## First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023, 10:00 am

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

Please also note that our services are publicly livestreamed.

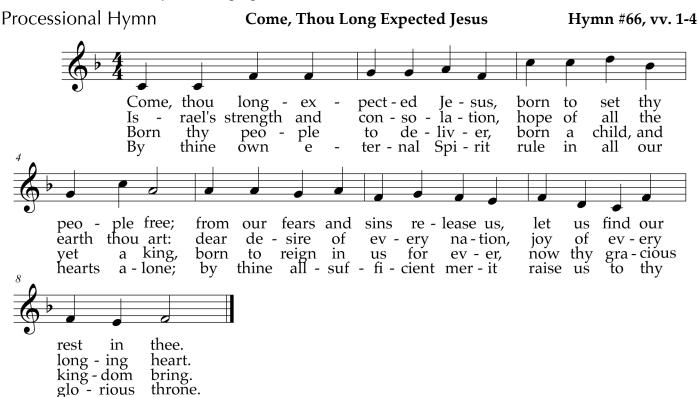
The altar flowers this morning are donated by Jack and Sue Ferme to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our Parents, Michael, and John.



## The Word of God

Prelude "Helmsley" Robert Lind

Please stand as able, and join in singing,



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: "Stuttgart," melody from "Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andaechtige und Schoene Gesang," 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870).

The Opening Acclamation

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

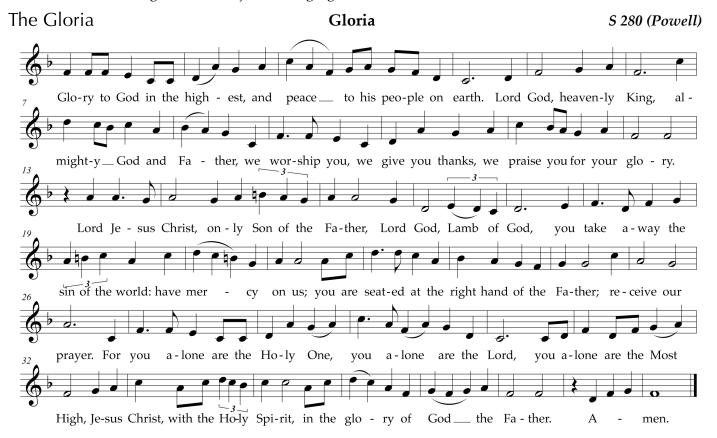
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God,

All 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,



Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932), S-280 The Hymnal, 1982

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 for the readings.

The First Lesson Isaiah 64: 1-9

1<sup>st</sup> Reader A reading from the book of Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,

so that the mountains would quake at your presence--

as when fire kindles brushwood

and the fire causes water to boil--

to make your name known to your adversaries,

so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,

you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard,

no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,

who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,

those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;

because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean,

and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,

and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name,

or attempts to take hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us,

and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;

we are the clay, and you are our potter;

we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,

and do not remember iniquity forever.

Now consider, we are all your people.

1<sup>st</sup> Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Response Ps

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Qui regis Israel

Reader Let us read from Psalm 80 responsively (the People reading the text in **bold**).

Refrain

#### Lord, Make Us Turn to You

(Ps. 80), Michael Guimont



Lord, make us turn to you; let us seeyour face and we shall be



Words: "Lectionary for Mass," © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, G.I.A. Publications.

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*

shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*

stir up your strength and come to help us.

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O Lord God of hosts, \*

how long will you be angered

despite the prayers of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*

you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*

and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*

the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*

give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

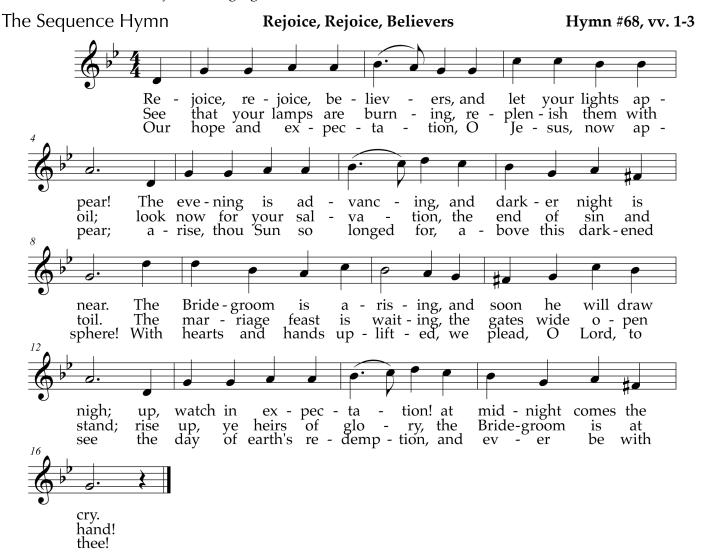
2<sup>nd</sup> Reader A Reading from the first letter to the Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: "Llangloffan," melody from "Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasaneth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru," 1865.

Please remain standing, as able, for

The Holy Gospel Matthew 13:24-37

Deacon The Holy Gospel ♥ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he

is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

Please be seated for,

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

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

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.

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made human.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please remain standing, as able, for

The Prayers of the People (the People read the responses in **bold**) Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.** 

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;

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.

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.

Celebrant: Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in

heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and

reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Please kneel, 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.

## Welcome, Announcements

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

All

Watch over your children, 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

Offertory Anthem

"Advent Prayer"

James E. Clemens

## Please join in singing the Congregational Response:

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.

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.

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.

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.

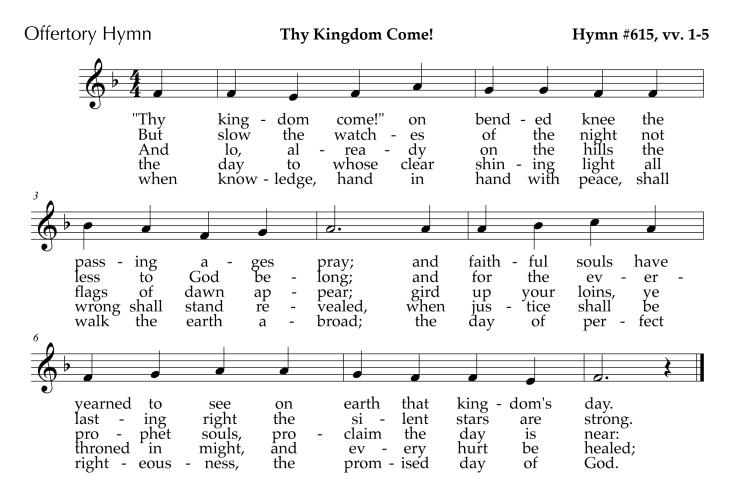
Jesus is coming on this night, sent from God to be our light.

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.

Page 8 St. Francis Choir



Words: Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840-1929). Music: "St. Flavian," melody from "Day's Psalter," 1562; adapt. and harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901).

Please stand, as able, for,

## The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you. **People** And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

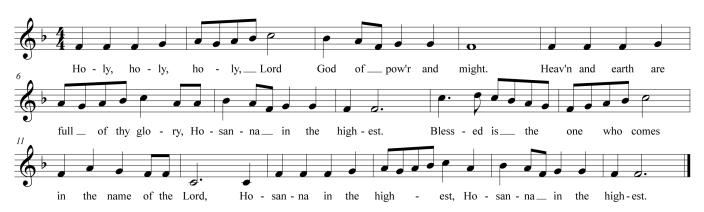
People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People** It is right to give him 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 in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. 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:

Please join in singing,





Music: "Forest Green," Traditional English folk melody; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Please kneel or stand, as able, as 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:

# All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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**.

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,

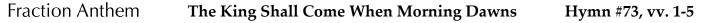
forever and ever. Amen.

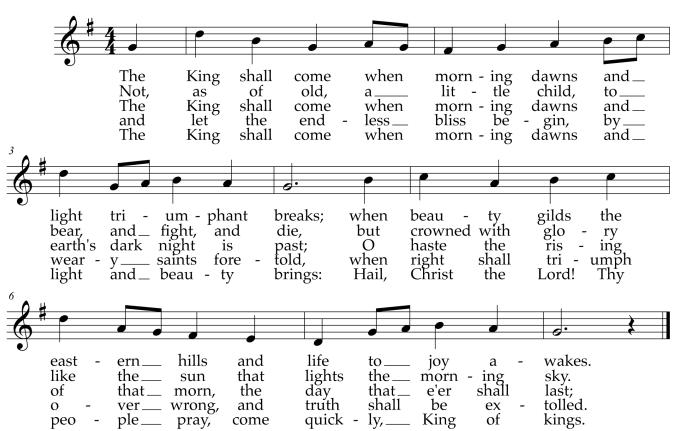
## The Breaking of the Bread

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.





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

#### 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.

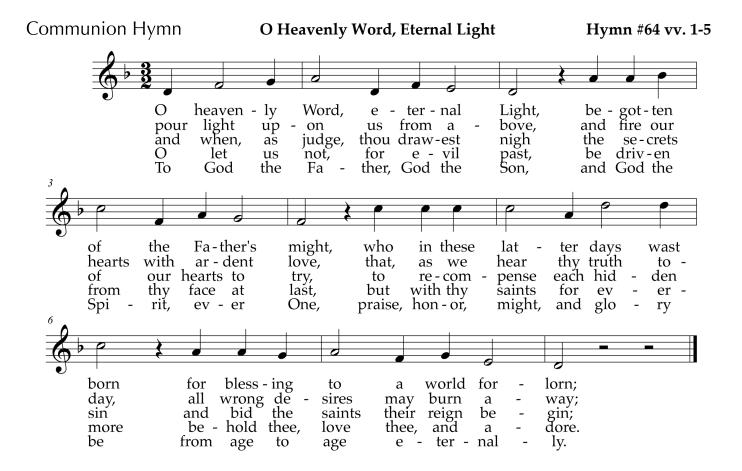
My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite my-self entirely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

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

## 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.

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 someone will also be available to pray with you, or you may just choose to light a candle.



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

Please kneel or stand, as able for,

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 Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage, Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted. Honor all persons.

Love and serve the lord, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And, the blessing of God Almighty, The ♣ Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit be with you always.

All Amen.

The Sending Forth

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Deacon

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please stand, as able, and join in singing



Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72. Music: "Ellacombe," melody from "Gesangbuch. . .der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen katolischen Hofkapelle 1784, alt.; adapt. "Katolische Gesangbuch, 1863; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Cyril Winn (1884-1973) Descant by permission of Oxford University Press.

end.

Alexandre Guilmant Postlude: "Magnificant" (Op. 41, No. 2)

## Welcome!!

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 fellowship after the service.

The Ushers will direct you.

## 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: Ana, Andrea, Christa, Jean Dicus, Daniel Dreiling, Pauline Duley, Elvis, Ceri Falk, Colette Furbush, Chris Goldsmith, Sally Hill, Loren, Mick Mohuchy, Bruce Schaefer, Roxanne Wall, and 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.

## What's Happening!

## Finding Faith in the Abstract — Dec 2nd-3rd, 10am

Help fundraise for Harbor Interfaith through art!

## Advent Sunday Breakfast & Wreath Making — Dec 3rd, 11:15am

All families and parishioners are invited to the Advent Sunday Breakfast and Wreath Making Event! Bring in your old metal, or foam wreaths and gently used candles to create your arrangement this year! If you don't have any, we will have plenty of supplies for you to use.

## St. Anne's Christmas Auction — Dec 6th, 6pm

Join us for our St. Anne's annual Christmas Auction for some food, fun, and fellowship!

## Harbor Interfaith Services Christmas Dinner Donations — Dec 17th, to Church Office

Help make the holidays bright for the over 350 families served by HIS by donating food or toys to their Christmas Drive. Bring holiday foods, gift cards, toys for kids 1 month—18 years old to the church office by Dec 17th.

## **Christmas Eve Services — Children's Pageant**

Join us at the 4pm Children's Pageant & Service, and 9pm traditional Christmas Eve service.

## Christmas Day — Dec 25th, 9am

Celebrate the birth of Jesus with us on this holy day!

## Ongoing

**Bible Study on Zoom**—Contacts: Jack Hailwood, *john.w.hailwood@outlook.com* or Suellen Eslinger, *suellenesl@verizon.net* 

Yoga

Mondays from 11:30am –1:00pm - All Levels Hatha Yoga for Strength and Mobility. Wednesdays 9:00-10:30am All Levels Gentle Yoga for Vital Mobility and Balance. (free-will offering).

Contact: Jill Lynch—jillfenskelynch@gmail.com

**Meditation**—Thursdays 9:30-10:30am—in the Nason Chapel. Contact: Susie Zimmerman *susiehzimmerman@gmail.com*;

AA—Thursdays & Sundays 7:30 pm, Al-Anon—Thursdays 7:00pm

## 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

Direct Line: (310) 913-1069

Children and families

Contact: Kristina Pelá, krab3@yahoo.com

Our Staff

Dr. Mark Bennett, (310) 594-7416, mark.bennett@stfrancispalosverdes.org, Director of Music

Ms. Claire Erbeznik, (310) 375 4617, claire.erbeznik@strancispalosverdes.org, Office

Administrator & Receptionist

Mr. David Knight, Organist

Mr. Joel Miranda, Sexton

Mrs. Elaine Mistele, (310) 594-8268, elaine.mistele@stfrancispalosverdes.org, Business Manager



Scan the code to join our electronic mailing list.



St Francis Palos Verdes



