



THE COMMUNITY OF ST PHILIP  
AT WORSHIP  
MARCH 14, 2021  
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**Opening Voluntary**

*Variations on an American Hymn Tune*  
(excerpts)

Gordon Young  
(1919-1998)

**Introit**

*Rejoice ye with Jersalem*

Chant

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,  
all ye that delight in her;  
exult and sing for joy with her,  
all ye that in sadness mourn for her —  
that ye may nurse and be satisfied  
with the milk of her consolation.

I was glad when they said unto me:  
we will go into the house of the LORD.

— Isaiah 66:10-11a | Psalm 122:1

**Opening Sentences**

**Hymn 415** ([see page 5](#))

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

RESTORATION

**Prayer of Confession**

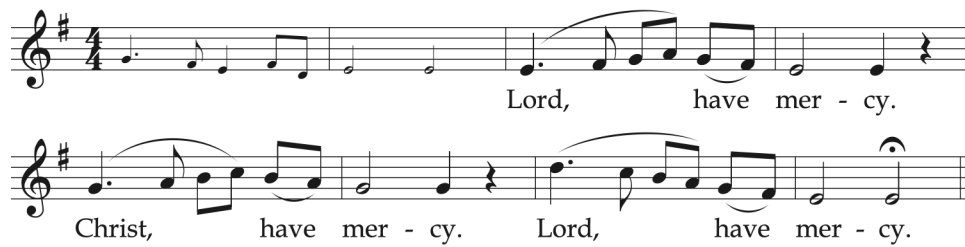
Patient God, how trying we must be.  
You have told us,  
you have shown us,  
you have come among us.  
Still, we look away,  
ignoring, forgetting, rejecting your purpose for us.  
Have mercy on us.  
Forgive us for what we have done,  
and for what we have not done.  
Tell us again.  
Show us again.  
Come among us again.  
With grace anew, come among us again,  
so that we might start fresh,  
and receive the life you have given us in Jesus Christ.

*silent prayer*

**Response***Lord, have mercy | Kyrie*

John Weaver

(1937-2021)



Lord, have mer - cy.  
Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

**Declaration of Forgiveness**Believe in the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

ther | Gloria



**Response**  
*Glory to the Fa-*  
Patri John Weaver  
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the  
Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is  
now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men. A - men. A - men.

**The Peace**Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.****Prayer for Illumination****First Reading**

Ephesians 2:1-10

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.****Anthem***Arise, O Lord and Have Mercy upon Sion*

Thomas Tomkins

(1572-1656)

Arise, O LORD, and have mercy upon Sion,  
for it is time that thou have mercy upon her;  
yea, the time is come.

— Psalm 102:13

**Gospel Reading**

John 3:14-21

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.****Anthem***O Savior of the World*

John Goss

(1800-1880)

O Savior of the world,  
who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,  
save us and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord. Amen.

Sermon

The Whole World

John W. Wurster

Hymn 372 ([see page 6](#))*O for a World*

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**Affirmation of Faith**

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
 everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
 The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
 sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
 and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit  
 who inspired the prophets and apostles  
 rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
 engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
 claims us in the waters of baptism,  
 and feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage  
 to pray without ceasing,  
 to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
 to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
 to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
 and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
 we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
 and to live holy and joyful lives,  
 even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
 praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place,  
 we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
 can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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.

Hymn 475 ([see page 7](#))*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

**Charge and Blessing****Closing Voluntary***Variations on an American Hymn Tune*  
(finale)

Gordon Young

## SERVING TODAY

### Liturgists

Omar Rouchon

### Musicians

Cecilia Duarte, Thomas Lewis O'Neill, and Nicholas Rathgeb – choral trio  
Matthew Dirst – organist | Randall Swanson – conductor

## WORSHIP NOTES

- Numbers 21:4–9 – *God instructs Moses to use a bronze serpent to save the people.*
- Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22 – *Give thanks to the Lord, who forgives, heals, and delivers us.*
- Ephesians 2:1–10 – *By the gift of God's grace we are saved through faith.*
- John 3:14–21 – *Like Moses' serpent, Jesus will be lifted up as a sign of salvation.*

## MUSIC NOTES

### Organ Music

The American organist and composer Gordon Young specialized in choral and organ works suitable for use in church especially. His *Variations on an American Hymn Tune* treat the tune NETTLETON, which we sing today with the text “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”, with both imagination and panache. Throughout he takes advantage of this melody's repetitive rhythmic character by devising various ostinatos (repeating patterns) around it.

### Choral Music

Both of today's anthems come from the very long and venerable tradition of English cathedral choral music stretching back many, many centuries. Welsh-born Thomas Tomkins was an organist and composer long associated with Worcester Cathedral. One of the primary English madrigalists, Tomkins was also a skilled composer of keyboard and consort music, and a highly prolific composer of anthems and service

music for the church. His *Arise, O Lord, and Have Mercy upon Sion* is written for three voices in beautiful lines of imitative counterpoint, poignantly depicting the prayer of this penitential text from Psalm 102.

Nineteenth-century English composer John Goss was born into a musical family and educated as a boy chorister in the Chapel Royal in London in addition to studying organ with Thomas Attwood at St. Paul's Cathedral. By age 40, Goss was himself organist at St. Paul's, and strove during his subsequent decades there to raise the standards of music at the cathedral. His *O Savior of the World* was originally composed for SATB voices and organ. This morning we hear it in an arrangement by Hal Hopson for two-part choir and organ, still quite evocative of the four-part original.

– Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art by Micah Meyers.

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## Opening Hymn 415

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

RESTORATION

1 Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed,  
 2 Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel - come; God's free boun - ty  
 3 Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y lad - en, lost and ru - ined  
 4 Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness

sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,  
 glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,  
 by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,  
 fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth

full of pit - y, love, and power.  
 ev - ery grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and  
 you will nev - er come at all.  
 is to feel your need of him.

go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me in his arms. In the

arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

The differing voices of this text indicate that its parts were not created together. The stanzas are cast in the voice of a preacher or exhorter, but the refrain (added later) takes the voice of a penitent heeding that call in language like that of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:18).

TEXT: Stanzas, Joseph Hart, 1759, alt.; refrain, anon.  
 MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835

RESTORATION  
 8.7.8.7 with refrain

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,  
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,  
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice  
 4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.  
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
 where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
 that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
 where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987  
 MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839  
 Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

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## Closing Hymn 475

## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;  
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love!  
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.  
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

NETTLETON  
 8.7.8.7.D

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## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Sarah O'Dell and family upon the death of her father Jimmy Regan on March 4.*

*St. Philippians and their families* – Travis Calhoun; Kay Cash; Sondra Sullivan; Mary Margaret Hansen; Doris Cantrell; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Jan Ostendorf; Marion Takehara; Emily Estill; Mezgebe Gebray; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; Dixie Hahn – sister of Mary Sinderson; Brad Davis – nephew of Sam Fisher; Kenneth Allan Henick – father of Anne Marie Benard; Douglas Everhart – brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Carol Paine Kendrick – sister of Stephen Paine; Betty Grant – sister-in-law of Eleanor Grant; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; Janet Fisher – sister-in-law of Dan Cleveland; Bessie Johnson – mother of Pat Lindsay; Mac & Beverly Wilson – parents of Butch Wilson; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Kelsey Higgs Gallegos & family – daughter of Nancy Higgs; Dottie Laas and family – cousin of Sam Fisher; Alice Barron – sister-in-law to Beth Atkinson; Shirley Boggus – grandmother of Omi Ford; Jimmy Reagan – father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe – mother of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

*Homebound* – Sue Baier; Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Mary Sinderson; Jody Tomforde; and Penny Vieau.

*Friends of St. Philippians* – Judith Tomaino – friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Jack Burrell – friend of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge; Paul Ratliff – friend of Jo Helland; Bill McDonald and Jackson Tavel – friends of Curt and Sharon Webb; David Shebay – friend of Greg Han; Clayton Amacker – friends 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](mailto:deacons@saintphilip.net).

Pledge payments, communion gifts and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<http://saintphilip.net/>), text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**We continue to invite you to attend our daily prayer services at 11:00 a.m. (Monday-Saturday).** Currently, we have a limit of five persons per day. Please enter the Sanctuary through the large wooden front doors by 10:50 a.m. You may bring your own face-mask or one will be provided. You may sit anywhere in the sanctuary, appropriately distanced from others. The service will conclude by 11:15.

[Our website](#) has information a current list of **opportunities on Zoom** for fellowship and spiritual formation.

**CHURCH & SOCIETY - 9:30 a.m. – March 21** – Main Street Ministries Main Street Ministries is a nonprofit organization that serves under resourced neighbors to remove barriers and create a path to a sustainable life and community. Our programs of Life Empowerment, Operation ID, Resource Navigation, and the Community Garden meet individuals where they are and support steps along the journey to stability. Main Street Ministries approach is grounded in the Bridges Out of Poverty constructs. Join us as we share highlights from our ministry and an overview of Bridges Out of Poverty workshops which explore how people from diverse segments of a community can be tooled to work together to reduce and prevent poverty. Bridges works off the beliefs that 1) people in poverty are problem solvers with valuable assets and that 2) relationships are key to building and transferring resources. Presented by Barbara Allen Executive Director of Main Street Ministries – Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes – [mmcgm63@gmail.com](mailto:mmcgm63@gmail.com).