



THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP  
AT WORSHIP

MARCH 31, 2019

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**Preparation for Worship**

*Gracious God, seeker of the lost:  
draw your children back to your loving embrace,  
restore us to our inheritance as daughters and sons,  
and reconcile our hearts to you, that we may become ambassadors  
of your reconciling love to all the world.  
Through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.*

**Tolling of the Hour—II**

**Greeting**

*Please sign and pass the friendship folder.*

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

**Voluntary**

**I**

*“Erbarm dich mein, o Herre Gott”* Johann Sebastian Bach  
(Have mercy on me, Lord my God) BWV 721 (1685-1750)

**II** *Chorale Variations on “Warum betrübst du dich, mein Herz”*

(Why are you troubled, my heart?) Samuel Scheidt  
(1587-1654)

**Introit—II**

*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

## ✦ Call to Worship

### ✦ Hymn 739

*O for a Closer Walk with God*

CAITHNESS

## ✦ Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God,  
you call us to proclaim the gospel,  
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.  
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,  
but we are content to live in separation.  
You call us to seek the good of all,  
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.  
You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,  
but we sit idly by,  
endangering the lives of people far and near.

Forgive us, O Lord.  
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,  
and give us the courage and strength  
to be reconciled to others;  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

*(silent prayer)*

## ✦ Response

*Lord, Have Mercy* | Kyrie

John Weaver (b. 1937)

Lord, have mer - cy.  
Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## ✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

## ✦ Response

*Glory to the Father* | Gloria Patri

John Weaver

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the  
Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is  
now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men. A - men. A - men.

## ✦ The Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*Signs of peace and reconciliation may be exchanged.*

## Conversation with Children

*Afterwards, children may stay with their parents, or infant to age 4  
may go to child care in Room 106.*

## Prayer for Illumination

### First Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

N.T. pg. 181

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Anthem—II

*See what love*  
(from the oratorio *St. Paul*)

Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809-1847)

See what love hath the Father bestowed on us in His goodness,  
that we should be called God's own children.

— 1 John 3:1

### Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

N.T. pgs. 78-79

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

Omar Rouchon

*Silence and stillness*

### ✦ Hymn 821

*My Life Flows On* HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

### ✦ Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.  
This, God has done since the beginning of the world  
and will do to the end.**

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,  
the communion of saints called from the entire human family.**

**We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the  
church as the community of believers who have been reconciled  
with God and with one another;**

**We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the  
church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit  
it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality  
which must be earnestly pursued and sought:  
one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.**

**We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may  
believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is  
sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything  
which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be  
resisted;**

**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. Amen.**

## 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

*Gifts may be given anytime at [www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net)  
or text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts.*

### Offertory Solo

*Give Us, Lord, a New Heart*

Bernadette Farrell  
(b. 1957)

Give us, Lord, a new heart; recreate your spirit within us.

I will cleanse you in living waters, I will wash away your sin.  
I will put a new spirit in you and you shall live.

For all your faults I will grant forgiveness,  
nevermore will I remember your sins.

— Ezekiel 36:25-26 | Jeremiah 31:34

### ✦ Response

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ all people  
here below; praise Holy Spirit ever-  
more; praise Triune God, whom we adore.

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988 © 1990  
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH  
LM

### ✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Gracious God, you have given so freely unto us,  
and have offered us in abundance.

**We pray that these gifts that we offer unto you  
will serve all of creation, that in doing so,  
we may glorify your name. Amen.**



 MUSIC NOTES

**11:00 a.m. organ music** — Samuel Scheidt, the greatest organist of his generation, studied and worked in the Protestant north and pioneered an idiomatically German style of 17<sup>th</sup>-century composition. Born in Halle (also Handel’s hometown) and employed by the Margrave of Brandenburg (whose descendent was the lucky recipient of some concertos by J. S. Bach), Scheidt wrote mostly for the church. His *Tabulatura Nova*, the source for his variations on the Lenten chorale melody “Warum betrübst du dich, mein Herz” (“Why are you troubled, my Heart?”), was the first important publication in a new style of notation for German keyboard music: open score, with each line on a single staff. Organists were expected to transcribe such music into more familiar keyboard tablature (with letter names and two staves) in order to play it. Like the other contents of this monumental collection, “Warum betrübst di dich” combines the austere and serene counterpoint of a Palestrina with more vigorous motivic play that anticipates Buxtehude, even Bach. Today’s **opening** and **closing voluntaries** are both drawn from this substantial set of variations.

**11:00 a.m. choral and vocal music** — This morning’s **anthem** is one of the most famous choruses from Felix Mendelssohn’s oratorio *Paulus (St. Paul)*, composed during the years 1834–1836. The oratorio was Mendelssohn’s most popular work during his lifetime, and tells of the conversion of Saul of Tarsus into Paul on the road to Damascus, among other familiar Christian stories. Mendelssohn composed the work using a German libretto he had worked on together with his childhood friend the Lutheran pastor Julius Schubring (1806–1889), using passages from both the Old and New Testaments, along with chorales and hymn settings, in the manner of Bach before him. *Paulus* was premiered in Düsseldorf in May of 1836. Its English *St. Paul* premiere followed that same year in October in Liverpool, using an English translation of the text by Mendelssohn family friend, the diplomat Karl Klingerman (1798–1862). • Today’s offertory solo is by British composer Bernadette Farrell, who specializes in writing liturgical music, mostly using biblical texts. “Give Us, Lord, A New Heart” was composed in 1980, and is particularly appropriate for today’s reading of the Prodigal Son story and Lenten themes of forgiveness and renewal.

—Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson