

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 27, 2025

## **Preparation for Worship**

The resurrection is unknowable in the way we like to know things . . . No, you don't understand it. Let it grow on you.

- Barbara Cawthorne Crafton

Voluntary

Chorale Partita on "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

Greeting

#### Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Introit

Ave maris stella EG 150 (excerpt)

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Ave, maris stella, Hail, star of the sea,
Dei mater alma, Dear mother of God,
Atque semper Virgo, And always a virgin
Felix cæli porta. The blessed gate of heaven.

Solve vincla reis: Loose the chains from sinners, Profer lumen cæcis, Hold out light to the blind, Mala nostra pelle, Drive our ills away, Bona cuncta posce. Ask all good things for us.

Transl. David Wyatt (2012)

## **†** Opening Sentences

**†** Hymn 236 (see page 11)

The Strife is O'er

VICTORY

## **†** Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

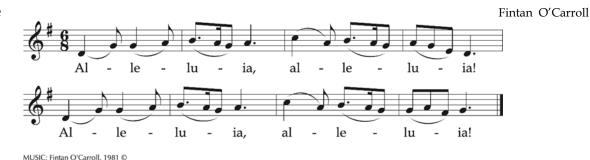
silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

#### Declaration of Forgiveness

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

## Response



#### † The Peace

Peace be with you. Peace be with all.

#### Conversation with Children

Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 106.

#### **Prayer of Illumination**

Gospel Reading John 20:19-29 N.T. pg. 115

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

Anthem Psalm 23 Z. Randall Stroope (b. 1953)

> The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want, (Lauda, lauda!) Through death's dark valleys, no fear will I know, My head is covered with the finest oil, my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow!

Green pastures, still waters, the Lord provides! My soul restores, my heart renews. The Lord prepares me a table, no fear have I from my foes. The Lord annoints me, guards me, loves me.

The Lord provides me with a rod and staff, they comfort and guide me. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow! And in the house of the Lord, I will dwell forever.

Adapt. Psalm 23

Sermon Sweet Jesus John W. Wurster

silence and stillness

**† Hymn 255** (see page 12)

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

O FILII ET FILLIAE

#### The Sacrament of Baptism

Scarlett Rosalie Burch

Presentation

**Questions** 

#### †The Apostles' Creed

Do you believe in God? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

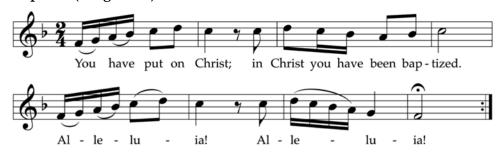
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

**Baptism** 

Welcome

#### Response (sung twice)



TEXT: From the Rite of Baptism for Children, ICEL | © 1969 International Commission on English in the Liturgy MUSIC: Howard Hughes, SM, 1977 | © 1977 International Commission on English in the Liturgy

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST Irreguar

## 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 any time at saintphilip.net

## Offertory

*For the Beauty of the Earth* 

John Rutter (b. 1945)

- For the beauty of the earth,
   For the glory of the skies,

   For the love which from our birth
   Over and around us lies.
  - Lord of all, to thee we raise This our joyful hymn of praise
- 2. For the beauty of each hour Of the day and of the night, Hill and vale and tree and flower, Sun and moon and stars of light:
- 3. For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child, Friends on earth and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild:
- 4. For each perfect gift of thine
  To our race so freely given,
  Graces human and divine,
  Flowers of earth and buds of heaven.

F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have fed us with your mercy and poured out your Spirit in this place.

Continue to nourish and fill us each day, that we may live as your beloved people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**† Hymn 853** (see page 13)

We Are Marching in the Light of God

SIYAHAMBA

## **†** Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Herzlich tut mich erfreuen Op. 122/4 Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

# JOIN US ON THE LAWN FOR A PICNIC ALL ARE WELCOME

TOURS OF THE ST. PHILIP DAY SCHOOL
WILL BE EVERY 15 MINUTES BEGINNING AT 12:30
AT THE SOUTH ENTRANCE OF THE EDUCATION BUILDING

#### **SERVING TODAY**

#### **Pastors**

John Wurster | Keatan King | Omar Rouchon

#### Liturgists

Jennifer Miller

#### Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | Treble Choir of Houston; Mariana Simpson & Bethany Stuard, conductors St. Philip Choir | Justin Langham, director of music | Thomas O'Neill, cantor

#### **WORSHIP NOTES**

#### Today's Lectionary readings:

- Acts 5:27-32 Peter stands trial before the council: we must obey God.
- Psalm 118:14–29 The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
- Psalm 150 Praise the Lord! Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
- Revelation 1:4–8 *Jesus is coming; I am the Alpha and Omega, says the Lord.*
- John 20:19–31 Jesus shares the Holy Spirit; a week later, he appears to Thomas.

#### **FLOWERS**

The flowers today are given by the St. Philip Day School Board in honor and celebration of our Founding Director, Candace Harris.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

Prayer of Confession is from Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA).

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#### **MUSIC NOTES**

Both of today's **organ voluntaries** take the same Easter hymn as inspiration: the German chorale tune *Herzlich tut mich erfreuen* ("Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"). The Belgian composer and organist Flor Peeters was an important exponent of the Baroque repertoire; one senses in his chorale settings especially the long shadow of Bach and other German composers. Johannes Brahms's setting of the same tune, from his final collection of pieces (Op. 122), conveys a kind of gentle joy at the message of Easter. This is a chorale prelude in the traditional mode, with the melody on top of the texture and accompanying figuration below that surges along quietly.

We are thrilled to welcome the Treble Choir of Houston led by Mariana Simpson as our guest ensemble in residence for today's service. Founded at Christ Church Cathedral in 2006, the Treble Choir of Houston is an acclaimed choir of young women from grades 6–12 that come from a widely diverse background to unite in their pursuit of musical excellence.

Normally sung at a Vespers service, the Marian hymn *Ave maris stella* (Latin for 'Hail, star of the sea') was especially common in the Middle Ages where Mary was often presented as a merciful and loving mother. Norwe-

gian composer Edvard Grieg's version from the late 19-century retains the simplicity of the original antiphon while incorporating compositional trends of his era such as abrupt shifts to mediant harmonies (chords connected by the interval of a third).

Originally dedicated to his daughter, Z. Randall Stroope's adaptation of **Psalm 23** has become a fixture in the repertoire for treble chorus. Its flowing choral lines and an earfriendly harmonic landscape is organized according to the text's familiar passages, with each line ending with the exclamation "lauda" (meaning "praise").

The 19-century hymn For the Beauty of the Earth was written by author Folliott Sandford Pierpoint after looking out across the countryside in Bath, England and feeling profoundly blessed. Arranged countless of times over the years, the hymn received its pinnacle at the masterful hands of John Rutter. By combining a flowing 2/2 meter with a constant eighth-note accompaniment, along with several other musical elements, Rutter's version perfectly captures the wonder and gratitude instilled in the text.

- Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

#### IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families — Bonnie Moore; Rollie McGinnis; Jo Helland; Russell Bahruth; Jeremy Mattern; Scott Easterly; Bill Holden; David Winship; Bob Ardell; Richard Johnson; Philip McDaniel; Charlotte Kibler; Carolyn Vestal; Diane Clarke; Susan Huffman; Barbara Cavanaugh; Mary Herlitz; Dick Nunn; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy E. Johnson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Katie Forbes, daughter of Marise Robbins-Forbes; Jacqui – cousin of Angelina Fonseca-Grewal; Terese Murphy - cousin of Gary Gardner and Peg Palisin; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; and Lillian Perkins – aunt and Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound — Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Jan Ostendorf; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians-Marianne Keeswood – friend of Kate Burkart; Ann Eustler & Janet Rowlands – friends of Mary Mcguire; Audrey Eubank Harris, Jay Stokes & Anna Domonte, friends of Curt & Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash – friend of Jane Cooper; Mary Watters and Mindy Cooper-Smith – friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Claude Bowden – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton – friends of William Rowe; Patty Ryan and Tom Barnett - friends of Robin and Gary Willis; Jackie Janacek, Bill Ward, and Joyce Freudenberg–friends of Stephen Paine; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; and Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge.

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

Prayer List is a powerful tool for bringing comfort, healing, and peace to those in need. So, let's keep it up to date and continue to lift up our brothers and sisters in prayer.

**St. Philip Ukuleles on Sunday May 11** — Calling all ukuleles! We will be playing in worship on Sunday, May 11 and we would like players of all ages and experience to join the fun. Rehearsals will take place in the sanctuary immediately after worship on Sundays, April 27 and May 4 and last about thirty minutes. If you are a beginner and do not have a ukulele, we will gladly provide one for you and teach you the basics. Reach out to Justin for more details:

justin@saintphilip.net

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY - Ages 3 - Kindergarten - Room 104

**ELEMENTARY**—Grades 1-4—Room 205—The elementary-aged children are invited to participate in Mini-Revolutions, a lectionary-based curriculum employing multiple modes of learning engagement, and centered on activities and practices to help build spiritual habits. Room 205.

**YOUTH**—Grades 5-12—Dining Room—Kids Against Hunger

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**—Room 204—We are studying Proverbs in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Wisdom Books: Job, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes* (2010). Join us from 9:30 to 10:40 AM 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.

CHURCH & SOCIETY – Room 201 – Join us from 9:30 – 10:40 AM with presentations in person and by Zoom. May 4 - St. Philip Peace and Social Justice Committee Buffalo Bayou Partnership Buffalo Bayou Partnership creates and stewards welcoming parks, trails, and unique spaces, connecting Houstonians with our city's most significant natural waterway. Our work weaves together green spaces, trails, and reimagined industrial relics that serve as portals to Houston's diverse history and neighborhoods. Presented by Trudi Smith - Director of Programming. If you would like to join any of the classes, email John Hartman: jshartman01@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL—We will have Children's Chapel the second and fourth Sundays after *Conversation with Children*. In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship, while praying, singing, 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.

#### ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

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

keatan@saintphilip.net.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP** — What does it mean to be a Christian in these times? How does our faith guide our social justice involvement? Our Study Group meets by zoom on first Monday nights, 7-8 p.m. to read and discuss social justice issues of our day. Join us! Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson at:

sjj10223@gmail.com.

**WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB**—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **May 8** at 7:00 PM. This will be a social so watch your email for details. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: <a href="mailto:nnl@lambrightlaw.com">nnl@lambrightlaw.com</a>.

#### 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 AM. The group is using a new book by Richard Rohr "The Tears of Things" to study how the wisdom of the Hebrew Prophets can offer a hope filled model for the world today. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY— Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets weekly at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome! To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to:

john@saintphilip.net.

#### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women.

**Thursday Evening Circle—May 1**—meets 1st Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Dining Room. Sarah Victorian - <a href="mailto:sarah.m.0617@gmail.com">sarah.m.0617@gmail.com</a>

Monday Morning Saints—May 12—meets 2nd Monday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Dining Room - Tricia Tolbert - <a href="mailto:phtolbert@gmail.com">phtolbert@gmail.com</a>

**The Hallmark Circle**—meets each month - contact Sue Shirley-Howard - <u>sue@fluencyhouston.com</u> for date and location.

**Sunday Circle—May 18—** after worship in the Dining Room. Jan Meyer - jsmeyer9990@gmail.com

One More Chance Study for Everyone—Meets 4th Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Library. The last meeting of the study year will be on May 25 at 10am in the Library to discuss Lesson 9 - Sustaining Creation's Health for All. Everyone is welcome. Lee Ardell—leeardell@gmail.com.





MUSIC AT # ST. PHILIP

hosts

# A PIANO RECITAL

featuring

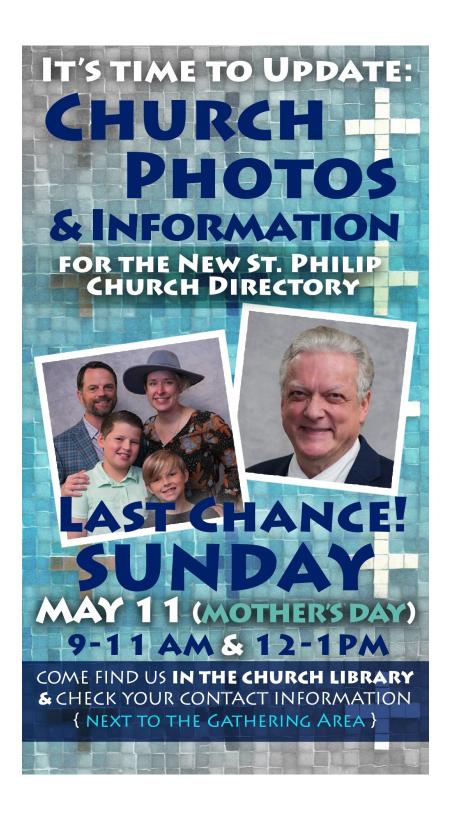
## OSIP NIKIFOROV

Works By Bach, Rachmaninoff, Tchaikovsky, Glinka, Strauss, and Liszt

Sunday, May 18 | 3:00 PM

**FOLLOW US ONLINE** Music at St Philip







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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.



#### 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.

#### 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 100 off of the Gathering Area 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 BULLETINS 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 <u>lorrie@saintphilip.net</u>.

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 the Library 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. 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, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056. To make stock contributions contact Denise Ferrell at denise@saintphilip.net.

**Lost & Found** – did you leave a pair of glasses, umbrella, or other item during worship? There is a canvas basket in the library where these items may be found. Jewelry, phones and more valuable items are turned into Lorrie Castle in the Church Office, <a href="mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net">lorrie@saintphilip.net</a> or 713-622-4807.

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.

Nametags — Please wear your nametags not just in the sanctuary, but as you socialize before and after worship and at other events. To make it easier, if you don't want to bring your nametag home, there are labeled wicker BASKETS by several exit doors for you to return your nametag at the last possible moment! Those returned tags will be replaced on the boards in the narthex before the following Sunday morning. Visitor nametags are available in the pews and from an usher.



## Hymn 236

#### The Strife is O'er



The Latin text from which this hymn has been translated may well be older than its earliest printing in a 17th-century collection published in Cologne. It is set to an adaptation of a portion of the Gloria Patri section from a 16th-century choral version of the Magnificat.

TEXT: Latin hymn, c. 1695; trans. Francis Pott, 1861 MUSIC: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1591; adapt. William Henry Monk, 1861 VICTORY 8.8.8 with alleluias

## Hymn 255

#### O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing



- 5 No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side; "You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 How blest are they who have not seen, and yet whose faith has constant been, for they eternal life shall win. Alleluia! Alleluia!

These stanzas from a 19th-century translation of a longer 15th-century Latin text are the continuation of hymn no. 235 and are based on the traditional gospel reading for the Second Sunday of Easter. They are sung to a 15th-century French tune adapted for church use.

TEXT: Attr. Jean Tisserand, 15th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1852 MUSIC: French melody, 15th cent.; arr. *Airs sur les hymnes sacrez, odes et nöels,* 1623

O FILII ET FILIAE 8.8.8 with alleluias

## **Hymn 853**

#### We Are Marching in the Light of God



This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.



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