

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT APRIL 6, 2025

Preparation for Worship

So some have come who need your help and some have come to make amends, as hands which shaped and saved the world are present in the touch of friends. Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind, and soul, to disentangle peace from pain, and make your broken people whole.

-John Bell, Hymn 797

Voluntary

Praeludium in the Phrygian Mode BuxWV 152

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Introit

Morning Trumpet (excerpt)

arr. Alice Parker/Robert Shaw

O, when shall I see Jesus, and reign with Him above, And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning. And from the flowing fountain drink everlasting love, And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning.

Shout O glory, for I shall mount above the skies, When I hear the trumpet sound in that morning.

John Leland (1754-1841)

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.

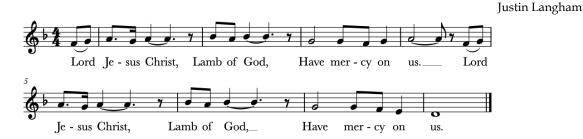
Our God will not abandon us.

† Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
your giving is without end;
but we struggle to receive all that you offer.
We misuse your gifts,
ignoring your intents,
and refusing your abundance.
We hoard what you would have us share,
and we throw away what you would have us keep.
Forgive us and help us discern your priorities.
Govern our hearts with your spirit,
so that we can live into the fullness of the gospel,
and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

silent prayer

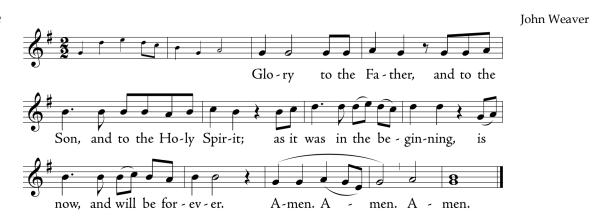
Response



Declaration of Forgiveness

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

♦ Response



† The Peace

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

Signs of peace and reconciliation may be exchanged.

Conversation with Children

Afterwards, Children's Chapel meets in Room 203.

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

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading Isaiah 43:16-21 O.T. pgs. 672-673

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

Anthem *Morning Trumpet*arr. Alice Parker/Robert Shaw

O, when shall I see Jesus and reign with Him above, And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning. And from the flowing fountain drink everlasting love, And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning.

Shout O glory, for I shall mount above the skies, When I hear the trumpet sound in that morning.

When shall I be delivered from this vain world of sin, And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning. And with my blesséd Jesus drink endless pleasures in, And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning.

Through grace I am determined to conquer though I die, (Goin' to Jesus)

And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning. (Ah, hear the trumpet)

And then away to Jesus on wings of love I'll fly, (then to Jesus I'll fly)

And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning.

John Leland (1754-1841)

Gospel Reading John 12:1-8 N.T. pg. 106

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

Sermon The Best We Have John W. Wurster

silence and stillness

† Hymn 716 (see page 14)God, Whose Giving Knows No EndingBEACH SPRING

Offering

Gifts may be given any time at www.saintphilip.net

Offertory Prayer Rickey Ian Gordon
From Genius Child (1993) (b. 1956)

I ask you this:
Which way to go?
I ask you this:
Which sin to bear?
Which crown to put
Upon my hair?
I do not know,
Lord God,
I do not know.

Langston Hughes (1901-1967)

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; let those who have no money come and eat. God will satisfy our souls with a rich feast, and we will bless the Lord as long as we live.

Isa. 55:1; Ps. 63:4-5

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.

O God, Creator of our wilderness world,

O God, Savior of the lost,

O God, Comforter of the sick and suffering,

we give you thanks for your everlasting might;

we glorify you for your covenant of mercy.

For forty days you cleansed the earth with the waters of the flood.

We praise you, O God.

For forty days you illumined Moses with the words of your law.

We praise you, O God.

For forty years you fed your people with manna from heaven.

We praise you, O God.

You became truly human in Jesus our brother.

For forty days, with fasting and prayer,

he renounced the power of the devil.

We extol his life. Amen.

We lament his death. Amen.

We celebrate his resurrection. Amen.

Transform us, O God, with your lively Spirit.

Make this food into manna for our journey,

the body and blood of your Son.

Save us, O God.

Grant us with the Ninevites forty days of repentance.

Save us, O God.

Teach us your words of wisdom and justice.

Save us, O God.

Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace.

Save us, O God.

At the last, lead all your pilgrim people

through our deserts to your Easter garden.

To you, O God, Creator, Savior, Comforter,

be our worship and praise, adoration and thanksgiving,

now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (please echo the cantor)

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

Communion Music

†Prayer after Communion

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 da

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

† Hymn 215 (see page 15)

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten BWV 642

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Liturgist

Walker Fair

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip choir | David Le, soloist | David Le, cantor Tessa Larson, soprano | Justin Langham, director of music

WORSHIP NOTES

To receive communion today, please come forward via the center aisle, receive 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. Gifts brought forward during today's final hymn support the One Great Hour of Sharing, a PC(USA) national offering that supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Communion offering gifts may also be made anytime through the church website.

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 Diana Weiss.

Prayer adapted from *Better Than Nice and Other Unconventional Prayers* by Frederick Ohler. Music reprints and online streaming by permission under OneLicense.net account A-720890.

MUSIC NOTES

Today's **opening voluntary** comes from Dietrich Buxtehude, the famed Lübeck organist who was a leading light of the North German Baroque. His non-chorale based organ works tend to feature multiple sections, alternating between rhapsodic figuration and short fugues. One of the more concise examples of this genre, the Praeludium BuxWV 152 features toccata-like opening and closing sections around two brief fugues on the same subject but in different meters.

Many arrangements of American spirituals by the prolific Alice Parker/Robert Shaw duo display similar characteristics, including singable tunes and moving text. **Morning Trumpet**, one of several John Ireland hymns in 1844 *The Sacred Harp*, uses a minor pentatonic mode as its foundation to paint a triumphant picture of life after death full of endless love and trumpets sounding. Another Parker/Shaw signature is the creative use of vocal textures, in this case dividing the choir into multiple overlapping sections and featuring a baritone soloist as the messenger.

For decades, composers from all backgrounds have been drawn to the words of Harlem Renaissance figurehead Langston Hughes, using his poems to create beautifully evocative musical expressions. After attending a 1986 performance of "Porgy and Bess," American composer Ricky Ian Gordon was so inspired by the leading soprano Harolyn Blackwell—a product of Harlem herself— that he decided to create a song cycle based on Hughes' poetry called "Genius Child," the first of several such collaborations. Today's **offertory** comes from the last third of that cycle, which Gordon refers to as "more philosophical" than the rest, and poignantly depicts a sense of uncertainty, longing, and lament through a descending melodic idea that repeats throughout.

In 1641 the Thuringian poet Georg Neumark composed both the text and tune of *Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten*. An example of the newly fashionable *Trostlied* (a song of consolation), its first two lines nicely summarize the chorale's entire message: "Let God be God and trust in Him." A favorite of Lutherans since the late seventeenth century, it remains popular among German composers especially; one finds it in everything from concerted works to contemporary film soundtracks. Bach treated its sturdy melody multiple times, including a concise setting that serves as today's **closing voluntary**.

-Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

IN OUR PRAYERS

Family of Garry Eudey who died April 1.

St. Philippians and their families — Nadene Crain; Bonnie Moore; Russell Bahruth; Chuck Johnson; Rollie McGinnis; Jo Helland; Peg Palisin; Vada Woodall; Jeremy Mattern; Scott Easterly; Bill Holden; David Winship; Bob Ardell; Richard Johnson; Philip McDaniel; Charlotte Kibler; Carolyn Vestal; Diane Clarke; Susan Huffman; Emily Estill; Barbara Cavanaugh; Mary Herlitz; Jan Ostendorf; 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 Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; 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, Pete & Gloria Benevides, 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; Tom Barnett - friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Jackie Janacek, Bill Ward, Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach– 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.







April 13-20

PALM SUNDAY

11 a.m. — worship with children's choir and procession of palms

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7 p.m. — worship with communion and the St. Philip Choir

GOOD FRIDAY

12 noon – service of scripture and song with Cecelia Duarte 8 p.m. – Tenebrae Service of Darkness with the St. Philp Choir

HOLY SATURDAY

5 p.m. – musical meditation with Matthew Dirst

EASTER SUNDAY

9 a.m. and 11 a.m. – the Festival Service of Easter with the St. Philp Choir and a brass ensemble *Breakfast and Easter activities between services*











Looking for a few favorite, historical, family photos of your parents, your family, & yourself with your friends frolicking during the Mo Ranch Retreat over the past 50 years to be included in a slide show to be presented during our 50th Anniversay Retreat.

DEADLINE FOR PHOTOS IS MAY 1, 2025.

Please include in your email:
-year photo taken (approx if not known)
-names of those in photo (L to R)



EMAIL PHOTOS TO DIANA@SAINTPHILIP.NET







VISIT: 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. Apr. 13 - Palm Sunday—Sacred Music for Holy Week Matthew Dirst will lead us in exploring the sacred music planned for the last week of Lent, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Presented by Dr. Matthew Dirst - St. Philip organist, Professor of Music at the Moores School of Music, Univ. Of Houston, Artistic Director of the Grammy-nominated early music ensemble Ars Lyrica Houston. If you would like to join any of the classes, email John Hartman: jshartman01@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL – TODAY – SPECIAL – 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 **Apr. 10** at 7:00 PM. We will discuss *Conflict: The Evolution of War-fare from 1945 to Ukraine* by General David Petraeus and Andrew Roberts. Watch your email for details. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

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. We are learning from *Too Busy Not to Pray* by Bill Hybels. 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 - sarah.m.0617@gmail.com

Monday Morning Saints – Apr. 14 – meets 2nd Monday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Dining Room - Tricia Tolbert - phtolbert@gmail.com

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

Sunday Circle – Apr. 13 – (due to Easter the following week) after worship in the Dining Room. Jan Meyer - <u>jsmeyer9990@gmail.com</u>

One More Chance Study for Everyone — Meets 4th Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Library. We'll be discussing Lesson 8 from "Let Justice Roll Down"). Everyone is welcome. Lee Ardell — leeardell@gmail.com



EASTER LILIES – Lilies from the Brookwood Community will again 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—<u>saintphilip.net</u>, choosing the Flowers fund option from the menu (include the information below in the Note section; or by sending a check to the Church Office or dropping it in the offering plate with completed information below. Mailed dedications should arrive by **April 11**. Thanks for your help in continuing this holiday tradition!

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

Name(s) of Donors
Who are Lilies (circle one) in Memory or Honor of:



Join us Saturday, **April 12** at 4:00 p.m. for a Lenten voice recital featuring three of Houston's local artists. Stephen & Justine Ash will present a beautiful array of sacred works for tenor and/or soprano and will be assisted by the prolific collaborative pianist, Andreea Muţ. We hope you will start your Holy Week with this meaningful program.

2026 TRIP TO SCOTLAND

Justin Langham and I are organizing a Presbyterian heritage trip to Scotland June 15-27, 2026. A tour for choir and congregation (and friends), we will have opportunities see a number of sites from the Reformation period and explore more deeply the remarkable life of John Knox. Each day has been designed to include spiritual and historic sites as well as time to enjoy the landscape, people, culture, and cuisine of Scotland. The choir will present two concerts in the course of our trip. Anyone who would like to be a part of the "touring choir" is welcome - or you can join me in the audience!

We are partnering with <u>St. Cecilia Tours</u>, a local travel agency that Justin has had previous experience with. I've been impressed by their care in preparing our itinerary.

The brochure for the trip is available <u>here.</u> Registrations are being received <u>here.</u> Justin and I would be glad to respond to any questions. I hope you'll consider joining us on this promising journey!

Peace to all, John Wurster



713.622.4807 • saintphilip.net

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 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 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 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, text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts, 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, lorrie@saintphilip.net 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.



Hymn 393

O Day of Rest and Gladness



In this text the first day of the week represents a threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost—each an encounter with Trinitarian activity centered on one of the Three Persons. The tune name recalls the secular German song adapted for use with several hymns.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Christopher Wordsworth, 1862, alt.; stanza 3, Charles P. Price, 1980, alt.

MUSIC: Memmingen ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904

7.6.7.6.D

Text St. 3 © 1985 Charles P. Price

Hymn 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

TEXT: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.
MUSIC: The Sacred Harp, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D

Return to page 3

What Wondrous Love Is This



With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

TEXT: American folk hymn, c. 1811 MUSIC: Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1965 Music Harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company) WONDROUS LOVE 12.9.12.12.9