



First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 1, 2024 ❖ 10:00 am

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Jason Shelby

Deacon: The Rev. Celeste Stump

We warmly welcome you if you are here with us for the first time today. We joyfully welcome all people into our community without exception. Whoever you are, and whatever the status of your relationship with God, you will find fellow travelers here. Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service.

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Anna Eakins and in loving memory of James Eakins.

Please take a moment to silence your cellphone. Thank you.

Coming Events

Sunday, Dec. 1

- 9:10 am Spiritual Formation Class: "Who is Jesus?"
- 11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

Monday, Dec. 2

- 6:30 pm Concert Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sunday Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, Dec. 3 – 12:30 pm SAGES Bunco Bash

Wednesday, Dec. 4

- 10:00 am Healing & Reconciliation Holy Eucharist
- 10:00 am Blue Bin Sorting
- 5:00 pm Good Grief Support Group
- 6:00 pm Nurture Group

Thursday, Dec. 5 – 1:00 pm Quilters and Knitters Group

Sunday, Dec. 8

- 9:10 am Spiritual Formation Class: "Who is Jesus?"
- 11:25 am Advent Wreath Making and Luncheon
- 11:30 am Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Long Beach Camerata Singers performance

Monday, Dec. 9

- 5:00 pm Blue Christmas Service
- 6:30 pm Concert Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 pm Sunday Choir Rehearsal

For more events, dates and times, visit our church calendar:

<https://bit.ly/stfranciscalendar>

The Word of God

Please stand as able and join in singing.

The Processional Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymnal #56

O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, that
 O come, thou wis - dom from on high, who or - derest all things might - i - ly; to
 O come, O come, Thou Lord of Might, who to thy tribes on Si - nai's height in
 O come, Thou Day - spring, from on high, and cheer us by thine draw - ing nigh; dis -
 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all - man - kind; bid

mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. Re
 an - cient times didst give the law, in cloud, and maj - es - ty and awe.
 perse the gloom - y clouds of night and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

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

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. "Hymnal 1940," alt. Music: "Veni, veni, Emmanuel," plainsong, Mode 1, "Processionale," 15th cent.;
 adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

The Opening Acclamation

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God,

People

**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.**

Please remain standing as able and join in singing.

The Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Hymnal #96 (Refrain)

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol, tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.
Music: French carol, arr. Edward Shippen Branes (1887-1958).

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 Lighting of the Advent Wreath

A family steps forward.

Leader Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE.

The candles are lit.

Leader "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace." (Colossians 3:15)

People **Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. Amen.**

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Reader A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

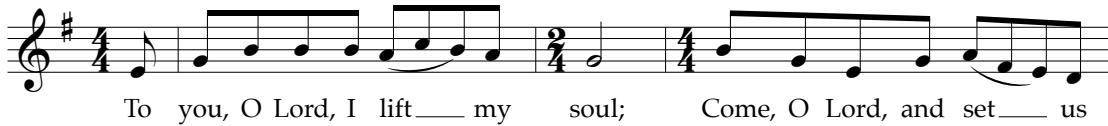
¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response: Psalm 25:1-9

Reader Let us read from Psalm 25 responsively (the People reading the text in bold).



free.

Words: The English translation of the refrain text from the "Lectionary for Mass," Copyright © 1969, 1981.
Music: "Veni, Veni, Emmanuel," adapt. David Haas, Copyright © 1997 by GIA Publications, Inc.

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *

**let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

²Let none who look to you be put to shame; *

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

³Show me your ways, O LORD, *

and teach me your paths.

Refrain

⁴Lead me in your truth and teach me, *

**for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.**

⁵Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *

for they are from everlasting.

⁶Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *

**remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**

Refrain

⁷Gracious and upright is the LORD; *

therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

⁸He guides the humble in doing right *

and teaches his way to the lowly.

⁹All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *

to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Refrain

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Reader A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless 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.**

Please stand as able and join in singing.

The Sequence Hymn

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

Hymnal #73

The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

3
 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

6
 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt. Music: "St. Stephen," William Jones (1726-1800), alt.

Please remain standing as able.

The Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

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

Jesus said: ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Jason Shelby

There will be a moment of silence for reflection following the sermon.

Please stand as able and join in saying the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed

All **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, who with the Father and the Son he 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.

Please remain standing as able.

The Prayers of the People (the People read the responses in **bold**)

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please kneel or sit as able.

The Confession of Sin

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.**

The Absolution

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.**

Please stand as able.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Ministers and People exchange signs of peace in the name of the Lord.

Please be seated.

The Welcome and Announcements

Anyone who has a birthday or anniversary in the next week is invited to come forward for a blessing:

All **Watch over your child(ren), O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may the peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Walk in love as Christ loves us, bring offerings of praise and thanksgiving to his table.

The Offertory Anthem

Advent Prayer by James E. Clemens

St. Francis Choir

Please join in singing the Congregational Response:

Choir We are waiting on this day; Jesus will take our fears away.
We will keep our vigil here, as his Advent draws us near.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.

Congregation **Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**

Choir We are longing on this day; Jesus will take our sins away.
As a shepherd, he will lead; gently tend our every need.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.

Congregation **Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**

Choir We are reaching on this day; Jesus will lead us, light our way.
He will show the way of peace, from our darkness bring release.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.

Congregation **Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**

Choir We will expect him on that day; we prepare our hearts and pray.
He will bless us with his grace, saving all the human race.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.

Congregation **Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**

Choir Jesus is coming on this night, sent from God to be our light.
Let us praise our humble King, and with adoration sing.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.

Congregation **Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**

The Offertory Hymn

Hark! The Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

Hymnal #72

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the staff, aligned with the notes.

Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior
He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

6
prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre - pare a throne, and
soul to cure; and with the trea - sures of his grace to'en -
shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal arch - es ring with

12
ev - ery voice — a song.
rich the hum - ble poor.
thy be - lov - ed Name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751). Music: "Richmond," melody Thomas Haweis (1734-1820);
adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816); harm. "Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised," 1950.

Please stand as able.

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, 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 triumph 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Hymnal #S-78



Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo-ry, Ho-



san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: "Forest Green," English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958).

Please kneel or stand as able as the Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

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

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Francis and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.*

Celebrant And now, as 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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

The Fraction Anthem

O Heavenly Word, Eternal Light

Hymnal #64



O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light, be - got - ten
pour light up - on us from a - bove, and fire our
and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh the se - crets
O let us not, for e - vil past, be driv - en
To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the

3



of the Fa - ther's might, who in these lat - ter days wast
hearts with ar - dent love, that, as we hear thy truth to -
of our hearts to try, to re - com - pense each hid - den
from thy face at last, but with thy saints for ev - er -
Spi - rit, ev - er One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry

6



born for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;
day, all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;
sin and bid the saints their reign be - gin;
more be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.
be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. "Hymnal 1982". Music: "O Heiland, reiss," melody from "Rheinlandsches Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch," 1666; harm. "Orgelbuch Zum Gesangbuch Der Evangelisch-Reformierten Kirchen Der Deutschsprachigen Schweiz," 1926.

The Invitation

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God, Holy gifts, for Holy people.

For our online community: an invitation to pray together the spiritual communion prayer from the National Cathedral. A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

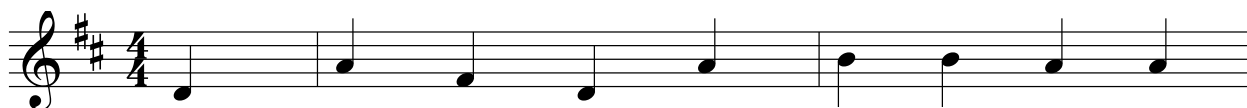
If you have come with a particular prayer concern today, after receiving Communion you may come to the Nason Prayer Chapel to the right of the altar rail where you may light a candle and, if you wish, someone will be available to pray with you.

The Communion of the People

All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the directions of the ushers. If you do not wish to receive, we encourage you to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply fold your hands across your chest when you come forward. The clergy will carry Communion to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward. Please notify an usher if you wish Communion to be brought to you. Gluten-free Communion wafers are available. If you require one of these, simply ask.

The Communion Song
How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Hymnal #497



How bright ap - pears the Morn - ing star, with
Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, he
Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with



mer - cy beam - ing from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es; O
deigned to cast a pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture; the
praise, ye sin - ners fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion. In -



right - eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and
whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high - est ser - a -
car - nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on, great



Son of God! We, too, will lift our voic - es: Je - sus, Je - sus!
phim a - dored, as - sumed our ve - ry na - ture; Je - sus, grant us,
Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - va - tion. A - men, A - men!



Ho - ly, ho - ly yet most low - ly, draw thou near us;
through thy mer - it, to in - her - it thy sal - va - tion;
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise be giv - en



great Em - man - uel, come and hear us.
hear, O hear our sup - pli - ca - tion.
ev - er - more, by earth and hea - ven.

Words: William Mercer (1811-1873), after Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608).
Music: "Wie schön leuchtet," melody att. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608);
arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

Please kneel or stand as able as able.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

People **Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

Celebrant And, the blessing of God Almighty, ✝ The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit be with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Sending Forth

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

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Please stand as able and join in singing.

The Closing Hymn
Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Hymnal #59



Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing:
Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing,
Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed,
so when next he comes with glo - ry,
Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing



"Christ is nigh," it seems to say; "Cast a - way the
from earth's bond - age let us rise; Christ, our sun, all
comes with par - don down from heaven; let us haste, with
and the world is wrapped in fear, may he with his
to the Fa - ther and the Son, with the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, O ye chil - dren of the day."
sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. "Hymns Ancient and Modern," 1861, alt.
Music: "Merton," William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935);
descant used by permission of Cambridge Univeristy Press.

The Postlude

Rorate Coeli

arr. Pietro Yon



Save the Date ...

St. Anne's Guild Annual Christmas Auction

★ *Friday, December 13, 6 pm*

St. Francis Episcopal Church ★
Palos Verdes Estates - Parish Hall

Refreshments ... Christmas items for sale ... Live auction.

Come to bid and buy Christmas Gifts & holiday baked goods.

★ St. Anne's distributes proceeds to charities.

Save the Date
Saturday, December 23
9 am to noon

Join the Altar Guild as they decorate
the church interior for Christmas.
All are welcome!

Contact: Sara Schulz
(s.schulz@cox.net).

Christmas Altar Flower Donations



Fill out this form to contribute to the Christmas decorations in our church and chapel through the giving of memorial flowers. The suggested donation is \$50.00. Please make checks payable to **St. Francis Altar Chapter** and in the memo field write **Christmas Memorial Flowers**. Place this form and your signed check in the church office or in the collection plate on Sunday. If you are giving for music and flowers, please write separate checks as directed.

Your Name: _____

Given in loving memory of: _____

Given in thanksgiving for: _____

Questions? Call the church office at 310-375-4617.

Memorials must be received by Sunday, December 17 for inclusion in the Christmas bulletins.

Christmas Music Donation



St. Francis is renowned for our outstanding music, blending centuries' old traditions of church music with newer composers right up to the present day. Our choir always welcomes new members, no audition necessary. Your generous donations help support the additional music and musicians which add to our celebratory worship as well as helping to maintain our regular year-round program. Please write separate checks for flower and music donations if giving both.

Your name: _____

Please make checks payable to **St. Francis Church** and in the memo field write **Christmas Music**. Place this form and signed check in the church office or in the collection plate on Sunday. For details, contact Dr. Mark Bennett at (617) 217-1601 or sternstag520@gmail.com.

DR. JAMES K. BASS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

CATALYST
CHAMBER
ENSEMBLE



LONG BEACH
CAMERATA
SINGERS
59TH SEASON

Catalyst CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS

December 8th, 2024 | 7:30 pm
St. Francis Episcopal Church
Palos Verdes, CA

**Special 25% discount tickets for the St. Francis Episcopal Church community.
Use Promo Code SFE25 (case sensitive) Enter code before selecting seats**

There is no better way to experience the sounds of the holiday season than to be surrounded by the a cappella voices of the Catalyst Chamber Ensemble. You will be immersed in warm candlelight, exquisite harmonies, and the melodies we all hold so dear. The crystalline sound created by the voices of Catalyst will have you closing your eyes and dreaming of the beauties of Christmas.

For questions or more information, contact the box office at 562-900-2863

Prayers this Week

We pray for all those who serve in the armed and foreign services, and for their families, especially Thomas, Drew Deley, Michael Heredia, Mark Kappelmann, Joseph Leahy, TJ Malzahn, Will Piepenbring, Scott Ruston, Michael Strong, Barry Witt, Jonathan Zimmerman and Steve.

Those who are ill, recovering from surgery, or in any other kind of need or trouble: Albert, Andrea, Billy Whelan, Bruce Schaefer, Carlos, Ceri Falk, Chris, Chris Goldsmith, Colette Furbush, Daniel Drayling, Erica, Gail Winters, George Ginis, Hector Gutierrez, Jean Dicus, Judy Morgan, Kristen, Loren, Patt Parker, Richard Cantine, Roxanne Wall, Russell, Sally Hill, Sandy, Stephen, Tommy, Tony Lowe, for the people of the Middle East, and victims of violence everywhere.

We pray for all who have died that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Our Staff

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mirandajoel@outlook.com

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