

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 19, 2025

# **Preparation for Worship**

I lift up my eyes to the hills-- from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

- Psalm 121:1-2

Voluntary

Étude Op. 25, No. 1 in A-flat Major

Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Introit

Awake, My Heart (excerpt)

Jane Marshall (1924-2019)

Awake, my heart, and render To God thy sure defender, Thy Maker, thy preserver, A song of love and fervor.

Confirm my deeds and guide me: My day, with thee beside me, Beginning, middle, ending, Will all be upward trending.

> Paulus Gerhardt, 1647 Transl. Winfred Douglas

- Opening Sentences
- **†** Hymn 407 (see page 13)

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers

NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET EHR'

# **†** Prayer of Confession

Patient God,

we have come again.

We have come again because the burden of sin is heavy, and we can't bear it alone.

We have come again because we long to hear news that is good.

We have come again because there is no one else to help.

Hear our cries.

Receive our prayers.

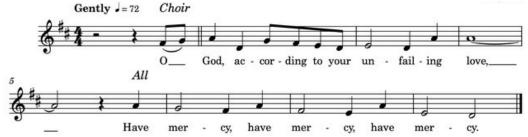
Heal our hurts.

Remind us that we always have a place to come, that we always have a God compassionate enough to care and powerful enough to redeem.

silent prayer

# **†** Response

Justin Langham



# Declaration of Forgiveness

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

# **†** Response

Justin Langham



### † The Peace

Peace be with you. Peace be with all.

# Conversation with Children

*Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery.* 

## **Prayer for Illumination**

# **Scripture Reading**

Genesis 32:22-31

O.T. pg. 30

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

**Anthem** Awake, My Heart Jane Marshall

Awake, my heart, and render To God thy sure defender, Thy Maker, thy preserver, A song of love and fervor.

Confirm my deeds and guide me: My day, with thee beside me, Beginning, middle, ending, Will all be upward trending.

My heart shall be thy dwelling, With joy and gladness swelling; Thy word my nurture, giv'n To bring me on toward heaven.

> Paulus Gerhardt, 1647 Transl. Winfred Douglas

Sermon I Think It Was God John W. Wurster

silence and stillness

**† Hymn 760** (see page 14)

Bring Many Names

WESTCHASE

#### **†** Affirmation of Faith

from A Brief Statement of Faith

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
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.
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. 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.

# Stewardship Reflection

Bill Stubbs and Kurt Grether

Offering

Gifts may be given any time at saintphilip.net

OffertoryRecordareW.A. MozartFrom Requiem, K. 626(1756-1791)

Recordare, Jesu pie, quod sum causa tuae viae; ne me perdas illa die. Quaerens me, sedisti lassus, redemisti crucem passus; tantus labor non sit cassus. *Juste judex ultionis,* bonum fac remissionis ante diem rationis. Ingemisco, tamquam reus: culpa rubet vultus meus; supplicanti parce, Deus. Qui Mariam absolvisti, et latronem exaudisti, mihi quoque spem dedisti. Preces meae non sunt dignae, sed tu, bonus, fac benigne, ne perenni cremer igne. Inter oves locum praesta, Et ab haedis me sequestra, Statuens in parte dextra.

Remember, kind Jesus, my salvation caused your suffering; do not forsake me on that day. Faint and weary you have sought me, redeemed me, suffering on the cross; may such great effort not be in vain. Righteous judge of vengeance, grant me the gift of absolution before the day of retribution. I moan as one who is guilty: owning my shame with a red face; suppliant before you, Lord. You, who absolved Mary, and listened to the thief, give me hope also. My prayers are unworthy, But, good Lord, have mercy, and rescue me from eternal fire. Provide me a place among the sheep, and separate me from the goats guiding me to Your right hand.

Traditional Mass Text

# Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Gracious God, we thank you for keeping us in our going out and our coming in.

Guide us by your Holy Spirit that we may live in praise and thanksgiving, receiving the gifts that are fresh each day and joyfully living in the presence of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**†** Hymn 741 (see page 15)

Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET

# Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Nun lob, mein Seel, den Herren BuxWV 213/3

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

### **SERVING TODAY**

#### **Pastors**

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

#### Liturgist

Cohen Carlin

#### Musicians

Henry Tran, guest pianist | Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Choir | Tessa Larson, Cecilia Duarte, Thomas O'Neill, & Daniel Boyd; quartet | Justin Langham, director of music

#### **FLOWERS**

The flowers are given today by David Fox to the glory of God and in celebration of Joyce Fox's birthday.

#### **WORSHIP NOTES**

#### Today's Lectionary readings:

- Jeremiah 31:27–34 I will make a new covenant; I will write my law on their hearts.
- Psalm 119:97-104—I love your law; it is always with me, sweeter than honey to me.
- Genesis 32:22–31 Wrestling with a stranger at night, Jacob seeks God's blessing.
- Psalm 121 My help comes from the Lord, who guards me day and night.
- 2 Timothy 3:14 4:5 Continue in your faith; be persistent in proclaiming the gospel.
- Luke 18:1-8 The widow and the unjust judge: pray always and do not lose heart.





#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

#### **MUSIC NOTES**

Our service opens with **Étude No. 1 in A-flat Major** from Chopin's Opus 25, one of three collections he composed over his career. This étude, like others designed to challenge a specific skill or technique, is characterized by its constantly flowing sextuplets that require dexterity to play fast enough. It is sometimes referred to as "Aeloian Harp"—a nickname coined by Robert Schumann—due to its flowing style, key, and similarity to the instrument by the same name played by Aeolus, the ancient Greek god of the wind. This morning's **opening voluntary** is presented by 12-year-old Henry Tran, a student of Yan Shen, who also gave a short recital at St. Philip earlier this year.

Fellow Texan Jane Marshall made countless contributions to liturgical music, through both her career at Southern Methodist University and her prolific output as a composer of choral music and hymnody. An adaptation of a 17th-century German text, *Awake*, *My Heart* embodies Marshall's efficient use of musical ideas, fusing tune and text together from beginning to end. A composer especially familiar and friendly to choir and organ, Marshall puts the choir in its most effective settings: singing lush harmonies *a cappella* and singing joyfully over a vibrant organ accompaniment.

Part of the Sequence in the requiem mass text, *Recordare* ("Remember merciful Jesus") is a prayer for remembrance on the last day, here set by Mozart and completed by his pupil, Franz Xaver Süssmayr, as part of the now well-known *Requiem* in D minor. The movement's opening theme, which was heavily inspired by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach's *Sinfonia* (also in D minor) but written here in the more hopeful relative key of F major, is established first in the introduction, then in staggered entrances by the four soloists. A counterpoint of cascading descending scales supports the soloists throughout the movement, as they alternate singing alone, in pairs, and as a quartet.

A setting of the German chorale *Nun lob, mein Seel, den Her*ren ("Now Praise, my Soul, the Lord") serves as this morning's **closing voluntary**. Its lively figuration and long-note delivery of the hymn tune in the pedal nicely elucidates a beloved hymn text full of gratitude for life's many blessings. Its composer Dietrich Buxtehude was a prominent organist and composer in North Germany in the decades surrounding 1700.

- Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

### IN OUR PRAYERS

Casey Lambright and family upon the death of his mother JoAnn Moss-Ayres on October 10.

David Dees and family in the death of his sister Nodya Lambert on October 12

St. Philippians and their families — Deb Burks; Emily Estill; Joy Maguire; Bonnie Moore; David Winship; Bob Ardell; Diane Clarke; Mary Herlitz; Dick Nunn; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy E. Johnson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Rick Weiss — father of Diana Weiss; Wilma Grether — mother of Kurt Grether; Raquel Calhoun & family — sister-in-law of Pam Keever; Kathy Bailey and family — sister of Peg Palisin; Jo Hadley Smith — cousin of William Rowe; Katie Forbes — daughter of Marise Robbins-Forbes; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Ann Perenyi — mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud — cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; Carolyn Keeble; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Jan Ostendorf; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians — Hans Richter — friend of Roderick James; Kitty Manson and family; Sidney Roach, Lori Childers O'Connell, Joyce Freudenberg — friends of Stephen Paine; Chris Deflandre — friend of Cara Biddle; Mary Ann Thomas; Erin McDougal and Marianne Keeswood — friends of Kate Burkart; Elaine Ende — friend of Beth Atkinson; Audrey Eubank Harris, 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; Kenneth and Donna Benton — friends of William Rowe; Patty Ryan and Tom Barnett - friends of Robin and Gary Willis; 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: <u>deacons@saintphilip.net</u>

# REFORMATION SUNDAY

# October 26

Join us on the lawn at 9:00 a.m. for worship with the pipes and drums of the Houston Highlanders as we observe Reformation Sunday.

# NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT SUNDAY MORNINGS

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 that our Nursery is located in the hallway off of the Gathering Area. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

# SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY—Ages 3-Kindergarten—Room 103—Godly Play utilizes storytelling of Scripture and spiritual experience as we watch, listen, wonder, and respond together. We value the process, we are open to discovery with the child, and one of our goals is to build community as we work alongside one another week by week.

**ELEMENTARY** – Grades 1-5 – Room 205 – This Fall the children will explore a unit called "Across Borders" from the FollowMe discipleship practices curriculum from the PCUSA.

**YOUTH**—Grades 6-12 meet in the Dining Room, watch the calendar for announcements about Kids Against Hunger packing sessions. Join us on **Oct. 26** at 9:30 a.m.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**—Room 204—Join us from 9:30 to 10:40 a.m. - we will study Ecclesiastes, the final book in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Wisdom Books: Job, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes* (2010). Join us as we seek to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to all of God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

**CHURCH & SOCIETY** – Room 201 – Join us from **9:30** – **10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom – **Oct. 26 - Kyle Sherling**, Rice Religion PhD student, will present: *Abraham: Father, Prophet, Philosopher, and Imperial Founder*. Nov. 2 **Rev. Dr. John Nelsen** – Tres Rios Presbytery Border Ministry program update. If you would like to join any of the classes, email:

jshartman01@gmail.com.

**ENNEAGRAM**—Room 202—Rev. Holly Heuer is teaching an introductory course on the Enneagram, a tool for self-awareness and spiritual growth. The Enneagram is a helpful way to understand ourselves and others, leading to deeper appreciation of our own and others' gifts. There will be audio recordings for those who miss a class. For more information and a syllabus, please contact Holly: <a href="hollyheuer@ecentral.com">hollyheuer@ecentral.com</a>. This class will conclude on **Oct. 26**.

**CHILDREN'S CHAPEL**—We will have Children's Chapel the second and fourth Sundays after *Conversation* 

with Children. In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship, while praying, singing, and hearing God's word at an age-appropriate level. Children return to join the congregation in the first few pews on the lectern side of the church for the last hymn.

# ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

**SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP**—This group meets for an hour once a month on Zoom to read and discuss social justice issues of concern in today's world. Our current topic is Christian Nationalism, one definition of which is "that America is God's chosen nation and should be defended and governed as such." Attitudes already influencing our legislators include opposition to gay rights, opposition to gun safety efforts, promotion of Christian religion in schools and libraries, book bans, etc. Our current study book is Brian Kaylor's *Baptizing America*; how mainline Protestants helped build Christian Nationalism. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson sjj10223@gmail.com.

**LAMBETH STUDY**-Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan at: <a href="keatan@saintphilip.net">keatan@saintphilip.net</a>.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Cancelled for Oct. 22. Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets weekly at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome to join us as we look at the lectionary passages for the coming Sunday! 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. We will discuss "*The Frozen River*" by Ariel Lawhon at the next meeting on **Nov. 13** at 7:00 p.m. Please watch your email for details about location. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

### 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. We are studying "The Tears of Things" by Richard Rohr. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at: ggardne148@aol.com

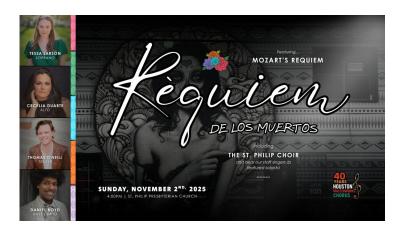
MAHJONG ANYONE? - St. Philippians are invited to play Mahjong on Friday mornings from 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. at St. Philip in the Choir Lobby in Administration Bldg. We are interested in substitutes with the possibility of forming more sets if there is enough interest. If you're interested in playing Mahjong sometimes or often or in learning how to play, text Judith Hiott at 832-277-8676.



THERE'S HARDLY A BETTER WAY
TO GET TO KNOW FELLOW ST. PHILIPPIANS
THAN TO SHARE A MEAL TOGETHER!

- + THE **HOST PLANS AN ENTRÉE** FOR THE GROUP (YOURS OR FROM YOUR FAVORITE CARRY-OUT SPOT)
- + GUESTS CHOOSE TO BRING APPETIZER, SALAD/BREAD, OR DESSERT
- + THE GROUP MEETS JUST FOUR TIMES BETWEEN DECEMBER AND MAY
- + YOU MAY INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE FOR A RESTAURANT VENUE INSTEAD
- + CHOOSE A GROUP WITH ALL AGES (WITH CHILDREN)
  OR WITH ADULTS ONLY

SIGN UP IN THE **GATHERING AREA** AFTER WORSHIP OR SIGN UP **ONLINE**.







**HALLOWEEN** 

EQUAL EXCHANGE SALE

CHOCOLATE

Most BIG CHOCOLATE

COMPANIES buy cacao

farmers don't earn

that is grown by farmers in West Africa. Often,

CHILD

Sometimes CHILDREN

separated from their

families work on these

farms and get paid very

who have been

CAN BE



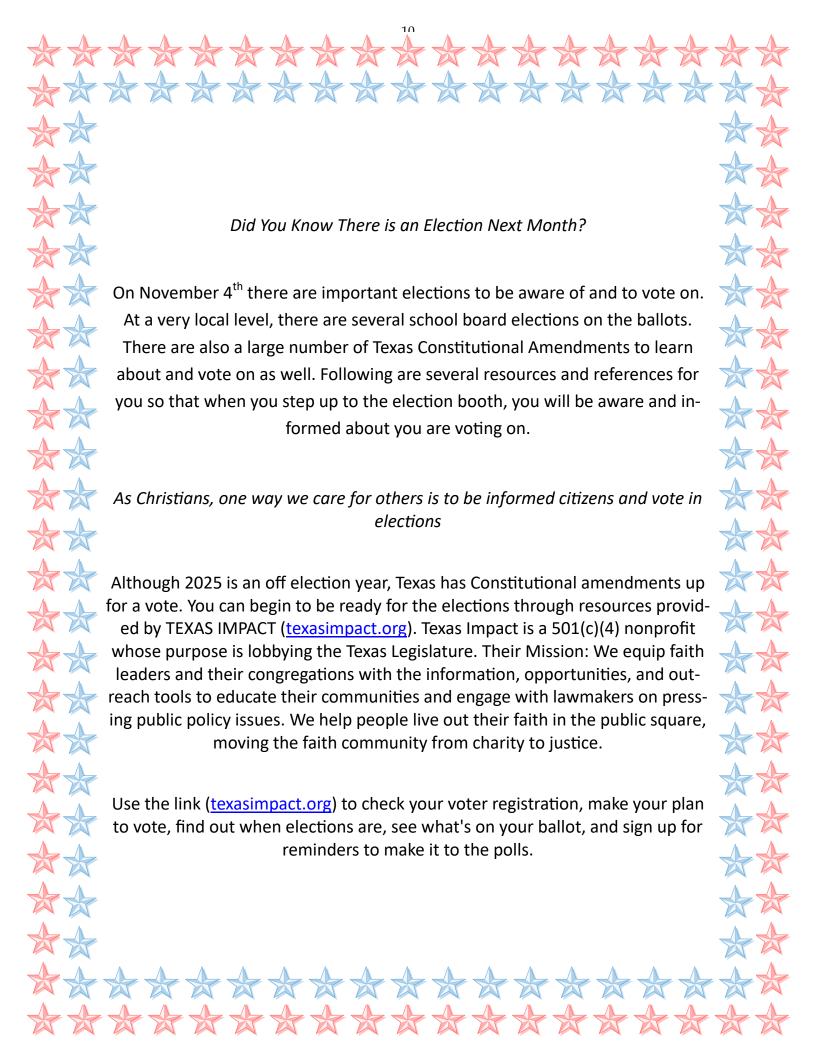


"We are excited to announce the schedule for St. Philip Children's Music (SPCM), our music initiative for children age 5 through 5th grade. The program will begin Sunday, October 5 and continue each Sunday through December 7 (no meeting on November 30). We will gather in the Children's Chapel (Room 203) in the Education Building from 9 - 9:40 a.m."

Chocolate is made

from the fruit of the

cacao (ca-cow) tree.





# Get Out the Vote November 4, 2025 General Election



# Your Ballot by Address

https://www.vote411.org/ballot

https://www.lwvhouston.org/voters-guide

#### **Texas Constitutional Amendments**

from Texas Secretary of State

https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/forms/november-2025-ballot-language-17.pdf

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- First Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance: Monday, October 20, 2025
- *Note*: The 17th day before Election Day falls on a Saturday, so the first day moves to the next business day.
- Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (*Received*, not Postmarked): Friday, October 24, 2025
- Last Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance: Friday, October 31, 2025
- Last Day to Receive Ballot by Mail:
- If carrier envelope is not postmarked: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m.
- If carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m.

*Note*: Different deadlines may apply for overseas or military voters.

https://www.houstonvotersguide.org/election-dates



5 Calls is the easiest and most effective way for US constituents to make a political impact, and calling your congressperson is the most effective way to influence policy (https://5calls.org/why-calling-works/). What's important to you? 5 Calls provides you with a script with detailed talking points and tells you who to call based on your location.

Go to <a href="https://5calls.org/">https://5calls.org/</a>



4807 San Felipe • Houston 77056 713.622.4807 • 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.



### Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

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

#### 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 has returned to the Education Bldg. and can be accessed from the hall off 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 <u>saintphilip.net</u> and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to <u>lorrie@saintphilip.net</u>.

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 <a href="mailto:denise@saintphilip.net">denise@saintphilip.net</a>.



**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. 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. If you have any questions, please contact Candice Harris, Program Director, at <u>Director@stphilipdayschool.org</u>.

**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, <a href="mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net">lorrie@saintphilip.net</a> 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.

I GIVE ELECTRONICALLY

IT

TO ST. PHILIP

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 407

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers



The subtle changes between the first and last stanzas here are important; they reveal how the gift of the Holy Spirit transforms and widens our concern from ourselves to the world around us. The tune is named for the text it first set, "Now let all thank and bring honor."

TEXT: Andrew Reed, 1829, alt. MUSIC: Johann Crüger, c. 1647 NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET EHR'

# Hymn 760

### Bring Many Names



This text affirms that the images we use for God can be inspired by either gender because both males and females reflect the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27). Similarly, since God is with us at all stages of

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1986, rev.
MUSIC: Carlton R. Young, 1987
Text and Music © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

life, all ages hold the potential to reveal something about God.

WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9

# **Hymn 741**

## Guide My Feet



- 3 Stand by me ...
- 6 Guide my feet ...
- 4 I'm your child ...

This African American spiritual is based on the imagery of "the race that is set before us" in Hebrews 12:1–2. Its call-and-response structure allows for the improvisation and addition of stanzas related to an athletic metaphor that is as vivid today as it was centuries ago.

TEXT: African American spiritual MUSIC: African American spiritual; harm. Wendell P. Whalum, c. 1984 Music Harm. © Estate of Wendell P. Whalum GUIDE MY FEET