

11:00 A.M. SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 5, 2023

Preparation for Worship

For all the writings that survived, for leaders, long ago, who sifted, copied, and preserved the Bible that we know, give thanks, and find its story yet our promise, strength, and call, the model of emerging faith, alive with hope for all.

-Brian Wren, Hymn 50

Voluntary Entrada and Kyrie from *L'homme armé Organ Mass* Margaret Vardell Sandresky (b. 1921)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

† Opening Sentences

Remember the story of our faith.

We are the people God has delivered.

Rejoice in the hope of our faith.

God goes with us, step by step.

Cling to the promise of our faith.

Our God will not abandon us.

† Hymn 49 (see page 10)

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

† Prayer of Confession

As Lent unfolds before us, great God, we see how far we have to go to Jerusalem.

The road is long, our sins are many, and our burdens are heavy.

We can't imagine new life, Easter life, because our current lives are filled with bad choices and failed efforts.

Meet us in our weakness.

Take up our sins.

Ease our burdens.

Carry us on the way.

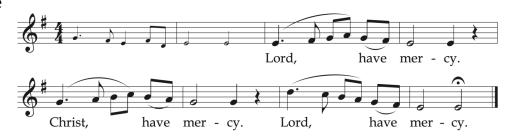
Bring us to Jerusalem, at last.

Show us a love that is stronger than death, a love no tomb can hold.

silent prayer

† Response

John Weaver

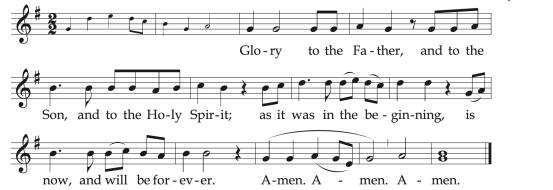


† Declaration of Forgiveness

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

† Response

John Weaver



† The Peace

Peace be with you. Peace be with all.

Conversation with Children

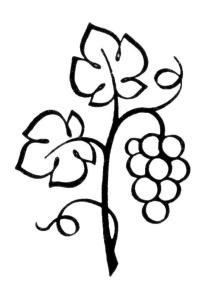
Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-5

O.T. pg. 10

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Psalm 121 Gordon Johnston



I lift my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord,

the maker of heaven and earth.

Refrain – all

The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by day,

nor the moon by night.

Refrain - all

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore. Refrain – all

- Psalm 121:1-2, 5-8

Gospel Reading

John 3:1-17

N.T. pgs. 93-94

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Anthem

God So Loved the World

John Stainer (1840-1901)

God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth, believeth in him should not perish, should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.

- John 3:16-17

Sermon

Ready, Set...

John W. Wurster

silence and stillness

† Hymn 506 (see page 11)

Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table

COPELAND

Offering

Offertory Anthem

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; There's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty. There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed; There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind, And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more simple we should take him at his word, And our lives would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

Troubled souls, why will you scatter like a crowd of frightened sheep? Foolish hearts, why will you wander from a love so true and deep? There is welcome for the sinner and more graces for the good; There is mercy with the Savior, there is healing in his blood.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

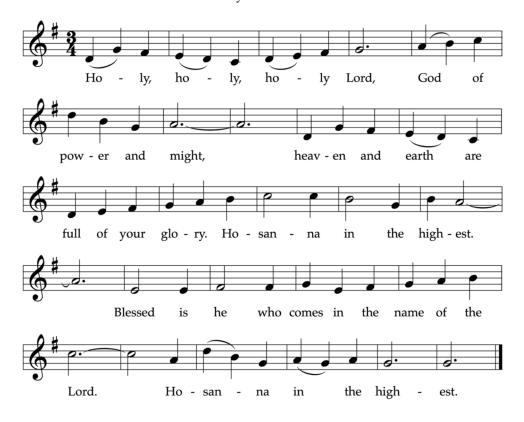
Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God . . . Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:



TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2006 Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress SANCTUS (Pavlechko)

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior . . .

We offer ourselves to you with gratitude as we share this joyful feast.



Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us . . . We bless you, God of glory, now and forever.



TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2006 Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress AMEN (Pavlechko)

As the children of God, let us pray together:

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.

The Breaking of Bread and the Sharing of God's Gifts

Communion Motet

O sacrum convivium

Richard Farrant (c. 1525–1580)

SUNG IN LATIN

O sacrum convivium!

in quo Christus sumitur:
recolitur memoria passionis ejus:
mens impletur gratia:
et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.

TRANSLATION
O sacred banquet!
in which Christ is received,
the memory of his Passion is renewed,
the mind is filled with grace,
and a pledge of future glory is given to us.

†Prayer after Communion

Generous God,
we thank you for the wideness of your table,
where there is room enough and food enough
for all who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
As we have met the living Christ in this meal,
transform our lives that we may become the body of Christ in the world. Amen.

† Hymn 666 (see page 12)

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

† Charge and Blessing

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

VoluntaryPostlude on LEONI
Pamela Decker
(b. 1955)

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

John Wurster, Keatan King

Liturgist

Cathy Patterson

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | St. Philip Staff Singers | Matthew Dirst, organist | Randall Swanson, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by John Lemen to the glory of God and in memory of Joseph and Virginia Lemen.

WORSHIP NOTES

To receive communion today, please come forward via the center aisle, for a piece of bread. The bread may be dipped in the chalice of grape juice and consumed or you may take a small cup of grape juice from the tray. You may return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free bread is available. Just ask the servers as you come forward. Those with mobility challenges may receive communion in their seats. Just signal the servers. Because the table of Jesus Christ is open to all, everyone is welcome to receive communion today.

An additional offering is received when communion is celebrated. Our communion offering will be for Lord of the Streets. Lord of the Streets (LOTS) is a church community that *Welcomes, Restores* and *Rebuilds* lives through relationship-focused ministries with the homeless and formerly homeless. You can learn more about LOTS at www.lotshouston.org You may also make a secure contribution through MyStPhilip or by sending a check to the church office, with "Communion Offering" in the memo line.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Genesis 12:1-4a The Lord says to Abram: I will make you a blessing to the nations.
- Psalm 121 *My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.*
- Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 Consider Abraham; the promise of God depends on faith.
- John 3:1–17 Those who seek God's kingdom must be born of water and Spirit.
- Matthew 17:1-9—On a high mountain with Moses and Elijah, Jesus is transfigured.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGING

Continuing at least through the season of Lent, there will be a <u>single</u> Sunday worship service at 11:00 a.m. During these weeks, as the Session considers the longer term viability of the 9:00 a.m. service, your comments are welcome and appreciated.

LENT AT ST. PHILIP

For all the Wednesdays in March, we will have midweek services at 12 noon, in-person and live-streamed. Guest preachers from across the area will lead us in worship. This year's theme is "How Can I Keep from Singing?" Each preacher is selecting a favorite hymn, connecting it to a scripture passage, and then preparing a sermon. On March 8, our preacher is Ted Foote, pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Bryan. The featured hymn is "Lift Every Voice and Sing." Lunch will be available after the service in the Gathering Area.

MUSIC NOTES

Organ Music

Professor Emerita at Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, composer and organist Margaret Sandresky continues to be quite active in the organ world especially. Her Organ Mass, from which we hear two excerpts as this morning's opening voluntary, comprises six succinct movements, all of which incorporate the medieval "L'homme armé" tune. This song about an armed man, likely an old crusader's song, was one of the most widely borrowed melodies in sacred polyphonic works during the Renaissance. Sandresky's gently modernist compositional language gives new context to this still popular and productive melody.

Today's closing voluntary comes from organist and composer Pamela Decker, professor of music at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Its tune, which we sing today as "The God of Abraham Praise," is an old Hebrew melody, as adapted in the eighteenth century for use in English-language hymnals.

Choral Music

This morning's **anthem** is among the most famous of all 19th-century English anthems. God So Loved the World comes from John Stainer's Passion oratorio The Crucifixion (1887), which is still widely performed and broadcast, especially during Holy Week.

Today's offertory anthem is one of the many brilliant hymn tunes written by Calvin Hampton, who was a New York City-based composer and organist, known especially for his innovative, challenging sacred music. Erik Routley, perhaps the 20th century's most noted authority on church music, at the time called Hampton "the greatest living composer of hymn tunes." Hampton also composed a number of works for both solo and duo organs, as well as transcribing several notable orchestral works by other composers into versions for solo organ. Heard this morning, his setting of There's a Wideness in God's Mercy completely transforms this wellknown text and raises it to the level of true greatness.

This morning's communion motet is a setting of Richard Farrant's popular Lenten anthem Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake (which the choir sang last week here at St. Philip), here given a Eucharistic text in Latin. This practice of substituting one text for another without substantial change to the music is called contrafactum, and examples exist from at least as early as the ninth century. In the case of Farrant's O sacrum convivium, the substituted Latin text was likely applied by a later editor, not by Farrant himself. Though only a tiny number of his works still exist, Farrant did compose sacred music using both English and Latin texts. He was a member of the English Chapel Royal during a particularly tumultuous time in British history, and during his years he experienced the funeral of Edward VI, the coronation of Mary I, the funeral of Mary I, and the coronation of Elizabeth I.

- Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

GOT KIDS THAT LOVE MUSIC?





All children ages 6 and above are welcome!

The place for fun activities, games, music, and lots of surprises with Ms. Eliza Nicholson!

SUNDAYS 9:00—9:40 a.m. Admin Building ROOM 201

Children's Choir will practice on Sunday mornings in Lent, then lead the Introit in worship on Palm Sunday, April 2. 🧖

IN OUR PRAYERS

The family of Rev. Steve Spidell on his death on February 14. A memorial service is scheduled for March 10 at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Antonia Day Helland – and family upon the death of her husband George on February 24. A memorial service is scheduled for March 11 at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Chris Newport and family upon the death of his father Jim Newport on February 21.

Anne Wilson and family upon the death of her mother Marion Takehara on February 4. A memorial service is scheduled for March 18 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

St. Philippians and their families — Beverly Baker; Gary Whitney; Peg Palisin; Dan Cleveland; CJ Miller; Beverly Hudson; Susan Huffman; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Lane Fletcher; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; John Palisin — brother of Peg Palisin; John Murphy, Sr. — cousin of Gary Gardner; Carla Burns — cousin of Sharon Webb; Robert Kirtley — father of Amanda Kirtley; Susan Everhart — niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Warren Cash — brother of Kay Cash; Ann Perenyi — mother of Lad Perenyi; Donna Harris — sister of Joyce Fugit; Alma Fonseca — mother of Angelina Fonseca; 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 Wilson — father of Butch Wilson; Shirley Boggus — grandmother of Omi Ford; Alan Rowe — father of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio — granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Ellen MacDonald; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Sondra Sullivan; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philippians — Brad McWilliams; Carol Gilliland - friend of Orlean Anderson; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge; Clayton Amacker – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

GODLY PLAY (Age 3-Kindgergarden) — Room 104

ELEMENTARY (Grades 1-5) — Room 105

YOUTH (Grades 6-12) - Room 205

SPa (St. Philip Adults) – Room 200 – All adults of any age are welcome to participate - grab some coffee and join us. There is no need to prepare or purchase materials for class, so come as you are able.

CHURCH & SOCIETY – Room 201 – This class meets from 9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. with presentations in person and by Zoom. Mar. 12 - St. Philip Mission Partner - Mo-Ranch - Come learn what's going on at Mo-Ranch, the conferences, and retreats, holiday celebrations, summer camp, arts and crafts, music and worship - all opportunities for growth in God through Jesus Christ. Also, Mo-Ranch Camp in the Valley - a camp experience for families in the Rio Grande Valley. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—We are continuing our study of the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah in 2 Kings with the story of Elisha and the fate of Jezebel in Dr. Robert Alter's <u>Ancient Israel</u>, <u>The Former Prophets</u> (2013). Join us from 9:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m. to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL—In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship in the chapel, while also praying, seeing and hearing God's word at an age-appropriate level. Children return to join the congregation in the first few pews on the lectern side of the church for the last hymn. Every 2nd and 4th Sunday during the 11 o'clock service children will be able to participate in this.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

LAMBETH STUDY-Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan King at:

keatan@saintphilip.net.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets at 9:30 a.m. A hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to john@saintphlip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is 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 each Friday in person in the office conference room and via Zoom at 11:45 a.m. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **Mar. 9** we will discuss *South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of A Nation* by Imani Perry. Watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN—All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate; to be directed to a group leader please email welcome@saintphilip.net.

Monday Morning Saints – 2nd Mon. of each month @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Circle – 3rd Sun. of each month @ 12:30 p.m. Thursday Evening Circle – 1st Thurs. of each month @ 7:00 p.m.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—On our next regular meeting date, Mar. 7 (the first Tuesday) we conclude our discussion of Kerry Connelly's book *Good White Racist?* From 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., we will consider chapters 9, "The consumption of bodies (Or, 'Step away from the

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. To receive the Zoom link sent early Monday mornings, email Keatan at:

keatan@saintphilip.net



SPRING GARDEN PLANTING - Enjoy fun and fellowship in the St. Philip vegetable garden as we plant the spring veggies. We will gather at the garden on **Saturday, March 11, at 9:30 a.m.** No gardening experience necessary! Contact Cathy Patterson with any questions at cpatters@swbell.net.



ST. PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT MARCH 24 - 26

PW RETREAT—All women of the church are invited to attend the **Annual Presbyterian Women's Retreat** (no need to be in a circle to come!) the weekend of **Mar. 24-26 in Houston** at the Fairfield Inn in the Memorial City area. Our retreat speaker is our own beloved pastoral resident, the Rev. Kallie Pitcock, who will lead us deeper into the promises of Psalm 32 through our theme. Information on pricing, meals, and further details are the website <u>saintphilip.net</u>. For assistance registering online, please email <u>welcome@saintphilip.net</u> or call the church office during regular office hours 713-622-4807.

PRIMETIMERS—Join the Primetimers on Thursday, March 30, for a visit to the George HW Bush Presidential Library and Museum in College Station for a tour of Mandela: The Official Exhibition. From the museum website: Mandela: The Official Exhibition is the major new global exhibition that explores the life of one of the world's most famous freedom fighters and political leaders. The epic story of Nelson Mandela is told in a series of experiential galleries from his rural childhood home through years of turbulent struggle against the apartheid regime, to his eventual vindication and final years as South Africa's first democratically elected president. We will depart from the church parking lot at 8:30 and will be back by 3:30 p.m. After visiting the museum, we'll have lunch at Stella Southern Cafe. The cost is \$8/person and lunch will be on your own. Please RSVP by Monday, Mar. 6 to secure your spot. You may contact Omar (omar@saintphilip.net) with any questions.



Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

TEXT: Moses Maimonides, 12th cent.; vers. Daniel ben Judah Dayan, 1404; stanzas 1, 3, trans. Thomas Olivers, c.1770, alt.; stanzas 2, 4, trans. Max Landsberg, Newton M. Mann, and William C. Gannett, 1884, 1910, alt. 6.6.8.4.D MUSIC: Jewish melody, 17th cent.; adapt. Meyer Lyon and Thomas Olivers, 1770

Hymn 506

Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table

COPELAND



This text celebrates the radical hospitality that characterizes Christ's welcome, which transcends time and reaches in all directions (Matthew 8:11/Luke 13:29). Saints of old are, like us, people in need of forgiveness, and the response to such pardon is "thanks and praise."



This morning hymn is based on a Latin text attributed to a 4th-century bishop. It weaves various images of Christ as Light with light-based descriptions of each day's passing. It is set to a dance-like tune from at least the 15th century that enhances the energy in the text.











Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Guest Book tab at saintphlip.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 <u>saintphilip.net</u> 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.

I Give Electronically—in response to parents' hopes that their children might be able to see their ongoing commitment to St. Philip and with the intent to better represent the totality of our giving as a congregation, we have available in the pews giving cards that can be placed in the offering plate by our electronic givers.



