

# First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, December 28, 2025 ♦ 8:00 am

*Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Jason Shelby*

*Deacon: The Rev. Celeste Stump*

*Guest Organist: Yun Lee*



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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.*

*St. Francis Episcopal Church welcomes all people to receive Holy Communion. If you have not been baptized but would like to be, please talk to Father Jason after the service.*

*Consider making a donation of altar flowers in honor of a special occasion or in memory of someone you love. (The suggested donation is \$50.) Contact Gina in the church office at 310-375-4617 or [Gina.McQueen@stfrancispalosverdes.org](mailto:Gina.McQueen@stfrancispalosverdes.org).*

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

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## This Week at St. Francis

### **Sunday, December 28**

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I, Chapel)
- 9:10 am "Who is Jesus" Spiritual Formation Class (Library)
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

### **Wednesday, December 31**

- There will be no mid-week Healing Service on Dec. 31. It will resume on Jan. 7.

*The church office will be closed through Friday, Jan. 2, 2026.*

*For more worship opportunities, events, and small groups, visit our website at <https://stfrancispalosverdes.org/>*

*The Preludes*

*Far, Far Away on Judea's Plains*

*Away in a Manger*

*John Menzies Macfarland, arr. Keith D. Rowley*

*William J. Kirkpatrick, arr. Keith D. Rowley*

The Processional Hymn: How Bright Appears the Morning Star ..... Hymnal #497

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into five systems, each starting with a measure number (1, 4, 8, 12, 17). The lyrics are: 'How bright ap - pears the Morn - ing star, with mer - cy beam - ing Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with praise, ye sin - ners from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es; O right - eous Branch, O fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion. In - car - nate God, put Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and Son of God! We, too, will lift our forth thy power, ride on, ride on, great Con - quer - or, till all know thy sal - voic - es: Je - sus, Je - sus! Ho - ly, ho - ly yet most low - ly, va - tion. A - men, A - men! Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! draw thou near us; great Em - man - uel, come and hear us. Praise be giv - en 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)

The Opening Acclamation .....Book of Common Prayer p. 323

The Collect for Purity .....Book of Common Prayer p. 323

The Summary of the Law.....Book of Common Prayer p. 324

The Kyrie.....Book of Common Prayer p. 324

The Collect of the Day .....Book of Common Prayer p. 325

The First Lesson..... Isaiah 61:10--62:3

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

<sup>62:1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

<sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

<sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Response ..... Psalm 100 (Book of Common Prayer p. 729)

The Epistle ..... Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

<sup>4:4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup>And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Holy Gospel ..... John 1:1-18

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")

<sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Sermon ..... The Rev. Jason Shelby

The Nicene Creed ..... Book of Common Prayer p. 327

The Prayers of the People .....	Book of Common Prayer p. 328
The Confession .....	Book of Common Prayer p. 331
The Peace .....	Book of Common Prayer p. 332

#### The Welcome and Announcements

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

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 Great Thanksgiving .....	Book of Common Prayer p. 333
The Post-Communion Prayer.....	Book of Common Prayer p. 339
The Blessing and Sending Forth.....	Book of Common Prayer p. 339
The Recessional Hymn: Joy to the World .....	Hymnal #100

*Joy to the world; the Lord is come;  
Let Earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing.*

*Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns;  
Our mortal songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy.*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness,  
And wonders of his love.*

*The Postlude*

*Christmas Postlude*

*Carl Moulding*

Merry  
Christmas





# CAMP PENDLETON AND FORT MACARTHUR COLLECTION

Saturday, January 10, 2026  
9:00am-12:00pm

## SUPPORT OUR MILITARY FAMILIES

Camp Pendleton is home to over 70,000 Marines and 10,000 children under 5. More than 160 babies are born there each month. Most families arrive with only what fits in their car and often lack essentials for newborns and small children, plus furnishings for their housing. The Rotary Clubs of District 5280 are collecting new and gently used items for these families to select from at Camp Pendleton's "Warrior Warehouse" and Fort MacArthur's "Airman's Attic", which is filled with donated items that are free for local military families.

## ITEMS NEEDED

- Diapers
- Baby & children's clothes
- Toys, books, bathtubs, strollers, cribs
- Dishes, cookware, meal prep tools
- Bedding
- Gift cards (\$25) to Target/Walmart

## DROP OFF


**Hawthorne High School**  
 4859 El Segundo Blvd.  
 Hawthorne, CA 90250

### For More Information:

David Henseler  
 Rotary Club of South Bay Sunrise  
 310-753-0929

Bring items by Friday, January 9, 2026 to the church office or Susie's house (call for address).

Items will be loaded to drop off at Hawthorne High School on Jan. 10. Meet at St. Francis at 8:15 a.m. to load. Leave at 8:45 a.m.

### St. Francis Contact:

Susie Zimmerman  
[susiezimmerman@gmail.com](mailto:susiezimmerman@gmail.com)  
 or leave text: (310) 316-5941

If you can help drop off items on January 10, please contact Susie.

## Prayers this Week

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

Those who are ill, recovering from surgery, or in any other kind of need or trouble: Andrea, Anne Sharp, Barbara Shelby, Billy Whelan, Bob Cook, Brad, Bruce Schaefer, Carlos, Celeste Stump, Ceri Falk, Chris, Colette Furbush, Connie, Dana Genzel-Diaz, Daniel Drayling, Elizabeth Beadle, Erica, Joseph and Danielle Diestel, Judy Morgan, Kathy Falk, Kerry Myers, Kristen, Krystal, Loren, Miguel Diaz, Natalie Massey, Patt Parker, Phyllis Massey, Richard Cantine, Roxanne Wall, Roz Hadley, Sally Hill, Susie Zimmerman, Tommy, the people of the Middle East, and for victims of violence everywhere.

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

## Our Staff

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## Our Clergy

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