



Preparation for Worship

*What is the world like when God's will is done?
Witness the wandering child coming home;
watch as the parent breaks into a run.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.*

— Adam Tice, Hymn 771

Voluntary

Grazioso

Arnold Sherman
(b. 1948)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Introit

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem

Chant

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,
all ye that delight in her;
exult and sing for joy with her,
all ye that in sadness mourn for her —
that ye may nurse and be satisfied
with the milk of her consolation.

I was glad when they said unto me:
we will go into the house of the LORD.

— Isaiah 66:10-11a | Psalm 122:1

✠ Opening Sentences

We are ambassadors for Christ.
God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation.
From places near and far, we gather as God's beloved family.
With joy and thanksgiving, let us worship God.

✠ Hymn 774 [\(see page 12\)](#)

There Is Now a New Creation

STUTTGART

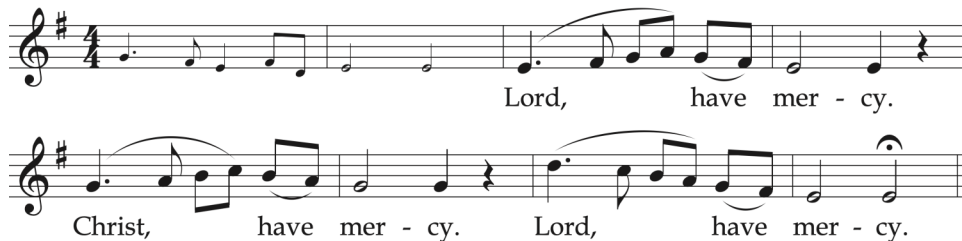
✦ Prayer of Confession

O Lord,
 you are compassionate beyond measure
 and merciful beyond belief.
 We have been in the far country,
 lost in our sin, distant from you,
 seemingly beyond your reach.
 But something is calling us back.
 We just are not sure about the details.
 Yet before we can work out what to say,
 you are running to us.
 Before we can voice our confession,
 your arms are around us,
 welcoming us home.
 Your forgiveness astounds us.
 Help us believe it is so.

silent prayer

✦ Response

John Weaver

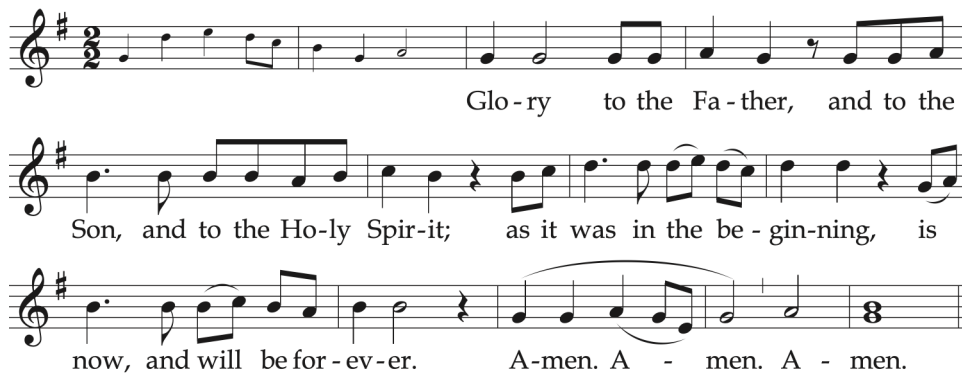


✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the good news. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

✦ Response

John Weaver



✦ The Peace

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

Anthem*The Road Home*Stephen Paulus
(1949-2014)

Tell me, where is the road
 I can call my own,
 That I left, that I lost,
 So long ago?
 All these years I have wandered,
 Oh, when will I know
 There's a way, there's a road
 That will lead me home?

After wind, after rain,
 When the dark is done,
 As I wake from a dream
 In the gold of day,
 Through the air there's a calling
 From far away,
 There's a voice I can hear
 That will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me,
 Come away, is the call,
 With the love in your heart
 As the only song;
 There is no such beauty
 As where you belong:
 Rise up, follow me,
 I will lead you home.

— words by Michael Dennis Browne (b. 1940)

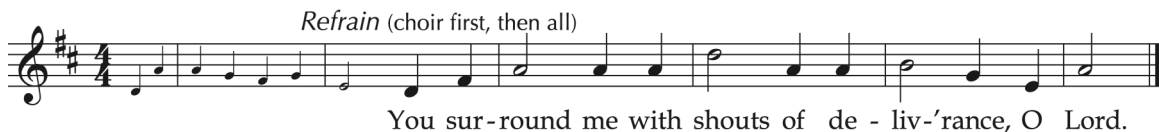
Prayer for Illumination**First Reading**

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

N.T. pg. 181

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!****Psalm 32**

Gordon Johnston



Happy are those whose transgressions are forgiven,
 and whose sin is put away!
 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt.
 and in whose spirit there is no guile!

Refrain – all

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
 because of my groaning all day long.
 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
 my strength was dried up as in the heat of summer.

Refrain – all

Then I acknowledged by sin to you,
 and did not conceal by guilt.
 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."
 Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Refrain – all

— Psalm 32:1-5

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:11-32

N.T. pgs. 78-79

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

Love that Persists

John Wurster

Silence and stillness✦ **Hymn 475** ([see page 13](#))*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

✦ **Affirmation of Faith**from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God,
 whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
 In sovereign love God created the world good
 and makes everyone equally in God's image
 to live as one community.
 But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
 Ignoring God's commandments,
 we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
 accept lies as truth,
 exploit neighbor and nature,
 and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
 We deserve God's condemnation.
 Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
 In everlasting love,
 the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
 to bless all families of the earth.
 Hearing their cry,
 God delivered the children of Israel
 from the house of bondage.
 Loving us still,
 God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
 Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
 like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
 God is faithful still. Amen.

Anthem*Lord Jesus, Think on Me*Derek Healey
(b. 1936)

Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earth-born passions set me free,
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
with care and woe oppressed,
let me Thy loving servant be,
and taste Thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me
amid the battle's strife;
in all my pain and misery
be thou my health and life.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heav'nly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me
when flows the tempest high:
when on doth rush the enemy,
O Savior, be thou nigh.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
and share thy joy at last.

— words by Synesius of Cyrene (375–430)
translated by Allen William Chatfield (1808–1896)

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.

Offering**Offertory***What Wonderful Love Is This*WONDROUS LOVE • arr. Jason Krug
(b. 1978)

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of grace and mercy,
 we are thankful for your love that seeks us out
 and welcomes us home.
**Help us to rejoice in your presence,
 to trust in your love
 and to use the gifts you have given us,
 as we seek to follow Jesus,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ Hymn 649 [\(see page 14\)](#)

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

NEW BRITAIN

✠ Charge and Blessing

Please be seated in silence for the closing voluntary, or kindly depart quietly.

Voluntary

Sonata No. 3 in A major: I. Con moto maestoso
 Op. 65, No. 3

Felix Mendelssohn
 (1809–1847)

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Dan Cleveland and Omar Rouchon

Musicians

Bell Canto Handbell Ensemble | Jane Malczewskyj — handbell director
 Alexandra Gorman, Cecilia Duarte, Emily Hobson, Erin McDaniels,
 Thomas O'Neill, Nicholas Rathgeb and Kirby Traylor — choral ensemble
 Matthew Dirst — organist | Randall Swanson — music director & organist

FLOWERS

The flowers are given today by Jane Malczewskyj to the glory of God and in honor of Bell Canto.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Joshua 5:9–12 — *The Israelites keep passover at Gilgal; God rolls away their disgrace.*
- Psalm 32 — *Happy are those whose sin is forgiven; be glad, rejoice in the Lord.*
- 2 Corinthians 5:16–21 — *In Christ there is a new creation; everything old has passed away.*
- Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32 — *The parable of the Prodigal Son; he was lost and has been found.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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MUSIC NOTES

Handbell Music

Today's **opening voluntary** is by Texas composer Arnold Sherman, who is Director of Music and Fine Arts at Pollard United Methodist Church in Tyler, and founding director of the East Texas Handbell Ensemble. Sherman's *Grazioso* was commissioned in memory of Norma Taubert Brown, a handbell ringer and conductor, who died of cancer in 1988. The music tells the story of Norma's life, her struggle with illness, and her ultimate journey to heaven. Each section of the music reflects this journey. *Grazioso* begins with a lyrical theme, but then the music darkens, depicting the subject's struggle with illness. The middle section has a huge dissonant chord followed by echoes representing final heartbeats. Then malleted treble bells depict the welcome home to heaven. The music transitions back into the original theme, but this time it is boldly triumphant, reminding us of the passage in I Corinthians: "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Death is swallowed up in victory!"

This morning's **offertory** is a setting of the 1835 *Southern Harmony* hymn tune WONDROUS LOVE, arranged for just 12 bells. The arrangement for six handbell ringers is by Indianapolis-based composer Jason Krug, who has written over 400 handbell works, as well as other compositions for piano, organ, choir, and string orchestra.

Choral Music

Today's **first anthem** features a profoundly moving text by Twin Cities, Minnesota-based poet Michael Dennis Browne. Browne, who was born in England of mostly Irish ancestry, has lived in the United States since 1965. For nearly 40 years he collaborated as librettist and lyricist with Minnesota composer Stephen Paulus. Their 2005 post-Holocaust oratorio *To Be Certain of the Dawn* was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in music, and his work with Austin-based conductor and composer Craig Hella Johnson on the 2016 fusion oratorio *Considering Matthew Shepard* is widely considered one of the 21st century's great artistic masterpieces.

The choral anthem *The Road Home* is another of Browne's collaborations with Stephen Paulus, and its text is particularly fitting on the day we hear

the Gospel story of the Prodigal Son. Commissioned in 2001 by the Dale Warland Singers to write a short "folk" type choral arrangement, Paulus wrote these notes about *The Road Home* in 2013: "I had discovered a tune in a folk song book called 'The Lone Wild Bird.' I fell in love with it, made a short recording and asked my good friend and colleague, Michael Dennis Browne to write new words for this tune. The tune is taken from *The Southern Harmony Songbook* of 1835. It is pentatonic and that is part of its attraction. Pentatonic scales have been extant for centuries and are prevalent in almost all musical cultures throughout the world. They are universal. Michael crafted three verses and gave it the title 'The Road Home.' He writes so eloquently about 'returning' and 'coming home' after being lost or wandering. This is another universal theme and it has resonated well with choirs around the world as this simple little *a cappella* choral piece . . . is just more evidence that the most powerful and beautiful message is often a simple one."

This morning's **second anthem** is by English composer, organist and music educator Derek Edward Healey, who retired from teaching in 1996 and settled in Brooklyn, New York. In addition to an opera written in 1977, he continues to compose orchestral and chamber pieces, organ music, and choral works, including a large-scale *Requiem* for soprano soloist, chorus and orchestra completed in 2021. The anthem *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* was composed in 2011 in American shape-note style for four-part choir with organ accompaniment.

Organ Music

Like Mozart, Felix Mendelssohn was regarded as one of the finest pianists of his day but also maintained a long-long interest in the organ. His *Six Sonatas* for organ were published in 1845, just two years before his untimely death at the age of 38. This morning's **closing voluntary** features the beginning of the third sonata in A major, which opens in a grand, majestic gesture marked by both strength and beauty. This sonata and several other organ works were written while Mendelssohn was on holiday at Soden near Frankfurt in the summer of 1844.

— Randall Swanson

The Session has decided to ease our masking requirements. It is possible that conditions could change, and at some point we may be advised to return to asking everyone to mask; but for now we can be "mask-optional" for our gatherings at St. Philip. We expect that some of us will opt to continue masking for any number of reasons, including our own health status or our proximity to vulnerable people. While we are no longer requiring masks, we support those who choose to wear them.

Upcoming Dates at St. Philip

March 30 and April 6

Lenten services on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.
(lunch available afterwards)

April 14 – Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. service

April 15 – Good Friday

services at 12 noon and 8:00 p.m.

April 17 – Easter Sunday

services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

April 24

Spring Potluck Picnic

LENTEN LECTIO DIVINA PRAYER GROUP—The ancient desert mystics believed that scripture was like a love letter written to us by God, and the meditative scriptural reflection known as *Lectio Divina* ("divine reading") assumes that God speaks to us intimately, God is already praying in us, and we'll experience a profound encounter with the heart of God, rather than an intellectual study of scripture. Keatan will guide the group through the four cycles of Lectio (read, reflect, respond, rest) every Monday morning at 9:00-9:20am for the season of Lent. The zoom link will be sent early Monday mornings to the congregation through Constant Contact.

MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP NEW 2022 SEASON

Child Piano Prodigies

SUNDAY | **MARCH 27, 2022** | 3:00 p.m.



Celebrating children in the arts, we are excited to present the winners of Houston Tuesday Musical Club's **2022, 2021 and 2020 Rochelle Liebling Kahan Memorial Fund Competitions for Child Piano Prodigies**, open to Houston area children between the ages of six and nine. Featuring St. Philip's magnificent **Steinway D** concert grand piano. Come prepared to be dazzled! **Free ice cream afterward!**

Run time about one hour • no intermission

FREE

St. Philip Presbyterian Church | 4807 San Felipe Street | Houston, Texas



FOLLOW US ONLINE
Music at St Philip

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families – Don Weinmann; Mary Sinderson; Susan Huffman; Jan Ostendorf; Pat Lindsay; Roderick James; Lee Larkin; Dorothy Murphey; Bill Slick; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Alma Fonseca- mother of Angelina Fonseca; Lynn Boddington – mother of Laura Burgess; Hunter – grandson of Michael Alexander; Ryan Willis – son of Robin and Gary Willis; Trip Merklein – nephew of Elizabeth Duerr; Darryl Cazes – brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; Carol Paine Kendrick – sister of Stephen Paine; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; Mac & Beverly Wilson – parents of Butch Wilson; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Sarah – cousin of Sam Fisher; Shirley Boggus – grandmother of Omi Ford; Dona Rowe – mother and his father - William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound – John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philippians – Bill Dixon – friend of Tina Bryan; Matt Scalapino and Laura Chilton – friends of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge; Nancy Bond family upon the death of her husband, Rob – friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Clayton Amacker – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner.

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

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email:

deacons@saintphilip.net

CHURCH & SOCIETY – 9:30 for time to visit, 9:40 for the presentation – **Apr. 3** – Hybrid (by Zoom and in person in Room 201) - *Update on Legislation Regarding Transgender People in Texas* - How will current legislation affect the lives of transgender people and their families in our community? - Presented by Ross Pierkowski - Mentor and coach for More to Life. Email Mickey Meyers at churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net if you would like to join any of the classes.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS - Room 204 – 9:30 a.m. We have completed the “David Story” in 1 Kings 1-2 and have begun our study of Solomon and the subsequent Kingdoms of Israel and Judah in 1-2 Kings, with Dr. Robert Alter’s *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets* (2013). Join us for more discoveries in Dr. Alter’s translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN’S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP – Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men’s Weekly Fellowship meets in person each Friday in the Conference Room from 11:45 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. We are currently studying the book *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr. Also, while there is an in person meeting, that meeting is carried live via Zoom for those who want to join the meeting but are either out of town or prefer to meet from a distance. Please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com if you would like to be a part of this interesting group.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP will have its next meeting Tuesday, **Apr. 5**, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The study book is *Race in America; Christians respond to the crisis*, edited by David Maxwell and Laura Cheifetz. Persons interested in joining the group can send an email to welcome@saintphilip.net and type PSJ Study Group in the subject line.

WOMEN’S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. At our next meeting on **Apr. 14** at 7:00 p.m., which will be a social; watch your email for details of where we will be meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL - come explore, learn and grow in faith with us. Children Age 3-Kindergarten meet for stories and creativity with "Godly Play" in Room 104. Elementary-aged children are lead in lectionary-based "Growing in Grace and Gratitude" - Grades 1 & 2 meet in Room 105 and Grades 3-5 in Room 103. Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45.

EXPERIENCING GOD CLASS - Sundays during Lent (**through Apr. 3**) - 9:45, Room 202 – The Education Committee will offer a five-week class during Lent called “Experiencing God,” an opportunity to see how the Holy Spirit connects with people in unique and personal ways in their daily life. Two or three church members will informally share one of their spiritual practices for 10-15 minutes. There will also be time for individuals to try these different ways to encounter God. The goal is to encourage and learn from one another on our journeys of faith. Middle and high school students are invited and encouraged to participate.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY WITH JOHN WURSTER – A look via Zoom at the Bible readings for the coming Sunday continues with a Zoom session Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. Email John for details and to get on the list - john@saintphilip.net.

MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP SPECIAL PROGRAM

Ukraine Benefit Concert

FRIDAY | **APRIL 1, 2022** | 7:30 p.m.



A collaboration of the **Greenbriar Consortium** and **UNICEF** in support of the Ukrainian people. Featuring brass, woodwind and string players of the **Houston Symphony** and friends performing works by **Gabrieli, Bach, Beethoven, Gounod, Fauré, Janáček** and others.

All proceeds directly benefit UNICEF's Ukraine emergency response efforts for children and families.

Run time about 70 minutes • no intermission

FREE

Contributions encouraged and welcome

St. Philip Presbyterian Church | 4807 San Felipe Street | Houston, Texas

EASTER LILIES

In order to continue our longstanding support of the Brookwood Community, we have kept in place our customary order for Easter lilies. They will be delivered to St. Philip to adorn our Sanctuary for our Easter services.

We invite you to contribute to our flower fund and dedicate a lily to someone this Easter. Donations may be made for any amount either through our website—saintphilip.net, choosing the Flowers/Holiday fund option from the menu; or by sending a check to the Church Office. If donating online where the memo line is limited in the number of characters, please e-mail Lorrie Castle (lorrie@saintphilip.net) with the details of your dedication, including your name and the person(s) being honored and/or remembered. Similar information should be included with mailed checks. Mailed dedications should arrive by **April 12**. Thanks for your help in continuing this holiday tradition!

The list of donors and memorials/honors will appear in the online bulletin and the Philip-Eye following Easter.

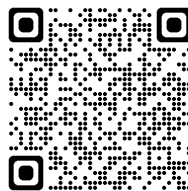
You can go online and make a donation of any amount. Please include: *in honor of* or *in memory of* and the name(s) you wish to recognize, as well as how you would like your name to appear. If you have multiple recognitions, please email Lorrie Castle at lorrie@saintphilip.net.

CASH/CHECK DONATION

(circle one) **I / we** would like to make a donation to purchase Easter Lilies to adorn the sanctuary this Easter Season, to be given (circle one) **in honor of / memory of:**

Donor—Your Name(s) PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Please place in an envelope in the offering plate or return it with your payment to the church office by **April 12**.



Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Guest Book tab at saintphilip.net.

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST,

**we seek to be an inclusive,
grace-filled community,
engaging the world with open minds,
willing hands and generous hearts.**

WE LONG

**for deeper faith,
vibrant hope
and boundless love
for everyone, every day, everywhere.**

Thank you for joining us today! We hope that you find our worship together to be joyous, meaningful, and thought-provoking. **Children of all ages** are welcome to worship with their families. Activity bags containing worship aids for children are available in the narthex on the way into the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available throughout the morning from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery in Room 106 of the Education Building along the Sunday School Classroom hallway on the first floor. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

A Hearing Loop is installed within the sanctuary. If you have a hearing aid equipped with a telecoil, please activate your “T switch” to hear the worship service most clearly. If you need assistance with hearing the service clearly and do not have a t-coil equipped hearing aid, please ask an usher for wireless headphones. **LARGE PRINT COPIES OF TODAY’S HYMNS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.**

Connect with St. Philip through saintphilip.net and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to lorrie@saintphilip.net.

If you are interested in joining St. Philip Presbyterian Church by profession of faith, by reaffirming your faith, or by transferring your membership, please speak with one of the ministers today or call the church office during the week. **The Session meets the third Sunday of each month after the 11:00 worship service in Room 100 for the purpose of receiving new members.**

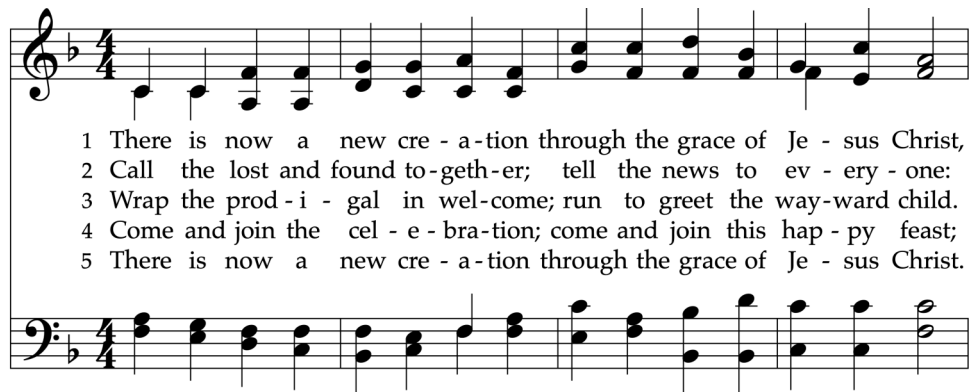
Worship with us, whenever, wherever. Our 11:00 a.m. Sunday service is live-streamed at saintphilip.net. We also live-stream a midweek prayer on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. Services can be viewed live or later in our video archives.

Contributions, pledge payments, communion gifts and other donations to support the Church can be made anytime through our website, text “SPPC” to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

Hymn 774

There Is Now a New Creation

STUTT GART



1 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ,
 2 Call the lost and found to - geth - er; tell the news to ev - ery - one:
 3 Wrap the prod - i - gal in wel - come; run to greet the way - ward child.
 4 Come and join the cel - e - bra - tion; come and join this hap - py feast;
 5 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ.



peace and rec - on - cil - i - a - tion with the God of end - less life.
 now the past is gone for - ev - er and a new life has be - gun.
 All is fin - ished and for - giv - en; let us now be rec - on - ciled.
 Je - sus makes an in - vi - ta - tion to the great - est and the least.
 Sing, with thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, to the God of end - less life!

At the center of this text stands a reference to the well-known parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11–32), and the fourth stanza forms an effective bridge between that gospel story and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The first and last stanzas draw on 2 Corinthians 5:17.

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009
 MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.
 Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)

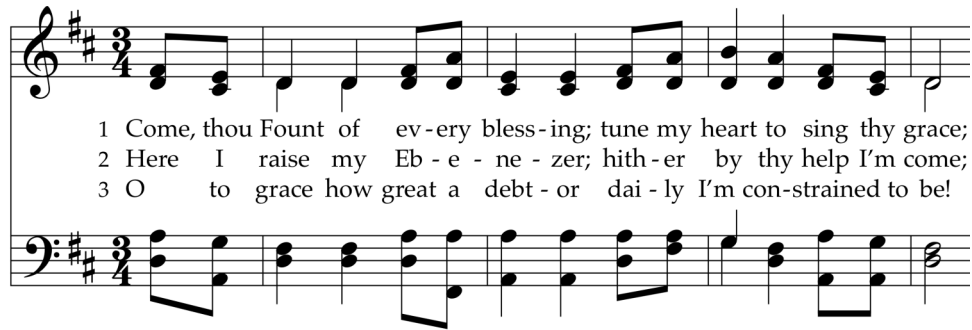
STUTT GART
 8.7.8.7

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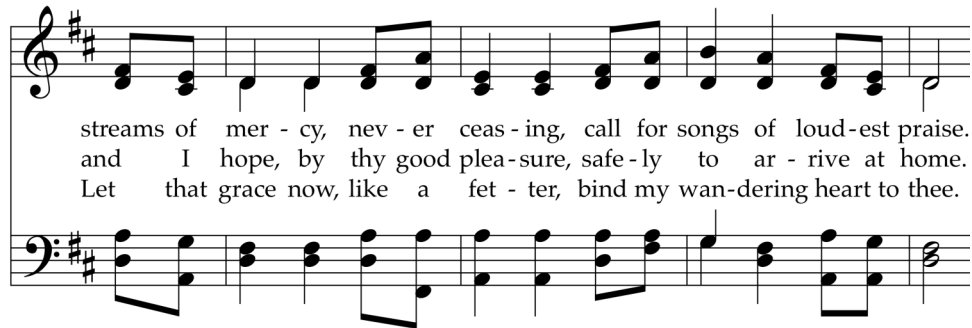
Hymn 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

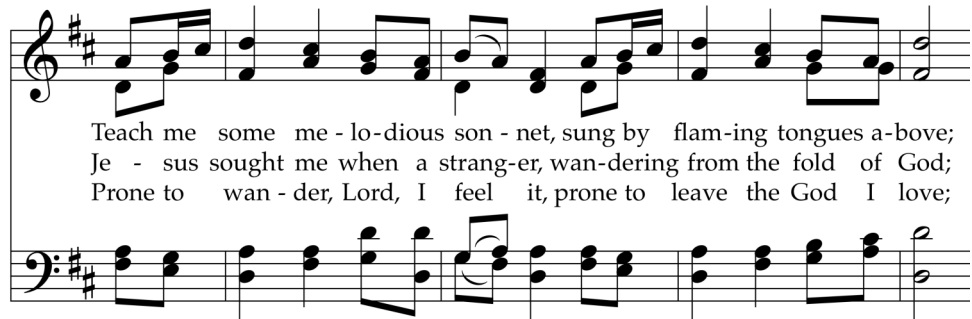
NETTLETON



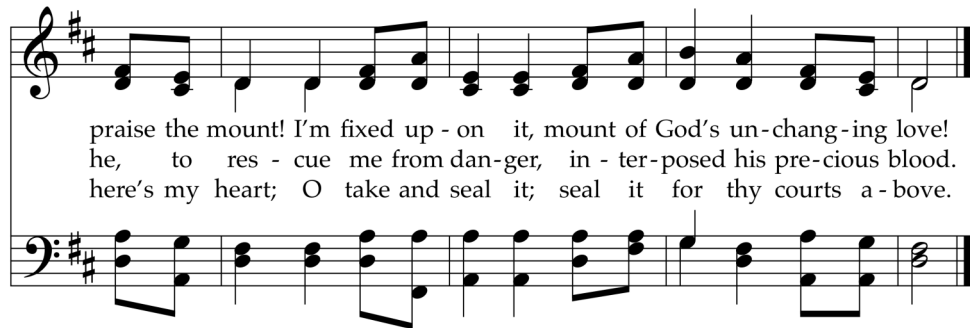
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part Second, 1813

NETTLETON
 8.7.8.7.D

[Return to page 4](#)

Hymn 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

NEW BRITAIN

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it “Faith’s Review and Expectation.” Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie
 MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

AMAZING GRACE
 CM

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