



# Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 8, 2024 ❖ 10:00 am

*Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Jason Shelby*

*Deacon: The Rev. Celeste Stump*

*Guest Musician: Mark Bassett, Cello*

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*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 Dick and Liz Cantine and in thanksgiving for the decades of togetherness and love.*

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

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## Coming Events

### **Sunday, Dec. 8 – Advent 2**

- 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

### **Tuesday, Dec. 10**

- 11:30 am Deanery 8 Luncheon
- 6:00 pm Finance Meeting
- 6:00 pm Men’s Corner
- 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting

### **Wednesday, Dec. 11**

- 10:00 am Healing & Reconciliation Holy Eucharist
- 11:00 am Good Grief Support Group

**Thursday, Dec. 12 – 1:00 pm Quilters and Knitters Group**

**Friday, Dec. 13 – 6:00 pm St. Anne’s Christmas Auction**

**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

### Prepare the Way, O Zion

Hymnal #65



Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing  
He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a -  
Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em -



near! — Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap -  
bove. — His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and  
brace. — His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery



pear. — Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred  
love. — Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy — a -  
place. — All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will — a -



sto - ry. Oh, blest is Christ that came — in God's most ho - ly  
bound - ing. Oh, blest is Christ that came — in God's most ho - ly  
dore — him. Oh, blest is Christ that came — in God's most ho - ly



name.  
name.  
name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; Charles P. Price (b. 1920), © 1982, Charles P. Price.  
Music: "Bereden väg för Herran," melody from "Then Svenska Psalmboken," 1697;  
harm. "Koralbok för Svenska Kyrhan," 1939, alt.

## 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.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; 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 second candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE and the second candle is PEACE.

*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: Baruch 5:1-9

*Reader* A Reading from the book of Baruch.

<sup>1</sup>Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,  
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

<sup>2</sup>Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;  
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

<sup>3</sup>for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

<sup>4</sup>For God will give you evermore the name,  
"Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

<sup>5</sup>Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;  
look toward the east,

and see your children gathered from west and east  
at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that God has remembered them.

<sup>6</sup>For they went out from you on foot,  
led away by their enemies;

but God will bring them back to you,  
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

<sup>7</sup>For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low  
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,  
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>The woods and every fragrant tree  
have shaded Israel at God's command.

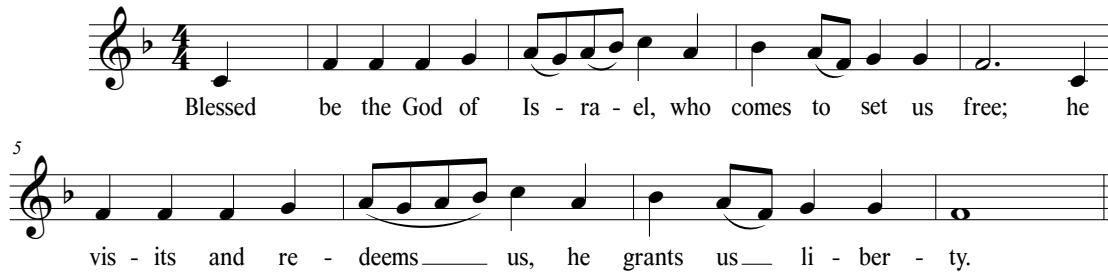
<sup>9</sup>For God will lead Israel with joy,  
in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Response: Canticle 4: The Song of Zechariah

*Reader* Let us read from The Song of Zechariah responsively (the People reading the text in bold).



Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el, who comes to set us free; he  
vis - its and re - deems us, he grants us li - ber - ty.

Words: Luke 1:68. Music: Music: "Forrest Green," English melody,  
adapt and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1959).

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, \*

**for he hath visited and redeemed his people;**

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us \*

**in the house of his servant David,**

As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, \*

**which have been since the world began:**

That we should be saved from our enemies, \*

**and from the hand of all that hate us;**

*Refrain*

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, \*

**and to remember his holy covenant;**

To perform the oath which he swore to our forefather Abraham, \*

**that he would give us,**

That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies \*

**might serve him without fear,**

In holiness and righteousness before him, \*

**all the days of our life.**

*Refrain*

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, \*

**for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;**

To give knowledge of salvation unto his people \*

**for the remission of their sins,**

Through the tender mercy of our God, \*

**whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;**

To give light to them that sit in darkness

and in the shadow of death, \*

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

*Refrain*

## The Second Lesson: Philippians 1:3-11

*Reader*            A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as able and join in singing.*

The Sequence Hymn  
 Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People

Hymnal #67

Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple,  
 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth  
 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed,

2  
 speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
 in the des - ert far and near;  
 make the rough - er pla - ces plain;

3  
 com - fort those who sit in dark - ness  
 call - ing us to new re - pent - ance  
 let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

4  
 mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.  
 since the king - dom now is here.  
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign.

5  
 Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a - way;  
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

7  
 tell her that her sins I cov - er,  
 let the val - leys rise to meet him  
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken

8  
 and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
 and the hills bow down to greet him.  
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.  
 Music: "Psalm 42," melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. "Hymnal 1982."

*Please remain standing as able.*

## The Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

*Deacon*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People*        **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;

<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

*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

**O Come, Emmanuel** by Elaine Hagenberg

**St. Francis Choir**  
**Mark Bassett, cello**

*O come, O come, Emanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
O come, O come thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by Thine Advent here,  
And drive away the shades of night, and pierce the clouds and bring us light!  
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to Thee, O Israel.  
O come, O come, Desire of nations, bind all people in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease, and fill the world with Heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to Thee, O Israel.*

## The Offertory Hymn

**Blessed be the God of Israel**

**Hymnal #444 (Tune: #74)**

Melchior Teschner

Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free; he vis - its and re -  
He from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has given; a Sa - vior comes a -  
On pris - on - ers of dark - ness the sun be - gins to rise, the dawn - ing of for -

6  
deems us, he grants us lib - er - ty. The pro - phets spoke of mer - cy, of  
mong us to raise us up to heaven. Be - fore him goes his her - ald, fore -  
give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes. He guides the feet of pil - grims a -

11  
free - dom and re - lease; God shall ful - fill his prom - ise and bring his peo - ple peace.  
run - ner in the way, the pro - phet of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of Day.  
long the paths of peace. O bless our God and Sa - vior with songs that nev - er cease.

Words: Michael A. Perry, (b. 1942), alt.; Copyright © 1973 by Jubilate Hymns (admin. by Hope Publishing Company). All Rights Reserved.  
Used by Permission. Music: "Valet will ich dir geben," melody by Melchior Teschner (1584-1635), alt.; harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930)

*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

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying

Hymnal #75

The musical score is written in a single system with a treble clef, a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases marked with slurs and ties. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The score is divided into six systems, with measure numbers 3, 6, 9, 12, and 15 indicated at the beginning of their respective systems.

There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 O \_\_\_\_\_ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee  
 but the word of our God \_\_\_\_\_ en - dur - eth, the \_\_\_\_\_

3  
 call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst \_\_\_\_\_ of

6  
 high - way, a high - way for \_\_\_\_\_ our God! The \_\_\_\_\_  
 peo - ple the com - ing of \_\_\_\_\_ their King. Like the  
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall

9  
 val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the lof - ty \_\_\_\_\_ hills brought  
 flowers of the field they \_\_\_\_\_ per - ish, like grass our works de -  
 feed his \_\_\_\_\_ flock like a shep - herd, the lambs he'll gent - ly

12  
 low; make straight all the crook - ed pla - ces where the  
 cay, the power and \_\_\_\_\_ pomp of na - tions shall \_\_\_\_\_  
 hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll lead \_\_\_\_\_ them, and \_\_\_\_\_

15  
 Lord our \_\_\_\_\_ God \_\_\_\_\_ may go!  
 pass like a dream \_\_\_\_\_ a - way;  
 bring them \_\_\_\_\_ safe to his fold.

Words: James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt. Music: "Ascension," Henry Hugh Bancroft (b. 1904);  
© 1938, H. Hugh Bancroft.

## 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  
 Savior of the Nations, Come!

Hymnal #54

Sa - vior of the na - tions, come!  
 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child  
 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears,  
 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son,

2  
 Vir - gin's Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both heaven and earth,  
 of the Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and Ma - ry's son,  
 grac - ing his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and hell de - scends,  
 who o'er sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your king - dom be;

4  
 that the Lord chose such a birth.  
 ea - ger now his race to run!  
 then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.  
 grant that we its glo - ries see.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambroise of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938), sts. 3-4, © 1982 James Waring McCrady.  
 Music: "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland," melody from "Erfurt Enchiridia," 1524; harm. Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616).

*Please kneel or stand as able as able.*

The Post-Communion Prayer

*Celebrant*  
*All*

Let us pray.  
**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

**On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry**

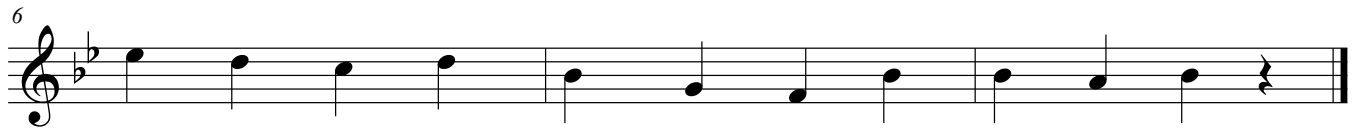
**Hymnal #76**



On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose



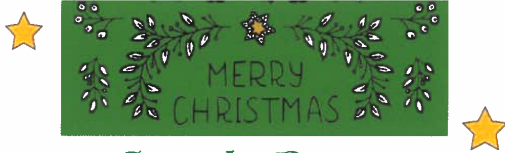
noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
ref - uge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of Kings.  
pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944),  
after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.

Music: "Winchester New," melody from "Musicalishes Hand-Buch," 1690;  
harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.



**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  
59<sup>TH</sup> SEASON

# Catalyst CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 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

### **Dr. Mark Bennett, Director of Music**

(617) 217-1601, sternstag520@gmail.com

### **Mrs. Elaine Mistele, Business Manager**

(310) 594-8268, elaine.mistele@stfrancispalosverdes.org

### **Mr. David Knight, Organist**

### **Mr. Joel Miranda, Sexton**

mirandajoel@outlook.com

### **Mr. Wayne Hastings, Communications**

(901) 219-6564, wayne@stfrancispalosverdes.org

## Children and Families

### **Kristina Pelá**

krab3@yahoo.com

## Our Clergy

### **The Rev. Jason Shelby, Rector**

jason.shelby@stfrancispalosverdes.org

Direct Line: (310) 594-7984

Church Office: (310) 375-4617

### **The Rev. Celeste Stump, Deacon**

Chaplain at The Canterbury

cstump@thecanterbury.org

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