



Preparation for Worship

*Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations.
Renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert
as we watch for the glorious return of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Voluntary

Variations on *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

Hugo Distler
(1908-1942)

Greeting

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

Introit

Savior of the Nations, Come

arr. John Ferguson
(b. 1941)

Savior of the nations, come;
Show the glory of the Son!
Ev'ry people, stand in awe;
Praise the perfect Son of God.

God the Father is his source,
Back to God he runs his course;
Down to death and hell descends,
God's high throne he reascends.

Shining stable in the night,
Breathing vict'ry with your light;
Darkness cannot hide your flame,
Shining bright as Jesus' name.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

✠ Hymn 94 ([see page 14](#))

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

JEFFERSON

✠ Prayer of Confession

God of the future,
 you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.
 We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,
 for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.
 We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors,
 abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.
 In your mercy, forgive us.
 Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure
 when Christ comes to judge the world.

silent prayer

✠ Response

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

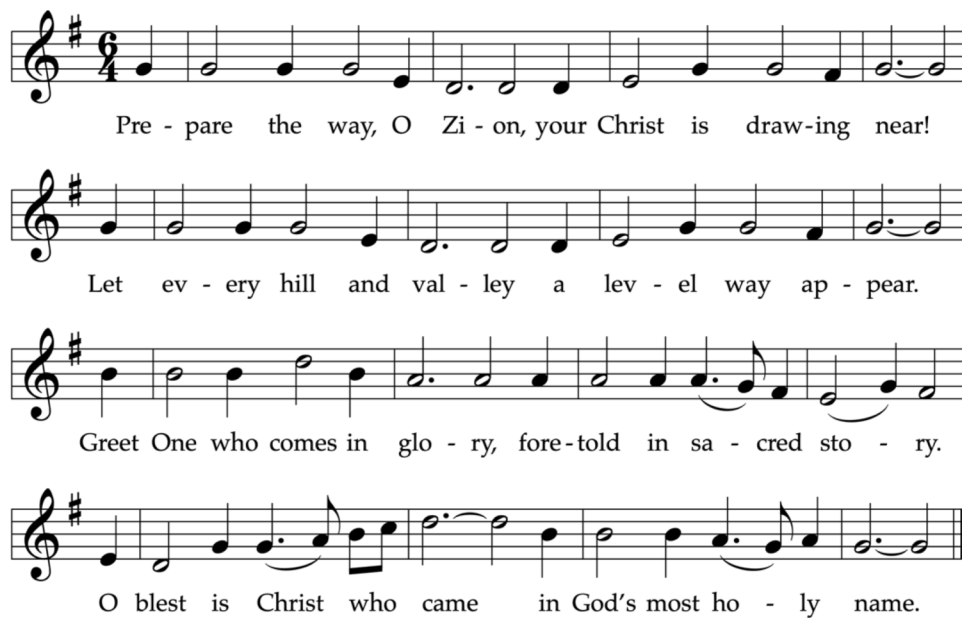
TEXT Ref. Taizé Community, 1984
 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984
 Text and Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

WAIT FOR THE LORD
 8.8

✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

✠ Response



Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw-ing near!

Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.

Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry.

O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812, rev. 1819; translated by Augustus Nelson, 1958;
 adapted by Charles P. Price, 1980, alt. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company
 MUSIC: *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; arr. *American Lutheran Hymnal*, 1930

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
 7.6.7.6.7.7.6.6

✠ 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

First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

O.T. pgs. 694-695

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem*Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People*David Ashley White
(b. 1944)

Comfort, comfort ye my people,
 Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
 Comfort those who sit in darkness
 Mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
 Speak ye to Jerusalem
 Of the peace that waits for them!
 Tell her that her sins I cover,
 And her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice that crieth
 In the desert far and near;
 Calling us to new repentance
 Since the kingdom now is here.
 Oh, that warning cry obey!
 Now prepare for God a way;
 Let the valleys rise to meet him
 And the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,
 Make the rougher places plain.
 O let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits his holy reign.
 For the glory of the Lord
 Now o'er earth is shed abroad;
 And all flesh shall see the token
 That the word is never broken.

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:24-37

N.T. pg. 50

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God!****Sermon**

Where to Begin?

John W. Wurster

silence and stillness✦ **Hymn 352** ([see page 16](#))*My Lord! What a Morning*

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

Offering**Offertory***Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*
BWV 645Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)**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.

It is truly right . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

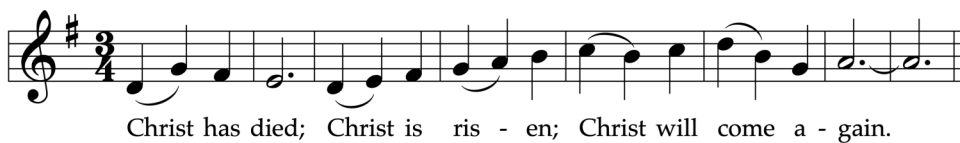


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

SANCTUS (Pavlechko)

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior. . . . Great is the mystery of faith:



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)

Through the Lord Jesus Christ, . . . we bless you, God of glory, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

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

Communion Music

Partita on *Freu dich sehr*
("Comfort, Comfort Ye My People")

Georg Böhm
(1661–1733)

✦ **Prayer after Communion**

Living Christ, Jesus of Nazareth,
Teacher and Friend, Savior and Lord,
we long for your presence.
**As we follow the story of your coming,
touch us by your Spirit,
that through the people we know
and through people we have yet to meet,
we may hear your voice and heed your call. Amen.**

✦ **Hymn 357** ([see page 17](#))

The Days Are Surely Coming

LLANGLOFFAN

✦ **Charge and Blessing**

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

Voluntary

Toccata on *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

Hugo Distler

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Liturgist

Mary McGuire

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | Matthew Dirst, organist and interim choir director

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Wayne and Sandra Truxillo to the Glory of God and in loving remembrance of their siblings.

WORSHIP NOTES

Advent Candle lighting is led this week by the Godly Play Sunday School class. Teachers are Omi Ford, Joyce Fox and Ruthie Waldrop.

To receive communion today, please come forward via the center aisle and receive a piece of bread. Gluten-free bread is also available. You may dip the bread in the chalice of grape juice and receive communion by intinction or you may take from the tray a small cup of grape juice. You may return to your pew via the side aisles. Those who have 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.



CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

An additional offering is received when communion is celebrated. The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of

color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. Gifts may be brought to the front basket during the final hymn. You may also make a secure contribution through MyStPhilip and choosing the Communion fund or by sending a check to the church office, with "Communion" in the memo line.

Today's worship service includes traditional Negro Spiritual music. The Black composers of this music are unknown to history and therefore unable to receive royalties directed to their estates for the use of their songs. To remedy this inequity, a fund has been created and approved by the Session where we will collect voluntary "royalties" for using this music. Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the saintphilip.net homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting Negro Spirituals as the fund. Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). You may also contribute by writing a check with *Negro Spirituals* in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office. This small gesture of reparation seeks to help heal the long history of injury to Black persons. Contributions received over the course of the year will be donated annually to a local organization supporting Black musical traditions.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Isaiah 64:1-9 — *Tear open the heavens and come down; save us from our sin.*
- Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 — *Restore us, O God; let your face shine, and save us.*
- 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 — *God will strengthen you while you wait for Christ's coming.*
- Mark 13:24-37 — *In those days the stars will fall from heaven; keep awake.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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Preparation for Worship from *Book of Common Worship*, Presbyterian Church (USA). Prayer after Communion by Brian Wren, *Advent, Christmas, Epiphany: Liturgies and Prayers for Public Worship* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Know Press, 2008); reproduced by permission. © 2007 Brian Wren.

MUSIC NOTES

Hugo Distler was one of the pioneers of what is often called the “neo-Baroque” movement in the early 20th century, an appellation that acknowledges the contrapuntal yet modernist tonal and rhythmic idioms of these composers. A lifelong church musician, Distler left a small number of works to posterity, among which are two sets of organ pieces on familiar Advent chorales: *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* (“Sleepers, Wake, A Voice is Calling”) and *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (“Savior of the Nations, Come”). Both chorales date from the 16th century, when this musical idiom was the rage among Luther’s many followers. Today’s **opening** and **closing voluntaries** are both drawn from the outer portions of the latter work, which includes a quirky set of variations, a grandiose chaconne, and a fiery toccata.

Our **offertory** is J. S. Bach’s setting of the former chorale melody. Bach’s original version of this famous trio may be found in his church cantata *Wachet auf*, where it’s

scored for violin obbligato, tenor, and continuo. The composer’s arrangement for solo organ appeared in a collection of six such works published in 1748 by Johann Georg Schübler, long known colloquially as the “Schübler Chorales.”

Today’s **introit** is a concise choral arrangement of *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* by John Ferguson, who was for many years on the music faculty of St Olaf College in Northfield, MN and director of music at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. This morning’s anthem, by local composer David Ashley White, invests its familiar Advent text with an uncommon urgency, thanks to unpredictable dance-like rhythms throughout. In this setting these familiar words lose whatever sentimentality they might otherwise convey; instead, we are urged toward making the necessary spiritual preparations for the coming of the Lord.

—Matthew Dirst

IN OUR PRAYERS

Tom Anderson and family upon the recent death of his brother John Anderson in Indiana.

St. Philippians and their families — Jan Ostendorf; Dick Nunn; Mark Takayama; Ben Dees; Shirley Coffman; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy Johnson; Beverly Baker; Beverly Hudson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Sheila Kinsky and her children – sister of Bill Connolly; John Palisin – brother of Peg Palisin; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Susan Everhart – niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; Darryl Cazes – brother of Pam Taylor; and Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound — Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians — Magdalena Rustomji - friend of Mickey & Ken Meyers; Aleksandra Y. Skochilenko – Nancy Higgs; Caitlan Prescott – friend of Mary McGuire; Mary Watters – friend of Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Tom Barnett – friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach – friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Boyd – friend of Kate Burkart; 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



Come. Step away from the holiday hustle. Give yourself the gift of time. Join us for a morning of gentle yoga and silent prayer during this busy season. We will enjoy the stretching, grounding and centering that comes with yoga, using chairs or your mats in the Gathering Area. In the sanctuary, instruction will be offered on centering prayer/lectio divina. Then we will open our hearts and minds to God's presence with us in the quiet. All are welcome. No experience required. Babysitting available. COME. SEEK. FIND. For more information, contact Betsy Boston at ehbluzerne@aol.com.

ADVENT AT ST. PHILIP Everyone is invited to attend **midweek Advent services**, continuing on **Wednesday, December 6, 13, and 20**. The service begins at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. Lunch is available in the Gathering Area at 12:30. These services of scripture and song are grounded in the Advent themes of hope and expectation. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will also be celebrated. Prepare the way of the Lord!

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

- Dec 10 - A Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent at 11 am
- Dec 10 - St. Philip Families matinee at Rooftop Cinema at 1:30 pm
- Dec 17 - [Presbyterian Women's Christmas Luncheon](#)
- Advent Mondays - 9 am Zoom Lectio Divina with Keatan

It is the time to adorn our chancel with poinsettias. Beginning right away you have the opportunity to make a donation to assist with this. You can go to the website, saintphilip.net, and click on Make a Contribution. Choose *Flowers/Holiday*. In the optional memo put "Point". Email your honor/memorial designations to Lorrie Castle at lorrie@saintphilip.net. Otherwise, you will receive an email, within a few days asking for names of people you want to honor/remember. Questions? Call Church Office at 713-622-4807.

Christmas Poinsettias

Donations of any amount accepted

(circle one) **I / we** would like to make a donation to purchase poinsettias to adorn our chancel during this Christmas season

(circle one) **in honor of / memory of** _____

Donor - Your Name(s) (Please print legibly) _____

*Please place envelope in the offering plate or return it with your **payment** to the church office by Monday, **December 13**. Use additional space below if needed.*

I have included a _____ check, _____ cash or _____ will pay online.

Pay online by going to the saintphilip.net homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting *Flowers/Holiday* as the fund and putting **POINT** in the memo. Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). *Email if you wish to honor/remember to lorrie@saintphilip.net*



MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Child care will be available upon advanced notice.
The menu is gluten free.

**RSVP on Sundays in the gathering area,
via the Church office, or online at www.saintphilip.net**

The church office may be reached at 713-622-4807
or by email to: welcome@saintphilip.net
4807 San Felipe Street, Houston, TX 77056

*We look forward to sharing the love of Christ with you
at this enriching and joyous luncheon.*

Peace and blessings,

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON COMMITTEE

Saintphilip.net—look for the Presbyterian Women Luncheon icon and follow the link to register and pay.

Thanks to all who have already made a 2024 pledge. Pledge cards can be placed in the offering plate Sunday or mailed to the church office. There is also an online option through My-SaintPhilip.

2023 pledge payments and additional gifts will help us bring this year's budget into balance.

PLEDGES AS OF 11/29/2023

Year	# of pledge cards	Pledged	Difference from 2023
2024	104	\$895,262	(\$243,805)
2023	141	\$1,139,067	

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 A.M. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY – Ages 3 – Kindergarten – Room 104

ELEMENTARY – Grades 1-5 – Room 105

YOUTH – Grades 6-12 – Room 205

FAITH & LIFE – Room 200 – An adult class exploring how what we believe informs how we live. Using the short stories in *The Gift of Hard Things: Finding Grace in Unexpected Places* by Mark Yaconelli, participants will read a short text in class and then engage in conversation as a group. There are no materials required and no preparation is needed.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Room 204 – We resume our study of the Kingdom of Judah at 2 Kings 18 with the story of King Hezekiah in Dr. Robert Alter's *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets* (2013). Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** 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 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **Dec. 10** - Film Study - "Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio." We all know the story of Pinocchio - or do we? The story of Pinocchio is famous for the wooden puppet's longing to "be a real boy." The character's desire gently confronts us with what we understand being "real" to mean. Guillermo del Toro also returns to the real-life history of its original story, rooted in Italian fascism between the World Wars. Del Toro, well known for his exploration of how our theology is reflected in our relationships, also has much to say about life, death, resurrection, human identity, and the relationship between fathers and sons. Presented by St. Philip Media Guru Kate Burkart - Kate minored in film at Penn State and has been leading film/media studies at St. Philip since 2002. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes: churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

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 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.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP – This reading and discussion group meets on the first Monday, 7-8 p.m., by zoom. As an activity of the Peacemaking/Social Justice Committee, the group provides a forum for the study and discussion of social justice topics (racism, immigration, globalism, climate change, current events, etc.) within the framework of the church and guided by our faith. The current study book is *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*, by Emmanuel Acho. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson at:

sjj10223@gmail.com.

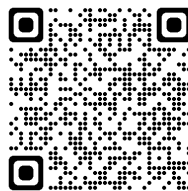
MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY – Wednesday Bible Study with John Wurster is on recess until January 10, 2024.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **Dec. 14** at 7:00 p.m. and it will be a social. 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 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. We are studying *They Walked With God* by Max Lucado. The book talks about 40 people in the Bible and how God used them. It lets us know that he has a place for us too. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com.

MONDAYS IN ADVENT – LECTIO DIVINA ON ZOOM – **Dec. 4, 11, and 18** at 9:00-9:20 a.m. – *What is Lectio Divina?* The ancient desert fathers and mothers believed that scripture was like a love letter written to us by God. Thus, the meditative, guided 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 King will guide the group through the four cycles of *Lectio* (read, reflect, respond, rest) for 20 minutes every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. for the season of Advent. To prepare, you are encouraged to choose a comfortable place to sit wherever you are (at home, work, in the car) and all participants will have video off and sound off during the Zoom. If you would like to participate email Keatan at: keatan@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 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.

ATTENTION STOCK DONORS!

Frost Bank is St. Philip's broker service. We ask you to call:

Yvette Webb at Frost Bank – 713-388-1231

for transaction information.

Our account number is #037-293183.

Please let the bookkeeper know you are making a stock donation.

You may email bookkeeper@saintphilip.net.

If you have any questions, you may always contact Rhonda Sands,
rsands2701@aol.com or 713-315-0096.

Hymn 94

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

JEFFERSON

1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is
 2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to
 3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of

grow - ing thin. Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten
 drift a - way. Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness
 wis - dom's seed, come to bless with fire and fra - grance

to the stir - ring, faint with - in: seed of prom - ise, deep - ly
 shines the hope of com - ing day. Christ, the morn - ing star of
 hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need. In the lone - ly, in the

This Advent text artfully interweaves what is hidden and what is revealed, primarily in the coming of the long-awaited Messiah. But Christ himself taught us about another hidden truth, his presence in the "least of these" (Matthew 25:40, 45), whom we are also called to welcome.

TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2005

MUSIC: Alexander Johnson's *Tennessee Harmony*, 1818; harm. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978

Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music Harm. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

JEFFERSON
8.7.8.7.D

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plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem! Like the soil be -
 splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim. Heav - en's em - ber
 strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view: child who comes to

neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
 fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
 grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

[Return to page 2](#)

Hymn 352

My Lord! What a Morning

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

Refrain

My Lord! what a morn - ing; my Lord! what a morn - ing;

O my Lord! what a morn - ing, when the stars be - gin to

Fine

fall, when the stars be - gin to fall. 1 You will hear the trum - pet
2 You will hear the sin - ner
3 You will hear the Chris - tian

sound
cry, to wake the na - tions un - der ground,
shout,

to Refrain

look - ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be - gin to fall.

This spiritual reflects on Jesus' saying about the endtimes as recorded in Matthew 24:29-30/Mark 13:24-26. It belongs to the slower, less common style of spirituals with long, sustained phrases and was among those popularized in concerts by the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

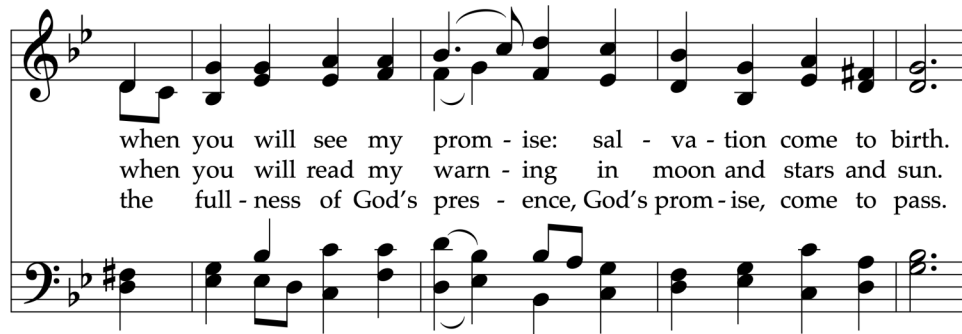
TEXT: African American spiritual
MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1989
Music Arr. © 1990 Melva W. Costen

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING
Irregular

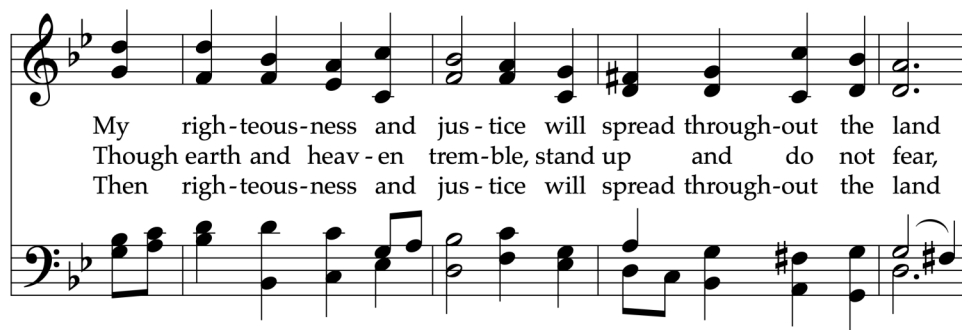
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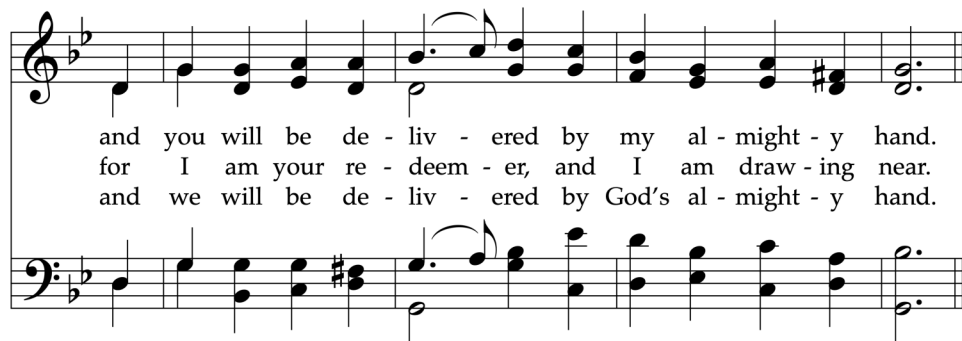
1 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says God to all the earth,
 2 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says Christ, the prom - ised one,
 3 The days are sure - ly com - ing when we will know at last



when you will see my prom - ise: sal - va - tion come to birth.
 when you will read my warn - ing in moon and stars and sun.
 the full - ness of God's pres - ence, God's prom - ise, come to pass.



My right - eous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land
 Though earth and heav - en trem - ble, stand up and do not fear,
 Then right - eous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land



and you will be de - liv - ered by my al - might - y hand.
 for I am your re - deem - er, and I am draw - ing near.
 and we will be de - liv - ered by God's al - might - y hand.

This text uses imagery from Jeremiah 33:14–16 and Matthew 24:29–36/Mark 13:24–32/Luke 21:25–36. These passages are especially associated with the beginning of Advent, a season that looks forward to Christ's second coming while also preparing us to remember his first coming.

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009

MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; *Llwybrau Moliant*, 1872; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906
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