

JANUARY 31, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Opening Voluntary

Praeludium in D major
BuxWV 139

Dietrich Buxtehude
(c. 1637-1707)

Introit

Living God, Your Word Has Called Us

TOR HILL • Malcom Archer
(b. 1952)

Living God, your word has called us,
summoned us to live by grace,
make us one in hope and vision,
as we gather in this place.
Take our searching, take our praising,
take the silence of our prayer,
offered up in joyful worship,
springing from the love we share.

Living God, your love has called us
in the name of Christ your Son,
forming us to be his body,
by your Spirit making one.
Working, laughing, learning, growing,
old and young and black and white,
gifts and skills together sharing,
in your service all unite.

— words by Jan Berry (b. 1953)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 662 [\(see page 5\)](#)

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

RATISBON

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we are a people formed by your Word in Christ;
but we have wandered away from your truth,
we have broken your commandments,
we have distorted your teachings to serve our own ends,
we have failed to trust your promises,
we have refused your mercy.

Ground us again, O Holy One, in the written wisdom of Scripture
and in the living Word which is Christ Jesus.
Nourish us on the bread of his teachings until we can taste your goodness.
Renew us at the fountain of his wisdom,
so we may find joy in obedience and freedom in giving ourselves to you.

Silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

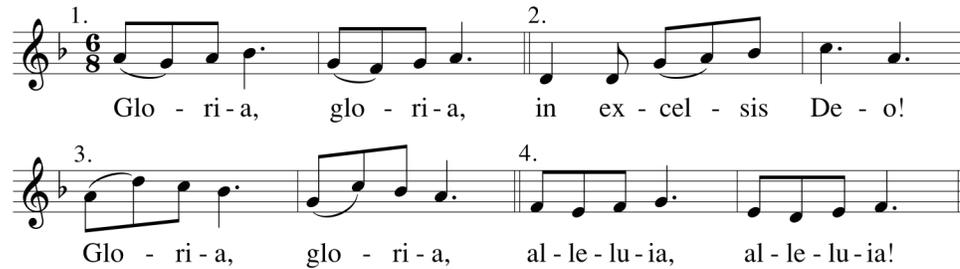
Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe in the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

Response *(sung twice)*

GLORIA (Taizé)

Canon—4 voices



1. Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
2. Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Jacques Berthier, © 1979, 1988, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

The Peace

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

Solo

Simple Song

Leonard Bernstein
(1918–1990)

Sing God a simple song:

Lauda, Laude

Make it up as you go along:

Lauda, Laude

Sing like you like to sing.

God loves all simple things,

For God is the simplest of all,

For God is the simplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song

To praise him, to bless him, to bless the Lord.

I will sing his praises while I live

All of my days.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,

Blessed is the man who praises him.

Lauda, Lauda, Laude

And walks in his ways.

I will lift up my eyes

To the hills from whence comes my help.

I will lift up my voice to the Lord

Singing *Lauda, Laude*.

For the Lord is my shade,

Is the shade upon my right hand,

And the sun shall not smite me by day

Nor the moon by night.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,

Lauda, Lauda, Laude,

And walks in his ways.

Lauda, Lauda, Laude,

Lauda, Lauda di da di day.

All of my days.

— words by Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:21-28

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Our Life Together

John W. Wurster

Hymn 754 *(see page 6)*

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways:

- in that we love one another;
- that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another;
- that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another;
- that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope;
- together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ;
- together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity;
- together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another;
- that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness;
- pray together;
- together serve God in this world;
- and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name.
 Thy Kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil;
 for Thine is the Kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory forever.
 Amen.

Hymn 450 [\(see page 7\)](#)

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

Charge and Blessing

Closing Voluntary

Dialogue sur les Grands Jeux

Nicolas de Grigny
 (1672-1703)

WORSHIP NOTES

Lectionary Readings

- Deuteronomy 18:15-20 – *The Lord says: I will raise up a new prophet to speak my word.*
- Psalm 111 – *Praise the Lord; the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.*
- 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 – *Concerning food and idols: knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.*
- Mark 1:21-28 – *Jesus casts out an unclean spirit; all are amazed at his authority.*

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Keatan King | Kallie Pitcock

Musicians

Cecilia Duarte, cantor & soloist | Matthew Dirst, organist | Randall Swanson, pianist

MUSIC NOTES

Organ music – Today's **opening voluntary** comes from Dietrich Buxtehude, the famed Lübeck organist who was a leading light of the North German Baroque. His preludia feature multiple section that alternate between rhapsodic figuration and short fugues. The D Major Praeludium also includes a number of "echo" effects, in which the same musical ideas are repeated multiple times, allowing for changes to different registers or divisions of the organ.

- Our **closing voluntary**, from one of the leading lights of the French "Classic" Organ School of the late Baroque era, is the final verset of the Kyrie portion of Nicolas de Grigny's 1699 *Livre d'Orgue*. French "organ books" such as this are typically organized as organ masses, with multiple versets for each element of the mass ordinary, played in alternation with plainchant.

Vocal music – Music for this morning's **introit** was written as the hymn tune TOR HILL by English composer, conductor and organist Malcolm Archer, who served with great distinction as music director at

cathedrals in Norwich, Bristol, Wells, and St. Paul's Cathedral in London, and finally as Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College. More information about Archer and his large catalog of compositions may be found in his website at www.malcolmarcher.com. The words of today's **introit** were written by Jan Berry, who is a minister of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. She has been writing hymns and prayers, particularly using feminist imagery, for many years, and has published resources for worship in various anthologies, including a collection of her own work published as *Naming God* (URC Granary Press/Magnet, 2011). Berry teaches pastoral and practical theology at Luther King House in Manchester, England. • This morning's **solo** comes from Leonard Bernstein's *MASS*, commissioned by Jacqueline Kennedy and composed in 1971 for the inauguration of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC.

–Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art by Micah Meyers.

Introit text © Kevin Mayhew Limited. All rights reserved. Declaration of Forgiveness Response © Les Presses de Taizé. All rights reserved. Solo text © G. Schirmer, Inc. All rights reserved. Sermon Hymn 754 *Help Us Accept Each Other* text and music © Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net account A-720890.

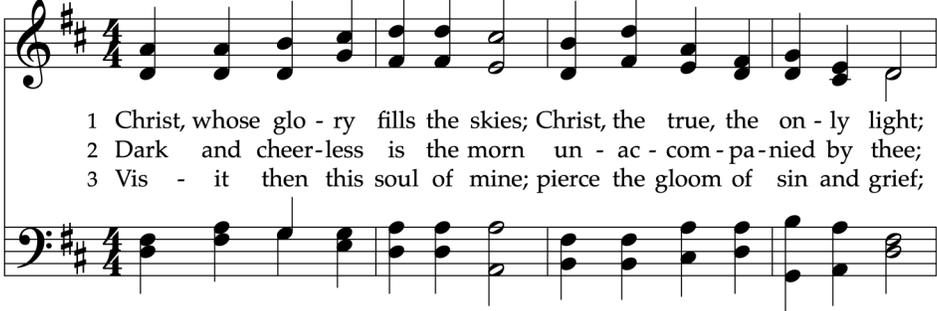
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called the annual meeting of the congregation for Sunday, **February 14**, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The meeting will be held via Zoom. The agenda includes the annual report for 2020, presentation of the approved budget for 2021, and a vote on changes to the pastors' terms of call.

Opening Hymn 662

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

RATISBON



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the true, the on - ly light;
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa-nied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of Righ-teous-ness, a - rise; tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
joy - less is the day's re - turn till thy mer - cy's beams I see;
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

This well-crafted morning hymn opens by celebrating daylight as an image of Christ, the true Light, then ponders life without light, and culminates in a prayer for inward light. The tune's name honors its German roots: Ratisbon is the former English name for Regensburg.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1740

MUSIC: German folk melody; adapt. Johann Werner, 1815; harm. William Henry Havergal, 1847

RATISBON

7.7.7.7.7

[Return to bulletin](#)



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

The scriptural basis of this text is Romans 15:7, recast as a prayer in the opening two lines of the first stanza. The many implications of living as people who have been accepted by Christ fill the remaining stanzas. This tune was composed for the first publication of this text.

Closing Hymn 450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

TEXT: Irish poem; trans. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor Hull, 1912, alt.
 MUSIC: Irish ballad; harm. David Evans, 1927

SLANE
 10.10.10.10

[Return to bulletin](#)

Duerr Lecture Series

Schedule of Events

Sunday, February 21

11:00 a.m. Worship
(Streamed at saintphilip.net)

*The Witness of Reconciliation in the Age of
Polarization*

Genesis 33:1-11
Colossians 3:12-17

7:00 p.m.
Live Webinar

*Effective Speech in the Bible and in Our Age
of Polarization*

Lecture is free and open to everyone.

Registration for the Lecture
is required.

Information found at:

http://saintphilip.net/Duerr_LectureSeries.html

Presents

Dr. Samuel L. Adams

*Effective Speech in the
Bible and in
Our Age of Polarization*



Speaker for the 24th annual Duerr Lecture Series will be Dr. Samuel L. Adams, the Mary Jane and John F. McNair Chair in Biblical Studies at Union Presbyterian Seminary. He holds a Ph.D. from Yale University, a Master of Divinity from the University of Chicago, and a B.A. (History) from Davidson College. He is an ordained Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and has served churches in Chicago, New Haven, and Richmond.

His publications include a comprehensive study on wisdom literature past and present (with Matthew Goff), recently published, and a book, *Wisdom in Transition: Act and Consequence in Second Temple Instructions*, examining conceptions of retribution, death, and the afterlife in Jewish instructions. Another research area is wealth and poverty in the biblical world and today. His book, *Social and Economic Life in Second Temple Judea*, Westminster John Knox, 2014, looks at economic life in the Bible and beyond. Other interests include apocalypticism, the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Bible and film, and the Bible and Christian theology in the context of American political discourse. Adams' background includes a career in politics prior to graduate school and serving as a teacher at a Church of South India college. He is editor of the seminary's journal, *Interpretation*.

The Duerr Lecture Series was established in memory of W. Chris Duerr, member and elder of St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston. As part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Reformed Tradition, the lectures focus upon speakers and subjects that will enhance Christian faith in light of that tradition. Challenging speakers are chosen from the fields of theology, Bible and preaching to inspire and equip congregants for deeper faith and service.

Endowment

Gifts and bequests to the Duerr Lecture Endowment may be made in memory or honor of individuals or groups, or in commemoration of special occasions. Contributions may be made by check or online at www.saintphilip.net; choose 'Make a Contribution' on the first screen, then select the fund for the "Duerr Lect. Series."

IN OUR PRAYERS

Dorothy Blackwell and family upon the death of her sister Ann Morgan on January 21.

AnnBeth Hernández and Dimas Parada upon the death of her grandfather Jose Hernández on January 24.

Congratulations to Mary Linda Williams as she welcomes her grandson Colin Shroff Williams born to Winfield and Monica Williams on January 23.

Congratulations to Eric Parada (Wilbert's son) and Vanessa Flores who are getting married today, January 31.

St. Philippians and their families – Kay Cash; Connie Mayfield and son Robert Mayfield; Pat Lindsay; Mary Margaret Hansen; Doris Cantrell; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Jan Ostendorf; Laney Miller; Vicki McKay; Marion Takehara; Emily Estill; Travis Calhoun; Mezgebe Gebray; Martha Zertuche - sister-in-law of Roderick James; Brad Davis – nephew of Sam Fisher; Kenneth Allan Henick – father of Anne Marie Benard; Douglas Everhart – brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Carol Paine Kendrick – sister of Stephen Paine; Betty Grant – sister-in-law of Eleanor Grant; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; Janet Fisher – sister-in-law of Dan Cleveland; Bessie Johnson – mother of Pat Lindsay; Mac & Beverly Wilson – parents of Butch Wilson; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Kelsey Higgs Gallegos & family – daughter of Nancy Higgs; Dottie Laas and family – cousin of Sam Fisher; Alice Barron – sister-in-law to Beth Atkinson; Nikolaus Malczewskyj – father-in-law of Jane Malczewskyj; Shirley Boggus – grandmother of Omi Ford; Jimmy Reagan – father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe – mother of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound – Sue Baier; Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Mary Sinderson; Jody Tomforde; and Penny Vieau.

Friends of St. Philippians – Jack Burrell – friend of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge; Paul Ratliff – friend of Jo Helland; Bill McDonald and Jackson Tavel – friends of Curt and Sharon Webb; Cecil Trent – friend of Jane Cooper; Craig Slein – friend of Denise Ferrell and Steve Carmichael; Melinda Penny – friend of Denise Ferrell; David Shebay – friend of Greg Han; Clayton Amacker – friends of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; and Walter "Buddy" Hammann III friend of Robin and Gary Willis.

We also pray for health care workers, first responders, and caregivers; for those who are sick; and for those watch and wait.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email deacons@saintphilip.net.

Pledge payments, communion gifts and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<http://saintphilip.net/>) or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

We continue to invite you to attend our daily prayer services at 11:00 a.m. (Monday-Saturday). Currently, we have a limit of five persons per day. Please enter the Sanctuary through the large wooden front doors by 10:50 a.m. You may bring your own face-mask or one will be provided. You may sit anywhere in the sanctuary, appropriately distanced from others. The service will conclude by 11:15.

Our website has information a current list of **opportunities on Zoom** for fellowship and spiritual formation.

CHURCH & SOCIETY - 9:30 a.m. – February 7 - The Anti-Defamation League - For a world in which no group or individual suffers from bias, discrimination or hate. Learn about resources from ADL to help us discuss troubling current events in the media with children and teenagers. Presented by Dena Marks - Senior Associate Director, ADL Southwest and Susan Shaw - ADL Director of Education. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes – mmcgm63@gmail.com.

FAITH OF A CHILD—Join with fellow St. Philippians in a season of discipleship: Kallie Pitcock is facilitating a twice weekly zoom group Sunday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. You can attend the Sunday or the Wednesday session as your schedule permits. Lessons are stand alone, so you can join at any point. Email Kallie to receive more information and updates: kallie@saintphilip.net. The theme of the series is FAITH OF A CHILD: *approaching God with wonder, curiosity, and imagination*. Each week is built around a question submitted by participants or gathered by Kallie. Let us draw together and closer to God asking: how, why, who, when, so what?!

Equal Exchange Sale is live at saintphilip.net. Order your chocolates, coffee, teas, fruits and olive oil by **February 1 at noon**.

Save the date for the 2021 Mission Day on **February 13** from 10-12 p.m. More details available in the February 2 Philip-eye.