



ST. FRANCIS
IN THE FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We invite you to join us as an active participant in the same worship that Anglicans have been celebrating for centuries. Our service is from The Book of Common Prayer. Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services today.

ST. FRANCIS IN THE FIELDS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HOLY EUCHARIST ~ RITE II

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 22, 2024 ~ 9:00 a.m.

The people's responses are in bold.

✠ Indicates a place where the people make the sign of the Cross.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

VOLUNTARY "Nun komm der Heiden Heiland"

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 72

Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes

RICHMOND

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

✠ Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

His mercy endures for ever.

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.**

TRISAGION S-102

setting: after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

The choir and congregation sing together, repeating twice.

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GRADUAL HYMN 438

Tell out my soul

WOODLANDS

Please be seated.

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

At this time, all children are invited to Children's Chapel.

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN 268

Ye who claim the faith of Jesus

JULION

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-55

The People turn to face the Gospel Book during the Proclamation.

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Clint Wilson

Please stand as you are able.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP p. 358

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 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form II, BCP p. 385

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Please kneel as you are able.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Anthony, Bishop and Secretary General of the Anglican Communion; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Terry and Justin, our Bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

☩ I ask your prayers for the departed, *especially Molly Sutherland.*

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for ...

I ask your thanksgiving for our children and youth celebrating birthdays this week ...

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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

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 you are able.

THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

“Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Therefore you must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Matthew 24:44

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “There is no rose”

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

*There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu;
Alleluia.*

*For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space;
Res miranda. (A wonderful thing)*

*By that rose we may well see
That He is God in persons three,
Pari forma. (Of the same form)*

*The angels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis Deo:
Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice)*

*Now leave we all this worldly mirth
And follow we this joyful birth;
Transeamus. (Let us go)*

Words: Anonymous, c. 1420

The people stand as representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the altar.

PRESENTATION HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

1. O come, De-sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind;
2. O come, O come, Em-man - u - el, and ran-som cap-tive Is - ra - el,
bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy-self our King of Peace.
that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

Refrain
Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 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:

SANCTUS S-130

setting: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please kneel as you are able.

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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:

Celebrant and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM S-164

setting: *Deutsche Messe*, F. Schubert

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

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Our ushers will direct you to the altar rail at the appropriate time. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing; you may indicate you are not receiving communion by crossing your arms across your chest. For those who wish to have a gluten free wafer, please close your hands, and alert the priest when you are at the altar. Those who would like to receive healing prayer are invited to the Chapel after receiving communion. You may enter the Chapel (through the door to the left as you face the altar), and a trained healing prayer minister will pray for you.

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COMMUNION ANTHEM: "A Hymn to the Virgin"

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

*Of one that is so fair and bright
Velut maris stella, (like a star of the sea)
Brighter than the day is light,
Parens et puella: (mother and maiden)
I cry to thee, thou see to me,
Lady, pray thy Son for me
Tam pia, (such a virtuous one)
That I may come to thee.
Maria! (Mary)*

*All this world was forlorn
Eva peccatrice, (through Eve, the sinner)
Till our Lord was y-born
De te genetrice. (of thee, the mother)
With ave it went away
Darkest night, and comes the day
Salutis (of salvation)
The well springeth out of thee.
Virtutis. (of virtue)*

*Lady, flow'r of ev'rything,
Rosa sine spina, (rose without thorn)
Thou bare Jesu, Heaven's King,
Gratia divina: (by divine grace)
Of all thou bear'st the prize,
Lady, queen of paradise
Electa: (chosen one)
Maid mild, mother es Effecta.
Effecta. (you are made)*

COMMUNION HYMN 55 *Redeemer of the nations, come*

VENI REDEMPTOR GENTIUM

Please kneel as you are able.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 366

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, 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 for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 54 *Savior of the nations, come*

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY Toccata on "Savior of the nations, come"

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

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WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 ~ THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: Rite I (in the Davenport Chapel)
9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: Rite II (in the Nave and streamed)
10:15 a.m.	Songs of Promise: The Spiritual Power of Advent Music (in Graves Hall)
11:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: Rite I (in the Nave)
1:30 p.m.	Nativity Pageant Rehearsal (in the Nave)
5:00 p.m.	Lessons and Carols (in the Nave and streamed)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:00 a.m.	Daily Offices: Morning Prayer (in the Davenport Chapel)
1:00 p.m.	Nativity Pageant Rehearsal (in the Nave)
5:00 p.m.	Daily Offices: Evening Prayer (in the Davenport Chapel)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:00 a.m.	Daily Offices: Morning Prayer (in the Davenport Chapel)
12:00 p.m.	Parish Office closes
3:00 p.m.	Nativity Pageant (in the Nave and streamed)
5:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist: Rite II (in the Nave)
10:30 p.m.	Christmas Choral Concert (in the Nave and streamed)
11:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist: Rite I (in the Nave and streamed) * <i>includes incense</i>

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27 ***Parish Office is CLOSED***

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist: Rite II (in the Nave)
5:00 p.m.	Daily Offices: Evening Prayer (in the Davenport Chapel)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:00 a.m.	Daily Offices: Morning Prayer (in the Davenport Chapel)
5:00 p.m.	Daily Offices: Evening Prayer (in the Davenport Chapel)
7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting (in Room 201)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:00 a.m.	Daily Offices: Morning Prayer (in the Davenport Chapel)
5:00 p.m.	Daily Offices: Evening Prayer (in the Davenport Chapel)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

7:45 a.m.	Brotherhood of St. Andrew Meeting (in Room 201)
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 ~ THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: Rite I (in the Davenport Chapel)
10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: Rite II (in the Nave and streamed)

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL & NURSERY CARE

Children's Chapel is offered during the 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. services and is an opportunity for children ages 3 through fifth grade to come and worship together in the beautiful Davenport Chapel and listen to an age-appropriate lesson. We learn about the liturgy, prayer, and hymns. The children return to the service during the passing of the peace. Infants to children four years old are welcome in the nursery, located on the lower level.

WAYS TO GIVE

- **GIVE in Person:** Place your gift in the offering plate
- **GIVE on our Website:** Online at onrealm.org/stfrancisinthefields/give/now
- **GIVE on our Mobile Church App:** Install Realm Connect app on your smartphone, log in, and select "Give"

PARISH PRAYERS

Please pray for those in our parish with needs: Geoff Brandreth, Monet Jaggars, Finn Booker, Don Lurding, Eli Brown IV, John Reksc, Kathy Plank, and Eva Fuller.

Pray for those in our parish who serve in the military: 2LT Baxter Argo, 1LT Brian Bongiovi, CPT Drew Borinstein, PVT Danilo Caldeira, MMN3 Charles Floyd, ENS Sam Floyd, MMN4 Calvin Gall, CPT Hardy Hendren, 1LT Cason Nelson, MIDN Christopher Paris, LTJG Will Paris, FN Joe Parsons, CPT Chris Russo, LCDR Kristen Blair Samardzic, LCDR Serge Samardzic, 1LT Luke Schmidt, Jr., CPT Grant Thomas, CPT Paige Wahoff, and CDR Lawrence Williams.

*if you have a family member who is currently serving, please notify the parish office so that they can be added to our prayer list.

Pray for our Louisville Fellows: Margaret Brunner, Jacob Davis, and Elizabeth Girardy.

Pray for those children and youth celebrating their birthdays this week: Lily Miles, Mary Mead Griesbeck, and Camp Swindall.

Pray for ... our brothers and sisters who suffer for the sake of Christ, especially the Church in Azerbaijan.

Pray for ... our enemies, and those who wish us harm.

Pray for ... those who have died, especially Molly Sutherland.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers in the church this Sunday are given to the glory of God by the Cedor family in loving memory of Nathan's mother, Donna Kincaid.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

8:00 *Lector and Usher:* Jackie Bickel

9:00 *Lectors:* Justin Leighty, Kim Rice *Greeters:* Jim Anderson, Bonnie Turner

Chalice Bearers: Gary Bockhorst, Doreen Bond, Andrew Booker, Caroline Lussky *Welcome Table:* Katie Booker, Kim Johnson

Acolytes: Gracie Banks, Jack Coy, CJ Spaw, Elli Stein *Ushers:* Matt Price, Clark Rhea, Davis Tyler, Kent Westberry

11:15 *Lectors:* Toney Gausewitz, Verity Vonberg

Chalice Bearers: Cindi Calvert, Nathan Cedor

Acolytes: Grafton Brackett, Janie Jennings, Cooper Price, Walker Price, Lucy Proud

Greeter: Laura Reksc

Ushers: Cara Price, Ken Reutlinger

Flower Delivery: Judy Bortner, Mary Jennings

Altar Guild: Nell Bradley, Lee Brown, Laura King, Anne McMillin, Sara Oliver, Carolyn Sharpe, Nancy Tafel

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note: The Parish Office will close at 12:00 p.m. this Tuesday, December 24, and will be closed for the remainder of the week in observance of the Christmas holiday.

It will also be closed next week from Monday, December 30, to Friday, January 3. It will reopen on Monday, January 6.

Songs of Promise: The Spiritual Power of Advent Music ... Sundays in Advent at 10:15 a.m. in Graves Hall Delve into the transformative power of Advent music in this special 4-week Rector's Forum series, held on Sunday mornings at 10:15 in Graves Hall and taught by Dr. Kirk Rich, Bp. Dan Martins, Fr. Clint Wilson, and Mthr. Barbara White. Through a captivating exploration of seasonal hymns, we will uncover how Advent melodies resonate with themes of hope, anticipation, and divine promise. Join us as we discover the spiritual depth and theological richness embedded in each note, and how these timeless songs prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Christ.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols ... TONIGHT, December 22, at 5:00 p.m. Join us tonight at 5:00 p.m. in the Nave for this beautiful and beloved service of Anglican praise and Scripture! Enjoy festive sacred music sung by the St. Francis Choir (and congregation!) and hear traditional Scripture readings presented by members of the community. You don't want to miss this splendid celebration as we joyfully expect the Advent of our Lord. Please note: childcare WILL be provided! The nursery will open 15 minutes prior to the start of the service.

Nativity Pageant ... Tuesday, December 24, at 3:00 p.m. Join us Christmas Eve to hear the story of Christ's birth and see it reenacted by our children, youth, and adults! This favorite Christmas offering will be held at 3:00 p.m. and will be livestreamed. See below for pageant rehearsal dates and times if you are a participant this year. Make sure to stay afterwards for either of our Christmas Eve services, held at 5:30 and 10:30 p.m.!

Holy Communion: Feast of the Holy Name ... Wednesday, January 1, at 8:00 a.m. Join us to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ! This ancient Christian feast commemorates Jesus' identity as the son of the Lord God of Israel, and is the perfect way to begin our secular New Year. Join us in the Chapel at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 1, for a service of Morning Prayer followed by Holy Communion. This service will last about 45 minutes. Fr. Clint will preach and preside.

Holy Communion: Feast of the Epiphany ... Monday, January 6, at 8:00 a.m. Join us to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord! On Monday, January 6, we'll gather in the Chapel at 8:00 a.m. for Morning Prayer and Holy Communion to celebrate the manifestation of Christ as Messiah to the Nations. This service will last about 45 minutes. Mthr. Barbara will preach and preside.

Wednesday Nights in January: "Biblical Cosmos: Encountering the World of the Bible" ... Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. beginning on January 8 The Bible is God's gift to us, but that doesn't mean that it's always easy to understand! What is the deal with angels? What is the tree of life? Why is there so much water in the Bible? And what does any of it have to do with our life today? If you've ever wondered about these topics, join us for our January small group series "Biblical Cosmos: Encountering the World of the Bible." This three-week series will begin on January 8 at 6:30 p.m. and will feature a study on Biblical themes, which we'll unpack in small groups by diving into God's word and learning together. No previous small group or Bible study experience necessary! This is a great way to get an introduction to small groups if you've ever been curious, but don't know where to start. Childcare is provided. Sign up on Realm today, and contact Mthr. Barbara or Jamie Calhoun for more information.

Women's Epiphany Dinner ... Thursday, January 9, at 5:00 p.m. Join us January 9 for our annual Women's Epiphany Dinner! We will gather for a special service of Evening Prayer at 5:00 p.m. in the Nave to celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord. *This service will be open to the public—all are welcome to attend!* It will be followed by a catered dinner for the women of our parish where we will hear from our special guest speaker, The Rev. Dr. Samira Izadi Page, founder and executive director of Gateway of Grace Ministries. Parishioners are invited to bring guests! The deadline to register is Monday, January 6, so sign up today on Realm to reserve your spot! PLEASE NOTE: There is scholarship money available for those who require financial assistance to attend this event! All inquiries will be held in confidence. Please call the front office if you are interested.

Rector's Forum: Strategic Planning for St. Francis ... Sunday, January 12, at 10:15 a.m. Did you know our parish is undergoing a strategic planning process? Join us in Rector's Forum at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, January 12, to hear more about this important initiative! You'll hear from Fr. Clint and other members of the core working team and learn more about our discernment for the future!

Joie de Musique: French Dinner and Silent Auction benefitting our Organ and Choral Scholars ... Friday, January 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Our Organ and Choral Scholars have been invited to join our exclusive choir tour of Paris and England in July 2025. (These are the same talented young people who sing in our choir every Sunday and are part of our new Organ Scholars program!) To raise funds for their travel and participation in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, we are hosting *Joie de Musique*, a three-course French dinner with wine pairings and silent auction on Friday, January 17, at 6:30 p.m. The cost for the evening is \$100 per person and includes dinner catered by Brasserie Provence, an open bar, and entertainment. Limit 100 guests, so reserve your spot today! The link to purchase tickets is also live on our website's homepage. If you would just like to donate to help fund a scholar on his or her tour, you can do so through Realm (select "Pilgr 2025 trip fees") or by contacting Tracie Utter at TracieU@sfitf.org.

Rector's Forum: Henri Nouwen's *Life of the Beloved* ... January 19 and 26 at 10:15 a.m. Join us for a special 2-week Rector's Forum class starting Sunday, January 19, focused on powerful spiritual insights from *Life of the Beloved* by Henri Nouwen. This class will provide a deep dive into the themes of God's love, identity, and belonging. We will reflect on Nouwen's message that we are all God's Beloved, and explore how understanding our identity as beloved children of God can transform the way we live, love, and serve others. Whether you have read Henri Nouwen or not, you are invited to join us as we explore how these spiritual truths can deepen our relationship with God and with one another. You are especially encouraged to read along, or to bring a copy of *Life of the Beloved* with you (but you do not need to do so to benefit from this class!).

Food for Thought with Mary Berry, Executive Director of the Berry Center ... Thursday, January 23, 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Our January installment of Food for Thought features guest speaker Mary Berry, Berry Center Executive Director. Mary was born to Wendell and Tanya Berry and grew up at Lanes Landing Farm in Henry County, Kentucky,

from the time she was six years old. She farmed for a living in Henry County, starting out in dairy farming, growing Burley tobacco, and later diversifying to organic vegetables, pastured poultry, and grass-fed beef. Mary is married to Trimble County farmer Steve Smith, who started the first Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm in the state of Kentucky. She speaks all over the country, putting her father's writing to work advocating for farmers, small farms, rural areas, and land-conserving communities. She started The Berry Center in 2011, focusing on issues confronting small farming families in Kentucky and around the country, and asking and trying to answer two of the most essential questions of our time: "What will it take for farmers to be able to afford to farm well?" and "How do we become a culture that will support good land use?" Registration cost is \$20 for the event, which includes lunch catered by Ashbourne Farms. Sign-ups are open on Realm, so reserve your spot today!

Spring 2025 Tuesday Bible Study: Faith that Works ... Beginning January 28 Join us starting January 28 for our new Tuesday Bible Study spring session as we dive into the Epistle of James! Together we'll explore its practical teachings on faith, works, and living out God's Word in everyday life. Whether you're new to TBS or have been following along, there's always something fresh to discover. Each session is held on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and includes a one-hour lecture by Fr. Clint, followed by optional small group discussion. **ONLY new registrants need to sign up for this TBS session. If you attended in the fall, you do not need to re-register.** The cost for new registrants is \$10 per person. Sign up today on Realm or call the front office at (502) 228-1176. Note: REGISTRATION FOR CHILDCARE is open now. Please make sure to indicate while registering if you require it.

Essentials Small Groups: The Gospel According to Mark ... Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. beginning January 29 Study God's Word as you grow in love and in fellowship with your neighbors by joining us for Wednesday Night Small Groups as we study the Gospel of Mark. Each week we'll look at part of this short but powerful witness to Jesus Christ and unpack it in small groups. This 10-week series will begin on January 29 at 6:30 p.m. in Graves Hall. No previous small group or Bible Study experience is necessary. Please sign up on Realm so we can form groups before the study begins! Childcare is provided. For more information, please contact Jamie Calhoun.

CHILDREN'S HAPPENINGS

Nativity Pageant Rehearsals ... Our Nativity Pageant is just around the corner, so mark your calendars! If you are a participant this year in this beloved retelling of the Nativity narrative, please note the rehearsal schedule and times below. Our Nativity Pageant will take place at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24. See Mthr. Jennifer Grady with any questions!

December 22, 1:30-3:00 p.m. – Full cast rehearsal in the Nave

December 23, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Full cast rehearsal with music (no costumes)

December 24 – Meet at the church at 2:00 p.m. for speaking parts and 2:15 p.m. for full cast

Children's Mitten Tree ... Children's Ministry has set up a Mitten Tree downstairs! We are collecting mittens and gloves, both children and adult sizes, to distribute to people in need. Please bring your donations before Epiphany Sunday, January 5, 2025.

ST. FRANCIS IN THE FIELDS

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

Holy Eucharist, with Choir
5:30 p.m.

Choral Concert*
10:30 p.m.

Holy Eucharist, with
Choir and Incense*
11:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Eucharist, with Choir
10:00 a.m.

*livestreamed

St. Francis in the Fields Leadership and Support Staff

VESTRY

Term Ending 2025

Kate Boyer, *Senior Warden*, Jerry Lyon, Michael Swindall, Nancy Tafel, R. Kent Westberry

Term Ending 2026

Blair Bell, Andrew Booker, *Junior Warden*, Robert Cregor, Joanna Panning, *Clerk*, Vicki Receveur

Term Ending 2027

Joe Cross, David Laird, Amber Picklesimer, Matt Price, Mitzi Root

Appointees

George Vieth, *Treasurer*; Bill Receveur, *Buildings and Grounds Committee*;
Katie Booker, *Parish Life Committee*

MINISTRY & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

The Rev. Clint Wilson, *Rector*

The Rev. Raleigh Langley, *Associate Rector for Pastoral Care, Missions, and Family Ministry*

The Rev. Barbara White, *Associate Rector for Worship, Formation, and Communications*

The Rev. Jennifer Grady, *Director of Children's Ministry*

The Rev. Chuck Ellestad, *Priest Associate*

Dr. Kirk M. Rich, *Director of Music*

Jessica Vanover, *Cherub and Primary Choir Director*

Alison Kemper, *Children's Ministry Assistant*

Daniel Grotz, *Organ Scholar*

Hayden Ives-Glasgow, *Organ Scholar*

Theresa Wilson, *Director of the Louisville Bridge Fellows Program*

Emily Feeney, *Parish Administrative Officer*

Karen Enderle, *Communications Manager*

Tracie Utter, *Parish Accountant*

Caroline Eager, *Executive Assistant to the Rector*

Danny Morrison, *Director of Facilities*

Scott Calvert, *Sexton*



ST. FRANCIS
IN THE FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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