



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025

Preparation for Worship

*Because there is still much unrest in the world and in our hearts, we light a candle of peace.
Because hatred is still strong, we light a candle of peace.
May the light from this candle say to all that God's peace is coming,
on earth as it already is in heaven.*

- W.H. Auden

Voluntary

Chorale Fantasie on *Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele*

Johann Ludwig Krebs
(1713-1780)

Greeting

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

Introit

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS
Harm. Michael Praetorius (1609)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half-gone was the night.

This Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load.

Germany, 15th century
Transl. Theodore Baker (1851-1934)

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Godly Play Class

✠ Prayer of Confession

Cleansing God,
 we hear the call to repentance,
 but we struggle to respond.
 A voice tells us to turn around,
 but we prefer our own ways.
 You seek to purify us in love,
 but we constantly elude your searching hand.
 Our sin leads us in other directions,
 away from you, away from life.
 Look with mercy upon us.
 Clear a place within us
 so that something new might be born,
 and that we might return
 to the way you have shown us in Jesus Christ.

silent prayer

✠ Response

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

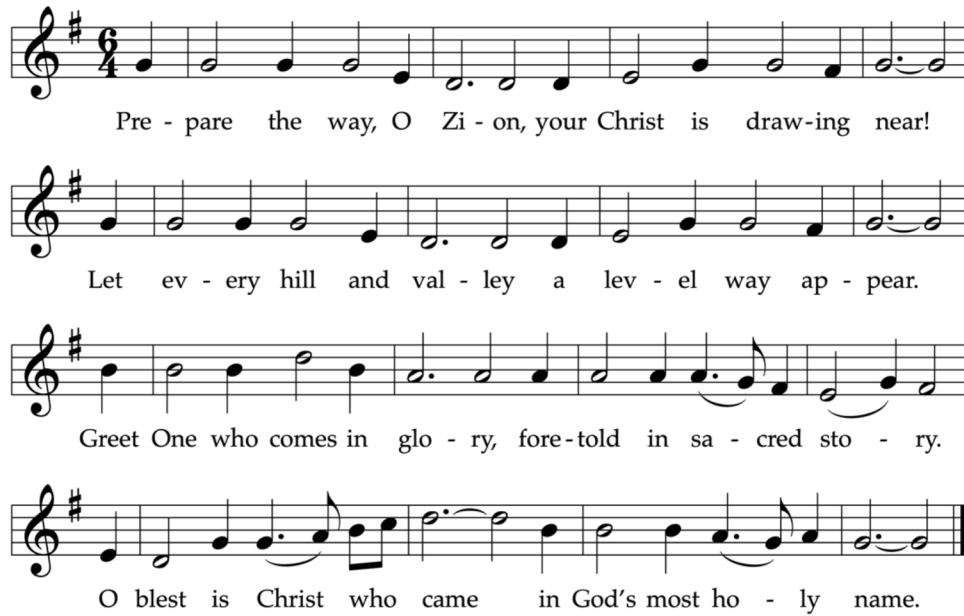
TEXT Ref. Taizé Community, 1984
 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984
 Text and Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

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.**

Children's Anthem

How Will We Know Him?

Charlotte Algozin
(1931-2023)

How will we know him when he comes?
How will we know Emmanuel?
Will he be a mighty king, a crown upon his head?
Or will he be a tiny child, sleeping beside his mother mild;
Angels and shepherds kneeling at his manger bed?

Where will we find him when he comes?
Where will we find Emmanuel?
Will he be in a palace sitting on a throne of gold?
Or will the Wise Men from afar find him beneath a shining star;
Cattle and sheep around him in a stable cold?

Will he rule with a mighty hand;
Nations and armies at his command?
Or will this Child of humble birth
Teach us to live in peace on earth?

What can we give him when he comes?
What can we give Emmanuel?
How can we ever show him that we want to do our part?
He has no need for earthly things;
Silver and gold and jeweled rings.
All he would have us give him is a loving heart.

Charlotte Algozin (1993)

Conversation with Children

Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery.

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

O.T. pgs. 640-641

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****Anthem***Et in terra pax*

RV 589/2

Antonio Vivaldi
(1678-1741)*Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis*
And on earth peace to people of good will.**Gospel Reading**

Matthew 3:1-12

N.T. pgs. 2-3

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

Merry Repentance

John W. Wurster

silence and stillness✠ **Hymn 104** ([see page 14](#))*O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Offering*Gifts may also be given any time at saintphilip.net***Offertory***O Lovely Peace*From *Judas Maccabeus*, HWV 63G.F. Handel
(1685-1759)O lovely peace, with plenty crowned,
Come, spread thy blessings all around.
Let fleecy flocks the hills adorn,
And vallies smile with wavy corn.

Thomas Morell (1746)

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**Invitation to the Lord's Table****Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right ...who forever sing to the glory of your name:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2006
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

SANCTUS (Pavlechko)

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior...Great is the mystery of faith:



Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2006
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (Pavlechko)

Through the Lord Jesus Christ,...we bless you, God of glory, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2006
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

AMEN (Pavlechko)

As the children of God, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

The Breaking of Bread and the Sharing of God's Gifts

Communion Music *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half-gone was the night.

✦ **Litany for Advent**

Among the poor, among the proud,
among the persecuted, among the privileged,
Christ is coming to make all things new.

In the private house, in the public place,
in the wedding feast, in the judgment hall,
Christ is coming to make all things new.

With a gentle touch, with an angry word,
with a clear conscience, with burning love,
Christ is coming to make all things new.

That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,
that the proud might stumble, that the hidden might be seen,
Christ is coming to make all things new.

Within us, without us, behind us, before us,
in this place, in every place, in this time, for all time,
Christ is coming to make all things new.

Christ is coming to make all things new — even you, even me.
Christ is coming. Thanks be to God!

✦ **Hymn 105** ([see page 15](#))

People, Look East

BESANÇON

✦ **Charge and Blessing**

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

Voluntary

Chorale Verset on *Freu dich sehr*

George Böhm
(1661-1773)

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Liturgist

Jennifer Miller

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Choir | St. Philip Children's Music; Julia Fox, leader
Ann Frautschi, flute | Julia Fox & Sarah Neal, duet | Bell Canto handbell ensemble
Justin Langham, director of music

WORSHIP NOTES

To receive communion today, please come forward via the center aisle, for a piece of bread. The bread may be dipped in the chalice of grape juice and consumed or you may take a small cup of grape juice from the tray. You may return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free bread is available, just ask the servers as you come forward. Those with mobility challenges may receive communion in their seats, just signal the servers. Because the table of Jesus Christ is open to all, everyone is welcome to receive communion today.

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church through our communion offering. This Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. 50% supports the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which provides critical financial assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need. 50% supports Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color to provide education and leadership development. Gifts may be brought to the front basket during the final hymn. You may also make a secure contribution through St. Philip Life and choosing the communion fund or by sending a check to the church office, with "Communion" in the memo line.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Isaiah 11:1–10 — *From Jesse's root, a child will come with the spirit of the Lord.*
- Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19 — *May the king rule with righteousness and defend the poor.*
- Romans 15:4–13 — *Trust God's promises in Scripture; rejoice and live in hope.*
- Matthew 3:1–12 — *John calls for repentance: prepare the way of the Lord.*



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

Preparation for Worship from SaltProject.org. Litany for Advent from *A Wee Worship Book*, GIA Publications.

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MUSIC NOTES

This morning's **organ voluntaries** are settings of the German chorale melody "Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele" ("Rejoice, O My Soul"), a tune that also appears in the Calvinist tradition as Genevan 42, to which we sing the hymn text "Comfort, Comfort Now my People" (*Glory to God* No. 87). Bach student Johann Ludwig Krebs made a name for himself as an organ virtuoso in the mid 18th century, with chorale fantasies and free works that give free reign to galant-style counterpoint. His fantasy on "Freu dich sehr" frames its highly decorated melody with an elaborate ritornello. The chorale-based works of Georg Böhm, by contrast, represent an older style of organ composition, one less concerned with elegant turns of phrase and more devoted to motivically based counterpoint.

On this second Sunday of Advent, we reflect the theme of peace through music in several ways. The German carol "Es is ein Ros entsprungen"—commonly translated as "**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming**"—is a Marian hymn referencing the Old Testament prophecies of Isaiah, which foretell Jesus' incarnation through the lineage of Jesse through the imagery of a tree. Composed by an unknown author around 1599, this tune has since been transformed by many composers over the centuries, always evoking a sense of peace and calm anticipation. Our **introit** consists of the first and third verses from the familiar harmonization by Michael Praetorius (1571–1621), while our **communion music** begins with an arrangement for handbells and flute.

"**How Will We Know Him?**" is a gentle song that raises many questions: How will we know the savior when he comes to earth? What form will he take? Will he be a king

with a mighty army? Or a tiny child with his mother? This anthem answers by highlighting the striking humbleness of the nativity, which honors gentleness over grandeur. Supported by a correspondingly simple piano accompaniment and flute obbligato, the melody and lyrics sung by our St. Philip children remind us that the greatest gift we can give is a loving heart.

The second of three installments from the Advent portion of Vivaldi's *Gloria* RV 589, today's **anthem** sets line two of the original 12th century hymn text and answers last week's anthem "Gloria to God in the highest" with "and on earth peace to people of good will." Contrary to the bright and joyful tone of the opening movement, Vivaldi chooses a slower brooding mood, using an incessant rhythmic accompaniment that supports a gradually evolving choral texture. To hear more of the emotion Vivaldi draws from this ancient Christian text, we hope you will join us for our St. Philip Christmas concert "Gloria!" this evening at 5:00 p.m.

Our **offertory** comes from Handel's oratorio *Judas Maccabeus*, written in 1746 as a compliment to the victorious British Prince William Augustus following a large battle in April of that year. While not the Handel oratorio most expect to hear this time of year, the duet from the third act finds an Israelite man and woman rejoicing that peace has finally come to their land. The underlying music contains many pastoral elements to reflect elements of text—hills, valleys, and fields of "wavy corn"—and a keen listener will hear musical similarities to the "pifa" or "pastoral symphony" from part 1 of Handel's *Messiah*, which depicts shepherds abiding in the fields.

- Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

Christmas Eve

CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Wednesday, December 24

4:30 p.m. — **A Whimsical Telling**

of the Birth of Jesus

7:00 p.m. — **Communion Service**

with the St. Philip Choir

IN OUR PRAYERS

A memorial service for Carolyn Vestal, who died in August, is scheduled for December 20 at 11 am.

St. Philippians and their families—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; Raquel Calhoun & family - sister-in-law of Pam Keever; 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

CAMPUS PLANNING UPDATE – DECEMBER 14

At 9:30 a.m. on **December 14** in the Dining Room, we will have another forum with updates on our campus planning process. This is essentially a repeat of the presentation from November 23. Earlier this year, the Session authorized an exploration of how to optimize our buildings and grounds to support our current and future ministry. The architectural firm English+Associates was engaged to lead this study. Among the topics considered was the current utilization of spaces across the church campus, maintenance costs, looming capital expenditures, operational efficiency, environmental sustainability, and security. As the architects studied these topics, they met regularly with our planning team (Dan Boston, John Hartman, John Lemen, Rhonda Sands, Peter Schneider, and John Wurster) and gathered information from the congregation via a summer survey. In response to expressed needs from the congregation, the plan seeks to preserve green space and developing more convenient parking. The Session received this report with a consensus that it should be shared with the congregation for review and comment. Please come and help us consider how best to use our resources in service to Jesus Christ.



It is the time to adorn our chancel with poinsettias. Beginning right away you have the opportunity to make a donation to assist with this. You can complete the form to the right or go to the website, saintphilip.net, and click on Make a Contribution. Choose fund *Flowers*. In the optional Note put "Point" and the individual or persons you are honoring or remembering. Questions? Call Church Office at 713-622-4807 or email Lorrie Castle at: lorrie@saintphilip.net.

Christmas Poinsettias

Donations of any amount accepted

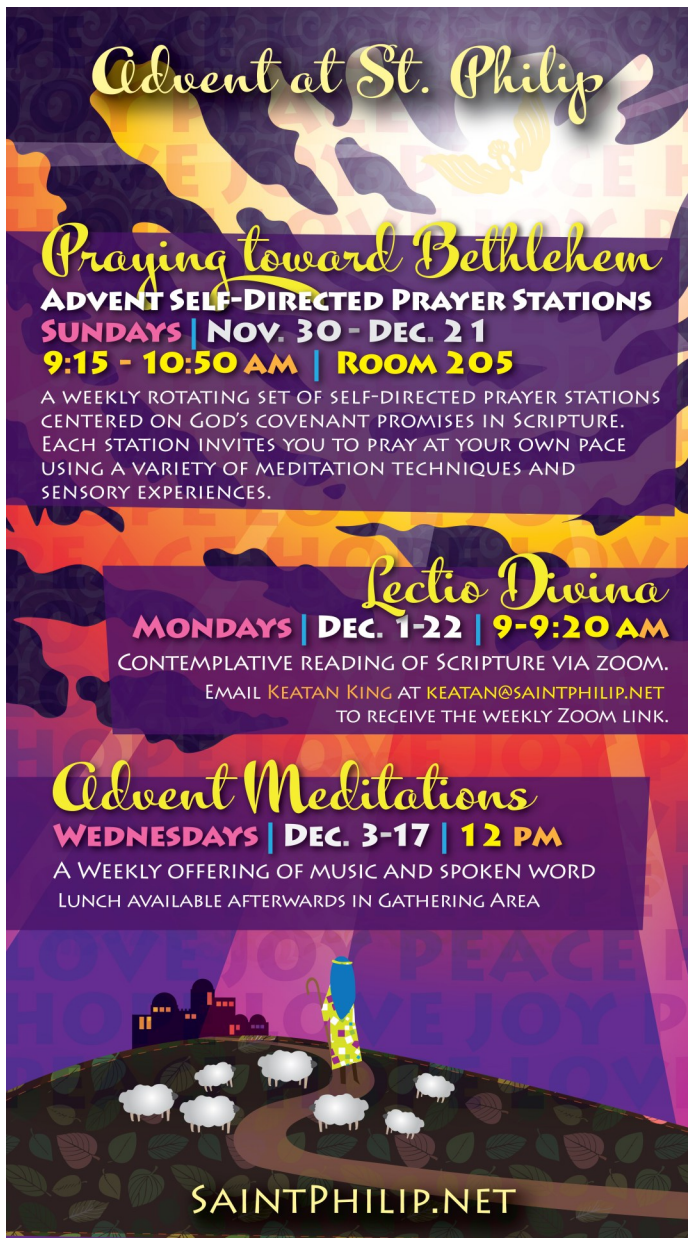
(circle one) **I / we** would like to make a donation to purchase poinsettias to adorn our chancel during this Christmas season

(circle one) **in honor of / memory of**

Donor - Your Name(s) (Please print legibly)

*Please place envelope in the offering plate or return it with your **payment** to the church office by Tuesday, **December 16**. Use additional space below if needed.*

I have included a _____ check, _____ cash or



Advent at St. Philip

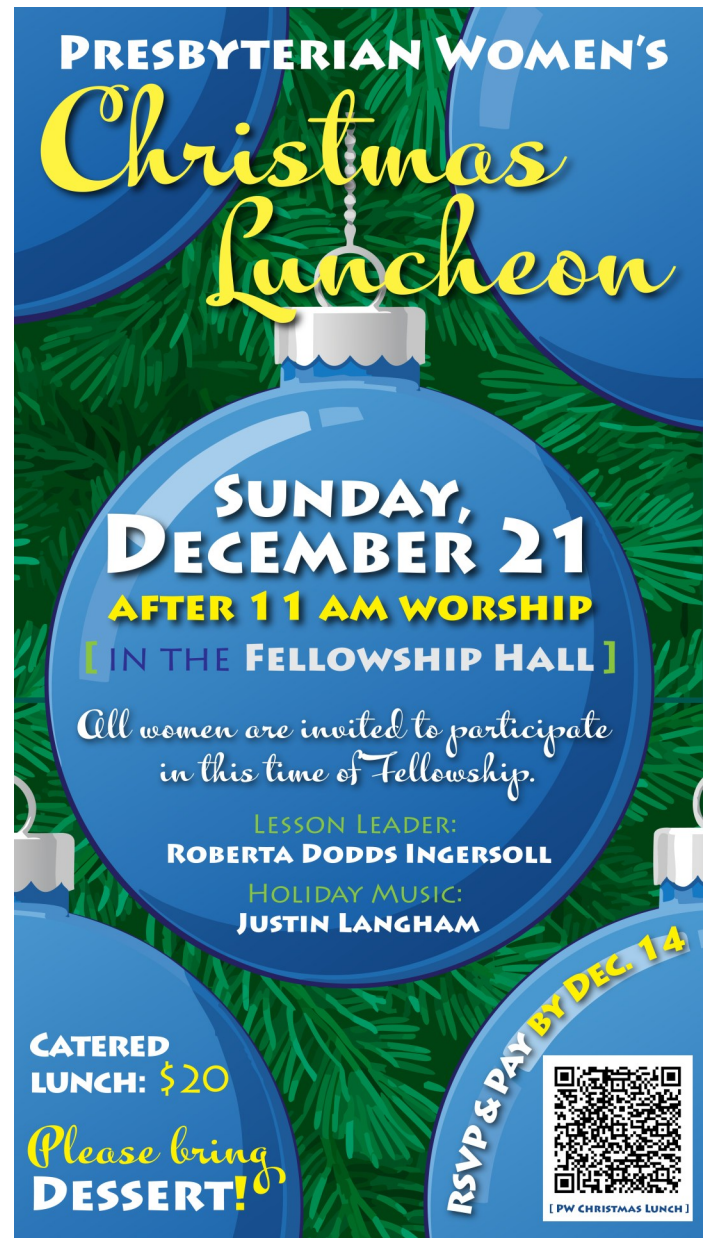
Praying toward Bethlehem
ADVENT SELF-DIRECTED PRAYER STATIONS
SUNDAYS | NOV. 30 - DEC. 21
9:15 - 10:50 AM | ROOM 205

A WEEKLY ROTATING SET OF SELF-DIRECTED PRAYER STATIONS CENTERED ON GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES IN SCRIPTURE. EACH STATION INVITES YOU TO PRAY AT YOUR OWN PACE USING A VARIETY OF MEDITATION TECHNIQUES AND SENSORY EXPERIENCES.

Lectio Divina
MONDAYS | DEC. 1-22 | 9-9:20 AM
 CONTEMPLATIVE READING OF SCRIPTURE VIA ZOOM.
 EMAIL KEATAN KING AT KEATAN@SAINTPHILIP.NET TO RECEIVE THE WEEKLY ZOOM LINK.

Advent Meditations
WEDNESDAYS | DEC. 3-17 | 12 PM
 A WEEKLY OFFERING OF MUSIC AND SPOKEN WORD
 LUNCH AVAILABLE AFTERWARDS IN GATHERING AREA

SAINTPHILIP.NET



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S
Christmas Luncheon

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21
AFTER 11 AM WORSHIP
[IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL]

All women are invited to participate in this time of Fellowship.


LESSON LEADER:
ROBERTA DODDS INGERSOLL

HOLIDAY MUSIC:
JUSTIN LANGHAM

CATERED LUNCH: \$20

Please bring DESSERT!

RSVP & PAY BY DEC. 14



[PW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON]

This Sunday the Presbyterian Women will be in the Gathering Area registering guests and accepting cash and checks for the Christmas luncheon. A delicious hot lunch will be provided by Demeris Catering and will cost \$20 per person. It will include charcoal-grilled Mediterranean chicken breast, Greek style potatoes, green beans and a tossed salad. Gluten free options available. Guests are asked to bring a dessert or plate of cookies for 12 people. We will collect the Thank Offering. Currently we are planning to meet in the Fellowship Hall, once reservations are finalized, we may move to the Dining Room.

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. we will study Ecclesiastes, the final book in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Wisdom Books: Job, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes* (2010). Join us as we seek to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to all of God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

CHURCH & SOCIETY – Room 201 – Join us from 9:30 – 10:40 a.m. with presentations in person and by Zoom. **Dec. 14** – *Revelation: Reflections on Evil and Hope in the 21st Century* – Most people avoid the Book of Revelation because it seems confusing, frightening, or just plain weird. However, Revelation offers some of the most insightful reflections on evil, hope, and the role of the church in all of scripture. Rev. John Judson offers insights from Revelation intended to enlighten and encourage us in our task as followers of Jesus Christ. 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 – 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 a social on **Dec. 11** 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.

	<p>Rev. Dr. Jill Duffield</p> <p>Pastor First Presbyterian Church Greensboro, North Carolina</p> <p>Presenting Lectures February 22, 23, and 24 2026</p>	
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[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.

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.



[MAKE A CONTRIBUTION]

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 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bid. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7–10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.

TEXT: Georg Weissel, 1642; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1855, 1863
 MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778

TRURO
LM

[Return to page 2](#)

Hymn 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel-come you a - right?
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;
 3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,

Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro-cured my lib - er - ty.
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.

O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with - in my breast,
 O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day

to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.
 when your re-newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

Though many Advent hymns address Christ with entreaty and invitation, this more contemplative text considers how an individual prepares for and responds to Christ's coming. It also brings together a recollection of the First Coming with an anticipation of the Second Coming.

TEXT: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; trans. Catherine Winkworth and others, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1614; harm. William Henry Monk, 1861

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
 7.6.7.6.D

[Return to page 4](#)

Hymn 105

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look
 a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

east and sing to - day:
 Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 Love, the Bird, is on the way.
 Love, the Star, is on the way.
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo - ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)

This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.