



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

Preparation for Worship

*When you step out into the darkness,
May you see.
See how even a single candle in a window is enough to pierce the dark and guide you home.
See planets half a billion miles away reflect the sun's light, a promise that it's still there.
See that no matter how long and cold and dark the night may be,
the Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.*

-Stacy N. Sergent

Voluntary

Variations on *Veni, Emmanuel*

Daniel Pinkham
(1923-2006)

Greeting

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

Introit

Love Came Down at Christmas (excerpt)

Leo Sowerby
(1895-1968)

Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Stars and Angels gave the sign.

Christina Rossetti (1885)

Lighting of the Advent Candles

College Students

✠ Hymn 83 ([see page 12](#))

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART

✠ 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.)

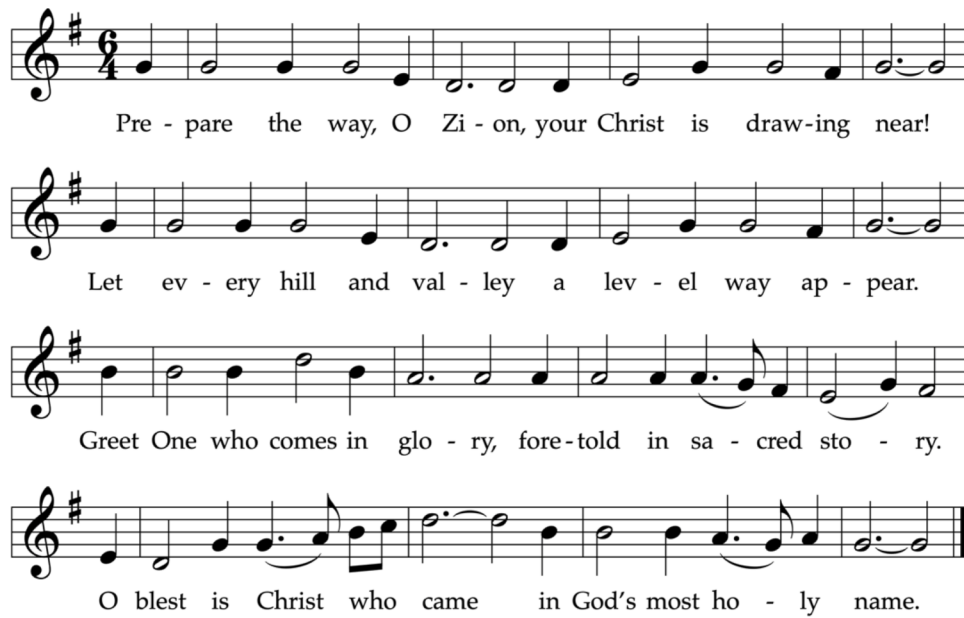
WAIT FOR THE LORD

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.

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

O.T. pg. 636

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Christmas-Tide

Bob Chilcott
(b. 1955)

Lullee, lullay, I could not love thee more
If thou wast Christ the King.
Now tell me, how did Mary know
That in her womb should sleep and grow
The Lord of everything?

Lullee, Lullay, an angel stood with her who said,
'That which doth stir like summer in thy side
Shall save the world from sin.
Then stable, hall and inn
Shall cherish Christmas-tide.'

Lullee, lullay, and so it was that day.
And did she love Him more because an angel came
To prophesy His name?
Ah no, not so, she could not love Him more,
But loved Him just the same.

Lullee, lullee, lullee, lullay.

Janet Lewis (1899-1998)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

N.T. pg. 1

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****Sermon**

There You Are

Omar Rouchon

silence and stillness✦ **Hymn 86** ([see page 13](#))*The People Who Walked in Darkness*

ISAIAH 9

✦ **Affirmation of Faith**

Phil. 2:5-11

Christ Jesus,
 though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,
 but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a servant,
 being born in human likeness.
 And being found in human form
 he humbled himself
 and became obedient to the point of death
 — even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
 and gave him the name that is above every name,
 so that at the name of Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
 and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
 Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Prayers of the People**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*Gifts may also be given any time at saintphilip.net*

Offertory

The Infinite Shining Heavens
From "Songs of Travel"

Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)

The infinite shining heavens
Rose, and I saw in the night
Uncountable angel stars
Showering sorrow and light.

I saw them distant as heaven,
Dumb and shining and dead,
And idle stars of the night
Were dearer to me than bread.

Night after night in my sorrow
The stars looked over the sea,
Till lo! I looked in the dusk
And a star had come down to me.

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

We thank you, O God, for the many gifts you have given to us.
And we give you thanks for the opportunity to share those gifts.

**Give us grace as we respond with gratitude and love,
sharing all that we have and all that we are
with the world you have created.
In the name of Jesus Christ our coming Lord. Amen.**

✠ Hymn 100 ([see page 14](#))

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

✠ Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Verset on *Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ*

Samuel Scheidt
(1587-1654)

SERVING TODAY**Pastors**

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Liturgist

Callie Bream

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Choir | David Le, baritone
Justin Langham, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers are given today by Guy and Melissa Aldrich to the glory of God and in loving memory of his father and best friend, G. Frank Aldrich, Jr.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today, we honor many years of faithful service of our nursery caregivers, Gabriela Rodarte and Denise Sanchez. With deep gratitude, we celebrate and wish them well as they pursue new opportunities in the new year. Denise has been serving at St. Philip since September 2011 and Gabriela joined us in November 2022.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Isaiah 7:10–16 – *The young woman will bear a child and name him Immanuel.*
- Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19 – *Restore us, O God; let your face shine, and save us.*
- Romans 1:1–7 – *Paul greets the saints in Rome; Jesus is the promised Son of God.*
- Matthew 1:18–25 – *Mary is with child; an angel visits Joseph; Jesus is “God with us.”*

MUSIC NOTES

Daniel Pinkham, longtime organist at King's Chapel in Boston, left a large body of music for the organ, including a colorful yet concise set of variations on “Veni, Emmanuel” that serves as today's **opening voluntary**. Its straightforward yet bracing musical language adds a sense of expectation and mystery to this familiar Advent melody.

Originally titled “Christmastide” in an 1893 publication, the poem “**Love Came Down at Christmas**” by Christina Rossetti has been set to music in a variety of ways, becoming a familiar carol for the Advent season. This chorale-like setting by composer Leo Sowerby, who was often called the “Dean of American church music” in the mid-20th century, mirrors the simple sincerity found in the text through gently flowing complementary vocal lines.

English composer Bob Chilcott, a prominent figure in 20th-century choral music, maintains a foothold in choral libraries around the world through his care for and depiction of the text he works with. One of his many beloved Christmas pieces, “**Christmas-tide**” tells the story of

Mary's unwavering love for her child from the perspective of another young mother and her newborn baby.

The cycle “Songs of Travel” by fellow English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, explores the journey of a world-weary yet resolute traveler and his experiences. “**The Infinite Shining Heavens**,” the sixth of eight musical chapters captured in song, reflects on the immutability of nature, specifically the timelessness of the stars in the night sky – a scene perhaps shared between the unnamed traveler and the shepherds in the field watching over their flock by night.

Today's **closing voluntary** is drawn from a set of versets (or variations) on Martin Luther's Advent chorale *Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ* (“Praise be to You, Jesus Christ”). Its composer Samuel Scheidt was one of the leading lights of German Protestant church music in the first half of the 17th century.

– Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

Prayer of Confession taken from the *Book of Common Worship* (2018), Presbyterian Church (USA).

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Olga Lewis and family upon the death of her husband Tom on December 14. A memorial service will be announced later.

St. Philippians and their families—Joyce Fox; Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Kay Cash; Pam Taylor; Deb Burks; Sondra Sullivan; Emily Estill; Joy Maguire; Bonnie Moore; David Winship; Bob Ardell; Diane Clarke; Mary Herlitz; Dick Nunn; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy E. Johnson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Wilma Grether—mother of Kurt Grether; Kathy Bailey and family—sister of Peg Palisin; Jo Hadley Smith—cousin of William Rowe; Katie Forbes—daughter of Marise Robbins-Forbes; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Ann Perenyi—mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound—Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; Carolyn Keeble; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Jan Ostendorf; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; and Mary Sinderson.

Friends of St. Philippians—Greg Anderson—friend of Lorrie Castle; Ann Swanson—friend of Deborah Unruh; Kitty Manson and family; Sidney Roach, Lori Childers O'Connell, Joyce Freudenberg—friends of Stephen Paine; Chris Deflandre—friend of Cara Biddle; Mary Ann Thomas; Erin McDougal and Marianne Keeswood—friends of Kate Burkart; Elaine Ende—friend of Beth Atkinson; Carter Lindley, Tandi Porter, Audrey Eubank Harris, Jay Stokes & Anna Domonte, friends of Curt & Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash—friend of Jane Cooper; Mary Watters and Mindy Cooper-Smith—friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Kenneth and Donna Benton—friends of William Rowe; Patty Ryan and Tom Barnett—friends of Robin and 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



CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

4:30 PM AND 7:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

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 START AT 9:45 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY – Ages 3-Kindergarten – Room 103

ELEMENTARY – Grades 1-5 – Room 205

YOUTH – Grades 6-12 – meet again in January

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Room 204 – Join us from 9:30 to 10:40 a.m. On Nov. 30, we began our study of Isaiah in Volume 2, *Prophets*, in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Hebrew Bible: A Translation with Commentary* (2019). Join us as we seek to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to all God's people. All are welcome.

CHURCH & SOCIETY – Room 201 – Join us from 9:30 – 10:40 a.m. with presentations in person and by Zoom.

Dec. 28 - Film study of the movie FLOW. Presented by Kate Burkart, St. Philip film guru. A wondrous journey, through realms natural and mystical. From the boundless imagination of the award-winning Gints Zilbalodis (*Away*) comes a thrilling animated spectacle as well as a profound meditation on the fragility of the environment and the spirit of friendship and community. Steeped in the soaring possibilities of visual storytelling, *Flow* is a feast for the senses and a treasure for the heart. If you would like the Zoom link for the classes, email:

jshartman01@gmail.com.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP – This group meets for an hour once a month on Zoom to read and discuss social justice issues of concern in today's world. Our current topic is Christian Nationalism, one definition of which is "that America is God's chosen nation and should be defended and governed as such." Attitudes already influencing our legislators include opposition to gay rights, opposition to gun safety efforts, promotion of Christian religion in schools and libraries, book bans, etc. Our current study book is Brian Kaylor's *Baptizing America; how mainline Protestants helped build Christian Nationalism*. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson: sjj10223@gmail.com.

LAMBETH STUDY – Keatan King leads young adults in study on the first Monday of the month evening at 7:00 PM via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and pray-

er. If you would like more details, email Keatan at: keatan@saintphilip.net.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY – ON RECESS UNTIL JANUARY 7. Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets weekly at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome to join us as we look at the lectionary passages for the coming Sunday! To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to:

john@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting will be on **Jan. 15** at 7:00 p.m. Please watch your email for details about location. 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 beginning to study "*Short Stories by Jesus*" by Amy-Jill Levine. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at:

ggardne148@aol.com.

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

Celebrate your wedding anniversary, family birthdays, or memorialize loved ones by sponsoring the chancel flowers on Sunday morning. Please sign up to sponsor the flowers on the date which you prefer. If you have any questions, contact Lorrie Castle at 713-622-4807 or lorrie@saintphilip.net. Sandra Truxillo, Flower Coordinator, will call you the week you chose to sponsor flowers to discuss the type of flowers and the message you would like in the bulletin. The standard arrangement for chancel flowers is \$130, special requests or exotic flowers may cost more. Order by clicking below or scanning the QR.



[CHANCEL FLOWERS]

[Reserve Chancel Flowers](#)

Merry Christmas

*Thank you to those who have contributed poinsettias this Christmas to adorn our chancel.
The list is continued on the next page.*

<i>Given by:</i>	<i>Those We Remember:</i>
Sally Alcorn	Fred C. Alcorn
Sally Alcorn	Lexey & Charles Alcorn
Sally Alcorn	Cecile & Carl Stuebing
Sally Alcorn	Edward Wilson Stuebing II
Guy & Melissa Aldrich	Guy's loving father & best friend, Guy F. Aldrich, Jr.
Orlean Anderson	Kenneth Anderson Jr.
Orlean Anderson	Ruth & Orlean McCallum
Linda Bevill	Mickey Meyers
Linda Bevill	Nan Schissler
Eric & Jennifer Brown	Jim Scruby
Tina Bryan	Sweet Tony Bryan, may he find comfort and peace in God's arms
Mary Grace Carter	Gratitude for Mary & Jim Bratton
Jane Cooper	Loved ones
Elizabeth Crowell	Anne Crowell Kuzminsky
Carl & Janet Eskridge	John & Rita Hannah
David & Joyce Fox	Tom Lewis
David & Joyce Fox	Carolyn Vestal
Elizabeth Hadaway	Bertie Hadaway
Tom Hall	Barnes & Emily Hall
Tom Hall	Bill & Fran Racette
Judye & John Hartman	Christine Van Osdall
Nancy Higgs	My mother, father, & brother Bob
Charlotte W. Kibler & Boone Family	Dewey E. Kibler
Charlotte W. Kibler & Boone Family	Dick, Ruth & Rick Siciliano
Charlotte W. Kibler & Boone Family	Coval & Ellen MacDonald
Jane Lee	Bill Lee
Jane Malczewskyj	Loved ones
Barbara Runge	Rusty Howard
Barbara Runge	Glen & Affie Tate
Barbara Runge	Trudy Cleveland
Meg Scott- Johnson	John Christopher Scott
Meg Scott- Johnson	Richard B. Johnson, Jr.
Sue Shirley Howard	Richard Harry Howard
Sally Slick	Bill Slick
Hallie & David Spence	Paxton Williams
Sondra Sullivan & Patrick Conner	Jan & Ben Conner
Aileen Todd	Harry Todd
Quincy & Sarah Victorian	Our dog, Popcorn
Ruthie & Al Waldrop	Our parents, Nancy & Kenan Rand and Florence & Allister Waldrop
Julia Wanger	Tom Wangler
Hope Wilmarth	Lance Wilmarth
Hope Wilmarth	Frances Burkhart
Jennifer Wilson	My mother, Helen Wilson
Ruena Wood & Family	My husband, Rev. Dr. Stuart Wood;
Ruena Wood & Family	My parents, Enrique & Asuncion Sajor
Vada A. Woodall & Dena M. Woodall	Our generous brother & uncle, Taylor Moore Jones
John Wurster & Deb Burks	Darnall Burks

<i>Given by:</i>	<i>Those we honor:</i>
Bob & Lee Ardell	In gratitude for the pastors & staff of St Philip
Gary & Molly Boren Whitney	Our wonderful pastors and office staff
Bob & Bebe Burns	To the glory of God and in thanksgiving for St. Philip
David & Nancy Castro	David Jr., Alicia, Trip, Penelope, Katie & Annie, Alé & Lucía
Carolyn C. Keeble	Sally Alcorn
Suzanne Kerr	Justin Langham for his musical gifts to St. Philip
Walter & Margaret King	In appreciation of our wonderful St. Philip staff
Jenny Laughlin	St. Philip family
Jim & Nancy Lomax	Our daughters Laura, Heather, & Lisa
Bonnie Moore	My church music family
Cathy Patterson, David & Charlie Wood	Marcia James
Carrie Pepi	Mary & Jim Bratton
Marise Robbins-Forbes	Families struggling with cancer
Jenilee Simmons	My family
Jenilee Simmons	St. Philip staff
Hallie & David Spence	Mary Linda Williams
Karen St. Laurent	Susan Estill
Sondra Sullivan & Patrick Conner	St. Philip staff
Hope Wilmarth	Isabelle, Jeb, Arden, Gertrude, Clara & Elliot
Jennifer Wilson	My father, Victor Bill Wilson
Dena M. Woodall	My loving mother, Vada A. Woodall, a member of the St. Philip Choir



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 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.**

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 the Library 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. 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, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056. To make stock contributions contact Denise Ferrell at denise@saintphilip.net.



St. Philip Day School is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high-quality childcare at no cost to low-income families. To support the school, **please make all contributions directly to St. Philip Day School**, rather than to St. Philip Presbyterian Church. Please make checks payable to “St. Philip DAY SCHOOL” 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 contact Candice Harris, Program Director, at Director@stphilipdayschool.org.

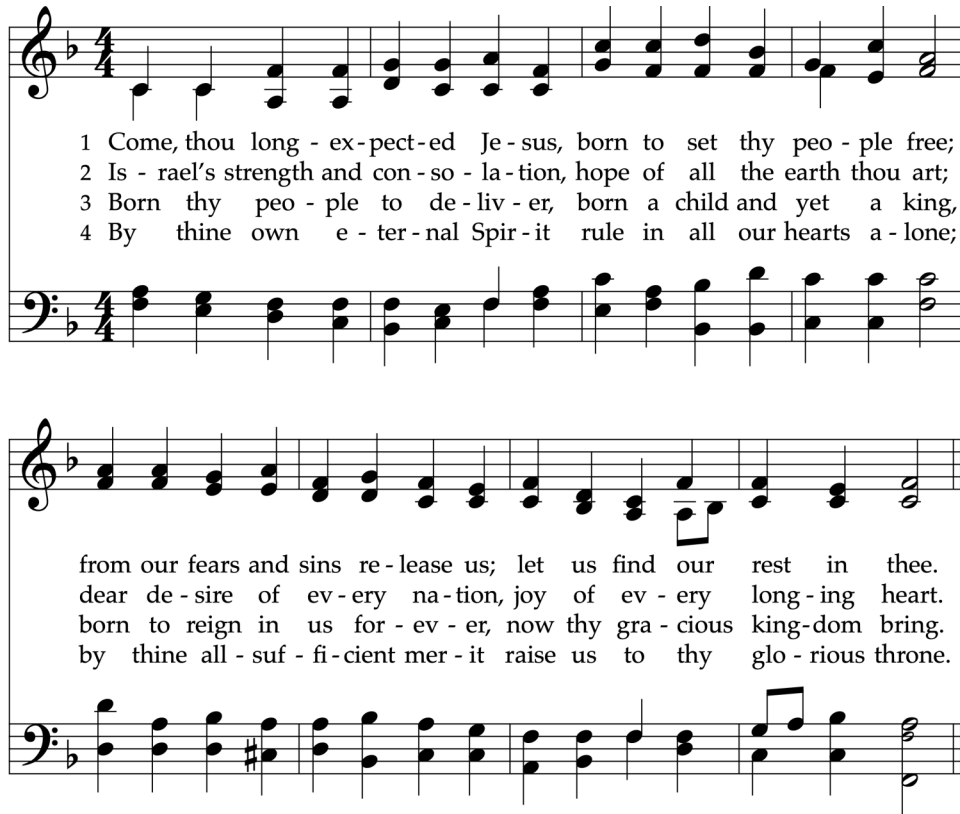
Lost & Found—did you leave a pair of glasses, umbrella, or other item during worship? There is a canvas basket in the library where these items may be found. Jewelry, phones and more valuable items are turned into Lorrie Castle in the Church Office, lorrie@saintphilip.net or 713-622-4807.

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.



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.

Hymn 83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus


1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744
 MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.

STUTTGART
 8.7.8.7

[Return to page 2](#)

Hymn 86

The People Who Walked in Darkness

1 The peo - ple who walked in dark - ness a - wak - en to
 2 For God has en - larged the na - tion, and pros - pered the
 3 The yoke of de - spair and bond - age, the chains of the
 4 For us now a child is giv - en, for all the de -
 5 How vast is our God's do - min - ion! How far truth and

(D) (G) (B) (Em) (C/E)
 F B \flat D Gm E \flat /G

see a great light. The peo - ple who dwelt in the
 fruit of its land. God's peo - ple are blest with the
 slave mas - ter's rod are shat - tered and scat - tered like
 spised and for - lorn. The rule of com - pas - sion shall
 mer - cy ex - tend. The zeal of the Lord will ac -

(Em) (Bm) (Cmaj7) (Am7) (Bsus) (B)
 Gm Dm E \flat maj7 Cm7 Dsus D

land of the shad - ow rise to a star shin - ing bright.
 har - vest of vic - tory, gift from a boun - ti - ful hand.
 dust in a wind - storm, loosed by the jus - tice of God.
 rest on his shoul - der. God's own Mes - si - ah is born!
 com - pish its pur - pose: jus - tice shall reign with - out end.

Refrain (E) (Am7) (D) (G) (C) (F \sharp dim7) (B) (Em)
 G Cm7 F B \flat E \flat Adim7 D Gm

His name is Won - der - ful, Coun - sel - or, Al - might - y God,

(Cmaj7) (G) (Am7) (D) 1 (G)
 E \flat maj7 B \flat Cm7 F B \flat

Fa - ther for - ev - er, Prince of Peace.

2 (G) (B7sus) (B) Final (G) (C/G) (G)
 B \flat D7sus D B \flat E \flat /B \flat B \flat

Peace. (to stanzas) Peace.

One of the great virtues of scriptural paraphrases is that they bring fresh understanding and appreciation to familiar passages. This adaptation of a customary Advent text, Isaiah 9:2-7, provides an effective example of how revisited verses can take on new life when recast.

TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2008
 MUSIC: Sally Ann Morris, 2008
 Text and Music © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.

ISAIAH 9
 8.8.12.7 with refrain

[Return to page 4](#)

Hymn 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -

God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -

won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer-or's crush - ing grasp.

You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the

weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.

TEXT: Rory Cooney, 1990
 MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Rory Cooney, 1990
 Text and Music Arr. © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN
 Irregular

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the
 fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the
 dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

[Return to page 5](#)

St. Philip Office

Holiday Hours

December 24 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

December 25-26 – Closed

December 31 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

January 1-2 – Closed

2025 Gifts must be in the office by

Wednesday, December 31

or

postmarked December 31

for tax purposes