



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 16, 2026

Preparation for Worship

If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.

– Mother Teresa

Voluntary

Prelude in G Major
BWV 541/1

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Greeting

Please sign and pass the friendship folder.

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

Introit

The Call of Wisdom (excerpt)

Will Todd

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth,
Lord of justice, Lord of mercy;
Walk beside us down the years
Till we see you in your glory.

Michael Hampel
Based on Proverbs 8

✠ Call to Worship

Creator of the world, Eternal God,
we have come from many places for a little while.
Redeemer of humanity, God-with-us,
we have come with all our differences, seeking common ground.
Spirit of unity, go-between God,
we have come on journeys of our own, to a place where journeys meet.
So here, in this shelter house,
when paths cross and pilgrims gather,
there is much to share and celebrate in your name,
Triune God and Lover of our Souls. Amen.

✠ Hymn 624 [\(page 9\)](#)

I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON

✦ Prayer of Confession

O hidden mystery,
 sun behind all suns,
 soul behind all souls,
 in everything we touch,
 in everyone we meet,
 your presence is around us,
 and we give you thanks.
 But when we have not touched, but trampled you in creation –
 when we have not met, but missed you in one another –
 when we have not received, but rejected you in the poor –
 forgive us,
 and hear now our plea for mercy.

silent prayer

✦ Response *(sung twice)*

Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall
 be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

TEXT and MUSIC: John L. Bell, 1995
 Text and music © 1995 Wild Goose Resource Group (WGRG), Iona Community (administered by GIA Publications, Inc.)

TAKE ME AS I AM
 7.7.7.4.

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

✦ Response

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise
 God, all crea - tures high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 lu - ia! Praise God in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre -
 a - tor, Word, and Spir - it one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

✠ 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

Gospel Reading

Matthew 15:10-28

N. T. pg. 17

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

Anthem

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter
(b. 1945)

The Lord bless you and keep you:
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
And be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you
And give you peace.
Amen.

Adapt. Numbers 6:24

Sermon

Back-to-School Jesus

Keatan King

silence and stillness

✠ Hymn 754 [\(see page 10\)](#)

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

✠ Affirmation of Faith

THE CONFESSION OF 1967

**God the Holy Spirit creates and renews the Church
as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another.
The Spirit enables people to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another,
and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves.
In spite of their sins, the Spirit gives people power to become representatives
both of Jesus Christ and of Christ's Gospel of reconciliation to all.
To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community.
This community, the church universal,
is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the
hatreds which separate people from God and from each other.
Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

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

Der Herr segne euch
BWV 196/4

J. S. Bach

*Der Herr segne euch je mehr und mehr,
Euch und eure Kinder.* May the Lord bless you more and more,
You and your children .

Adapt. Psalm 115.14

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Eternal God,
we praise you for sending Jesus to conquer death
and summoning us to new life.

**By your Spirit,
set our feet in Christ's holy way,
that our lives may be a sign of his life,
and all we have show forth his love. Amen.**

✦ Hymn 766 ([page 11](#))

We All Are One in Mission

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

✦ Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Fugue in G Minor
BWV 578

J. S. Bach

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon

Liturgists

Annie Burgess | Everett Burgess | Isabella Ford

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Choir | Thomas O'Neill & Daniel Boyd, duet
Justin Langham, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers on the chancel are given today by Wayne and Sandra Truxillo to the glory of God with prayers of comfort and faith for Sandra's brother and Wayne's niece and nephew-in-law.

WORSHIP NOTES

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

- Genesis 45:1-15 – *Joseph is reunited with his brothers; the family will move to Egypt.*
- Psalm 133 – *How good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.*
- Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 – *The Lord will welcome foreigners along with the outcasts of Israel.*
- Psalm 67 – *God's saving power is known among all the nations of the earth.*
- Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 – *God has not rejected Israel, but desires to show mercy to all.*
- Matthew 15:10-20, 21-28 – *Debate about what defiles; a Canaanite woman shows great faith.*

SABBATICAL NOTES:

John Wurster is on a sabbatical leave from August 10 to November 9. Guided by the phrase attributed to Augustine, “It is solved by walking,” John is reflecting on a series of scripture passages as part of his daily walking regimen over these three months. You are invited to join him in engaging the biblical texts through the weeks. The passage for the week of August 17 is Psalm 23:4: Even though I *walk* through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me.

MUSIC NOTES

The Prelude in G Major (BWV 541/1), today's **opening voluntary**, is one of Bach's most exuberant and mature free-form works. In his inimitable way, Bach combines in this piece the toccata figuration of the North German *stylus phantasticus* with the rhythmic drive of a Vivaldi concerto. The active pedal line especially – proof of Bach's formidable technique at the organ – sets this prelude apart from his other works in the genre. Our **closing voluntary** is a concise Fugue in G Minor (BWV 578) from Bach's youth. Perhaps one of his first organ fugues, it has been arranged numerous times over the years for other forces—even the Swingle Singers have had a go at it!

Originally commissioned as part of Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, *The Call of Wisdom* by Will Todd sets text adapted from Proverbs 8 in a gentle, flowing, and at times atmospheric setting for organ and choir. Today's service begins with Todd's simple opening verse, with text and tune prayerfully asking God for guidance.

John Rutter's classic and versatile setting of “**The Lord Bless You and Keep You**,” the Priestly blessing from the Book of Numbers, has been performed countless times since it was first sung at a school memorial service in 1981. Rutter keeps the music relatively simple and restrained, keeping with the prayerful mood of the text, while using his signature harmonic language and true gift for melodic writing.

For today's **offertory**, J. S. Bach sets a similar text from Psalm 115, which was included in his wedding cantata from around 1708, *Der Herr denkt an uns*, BWV 196 (“The Lord is mindful of us”). This duet aria, based on just one line of text, is characterized by an imitative motif at the opening and its calmly swaying mood.

— Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham




MUSIC AT  ST. PHILIP

SUMMER ORGAN SERIES

Sunday, August 16 TODAY

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession are adapted from *the Iona Abbey Worship Book* (Wild Goose Publications: Glasgow, 2001).

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IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families – Angelina Fonseca-Grewal; John Bobbitt; 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; Ada & Bob Austin – parents of Nina Lambright; Mary Morgan – niece of Celia Morgan; 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; Suzanne Frazier & Ann Perkins Cloud – cousins 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 & 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.

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 this fall please contact Omar Rouchon via email at :

omar@saintphilip.net.

NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:30 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.

READY! SET! VOTE!

Join Rebecca McIlwain, Houston Faith Votes Project Manager, as she helps us prepare for the crucial upcoming midterm elections. Join Peacemaking and Social Justice on Sunday, August 30th immediately after worship for our next 5th Sunday Speaker Series. Rebecca will offer ways to engage congregation members and community members in both getting people registered to vote, and then getting people out to actually vote on **November 3**.

No need to RSVP, just show up for conversation. Oh, and light bites!

In the meantime - check your own voters registration status. Encourage friends, family, and neighbors to do the same. Use this link:

<https://www.vote411.org/check-registration>

PEACEMAKING & SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
INVITES YOU TO **5TH SUNDAY SPEAKER SERIES**

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
FOLLOWING WORSHIP | ROOM 201
LIGHT BITES WILL BE AVAILABLE.

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: DWILBORN55@GMAIL.COM

ST. PHILIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4807 SAN FELIPE, 77056 | SAINTPHILIP.NET

WE CHOOSE WELCOME



HOUSTON MASTERWORKS CHORUS (HMC)

Justin Langham invites St. Philipians to join the HMC kickoff community service project to serve our Houston community together.

Here are two ways to help:

On Saturday, **August 22** volunteer from 3:00–4:00 PM in the choir lobby, we'll assemble at least 100 hygiene kits to support the needs of middle school students at a school in an underserved area of south Houston.

 **Interested in helping assemble kits on Saturday, August 22 from 3:00–4:00 PM in the Choir Lobby?**

[Click here to indicate your volunteer interest!](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B45ADAF2FAAF9C16-65054943-donation)

(<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B45ADAF2FAAF9C16-65054943-donation>)

 **Want to contribute supplies?**

[Click here to view the registry!](https://www.myregistry.com/organization/houston-masterworks-chorus-houston-tx/5570371/giftlist)

(<https://www.myregistry.com/organization/houston-masterworks-chorus-houston-tx/5570371/giftlist>)

Every contribution—whether it's your time, donated supplies, or financial support—will help us reach our goal of assembling at least 100 kits for students in need.

We're excited to begin our season not only by singing together, but by **serving together**.



[GUEST BOOK]

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. 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.



[MAKE A CONTRIBUTION]



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.

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 624

I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art

1 I greet thee, who my sure Re - deem - er art,
 2 Thou art the King of mer - cy and of grace,
 3 Thou art the life, by which a - lone we live,
 4 Thou hast the true and per - fect gen - tle - ness;
 5 Our hope is in no oth - er save in thee;

my on - ly trust and Sav - ior of my heart,
 reign - ing om - ni - po - tent in ev - ery place:
 and all our sub - stance and our strength re - ceive;
 no harsh - ness hast thou and no bit - ter - ness.
 our faith is built up - on thy prom - ise free;

who pain didst un - der - go for my poor sake;
 so come, O King, and our whole be - ing sway;
 sus - tain us by thy faith and by thy power,
 O grant to us the grace we find in thee,
 Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,

I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
 and give us strength in ev - ery try - ing hour.
 that we may dwell in per - fect u - ni - ty.
 that in thy strength we ev - er - more en - dure.

The original French text, sometimes attributed to John Calvin, seems to be a Protestant reworking of a Roman Catholic hymn, not a typical practice for him. Yet this text and tune (adapted from GENEVAN 124) clearly date from the early years of the Reformed tradition.

TEXT: *Psalms*, Strasbourg, 1545; trans. Elizabeth Lee Smith, 1868
 MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

TOULON
 10.10.10.10

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Hymn 754

Help Us Accept Each Other

1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept-ed us;
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

The scriptural basis of this text is Romans 15:7, recast as a prayer in the opening two lines of the first stanza. The many implications of living as people who have been accepted by Christ fill the remaining stanzas. This tune was composed for the first publication of this text.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1974
 MUSIC: Doreen Potter, 1974
 Text and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

BARONITA
 7.6.7.6.D

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Hymn 766

We All Are One in Mission

1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by

walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and

love are found, there can the church be known.
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.
 love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2005

MUSIC: African American spiritual; *Jubilee Songs*, 1884; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1940
 Text © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.

MC KEE
 CM

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