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Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Musical Prelude *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Processional *(the people may stand)*

Acclamation

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

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.*

The Decalogue

Celebrant: God spoke these words and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods but me.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Honor your father and your mother.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: You shall not murder.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: You shall not commit adultery.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: You shall not steal.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: You shall not covet.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these, your laws, in our hearts, we beseech you.

Trisagion

See page 6 for words and music

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

The First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³ to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. ⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

Gospel (*the people may stand*)

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

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

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ¹⁹ And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰ He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹ And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²² So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³ He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.” ²⁴ (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵ They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶ John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷ even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸ These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Music for worship *Comfort, comfort ye my people*

Audrey Hanna

Homily

Fr. Matthew Garrison

Nicene Creed (*the people may stand*)

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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Foley, Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America, Steven and Quigg, our Bishops, and for all the clergy and people of our diocese, Christ Our Hope, and for our parish families at St. Francis and Emmanuel.

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.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For our nation, for those in authority and for all in public service.

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially _____].

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

For all those who departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection [especially_____].

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.*

Peace (*the people may stand*)

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

People: **And with your spirit.**

Announcements

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. *Amen.*

The Great Thanksgiving (*the people may stand*)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The celebrant continues:

It is right, our duty and our joy, 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 glory 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed (+) is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Consecration (*the people may kneel*)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, 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. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace. 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." Likewise, 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." Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify (+) us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face. 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 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

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us
Jesus, Redeemer, Redeemer of the world
Give us your peace, Give us your peace**

The Prayer of Humble Access (*Celebrant and People together*)

We do not presume to come to this, your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

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 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 and Dismissal (*the people may stand*)

Celebrant: As we await our coming Savior, go in the peace of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy God: *Trisagion*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,
Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy
up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

I wait

O restless heart do not grow weary

Hold on to faith and wait

The God of love He will not tarry

No He is never late

So I wait in the promise I wait in the hope

Yes I wait in the power of God's unending love

Be still and rest secure my soul

He knows what's best for me

Here in my patience lies the goal

To wait and trust in Thee

So I wait in the promise I wait in the hope

Yes I wait in the power of God's unending love

Even through my imperfections

His light is shining through

Though dim I am still a reflection

Of His mercy and His truth

So I wait in the promise I wait in the hope

Yes I wait in the power of God's unending love

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Announcements

Sunday School - Study of the Books of 1 and 2 Kings continues today.

Holy Eucharist – Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 11:30 am.

Food Pantry drop off - Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm.

Evening Prayer and Advent Program – Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary.

Altar Flowers – 2021 sign-up sheet is now available.



Young Life starts with concerned adults who spend time building bridges of authentic friendship with teens — where they are, as they are. Because their leaders believe in them unconditionally, teenagers begin to see that their lives have great worth, meaning and purpose. Young Life offers teens adventure, hospitality and unconditional friendship.

Young Life staff and leaders build relationships with teenagers, inviting them to various activities, meetings called "club" and camp. Here teens can be themselves, have fun and consider some of life's biggest questions like, "How can we best live our lives?" and, "Why are we here?" For those wanting to explore the spiritual dimensions of their lives more deeply, we offer small group gatherings that allow students to more fully investigate the teaching and life of Jesus of Nazareth. Young Life staff and leaders work alongside families; furthermore, they're supported by, and seek to connect teens to, established churches and other ministries in the communities and countries where Young Life is active.

To find out more, or to support the ministry of Young Life to teenagers in Lee County, contact the area director, Kelly Douglass at douglassk100@gmail.com. All donations to Young Life Lee County are tax deductible.

Schedule of Advent/Christmas Services

Wednesday	December 16th	Holy Eucharist	11:30 am
Wednesday	December 16th	Evening Prayer/Advent Program	6:00 pm
Sunday	December 20th	Holy Eucharist/Advent 4	9:00 am
Thursday	December 24th	Christmas Eve/Holy Eucharist	4:00 pm
Friday	December 25th	Christmas Morning/Holy Eucharist	10:00 am
Sunday	December 27th	Lessons & Carols	9:00 am

St. Francis Anglican Parish Prayer List

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

John Wood	Ron Perkinson	Jamey James Allen
Ken	*Mackenzie Stinson	Jay Minter
*Helen Frechette	Jo Maddox	*Karen Tatum
*Paul Dempster	Murray Ingraham	*Ken Jeffries
*Ann Hodges	*Robert Burkey	*Brian Haynes
Larry Foster	Karen Brown	Tommy McDonald
*Ted Lawrence	Faye Glennon	Dave Ward
*Pat Aylies	*Ashley Quinones	Kathy Abernathy
*Lew Andersen	Sarah Barber (and her 3 babies)	*Edie Makepeace
Lisa Anne Callis	*Jessie Honeycutt	Georgia Kate Tatum
*DeDe McKenzie	*Frances Granger	*Isabel Lawrence
Jimmy King	Clinton Ledford	Jeremiah
Sue Wilson	Billy Ray Cameron	

*Member of St. Francis

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 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, Jeremy, Lucas Rees, Daniel Hardin, Jared Oldham, Noah Gibson, Nick Stavlund, Jason Williams, Fortune Egbulefu, James Rozak, Logan Peterson, Levi Whiteman, Foster Knowles, Alex Bogaski, Roger Buswell, Stephen and Patrick Hart.

Pray for the departed: Louise Tuller, Barbara Falck, Harriett Tice, Samuel Gormley, Margaret Rounds, Leland Heins.

Altar Flowers - The flowers on the altar are given by Edie Makepeace to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her husband James and their three children Jim, Martha and John.

Those serving:

	9:00 am service	11:00 am service
Greeters:	Sue Comstock	Fr. Matt
Ushers:	Mark Mahaffey	Billy Parten
Lectors:	Alex Bogaski	
Advent Wreath Lighting:	Johnnie Gordon	
Acolytes:	Caleb Gordon	
Cleaning:	Jerry and Amy Davis	Sue Comstock and Nancy Johnson
Music Director:	Audrey Hanna	
Organist:	Rosemary Parten	
Altar Guild:	Terry Crawley, Linda Pate, Edie Makepeace and Jean Dabbs	

Vestry

Through 2021: Bruce Ledford, Tom Reese, Jimmy Washburn - Senior Warden

Through 2022: Oliver Crawley – Junior Warden, Joe Hanna, Beth Puckett

Through 2023: Johnnie Gordon, Phillip Lloyd, Helen Ward

St Francis' Mailing Address: 1089 Wilkins Drive, Sanford, NC 27330 (919) 292-0031

St. Francis Parish information website: <http://stfrancisnc.org>

December 21st



Radiant Dawn

O Radiant Dawn, splendour of light eternal
and sun of righteousness:
Come and enlighten those who dwell in
darkness and the shadow of death.



Isaiah 9: 2

December 22nd



King of Nations

O King of the nations, and their desire, the
cornerstone making both one: Come and
save the human race, which you fashioned
from clay.



Isaiah 2:4