



THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP
AT WORSHIP

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 17, 2020

Voluntary

Sonata in D major: II. Adante con moto
Op. 65/5

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn

We Are Gathered in the Spirit

NETTLETON



1. We are gath-ered in the Spir - it though our bod - ies are a -
2. We are gath-ered in our sor - row, we are gath-ered in our
3. We are gath-ered in com-mit - ment to a plan - et that is



part. filled with joy and touched with won - der, sep - 'rate
fear, in our pain and in our wor - ry, in our
whole. Works of jus - tice, acts of kind - ness bless the



hands but min-gled hearts giv - ing thanks and sing - ing
an - ger and our tears. As we tend to one an -
world and heal our souls. As our voic - es join to -



prais - es for the love that calls us on. From our
oth - er with our gifts and with our care, our com -
geth - er, may our song of peace re - sound. May we



ma - ny diff-'rent pla - ces we are ga - thered in - to one.
mu - ni - ty is strength-ened through the faith and hope we share.
of - fer in a - bun - dance all the grace that we have found.

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:
Cleanse us from all our offenses,
and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,
that with reverent and humble hearts
we may draw near to you,
confessing our faults,
confiding in your grace,
and finding in you our refuge and strength.

silent prayer

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

Response

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody.

MUSIC: Fintan O'Carroll, 1981 ©

Words of Peace

In Christ, God is reconciling the whole world,
and God is entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
We are ambassadors for Jesus Christ. God's appeal is being made through us.
Peace be with you. Peace be with all.

Vocal Solo

Thou Art God

Lionel Bourne
(b. 1960)

Thou art the peace of all things calm,
Thou art the place to hide from harm,
Thou art the light that shines in dark,
Thou art the heart's eternal spark,
Thou art the door that's open wide,
Thou art the guest who waits inside,
Thou art the stranger at the door,
Thou art the calling of the poor.
Thou art peace, thou art calm.
Thou art my love,
Thou art my Lord and with me still,
Thou art my love, keep me from ill,
Thou art the light, the truth, the way.
Thou art my Savior this day,
Thou art my Savior this very day.

— words by David Adam (b. 1936)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Acts 17:22-34

Solo

If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby
(b. 1949)

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another Comforter,
that he may abide with you forever — e'en the Spirit of Truth.
And ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.

— John 14:15-18

Affirmation of Faith

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.
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.**

Hymn

For the Healing of the Nations

CWM RHONDDA



1. For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
2. Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
3. All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
4. You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on



one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing
world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,
earth be banned: pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,
hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness,



of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of
all may come and go in peace. Show us how through
dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon
bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -



love and ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word,
care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease,
quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span,
sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find,



help us rise and pledge our word.
fear will die and hope in - crease.
may we hal - low life's brief span.
earth its des - ti - ny may find.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1965 • © 1968 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
8.7.8.7.8.7.7

Charge and Blessing

Closing Voluntary

Sonata in D major: III. Allegro
Op. 65/5

Felix Mendelssohn

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Keatan King, Omar Rouchon, and Deb Burks

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist; Cecilia Duarte, soloist; Randall Swanson, pianist.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's readings from the Revised Common Lectionary are:

- Acts 17:22–31—*Paul introduces the Athenians to their “unknown god”: the Lord.*
- Psalm 66:8–20—*Bless God, who hears our prayers and keeps us among the living.*
- 1 Peter 3:13–22—*Do not fear; testify to the hope that is in you through Christ.*
- John 14:15–21—*Jesus says: the Father will send the Spirit, who will abide in you.*

MUSIC NOTES

Organ music — For the organ Felix Mendelssohn wrote six multi-movement sonatas, one of which serves as the source for today's **opening** and **closing voluntaries**. Classically inspired examples of the genre, these sonatas were partly a response to the demand for such works in England, where Mendelssohn was widely celebrated as an organ virtuoso. The Sonata in D major, Op. 65/5, includes a chorale-like introduction, an alluring slow movement reminiscent of his "Songs without Words" for piano, and a rousing closing movement in sonata-allegro form.

Vocal music — Today's **first solo** features a prayer text by the English poet David Adam, retired Anglican priest and former rector of the Holy Island of Lindisfarne off the northern east coast of England (just south of the border with Scotland), the ancient and still-important center of Celtic Christianity. Adam is the author of several books collecting meditations, prayers and art in the Celtic tradition. The musical setting of his "Thou Art God" is by contemporary English composer, organist and conductor Lionel Bourne. • This morning's **second solo** — setting the well-known words of today's lectionary Gospel passage "If you love me, keep my commandments..." — is by British composer Philip Wilby, who is Professor Emeritus in the School of Music at the University of Leeds.

— Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families— Guy Aldrich; Walter Baker; Pam Rush; Greg Moore; Marion Takehara; CJ Miller; Lonnie Fugit; Mezgebe Gebray; John Bobbitt; Arlette Keene; David Block—brother-in-law of Nancy Lomax; John Beck—brother of Nancy Young; Margie Foster—mother-in-law of Nancy Young; Tom Martin—father of Jon Martin; Dorothy McMillan—mother of Nancy Higgs; Keith Thomerson—brother-in-law of Susan Estill; Barbara Wilson—sister-in-law of Connie Mayfield; Jack Kindig—brother of Ginny Camfield; Shirley and Weldon Boggus, Sr.—grandparents of Omi Ford; Jimmy Reagan—father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe—mother of William Rowe; Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers; and Ann Morgan—sister of Dorothy Blackwell.

Homebound: Sue Baier; Joe Anne Berwick; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; Jane English; Barbara German; George Helland; Donna Host; T.E. "Joe" Keever; Toto McGehee; Phillip McDaniel; Paul & Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Van Rathgeber; Jean Nelson; Jody Tomforde; Penny Vieau; and Ruth Weber.

Friends of St. Philippians: Melissa and Sela Calvert—friends of Kay Cash; Dorcas Rhodes—friend of Jan Meyer; Dave Olson and Clayton Amacker—friends of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; Frank Wallace—friend of Jim & Nadene Crain; and Walter "Buddy" Hammann III—friend of Robin & Gary Willis.

We also pray for health care workers, first responders, and caregivers; for those who are sick; and for those watch and wait.

The Session has voted to suspend activities at St. Philip indefinitely.

Pledge payments and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<http://saintphilip.net/>) or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.