

**Holy Eucharist**

**Processional Hymn:**    *Angels from the realms of Glory*

See page 6 for words and music

**Acclamation**

*Celebrant:*    For unto us a child is born.

*People:*        To us a Son is given.

**Collect for Purity**

Almighty God, 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.*

**Summary of the law**

Matthew 22: 37-40

**Gloria in Excelsis**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:*        And with your spirit.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

**The Reading**

Titus 2: 11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

*Reader:*        The Word of the Lord.

*People:*        Thanks be to God.

**Sequence Hymn**    *The first Noel*

See page 7 for words and music

**Gospel**

Luke 2: 1-14 (15-20)

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

*People:*        Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called

Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" [When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## Homily

Fr. Craig Lister

## Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

## Prayers of the People

*Intercessor:* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God, let us pray to the Lord. *(silence)*

*Intercessor:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* Hear our prayer.

For Foley, our Archbishop, and Steven, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our diocese and congregation, let us pray to the Lord. *(silence)*

*Intercessor:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People* Hear our prayer.

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others, let us pray to the Lord. *(silence)*

*Intercessor:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* Hear our prayer.

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith, let us pray to the Lord. *(silence)*

*Intercessor:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* Hear our prayer.

For our nation, for those in authority and for all in public service let us pray to the Lord. *(silence)*

*Intercessor:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* Hear our prayer.

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially \_\_\_\_\_], let us pray to the Lord. *(silence)*

*Intercessor:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* Hear our prayer.

For all those who departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection [especially \_\_\_\_\_], in thanksgiving let us pray to the Lord. *(silence)*

*Intercessor:* Lord, in your mercy.

*People:* Hear our prayer.

*The Celebrant concludes with the following prayer*

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. *Amen.*

### **The Confession and Absolution of Sin** *(the people may kneel)*

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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* And with your spirit.

### **Announcements**

### **Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And with your spirit.

*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 just and right so to do.

*The celebrant continues:*

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the working of the Holy Spirit, was made truly man, taking on the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; and yet without the stain of sin, to make us clean from sin. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## **The Sanctus**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory, Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

## **Prayer of Consecration** *(the people may kneel)*

Lord God our Father: When we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you sent your only Son into the world for our salvation; by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. On the cross he offered himself once for all as our Redeemer, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. After he ascended to your right hand in glory, you sent your Holy Spirit, that we might become your holy people.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Now sanctify these gifts that they may become for us the Body and Blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may be filled with your Holy Spirit and manifest your presence and power in the world.

Therefore, heavenly Father, as we joyfully proclaim our Lord's life, death, and resurrection, we offer ourselves, our souls and bodies, as a living sacrifice. Grant that we who partake of this Holy Communion may receive the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. At the last day bring us with all your saints into the fullness of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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 forever. *Amen.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.*

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*Fraction Anthem*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **Holy Communion**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving** *(the people may kneel)*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ: and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now Father, send us out into the world to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

## **Blessing**

**Closing Hymn**    *Joy to the world*

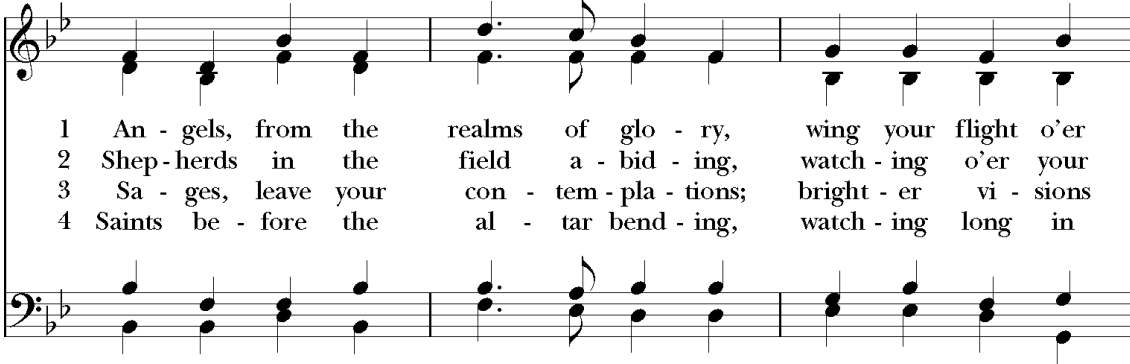
See page 9 for words and music

## **Dismissal**

*Celebrant:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:*     Thanks be to God.


## Angels from the realms of glory



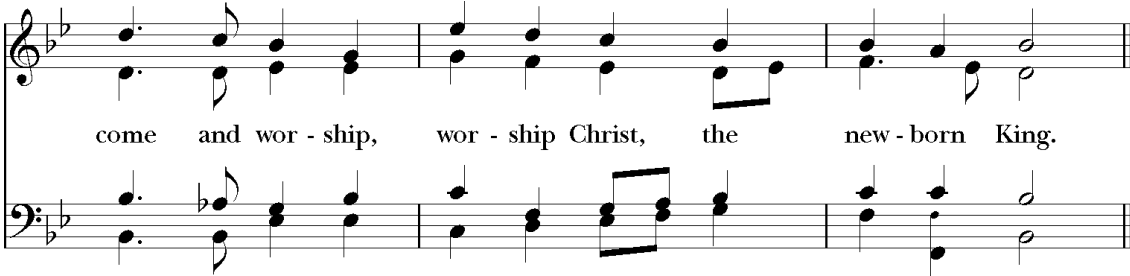
1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions  
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in



all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;  
 beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;  
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,



*Refrain*  
 now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light:  
 ye have seen his na - tal star: come and wor - ship,  
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:



come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt. Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)

## **The first Noel**

The first Noel the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.

*Refrain*

And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.

*Refrain*

## **Joy to the world**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let men their tongues employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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



## St. Francis Anglican Parish Prayer List

**For the concerns weighing on the hearts and minds of members of this congregation:**

Tina Hanby	Les Sadler	Jack Mahaffey
Jack Beyer	*Mackenzie Stinson	*Betty Pittman
*Helen Frechette	Jo Maddox	Kristin Vernon
*Susan Dixon	Alice Buchanen	John Blasius
Jeff Kopp	Patricia Spaulding	Mary Perkins
Phil Maddox	Betty Beavers	Christy Aylies
Mary Quinn	Cynthia McNeil	Aaron Plourde
Charles Whaley	Doris Sharp	*Charles Wick
Adam Sharp	Karen Towson	Larry Long
Andrea Franklin	Mary Gillam	Anissa Mitchell
Lew Andersen	DeDe McKenzie	John McKenzie

\*Member of St. Francis

If you need to add or remove a name from the prayer list contact Sue Comstock at 919-498-9154 or email her at suectrace@gmail.com. Names will be removed after three weeks unless you contact Sue to extend the time.

**Pray for strength and divine guidance:** Oneida Mahaffey and Lisa Kopp.

**Pray for those serving all over the world in our military:** Matthew Pate, Ben Hodsdon, William Puckett, Katherine Campbell, Brian Gille, George Walter, Jim Makepeace, Rick Smith, Jody Gordon, Raymond DeSantos, Eliza, Josh Pratt, Greg, Ben Gumpton and Jeremy.

**Pray for the departed:** Gerhard Hettler, Noah Sadler, Don Kowell, Hilda Slack, Mervyn Smith and Sadie Robards.

**Altar Flowers** - The altar flowers are given by Ron and Brenda Brown and family to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bob and Pearl Bracken and in celebration of Christ's birth.

**Those serving today:**

Ushers:	Lew Andersen
Chalice Bearers:	JJ Cuff and Dana Garrett
Lector:	Peggy Nelson
Acolytes:	Lena Kerley
Music Director:	Leslie Hanna
Organist:	Rosemary Parten
Altar Guild:	Jean Dabbs, Lisa Meadows, Mary Ann Dusenbury and Edie Makepeace

### Vestry

Through 2018: Lew Andersen, Sr. Warden, Oliver Crawley, Jr. Warden, Gordy Reese, Clerk

Through 2019: Ron Brown, Sue Comstock, Jean Dabbs

Through 2020: Scott Bruce, Susan Lewis, Marty Pate

## Announcements

**Sunday School** - Classes will not be held today.

**Music Meditation** - Today at 8:45 around the piano.

**St. Francis Choir Rehearsal** - Will resume in January.

**Lessons and Carols** - Next Sunday at 9:00 am.

**Epiphany Party** - Sunday, January 7, 2018.

SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN JANUARY:

GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF TIME WITH YOUR SISTERS IN CHRIST

in a 4-part class based on the book

“THE HAPPINESS DARE” by Jennifer Lee

Wednesday mornings, January 10-31, 10-11:30 am

There's still time to add your name on the bulletin board list. We have two more books available. An email will be sent this coming week to all who signed up providing information about reading assignments and questions for the first class. If you have questions, please see Phyllis Stone, Juli Anne Lawrence or Judith Edmonds.

New Church Mailing Address: 1089 Wilkins Drive  
Sanford, NC 27330