



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 4, 2020

Opening Voluntary

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele
(Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness)

Gottfried August Homilius
(1714–1785)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 226 (see page 6)

There in God's Garden

SHADES MOUNTAIN

Prayer of Confession

**Generous God,
as we come today to your great table,
we realize how small we have made our own.
Our vision of your grace is too narrow.
Our awareness of your mercy is too limited.
Our understanding of your kingdom always falls short.
We fail to measure up to the people you have called us to be.
Hear our prayers and forgive our shortcomings.
Raise our eyes, lift our hearts, and inflate our spirits,
so that we may live joyfully and abundantly as Jesus did.**

silent prayer

Response

John Weaver

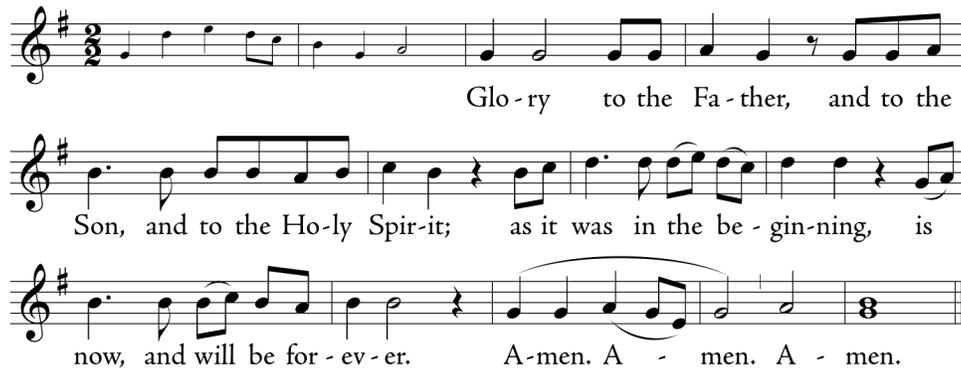
Musical notation for a response in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first line of music is on a treble clef staff and contains the lyrics "Lord, have mer - cy." The second line of music is also on a treble clef staff and contains the lyrics "Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The music consists of simple eighth and quarter notes with some rests.

Declaration of Forgiveness

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

Response

John Weaver



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the
 Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is
 now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men. A-men. A-men.

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.

Anthem

A Vineyard Grows

K. Lee Scott
 (b. 1950)

Amid the world's bleak wilderness
 A vineyard grows with promise green,
 The planting of the Lord himself.

His love selected this terrain,
 His vine with love he planted here
 To bear the choicest fruit for him.

We are his branches, chosen, dear,
 And though we feel the dresser's knife,
 We are the objects of his care.

From him we draw the juice of life,
 For him supply his winery
 With fruit from which true joys derive.

Vine, keep what I was meant to be:
 Your branch, with your rich life in me.

—words by Jaroslav Vajda (1919–2008)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Pressing On

John W. Wurster

Hymn 822 (see page 7)

When We Are Living

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The 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:

Sanctus

LAND OF REST

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. Bless - ed is
 he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thank you for Jesus, . . . proclaim the One crucified and risen :

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

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit, . . . with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

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

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.

Breaking of Bread and the Sharing of God's Gifts

Communion Music

O Bread of Life from Heaven

David Ashley White
 (b. 1944)

O Bread of Life from heaven,
 to saints and angels given;
 O Manna from above!
 The souls that hunger, feed thou;
 the hearts that seek thee, lead thou,
 with thy sweet tender love.

— words from a 17th-century Latin hymn
 translated by Philip Schaff (1819–1893)

Prayer after Communion

Hymn 846 *(see page 8)*

Fight the Good Fight

DUKE STREET

Charge and Blessing

Closing Voluntary

Wir glauben all an einen Gott
 (We All Believe in One True God)

Johann Sebastian Bach
 (1685–1750)

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Kallie Pitcock and Omar Rouchon

Musicians

Julia Fox, Cecilia Duarte and Thomas Lewis O'Neill, vocalists
 Matthew Dirst, organist | Randall Swanson, music director

WORSHIP NOTES

An additional mission offering is received on Sundays when communion is celebrated. The recipient of the communion offering in October is the Peace and Global Witness Offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Peace and Global Witness Offering, received on World Communion Sunday, encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God's mission to those around the corner and around the world. The Offering equips peacemakers by supporting our global siblings and providing nurturing reconciliation.

A gift to the Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. The Presbyterian Mission Agency uses 50% of the Offering to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation.

Congregations are also encouraged and equipped to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout this broken and sinful world, using the remaining 25% of the Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Session has approved St. Philip's 25% to go to Houston's Center for the Healing of Racism.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering changes lives. Share the peace of Christ with the world and give generously. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Lectionary Readings

- Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20—*At Mount Sinai, the Lord gives the Ten Commandments to Moses.*
- Psalm 19—*The law of the Lord is perfect; God's commandments are clear.*
- Philippians 3:4b–14—*All that I have is nothing; knowing Jesus Christ is everything.*
- Matthew 21:33–46—*A parable about a vineyard, wicked tenants, and the owner's son.*

MUSIC NOTES

Organ music — Today's organ voluntaries both treat German chorale tunes to extended settings, one highly ornamented and the other densely contrapuntal. "Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele" appears as No. 514 in *Glory to God*. in a faithful translation of its original text, which celebrates the profound joy of communion. Long a favorite tune of German organists, it suggested to Gottfried August Homilius a texture with the decorated hymn melody in the top line, accompanied by a lively ritornello below. "Wir glauben all an einen Gott," by contrast, is a transliteration of the Credo, with emphasis on the universality of God. Its sturdy tune prompted an equally sturdy response from Sebastian Bach, with busy four-part counterpoint based largely on its opening melodic gesture.

Vocal music — This morning's **anthem** is by Alabama composer K. Lee Scott, who is a prolific writer primarily of choral music and hymn tunes for the church, including today's opening hymn "There in God's Garden" (SHADES MOUNTAIN), which has become one of the preeminent hymn settings of our time. *A Vineyard Grows* was composed in 1988 and is based on an English folk tune. • Music at **communion** comes from Houston composer David Ashley White, Professor of Composition and former Director (1999–2014) of the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston. David also serves as Composer-in-Residence at Houston's Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church. *O Bread of Life from Heaven* was composed for and dedicated to the 1991 Mississippi Conference on Music and Liturgy.

— Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art by Micah Meyers.

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Opening Hymn 226

There In God's Garden

SHADES MOUNTAIN

1 There in God's gar - den stands the tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - fering;
 our greed has starved it; our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

tree of all knowl - edge, tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness; give me all your

pas - sion, tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row; I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending;
 this, my resurrection;
 into your hands,
 Lord, I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heaven is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it; take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!



1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

1 *Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos,*
 2 *En es - ta vi - da fru - tos hay que dar*
 3 *En la tris - te - za y en el do - lor,*
 4 *En es - te mun - do por do - quier ha - brá*



and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing,
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,

y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.
y bue - nas o - bras he - mos de go - fren - dar.
en la be - lle - za y en el a - mor,
gen - te que llo - ra y sin con - so - lar.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,

Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
Sea ya que de - mos o que re - ci - ba - mos,
sea que su - fra - mos o que go - ce - mos,
Sea que a - yu - de - mos o que a - li - men - te - mos,



we be - long to God; we be - long to God.
 so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.

This hymn began as an orally transmitted stanza reflecting on Romans 14:7–8 and was expanded by a Spanish-language hymnal committee to offer additional examples of the many dimensions of life, thereby strengthening the recurring affirmation that we belong to God through them all.

TEXT: Stanza 1, anon.; English trans. Elise S. Eslinger, 1983;
 stanzas 2–4, Roberto Escamilla, 1983; English trans. George Lockwood, 1987
 MUSIC: Spanish melody; arr. Barbara C. Mink, 1988
 English Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)
 Spanish Text Sts. 2–4 © 1983 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)
 Music Arr. © 1988 Barbara C. Mink (admin. Community of Christ)

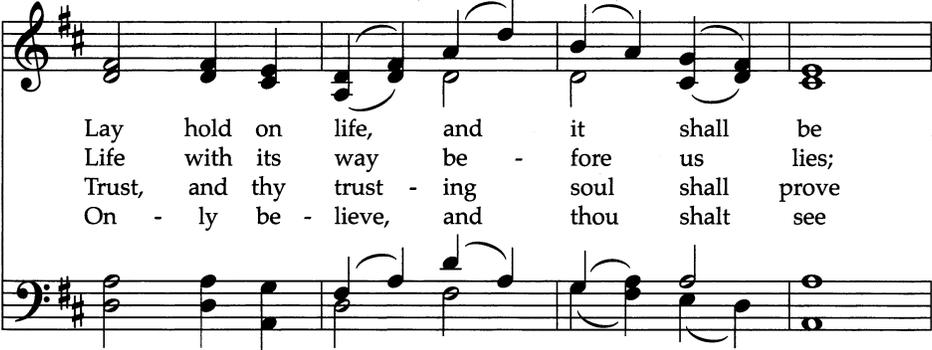
SOMOS DEL SEÑOR
 10.10.10.10



1 Fight the good fight with all thy might.
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;
 3 Cast care a - side; lean on thy guide.
 4 Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.



Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.
 lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.
 God's bound-less mer - cy will pro - vide.
 God chang - eth not, and thou art dear.



Lay hold on life, and it shall be
 Life with its way be - fore us lies;
 Trust, and thy trust - ing soul shall prove
 On - ly be - lieve, and thou shalt see



thy joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
 Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
 Christ is its life, and Christ its love.
 that Christ is all in all to thee.

The opening phrase here (based on 1 Timothy 6:12) is not a military image but an athletic one, from a Greek verb meaning "struggle" or "grapple" or "wrestle." The sports context continues in later stanzas reflecting the experience of a runner (recalling Hebrews 12:1-2).

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families— Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Jan Ostendorf; Laney Miller; Susan Huffman; Joyce Fugit; Vicki McKay; Mary Sinderson; Marion Takehara; Emily Estill; Travis Calhoun; Jeanne West; Greg Moore; Lonnie Fugit; Mezgebe Gebray; Gene Lindley—father of Janet Hess; Betty Grant—sister of Eleanor Grant; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson; Janet Fisher—sister-in-law of Dan Cleveland; Liam Hunter—cousin of Mary Ann Thomas; Bessie Johnson—mother of Pat Lindsay; Mac & Beverly Wilson—parents of Butch Wilson; 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; John Beck—brother of Nancy Young; Margie Foster—mother of Mark Young; Miriam Kalmbach—aunt of Nancy Higgs; 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; Barbara German; George Helland; Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Van Rathgeber; Jean Nelson; Jody Tomforde; and Penny Vieau.

Friends of St. Philippians: Charlie McCarthy—friend of Bonnie Moore; Cecil Trent—friend of Jane Cooper; Craig Slein—friend of Denise Ferrell and Steve Carmichael; Diane Morish and Melinda Penny—friends of Denise Ferrell; David Shebay—friend of Greg Han; Clayton Amacker—friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; and Walter "Buddy" Hamman III friend of Robin and Gary Willis.

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.

Pledge payments, communion gifts 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.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

We continue to invite you to attend our daily prayer services at 11:00 a.m. (Monday-Saturday). Currently, we have a limit of five persons per day. Advance registration is required. For more information on conditions and to register click [here](#). We hope that the opportunity to again worship in the sacred space of our Sanctuary will be a source of comfort and hope. If you have trouble with the registration or are not online, please call Lorrie Castle (832-262-1244—cell).

[Our website](#) has information a current list of **opportunities on Zoom** for fellowship and spiritual formation.

CHURCH & SOCIETY - October 11 - 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. - Anne Lock, John Calvin, and the English Reformation - Anne Vaughan Lock was a Londoner born in the early 1530s, and her family were “early adopters” of English Protestantism during the reign of Henry VIII, when being of “the new religion” was still a risky proposition. She grew up to be a poet and a translator of works by Reformation theologians, including John Calvin. Though Presbyterians are proud of our Calvinist heritage, we rarely engage Calvin’s writings directly, and it’s rarer still we have a chance to experience his preaching. In this session, we’ll explore Lock and Calvin together, learning what became of Calvinism during the age of Elizabeth. Presented by Dr. Deborah Burks retired professor from Ohio State Univ. with teaching and research specialties in sixteenth and seventeenth - century drama, poetry, Reformation literature, and women’s writing. Deb is the author of *Horrid Spectacle*- a study of theater and religious propaganda in the period.

WORLD HOMELESS DAY DRIVE-THRU—Saturday, October 10—10 a.m. – Noon—Please support Search and The Beacon by bringing your donation of encouragement notes, snack packs or bath towels.

Encouragement notes: create encouragement notes to uplift those facing loneliness and isolation, or to congratulate those who have just moved into housing. Notes can include words of wisdom, quotes, artwork, and positive thoughts. The cards can be decorated with drawings and will be handed out by SEARCH staff to clients who need some uplifting.

Snack Packs: choose three or more of the items to package in Ziploc bags to create snack packs from this [list](#). We truly appreciate when individuals, groups, students, and children who want to give back prepare these packs. Thank you for thinking of SEARCH and our neighbors’ basic needs!

Bath Towels: We are collecting new or “gently used” bath towels (not hand or wash towels) for The Beacon day program.

✠ **On Saturday, October 10, at 2:30 p.m., we will conduct an ordination service for Kallie Pitcock.** A commission from the presbytery will be here, along with members of Kallie's family and guest preacher Cindy Rigby from Austin Seminary. You are invited to [view](#) the service online through our website. As we celebrate Kallie's ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, we invite you to send cards and other tokens of support to the church office by **October 9**. Or you may bring these items to the mission drive-thru happening at the church from 10 a.m.-12 noon on **October 10**.