



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 27, 2025

Preparation for Worship

*We all pray whether we think of it as praying or not.
The odd silence we fall into when something very beautiful is happening,
or something very good or very bad . . .
The stammer of pain at somebody else's pain. The stammer of joy at somebody else's joy.
Whatever words or sounds we use for sighing with over our own lives.
These are all prayers in their way.*

—Frederick Buechner

Voluntary

Impromptu (from the Pièces de fantaisie)

Louis Vierne
(1870-1937)

Greeting

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

Introit

Children of the Heavenly Father

Linda Sandell
(1832-1903)

Children of the heav'nly Father,
Safely in his bosom gather;
Nesting bird nor star in Heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

Linda Sandell (1855)
Transl. Ernst W. Olson

✠ Opening Sentences

✠ Hymn 412 [\(see page 8\)](#)

God, Reveal Your Presence

ARNSBERG

✦ Prayer of Confession

Compassionate God,
 you are more ready to hear than we are to speak.
 You are more ready to forgive than we are to confess.
 You invite us to open our hearts to you in prayer,
 but we close ourselves to you and follow other paths.
 Again and again you draw near,
 but we keep turning away.
 Our sinfulness has led to our undoing.

Lord, teach us to pray.
 Lead us to seek you.
 In your light may we see our darkness.
 In your truth may we know our lies.
 As we admit our sins,
 help us discover your grace
 and receive your mercy,
 so that we may live the abundant life
 you have prepared for us in Jesus Christ.

silent prayer

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

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

✦ Response

Paul Vasile



1. Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
 2. World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

✦ The Peace

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

Conversation with Children

Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 100.

Prayer of Illumination

Gospel Reading

Luke 11:1-13

N.T. pg. 72

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

I Will Arise

arr. Alice Parker/Robert Shaw

I will arise and go to Jesus,
 He will embrace me in His arms,
 In the arms of my dear Saviour,
 Oh! There are ten thousand charms.

Teach me some melodious sonnet
 Sung by flaming tongues above,
 Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,
 Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing,
 Tune my heart to sing Thy grace,
 Streams of mercy never ceasing,
 Call for songs of loudest praise.

Traditional Folk Song

Sermon

Holy One, in Your Mercy

John W. Wurster

silence and stillness✠ Hymn 465 ([see page 9](#))*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

✠ Affirmation of Faith

from *The Confession of Belhar*

We believe in the triune God,
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.
 This God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.
 We believe that God is the one
 who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.
 We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity,
 is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged.
 We believe that the church must witness against
 and strive against any form of injustice,
 so that justice may roll down like waters,
 and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. 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.

Offering

Gifts may be given any time at saintphilip.net

Offertory

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

arr. Moses Hogan

He's got the whole world in His hands...

He's got all the power in His hands...

He's got you and me, brother, in His hands,

He's got you and me, sister, in His hands,

He's got the little baby in His hands,

He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got mother and father in His hands,
He's got the stars and moon right in His hands,

He's got everybody in His hands,

He's got the whole world in His hands.

Traditional African-American Spiritual

✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creating God,

you open your hand with generosity and love

and fill our lives with good things.

As we offer our gifts, we also offer ourselves.

May all that we have and all that we are

be a source of life and blessing to others. Amen.

✦ Hymn 66 [\(see page 10\)](#)

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

PENTECOST

✦ Charge and Blessing

Please be seated in silence for the closing voluntary, or kindly depart quietly.

Voluntary

Carillon du Longpont (from the Pièces en style libre)

Louis Vierne

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Liturgist

Nancy Everhart Johnson

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Summer Choir | Daniel Boyd, baritone

Justin Langham, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers are given today by David and Suzanne Kerr to the glory of God and in honor of St. Philip pastors — John Wurster, Keatan King, and Omar Rouchon.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's worship service includes traditional Negro Spiritual music. The Black composers of this music are unknown to history and therefore unable to receive royalties directed to their estates for the use of their songs. To remedy this inequity, a fund has been created and approved by the Session where we will collect voluntary "royalties" for using this music. Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the saintphilip.net homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting Negro Spirituals as the fund. You may also contribute by writing a check with *Negro Spirituals* in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office. This small gesture of reparation seeks to help heal the long history of injury to Black persons. Contributions received over the course of the year will be donated annually to a local organization supporting Black musical traditions.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Hosea 1:2-10—*The Lord commands Hosea to take a wife and have children.*
- Psalm 85—*Will you be angry with us forever, O Lord? Show your steadfast love.*
- Genesis 18:20-32—*Abraham intercedes with the Lord to spare the city of Sodom.*
- Psalm 138—*I give you thanks, O Lord; though I walk in trouble, you deliver me.*
- Colossians 2:6-15, 16-19—*Live your lives in the faith of Christ; do not let anyone condemn you.*
- Luke 11:1-13—*Jesus teaches the disciples to pray, and teaches them about prayer.*

MUSIC NOTES

Today's **organ voluntaries** come from Louis Vierne, longtime organist of Notre Dame, Paris. Vierne published four volumes of "fantasy" pieces, some of which are explicitly programmatic while others explore distinct tone colors of the instrument. His *Impromptu*, one of the latter types, fits within a humble genre popular since at least the time of Beethoven: as its name suggests, an "impromptu" is a spontaneous kind of piece, suitable for practically any occasion. This particular impromptu plays with the flute and reed stops of the organ to joyful and colorful effect.

Our **introit** is the first verse of a familiar hymn originally penned by Lina Sandell (full name: Karolina Wilhelmina Sandell-Berg), a Swedish poet and noted author of gospel hymns. The tune itself, which consists of a repeated pattern of two eighth notes and two quarter notes, quickly feels familiar and conveys the comfort found in the original Swedish version *Tryggare Kan Ingen Vara*, or "Nobody Can Be Safer."

Along with continuing the theme of the introit, we offer interpretations of two different, but equally important

American musical traditions: shape-note singing and the African-American spiritual. *I Will Arise* is one of many shape-note folk tunes arranged by the prolific choral duo of Alice Parker and Robert Shaw, who as expected give the tune a fresh treatment while retaining its original form. Similarly, our **offertory** by Moses Hogan—to many the gold standard of the African-American spiritual—respects the familiar tune and text while supporting them with a simple, flowing accompaniment. In their own ways, both pieces work together to reflect the enduring legacy of American folk music and the comfort of being children of God.

Vierne also published two modest collections of pieces "in free style." His *24 Pièces en style libre*, as he notes in the volume's preface, are appropriate for church use on either an organ or a harmonium. This collection's boisterous *Carillon* is based on the pattern of a bell peal at the Chapel of Longpont, a famous abbey just outside of Paris.

—Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

"PICTURES"

This afternoon—July 27 at 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Keith Weber presents a piano recital featuring the well-known 'Pictures at an Exhibition' by Modest Mussorgsky and an extended improvisation called 'Eye, Mind and Heart,' on three or four paintings from Keith's private collection, pieces which will be on display as he plays!

Free admission.

*In keeping with the practice from recent years,
the Church Office will be closed on Fridays through August 1.
This schedule helps us conserve energy and better cover staff vacations.*

IN OUR PRAYERS

Carolyn McGinnis and family upon the death of Rollie McGinnis.

For Sherri Dees and family upon the death of her brother John Sandow on July 20 in Virginia.

Marcia James upon the death of her sister-in-law Peggy in Trinidad.

St. Philipians and their families — Jane Larkin; Joy Maguire; Stewart Coffman; Bonnie Moore; David Winship; Bob Ardell; Charlotte Kibler; Carolyn Vestal; Diane Clarke; Susan Huffman; Barbara Cavanaugh; Mary Herlitz; Dick Nunn; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy E. Johnson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; JoAnn Moss-Ayres —mother of Casey Lambright; John Palisin — brother of Peg Palisin; Kathy Bailey and family — sister of Peg Palisin; Jo Hadley Smith — cousin of William Rowe; Katie Forbes, daughter of Marise Robbins-Forbes; Jacqui — cousin of Angelina Fonseca-Grewal; Terese Murphy — cousin of Gary Gardner and Peg Palisin; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Vera Moore — mother of Chuck Johnson; Ann Perenyi — mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud — cousin of Stephen Paine. Lind Butler (wife of Bill Connolly) and her family in Israel.

Homebound — Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; Carolyn Keeble; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Jan Ostendorf; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philipians—Mary Ann Thomas; Elaine Ende — friend of Beth Atkinson; Marianne Keeswood — friend of Kate Burkart; Al & Kathleen Wiesenthal — friends of Pam Keever; Audrey Eubank Harris, Jennifer McCrea, Jay Stokes & Anna Domonte, friends of Curt & Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash — friend of Jane Cooper; Mary Watters and Mindy Cooper-Smith — friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Claude Bowden — friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton — friends of William Rowe; Patty Ryan and Tom Barnett — friends of Robin and Gary Willis; Jackie Janacek, Joyce Freudenberg— friends of Stephen Paine; and Shirley Stubblefield — friend of Barbara Runge.

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

Prayer List is a powerful tool for bringing comfort, healing, and peace to those in need. So, let's keep it up to date and continue to lift up our brothers and sisters in prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ARE ON RECESS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 7

Visit our website at saintphilip.net to see the classes we offer in the fall.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—This group meets on first Monday nights, 7-8 PM, by Zoom to read and discuss social justice issues of our day. Interested persons who want to be added to our zoom mailing list can contact Sara Jean Jackson (sjj10223@gmail.com).

LAMBETH STUDY—Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 PM via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan at: keatan@saintphilip.net.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY— On recess until further notice. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to: john@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. **The next meeting will be on Thursday, Aug. 14.** The book discussion will be about Beartown by Fredrik Blackman at 7:00 PM at the home of Nina Lambright. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at:

nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP— On recess until **Sept. 12**. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at: ggardne148@aol.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women (PW) study year has ended for this year. We look forward to seeing you again in September. Save **Sept. 21** on your calendar for the PW All Circle Luncheon after worship. If you would like to join a circle or know more about PW email:

welcome@saintphilip.net

MAHJONG ANYONE?

Three St. Philipians and a guest have been playing Mahjong on Friday mornings from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. We are interested in substitutes with the possibility of forming a second set if there is enough interest. We may also be open to additional times. If you're interested in playing Mahjong sometimes or often or in learning how to play, text Judith Hiott at 832-277-8676.

PEACEMAKING & SOCIAL JUSTICE PRESENTS 5TH SUNDAY

Save the Date—Sunday, **Aug. 31**—*Earth Care Composting and Recycling* - join us immediately following worship in Room 201 —light bites provided.



4807 San Felipe • Houston 77056
713.622.4807 • saintphilip.net



[GUEST BOOK]

Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Guest Book tab at saintphilip.net.

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 100 off of the Gathering Area 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 BULLETINS 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 the Library 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. 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, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056. To make stock contributions contact Denise Ferrell at denise@saintphilip.net.



[MAKE A CONTRIBUTION]

St. Philip Day School is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high-quality childcare at no cost to low-income families. To support the school, **please make all contributions directly to St. Philip Day School**, rather than to St. Philip Presbyterian Church. If you wish to make a contribution in the future, please make checks payable to "St. Philip DAY SCHOOL" You are welcome to leave in the church offering plate or mail to St. Philip Day School, 4807 San Felipe, Houston, 77056. At this time the school cannot accept electronic gifts. If you have any questions, please contact Candice Harris, Program Director, at Director@stphilipdayschool.org.

Lost & Found—did you leave a pair of glasses, umbrella, or other item during worship? There is a canvas basket in the library where these items may be found. Jewelry, phones and more valuable items are turned into Lorrie Castle in the Church Office, lorrie@saintphilip.net or 713-622-4807.

I Give Electronically—in response to parents' hopes that their children might be able to see their ongoing commitment to St. Philip and with the intent to better represent the totality of our giving as a congregation, we have available in the pews giving cards that can be placed in the offering plate by our electronic givers.



Nametags—Please wear your nametags not just in the sanctuary, but as you socialize before and after worship and at other events. To make it easier, if you don't want to bring your nametag home, there are labeled wicker BASKETS by several exit doors for you to return your nametag at the last possible moment! Those returned tags will be replaced on the boards in the narthex before the following Sunday morning. Visitor nametags are available in the pews and from an usher.

Hymn 412

God, Reveal Your Presence

1 God, re - veal your pres - ence: glad - ly we a - dore you,
 2 In God's ho - ly pres - ence, hear the harps re - sound - ing;
 3 Foun - tain of all bless - ing, pu - ri - fy my spir - it;

and with awe ap - pear be - fore you. Ho - ly is your tem -
 see the crowds the throne sur - round - ing: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -
 all my trust is in your mer - it. Like the ho - ly an -


ple: all with - in keep si - lence, hum - bly bow with deep - est
 ly!" hear the hymn as - cend - ing, an - gels, saints, their voic - es
 gels on your glo - ry gaz - ing, we a - dore, ho - san - nas

rev - erence. You a - lone now we own as our
 blend - ing. Turn your ear to us here; hear, O
 rais - ing. Let your will ev - er still rule your

God and Sav - ior: praise your name for - ev - er!
 Christ, the prais - es that your church now rais - es.
 church ter - res - trial, as the hosts ce - les - tial.

Despite multiple layers of translation and revision, this text embodies the mystical piety of one of the German Reformed Church's greatest hymnists and spiritual leaders of the early 18th century. It is here set to a slightly earlier tune from that tradition.


Hymn 465

What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav-ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need-less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith-ful who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak-ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so-lace there.

This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.

TEXT: Joseph Scriven, 1855; Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001
 MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868

CONVERSE
 8.7.8.7.D

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Hymn 66

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit**Refrain*

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my

heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the

Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray. *Fine*

1 Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's
2 Jor - dan Riv - er, chil - ly and cold, it chills the

mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a - round me, it looked so
bod - y but not the soul. There is but one train up - on this

fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine.
track. It runs to heav - en and then right back. *to Refrain*

Like many African American spirituals, this one mixes the language of biblical narrative with veiled but effective allusions to the hope of escape from slavery, either by crossing rivers into free states or by participating in organized efforts like the Underground Railroad.

TEXT: African American spiritual

MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Joseph T. Jones, 20th cent.; adapt. Melva Wilson Costen, 1989
Music Adapt. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

PENTECOST
Irregular

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