



*Feast of
St. Francis*

**St. Francis and St. Gabriel's
Episcopal Churches**

St. Francis Day

October 8, 2023

10:30 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

All Creatures of our God and King

Hymnal p. 400



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,

Refrain



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Words: Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Copyright ©1985 by G. Schirmer, used by arrangement of G. Schirmer, Inc.
Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
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OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed be the God of all creation.

People: **And blessed be God's holy Name forever.**

Celebrant: Bless your Creator, all animals of the land.

People: **Praise and exalt our Creator forever.**

Celebrant: Bless your Creator, all birds of the air.

People: **Praise and exalt our Creator forever.**

Celebrant: Bless your Creator, all creatures of the sea.

People: **Praise and exalt our Creator forever.**

Celebrant: Bless your Creator, all children of God.

People: **With all of creation, we praise your name.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy. O God, you have made us and all living things. You are even more wonderful than what you have made. We thank you for giving us these pets who bring us joy. As you take care of us, so also we ask your help that we might take care of those who trust us to look after them. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

All sit for the lessons

The Creation Story (Abbreviated from Genesis 1:1-34)

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and a great dimness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. On the first day, God created light and darkness. On the second day, God created the sky above and the waters below. On the third day, God formed the land and called it Earth, and gathered the water and called it Sea. God blessed the earth with vegetation and food. On the fourth day, God separated the day from the night, creating the sun, the moon, and the stars. On the fifth day, God brought forth swarms of living creatures in the air, in the water, and on the land, and God bid them to be fruitful and multiply. On the sixth day, God created humankind in God's image, giving them dominion over the animals. God blessed them and bid them to be fruitful and multiply. On the seventh day, God saw that everything that God had made was very good and God rested and blessed the seventh day and made it sacred.

Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____ Where
2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____ Where

T.B. *mp*

there is ha-tred let me bring your love. _____ Where
there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. _____ Where

there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, _____ and
there is dark-ness _____ on-ly light, _____ and

where there's doubt, true faith in you. _____ O
where there's sad-ness ev-er joy. _____ O

Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek _____ so

much to be con-soled as to con-sole _____ to be
, *ten. ten.*

un-der-stood as to un-der-stand _____ to be
, *ten. ten.*

loved, as to love, with all my soul. _____

Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy.

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THE GOSPEL

Minister: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (11:25-30)

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, God of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, God, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Creator; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal God. 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

STORY OF ST. FRANCIS

Stella Turner

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.**

THE PRAYERS

Leader: Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all the gifts so freely bestowed upon us and for the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea;

All: We thank you, Lord.

Leader: For the richness of the mountains, plains and rivers;

All: We thank you, Lord.

Leader: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women;

All: We thank you, Lord.

Leader: For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

All: We thank you, Lord.

Leader: For the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers and trees;

All: We thank you, Lord.

Leader: For the trust you have shown in giving into our care these, our pets;

All: We thank you, Lord.

Leader: That each pet here may be treasured with care and those pets who are no longer with us may know your love and care;

All: We pray to you, Lord.

Leader: That we may love and honor all your works, O God;

All: We pray to you, Lord.

Leader: That we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation;

All: To the honor and glory of your name, now and forever, we pray to you, Lord.

Amen.

Please come forward with your pet to be blessed.

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Minister: May you be blessed in the Name God, the Creator, Redeemer and of the Sustainer. May you and your animals enjoy life together and find joy with the God who created you. Amen.

THE PEACE

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 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

It's me, it's me, it's me O Lord

It's me, it's me, O Lord, Stand-in' in the need of prayer;—

It's me,

— It's me, it's me, O Lord, Stand-in' in the need of prayer.—

It's me,

Fine

1. Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's me, O Lord,
2. Not the preach - er, not the dea - con, but it's me, O Lord,
3. Not my fa - ther, not my moth - er, but it's me, O Lord,
4. Not the stran - ger, not my neigh - bor, but it's me, O Lord,

stand-in' in the need of prayer, not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's
stand-in' in the need of prayer, not the preach - er, not the dea - con, but it's
stand-in' in the need of prayer, not my fa - ther, not my moth - er, but it's
stand-in' in the need of prayer, not the stran - ger, not my neigh - bor, but it's

D.C.

me, O Lord, stand - in' in the need of prayer.
me, O Lord, stand - in' in the need of prayer.
me, O Lord, stand - in' in the need of prayer.
me, O Lord, stand - in' in the need of prayer.

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.

For the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations.

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

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 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 has 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

Book of Common Prayer p.364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

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

***People:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

INVITATION TO HOLY EUCHARIST

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.

To receive communion, come to the communion rail. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. Eat the bread and then drink from the cup when it is offered to you, or, if you wish, you may hold one finger up to indicate to the priest you would prefer intinction.

Gluten-free wafers are available. Please make your need known to the priest.

If you wish to receive a blessing rather than receive communion, please join in the movement to the communion rail and cross your arms over the front of your chest. If you do not wish to receive the wine, after receiving the bread, please cross your arms over the front of your chest. This will alert the ministers of your wishes.

During communion, members of our congregation will join together in our choir loft to lead the congregation in singing the communion hymns.

I come with joy

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Humbly I Adore Thee



1 Hum - bly I a - dore thee, Ver - i - ty un - seen,
2 Taste and touch and vi - sion to dis - cern thee fail;
3 O me - mo - rial won - drous of the Lord's own death;
4 Je - sus, whom now hid - den, I by faith be - hold,



who thy glo - ry hid - est 'neath these sha - dows mean;
faith, that comes by hear - ing, pierc - es through the veil.
liv - ing Bread that giv - est all thy crea - tures breath,
what my soul doth long for, that thy word fore - told:



lo, to thee sur - ren - dered, my whole heart is bowed,
I be - lieve what - e'er the Son of God hath told;
grant my spi - rit ev - er by thy life may live,
face to face thy splen - dor, I at last shall see,



tranced as it be - holds thee, shrined with - in the cloud.
what the Truth hath spo - ken, that for truth I hold.
to my taste thy sweet - ness nev - er - fail - ing give.
in the glo - rious vi - sion, bless - ed Lord, of thee.

Jesus Loves Me! This I Know

1. Je - sus loves me! this I know, For the bi - ble tells me so;
2. Je - sus loves me! He who died, Hea - ven's gate to op - en wide;
3. Je - sus take this heart of mine, Make it pure and whol - ly thine;

1. Lit - tle ones to Him be - long; They are weak but He is strong.
2. He will wash a - way my sin, Let His lit - tle child come in.
3. On the cross you died for me, I will try to live for thee.

Yes, Je - sus loves me! — Yes, Je - sus loves me! —

Yes, Je - sus loves me! — The bi - ble tells me so.

Words: Traditional; Ann B. Warner (1820-1915). Music: William B. Bradbury (1816-1869); arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Arr. Copyright © 1992 Horace Clarence Boyer.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, our great Creator, yours are the praise, the glory, the honor and all blessings! To you lone do all things belong. Be praised for giving us the animals, birds and fish which fill your world. May we think of you and thank you when we play with and care for our pets. Be praised for making us so happy to have our pets and to have them to play with. We ask you, Lord, that we may be good to our pets always, so that they may be happy also. Help us always to take care of them so that they will be healthy. O God, your world is wonderful. May we all come into your even greater world of the kingdom of heaven where we shall see even more wonderful things and where we shall live and love forever. This we ask to your eternal praise, and to our blessing. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord show his face to you and have compassion on you! May God turn his face to you and give you peace! And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always. **Amen.**

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

All things bright and beautiful

Descant



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea - tures great and small,

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



- 1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
- 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
- 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
- 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



he made their glow - ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky,
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*; 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958)
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THE DISMISSAL

Book of Common Prayer p. 366

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

***People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Prayer List: Josephine, Larry, James, John, Ruth, Beverly, Jesse, Bobby, Helen, Chris, June, Rob, Nancy, Dickinson, Wesley, Debbie, Emmie Jane, Sandra, Charles, Sally, Miles, Larry, Rita, Orwen, Rachel, Judy, Harold, Ellen, Roger, Tabatha, Chuck, Marianna, Karen, Mark, the Roberts family, Charlotte, Sharon, Roy, Lyn.

*The flowers on the altar are given to
the Glory of God and in loving
memory of Lois Diana
by Anthony & Stacy Guarriello.*

**Worship Leaders for next Sunday
10:30 am**

Usher – Marshall McGowan/Braelin
Johnson
Greeter – Margie Roberts/Robert
Miller
1st Lesson – J'myus Johnson
Story of St. Francis – Stella Turner
Chalicerist – Rebecca Melton
Acolyte – Tim Turner
Vestry Lock Up – Doug Tribou
Camera – Rob McDaniel

**Worship Leaders
9:30 am**

Usher – Kathy Demas
Greeter – Barbara Locricchio
1st Lesson – Tim Turner
2nd Lesson – Doug Tribou
Chalicerist – Don Corry
Acolyte – Walt Joyce
Vestry Lock Up – Rebecca Melton
Camera – Steve Ross
Children's Church – Linda Tribou,
Allison Ross
Punch on the Lawn – Anita Quinley

Saint Francis Episcopal Church

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Sexton: Debbie Hamrick

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