



St. Francis

ANGLICAN PARISH

First Sunday in Advent

December 1, 2024

Items in bold type are spoken or sung in unison. (†) indicates you may make the sign of the cross.

Processional Hymn.....*People, Look East, p. 11*

The Acclamation

Celebrant Surely the Lord is coming soon.
People **Amen. Come Lord Jesus!**

The Collect for Purity

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.**

The Decalogue

Celebrant God spoke these words and said: I am the LORD your God. You shall have no other gods but me.
People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant You shall not make for yourself any idol.
People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant You shall not take the Name of the LORD your God in vain.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant Honor your father and your mother.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant You shall not murder.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant You shall not commit adultery.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant You shall not steal.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Celebrant You shall not covet.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these, your laws, in our hearts, we beseech you.**

The Trisagion

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy Immortal One, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy Immortal One, have mercy, have mercy on us.

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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and to 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 forever. **Amen.**

First Reading Zechariah 14:3-9

Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle. On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him. On that day there shall be no light, cold, or frost. And there shall be a unique day, which is known to the LORD, neither day nor night, but at evening time there shall be light. On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter. And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 50:1-6

**The LORD, even the most mighty God, has spoken
and called the world, from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof.
Out of Zion, perfect in her beauty,
has God shone forth in glory.
Our God shall come and shall not keep silence;
there shall go before him a consuming fire, and a mighty tempest shall be
stirred up round about him.
He shall call to the heavens above,
and to the earth beneath, that he may judge his people:
“Gather my faithful together unto me,
those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”
And the heavens shall declare his righteousness,
for God himself is Judge.**

Second Reading I Thessalonians 3:6-13

But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you— for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith. For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord. For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

*O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, Thou Dayspring come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Gospel Luke 21:25-33

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Homily

Fr. Dan Hardin

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten 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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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], who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 Confession and Absolution of Sin

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker and judge of us all: We acknowledge and lament our many sins and offenses, which we have committed by thought, word, and deed against your divine majesty, provoking most justly your righteous anger against us. We are deeply sorry for these our transgressions; the burden of them is more than we can bear. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may evermore serve and please you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop or Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with your spirit.**

Announcements

The Offertory

Celebrant . . .All things come from you, O LORD,
People **And of your own have we given you.**

The Great Thanksgiving (The Sursum Corda)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

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.

The Prayer of Consecration

All praise and glory is yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption. He made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and he instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again. So now, O merciful Father, in your great goodness, we ask you to bless and sanctify, with your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, that we, receiving them according to your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood. For on the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it,* and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and

when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me.” Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we your humble servants celebrate and make here before your divine Majesty, with these holy gifts, the memorial your Son commanded us to make; remembering his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and his promise to come again. And we earnestly desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; asking you to grant that, by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, because of our many sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we ask you to accept this duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 forever. **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy upon us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, Redeemer, redeemer of the world, give us your peace. Give us your peace.

The Ministration of Communion

Hymns for Eucharist *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, p. 12*

The Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and goodness towards us: that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom. And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father, to assist us with your grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending, p. 13*

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

People, Look East



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to



1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may
3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has
4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -
5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is



1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.
3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.
4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.
5. com - ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.



Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965). Music: *Besançon Carol*, harm. John L. Hooker (b. 1944).

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
*Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art:
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.*

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
*By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.*

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, #66 from *The Hymnal 1982* —
Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *HYFERDOL* Rowland
H. Pritchard (1811-1887)

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
*Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.*

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
in the Body and the Blood
*he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.*

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
*that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.*

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
*“Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, #324 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Liturgy of St. James;
para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885). Music: *Picardy*, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from
Chansons populaires des Provinces de France, 1860; harm. after *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

Lo! He Comes, with Clouds Descending

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 Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

Those Serving Today

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Intercessory Prayer | Tom & Gordy Reese |
| Greeter | Gary Jackson |
| Ushers | Ron Hewett & Chuck Lewis |
| Crucifer | Cameron Hanna |
| Book Bearer | John Bonner |
| Lectors | Trina Garrison & Mari Hann |
| Chalice Bearers | Andrew & Danielle Bass |
| Nursery 8:45 a.m. | Rhonda Lloyd |
| Nursery 9:45 a.m. | Ashley Bonner |
| Godly Play | Pam Kerley & Jessie Turpin |
| Coffee Hour | The Reeses & Womacks |
| Music Director | Audrey Hanna |
| Organist | Rosemary Parten |
| Altar Guild | Tammy Bennetts, Team Coordinator Mari Hann, Beth Puckett, Carolyn Washburn |

Staff

Rector: Fr. Matthew Garrison—matt.garrison44@gmail.com

Assisting Priest: Fr. Dan Hardin—chaplaindan@mac.com

Pastoral Associate: Rev. Brian Teeter—bateeter@yahoo.com

Director of Student Ministries: Andrew Bass—andrewbass98@gmail.com

Director of Communications: Gordy Reese—greese.sfap@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: EJ Oberkirsch—oberkirsch@hotmail.com

Vestry

Through 2025: Carol Collins, Amy Davis, Leslie Hanna

Through 2026: Roger Buswell; Jimmy Washburn, Jr. *Warden*; Larry Wicker, Sr. *Warden*

Through 2027: Dana Garrett, Pam Kerley, Rhonda Lloyd

Office Hours: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday or by appointment.

St Francis' Mailing Address: 1089 Wilkins Drive, Sanford, NC 27330

St. Francis Parish website: <https://sfapnc.org>

Phone: (919) 292-0031

Announcements

- **TOYS FOR TOTS:** We have containers in the Emmanuel Room and the foyer to collect new, unwrapped toys for the U. S. Marine Corps' annual toy drive to be sure children in the community have something special to open at Christmas. Let's fill a number of boxes in honor of JJ Cuff and his work with Toys for Tots.
- **MEALS ON WHEELS** needs an additional driver or drivers to deliver meals on Tuesdays. Pick up is at 10:30 a.m. at the hospital. You should be finished by noon. Contact Betsie Wilkinson to volunteer (919)770-7783.
- **WOULD YOU LIKE PRAYER for yourself or others?** Please see a prayer team member (folks at the back of the church with red badges) during communion or fill out a beige card and drop it in a red prayer box by the back or side door of the sanctuary after church.
- **MENS GROUP:** Monday, December 9, 6:00 p.m. at Jon Kerley's, 427 Hawk Road.
- **SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS NEEDED:** St. Francis will be ringing bells at Lowe's Foods on Saturday, December 21. To sign up, please contact Sarah Womack at sarah.womack@kayyow.com.

Mark Your Calendars

- **CHOIR PRACTICE:** Today at 4:15 p.m.
- **YOUTH GROUP:** Meets at 6:00 this evening.
- **MENS GROUP:** Monday, December 9, 6:00 p.m. at Jon Kerley's, 427 Hawk Road.
- **BIBLE STUDY~KNOWING THE BIBLE: PROVERBS:** Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.
- **MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION:** Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.
- **ADVENT SERIES:** Wednesday evenings starting with Evening Prayer at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner and program.
- **BIBLE STUDY~THE GOSPEL AND LETTERS OF JOHN:** will resume January 7.

Adult Bible Studies

- **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**
 - Studying J. I. Packer's *Knowing God* in the big room upstairs. Bruce Ledford and Jimmy Washburn lead the study.
 - Discussing "**The Chosen**" in the room just past the nursery and Fr. Matt's office. Peggy Nelson and Frs. Matt and Dan lead this class.
- **TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY OF JOHN** will resume January 7.
- **WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** at 10:00. We are studying the J. I. Packer, *Knowing the Bible Series* on *Proverbs*. Even if you can't make all the classes, come for all you can attend.

St. Francis Anglican Parish Prayer List

For the concerns weighing on the hearts and minds of members of this congregation:

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Bob Alwine | Sam Holt | Jack Sharpe |
| Jerry Boles | Margaret Hubbard | Hannah Shutt |
| Ian Bristow | Joey Jervis | Brent Smith |
| Hailley Chapman | Chris Johnson | Karen Smith |
| Gay Colavito | Scott Keller | Jackson Snipes |
| Jeff Cummings | Alice Kern | Moses Snipes |
| *Georgette Dempster | Scott King | Jack Snover |
| *Paul Dempster | Tony Kolasa | Cherry Stanley |
| *Mary Ann Dusenbury | Charline Kugler | Eddie Stanley |
| *Helen Frechette | Michelle Leonhardt | *Sandra Stewart |
| *Joe Hanna | Hannah Lindsey | *Mackenzie Stinson |
| Ruby Hart | *Elliot Mann | The Sullivan Family |
| Lee Hawley | Clay Moore | Charley Swing |
| Ronnie Hawley | Sandra Norris | Jan Talbott |
| Alex Haynes | Edwin Patterson | *Jayne Taylor |
| *Brian Haynes | Barbara Perry | *Brian Teeter |
| Dorothy Headen | Greg Poe | Kristin Vernon |
| Charlotte Hill | Bill Ray | Jane Wesley |
| Erwin Hinson | Mark Rice | *Charles Wick |
| Jimmy Holt | Stephanie Sellers | |

***Member of St. Francis**

We remove names after three weeks, but you may always contact Peggy or Gordy to extend the time. To add or remove a name from the prayer list, contact Peggy Nelson or Gordy Reese.

Pray for those serving in our military all over the world: Corbin Andrews, Alex Bogaski, Roger Buswell, Fortune Egbulefu, Eliza, Ellis, Evan, Katherine Gladd, Noah Gibson, Dan Hardin, Garrett Hill, Ben Hodsdon, Shane Lawrence, Jim Makepeace, Isaac Owensby, Matt Pate, William Puckett, Lucas Rees, Devan Siler, Nick Stavlund, Dan Steiner, Mac Swingle, Trevor, Brent Turpin, Jason Williams

Pray for the departed: Marguerite Frasier, Eugene Hancock, Eleanor Holler, Robert Huse, Raymond Kerley, Robert Priest

The altar flowers are given by Helen Ward and family to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jeff Ward.