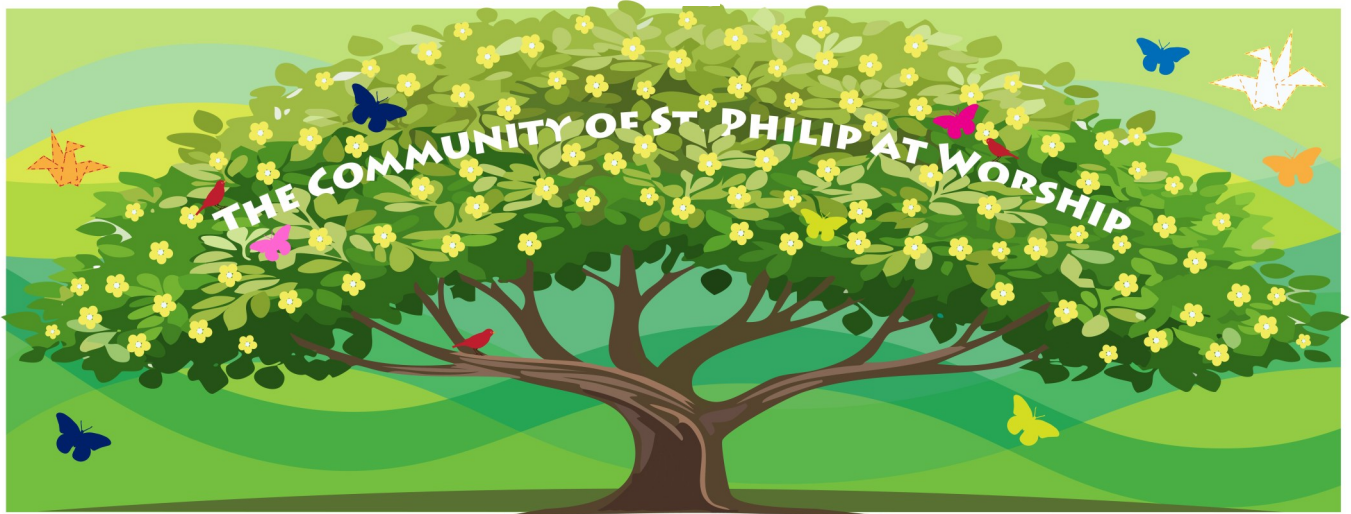




EIGHT SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 19, 2026

Preparation for Worship

What is your comfort in life and in death?

*That I am not my own, but belong – body and soul, in life and in death –
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.*

- The Heidelberg Catechism, question 1

Voluntary

Praeludium in G Major

Dietrich Buxtehude
(c1637-1707)

Greeting

Please sign and pass the friendship folder.

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

Introit

Bless are the pure in heart (excerpt)

Malcolm Archer
(b.1952)

Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they shall see our God;
The secret of the Lord is theirs,
Their soul is Christ's abode.

John Keble (1792-1866)

✦ Hymn 386 [\(see page 9\)](#)

Come, Worship God

O QUANTA QUALIA

✦ Prayer of Confession

Dear God,
we offer ourselves to you,
aware that our sins are many.
Sometimes we go too fast.
Sometimes we sit too still.
We worry about the wrong things
and neglect what is important.
We struggle to find the right balance.
We seek your forgiveness.
Help us find the right measures of worship and service,
of caring for ourselves and caring for others,
as we seek to follow the example of Jesus.

silent prayer

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

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

✦ Response

Paul Vasile

1. Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2. World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

✦ The Peace

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:31-39

N.T. pg. 158-159

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

Anthem

A Beautiful Thing

Jane Marshall
(1924-2019)

Make your service of love a beautiful thing:
Want nothing else, fear nothing else,
And let love be free to become what love truly is.

Make your service of love a beautiful thing.
Work to this end every moment without sparing.
Always be fervent in humility and serve with wisdom.
Make your pilgrimage with beauty and purity,
Without sadness or any hindrance of willfulness,
In a sweet spirit of peace and joy.

Hadewijch of Antwerp, 13th c.
Transl. Mother Columba Hart

Sermon

What Shall We Say?

John W. Wurster

silence and stillness

✦ Hymn 822 ([see page 10](#))

When We Are Living

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

✠ Affirmation of Faith

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

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.

Offering

Offertory

Hoffnung
D. 637

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Es reden und träumen die Menschen viel
Von bessern künftigen Tagen,
Nach einem glücklichen, goldenen Ziel
Sieht man sie rennen und jagen;
Die Welt wird alt und wird wieder jung,
Doch der Mensch hofft immer Verbesserung.

Die Hoffnung führt ihn ins Leben ein,
Sie umflattert den fröhlichen Knaben,
Den Jüngling begeistert ihr Zauberschein,
Sie wird mit dem Greis nicht begraben;
Denn beschließt er im Grabe den müden Lauf,
Noch am Grabe pflanzt er die Hoffnung auf.

Es ist kein leerer schmeichelnder Wahn,
Erzeugt im Gehirne des Toren,
Im Herzen kündet es laut sich an,
Zu was Besserm sind wir geboren,
Und was die innere Stimme spricht,
Das täuscht die hoffende Seele nicht.

Humans talk and dream a great deal
About better days in the future;
In pursuit of a happy, golden aim
You can see them running for and chasing it.
The world gets older and becomes young again,
But humans always hope for improvement.

Hope leads them into life,
It flutters around the jolly lad,
It inspires the youth with its magical glow,
It is not buried with the grey-headed old man;
For although he comes to the grave
What he plants on that grave is still – hope.

It is no empty, flattering delusion,
Conceived in the brain of a fool.
It is declared aloud in the heart:
“We are born for something better!”
And what the inner voice is saying
Does not deceive the soul that hopes

Friedrich von Schiller, 1797

✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty and merciful God,
from whom comes all that is good,
**we praise you for your goodness that has created us,
your patience that has borne with us,
and your love that has redeemed us.**
Help us to love you
and to be thankful for all of your gifts
by serving you and delighting to do your will,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✦ Hymn 226 ([see page 11](#))

There in God's Garden

SHADES MOUNTAIN

✦ Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Toccata in C Major

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

John W. Wurster | Omar Rouchon | Keatan King

Liturgist

Juliana Vahora

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Summer Choir | Daniel Boyd, baritone | Justin Langham, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers are given by Karen Winship and family in memory of David Charles Winship, beloved husband, father, grandfather, friend.

WORSHIP NOTES

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

- Genesis 28:10-19— *Jacob dreams of a ladder and hears the promise of the Lord.*
- Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24— *O Lord, you have searched me; if I ascend to heaven you are there.*
- Isaiah 44:6-8— *I am the first and last, says the Lord; there is no god besides me.*
- Psalm 86:11-17— *O Lord, give me an undivided heart to revere your name.*
- Romans 8:12-25— *The whole creation waits for redemption with the children of God.*
- Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43— *Another parable of the kingdom; weeds grow among the wheat.*

MUSIC NOTES

Today's **opening voluntary** comes from Dietrich Buxtehude, the famed Lübeck organist who was a leading light of the North German Baroque. His preludia tend to feature multiple sections that alternate between rhapsodic figuration for the hands and the feet and short imitative episodes. The G Major Praeludium divides neatly into two sections: a leisurely opening with a variety of textures and a vocally-inspired fugue.

Our **introit** comes from a choral setting by Malcolm Archer that was inspired by one of Jesus' Beatitudes spoken during his Sermon on the Mount. Themes of purity and goodness found in the text are portrayed musically through Archer's first verse sung by unison treble voices.

In addition to her significant contributions as a composer and hymnist, Jane Marshall was also a devoted educator, serving as a longtime faculty member of music theory and theology at SMU. Her spirit of servitude is captured through today's **anthem**, a setting of text by the 13th-century poet and mystic known as Hadewijch, whose writings often explored themes of divine love and spirituality.

Despite his relatively short life, Austrian composer Franz Schubert left behind over a thousand compositions, including over 600 art songs that cover wide range of depth and subject matter. *Hoffnung, D. 637*, the second of two settings of a poem by Friedrich Schiller, is written in a strophic form and represents Schubert's matured view of hopefulness—compared to his more jovial first setting—through a reassuring tune and a grounded 6/8 accompaniment.

In his Toccata in C Major, today's **closing voluntary**, Johann Pachelbel shows what can be achieved over a stationary "pedal point": an unchanging note sustained, in this case, in the pedal while the hands provide busy figuration. There are actually two pedal points here: one on the tonic note of C and the other on the dominant G, which prepares the return of the home key at the close of this brief work.

— Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Family and friends upon the death of Nancy Everheart Johnson who died on July 3. A memorial service is scheduled for July 31 at 11:00 a.m.

St. Philippians and their families — Carolyn Keeble; John Bobbitt; Linda Miller; Gary Whitney; Jane Malczewskyj; Molly Boren; Charlotte Kibler; Laney Miller; Laurie Sims; Jan Meyer; Emily Estill; Joy Maguire; Bonnie Moore; Bob Ardell; Diane Clarke; Mary Herlitz; Eleanor Grant; Don Padgett; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Barbara Torpy — sister of Gary Willis; Bill Davis — brother of Meg Scott-Johnson; Lara Bain — niece of Jo Helland; Jonathan Castro — brother of David Castro; Jo Hadley Smith — cousin of William Rowe; Katie Forbes — daughter of Marise Robbins-Forbes; Ann Perenyi — mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud — cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound — Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; Joan Boelens; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Jan Ostendorf; Joyce Randolph; Larraine Scott; Sondra Sullivan; and Mary Sinderson.

Friends of St. Philippians — Camilo Triana — uncle of Jesús Toribio; Austin Miller — friend of Charles Swan; Christiane Richter — friend of Roderick James; Ann Swanson — friend of Deborah Unruh; Tanya Voinche & Sidney Roach — friends of Stephen Paine; Keith Kirby, Tandi Porter, Audrey Eubank Harris, Jay Stokes & Anna Domonte — friends of Curt & Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash — friend of Jane Cooper; Kenneth and Donna Benton — friends of William Rowe; Patty Ryan & Tom Barnett — friends of Robin & Gary Willis; 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.



MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP SUMMER ORGAN SERIES

Sunday, August 16

2:30 pm | Pre-Concert Lecture

3:00 pm | Concert

Bryan Anderson, Organist

Dr. Louis Markos, Narrator

Petr Eben's "Labyrinth of the World and Paradise of the Heart"

Free Admission | St. Philip Presbyterian Church
4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056 | saintphilip.net

FOLLOW US ONLINE
Music at St Philip 



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Continuing through **August 21**, the church office will be closed on Fridays. This schedule helps us conserve energy and better cover staff vacations. We will return to regular Friday office hours on **August 28**.

NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT SUNDAY MORNINGS

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 that our Nursery is located in the hallway off of the Gathering Area. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ARE ON SUMMER RECESS AND RETURN IN SEPTEMBER

Visit our website (www.saintphilip.net) to learn about all of the Christian Education programs we offer for children, youth, young adults, senior adults and families. Classes are offered on Sundays, as well as weekdays. If you would like to be a leader in classes next fall please contact Omar Rouchon via email at :

omar@saintphilip.net.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL—We have Children's Chapel the second and fourth Sundays after *Conversation with Children*. In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples (K-5th grade) 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

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **August 13**, it will be a social. Watch your email for details. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

CHURCH LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Do you enjoy books, organization, and helping others? Consider serving in our church library. Library volunteers help keep our collection organized, shelve returned materials, and create a welcoming space for all ages to explore and grow in faith.

Volunteers gather only a few times each year. No library experience is necessary —just a willingness to help. Interested in seeing what it's all about? Join us on Thursday **July 23** from 9:30 a.m. to noon to try it out. We'd love to have you join us! Please contact Judith Hiott or Beth Atkinson (bethatkinson2020@gmail.com) with any questions.

CCSC BACK TO SCHOOL

The Mission Committee is seeking volunteers to form a St. Philip group at the Christian Community Center's Saturday, **July 25**. Back to School supplies assembly program at the Bellaire Methodist Church, located at 4417 Bellaire Boulevard, Bellaire, Texas 77041. St. Philip has volunteered at this back to school program (where we assemble backpacks filled with school supplies) for a number of years. We work from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and always have fun providing this valuable service to low income children who otherwise would not have school supplies for the coming year. Please join us at the Bellaire Methodist Church before 9 a.m. Email David Castro dmc.davidcastro@gmail.com for more information.



WE CHOOSE WELCOME

**PEACEMAKING & SOCIAL JUSTICE
COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO**

**~ 5TH SUNDAY ~
SPEAKER SERIES**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP
ROOM 201

READY, SET, VOTE!
REBECCA MCILWAIN
SPEAKER | HOUSTON FAITH VOTES

LIGHT BITES WILL BE AVAILABLE.

QUESTIONS?
EMAIL: **DENISE WILBORN**
[**DWILBORN55@GMAIL.COM**]



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.

[GUEST BOOK]

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. Resources such as noise-dampening headphones and fidget tools for our neurodivergent neighbors and anyone needing sensory support can be found there too.

Nursery care is available throughout the morning from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery has returned to the Education Bldg. and can be accessed from the hall off 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.

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.



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.



[MAKE A CONTRIBUTION]

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 AM Sunday service is live-streamed at saintphilip.net. Services can be viewed live or later in our video archives.

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.

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.

St. Philip Day School is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high-quality childcare at no cost to low-income families. (www.stphilipdayschool.org) To support the school, **please make all contributions payable directly to St. Philip Day School** or visit their website for online donations. You are welcome to leave in the church offering plate or mail to St. Philip Day School, 4807 San Felipe, Houston, 77056. If you have any questions, please email: Director@stphilipdayschool.org.

Hymn 386

Come, Worship God



1 Come, wor-ship God, who is wor- thy of hon- or;
 2 Ruled by your might are the heights of the moun- tains;
 3 We are your peo- ple, the sheep of your pas- ture;
 4 Now let us lis- ten, for you speak a- mong us;

en- ter God's pres- ence with thanks and a song!
 held in your hands are the depths of the earth.
 you are our Mak- er, and to you we pray.
 o- pen our hearts to re- ceive what you say.

You are the rock of your peo- ple's sal- va- tion
 Yours is the sea, yours the land, for you made them,
 Glad- ly we kneel in o- be- dience be- fore you;
 Peace be to all who re- mem- ber your good- ness,

to whom our ju- bi- lant prais- es be- long.
 God a- bove all gods, who gave us our birth.
 great is the one whom we wor- ship this day!
 trust in your word, and re- joice in your way!

Psalm 95, often called *Venite* from its first word in Latin, has long served as an opening canticle in the worship of Western Christianity. John Calvin found here two reasons to praise God: for sustaining the created world and for adopting the church into a gracious relationship.

TEXT: Michael Perry, 1980
 MUSIC: Paris *Antiphoner*, 1681; harm. La Feillée's *Méthode du plain-chant*, 1808
 Text © 1980 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

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[Return to page 1](#)

Hymn 822

When We Are Living



1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

1 Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos,
 2 En es - ta vi - da fru - tos hay que dar
 3 En la tris - te - za y en el do - lor,
 4 En es - te mun - do por do - quier ha - brá



and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,

y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.
 y bue - nas o - bras he - mos de o - fren - dar.
 en la be - lle - za y en el a - mor,
 gen - te que llo - ra y sin con - so - lar.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,

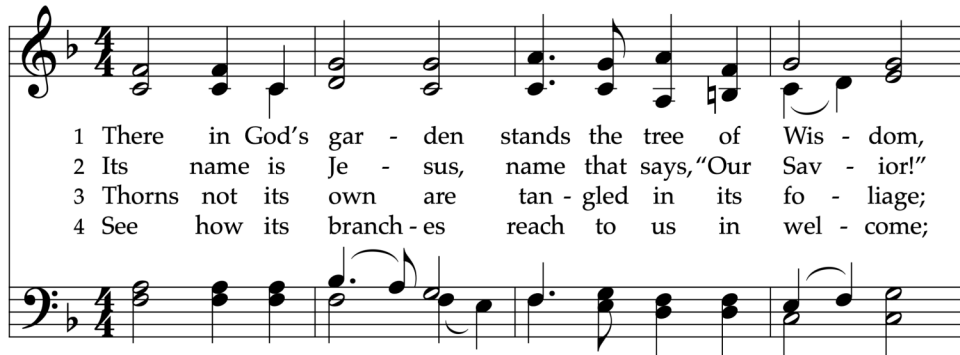
Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
 Sea ya que de - mos o que re - ci - ba - mos,
 sea que su - fra - mos o que go - ce - mos,
 Sea que a - yu - de - mos o que a - li - men - te - mos,



we be - long to God; we be - long to God.
 so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.

[Return to page 3](#)

Hymn 226

There in God's Garden


1 There in God's gar - den stands the tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - fering;
 our greed has starved it; our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



tree of all knowl - edge, tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness; give me all your



pas - sion, tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row; I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending;
 this, my resurrection;
 into your hands,
 Lord, I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heaven is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it; take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!