

Preparation for Worship

The symbol of Easter is the empty tomb. You can't depict or domesticate emptiness. You can't make it into pageants and string it with lights. It doesn't move people to give presents to each other or sing old songs. It ebbs and flows all around us, the Eastertide.

-Frederick Buechner

Voluntary Praeludium in C Major Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

Greeting

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

Introit *Alleluia Jubilate* (excerpt) James Whitbourn (1963-2024)

Alleluia

Opening Sentences

† Hymn 247 (see page 9) Now the Green Blade Rises NOËL NOUVELET

† 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

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

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

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

John 21:1-14

N.T. pgs. 115-116

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

Anthem

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

Tom Fettke (b. 1941)

When I gaze into the night sky,
And see the work of Your fingers.
The moon and stars suspended in space.
But what is man that you are mindful of him?

You have given man a crown of glory and honor.
And have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation;
The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea.
But what is man, oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of Your name Transcends the earth and fills the heavens. O Lord, our God little children praise Him perfectly. And so would we, and so would we.

> Alleluia, Alleluia. The majesty and glory of Your name! Alleluia, Alleluia.

Linda Lee Johnson, adapt. Psalm 8

Sermon Specifically John W. Wurster

silence and stillness

† Hymn 231 (see page 10) Christ H

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

SUO GAN

Offertory

Prelude in G major

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's 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.

In every time. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Choir:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might. *REFRAIN (all)* Heaven and earth are full of your glory. *REFRAIN (all)* Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. *REFRAIN (all)*

Blessed are you. . . we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Blessed are you, O Spirit, ... now and forever.



With the confidence of the children of God, let us pray as Jesus taught:

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

Communion Music

On Mighty Pens from "The Creation," Hob. XXI:2

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

On mighty pens uplifted soars the eagle aloft, And cleaves the sky in swiftest flight to the blazing sun.

> The merry lark bids welcome to the morn, And cooing calls the tender dove his mate.

From every bush and grove
Resound the nightingales' delightful, liquid notes.
No grief affected yet her breast,
Nor to a mournful tale were tun'd
Her soft, enchanting lays.

Libretto by Gottfried van Swieten

†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 day, That we may live as your beloved people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† Hymn 248 (see page 11)

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn BWV 630

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Liturgist

Lee Ardell

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Choir | Jane Malczweskyj, pianist | Thomas O'Neill, tenor Justin Langham, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Melissa Aldrich in loving memory of Emmett Frederick Barnes, Jr., father of Melissa Aldrich, grandfather of Michelle Goodman, and great-grandfather of Micah Goodman.

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 Pentecost Offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA). This Offering helps our young people begin life with a strong start in the years from childhood through young adulthood that will last a lifetime: 50% supports ministries with youth and young adults; 10% supports child advocacy/children at risk; 40% is retained by St. Philip and will be directed to our Kids Against Hunger meal packing ministry. Gifts may be brought to the front basket during the final hymn. You may also make a secure contribution through saintphilip.net and choosing the Communion fund or by sending a check to the church office, with "Communion" in the memo line.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Acts 9:1-6 (7-20) On the road to Damascus, Saul sees a blinding light and is converted.
- Psalm 30 O Lord, you brought me up from the grave; my soul praises you.
- Revelation 5:11–14 The choirs of heaven sing: Worthy is the Lamb that was slain! Amen!
- John 21:1–19 A miraculous catch of fish; Jesus tells Simon Peter: Feed my sheep.

MUSIC NOTES

Georg Böhm left only a small handful of notated organ works, which include a **Praeludium in C Major**, today's opening voluntary, which begins with a vigorous pedal solo. A subsequent fugal section sports a deceptively simple yet rhythmically driving subject, one that works well either in the fingers or feet.

English composer and organist James Whitbourn was most known for his early work as a program creator for the BBC, where his award-winning productions developed a reputation for connecting with audiences. In addition to his work as a Director of Music at several churches in Oxford, Whitbourn achieved international acclaim as a composer, collaborating with world-renown groups and artists up until his sudden passing from cancer just last year at the age of 60. Today's **introit** highlights the opening section of Whitbourn's *Alleluia Jubilate*, which conveys a hushed but growing excitement appropriate for the Easter season.

A beloved staple in choral church music, *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name* represents a pinnacle pairing of music and text, each enhanced by the other through moments of stillness and bold and majestic melodic lines. In parallel with the text, the music begins with a quiet texture and steadily builds in dramatic fashion until the powerful declamations of "alleluia."

In the 1830s and 40s Felix Mendelssohn composed, to great acclaim, two volumes of organ works: three preludes & fugues plus six multi-movement sonatas. His organ recitals in England especially had paved the way for both publications, which shows how well German players preserved the technique of revered virtuoso organists like J. S. Bach. Mendelssohn's Prelude in G Major is one of the most tuneful movements from either set.

Inspired by grand Handel oratorios like *Israel in Egypt*, Haydn's *Die Schöpfung* implements a compositional device known as text painting—using musical ideas to literally convey elements of the text. Originally for soprano solo, "On Mighty Pens" contains many examples of text painting, beginning with the ascending line on the text "uplifted soars the eagle" at the opening of the aria, as well as several clever depictions of the gentle "cooing" of birds throughout.

Bach's *Orgelbüchlein* (*Little Organ Book*) contains settings of a number of Easter chorale melodies, including today's closing voluntary, an exuberant setting of "**Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn**" ("Today God's Son Triumphs"). Like many *Orgelbüchlein* chorale preludes, this particular example features its sturdy chorale tune in long notes in the top voice, while busy figuration beneath suggests the joy of the Easter season.

- Notes by Justin Langham and Matthew Dirst

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss

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LAST CHANCE!

If you missed getting a new directory photo, stop in the library on Sunday, **May 11** from 9-11 a.m. or 12-1 p.m.



IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families — Bonnie Moore; Rollie McGinnis; 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

SANCTUARY FLOWERS FOR 2025

Celebrate your wedding anniversary, family birthdays, or memorialize your mother and father by sponsoring the chancel flowers on Sunday morning. Please sign up to sponsor the flowers on the date you prefer by contacting Lorrie Castle at 713-622-4807 or lorrie@saintphilip.net or you may go to saintphilip.net the calendar page and click on the chancel flower picture. Sandra Truxillo, Flower Coordinator, will call you the week you chose to sponsor flowers to discuss the type of flowers and the message you would like in the bulletin. The standard arrangement for chancel flowers is \$130; special requests or exotic flowers may cost more.



On May 11, we will have a special offering for the PC (USA) Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering. You can make a donation online and choose PW Birthday or use the envelopes found in the pews. Please join us following the worship service for birthday cake in the Gathering Area. The Birthday Offering supports domestic and international ministries, focusing on areas such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence or women's concerns.

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 11 - St. Philip Peace and Social Justice Committee Breathe Project - The Breathe Collaborative is a coalition of citizens, environmental advocates, public health professionals and academics working to improve air quality, climate pollution and make our region a healthy and prosperous place to live. The Collaborative powers the Breathe Project through science-based work and a community outreach platform. Presented by Thaddeus Popovich-Allegheny County Clean Air Now (ACCAN), Climate Reality Project. If you would like to join any of the classes, email: 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: sij10223@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: 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. 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 – has concluded for the 24-25 year and will begain again in September. They meet the 1st Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Dining Room. Sarah Victorian - sarah.m.0617@gmail.com

Monday Morning Saints – May 12 – 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—May 18—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. The last meeting of the study year will be on May 25 at 10 a.m. in the Library to discuss Lesson 9 - Sustaining Creation's Health for All. Everyone is welcome. Lee Ardell—leeardell@gmail.com.

The Mission Committee will be assisting Plant It Forward (PIF) Farmer Elizabeth on May 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. at PIF Blossom Heights located at 8702 Lipan Road. We will be helping with weeding and simple garden tasks, no experience necessary. Plant It Forward has asked that we sign up here. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-work-day-at-blossom-heights-tickets-1320296374999?aff=oddtdtcreator For questions feel free to contact Tina Bryan: tinairene@sbcglobal.net or 281-536-8816. Look for more details in the Philip-Eye on May 6.



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.

WE LONG

for deeper faith, vibrant hope and boundless love for everyone, every day, everywhere.

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.

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, 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.



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 247

Now the Green Blade Rises

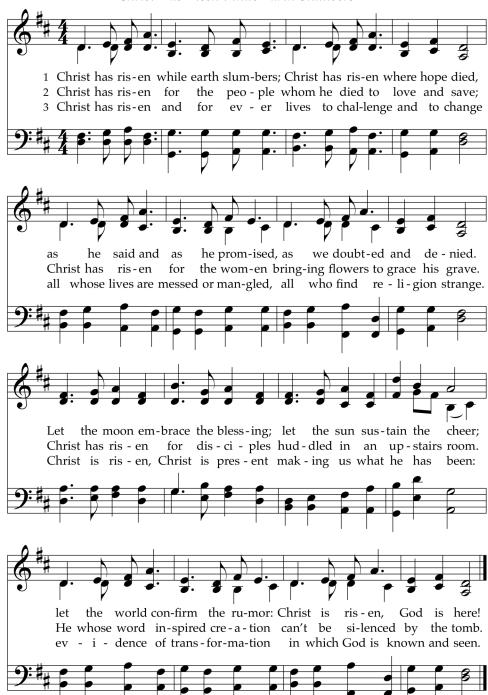


Although there were some traditional Easter carols, this hybrid one has been created by grafting a 20th-century English text onto a late 15th-century French tune. The allegory of the dying and rising grain as a parallel for Christ's Resurrection is probably based on John 12:24.

TEXT: John M. C. Crum, 1928, alt. MUSIC: French carol, 15th cent.; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928 Text and Music Harm. © 1928 Oxford University Press NOËL NOUVELET 11.10.10.11

Hymn 231

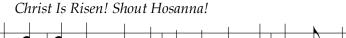
Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers



Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1988 MUSIC: Welsh melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011 Text © 1988 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) Music Arr. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

Hymn 248





In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1984 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842, alt. Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D