



THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP AT WORSHIP

MARCH 22, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Voluntary

Kyrie Gott Vater
BWV 669

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Greeting

Call to Worship

Prayer of Confession

**Faithful God, all we have needed, your hand has provided.
Forgive us for failing to trust in you. We doubt your interest.
We neglect your invitation. We insist on going our own way.
Restore us and remind us yet again of your love for us,
so that we may learn to look for you and to find joy in your presence.**

silent prayer

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

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

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.

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm Reading

Psalm 23

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

Piano Solo

Streams

Lily Frautschi

Sermon

What Is This Story About?

John W. Wurster

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art;
Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

— ancient Irish monastic prayer
translated by Mary E. Byrne (1880–1931)
versified by Eleanor Hull (1860–1935) (altered)

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

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.**

Charge and Blessing

Closing Voluntary

Prelude on “*Rhosymedre*”

Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)

Liturgists

Keatan King and Omar Rouchon

Musicians

Cecilia Duarte, vocal soloist; Lily Frautschi, piano soloist; Matthew Dirst, organist; Randall Swanson, pianist.

Music Notes

Organ music — On this fourth Sunday in Lent, both organ selections set melodies associated with penitential or Lenten hymns. Bach used the *Kyrie, Gott Vater* chorale melody (“Kyrie, God our Father”) twice in his so-called “Organ Mass,” the third volume of his *Clavier-Übung* series from 1739. Today’s **opening voluntary**, the more substantial of these two settings, incorporates the chorale tune as the soprano voice in a strictly contrapuntal texture. This morning’s **closing voluntary** comes from a more recent collection: Ralph Vaughan Williams’ *Three Preludes on Welsh Hymn Tunes*. “Rhosymedre” is a tune by John David Edwards, an Anglican priest who served in a Welsh village by that name. It’s often sung to the hymn text “My Song is Love Unkown” (No. 209 in *Glory to God* uses another tune for the same words).

Vocal music — Today’s **vocal solo** uses a very well-known and very ancient text, coming from at least as far back as the tenth century! Here the words of “Be Thou My Vision” are given new life in a contemporary setting by British composer Bob Chilcott. Originally written as a choral anthem in 2000, Chilcott revised the work in 2010 for use as the solo version we hear this morning.

—Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

Notes

Bulletin cover art by Micah Meyers.

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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Joys to the Stevenson family they welcomed Leonardo Stevenson to the family on March 12.

Bebe Burns and family upon the death of her mother Bebe Selig on March 14.

Omi Ford and family upon the death of her cousin Rose Grosenbacher Loper in Waco on March 14.

St. Philippians and their families—Pat Lindsay; Greg Moore; Jim Barrish; Patrick Ball; Marion Takehara; CJ Miller; Lonnie Fugit; Mezgebe Gebray; John Bobbitt; Arlette Keene; 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; Walter Baker; 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; Virginia McFarland; Jean Nelson; Jody Tomforde; Penny Vieau; and Ruth Weber.

Friends of St. Philippians: Dorcas Rhodes—friend of Jan Meyer; Ed Scala—friend 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.

Acting on a recommendation from the pastors, the Session has voted to suspend activities at St. Philip indefinitely.