

# St. Francis *in the Fields* Episcopal Church

Harrods Creek, Kentucky



The Feast *of the* Nativity *of* Our Lord Jesus Christ

December 24, 2024

Choral Prelude *and* Festal Eucharist | Rite I

10:30 p.m.

## Welcome *to* St. Francis *in the* Fields Episcopal Church

Welcome to worship as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
We are delighted that you are here.

At the time of Holy Communion, **all baptized Christians** are welcome to receive the sacrament, regardless of age or denomination. We use wheat bread (gluten-free available upon request) and real wine. You are welcome to receive only bread if you prefer not to consume alcohol. Ushers will direct you to the altar rail, and you may return to your pew after Communion using an outside aisle. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the Sacrament, please cross your arms over your chest and the clergy will pray for you.

We invite newcomers to fill out a Connect Card (the green and white card in the back of the pew in front of you). Donations are not expected from visitors or guests; if, however, you wish to express thanksgiving through a financial gift, please place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

Childcare is not available for the service, but children are more than welcome to attend the service with you. The noise and excitement of children add to our joyful celebration of Christ's birth. Additionally, there is a comfort room for nursing mothers or fussy babies who may prefer a quiet space just to the left as you leave the Nave. The audio of the service is streamed into the room. Our ushers will be happy to help direct you.

**We are grateful for your presence.  
We pray you find rest, peace, and the love of Christ in this place.**



Cover Image: *The Adoration of the Shepherds* (c. 1612-14) by El Greco (1541-1614).  
Oil on canvas. From the Museo del Prado, Madrid.

## CHORAL PRELUDE

“Resonet in laudibus” from *Cathedral Windows*, Op. 106, No. 3  
Daniel Grotz, *organ*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

“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)

“The holly and the ivy”

Richard Shephard (1949–2021)

The holly and the ivy, now both are full well grown,  
Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.

Refrain: *Oh, the rising of the sun and the running of the deer,  
The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom as white as lily flower,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet saviour.  
*Refrain*

The holly bears a berry as red as any blood,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good.  
*Refrain*

The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all.  
*Refrain*

“Ding dong merrily on high!”

trad. arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

Ding-dong! Merrily on high  
in heaven the bells are ringing.  
Ding-dong! Verily the sky  
is riven with angels singing:  
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so, here below, below,  
let steeple bells be swungen;  
and i-o, i-o, i-o,  
by priest and people sungen!  
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime  
your matin chime, you ringers;  
may you beautifully rhyme  
your evetime song, you singers:  
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Words: G. R. Woodward (1848–1934)

“The Three Kings”

Peter Cornelius (1824–1874)

*Solo*

Three Kings from Persian lands afar  
to Jordan follow the pointing star:  
and this the quest of the travellers three,  
where the new-born King of the Jews may  
be.

Full royal gifts they bear for the King;  
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;  
the kings to Bethlehem make their way,  
and there in worship they bend the knee,  
as Mary's child in her lap they see;  
their royal gifts they show to the King;  
gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem  
the Kings are travelling, travel with them!  
The star of mercy, the star of grace,  
shall lead thy heart to its resting place.  
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;  
offer thy heart to the infant King.

*Chorale*

How brightly shines the morning star!  
With grace and truth from heaven afar  
our Jesse tree now bloweth.  
Of Jacob's stem and David's line,  
for thee, my Bridegroom, King divine,  
my soul with love o'erfloweth.  
Thy word, Jesu, inly feeds us,  
rightly leads us, life bestowing.  
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing

Words: Peter Cornelius and Philipp Nicolai (1556–1608)  
Matthew Houston, *baritone*

“O holy night”

Adolphe Adam (1803-1856), arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, it is the night of our dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born; O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand. So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here come the wise men from the Orient land. The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger; in all our trials born to be our friend. He knows our need, to our weaknesses no stranger, behold your King! Before him lowly bend! Behold your King, before him lowly bend!

Truly he taught us to love one another; his law is love and his gospel is peace. Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother; and in his name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise his holy name. Christ is the Lord! O praise his Name forever, his power and glory evermore proclaim. His power and glory evermore proclaim.

Words: Placide Cappeau (1808–1877); English translation by John Sullivan Dwight (1813–1893)

“Processional Introit” from *Missa Carolae*

James Whitbourn (1963–2024)

Guillô, play your tambourin,  
Robin with your flute begin,  
Play your pipe and play your drum,  
Tu-re-lu-re-lu! Pa-ta-pa-ta-pan!  
Play your pipe and play your drum.  
Sing Nowell to all and some!

Dance and sing and leap with joy  
At the birth of the infant boy.  
Dance with pipe and dance with drum.  
Tu-re-lu-re-lu! Pa-ta-pa-ta-pan!  
Dance with pipe and dance with drum  
For to us is born a Son.

Man of ancient days, he sings  
In praise of the King of kings,  
When you hear the pipe and drum,  
Tu-re-lu-re-lu! Pa-ta-pa-ta-pan!  
When you hear the pipe and drum  
You will know that the Saviour’s come.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light:  
They that dwell in the land of the shadow of death,  
Upon them hath the light shined.

For unto us a child is born,  
Unto us a Son is given:  
And the government shall be upon his shoulder:  
And his name shall be called Wonderful,  
Counselor,  
The mighty God,  
The everlasting Father,  
The Prince of Peace

Carol Kittner, *soprano*

“Kyrie” from *Missa Carolae*

J. Whitbourn

*Kyrie eleison.* Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christe eleison.* Christ, have mercy upon us.  
*Kyrie eleison.* Lord, have mercy upon us.



## HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

### The Liturgy of the Word

**People’s responses are in bold.**

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

*Please stand as you are able.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 83 (stanzas 1-3 and 6)

*O come, all ye faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 323

✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

## GLORIA

Setting: *Missa Carolae*, J. Whitbourn

*Gloria in excelsis Deo  
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.  
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,  
adoramus te, glorificamus te,  
gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam,  
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.  
Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe,  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis;  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.  
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,  
tu solus Dominus,  
tu solus Altissimus,  
Iesu Christe,  
cum Sancto Spiritu  
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.*

Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**  
Let us pray.

O God, who hast caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 98 *Cantate Domino*

Anglican chant by John Randall (1716–1799)

*O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he hath done marvellous things.  
With his own right hand, and with his holy arm hath he gotten himself the victory.  
The Lord declared his salvation; his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.  
He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel, and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.  
Shew yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands; sing, rejoice, and give thanks.  
Praise the Lord upon the harp, sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.  
With trumpets also and shawms, O shew yourselves joyful before the Lord the King.  
Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is, the round world, and they that dwell therein.  
Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord, for he is come to judge the earth.  
With righteousness shall he judge the world and the people with equity.*

*(sung by the choir)*

## THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-4

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## SEQUENCE HYMN 324

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence*

PICARDY

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

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

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Clint Wilson

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE NICENE CREED

BCP p. 326

I believe in one God, **the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP p. 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

*Please kneel as you are able.*

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants ✠ departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP p. 330

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto 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.**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



## The Liturgy of the Table

“Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

*Luke 2:15*

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “The angel Gabriel”

Philip Moore (b. 1943)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
“All hail,” said he, “thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favoured lady.”  
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said,  
“My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name” :  
most highly favoured lady.  
Gloria!

“For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honour thee,  
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;  
most highly favoured lady.”  
Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say  
“Most highly favoured lady.”  
Gloria!

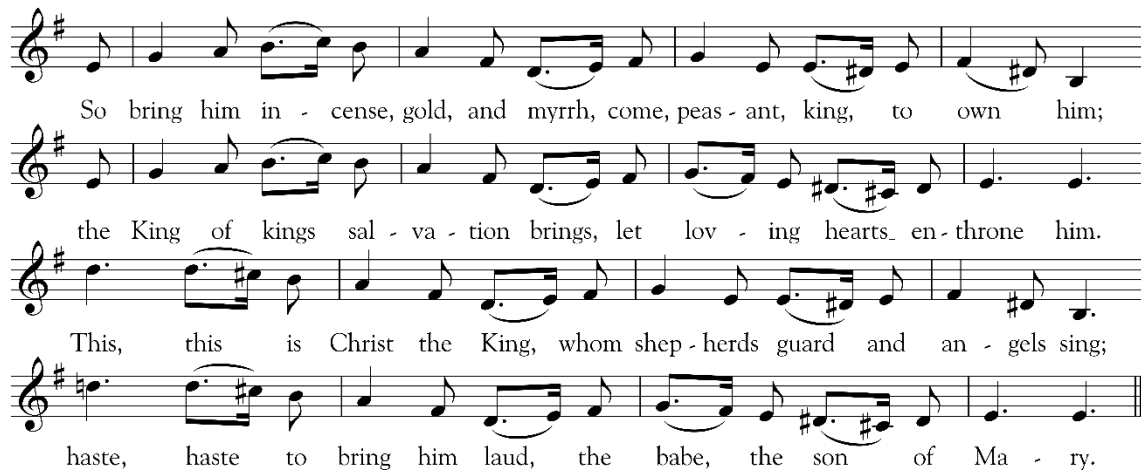
Words: G.R. Woodward (1848–1934)

*Please stand for the censuring of the congregation.*

### PRESENTATION HYMN

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh*

GREENSLEEVES



So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, peas - ant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer II, BCP p. 340

The Lord be with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

## SANCTUS

Setting: *Missa Carolae, J. Whitbourn*

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Please kneel as you are able.*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or 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.*

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, 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, he 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 remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and  $\text{X}$  be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

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. Those desiring baptism are encouraged to speak to one of our priests. During the administration of communion, the people may be seated. For those who wish to have a gluten free wafer, please close your hands, and alert the priest when you are at the altar.*

## AGNUS DEI

Setting: *Missa Carolae*, J. Whitbourn

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona nobis pacem.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN 81

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

ES IST EIN ROS

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 339

*Please kneel as you are able.*

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

*As the lights in the Nave are extinguished, clergy and ushers will begin lighting candles. After your candle is lighted, please pass the light to others around you. The congregation is invited to kneel during the singing of Silent Night.*

## CANDLELIGHT HYMN 111

*Silent night, holy night*

STILLE NACHT

## THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **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.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Hark! the herald angels sing*

MENDELSSOHN

1

Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
Joyful all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem:

*Refrain:*

Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.

2

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel:

*Refrain*

3

Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth:

*Refrain*

THE DISMISSAL

BCP p. 340

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Symphony No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 14  
VI. Final

Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

## THE PARISH CHOIR OF ST. FRANCIS IN THE FIELDS

<i>Soprano</i>	<i>Alto</i>	<i>Tenor</i>	<i>Bass</i>
Annabel Bartholomew	Elizabeth Bennie	John Bush	Jeff Boyd
Sarah Byrd	Kate Boyer	Rob Carlson	Matthew Houston
Barbara Collins	Sarah Givens	Brent Collins	James Layton
Mae Harrell	Carol Kittner	Paul Isaacs	Justin Leighty
Abby Mires	Suzanne Lyon	Jackson Scott	Robert Rounsavall
Emily Nash	Claire Morgan		Troy Sleeman
Anita Streeter	Sarah Moser		Richard Sowers
Paige Wahoff	Lea Ann Pipes		
	Elizabeth Rounsavall		

## KENTUCKY BRASS

Jessica Chancey, *piccolo*  
Jim Recktenwald, *trumpet*  
Nicholas Recktenwald, *trumpet*  
Jon Wysong, *trumpet*

Brett Shuster, *trombone*  
Guangwei Fan, *trombone*  
Cody Coleman, *trombone*

Michael Launius, *percussion*  
Sam Riddick, *percussion*

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## EVENTS THIS WEEK

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### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

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) \* **includes incense**

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

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)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27..... Parish office closed

### 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)

### 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)

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Instrumental music for tonight's service is given to the Glory of God in memory of Anne Rounsavall Shallcross by Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Rounsavall, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hunt Rounsavall, and Mr. and Mrs. John H. Clark.

## PARISH PRAYERS

*Please pray for those in our parish with needs:* Geoff Brandreth, Monet Jagers, 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, 2LT 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., LT Jonathan Shontz, CPT Grant Thomas, CPT Paige Wahoff, and CDR Lawrence Williams.

*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.*

## WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

5:30	<i>Lectors:</i> Ashlea Davenport, Paul Deaver <i>Chalice Bearers:</i> Ron Argo, Nathan Cedor, Nathan Dearen, Carolyn Fass <i>Verger:</i> Ron Argo	<i>Ushers:</i> Jim Anderson, Bill Lynch <i>Greeters:</i> Ben Butler, Sarah Butler <i>Welcome Table:</i> Bonnie Turner
10:30	<i>Lectors:</i> Suzanne Lyon, Mitzi Root <i>Chalice Bearers:</i> Lyndee Kantor, Tim Root, Kennedy Simpson, Powell Starks <i>Verger:</i> Toby Reed <i>Thurifer:</i> Nathan Dearen	<i>Ushers:</i> Sallie Clark, Hamilton Kemper, Ken Reutlinger, Stephen Root <i>Greeters:</i> Caroline Eager, David Eager  <i>Altar Guild:</i> Nell Bradley, Lee Brown, Laura King, Anne McMillin, Sara Oliver, Carolyn Sharpe, Nancy Tafel

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please note: The Parish Office 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.**

**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](mailto: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.





The flowers on the Lord's Table, the wreaths on the church doors, instrumental music, and general worship needs for our Christmas services have been given by members of St. Francis in the Fields to the Glory of God and in loving memory and honor of friends and family whose names are listed below.

Ruth K. Adams  
Sally and Wally Adams  
Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Russell Allen  
In honor of Ms. Lynn Marie Allen and family  
Mary Stroud Amelang  
Bill and Lois Anderson  
Alex Bartley  
Jane Ogg Basham  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Blythin  
In honor of Mrs. Ann Boardman  
Mr. Clayton Boardman, Jr.  
Adelaide and Gerhard Bockhorst, Jr.  
Henry R. Boer, MD  
Mr. and Mrs. C. Craig Bradley  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Craig Bradley  
William Lee Bradley  
John and Sally Brown  
Mr. and Mrs. Robinson Brown, Jr.  
In honor of Stue Brown  
Thomas W. Brown  
Donna Burdette  
In honor of Sally Campbell  
Mr. and Mrs. William P. Carrell  
Betty and James Christie  
Brent and Jane Clay  
Zeke Clay IV  
Craig Cogswell  
Caroline Joyes and William Robert Cory  
In honor of Katherine Preston Cory  
In honor of Stewart Castleberry Cory and Eric  
Sherwood Kline  
Mr. and Mrs. Basil R. Craddock  
Mr. and Mrs. Clark J. Cramer, Jr.  
Kenneth and Jane Cummings  
Wanda Daniel  
Alice Louise Darr  
Richard Edward Darr  
The Rev. and Mrs. Stephen R. Davenport  
Caroline Taylor Davis  
Evelyn and Bob Dills  
Amy Lee Donan  
Mr. and Mrs. John Donan, Sr.  
Bill Donley  
Virginia Donley  
Paul and Frances Eager  
W.B. Owen Edelen  
In honor of Daniel Eoghan Ellestad  
George Falk  
James Falk  
In honor of Bruce Farrer  
Mead B. Ferris, Jr.  
In honor of Edwin and Lucy Finch  
Fred and Lucy Finzer

In honor of the children and grandchildren of Richard  
and Barbara Floyd  
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Lee Foard  
Jesse William Foard  
In honor of the Fridley grandchildren: Kai, Murphie,  
and Elijah  
Flo M. Gall  
In honor of Jean Gerrish  
Bob and Hettie Gillette  
Grant Graves  
Mrs. Joyce Graves  
Lillian Graves  
Andrew Harkess  
In honor of David and Mary Harris  
A. Baker Heard  
Bill Heard  
Carroll DeWitt Henry  
Evelyn VanHoy Henry  
Frances Starks Heyburn  
Henry and Frances Heyburn  
The Hon. U.S. District Judge John G. Heyburn II  
In honor of Will and Ally Heyburn, Jack Heyburn, and  
Nancy McKinstry  
Mary Hoffstetter  
Becky and Frank Hogue  
Robert M. Hogue II  
Frederic N. Hord  
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Lewis Horn  
John and Doris Huneke  
Edward and Chris Hurst  
Audra Hawkins James  
Ben Tallmadge Jennings  
B. Larry Johnson  
In honor of Carolyn Dills Johnson  
Max Julien  
David Kantor  
Dr. Arthur Hail Keeney  
Al and Frances Kemper  
Harry King  
In honor of Cyrus Castleberry Kline  
Jerry Taylor Robertson Kramer  
Ann and Peter Krawchuk  
Richard Stephens Laird  
Hollis and Beryl Loeffler  
Margaret and Fred Louis  
Laurie Ticknor Lussky  
Mr. and Mrs. James H. Lyle  
Mr. Marvin M. Maddox  
In honor of Andrew, William, and Katherine Marquardt  
John F. Marquardt, M.D.  
Ben Matthews  
In honor of Jean Matthews  
L.C. and Doris McDowell

Jean Miller  
In honor of Christopher and Charlotte Moore  
Florence Groves Moore  
John Walker Moore, Jr.  
Robert Cannon Moore  
Mary Glenn Oliver  
Dr. and Mrs. Luther W. Pearce  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Columbus Pickens  
Arthur Linwood Pickens  
Martha Allen Pickens  
Raymond Pierce, MD  
Ruth and Leon H. Pilotte  
Mr. William D. Price, Jr.  
Dr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Quaife  
In honor of McKenzie and Liza Ragan  
John Taylor Rankin  
Stephen W. Rauh  
Peter Ronald  
Denny Rowley  
Leslie and Marjorie Runyon  
Jean Luc, Joyce, and Nanette Rutherford  
Ethel and Albert F. Rutz  
Austine Sanderlin  
Stephen Henry Schoening  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Semple  
In honor of Virginia and Ben Shaver  
Mr. and Mrs. William Taylor Simpson  
Robert Slaton  
Mary L. Smith  
Franklin and Noell Starks  
Susan B. and James P. Stewart

In honor of the St. Francis Choir members  
J.H. and M.C. Stites Stoddard, Jr. and family  
Mr. and Mrs. Clayton E. Stoess, Sr.  
Clifton Matt Tatum  
F. Barton Thompson III  
Frank B. Thompson, Jr.  
Robert Toohey  
In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Travers, Cecelia  
Travers, and James Travers  
B. Claybrook Turner  
Lee Emerson Tyler  
Margaret and Gilbert Tyler  
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gwathmey Tyler II  
Terry Welby Tyler, Jr.  
Howard and Doris Utter  
George W. Vieth, Sr.  
Ann Von Gonten  
Craig Walker  
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Walker, Sr.  
Joan Castleberry Walker and Frank Troutman, Jr.  
In honor of Weezie Walker  
Mr. Andrew Blythin Ward  
Mr. and Mrs. John Hardin Ward III  
Barbara Bullitt Watkins  
Lowry Rush Watkins  
Marshall Bullitt Watkins  
Suzanne Whayne Whaley  
Jinx Heard White  
Thomas S. Whitworth  
Polly Williams  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Armin Willig



# 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 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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