



## Preparation for Worship

*I suspect that Jesus spoke many of his parables as a kind of sad and holy joke,  
and that may be part of why he seemed reluctant to explain them  
because if you have to explain a joke, you might as well save your breath.*

— Frederick Buechner

## Voluntary

*Prelude in G major*

Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809–1847)

## Greeting

*Please sign and pass the friendship folder.*

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

## ✦ Opening Sentences

## ✦ Hymn 14 ([see page 9](#))

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

## ✦ Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, Teacher and Rabbi,  
as your students,  
we acknowledge the ways that our lives  
have not fulfilled your teachings.  
You invested your lessons and your life  
in the hope that your people would  
trust, serve, and respect one another.  
In this, we have failed.  
Please forgive us.

Lord Jesus, Teacher and Rabbi,  
what have you brought us here to learn today?

*silent prayer*

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

## ✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

## ✦ Response

Henry W. Greatorex

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

## ✦ 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 Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9

N.T. pgs. 13-14

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

## Instrumental Reflection

*Sonata in D major: Afetuoso | Allegro*  
Op. 1/13

George Frideric Handel  
(1685-1759)

## Second Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:18-23

N.T. pg. 14

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

## Sermon

This Is the Church of Jesus Christ

Keatan King

*silence and stillness*✠ Hymn 450 ([see page 10](#))*Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

## ✠ Affirmation of Faith

A Declaration of Faith (1985)

Jesus lived a truly human life.  
 Jesus was what we are.  
 He grew up in a family and a society  
 troubled by the common problems of the world.  
 His knowledge was limited  
 by his time and place in history.  
 He felt deeply the joy of friendship  
 and the hurt of being rejected.  
 Jesus prayed, struggled with temptation,  
 knew anger, and was subject to suffering and death.  
 He was like us in every way except sin.

Jesus was what we should be.  
 He served his Father with complete trust  
 and unwavering obedience.  
 He loved all kinds of people  
 and accepted their love.  
 In constant dependence upon the Holy Spirit,  
 Jesus allowed no temptation or threat to keep him  
 from loving God with his whole being  
 and his neighbor as himself.

We recognize in Jesus what God created us to be.  
 He exposes our failure to live as he lived.  
 He demonstrates the new humanity  
 God promises to give us through him.

## 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

*Sonata in D major: Larghetto | Allegro*  
 Op. 1/13

Handel  
 (1685–1759)

## ✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Blessed are you, Steadfast Sower,  
 for pursuing our salvation in all circumstances.  
**We praise you, God, for your unending care for us  
 and we ask that the seeds of generosity we offer this day  
 will be grown by your grace,  
 that the earth and its people may be touched by  
 Christ's justice, love, and peace. Amen.**

## ✦ Hymn 12 ([see page 11](#))

*Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise*

ST DENIO

## ✦ Charge and Blessing

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

## Voluntary

*Allegro maestoso (from Sonata No. 2)*

Mendelssohn

## SERVING TODAY

### Pastors

Keatan King | John Wurster

### Liturgist

Esme Stevenson

### Musicians

Maria Lin, violin | Matthew Dirst, organ/harpsichord

## FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Pam Keever to the glory of God and in memory of my father Travis Calhoun.

## WORSHIP NOTES

Today's readings and prayers are borrowed from various sources such as:

- Isaiah 55:10-13 – *The word of the Lord will go forth to flourish and bear fruit.*
- Psalm 65:(1-8) 9-13 – *Praise is due to God, who blesses the earth with abundance.*
- Romans 8:1-11 – *The Spirit of life in Christ sets us free from the law of sin and death.*
- Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 – *Jesus tells and explains the parable of the Sower and the Seeds.*

## MUSIC NOTES

### Organ Music

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, while the *Allegro maestoso* from *Sonata No. 2* (in C minor) is a stirring *organo pleno* movement.

### Instrumental Music

As published in London sometime in the early 1730s, Handel's "Opus 1" was an unauthorized collection of sonatas for melody instrument and continuo, some of which weren't even from Handel's pen. Meant for a variety of solo instruments (flute, recorder, oboe, or violin), these pieces adapt well to different surroundings. From that collection we offer today one of the authentic sonatas, doubtless intended for violin. With four movements in alternating slow and fast tempi, it follows the traditional format of the late Baroque *sonata da chiesa* or "church sonata."

— Matthew Dirst

St. Philip Presbyterian Church

## 2023 SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

# FOLLOWING JESUS



REV. KYLE MEYAARD-SCHAAP

## IN A WARMING WORLD

CLIMATE CHANGE  
THE GOSPEL & THE CHURCH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5 | 2023

VISIT: [SAINTPHILIP.NET](http://SAINTPHILIP.NET)

Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap,

Vice President of the Evangelical Environmental Network and author, *Following Jesus in a Warming World*

Have you ever looked at the effects of climate change and the apathy of so many Christians around you and wondered, "What are we missing here?" Why has the U.S church struggled so mightily to understand the climate crisis as a moral and gospel issue, and instead so often abandoned it to the domain of the culture wars? In these lectures, we will trace some of the historical reasons for the U.S. church's lukewarm engagement with climate change, explore how Scripture might be able to guide us toward a more faithful way forward, and plot out an active and hopeful path for the church as we all strive to follow Jesus more closely in a warming world.

*Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap* serves as the Vice President of the Evangelical Environmental Network. He holds an undergraduate degree in religious studies from Calvin University (B.A. '12), a Master of Divinity degree from Western Theological Seminary (M.Div. '16), and is ordained in the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA). For the last eleven years, he has educated and mobilized Christians around the world to address the climate crisis as an act of discipleship and neighbor-love.

The St. Philip Education Committee invites you to join for our annual Summer Lecture Series on Saturday, August 5 when Rev. Meyaard-Schaap will present three lectures. This event is free and open to the public, and lunch will be on your own. Contact Omar Rouchon or David Castro with any questions.

### Saturday Schedule

9:00.....	Breakfast Fellowship
9:15-10:15 .....	Lecture #1
10:30-11:30 .....	Lecture #2
11:30-1:00 .....	Lunch on your own
1:00- 2:00 .....	Lecture #3

All lectures will be held in the Fellowship Hall.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## IN OUR PRAYERS

Pray for Pilgrims!

The senior high students at St. Philip travel July 21-31 to go to Montreat for the Senior High Youth Conference, "In Joy." On the way to and from Montreat, we will complete our third Spiritual Pilgrimage for Racial Justice in which we endeavor to teach our youth about the history of racial oppression in the South; to study the brave individuals and congregations who furthered the Civil Rights movement as an expression of their Christian faith; and to pursue the work of reconciliation and repentance from racism that God is still calling forth. Watch for photos and updates through church communications and social media, and please hold these youth and pastors in prayer: Callie Bream, Leah Bream, Lucia Murphy, Rosy Murphy, Rowan Murphy, Trisha Young, Keatan King, and Omar Rouchon. **Any St. Philip member is invited to pray with the group in the parking lot at their departure at 7:45am on Friday, July 21!**

*The family of Ellen MacDonald upon her death on June 13. A memorial service will be August 26, at 11:00 a.m.*

*St. Philippians and their families* – Deb Burks; Sharon Webb; Shirley Coffman; Kathryn Harwood; Robin & Gary Willis; Beverly Baker; Beverly Hudson; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Paige Everhart, sister of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Leonardo Knowles Richard "Leo" – grandson of Beth & Fort Flowers; Halley Delany – sister of Nina Lambright; Truxillo family – Wayne and Sandra Truxillo; 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; 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; Joan Boelens; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; and Sondra Sullivan.

*Friends of St. Philippians* – Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach – friends of Stephen Paine; 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](mailto:deacons@saintphilip.net).

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

*(Are on recess until September 10)*

**CHURCH & SOCIETY** - Church & Society is taking a summer break and will return on Rally Day - **September 10**, for a class reunion and preview of the fall 2023 term.

### ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY** – Class is on a break until **July 19**.

**LAMBETH STUDY** – Keatan King leads young adults in bible 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](mailto:keatan@saintphilip.net).

**WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB** – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **August 10** at 7:00 p.m. which will be a social gathering. Watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: [nnl@lambrightlaw.com](mailto:nnl@lambrightlaw.com).

### PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Class is on a break until **September 15**. If you would like to join them, please contact Gary Gardner at:

[ggardne148@aol.com](mailto:ggardne148@aol.com).

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY** – 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](mailto:welcome@saintphilip.net). Circles are on recess until Sunday, **September 17** for the Joint Circle Luncheon.

### CALLING ALL WORSHIP LEADERS!

Whether you love any opportunity to lead liturgy or you're a first-timer we need you. If you would like to be the Liturgist at the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service this year; there are only a few Sundays left! They are: **September 3; October 1** (Worldwide Communion Sunday); **October 8; October 29; December 3**; and **December 10**. If you would like to be Liturgist on any of these days please contact Roderick James via text at 713-503-0785 or by email at [jamesrv@me.com](mailto:jamesrv@me.com).

**Save the Date: Sunday, July 30 - Equal Exchange Coffee/Tea/Various Products Sale**

ABC  
123



# BACK TO SCHOOL DONATION DRIVE

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### VOLUNTEER:



Presbyterian Children's  
Homes and Services  
of Texas and Louisiana

**BACK PACK STUFFING PARTY  
AUGUST 3**

the **women's** HOME  
*Building whole lives*



**SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION FAIR  
AUGUST 9**

### YOUR DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERING BENEFITS OUR MISSION PARTNERS:

**CCSC | Christian Community Services Center**

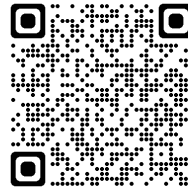
**SEARCH | House of Tiny Treasures**

**Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS)**

**The Women's Home**

SEE MORE INFO:

**SAINTPHILIP.NET/MISSION**



### 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](http://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.**

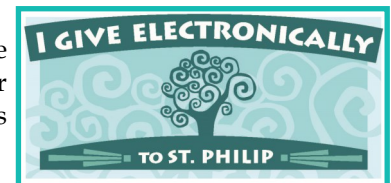
**Connect with St. Philip** through [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net) and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to [lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net).

**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](http://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.




## Hymn 14

## For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

## Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

TEXT: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

DIX  
7.7.7.7.7

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## Hymn 450

*Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;  
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!



thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.  
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

TEXT: Irish poem; trans. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor Hull, 1912, alt.  
 MUSIC: Irish ballad; harm. David Evans, 1927

SLANE  
 10.10.10.10

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## Hymn 12

*Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise*

ST DENIO

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:  
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.  
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;  
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.  
 MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; arr. *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

ST. DENIO  
 11.11.11.11

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