

THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP

AT WORSHIP

DECEMBER 20, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Opening Voluntary	ry
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Chorale Trio: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 660

Introit

Drop Down Ye Heavens

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness; let the earth open and bring forth a Savior.

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork.

— Isaiah 45:8 | Psalm 19:1

Greeting

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Hymn 88 (see page 6)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

J. S. Bach

(1685 - 1750)

Chant

Prayer of Confession

God of life, you are the source of all goodness and the satisfaction of all our desires. Our understanding of you is small; increase it. Our desire to do your will is weak; enliven it. The seed you have planted has yet to bear fruit; ripen it. But first, create in us clean hearts, as, in your sight, we unburden ourselves of guilt, of anger, of pride, of hardness of heart, of weakness of intention. Jesus, Son of Mary, have mercy on us. Jesus, Savior of the World, make peace within us. Christ, King of Glory, be with us and for us wherever life takes us.

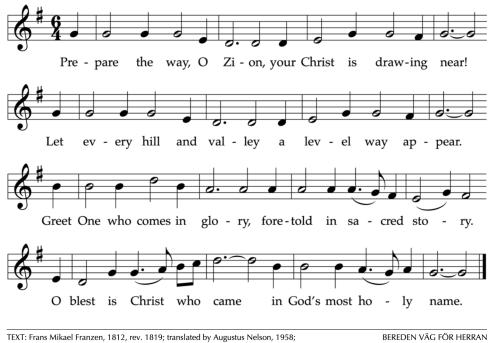
Response



Declaration of Forgiveness

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

Response



Adapted by Charles P. Price, 1982 Hope Publishing Company 7.6.7.6.6 MUSIC: Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697; arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930

The Peace

Peace be with you. Peace be with all.

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading	2 Samuel	7:1-11; 16	
	Holy wisdom, holy wo	ord. Thanks be to God!	
Anthem	The Ang	el Gabriel	Basque carol GABRIEL'S MESSAGE arranged by Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)
		snow, his eyes as flame; hou lowly maiden Mary,	(0. 1932)
	All generations laud	manuel, by seers foretold;	
	"To me be as it pleas	and magnify his holy name."	
	— orig	inal Basque text paraphrased by Sab	ine Baring-Gould (1834–1924)
Gospel Reading	Luke	1:26-38	
	The word of the Lord	1. Thanks be to God!	
Motet	Dixit	Maria	Hans Leo Hassler (c. 1525–1594)
	SUNG IN LATIN	TRANSLATION	
	Dixit Maria ad angelum: Ecce ancilla Domini, fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.	Mary said to the angel: Behold, I am the handmaid let it be done to me accordin	
	Luke		
Sermon		Love of God	Kallie Pitcock
Hymn 99 (see page 7)	My Soul Gives	Glory to My God	MORNING SONG
Affirmation of Faith			Brief Statement of Faith 11.4
The Spirit justifies sets us free to acce and binds us toget The same Spirit w rules our faith and engages us through feeds us with the b and calls women a In a broken and fe to witness among to unmask idolatri and to work with In gratitude to Go we strive to serve	he Holy Spirit everywhere the s us by grace through faith, ept ourselves and to love God a her with all believers in the on ho inspired the prophets and a life in Christ through Scriptur h the Word proclaimed, claims oread of life and the cup of salv and men to all ministries of the arful world the Spirit gives us all peoples to Christ as Lord a ies in Church and culture, to ho others for justice, freedom, and d, empowered by the Spirit, Christ in our daily tasks and to for God's new heaven and new Lord Jesus!"	and neighbor, the body of Christ, the Chu postles re, s us in the waters of baptis vation, Church. courage to pray without c nd Savior, ear the voices of peoples 1 d peace.	sm, easing, ong silenced,

3

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 102 (see page 8)

Savior of the Nations, Come

NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND

Charge and Blessing

Closing Voluntary

Chorale Fantasie: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* BWV 661 J. S. Bach

WORSHIP NOTES

Lectionary Readings

- 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16—The Lord will build a house of David and his descendants.
- Luke 1:46b–55—*My soul magnifies the Lord, who has done great things.*
- Romans 16:25–27—*Glory to God for the mystery now revealed to all peoples!*
- Luke 1:26–38—The angel Gabriel appears to Mary; her child will be God's Son.

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Omar Rouchon and John Wurster

Musicians

Julia Fox, Cecilia Duarte, Thomas Lewis O'Neill, and Nicholas Rathgeb — vocalists Matthew Dirst — organist | Randall Swanson — conductor



MUSIC NOTES

Organ music — This morning's voluntaries are settings of the 1524 Advent chorale melody NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, and they come from a group of chorale preludes Bach put together during his long tenure in Leipzig. BWV 660 (at the opening) is effectively a chorale trio, with a highly decorated melody line in the right hand set above two busy contrapuntal lines that operate as a tenor-register duet. BWV 661 (at the close of today's service), on the other hand, is a setting for *organo pleno*, with a pedal *cantus firmus* in long notes and quicker figuration above.

Choral music — This morning's **anthem** is a Basque Christmas carol reflecting the archangel Gabriel's Annunciation to the Virgin Mary that she is to be the mother of the Messiah. The choral arrangement is by retired English composer, organist and conductor, Malcolm Archer, who served with great distinction at cathedrals in Norwich, Bristol, Wells, and St. Paul's in London, before retiring in 2017 as Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College. • Today we also hear a lively Latin **motet** by late-Renaissance composer Hans Leo Hassler. One of three musical brothers born in Nuremberg, Hassler studied under Andrea Gabrieli in Venice before returning to Germany where, in 1586, he was appointed chamber organist to the wealthy Fugger family in Augsburg. He published his first collection of sacred music, dedicated to his patron Octavian II Fugger, in 1591; it was evidently successful, with a new edition appearing in Nuremberg in 1507. Hassler seems to have had a restless and entrepreneurial streak, moving to new posts in Nuremberg in 1601 and Dresden in 1608, while being involved in instrument making and music publishing. Much of his music is popular in style: *Dixit Maria* (from the 1591 collection) is written in the secular style of a canzona or chanson rather than a motet, with a typical ABB structure, an attractive melody starting with the characteristic long–short–short canzona rhythm, and simple, clear counterpoint. The piece is designated for the celebration of the Annunciation heard in this morning's Gospel.

- Matthew Dirst, Randall Swanson and John Rutter

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art by Micah Meyers.

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7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

TEXT: Latin prose, pre-9th cent.; trans. composite MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1852; arr. John Weaver, 1988 VENI EMMANUEL LM with refrain

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MORNING SONG



This 20th-century paraphrase is based on the Song of Mary (Luke 1:46–55), commonly known by its opening Latin word, *Magnificat*. This song of praise offers clear reminders that God's purposes often lead to the reversal of human values, exalting the poor and dethroning the mighty.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1979, rev. 1987 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813; harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940 *Text* © 1978, 1987 Medical Mission Sisters

MORNING SONG CM

Music Harm. © 1943, 1961, 1985 Church Pension Fund

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Though some hymns attributed to Ambrose are doubtful, this one seems rather surely to be by him. Luther's German version (commemorated in the tune name) dropped one syllable from each line of the Latin text, giving the hymn its characteristically declarative Lutheran form.

TEXT: Attr. Ambrose of Milan, 4th cent.; German para. Martin Luther, 1523; English trans. stanza 1, William Morton Reynolds, 1850, alt.; English trans. stanzas 2–4, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, 2006 MUSIC: Erfurt *Enchiridion*, 1524; harm. Sethus Calvisius, 1594

English Trans. St. 2-4 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND 7.7.7.7

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IN OUR PRAYERS

- *St. Philippians and their families*—Connie Mayfield and son Robert Mayfield; Pat Lindsay; Mary Margaret Hansen; Doris Cantrell; Sondra Sullivan; Mary Benson; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Jan Ostendorf; Laney Miller; Susan Huffman; Joyce Fugit; Vicki McKay; Mary Sinderson; Marion Takehara; Emily Estill; Travis Calhoun; Lonnie Fugit; Mezgebe Gebray; Ricardo and Mary Adame—brother and sister-in-law (and Mary's mother Yvonne Dominguez) of staff singer Ofelia Adame Williams; Douglas Everhart—brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Carol Paine Kendrick sister of Stephen Paine; Betty Grant—sister 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-inlaw of Jane Malczewskyj; John Beck—brother of Nancy Young; Margie Foster—mother of Mark Young; Miriam Kalmbach—aunt of Nancy Higgs; Shirley Boggus—grandmother of Omi Ford; Jimmy Reagan—father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe—mother of William Rowe; Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers; and Ann Morgan sister of Dorothy Blackwell.
- Homebound—Sue Baier; Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolf; Van Rathgeber; Jean Nelson; Jody Tomforde; and Penny Vieau.
- Friends of St. Philippians—Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; Vickie Dunlevy—friend of Nancy Higgs; Susan Doyle—friend of Stephen Paine; Paul Ratliff—friend of Jo Helland; Ruth Duncan and Melerie Langford—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" Hamman 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 <u>deacons@saintphilip.net.</u>

Pledge payments, communion gifts and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<u>http://saintphilip.net/</u>) 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. Advance registration is required. For more information on conditions and to register click <u>here</u>. We hope that the opportunity to again worship in the sacred space of our Sanctuary will be a source of comfort and hope. If you have trouble with the registration or are not online, please call Lorrie Castle (832-262-1244—cell).

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

CHURCH & SOCIETY - 9:30 a.m. — December 27 - 9:30 a.m. - Come join the St. Philip Storytellers with Christmas memory stories plus a preview of the spring term C & S presentations. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes—<u>mmcgm63@gmail.com</u>.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—Please join us for the Session the congregational meeting immediately following the 11:00 worship service. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom video conference. The purpose of the meeting is to act on a recommendation from the Trustees regarding the sale of property owned by the church in Montgomery County and to act on a slate of nominees presented by the Congregational Nominating Committee. Bob Ardell will be nominated to serve as Trustee for a three-year term. Laura Burgess and Jo Helland are being nominated to serve two-year terms on the Congregational Nominating Committee.

PW THANK OFFERING-The Presbyterian Women invite you to make a contribution to the 2020 Thank Offering on the St. Philip <u>website</u> (choose fund—PW Thank Offering) or by mailing a check to the church office denoting PW Thank Offering in the memo. The Thank Offering provides and continues to provide much-needed financial assistance to numerous worthwhile programs not included in ongoing General Assembly mission support. Each year, domestic and international projects are carefully and prayerfully selected by the Creative Ministries Offering Committee to help meet a crucial need. Forty percent (40%) of this offering is used to support hospitals and community health programs that place priority in helping the most needy members of God's community. The remaining sixty percent (60%) is used for new creative ideas for mission, undesignated in advance. The generosity of Presbyterian women and their families and congregations as demonstrated through their Thank Offering gifts help chosen recipients find real solutions for projects related to health, education, economic development, and needs of women and children.

Merry Christmas

Thank you to those who have contributed poinsettias this Christmas to adorn our chancel.

In our memories		
Molly Boren	Cliff Cleveland, my beloved son	
Rev. John Wurster & Ms. Deb Burks	Darnall Burks, Deb's father	
David & Lorrie Castle	Sue Castle, David's mother	
Kathryn Clark	My sister, Jeanne West	
Sharon Coufal	My husband, Alan Coufal & my father-in-law, Edward R. Coufal	
Liz & Steve Crowell	Dona Willemson	
Carl & Janet Eskridge	John & Rita Hannah	
Susan & Robert Estill	Glenn Bannerman	
Susan & Robert Estill	Sam Lanham	
Ruth Ewing	Jack Ewing	
Velma Guy Tolbert	Leslie M. "Jack" Tolbert	
Nancy Higgs	My father, Claude McMillan	
Nancy Higgs	My brother, Bob McMillan	
David & Suzanne Kerr	Anna Claire & Richard Henderson	
David & Suzanne Kerr	Frances & Rev. David King Kerr	
David & Suzanne Kerr	Nancy Kerr	
David & Suzanne Kerr	Janet Dundore	
Walter & Margaret King	H.E. King, Jr.	
John Lemen	Joseph & Virginia Lemen	
Jan Meyer	My parents, Don & Valerie Meyer	
Bonnie Moore	Our parents, Ross & Gertrude Neeley and Gene & Betty Moore	
Peg Palisin & Gary Gardner	Jean Alan Hartsfiel	
Peg Palisin & Gary Gardner	Eddie Daw	
Cathy Patterson, David & Charlie Wood	Barbara Wood Scott, David's sister	
Barbara Runge	My husband, Rusty Howard	
arbara Runge Bill & Nita Davis		
Barbara Runge	Gene & Ruth Howard	
Barbara Runge	Bill & Martha Runge	
Barbara Runge	Glen & Affie Tate	
Barbara Runge & Shirley Stubblefield	Trudy Cleveland	
Tom Sands	My wife, Mary Ann Sands & son, Rod Sands	
Rhonda Sands	My mother, Mary Ann Sands & brother, Rod Sands	
David & Hallie Spence	Paxton Williams	
Ruthie & Al Waldrop	Ruthie's dad, W. Kenan Rand, Jr.	
Mary Linda Williams	Paxton Williams	
Hope Wilmarth	rth Lance Wilmarth	
Jennifer Wilson	Helen Wilson	

Those we honor		
Guy & Melissa Aldrich	The wonderful music ministry of St. Philip Presbyterian Church	
Bob & Lee Ardell	Property Committee	
Bob & Lee Ardell	The staff of St. Philip Presbyterian Church	
Linda Bevill	Essential Workers	
Susan & Robert Estill	All caregivers, health care workers and first responders during the crisis	
Nancy Higgs	My mother, Dorothy McMillan	
Dick & Sue Howard	Our church family	
Jan Malczewskyj	St. Philip staff and volunteers	
Bonnie Moore	Our children, Zach, Clint, Audra & Alex	
Stephen Paine	The St. Philip staff	
David & Hallie Spence	Mary Linda Williams	
David & Hallie Spence	Thanksgiving for the St. Philip Family	
Bill & Jacqueline Taylor	Natalie Taylor, Bill' s mother	
Bill & Jacqueline Taylor	Donna Andrews, Jaqueline's aunt	
Mary Linda Williams	Hallie, Dave, Winfield, & Monica	
Hope Wilmarth	Isabelle & Jeb Burkhart	
Hope Wilmarth	Arden & Gertrude Hermann-Wilmarth	
Hope Wilmarth	Clara & Elliot Lance Gates-Wilmarth	
Jennifer Wilson	Bill Wilson, Vicky, Billy, Kim and Navy	
Marilyn & Sarah Burks	Rev. John Wurster & Ms. Deb Burks	