

ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Francis Episcopal Church is a diverse community accepting all. We gather to worship God, grow in faith, and share in fellowship. We go out to serve Christ by serving others.

Everyone is Welcome Here!



September 17th, 2023

Sunday Service

Saint Francis Church Office Hours: (732) 968-6781

Wednesdays: 9:00 AM - 12:00 Deacon Gerry

Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:00 Office Assist, Trina Rios

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presider: The Rev. Andrew Calandriello

Fellowship Hour hosts are needed for upcoming Sundays. Please sign up in the narthex.

Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candle donations in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for God's Blessing are welcome. Requested donations for flowers is \$40 and \$15 for the candle. If you would like to reserve a date, please sign up in the narthex.

Saint Paul's Food Pantry will continue to accept donations of non-perishable food items to assist helping the food insecure in our neighboring town. For the month of **September**, donations of **Cereal (cold/hot)** are being requested.

Women's sanitary items continue to be collected for the **Fresh Start Program** coordinated by Summit Health. Adult, baby, and toddler diapers are also needed.

Plainfield Area Humane Society is the recipient of our pet food collection. Dry or wet, dog and cat foods are requested.

Celebrations this week:

Birthdays; Heather Nunes 09/13, Tyler Klastava 09/13, Cecil Baker 09/14

Baptism Anniversaries; Joyce Tereman 09/13

MID WEEK PRAYER SERVICES

Morning Prayer: 10:00 AM Wednesday Mornings in *Spanish* On-site & Online

Noon Day Prayer: 12:00 PM Wednesday On-site & Online

St. Francis Contemplative Prayer Group: Wednesdays at 4pm (Zoom)

contactus@stfrancisdunellen.org for more information

STEWARDSHIP

How has God's Abundance formed your generosity?

There is a distinct difference between abundance and generosity. "Abundance is what God has made available. And generosity is what we do with what God has made available"

the Rev. Sheleta Fomby

St. Francis Players are needed for a Stewardship Chancel Drama (10/29) See Fr. Frank Hubbard

SAVE THE DATE

Attention all students/acolytes; on October 1st please join Deacon Gerry at 10:00 am in the undercroft for *Chats with the Deacon*.

Fall Harvest Festival October 8th, 11:00-4:00 pm. Washington Park Dunellen.

We are in need of the following:

Basket Items for cat/kitten treats and toys basket, See Michelle Klastava

Basket items for children (colored pencils, markers, treats etc.), See Michelle Klastava

Cookies- Can you bake two dozen cookies or bread? See Christy McGuire.

Books: New and gently used books Pre-K through high school - English & Spanish.

Please place all items in the baskets in the narthex.

Help Needed for the Harvest Fest: Please sign up in the narthex to help and participate in this event sponsored by our Dunellen neighbors.

Blessing of the Animals - October 8th - 12:00 noon in Washington Park, Dunellen

Bring your pets, pictures of your pets or stuffed animals. Certificates, treats and photos opportunities available.

The Holy Eucharist
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 17, 2023

PRELUDE *BY FAITH* **BY KEITH & KRISTYN GETTY & STUART TOWNEND**

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

OPENING HYMN *SING PRAISE TO GOD WHO REIGNS ABOVE*

Blue Hymnal (1982) 408

Presider Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *Holy Eucharist II p. 355*
People **And blessed be God's Kingdom, Now and forever. Amen**

Collect For Purity

ALL **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 inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. AMEN**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Blue Hymnal (1982) S-280

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

People **Amen.**

Silence for the People's prayers.

Presider O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 14:19-31

Reader *A Reading from the book of Exodus.*

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Silence to hear the Word of God.

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

Psalm 114

Please join in reading the Psalm responsively by half verse.

- 1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader

Reading from the Book of Romans

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Silence to hear the Word of God.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN *PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN*
Blue Hymnal (1982) 393

THE GOSPEL *Matthew 18:21-35*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON *Rev. Andrew Calandriello*

THE NICENE CREED

ALL 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.

Prayer For the Calling of a Priest-In-Charge

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on St Francis and St. Barnabas Churches and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a priest-in-charge for our parishes that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries: You know the spiritual leader best suited for our congregations. Grant us the wisdom to recognize the one you send. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

People Holy God, Hear Our Prayer

The Confession of Sin

Holy Eucharist II p.360

Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **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

Presider 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.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFETORY ANTHEM MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE BY MARK BURROWS

Presider All things come of thee. O Lord;

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

Doxology

Blue Hymnal (1982) 380 v3

*Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C (p 369-372)

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Presider At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Presider From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Presider Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.**

Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *Blue Hymnal (1982) S-125*
**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to friends, 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, gave it to friends, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People **We celebrate his death and resurrection,
As we await the day of his coming.**

Presider Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Miriam, Deborah, Ruth; God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of his Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**
Presider Accept these prayers and praised, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation, *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

ALL **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 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

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

A PRAYER FOR SHARED COMMUNION

ALL **Lord Jesus Christ, our constant companion,
you promised to be with us to the end of the age, and you
make us one with each other
in your Body, the Church.
We thank you for giving us yourself in this Holy Sacrament, the seal
of your love that is stronger than death.
Grant, then, O Lord, that we all may receive you, whether met
at this table or dispersed in our homes; and so strengthen the
bonds of our common life that with all your people in every
place,
we may praise and serve you
until we come to the joys of your heavenly banquet. We ask
this for the sake of your love. Amen.**

Presider Behold what you are.

People **May we become what we receive.**

**COMMUNION HYMN O LOVE, HOW DEEP, HOW BROAD, HOW HIGH
Blue Hymnal (1982) 448**

The Prayer of St. Francis (Sung)
*Make me a Channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.*

*Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.*

*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console.
To be understood as to understand.
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

*Make me a channel of your peace.
It is pardoning the we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Presider Let us pray.
ALL Eternal God, Heavenly father,

you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. AMEN

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN *SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPARD LEAD US*
Blue Hymnal (1982) 708

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *MINUET IN G* **BY LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**

ST. FRANCIS' CHURCH

St. Francis' Episcopal Church is a diverse community, accepting all.
We gather to worship God, grow in faith, and share in fellowship.
We go out to serve Christ by serving others.

Parish Staff

The Reverend Gerry Welch, Deacon
The Rev. Canon Dr. Frank Hubbard, Priest Associate
Pam Maiolo, Senior Warden
Amy Myzie, Junior Warden
Ilia Scriven, Parish Treasurer
Rachel Gasataya, Music Director
Kathy Balenson, Nathalie Edwards, Church School Team
Trina Rios, Office Assistant

Vestry

Pam Maiolo - Sr. Warden, Administration, Finance, Rectory,
Building and Grounds, Outreach
Amy Myzie - Financial Secretary, Building & Grounds
Kathy Balenson – Sunday School, COME
Christy McGuire – Stewardship, Communications (Web-site)
Marie Petit-Homes – Stewardship
Elaine Patania – Stewardship, Finance, Office Overseer, MOU
Cynthia Pelliccia – Fellowship, Finance
Gerrienne Breck – Vestry Clerk, Mailchimp
Larry Quirk – Finance, MOU
Grace McDougall – COME, Fellowship, Finance
Michelle Klastava – Fundraising, COME

Non-Vestry

Tom Patania, Yuennadi Moya, Rick DiAgostino – Buildings and Grounds
Paul Sinckler – Buildings and Grounds, MOU
Laura Breck – Communique', Liturgical Scheduling
Oliva DiAgostino – Media Releases, MOU
Heather Nunes - COME