

Preparation for Worship

Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world. Creator, source of every breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

-Jean Janzen, Hymn 7

Voluntary *Moderato in G major*Elizabeth Stirling
(1819-1895)

Greeting Please sign and pass the friendship folder.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Introit Awake, My Heart Jane Marshall (1924-2019)

Awake, my heart, and render to God thy sure defender, thy Maker, thy Preserver, a song of love and fervor.

Confirm my deeds and guide me: my day, with thee beside me, beginning, middle, ending, will all be upward tending.

words by Paul Gerhardt (1754-1841)
 translated by Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

† Opening Sentences

Before and after, first and last, Alpha and Omega, the steadfast love of God endures forever. **Alleluia!**

† Hymn 15 (see page 12)

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

† Prayer of Confession

Holy God,
you have shown yourself to us in Jesus,
perfect in every way,
compassionate and kind,
faithful and loving,
gracious and hospitable.
We stumble and fall as we seek to follow him,
struggling to make his ways our ways.
Our sins are real, and they are many.
Forgive our failings
and encourage us to start again.

silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

† Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the good news. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

† Response

Fintan O'Carroll



MUSIC: Fintan O'Carroll, 1981 ©

† The Peace

Peace be with you. Peace be with all.

Conversation with Children

Afterwards, Children's Chapel meets in Room 203. Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 106. Psalm 66 Gordon Johnston



Praise our God all peoples:

and let the sound of praise be heard.

The LORD has preserved us among the living:

and kept our feet from stumbling.

For you, O God, have tested us:

and refined us as silver is refined.

You led us into the snare:

vou laid a burden of trouble upon our backs.

You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water:

but you have brought us out into a place of liberty. *Refrain – all*

I will come into your house with burnt offerings:

and I will pay you my vows,

the vows which I made with my lips:

and swore with my mouth when I was in trouble.

I will offer fat beasts in sacrifice, with the smoke of burning rams:

I will prepare you an offering of bulls and goats.

Refrain – all

Come, then, and listen, all you that fear the LORD:

and I will tell you what God has done for me.

I cried aloud to God:

high praise was ready on my tongue.

If I had cherished evil in my heart:

the Lord would not have heard me.

But truly God has heard me:

and has given heed to my prayer.

Blessed are you, O God, for you have not rejected my prayer:

nor withdrawn from me your steadfast love.

Refrain – all

— Psalm 66:8-20 (translation from A New Zealand Prayer Book © 1989)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Acts 17:16-34

N.T. pgs. 137-138

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Anthem

If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby (b. 1949)

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth.

And ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.

- John 14:15-18

Sermon

Anyone Listening?

John W. Wurster

silence and stillness

ENGELBERG

† Affirmation of Faith

Hispanic Creed

Creemos en Dios Padre todopoderoso,

(We believe in God the Father almighty)

Creator of the heavens and the earth;

Creator of the all peoples and all cultures;

Creator of all tongues and races.

Creemos en Jesucristo, su Hijo, nuestro Señor,

(We believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord)

God made flesh in a person for all humanity,

God made flesh in an age for all the ages,

God made flesh in one culture for all cultures,

God made flesh in love and grace for all creation.

Creemos en el Espíritu Santo,

(We believe in the Holy Spirit)

Through whom God incarnate in Jesus Christ

Makes his presence known in our peoples and our cultures;

Through whom, God, Creator of all that exists,

Gives us power to become new creatures;

Whose infinite gifts make us one people: the body of Christ.

Creemos en la Iglesia, que es universal,

(We believe in the Church universal)

because it is a sign of God's Reign,

Whose faithfulness is shown in its many hues

Where all the colors paint a single landscape,

Where all tongues sing the same praise.

Creemos en el reino venidero –

(We believe in the coming Reign of God)

the day of the Great Fiesta -

When all the colors of creation will form a harmonious rainbow,

When all peoples will join in joyful banquet,

When all tongues of the universe will sing the same song.

Y porque creemos, nos comprometemos

(And because we believe, we commit ourselves)

To believe for those who do not believe,

To love for those who do not love,

To dream for those who do not dream,

Until the day when hope becomes reality. 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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

We give you thanks, great God, for the hope we have in Jesus, who died but is risen and rules over all.

We praise you for your presence with us and for the promise that nothing past, present, or yet to come can separate us from your love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† Hymn 366 (see page 14)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Fughetta on ENGLEBERG

Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

John Wurster | Omar Rouchon

Liturgist

Tim Burgess

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | St. Philip Staff Singers | Bell Canto — Elizabeth Duerr, conducting Matthew Dirst, organist | Randall Swanson, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Melissa and Guy Aldrich to the glory of God in celebration of Mother's Day and in remembrance of Emmett F. Barnes and Abigail.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today we have a special collection for the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering. Envelopes can be found in the pews or you can make a donation online and choose PW Birthday. The offering funds up to five projects every year in amounts of \$75,000 to \$150,000 each. The 2023 offerings are designated to Making Miracles Group Home—Tallahassee, FL and to Berhane Yesus Elementary School—Dembi Dollo, Ethiopia. To learn more about both of these projects go to: https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/ Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the saintphilip.net homepage and selecting Make a Contribution, then selecting PW Birthday as the fund.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Acts 17:22–31 Paul introduces the Athenians to their "unknown god": the Lord.
- Psalm 66:8–20 Bless God, who hears our prayers and keeps us among the living.
- 1 Peter 3:13–22 Do not fear; testify to the hope that is in you through Christ.
- John 14:15–21 Jesus says: the Father will send the Spirit, who will abide in you.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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MUSIC NOTES

Organ Music

Today's **opening voluntary** is the work of one of the first female organists to achieve prominence in England. Following the example of Felix Mendelssohn, whose organ recital tours astonished the English public with his mastery of pedal playing especially, Elizabeth Stirling composed and performed pieces that incorporate active pedal lines, something earlier English music for the instrument generally lacks. Her *Moderato in G Major* for the instrument juxtaposes a lilting initial melody against a sturdy chorale.

The **closing voluntary** takes up the tune of today's sermon hymn. This short fugue on ENGLEBERG comes from Richard Proulx, who spent many years as Director of Music at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago. He was an industrious composer of church music of all sorts, from hymn tunes to choral works.

Choral Music

Today's introit is by Texas composer Jane Marshall, who enjoyed a long and active career in church and university music in Dallas. Long associated with the United Methodist Church, Marshall was director of the Church Music Summer School at Southern Methodist University's Perkins School of Theology from 1975 to 2010, and taught choral arranging, music theory, and conducting in the music division of SMU's Meadows School of the Arts. Marshall's large catalog of over 200 musical compositions has been praised as much for her unique, well-crafted compositional style as for her use of excellent texts from her own hand as well as the works of other authors. Awake, My Heart is perhaps her most well-known and most often performed work. Written in 1957, it was that year's Prize Anthem of the American Guild of Organists.

This morning's **anthem** is a moving setting by British composer Philip Wilby of words from today's Gospel

reading. When he was a student violinist in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, Wilby attended classes by Herbert Howells which inspired his interest in composition. After graduating from Keble College, Oxford, he worked as a professional violinist before becoming Principal Lecturer (later Professor) in Composition at Leeds University. Though he has written for a wide variety of performing forces, including symphonic works, he has concentrated particularly on two areas: brass band music, and music for the Christian liturgy, for which he has composed extensively. Wilby's most recent large-scale choral work is An English Passion according to Saint Matthew, composed in 2018 for choir, soloists, congregation and organ. His setting of If Ye Love Me heard this morning was composed in 1992 for five-part choir (SSATB) and organ, which, though brief in duration, features a signature rich harmonic pallet with long flowing lines for the choir.

Handbell Music

Bell Canto makes its final full appearance of the 2022-2023 choir season today, playing music of American composer Valerie Stephenson at the **offertory**. *Joyous Spirit* was composed in 1991 in memory of a fellow teacher at Trinity Episcopal School in New Orleans, LA, where Stephenson served as music director from 1979 to 1992. Her introduction to handbells came when she discovered a set of bells in her school storage closets in 1979. From there Stephenson worked to bring handbells into mainstream music education, eventually publishing over 250 handbell compositions and arrangements. *Joyous Spirit* makes use of the full five-octave range of handbells, and features two different melodies heard both separately and together over a strong rhythmic pulse.

- Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families — Ruth Ewing; Ruena Wood, her children and grandchildren; Kathryn Harwood; Robin & Gary Willis; CJ Miller; Beverly Baker; Beverly Hudson; 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; Halley Delany – sister of Nina Lambright; Willow Polk – niece of Sharon Webb; Truxillo family – Wayne and Sandra Truxillo; 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; Darryl Cazes – brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; 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 — Joyce Freudenberg, Annie & Sidney Roach, and Greg Brannon – friends of Stephen Paine. Rosebud Wiese Kirby – friend of Tina Bryan; Jacqueline Boyd – friend of Kate Burkart; Carol Gilliland - friend of Orlean Anderson; 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.





St. Philip has a long and rich connection with Mo-Ranch. For more than forty years, our congregation has held its annual retreat at this Presbyterian conference center in the hill country, and every year this congregation collects a special offering ahead of the retreat so we can express our love and care for this treasured mission partner. The "Mo-Shower" supports the housekeeping department at the ranch. This year our gift will help replenish the very most fundamental supplies needed to make Mo's accommodations comfortable and welcoming for guests: bedding and towels! It takes a lot of these "soft goods" to keep the ranch in good shape. Your generous support of this offering will ensure rest and relaxation for many visitors this season. The Mo Shower offering will be collected on Sundays, **May 21**

& 28. Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the <u>saintphilip.net</u> homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution,* then selecting MO SHOWER / GIFTS as the fund.

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. May 21 - "Christians and Medicine: Historical Contours & Complexities" - One science-related field of particular interest to Christianity historically has been medicine. This presentation will trace the main contours of Christianity and medicine from the early followers of Jesus to today's hospitals with the word "saint" in their names. And it will debunk some of today's myths about Christianity's supposed objection to particular medical Presented by Bruce Yeager - author discoveries. of Wrestling Brothers: Rethinking Religion-Science Relationships, and Spirited Bodies Beneath the Stars: Science & Spirituality Together. On Sunday, May 28, Kate Burkart will lead a Church & Society presentation on this year's Oscar-winning film "Everything Everywhere All at Once." To see the movie at home for free on Friday, May 19, at 7:00 p.m., Central Time, go to Free Screening Program | AARP Movies for Grownups to register. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—The Adult Bible Study class will recess from Sunday, May 7 through Sunday, May 21 and will meet again Sunday, May 28, before recessing for the summer. Join us from 9:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m. to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to God's people. All are welcome.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL — The Children's Chapel is held every **2nd** and **4th Sunday** 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 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 **May 11** we will discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. 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. – recess to fall Sunday Circle – 3rd Sun. of each month @ 12:30 p.m. Thursday Evening Circle – 1st Thurs. of each month @ 7:00 p.m. – recess till fall

SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 5 - SUMMER LECTURE

SERIES - Please plan to join us on Saturday, **Aug. 5** for St. Philip's annual Summer Lecture Series. This year's speaker will be the Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap, Vice President of the Evangelical Environmental Network and author of the recently-published book, *Following Jesus in a Warming World -a Christian Call to Climate Action*. More details to come. Please contact Omar Rouchon with any questions.

VISIT ISRAEL IN 2024 - We are putting together a St. Philip trip to Israel for **April 1-12**, **2024**. If you are interested in seeing the trip brochure or need other information, please contact John Wurster john@saintphilip.net.

A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS & A CALL TO PRAY

The congregation is being asked to submit recommendations for persons to serve as Ruling Elders (Session), Trustees, and on the Central Mission Endowment Council.

We ask that the congregation wrap this process in prayer. Take some time to pray over the names in the church directory. Who do you believe exhibits spiritual leadership to take St. Philip to the next step? Who has a contagious passion for God? Who might enlarge our vision, empower our members, and embrace a bit of risk? How about you?

Thank you for your help! Your 2023 Nominating Committee:

Lee Ardell, Selena Brinegar, Laura Burgess, Walker Fair, Chuck Johnson, Mickey Meyers, Jeanette Wennenweser

To suggest a candidate, please provide the candidate's name and your name in case we have questions. **Self-nominations are welcome.** In making recommendations, please elaborate on personal qualities, involvement in our church, and why you consider this person a good candidate for church leadership. Please use a separate form for each recommendation.

LEADER RECOMMENDATION FORM — USE ONE FORM PER NOMINATION

Office: Ruling Elder (Sessio Comments:	n) □ Trustee □ CME Cound	il	
If you are recommending a F Education	Ruling Elder, please circle the	ministry area(s) they we Mission	ould best serve:
Peacemaking & Social Justice		Property	
	Welcome & Membership	Worship & Music	
Your Name:			
Email:			
Phone Number:			
Forms may be placed in	n the offering plate mailed to the	Church Office or comple	ated online at caintabilia net
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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.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The session has voted to continue with a single service on Sundays at 11 a.m., at least through the summer.

- All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!
 O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam, sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 3. O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night. Alleluia! Alleluia! Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 4. All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve, Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 5. And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6. O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart. Alleluia! Alleluia! All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One! Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, this exuberant baptismal hymn unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.

TEXT: John Brownlow Geyer, 1967, alt. MUSIC: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904 Text © 1972 John Brownlow Geyer

ENGELBERG 10.10.10.4

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