Dearest Lord Jesus*

Dieterich 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.

OFFERTORY

Hymnal 380, v. 3

Please remain standing.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP p367

Please kneel.

SANCTUS

Hymnal S-125

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B CONTINUES

BCP p368

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

People: 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p364

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S-171

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To receive a blessing in lieu of communion, cross your arms over your chest and the priest will give you a blessing. If you are physically unable to approach the altar rail and desire communion, please let an usher know and s/he will tell the priest.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

*Creator of the stars of night
O heavenly Word, eternal Light*

Hymnal 60
Hymnal 63

Please stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p366

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 forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Please stand, sung by all.

CLOSING HYMN: Rejoice! rejoice, believers

Hymnal 68

THE DISMISSAL

BCP p366

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

THE ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers in the church are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of James and Patricia Moore and Walter Koehler, by Robert and Michelle Koehler.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

MINISTERING TO THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED is an important part of the ministry of St. Francis Church. If you know of a parishioner who is sick or in need, please notify the church office. St. Francis has an intercessory prayer group which prays for those listed below and for those who choose not to be listed below but who want prayer. A purple prayer card, found in the pew, may be filled out to make a private or public request.

OUR PRAYERS are requested for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially:

Those Who Have Died:

George Montgomery

Michael Guastella, stepfather of Sharon Shoaf

Dennis Barry

Florine Crutchlow, mother of Claudia Clarke

Dr. Randolph B. Huff, father of John Huff

Those In Need Of Prayers:

Ellie, Keith, Kristen, Laura, Lois, Matthew, Michael and family, Ruby, Scott, Shannon, Natalie Allen, Alan Arnold and family, family and friends of Frances Belmore, Jim and Peggy Clark, Robbie Gandy (brother of Carolyn Saunders), Kristy and Chris Girardi, Maria Griffin, the Harrill family, Danny Hall, Jim and Beverly Isaacs, Molly O'Tuel Johnson, Catherine Kresken, Brad Mack, Ryan Marion, Heather and Eric Meyler, Tim Murowski, Julianne Murray, Mariana Newton, Michael John O'Neal, Margie Noel, family and friends of Brian Orzechowski, Deb Parker, Jo Roberson, Holly Roberts, Pamela Muñoz Roberts, Martin Robertson, The Rev. Mike Schnatterly, Laura Shinn, Tim and Wanda Snider (parents of Felicia Cole), Cathy Sternbergh, Patrick Suits, Lorraine Taylor, Fred Warnecke, Philip Weathersbee, Dorinda Whitty; Doris, Gary and Marilyn Williams, Helene and Kirk Williams, and Katherine Woody.

Those Serving in the Armed Forces and First Responders:

Will, Lt. Rick Battle, Sgt. Thomas Earls, Justin Gray, Steve Lynch, Ana and Devin McMahan, Michael McNeil, Edward Savich, Dep. Allen Upson, Sgt. David Upson, Maj. Ben Watson, and their families.

Please help us keep these lists updated by contacting the clergy at St. Francis via email as soon as you can with corrections, additions, and updates on status.

ADVENT BOOK STUDY

Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent

with The Rev. Dr. Paul L. Crowell

Join with others seeking to learn more or renew their experience of the Advent and



LIGHT of the WORLD

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO ADVENT



Christmas Seasons. We will explore the biblical texts both Old and New surrounding the Gospel stories of Jesus' birth.

Our author is Amy-Jill Levine a professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School and College of Arts and Sciences. Her Jewish cultural background offers a rich and deep understanding of the context of Jesus and his family as well as the political context at the time of his birth. She provides good measures of insight, wit, and gentle prodding to go deeper into the birth narratives that shape much of our culture and celebrations at this time of the year.

Books and a discussion guide are available now (suggested donation of \$15). Sign up in the corridor to secure your spot. Meetings will be held **Dec. 8, 15, and 22**, the second, third and fourth Sundays in Advent.

FALL-WINTER-SPRING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

From the Sunday after Labor Day through the Sunday before Memorial Day Weekend (September 8-May 17), Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 8:00am and 10:30am. The nursery is available from 9:00am-12:00pm.

On the first Sunday of each month, the church offers a Contemporary Service held in the Parish Hall from 9:15-10:15am.

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Please call the church office to schedule meetings on campus at (336) 288-4721.

<u>Sunday,</u>	<u>December 1st</u>	<u>Wednesday,</u>	<u>December 4th</u>
8:00am	Holy Eucharist, Sermon by The Rev. Dr. Andrew Harmon	9:00am	Roustabouts
9:15am	Contemporary Eucharist (Parish Hall), Sermon by The Rev. Dr. Andrew Harmon	1:00pm	Book Sorting (Book Depository)
10:00am	Senior Choir Warm-up (Choir Loft)	6:00pm	Piecemakers (St. Mike's)
10:30am	Sunday School	7:00pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Gold Room)
10:30am	Holy Eucharist, Sermon by The Rev. Dr. Andrew Harmon		Choir Practice (Choir Room)
4:30pm	Junior Choir Practice		
5:30 pm	Meals of Hope Meal Pack-A-Thon (Parish Hall)		
<u>Monday,</u>	<u>December 2nd</u>	<u>Thursday,</u>	<u>December 5th</u>
2:30pm	Handbells (Choir Room)	12:00pm	Lectionary at Lunch (Gold Room)
<u>Tuesday,</u>	<u>December 3rd</u>	<u>Friday,</u>	<u>December 6th</u>
7:00pm	Explorations: DaVinci Code (Parish Hall)	10:00am	Meals on Wheels for St. Francis
<u>Saturday,</u>		<u>Saturday,</u>	<u>December 7th</u>
		9:00am	Book Sorting (Book Depository)
<u>Sunday,</u>		<u>Sunday,</u>	<u>December 8th</u>
		8:00am	Holy Eucharist, Sermon by The Very Rev. Milton C. Williams, Jr.
		9:15am	Advent Book Study
		10:00am	Senior Choir Warm-up (Choir Loft)
		10:30am	Sunday School
		10:30am	Holy Eucharist, Sermon by The Very Rev. Milton C. Williams, Jr.
		5:30 pm	Youth Group (St. Mike's)



ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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BISHOP OF NORTH CAROLINA

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BISHOP SUFFRAGAN
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THE VESTRY

JIM WOODY
SENIOR WARDEN

CHRIS RELOS
JUNIOR WARDEN

KATHIE HUFF
CLERK

RICK SAUNDERS
TREASURER

Laura Ambler, Betty Barry, Duana Cisney, Sonia Haslam, Robert Koehler, Dana Koval,
Melinda Madtes, David Reich, Lynn Sandlin

Vestry Person of the Day: David Reich

Stephen Minister of the Day: Carol Shearin

Vestry may be contacted at: vestry@stfrancisgreensboro.org