



THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP  
AT WORSHIP

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 26, 2020

**Voluntary**

*Prelude in A Major*  
BWV 536/1

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

**Opening Sentences**

**Opening Hymn 12** (see page 5)

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

**Prayer of Confession**

O Lord our God,  
you call us to proclaim the gospel,  
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.  
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,  
but we are content to live in separation.  
You call us to see the good of all,  
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.  
You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,  
but we sit idly by,  
endangering the lives of people far and near.

Forgive us, O Lord.  
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,  
and give us the courage and strength  
to be reconciled to others;  
Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

*silent prayer*

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

## Declaration of Forgiveness

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

### Response

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to  
 God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.  
 We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1995  
 Music © 1995 Hal H. Hopson

WE ARE FORGIVEN  
 10.8.10.8

## 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.

### Response

Peace of God be with you. Peace of God be with you. Sa -  
 As - sa - laa - mu la - kum. As - sa - laa - mu la - kum. Sa -  
 laam, sa - laam. Peace of God be with you.  
 laam, sa - laam. As - sa - laa - mu la - kum.

Both being Semitic languages, Arabic and Hebrew have many similar words, as can be heard here in *Salaam*, which sounds much like *Shalom*. This setting uses the same words and music in all but one phrase, making this brief song easy to learn in either English or Arabic.

TEXT: Arabic greeting  
 MUSIC: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, 2004  
 Music © 2004 Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ (admin. The Pilgrim Press)

AS-SALAAMU LAKUM  
 6.6.4.6

## Prayer for Illumination

### Scripture Reading

1 Kings 3:5-12

Solo

*O Lord, Most Holy*

César Franck  
(1822-1890)

O Lord most holy, O Lord most mighty,  
 O loving Father, thee would we be praising alway.  
 Help us to know Thee,  
 know thee and love thee;  
 Father, Father, grant us thy truth and grace;  
 Father, Father, guide and defend us.

Rule thou our willful hearts,  
 keep thine our wandering thoughts;  
 in all our sorrows, let us find our rest in thee;  
 and in temptation's hour,  
 save through thy mighty power,  
 thine aid, O send us;  
 hear us in mercy.  
 show us thy favor,  
 so shall we live and sing praise to thee.

Sermon

Only You, Too

Omar Rouchon

Solo

*Laudate Dominum*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)

SUNG IN LATIN	TRANSLATION
<i>Laudate Dominum omnes gentes;</i>	Praise the LORD, all you nations!
<i>Laudate eum omnes populi.</i>	Extol him, all you peoples!
<i>Quoniam confirmata est</i>	For he has bestowed
<i>super nos misericordia ejus,</i>	his mercy upon us,
<i>et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.</i>	and the faithfulness of the LORD is forever.
<i>Gloria Patri et Filio</i>	Glory to the Father and to the Son
<i>et Spiritui Sancto,</i>	and to the Holy Spirit,
<i>sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,</i>	as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,
<i>et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.</i>	and for generations of generations. Amen.

Psalm 117

**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  
 male and female, of every race and people,  
 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.**

*continued*

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.

**Closing Hymn 39** (see page 6)

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

## Charge and Blessing

### Closing Voluntary

*Fugue in A Major*  
BWV 536/2

Johann Sebastian Bach

## SERVING TODAY

### Liturgists

Keatan King and John Wurster

### Musicians

Julia Fox, vocalist | Matthew Dirst, organist

## WORSHIP NOTES

### Lectionary Readings

- 1 Kings 3:5–12—*The young king Solomon asks God for wisdom and discernment.*
- Psalm 119:129–136—*Your law is wonderful; the unfolding of your words gives light.*
- Romans 8:26–39—*The Spirit helps us; nothing can separate us from God's love.*
- Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52—*God's kingdom is like a tiny seed, yeast, a treasure, a pearl, a net.*

Opening Hymn 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:  
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.  
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;  
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

Closing Hymn 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

1 Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther, there is no  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring-time and har - vest, sun, moon and  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thy own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas - sions they fail not; as thou has been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful-ness, mer - cy and love.  
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith - ful-ness! Great is thy faith - ful-ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

hand hath pro - vid - ed— great is thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

## MUSIC NOTES

The *Prelude and Fugue in A major*, the source for today's **organ voluntaries**, is not one of Bach's better-known works, probably because it avoids the kind of large-scale structural patterning that gives these works a strong identity. Its brief prelude has an improvisatory air about it: simple arpeggiated chords punctuated by rests conjure up a few motivic and harmonic possibilities, which play themselves out fairly quickly. The more substantial fugue is packed with counterpoint yet livened by rhythmic quirkiness. Utterly bereft of bombast, it seems more like a chamber than an organ piece, and yet it survives only in the latter guise.

Today's first **solo** originated as the well-known *Panis angelicus* from César Franck's *Mass in A*, composed in 1860. *Panis angelicus* features a traditional Eucharistic text (a literal translation of the title is "Bread of angels"), and is scored for tenor soloist, organ, harp and cello. The version heard this morning features an unrelated English text by an unknown author, added sometime in the decades following the original Franck mass première. This morning's second **solo** comes from Mozart's *Solemn Vespers* (KV 339), composed in 1780 for liturgical use in Salzburg Cathedral. *Laudate Dominum* was originally scored for soprano soloist, choir, orchestra (strings, trombones and timpani) and organ, and remains among the most widely performed of Mozart's sacred works.

— Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Artwork by Micah Meyers.

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## IN OUR PRAYERS

*The family of Toto McGehee who died on July 21.*

*Ruthie Waldrop and family upon the death of her father William Kenan Rand, Jr. July 18 in Durham, North Carolina.*

*Congratulations to Hope Wilmarth on the birth of her grandson Elliot Lance Gates-Wilmarth on July 19 in North Carolina. Proud parents are Emily Wilmarth and Kevin Gates.*

*Rev. Stew Coffman celebrating 60 years in ministry.*

*St. Philipians and their families*— Vicki McKay; Steve Carmichael; Mary Sinderson; Marion Takehara; Peg Palisin; Emily Estill; Travis Calhoun; Jeanne West; Greg Moore; CJ Miller; Lonnie Fugit; Mezgebe Gebray; Grady Short—brother of Sally Slick; Vera Moore—mother of Chuck Johnson; Kelsey Higgs Gallegos & family—daughter of Nancy Higgs; Dottie Laas and family—cousin of Sam Fisher; Alice Barron—sister-in-law to Beth Atkinson; Nikolaus Malczewskyj—father-in-law of Jane Malczewskyj; David Block—brother-in-law of Nancy Lomax; John Beck—brother of Nancy Young; Margie Foster—mother of Mark Young; Dorothy McMillan—mother of Nancy Higgs; Barbara Wilson—sister-in-law of Connie Mayfield; Jack & Pauline Kindig—brother/sister-in-law 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; Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; Jane English; Barbara German; George Helland; Arlette Keene; T.E. "Joe" Keever; Joyce Randolph; Van Rathgeber; Jean Nelson; Jody Tomforde; Penny Vieau; and Ruth Weber.

*Friends of St. Philipians:* Roger Henderson—friend of Mickey Meyers; David Shebay—friend of Greg Han; Kathleen Davies and family—friend of Chuck Johnson; Craig and Jamie Slein—friends of Steve Carmichael; Melissa and Sela Calvert—friends of Kay Cash; Betty Rhodes and family—friend of Jan Meyer; Dave Olson and Clayton Amacker—friends of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; and Walter "Buddy".

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

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share,  
please email [deacons@saintphilip.net](mailto:deacons@saintphilip.net).

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.

To join the Zoom Coffee Hour following the service, e-mail Lorrie Castle at [lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net).