

Preparation for Worship

Let us press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

—Philippians 3:14

Voluntary

Have mercy on me, O Lord God
ERBARM' DICH MEIN, O HERRE GOTT | BWV 721

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Greeting

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

Introit

Give Judgement for Me, O Lord

Chant

Give judgment for me, O God,
and defend my cause against an ungodly people;
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.
For you are my God and my strong salvation.
Send out your light and your truth that they may lead me,
and bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

— Psalm 43:1-2a, 3

✦ Opening Sentences

God makes a way out of no way.
God sees our tears and turns them into joy.
God makes the impossible possible
and sees the desperate needs of all people.
Come close, healing Lord, and receive our worship.

✦ Hymn 182 [\(see page 12\)](#)

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

KINGSFOLD

✦ Prayer of Confession

Why are you so extravagant, O God?
 We work hard,
 use our intelligence,
 keep our ledgers balanced,
 accomplish feats daily,
 care for our families,
 and honor our inherited legacies.
 Is this not enough to earn our place among the favored?

Yet you throw open windows and doors,
 revealing a vision we do not possess,
 where accomplishments don't count,
 where tears reap joy,
 where peace is found in suffering,
 where confidence is gained
 by giving away what is ours to treasure.
 Show us again what matters.

Forgive our misplaced values,
 and draw us into your extravagance,
 that we, too, might be generous with our love.

silent prayer

✦ Response

John Weaver

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

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

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

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

O.T. pgs. 672-673

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

Psalm 126

Richard Proulx

Refrain (choir first, then all)

The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy, we are filled with joy.

When the LORD delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then were our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. *Refrain – all*

The heathens themselves said:

“What marvels the LORD worked for them!”
What marvels the LORD worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad. *Refrain – all*

Deliver us, Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. *Refrain – all*

They go out full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing;

they come back full of song,
carrying their sheaves. *Refrain – all*

Gospel Reading

John 12:1-8

N.T. pg. 106

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

Sermon

Omar Rouchon

Silence and stillness

✦ Hymn 537 [\(see page 13\)](#)

When at This Table

FEASTDAY

Offering

Offertory 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

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the 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:



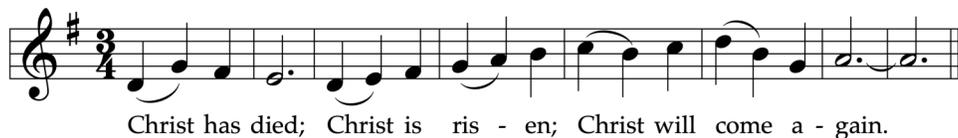
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.



Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (Pavlechko)

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, we are bold to pray as Jesus taught us:

**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

Anthem

Ave verum corpus

Edward Elgar
(1857–1934)

SUNG IN LATIN	TRANSLATION
<i>Ave verum corpus</i>	Hail, true body,
<i>natum ex Maria Virgine,</i>	born of the Virgin Mary,
<i>vere passum immolatum</i>	which truly suffered and was sacrificed
<i>in cruce pro homine:</i>	on the cross for humankind;
<i>cujus latus perforatum</i>	from whose pierced side
<i>vero fluxit sanguine.</i>	flowed blood.
<i>Esto nobis prægustatum</i>	Be for us a foretaste (of heaven)
<i>mortis in examine.</i>	in the trial of death.
<i>O clemens, O pie,</i>	O merciful, O loving,
<i>O dulcis Jesu, fili Mariæ.</i>	O sweet Jesus, Son of Mary.

Prayer after Communion

✦ Hymn

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

RENDEZ À DIEU

1. This is a day of new be - gin - nings,
2. Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing,
Time to re - mem - ber, and move on,
Step from the past, and leave be - hind
Time to be - lieve what love is bring - ing,
Our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and griev - ing,
Lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
Seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
For by the life and death of Je - sus,
Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us
Love's might - y Spir - it, now as then,
To show and share what love can do.
Can make for us a world of dif - f'rence
This is a day of new be - gin - nings;
As faith and hope are born a - gain.
Our God is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian Wren, b.1936, © 1983, 1987, Hope Publishing Company. Communion stanza omitted with permission.
Tune: RENDEZ À DIEU, 9 8 9 8 D; *Genevan Psalter*, 1551; Louis Bourgeois, c.1510-1561

✦ Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

*Postlude in D major*Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Keatan King, Al Waldrop and John Wurster

Musicians

St. Philip Choir

Julia Fox, Alexandra Gorman, Cecilia Duarte, *Emily Hobson,

Thomas O'Neill and Kirby Traylor – staff singer ensemble | **assistant conductor*

Randall Swanson – music director & organist

FLOWERS

The flowers this morning are given in honor of the 95th birthday of Ruth Ewing from her loving children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

WORSHIP NOTES

Communion today is received by intinction. Please come forward via the center aisle, receive a piece of bread, and take a small cup of grape juice. You may return to your pew via the side aisles. Those with difficulty coming forward may receive communion in their seats by signaling the servers. Because the table of Jesus Christ is open to all, everyone is welcome to receive communion today.

Our communion offering today supports the PC(USA)'s Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self Development of People programs dedicated to providing food, water, sanitation, education and community development in a world of disaster, hunger and oppression. Thanks to your generosity, One Great Hour of Sharing connects us with many different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. You may also make a secure contribution through www.saintphilip.net or [MyStPhilip](#) or by sending a check to the church office with "April Communion Offering" in the memo line.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Isaiah 43:16-21 – *I am about to do a new thing, says the Lord; do you perceive it?*
- Psalm 126 – *When the Lord restored our fortunes, we shouted with joy.*
- Philippians 3:4b-14 – *Knowing Christ Jesus as Lord, I regard everything else as loss.*
- John 12:1-8 – *At the home of Lazarus, Mary anoints Jesus feet with perfume.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

Opening Sentences and Prayer of Confession taken from *Call to Worship*, 2021 Presbyterian Church (USA)

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MUSIC NOTES

Organ Music

This morning's **opening voluntary** is among the most straightforward of all Bach's organ chorale settings. The melody of the penitential hymn *Erbar'm' dich* is set very simply against a background of repeated chords. It is unique among Bach's output, which has led some scholars to speculate as to whether it is indeed by Bach at all. Nevertheless, it has long been a favorite work for musicians and listeners alike, particularly during the season of Lent, it's repeated chords in the accompaniment perhaps suggestive of the penitent-but-trepidacious sinner's heartbeat.

Today's **closing voluntary** is an early organ work by Mendelssohn, composed during travels in Rome on March 8, 1831. Mendelssohn had just turned 22 a few weeks earlier. Though far lesser known than his later organ works, particularly the six sonatas from 1845, the *Postlude* (or *Nachspiel*) in D contains a number of features the composer would revisit in his later works. The piece is basically a short but festive prelude and fugue, both parts making use of the melodic interval of a rising fourth as a thematic building block. The fugue especially displays Mendelssohn's gift for

creating ever-expanding expressions of musical exuberance, with its long vocally-inspired melodic lines and its explorations of a number of musical key centers.

Choral Music

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

Today's **communion anthem** by Edward Elgar was among his first forays into composing practical music for liturgical performance, in this case for the choir of St. George's Church in Worcester, where the young Elgar first started playing for services in July 1872, later succeeding his father as Organist in 1880. The music for *Ave verum corpus* dates from 1887, originally with the funeral text *Pie Jesu*, rearranged in 1902 with the Eucharistic *Ave verum* text, and published as Elgar's Op. 2

—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

April 6

Lenten service 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.
Outside Easter Breakfast at 9:45 a.m.

April 24

Spring Potluck Picnic
Earth Day Celebration

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.

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; Napoleon Parada – father of Wilbert & Dimas Parada; 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, 9:40–10:40 for the presentation—**Apr. 10 (Palm Sunday)** – Hybrid (by Zoom and in person in Room 201) - *Music for Holy Week* - A preview of music for Holy Week leading to Holy Saturday, April 16, music of meditation on the mysteries of the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Christ presented by Dr. Mathew Dirst St. Philip organist, professor of music at the Moores School of Music at University of Houston, and director of Ars Lyrica Houston. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes at churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

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. Due to Easter activities, the April meeting has been cancelled. Our next meeting will be on **May 12** at 7:00 p.m., 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.

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.

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.

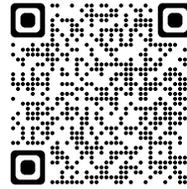
You can go online and make a donation of any amount. Please include: *in honor of* or *in memory of* and the name(s) you wish to recognize, as well as how you would like your name to appear. If you have multiple recognitions, please email Lorrie Castle at lorrie@saintphilip.net.

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.

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad; I
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream; my
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and

found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

Hymn 537

When at This Table

FEASTDAY



1 When at this ta - ble I re - ceive a bless - ing,
 2 If at this ta - ble I have need of heal - ing,
 3 If at this ta - ble I for - get the hun - gry,
 4 If at this ta - ble I make ded - i - ca - tion
 5 What faith I have, I bring to join this ta - ble,



the bro - ken bread, the wine of life for me,
 un - bid - den grief, re - la - tion - ship gone wrong,
 the dis - pos - sessed and war - fare's spread - ing stain,
 to give my life in serv - ing what is good,
 what hope I hold, in Christ is taught and true;



then let me share the peace with you, my neigh - bor,
 then let me know the hands of God en - fold - ing,
 then let this bread be - come the bread of judg - ment,
 then let my cen - ter be where God in - vites me,
 with broth - ers, sis - ters, I will share the bless - ing,



and let the Spir - it set our spir - its free.
 and let la - ment be - come be - liev - ing song.
 this wine the sharp a - ware - ness of that pain.
 and show the words of Je - sus un - der - stood.
 the feast where God is mak - ing all things new.

Though cast in an individual's voice, this prayerful text shows a strong communal awareness of the people gathered around the Lord's Table, their personal burdens, and matters of both local and global concern. The final two stanzas reflect renewed spiritual strength and resolve.

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray, 2004
 MUSIC: Jane Marshall, 2005
 Text © 2004 Hope Publishing Company
 Music © 2006 Hope Publishing Company

FEASTDAY
 11.10.11.10

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