

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany February 19, 2023 9:30 am

Welcome to St. Francis. Your presence among us deepens and enriches our worship, and for that we are grateful. In this service leaflet, the people's responses are in **bold**. The time prior to the service is set aside for prayerful waiting and reflection. Please be respectful in observing silence at this time. Please silence all electronic devices. If you are a guest this morning and would like to know more about St. Francis, please fill out a visitor card in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate. The Rev. Toni Belhu would like to sit down with you for a visit. You may reach her at the church office at 828-287-3888 ext. 2 or her cell at 704-215-1882.

PRELUDE

All stand, as able. THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Songs of thankfulness and praise

Hymnal p. 135



Words: Sts. 1-3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984). St. 4, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund, Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant:Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.People:And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF 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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

to God in the 1. Glo - ry high est, and earth. 2. Lord God, peace to his peo-ple on heaven - ly King, God and Fa wor - ship you, we might - y ther, we al --) you thanks, praise you give we for your glo ry. 3. Lord Je - sus 6. 40 0 . . 0 . Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you 6 40 take sin of the world: have a - way the cy mer seat - ed at the right hand of 5. you are the Fa - ther: on us; re -0 o. prayer. 6. For are the ceive our you a - lone Ho - ly One, Lord, 7. you a - lone you a - lone are the are the Most High, Christ, with the Ho ly Spi - rit, in the Je - sus glo ry of God the Fa - ther. A men. -

Hymnal p. S-280

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you. Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit for the lessons

FIRST LESSON

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 99

1 The Lord is King; let the people tremble; *

he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

- 2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
 - he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; * he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; *

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; * he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, * they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *

they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *

you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; *

for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

SECOND LESSON

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter.

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when

2 Peter 1:16-21

Exodus 24:12-18

that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

All stand, as able THE SEQUENCE HYMN



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Ratisbon*, melody from *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, 1524; adapt. att. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870); harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

THE GOSPEL

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a

Matthew 17:1-9

voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY Silence may be kept after the homily.

All stand, as able THE NICENE CREED Book of Common Prayer p. 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM III

Book of Common Prayer p. 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; That we all may be one.

The Rev. Toni Belhu

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, José our Bishop, and Toni our Rector;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest, remembering especially Shirley McNeal and Brian Edwards; Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. Today we pray especially for **Josephine**, **Larry**, **Catherine**, **James**, **John**, **Ruth**, **Beverly**, **Jesse**, **Bobby**, **Helen**, **Lucinda**, **Bobby**, **Debbie**, **Wesley**, **Chris**, **June**, **Rob**, **Nancy**, **Malisha**, **Becky**, **Bob**, **Laura**, **Larry**, **Sid**, **Emmie Jane**, **Mytheina**, **Zareeha**, **ZaNae**, **Christy**, **Lyn**, **Timothy**, **Brad**, **Melanie**, **David**, **and all those on our long-term prayer list**. Are there others? (Please add the names of others either silently or aloud)

In thanksgiving we pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the coming week, especially Lynne Tanner (19), Wesley & Lisa Denney (25).

We pray for all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad especially those on our military prayer list, saying together, **Ben, Jeremiah, Daniel, David, Jason, Christopher, Daniel, Adam, Scotty, Jeremy, Nicholas, Nathan, Peter, Joseph, Luke, Tony, Christian, Brendan, Will, Tom, Christopher.** We pray also for their families, friends, and neighbors who await their safe return.

We pray for our sister church St. Gabriel's. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Lake Logan Conference Center and Valle Crucis Conference Center. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church of Rwanda.

We pray for our missionaries and their work in the world, for **Russ and Heidi Smith in Chile, John and** Zsófi Wilson in Hungary, and Daniel & Rachel Aytes in Thailand.

We pray for St. Francis Day School, and for its students and teachers and their families, that they may grow in stature and wisdom, and in the knowledge and love of your grace and truth.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect. THE CONFESSION OF SIN The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Minister and People

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 ABSOLUTION

THE PEACE

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.**

Book of Common Prayer p. 360

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

People: And also with you.

The ministers and people greet each other in the name of the Lord.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE COMMUNION AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

All stand, as able

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

I love to tell the story

LEVAS p.64



Words: A. Katherine Hankey (1831-1911). Music: William G. Fisher (1835-1912).

All stand, as able, as the offering is presented, singing together the Doxology. THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Prayer A

Book of Common Prayer p. 367

The people remain standing.

Celebrant:The Lord be with you.People:And also with you.Celebrant:Lift up your hearts.People: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.

Then the Celebrant proceeds

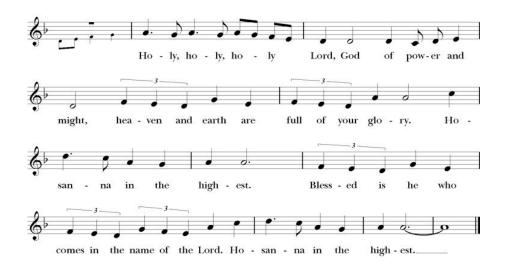
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

PROPER PREFACE

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 p. S-129



The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father 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:

Celebrant and People Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, 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 Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to pray,

People and Celebrant

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; *People:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Book of Common Prayer p.364

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

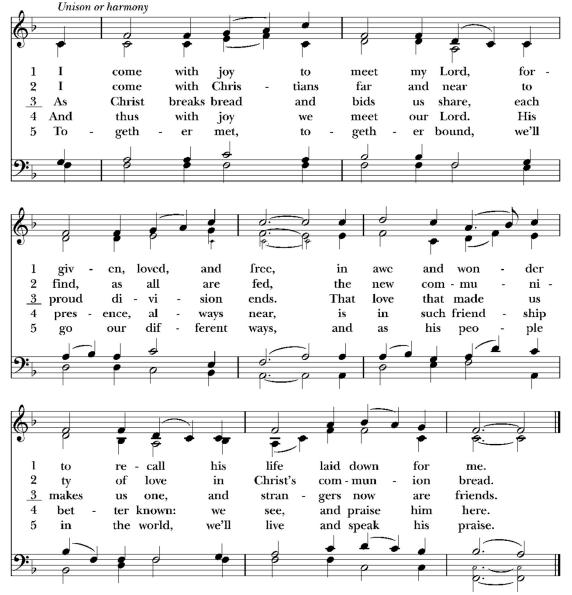
O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,

grant us thy peace.

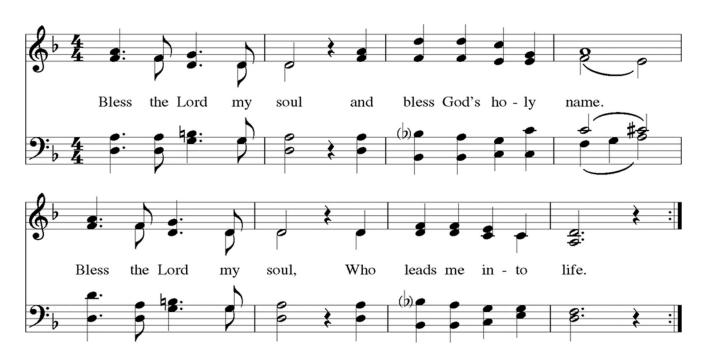
INVITATION TO HOLY EUCHARIST



Words: Joseph Scriven (1819-1866). Music: Charles C. Converse (1832-1918).



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 POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Book of Common Prayer p. 366

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. Celebrant and People 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

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



Words: George Wallace Briggs (1892-1955), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *St. Joan*, Percy E. B. Coller (1892-?). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia. *People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Book of Common Prayer p. 366

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST:, Addison, Zoey, Courtney, Tom, Harper, Emmanuel, Kimberly, Diana, Michael, Tony, Becca, Brian, Jane, Christine, Sally, Paige, Alan, Pam, Ricky, Beverly, Lee, Mike, the Snelgrove family, Danielle, the Taft family, Dickinson, Jane, Anna, Linda, Roy, Janice, Jenny, Sarah, Amanda, Michael, Bud, Danny, Rob, Gordon, Daniel, Cullin, June, Billy, Donovan, Maddox, Sutton, Megan, Hunter, Phyllis, Jane, Annie, Bob, David, Doug, Rob, Stewart, Marsha, Avis, Max, Donald, Amy, Dewey, the Wilkerson family, Ryan, Kristy, the Dale family, Anthony, the Simpson family, Jim, the Allen family, Lisa, Bill, Grace, Paula, Bobbie, Glena, Elizabeth, David, Sandy, Sean, Jane, Judy, Tabitha, Elaine, Gennine, Dickinson, Skip, Ernest, Ginger, Mel, Jimmy, Rick, David, Ella Mae, Gregory, Rett, Kristy, Peggy, Dee, Nelson, Julia, Hartford, Nell, Billy, Rita, Janet, Seth, Peggy, Ron, Norris, Mary, Brandy, Lizzie, Sally, Sharon, Ellen, Chuck, Taby, Shirley, Kylie, TJ, Jenny, June, Kevin, Karsen, Sequoia, Millie, Charles, Sherrill, Dori, Elizabeth, Presley Joe, Elizabeth, the Bridges family, Randy, Jeanine, Nancy, Shannon, Robyn, Nicholas, Ellen, Charles, Barbara, Bob, Peggy, Bob, Mike, Chris, Logan, Gavin, Gage, Persphone, Nicky, Corwin, Beth, Junie, Hobby, Molly, Trevor, Wendy, Joshua, Nelson, Dee, Janet, Hartford, Thomas, Shelby, Burtches, Beverly, Shirley, the Peters family, Barbara, Edward, Shirley, Colin, Jane, Bobby, Lois, Paula. The flowers on altar are given to the Glory of God and the people of St. Francis in memory of Max & Ruth Reger on their anniversary.

Worship Leaders 9:30 am

Usher – Steve Ross Greeter – Anita Quinley 1st Lesson – Gillian Pickard 2nd Lesson – Steve Ross Chalicist – Don Corry Acolyte – Robin DeLorenzo Vestry Lock Up – Doug Tribou Camera – Stephanie Williams Children's Church – Linda Tribou & Tammy Edwards

Worship leaders for next Sunday 9:30

Usher – Kathy Demas Greeter – Allison Ross 1st Lesson – Anita Quinley 2nd Lesson – Tim Turner Chalicist – Rebecca Melton Acolyte – Owen McDaniel Vestry Lock Up – Anita Quinley Camera – Steve Ross Children's Church – Linda Tribou & Stephanie Williams

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Parish Administrator: Kathryn McGowan Email:

administrator@stfrancisrutherfordton.org Organist: Steven Noll

Sexton: Debbie Hamrick

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