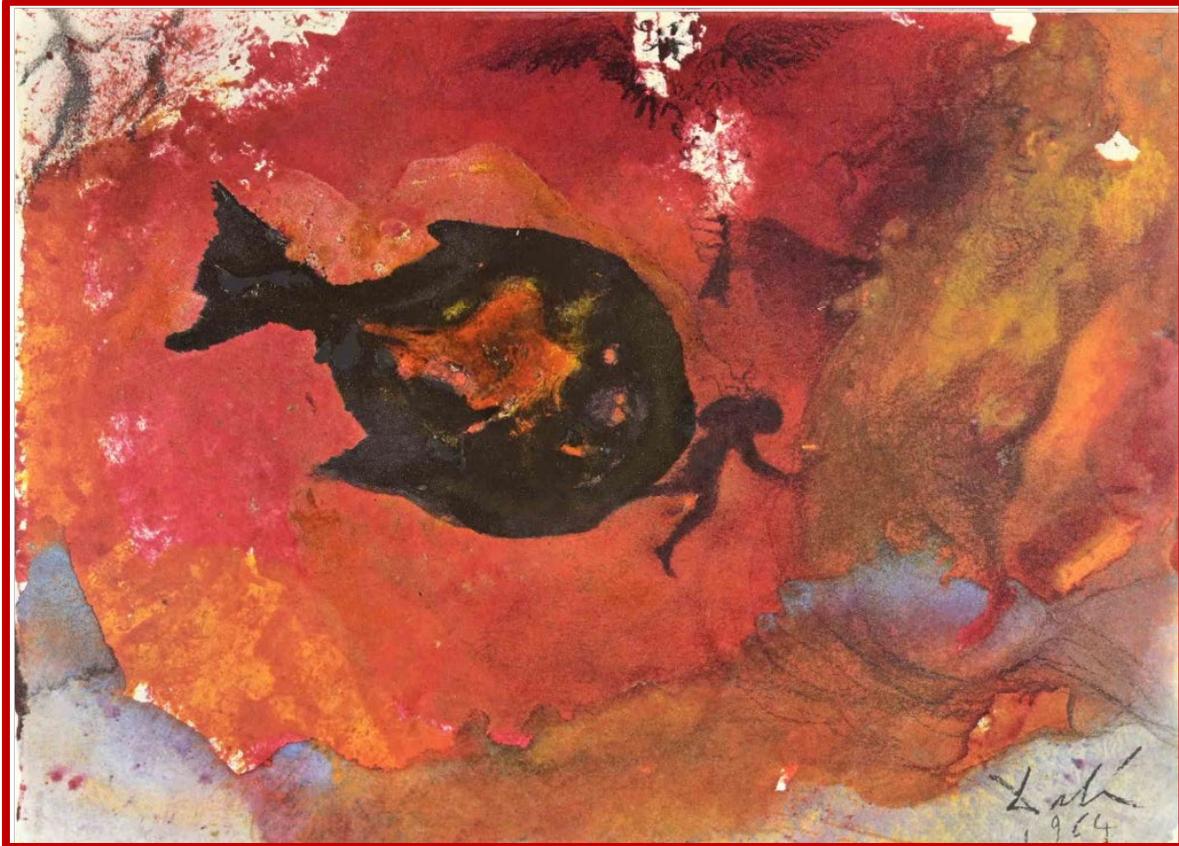


ST. FRANCIS IN THE FIELDS EPISCOPAL CHURCH



CHORAL EVENSONG

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

5:00 p.m.

The Rev. Clint Wilson, *Officiant*
The Parish Choir of St. Francis in the Fields
Dr. Kirk M. Rich, *Director of Music*
Dr. Jeffrey Smith, *Artist-in-Residence*

WELCOME TO ST. FRANCIS IN THE FIELDS

We invite you to join us as active participants in the same worship that Anglicans have been celebrating for centuries. Our service is drawn from the riches of the Anglican tradition. Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services today.

What is Evensong? Evensong is a tiny fragment of something else: it is part of the worship that is offered to God by Christian people every hour of the day and night, in every part of the world. When you come to Evensong, it is as if you were dropping in on a conversation already in progress – a conversation between God and his people that began long before you were born and that will continue long after you die. Do not be disturbed if there are some things you do not understand right away. For a brief moment, you step into the continual stream of worship that is being offered today and that will be offered even unto the end of time. You are one with those who worship here on earth and in heaven. *-The Rev. Canon J. W. Poole*

Why celebrate Evensong? Evensong offers us the opportunity to gather and spend time in prayer while listening and participating in music that is especially selected to bring us into deeper understanding of the mysteries of our faith.

What should I expect at Evensong? Hymns, readings, Anglican chant, and anthems sung by the choir.

Why does the choir sing so much at Evensong? In Choral Evensong, the choir sings on behalf of the congregation. The settings of the Canticles of Mary (*Magnificat*) and Simeon (*Nunc dimittis*) have, by tradition, been sung by the choir alone. The Suffrages (prayers) and the Responses between the Officiant and congregation are also sung on behalf of the people. This allows the congregation time to meditate and enter into deeper prayer through word and music.

What does the congregation do at Evensong? The congregation joins in the singing of hymns, the Apostle's Creed, and other prayers. Additionally, the people are invited to join in silent meditation as the choir sings the various prayers, psalms, and canticles.

What is a canticle? A canticle (from the Latin *canticulum*, a diminutive of *canticum*, meaning "song") is a hymn (strictly excluding the Psalms) taken from the Bible.

Why do the prayers sound old-fashioned? Much of the English of the service is the language spoken and written by our ancestors more than four hundred years ago. Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's English translations of the ancient Latin and Sarum rites for the Daily Office were first published in 1549. Along with the King James Bible and the works of Shakespeare, Cranmer's texts could be said to form part of the DNA of the English language. It may sound old-fashioned, but its meaning is not out of date.

Cover Image: *Jonah in the Belly of the Whale* (1964), by Salvador Dalí (Spanish, 1904-1989).
Color lithograph on heavy rag paper. From a private collection.

All stand for

The Procession

The Officiant reads

The Opening Sentences

I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. *-Psalm 51:3*

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws which he set before us. *-Daniel 9:9-10*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *-John 1:8-9*

All kneel as the Officiant says

A General Confession

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us, in sundry places, to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with a humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying:

All say together

Almighty and most merciful Father; **We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. *Amen.***

The Officiant says

The Declaration of Absolution

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins. He pardoneth and absolveth all those who truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

All stand as the Choir sings

The Preces and Responses

setting: Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Choir **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.**

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Candles are lit as all sing

The Phos Hilaron S-61

setting: McNeil Robinson (1943-2015)

All sit while the Choir sings

Psalm 123 *Ad te levavi oculos meos*

Anglican chant: C. Hylton Stewart (1884-1932)

Unto thee lift I up mine eyes :

 O thou that dwellest in the heavens.

Behold, even as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters,

 and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress :

 even so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God, until he have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us :

 for we are utterly despised.

Our soul is filled with the scornful reproof of the wealthy :
and with the despitefulness of the proud.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost :
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Psalm 124 *Nisi quia Dominus*

Anglican chant: Andrew Carter (1939–2026)

If the Lord himself had not been on our side, now may Israel say :
if the Lord himself had not been on our side, when men rose up against us;

They had swallowed us up quick :
when they were so wrathfully displeased at us.

Yea, the waters had drowned us :
and the stream had gone over our soul.

The deep waters of the proud :
had gone even over our soul.

But praised be the Lord :
who hath not given us over for a prey unto their teeth.

Our soul is escaped even as a bird out of the snare of the fowler :
the snare is broken, and we are delivered.

Our help standeth in the Name of the Lord :
who hath made heaven and earth.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost :
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE LESSONS

The First Lesson

Jonah 1:1-17

Lector A lesson from the book of the prophet Jonah.

Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken. Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep. So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah. Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou? And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land. Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous. And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you. Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them. Wherefore they cried unto the Lord, and said, We beseech thee, O Lord, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O Lord, hast done as it pleased thee. So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging. Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the Lord, and made vows.

Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Lector Here endeth the lesson.

All stand as the Choir sings

The Magnificat

setting: H. Sumsion

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever. *-Luke 1:46-55*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

All sit for

The Second Lesson

Romans 8:18-39

Lector A lesson from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans.

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector Here endeth the lesson.

All stand as the Choir sings

The Nunc Dimittis

setting: H. Sumsion

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel. *-Luke 2:29-32*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

All sing in unison

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

All kneel as the Choir sings

The Preces and Responses

H. Sumsion

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

Choir **Lord have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Choir **And grant us thy salvation.**
Officiant O Lord, save the State.
Choir **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**
Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Choir **And make thy chosen people joyful.**
Officiant O Lord, save thy people.
Choir **And bless thine inheritance.**

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

All sit as the Choir sings

The Anthem after the Third Collect

H. Sumsion

They that go down to the sea in ships :
and occupy their business in great waters;
These men see the works of the Lord :
and his wonders in the deep.
For at his word the stormy wind ariseth :
which lifteth up the waves thereof.
They are carried up to the heaven, and down again to the deep :
their soul melteth away because of the trouble.
They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man :
and are at their wits' end.
So when they cry unto the Lord in their trouble :
he delivereth them out of their distress.
For he maketh the storm to cease :
so that the waves thereof are still.
Then are they glad, because they are at rest :
and so he bringeth them unto the haven where they would be.

Words: Psalm 107:23-30

All kneel as the Officiant says

A Prayer for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. **Amen.**

All say together

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, **Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful: and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

All stand as the Officiant says

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

The Concluding Versicle and Response

setting: H. Sumsion

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Choir Thanks be to God.

The Officiant says

The Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** - *II Corinthians 13:14*

All stand to sing

The Closing Hymn 653 "Dear Lord and Father of mankind"

Repton

setting: John Scott (1956-2015)

The Retiring Procession

All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart.

Those who wish may sit for the remainder of the organ voluntary.

A freewill offering benefitting the music ministry of the parish may be left in the basket at the entrance to the nave.

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UPCOMING SERVICES AND CONCERTS

“Ides of March” Italian Dinner and Music ... Friday, March 13, 6:30-9:00 p.m. Join us for an incredibly special evening in which we introduce *Friends of Music* at St. Francis. Parishioner Emil David, Chef/Owner of Louisville fine dining restaurant Perso, will cater a three-course dinner served in Graves Hall, including musical performances featuring Gabe Lefkowitz, concertmaster of the Louisville Orchestra, Jonathan Elmore, operatic tenor, and Emily Redden, soprano. All proceeds go to the *Friends of Music* program to support our expanding concert series. Tickets are \$120, and tables of 8 are \$900. This event is all inclusive, including a social hour prior to dinner. Tickets may be purchased on Realm or by calling the office at (502) 228-1176. Seating is limited, and sales will close after today, March 1.



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