

Preparation for Worship

God never seems to weary of trying to get across to us. Word after word God tries in search of the right word. When the creation itself doesn't seem to say it right – sun, moon, stars, all of it – God tries flesh and blood.

- Frederick Buechner

VoluntaryTrio Sonata
Op. 18/2 (first movement)
Hugo Distler
(1908-1942)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Introit O Come, Let Us Worship Richard Shephard (1949-2021)

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For this is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

Opening Sentences

Let us gather for worship, for this day is holy to the Lord. The joy of the Lord is our strength and salvation, and we gather to offer our praise. In singing and in silence, in Word and in prayer, let us walk in the light of the Lord. Let us worship God.

† Hymn 301 (see page 9)

Let Us Build a House | All Are Welcome

TWO OAKS

† Prayer of Confession

Holy God,
we confess that we have wandered from your light.
We follow paths of self-indulgence,
instead of focusing on our need of you.
We passively accept the suffering of the world,
expecting others to stand up
and work for the change we would like to see.
Lord, in your strength,
renew us and compel us by your invitation that we may work
to pursue your justice and mercy for all people,
sharing your light in ways great and small.

silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

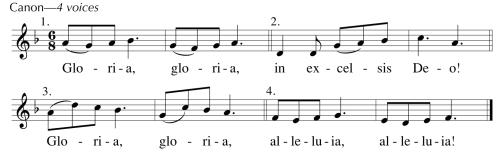
† Declaration of Forgiveness

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

† Response

(cung truice cocond time in canon)

(sung twice, second time in canon)



Music: Jacques Berthier, © 1979, 1988, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

† The Peace

Peace be with you. Peace be with all.

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

O.T. pgs. 436-437

GLORIA (Taizé)

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SUNG IN FRENCH

Verbe égal au Très-Haut, notre unique espérance, Jour éternel de la terre et des cieux, De la paisible nuit nous rompons le silence: Divin Sauveur, jette sur nous les yeux!

Repands sur nous le feu de ta grâce puissante; Que tout l'enfer fuie au son de ta voix; Dissipe le sommeil d'une âme languissante, Qui la conduit à l'oubli de tes lois!

O Christ, sois favorable à ce peuple fidèle Pour te bénir maintenant rassemblé; Reçois les chants qu'il offre à ta gloire immortelle; Et de tes dons qu'il retourne comblé!

TRANSLATION

O Word equal to the Most High, our only hope, eternal light of the earth and the heavens, we break the silence of the peaceful night: divine Savior, cast your eyes upon us!

Pour on us the fire of your powerful grace, that all hell may flee the sound of your voice; banish the slumber of a languishing soul, which makes it forgetful of your laws!

O Christ, show favor to your faithful people assembled here to praise you; receive the hymns they offer to your immortal glory; and may they return filled with your gifts!

- French text by Jean Racine (1639-1699)

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:14-21

N.T. pg. 61

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Words of Power and Promise, Gift and Treasure

John Wurster

† Hymn 773 (see page 10)

Heaven Shall Not Wait

HEAVEN SHALL NOT WAIT

† Affirmation of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

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

Offertory Anthem

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

Harold Friedell (1905-1958)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life! Such a Way as gives us breath, Such a Truth as ends all strife, Such a Life that killeth Death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength! Such a Light as shows a feast, Such a Feast as mends in length, Such a Strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart! Such a Joy as none can move, Such a Love as none can part, Such a Heart as joys in love.

- words by George Herbert (1593-1633)

† Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Holy God, we thank you for the majesty of your work, the wisdom of your word, and the generosity of your grace. Let the gifts of our lives bear witness to your goodness and mercy, your faithfulness and justice, and your steadfast love for all. Amen.

† Hymn 772 (see page 11)

Live into Hope

TRURO

Charge and Blessing

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

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Keatan King and Omar Rouchon

Musicians

Julia Fox, Cecilia Duarte, Emily Jenkins, Thomas O'Neill,
Nicholas Rathgeb and Kirby Traylor — choral ensemble
Matthew Dirst — organist | Randall Swanson — music director

FLOWERS

The flowers are given today by Mary Linda Williams to the glory of God and in celebration of her grandson Colin Schroff William's first birthday.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Ezra reads God's law to the people; they weep to hear God's words.
- Psalm 19 The heavens tell God's glory; the law of the Lord is perfect.
- 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a Christ's body has many different members; in the Spirit we are one.
- Luke 4:14–21 *Jesus reads from Isaiah*: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.

Additional scripture references in today's sermon:

Genesis 2 and 50; Joshua 24; Psalm 22, 23, 27, 30, 42, 90, 121, and 139; Ecclesiastes 3; Isaiah 2 and 43; Amos 5; Micah 6: Matthew 5 and 25: Mark 10 and 16: Luke 2 and 23: John 1, 13, and 14: Romans 8 and 12: 1 Corinthians 13; Philippians 2; Revelation 21

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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MUSIC NOTES

Organ Music

Hugo Distler's *Trio Sonata* for organ was written in 1939 with the composer's house organ in mind. Following the model of Bach's trio sonatas, Distler infuses this venerable genre with counterpoint that is by turns angular and elegant, cheerful and melancholy. Its first movement, today's **opening voluntary**, mimics eighteenth-century chamber style though with a modernist harmonic sensibility.

Our **closing voluntary** is an organ arrangement of a choral setting of today's appointed psalm, whose text has inspired several famous choral works, including Haydn's "The Heavens Are Telling." A Venetian patrician and lawyer, Benedetto Marcello also excelled in musical composition. His fifty psalm settings, published between 1724-27, feature melodies from both Christian and Jewish traditions. They quickly became popular outside his native orbit, thanks to subsequent Englishlanguage editions. The organ transcription of *Psalm 19* heard this morning was arranged by E. Power Biggs (1906–1977).

Choral Music

This morning's **introit** is a short call to worship for four-part choir and organ by British composer Richard Shephard, who, until his death in February of last year, had served for many decades in various administrative and liturgical capacities at England's York Minster Cathedral, while also composing a large body of accessible choral music for the church.

Today's **anthem** is one of Gabriel Fauré's bestloved works. Composed in 1865 while Fauré was studying at the École Niedermeyer, it is remarkable that the *Cantique de Jean Racine* was written by a student who was only twenty years old, not surprisingly earning Fauré a "premier prix" (a first-class mark). The *Cantique* marks the starting point for much of Fauré's music yet to come. In it the listener is immediately greeted by a melody that encapsulates everything that is great about Fauré's best music. First, the tune is fundamentally vocal and its contours generate a line that continues for longer than seems possible, yet still remaining coherent and with direction. And secondly, the intimate romanticism of the melody creates its own resonant textures.* With its French text as translated from the Roman breviary by Jean Racine, the *Cantique* is performed this morning in its original setting for organ and fourpart choir.

This morning's **offertory anthem** is a setting by Harold Friedell of one of George Herbert's most beloved poems. Friedell was an American organist and music educator, who taught at both Juilliard and Union Seminary in New York City, and who served during the last two decades of this life as Organist and Master of the Choir at St. Bartholomew's Church (Episcopal) in Midtown Manhattan. Friedell's music is marked by a noble simplicity of means, but powerful in its sentiments and direct setting of beautiful texts. Welsh-born George Herbert is recognized as one of the greatest British poets of the 17th century. Herbert was an Anglican priest, and left a very large body of poetry at his early death at the age of only 39. Like today's Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life, all of Herbert's English poems (he also wrote poetry in Latin and Greek) are on religious themes, with a very large number considered to be masterpieces of English literature.

> Matthew Dirst, Randall Swanson and *Jeremy Summerly © 2017

IN OUR PRAYERS

- St. Philippians and their families Tom Sands; Roderick James; Lee Larkin; Dorothy Murphey; Bill Slick; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Alma Fonseca mother of Angelina Fonseca; Bill Polk brother-in-law of Sharon Webb; Darryl Cazes brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud cousin of Stephen Paine; Douglas Everhart brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Gretchen Everhart niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; 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; Dottie Laas and family cousin of Sam Fisher; Shirley Boggus grandmother of Omi Ford; Dona Rowe mother of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.
- *Homebound* Walter Baker; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.
- Friends of St. Philippians Lynda Shepherd friend of Nancy Higgs; Bruce Witte friend of Denis and Janet Martin; Janet Arnold friend of Eleanor Grant; Auden McCarty friend of Mary McGuire; Ted & Susan Hirtz friends of Jacqueline and Bill Taylor; Paul English; Matt Scalapino and Laura Chilton friends of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield friend of Barbara Runge; Rob Bond friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Clayton Amacker friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; and Walter "Buddy" Hammann III friend of Robin and Gary Willis.

We also pray for health care workers, first responders, and caregivers; for those who are sick; and for those 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—9:40 a.m. 10:45 a.m. by Zoom—Jan. 30 St. Philip Mission Partner: New Spring Elevating Lives, Lifting Communities. Presented by Robert Westheimer, founder and chairman of New Spring. Email Mickey Meyers at churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net if you would like to join any of the classes.
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS** is meeting again each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in Room 204 of the Education Building. We will resume our study of the last ten Psalms with Dr. Robert Alter's <u>The Book of Psalms</u> (2007) and then return to the Kingdom of Israel at I Kings 2.13 with Dr. Alter's <u>Ancient Israel</u>, <u>The Former Prophets</u> (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 Dining 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 tonight, Tuesday, **Feb. 1**, 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 <u>welcome@saintphilip.net</u> 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. At our next meeting on **Feb. 10** at 7:00 p.m., we will discuss *Chaos on Catnet* by Naomi Kritzer, 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.





Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

We are glad you are here! Please scan the QR Code to access our digital guest-book. We invite you to sign in and let us know you are worshipping with us.

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.

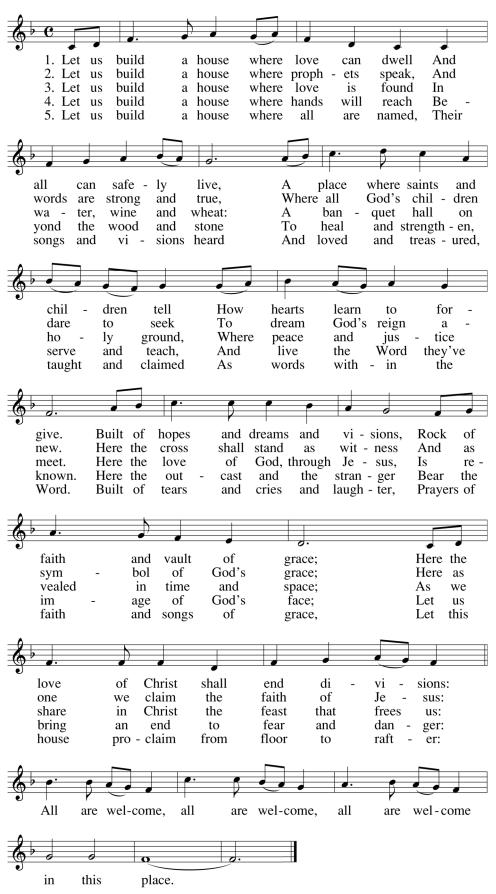
Connect with St. Philip through <u>saintphilip.net</u> and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to <u>lorrie@saintphilip.net</u>.

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 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.

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS—Celebrate your wedding anniversary, family birthdays, or memorialize your mother and father by sponsoring the chancel flowers on Sunday morning. The Flower Calendar for 2022 has gone digital, please sign up to sponsor the flowers on the date which you prefer. If you have any questions, contact Lorrie Castle at 713-622-4807 or lorrie@saintphilip.net. Sandra Truxillo, Flower Coordinator will call you the week you chose to sponsor flowers to discuss the type of flowers and the message your would like in the bulletin. The standard arrangement is \$100 and you will be billed at the end of the month. Click here to pick your date: Flower Sign Up or email Lorrie Castle for a link. Thank you.



TEXT and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1994 © GIA Publications, Inc.

TWO OAKS 9.6.8.6.8.7.10 with refrain

Hymn 773

Heaven Shall Not Wait

HEAVEN SHALL NOT WAIT



This stirring, prophetic hymn is organized around two recurring four-syllable phrases, the first of which introduces an idealized scenario of what Dietrich Bonhoeffer would call "cheap grace," while the second announces the "costly grace" of God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ.

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1987

MUSIC: John L. Bell, 1987

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HEAVEN SHALL NOT WAIT

12.11.12.11



This text on Luke 4:16–20, the author's first, was written for the United Presbyterian Women's National Meeting in July 1976 because the team planning worship could not find a suitable hymn on that passage. She wrote the words with this vigorous 18th-century tune in mind.