



THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP AT WORSHIP

THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST

Preparation for Worship

*Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God, on high!*

— Ken Bible, Hymn 110

Voluntary

Chorale Trio: *In dulci jubilo*
BWV 751

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Greeting

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

Introit

In dulci jubilo
BWV 608

J. S. Bach

SUNG IN LATIN & GERMAN

TRANSLATION

*In dulci jubilo,
nun singet und seid froh!
Unsers Herzens Wonne
liegt in praesepe
und leuchtet als die Sonne
matris in gremio.
Alpha es et O!*

In sweet jubilation,
now sing and be joyous!
Our heart's bliss
rests in a manger
and shines like the sun
in his mother's lap.
You are the Alpha and Omega.

✠ Opening Sentences

✠ Hymn 132 ([see page 8](#))

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

INDULCI JUBILO

✦ Litany for Christmas

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout to the Lord all the earth. Alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Shout to the Lord all the earth. Alleluia!

O Christ,
splendor of God's eternal glory,
the mighty Word sustaining the universe:
Renew our lives by your presence.

**O Christ,
born in the world in the fullness of time
for the liberation of all creation:
Release all into your promised freedom.**

O Christ,
born of Mary, child of wonder and splendor,
mighty God of all ages:
May the whole world live in peace and justice.

**O Christ,
truly God and truly human,
born to a people in fulfillment of their expectations:
Fulfill our desires in you.**

O Christ,
Sun of Righteousness,
Wonderful Counselor,
the coming of your light into our world
has brightened hearts with peace and joy.

**Christ is born! Give him glory!
Christ has come down from heaven! Receive him!
Christ is now on earth! Exalt him!
Shout to the Lord and sing praises to our God!
Alleluia! Amen!**

✦ Hymn 141 ([see page 9](#))

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PERSONET HODIE

✦ The Peace

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**

Conversation with Children

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-14

N.T. p. 91-92

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem*Nativity Carol*John Rutter
(b. 1945)

Born in a stable so bare,
 Born so long ago;
 Born neath light of star
 He who loved us so.
 Far away, silent He lay,
 Born today, your homage pay,
 Christ is born for aye,
 Born on Christmas Day.

Cradled by mother so fair,
 Tender her lullaby;
 Over her son so dear
 Angel hosts fill the sky.
 Far away, silent He lay,
 Born today, your homage pay,
 Christ is born for aye,
 Born on Christmas Day.

Wise men from distant far land,
 Shepherds from starry hills
 Worship this babe so rare,
 Hearts with His warmth He fills.
 Far away, silent He lay,
 Born today, your homage pay,
 Christ is born for aye,
 Born on Christmas Day.

Love in that stable was born
 Into our hearts to flow;
 Innocent dreaming babe,
 Make me Thy love to know.
 Far away, silent he lay,
 Born today, your homage pay,
 Christ is born for aye,
 Born on Christmas Day.

Sermon**Ode to Christmas**

John W. Wurster

Silence and stillness✠ **Hymn 128** ([see page 10](#))*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

W ZLOBIE LEZY

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.

Offering

Gifts may be given anytime at www.saintphilip.net.

Offertory Anthem

Gaudete

anonymous | from *Piæ Cantiones*, 1582
arr. Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)

REFRAIN SUNG IN LATIN	REFRAIN TRANSLATION
Gaudete! Gaudete! Christus est natus ex Maria virgine: Gaudete!	Rejoice! Rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary: Rejoice!

VERSES

Now the time has come at last,
bringing joy and gladness;
time foretold by sages past,
healing earth's deep sadness.

Nature marvels at the sight,
earth looks on in wonder:
for the Lord of love and light
rends the heavens asunder.

Christ is born: Emmanuel,
hope of every nation!
Therefore let us sing *noël*
with the whole creation!

— 14th-century Latin text
translated by Michael Burkhardt

✦ Hymn 145 ([see page 11](#))

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

God of wonder,
we praise you for Jesus Christ.
We thank you for the hope of the prophets,
the song of the angels, and his birth in Bethlehem.

**We thank you that in Jesus you became flesh and lived among us,
sharing human hurts and pleasures.
We praise you for your grace-filled love.
Glory to you, eternal God;
through Jesus Christ, Lord of lords and King of kings,
now and forever. Amen.**

✦ Hymn 110 ([see page 12](#))

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

✦ Charge and Blessing

✦ Voluntary

Chorale Fantasie: *In dulci jubilo*
BWV 729

J. S. Bach

✦ Indicates worshipers are invited to stand in either body or spirit, and following the benediction, to quietly remain standing for the closing response.

Words in bold type are to be read or sung together.

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

John Wurster | Keatan King | Omar Rouchon

Liturgists

Deborah Burks | Nathan Carlin

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | St. Philip Staff Singers | Jesús Pacheco, percussion
Matthew Dirst, Organist | Randall Swanson, director of music

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's lectionary readings are:

- Isaiah 63:7-9 – *The people were saved not by an angel, but the Lord's presence.*
- Psalm 148 – *Let everything in the whole creation praise the name of the Lord.*
- Hebrews 2:10-18 – *Jesus calls us brothers and sisters; he became human to save us.*
- Matthew 2:13-23 – *Joseph and Mary flee to Egypt to escape persecution from Herod.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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New Year's Day

Single Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. with communion, nursery care available at 10:30 a.m.

Only Church & Society will meet January 1st at 9:30, all other Sunday School classes return January 8th.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Janet Davis and family upon the death of her husband, Don, who died December 19. A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date.

Matthew Dirst and family upon the death of his mother, Loretta on December 11.

The family of Nancy Dring upon her death on December 11. Memorial service at a later date.

We give thanks for the birth of Micah Guy Goodman, son of Michelle and James Goodman, grandson of Guy and Melissa Aldrich on December 6, 2022 at 9:50am weighing 9 lbs., 1 oz. and 21 3/4 inches long.

St. Philippians and their families – Bill Lee; Barbara Runge; Beverly Hudson; Susan Huffman; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Sondra Sullivan; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Lane Fletcher; Renee Wright; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Betsy Johnson – mother of Pat Lindsay; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Jann Everhart – sister-in-law of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Warren Cash – brother of Kay Cash; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; Donna Harris – sister of Joyce Fugit; Alma Fonseca- mother of Angelina Fonseca; Darryl Cazes – brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; Carol Paine Kendrick – sister of Stephen Paine; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; Mac Wilson – father of Butch Wilson; Shirley Boggus – grandmother of Omi Ford; Alan Rowe – father of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philippians – Carol Gilliland - friend of Orlean Anderson; Jackie Childers – friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Sharla Hotchkiss, Delores Wheeler, and Kevin Andress – friends of Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge; Clayton Amacker – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email:

deacons@saintphilip.net

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES AT 9:45 A.M.

GODLY PLAY (Age 3-Kindergarten) - Room 104—Omi Ford, Joyce Fox and Ruthie Waldrop

ELEMENTARY (Grades 1-5) - Room 105—Linda Bevill and Jon Martin

YOUTH (Grades 6-12) - Room 206—Melissa and Guy Aldrich

SPa (St. Philip Adults) - Room 200—rotating leadership—We are using the adult resources from the new Follow Me curriculum to guide our informal weekly discussion about biblical practices such as hospitality, forgiveness and honoring sabbath. All adults of any age are welcomed to participate. There is no need to prepare or purchase materials for class, so come as you are able!

CHURCH & SOCIETY - Room 201—Church and Society regularly features speakers and presentations on a variety of contemporary and historical matters of faith and practice. This class meets from **9:30 a.m.—10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and some by Zoom, projected in the classroom. **Jan. 1**—"My Adventures in Serving as a Hands of Hope House Parent" - Casa de Esperanza de los Ninos strives to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect for at-risk infants, children and their families by providing comprehensive residential and family support programs that transform people and communities. St. Philipian and University of Virginia student, Lily Frautschi, describes her year of service as a full-time Hands of Hope Parent. The interview with Lily is pre-recorded. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Room 204—We have resumed our study of the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah in 1-2 Kings with the story of Elijah's confrontation with Ahab and Jezebel in Dr. Robert Alter's Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets (2013). Join us from **9:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.** to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster has returned. The morning class, meeting at 9:30 a.m., is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. The afternoon class, meeting at 3:30 p.m., is Zoom only. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to john@saintphilip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **Jan. 12** we will discuss *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. Watch

your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY—All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate; to be directed to a group leader please email welcomes@saintphilip.net. All circles meet in the Dining Room in the Administration Building.

Monday Morning Saints

Second Monday of each month @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Circle

Third Sunday of each month @ 12:30 p.m.

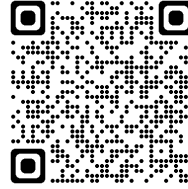
Thursday Evening Circle

First Thursday of each month @ 7:00 p.m.

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.** Please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com if you would like to join them.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—Join the discussion on Zoom January 3 with St. Philip's Monday social justice group! We continue our study of *Good White Racist?* by Kerry Connelly. We will be discussing chapters 6 (Justifying ourselves, or "But Black people owned slaves!") and 7 (White people's posse, or You just *think* you need to call the police). We meet each first Tuesday, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Come even if you haven't done the reading; the discussion is always timely and thought-provoking. To join us, send an email with *PSJ Study Group* in the subject line to welcomes@saintphilip.net with *PSJ* in the subject line to receive information about the meeting.

SECOND SUNDAYS - The Sacrament of Baptism—You are invited to join our church family for a time on inter-generational learning and fellowship at Second Sundays. On **Jan. 8**, we will gather to explore baptism with activities and treats for all ages. Come join us at **9:45 in the Gathering Area** - all are welcome!



Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

We are glad you are here! Please scan the QR Code to access our digital guest-book. We invite you to sign in and let us know you are worshipping with us.

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 in Room 106 of the Education Building along the Sunday School Classroom hallway 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 HYMNS 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 Room 100 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. We also live-stream a midweek prayer on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. 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, text “SPPC” to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

Pledges, if you have not yet made a pledge for 2023, but would like to do so, we encourage you to pledge before the end of the year when the Session finalizes the budget. They can be put in the offering plate, or mailed to the Church Office.

From the bookkeeper:

any and all monies that you want to be designated in the 2022 calendar year must be delivered to the Church Office by December 30, 2022.

All checks mailed must be postmarked by December 31, 2022.

All checks and monies received on Sunday, January 1 will be posted to 2023.

Thank you.



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

TEXT: Medieval Latin; trans. and para. John Mason Neale, 1853, alt.
 MUSIC: German folk melody, 14th cent.; harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953
 Music Harm. © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

IN DULCI JUBILO
 6.6.7.7.8.5.5

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Hymn 141

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PERSONET HODIE



1 On this day earth shall ring with the song
 2 His the doom, ours the mirth; when he came
 3 God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three
 4 On this day an - gels sing; with their song



chil - dren sing to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to
 down to earth Beth - le - hem saw his birth; ox and ass be -
 to him led; kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts be -
 earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, heav - en's King, born on earth to



save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.
 side him from the cold would hide him. *Id - e - o - o - o,
 fore him, praise him and a - dore him.
 save us; peace and love he gave us.



id - e - o - o - o, id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

*Therefore, glory to God in the highest.

Although this Latin carol for Christmas may have roots several centuries older than its 16th-century emergence, the text was all in one language until its 20th-century translator chose to adopt the original last two lines of the fourth stanza as a unifying refrain in all stanzas.

TEXT: *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; trans. Jane Marion Joseph, c. 1917
 MUSIC: *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; arr. Gustav Holst, c. 1917
 Text and Music Arr. © 1924, ren. J. Curwen & Sons Ltd.

PERSONET HODIE
 6.6.6.6.6 with refrain

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Hymn 128

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W ZŁOBIE LEŻY

1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat-tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep-ing; shep-herds keep-ing vig-il till the morn-ing new

ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know-ing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings of the gos-pel true.

Swift are wing-ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring-ing, ti-dings bring-ing;
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais-es voic-ing greet the mor - row:


Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!

The English text of this 13th- or 14th-century Polish carol does not try to tell a story but to offer verbal snapshots of the well-known Nativity narrative of Luke 2:6–20. The tune name quotes the opening of the Polish text and means “He lies in a cradle” or “In manger lying.”


TEXT: Polish carol; trans. Edith M. G. Reed, 1920; rev. 1921
MUSIC: Polish folk melody; harm. Arthur E. Rusbridge, 1962

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY
8.7.8.7.8.8.7.7
(this tune in a lower key, 410)


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1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
 3 So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.



Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si-lent Word is plead-ing.
 The King of kings sal-va-tion brings; let lov-ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir-gin sings her lul-la-by.



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar-y!

This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.

TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, 1871

MUSIC: English ballad, 16th cent.; arr. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

GREENSLEEVES

8.7.8.7.6.8.6.7

Hymn 110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH



1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!



Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is



heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our



joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of



Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ-mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

TEXT: Ken Bible, 1996
 MUSIC: French melody; arr. Eric T. Myers, 2012
 Text © 1996 LNWhymns.com (admin. Music Services)

BRING A TORCH
 9.9.10.9.9.8

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