

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 19, 2021

Preparation for Worship

No wind at the window, no knock on the door; no light from the lampstand, no foot on the floor; no dream born of tiredness, no ghost raised by fear: just an angel and a woman and a voice in her ear. No payment was promised, no promises made; no wedding was dated; no blueprint displayed; yet Mary, consenting to what none could guess, replied with conviction, "Tell God I say, Yes."

- John Bell, Hymn 101

Voluntary

Prelude on ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN (Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming • Hymn 129)

Mary Beth Bennett (b. 1954)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Introit

All Praise, Eternal Son, to Thee

TALLIS' CANON • Thomas Tallis (c. 1505–1585)

All praise, eternal Son, to thee whose advent sets thy people free; whom with the Father, we adore, and Spirit blest for evermore.

- words by Charles Coffin (1676-1749)

Opening Sentences

Keep watch, for the one who brings peace is coming.

We wait in anticipation of Christ.

We wait for joy to be revealed. Be ready!

Love is coming to dwell with us. Hope draws near.

† Hymn 105 (see page 11)

People, Look East

BESANÇON

† Prayer of Confession

Who are we, Lord God, that you should come to us?

Who are we?

We are broken and bearing heavy burdens.

We are lonely and lying.

We are prideful and breaking promises.

We are unaware and unloving.

We are sinful and sorry.

That's who we are, Lord God.

We are people who need you to come to us.

Come, we pray, come to us.

Redeem us. Redirect us.

Restore us. Recover the good in us.

Make room in our hearts to receive the one

who draws nearer still, our Lord Jesus Christ.

silent prayer

† Response



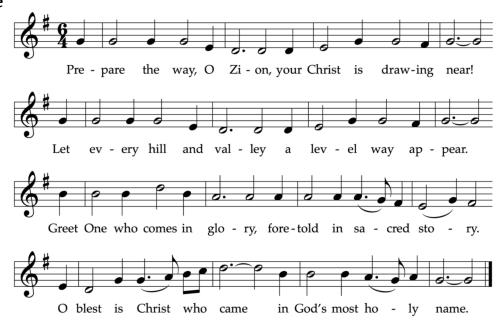
TEXT Ref. Taizé Community, 1984 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984

Text and Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

† Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

† Response



TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812, rev. 1819; translated by Augustus Nelson, 1958; adapted by Charles P. Price, 1980, alt. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company MUSIC: Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697; arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

† The Peace

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

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Micah 5:2-5

O.T. pg. 865

Holy wisdom, holy word. Thanks be to God.

Anthem

The Angel Gabriel

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE • arr. Malcom Archer (b. 1952)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail!" said he,"thou lowly maiden Mary,

Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

"For known a blessed mother thou shalt be, All generations laud and honor thee, Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold; Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said, "My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name." Most highly favored lady. Gloria!

 original Basque text paraphrased by Sabine Baring-Gould (1834–1924)

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38

N.T. pgs. 56-57

Holy wisdom, holy word. Thanks be to God.

Sermon Holy Interruptions John Wurster

† Hymn 99 (see page 12)

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

MORNING SONG

† Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene 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.

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

Offertory

O King and Desire

John Stainer (1840-1901)

O King and desire of all nations, thou cornerstone who has made both one: come and save us, whom thou made from the clay. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

God of mystery and might, we praise and worship you, for you came in silence, while all lay sleeping, to enter our world as a child of humble birth.

We thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, born of your servant, Mary. In his face we behold your glory, for in his life as in his death is your gift of salvation. By your Spirit, make our hearts burn with thanksgiving, that we may give as we have received, through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

† Hymn 348 (see page 13)

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Postlude on HELMSLEY (Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending • Hymn 348)

Christopher Tamling (b. 1964)

SERVING TODAY

Liturgists

Keatan King and Omar Rouchon

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | Emily Jenkins, assistant conductor | Randall Swanson — music director and organist

FLOWERS

The flowers are given today by Kip and Ann Frautschi in celebration of the marriage of Amy Frautschi and Gopal Athreya on December 18, 2021.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Micah 5:2–5a A ruler will come from Bethlehem; he will be the one of peace.
- Luke 1:46b-55 My soul magnifies the Lord, who has done great things.
- or Psalm 80:1-7 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel; let your face shine, and save us.
- Hebrews 10:5–10 God does not desire burnt offerings; Christ came to do God's will.
- Luke 1:39–45 (46–55) Mary visits Elizabeth; the child in Elizabeth's womb leaps for joy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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MUSIC NOTES

Organ Music

Today's **opening voluntary** is a dreamy setting of "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" by Richmond, Virginia organist and composer Mary Beth Bennett. Published in 2014, her *Prelude on ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN* features constantly shifting harmonies and subtle echoes of this familiar Advent/Christmas melody, building in intensity then calmly subsiding and closing quietly.

This morning's **closing voluntary** is a brief but brilliant toccata on the hymn "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending" by organist James Vivian, who is Director of Music at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle in England. Also published in 2014, Vivian's *Postlude on HELMSLEY* features sparkling passages for the hands over the tune's stately melody, heard first in the pedal and then in the top voice of the musical texture, giving way to some very exciting harmonic surprises toward the end. With these effects the piece is highly evocative of our closing hymn's powerful text.

Choral Music

This morning's **introit** features the music of Thomas Tallis' beloved four-part canon wedded to Advent words by 18th-century French poet Charles Coffin. Originally in Latin, the text was translated into English in the 19th century by John Chandler. Another well-known Advent hymn by

Coffin translated by Chandler is "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (GTG No. 96), which we sang here at St. Philip last weekend.

Today's **anthem** is a Basque Christmas carol reflecting the archangel Gabriel's Annunciation to Mary that she is to be the mother of the Messiah, and Mary's "yes" in response. The arrangement of *The Angel Gabriel* heard this morning is by retired English composer, organist and conductor Malcolm Archer, who served with great distinction at cathedrals in Norwich, Bristol, Wells, and St. Paul's Cathedral in London, before retiring in 2017 as Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College.

This morning's **offertory** is a short anthem for the final week of Advent by 19th-century English composer John Stainer, whose work as a composer was much esteemed during his lifetime but is not well known today. His passion oratorio *The Crucifixion* (from which is drawn the famous anthem *God So Loved the World*) is one of the few major works by Stainer still regularly performed. His *O King and Desire*, which the choir sings this morning, sets words from the sixth of seven 'O' Antiphons, the Magnificat antiphons used at vespers or evensong in the last seven days of Advent.

- Randall Swanson

IN OUR PRAYERS

Mickey McGall Meyers and family upon the death of her cousin James Graham McGall last week.

Janet Hess and family upon the death of her mother Sarah Lindley, December 12.

St. Philippians and their families — Jack Fox; Jo Helland; Beth Flowers; Lee Larkin; Janet Davis; Susan Huffman; Joyce Fugit; Dorothy Murphey; Bill Slick; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Alma Fonseca — mother of Angelina Fonseca; Bill Polk — brother-in-law of Sharon Webb; Darryl Cazes — brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud — cousin of Stephen Paine; Douglas Everhart — brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Gretchen Everhart — niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Carol Paine Kendrick — sister of Stephen Paine; John Anderson — brother of Tom Anderson; Mac & Beverly Wilson — parents of Butch Wilson; Vera Moore — mother of Chuck Johnson; Dottie Laas and family — cousin of Sam Fisher; Shirley Boggus — grandmother of Omi Ford; Dona Rowe — mother of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio — granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound – Walter Baker; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.

Friends of St. Philippians—Janet Arnold—friend of Eleanor Grant; Auden McCarty—friend of Mary McGuire; Ted & Susan Hirtz—friends of Jacqueline and Bill Taylor; Paul English; Matt Scalapino and Laura Chilton—friends of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; Paul Ratliff—friend of Jo Helland; Lavon Thomas—friend of Curt and Sharon Webb; Clayton Amacker—friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; and Walter "Buddy" Hammann 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

Merry Christmas

Thank you to those who have contributed poinsettias this Christmas to adorn our chancel.

Given By:	Those we honor
Anonymous	Kate Burkart for her steadfast commitment to Peacemaking and Social Justice
Anonymous	With thanks to Kate Burkart for her significant contributions to the Peacemaking &
	Social Justice Committee during her tenure as committee chair
Lee & Bob Ardell	The pastors & staff of St. Philip
Kate Burkhart	The Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee, who it has been my privilege to lead
	these last four years
Bebe Burns	To the glory of God and in gratitude for the St. Philip community
Lorrie Castle	The staff and committees of St. Philip that I work with
Frautschi Family	Amy & Gopal Frautschi on their first Sabbath together
Frautschi Family	T. Stewart & Shirley Coffman
Frautschi Family	St. Philip church
Dick & Sue Howard	Our St. Philip family
Suzanne & David Kerr	The St. Philip Choir
Walter & Margaret King	In gratitude for our wonderful staff at St. Philip
Gene & Florence McKelvey	John Wurster & the SPPC Congregation
Liz Miguez	Stephanie Miguez
Bonnie Moore	My children, Zach Moore, Clint Manley and Audra Manley Gonzalez.
Cathy Patterson	The St. Philip Mission Committee
David & Hallie Spence	Mary Linda Williams
Hope Wilmarth	Isabelle, Jeb, Arden, Gertrude, Clara & Elliot Lance
Given By:	In our memories
Orlean Anderson	Ruth & Orlean McCallum
Orlean Anderson	Kenneth Anderson, Jr.
Jamie, Anne Marie, Sydney and	Kenneth Allan Henick
Samantha Benard	
Sharon Coufal	Alan Coufal
Liz & Steve Crowell	Rick Holzinger
Mary Currie	My parents, Dick & Frances Miller
Mary Currie	My brother, Martyn Miller
Carl & Janet Eskridge	John and Rita Hannah
Nancy Higgs	My mother, Dorothy McMillan
John Lemen	My parents, Joseph and Virginia Lemen
Jane Malczewskyj	Loved ones
Jan Meyer	My parents, Don and Valerie Meyer
Dale Miller	Barger Miller
Peg Palisin	Jean Alan Hartsfiel & Eddie Daw
Peg Palisin	Percy Arvard Smith
Rhonda Sands & Jennifer Wilson	Mary Ann Sands, wife of Tom Sands & mother of Rhonda Sands
Rhonda Sands & Jennifer Wilson	Rod Sands, son of Tom Sands & brother of Rhonda Sands
Rhonda Sands & Jennifer Wilson	Helen Canaris Wilson, wife of Bill Wilson & mother of Jennifer Wilson
Jenilee Simmons	Douglass Simmons
David & Hallie Spence	Paxton Williams, Chris Spence & Tomi Spence
Ruthie & Al Waldrop	Our parents, Nancy & Kenan Rand and Florence & Allister Waldrop
Hope Wilmarth	Lance Wilmarth
John Wurster	Darnall Burks

- CHURCH & SOCIETY—9:40 a.m. 10:45 a.m. by Zoom—December 26 "My Adventures as a Student at the University of Virginia and My Plans to Serve at the Hands of Hope Service Year at Casa de Esperanza in Houston." Presented by Lily Frautschi. Also, "Previews of the Church & Society Spring Term Presentations for Jan 2 May 29, 2022." Email Mickey Meyers at churchsociety-stphilip@comcast.net if you would like to join any of the classes.
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS** is meeting again each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in Room 204 of the Education Building. We will resume our study of the last ten Psalms with Dr. Robert Alter's <u>The Book of Psalms</u> (2007) and then return to the Kingdom of Israel at I Kings 2.13 with Dr. Alter's <u>Ancient Israel</u>, <u>The Former Prophets</u> (2013). Join us for more discoveries in Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.
- **PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP**—Returns **January 7** Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets in person each Friday in the Dining Room from 11:45 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. We are currently studying the book *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr. Also, while there is an in person meeting, that meeting is carried live via Zoom for those who want to join the meeting but are either out of town or prefer to meet from a distance. Please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com if you would like to be a part of this interesting group.
- **SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP** will have its next meeting tonight, Tuesday, **January 4**, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The study book is *Race in America; Christians respond to the crisis*, edited by David Maxwell and Laura Cheifetz. It is available from Amazon or from the PC(USA) bookstore. Persons interested in joining the group can send an email to <u>welcome@saintphilip.net</u> and type PSJ Study Group in the subject line.
- **WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB**—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. At our next meeting on **January 13** at 7:00 p.m., we will discuss *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah, watch your email for details of where we will be meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at nnl@lambrightlaw.com.
- LENT CLASSES—The Education Committee will offer a five-week class during Lent called "Experiencing God," an opportunity to see how the Holy Spirit connects with people in unique and personal ways in their daily life. Two or three church members will informally share one of their spiritual practices for 10-15 minutes. There will be also time for individuals to try these different ways to encounter God. The goal is to encourage and learn from one another on our journeys of faith. If you feel God might be calling you to share in this way, please contact Betsy Boston at eholycom properties of their spiritual practices for 10-15 minutes.

ATTENTION STOCK DONORS!

St. Philip's broker services are with **Frost Bank** in the beginning of 2021. We ask you to call: Yvette Webb at Frost Bank – 713-388-1231 for transaction information. Our new account number is #037-293183. Please let the bookkeeper, know you are making a stock donation. You may email <u>bookkeeper@saintphilip.net</u>. If you have any questions, you may always contact Ada Fuller, treasurer at 713-306-8267 or <u>amariepoet@gmail.com</u>.

PW RETREAT

The Presbyterian Women's retreat will be held on January 21-23, 2022 at Journey Conference and Retreat Center. The program, *Epiphany: Gifts of Wise Women*, will be led by Keatan King and Anne Wilson. There will be plenty of time for fellowship, crafts, music and s'mores. The Center is a short drive on the south side of town, but feels rural and far from the city. Deadline to register is **TODAY – December 19**, and registration forms will be available at the in the Gathering Area before and after the 11 a.m. worship service. You can also register through MyStPhilip under the events tab. The cost is \$170.00 which includes lodging for 2 nights and 5 meals; if you do not wish to spend the night, you can attend Saturday only and receive 3 meals for \$40. Payment can be made via check, through the event registration, or on the St. Philip website, using the "Presbyterian Women" option in the pull-down menu on the contribution page. Scholarships are available. Please contact Jan Meyer (jsmeyer9990@gmail.com), Judith Hiott (Judith.hiott@outlook.com) or call the church (713-622-4807) for any questions.





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 <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 TODAY 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.

Advent and Christmas Worship

- **† December 22 Midweek Advent Services of Scripture and Song at 11 am in-person and online.**
- **December 24** Christmas Eve Candlelight Services. A Whimsical Telling of the Birth of Jesus at 5:30 p.m. Communion Service with the St. Philip Choir at 8 p.m. with John Wurster preaching.
- **December 26** First Sunday of Christmas. One service at 11 a.m. (no 9 a.m. service) with Keatan King preaching.
- **† January 2** Second Sunday of Christmas Services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. The first communion of 2022 with John Wurster preaching.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY WITH JOHN WURSTER—A look via Zoom at the Bible readings for the coming Sunday has returned with Zoom sessions Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Email John for details and to get on the list - john@saintphilip.net. The class will not meet December 22 or December 29.

Hymn 105 People, Look East Besançon



This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.



This 20th-century paraphrase is based on the Song of Mary (Luke 1:46–55), commonly known by its opening Latin word, *Magnificat*. This song of praise offers clear reminders that God's purposes often lead to the reversal of human values, exalting the poor and dethroning the mighty.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1979, rev. 1987 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813; harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940 Text © 1978, 1987 Medical Mission Sisters Music Harm. © 1943, 1961, 1985 Church Pension Fund MORNING SONG

СМ





Despite unclear musical origins, the result here is a characteristic early Methodist hymn tune, notable for its breadth and range. It effectively sets a text of similarly mixed sources, one that Charles Wesley regarded as related to "Thy kingdom come" in the Lord's Prayer.

TEXT: Stanzas 1, 3, Charles Wesley, 1758, alt.; stanza 2, John Cennick, 1752, alt. MUSIC: Thomas Olivers, 1763; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

HELMSLEY 8.7.8.7.4.4.7

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