



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 17, 2024

Preparation for Worship

I arise today

*through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity,
through belief in the Threeness,
through confession of the Oneness of the Creator of creation.*

—from St. Patrick's Breastplate, 5th century.

Voluntary

Herzlich lieb hab ich dich, o Herr

Johann Ludwig Krebs
(1713-1780)

Greeting

Introit

Create In Me, O God

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Create in me, O God, a pure heart, and grant a right spirit within me.

—Psalm 51:10

✦ Opening Sentences

✦ Hymn 5 ([see page 10](#))

God, the Sculptor of the Mountains

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

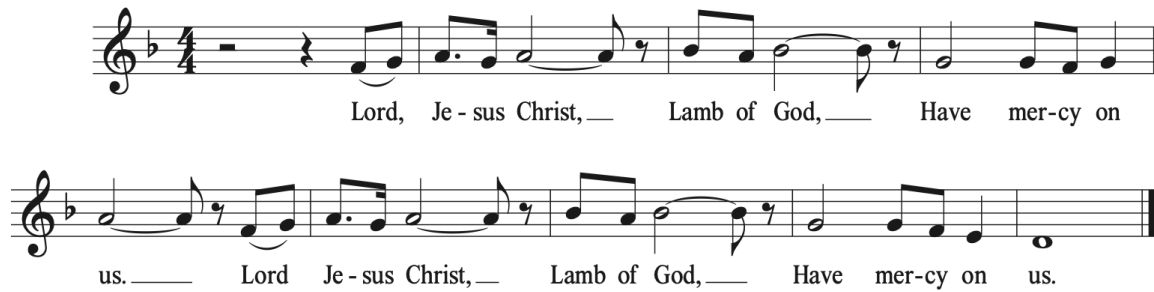
✦ Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
your giving is without end;
but we struggle to receive all that you offer.
We misuse your gifts,
ignoring your intents,
and refusing your abundance.
We hoard what you would have us share,
and we throw away what you would have us keep.
Forgive us and help us discern your priorities.
Govern our hearts with your spirit,
so that we can live into the fullness of the gospel,
and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

silent prayer

✦ Response

Justin Langham

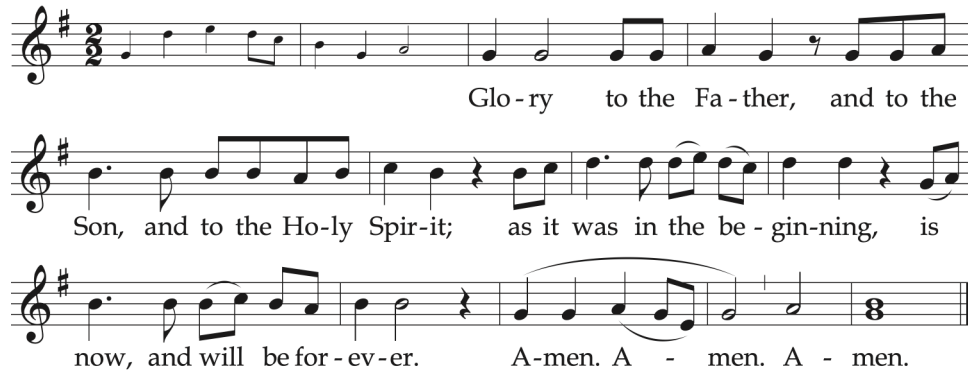


✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

✦ Response

John Weaver



✦ The Peace

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

Conversation with Children

Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 106.

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

O.T. pg. 735

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

Anthem

All Things New

Elaine Hagenberg

Light after darkness, gain after loss,
Strength after weakness, crown after cross;
Sweet after bitter, hope after fears,
Home after wandering, praise after tears.

Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end.
He is making all things new.
Springs of living water shall wash away each tear.
He is making all things new.

Sight after mystery, sun after rain,
Joy after sorrow, peace after pain;
Near after distant, gleam after gloom,
Love after loneliness, life after tomb.

— Text by Frances Havergal and adapted from Rev. 21: 5–6

Gospel Reading

John 12:20-26

N.T. pg. 106

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

The Philip Way

John W. Wurster

silence and stillness✠ **Hymn 754** ([see page 11](#))*Help Us Accept Each Other*

BARONITA

✠ **Affirmation of Faith**

from The United Church of Canada

We are not alone,
 we live in God's world.
 We believe in God:
 who has created and is creating,
 who has come in Jesus,
 the Word made flesh,
 to reconcile and make new,
 who works in us and others by the Spirit.
 We trust in God.
 We are called to be the Church:
 to celebrate God's presence,
 to live with respect in Creation,
 to love and serve others,
 to seek justice and resist evil,
 to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
 our judge and our hope.
 In life, in death, in life beyond death,
 God is with us.
 We are not alone.
 Thanks be to God.

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, Divine Redeemer

Charles Gounod
(1818-1893)

Ah, turn me not away,
receive me though unworthy.
Hear Thou my cry, hear Thou my cry,
Behold, Lord, my distress!
Answer me from Thy throne,
Haste Thee, Lord, to mine aid!
Thy pity show in my deep anguish,
Thy pity show in my deep anguish.
Let not the sword of vengeance smite me,
Though righteous Thine anger, O Lord!

Shield me in danger, O regard me!
On Thee, Lord, alone will I call!

O divine Redeemer, O divine Redeemer!
I pray thee grant me pardon, And remember not
Remember not my sins!
Forgive me!

O divine Redeemer! I pray Thee, grant me pardon
And remember not, O Lord, my sins!

Night gathers round my soul
Fearful, I cry to Thee,
Come to mine aid, O Lord!
Haste Thee, Lord, haste to help me!

Hear my cry, hear my cry
Save me, Lord in Thy mercy;
Hear my cry, hear my cry!
Come and save me, O Lord!

O divine Redeemer! I pray Thee, grant me pardon
And remember not, O Lord, my sins!

Save in the day of retribution
From death shield Thou me, O my God;
O divine Redeemer, have mercy!
Help me, my Savior!

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

God of compassion,
we praise you that you look upon us
with love and understanding
and that you desire for us all new life in Jesus Christ.
**By your Spirit, give us the grace of repentance
and guide us in the way of righteousness,
as we seek to follow after Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

✠ Hymn 543 [\(see page 12\)](#)

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER

✠ Charge and Blessing

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

Closing Voluntary

Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten
BWV 642

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

SERVING TODAY

Pastor

Keatan King | John W. Wurster

Liturgist

Leah Bream

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | Justin Langham, director | Matthew Dirst, organist & pianist | Julia Fox, soloist

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Nate Carlin and Keatan King to the glory of God on the occasion of Cohen Carlin's birthday in thanksgiving for all the children of St. Philip.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Jeremiah 31:31–34 — *God says: I will make a new covenant, writing my law in your heart.*
- Psalm 51:1–12 — *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new spirit within me.*
- Psalm 119:9–16 — *I seek you, O Lord, with my whole heart; I treasure your word.*
- Hebrews 5:5–10 — *Jesus Christ, our high priest, is the source of eternal salvation.*
- John 12:20–33 — *Jesus says: Now I will be glorified; I will die and be lifted up.*

MUSIC NOTES

The organ chorale preludes that frame today's service are of two different types. The Krebs prelude on *Herzlich Lieb hab' ich dich, o Herr* ("Heartfelt Love I Have for You, O Lord") presents its hymn melody in a leisurely fashion, with numerous decorations and sounding in high relief against the accompanimental texture of the lower parts. Bach's setting of *Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten* ("Let God be God and Trust in Him") is a concise yet highly contrapuntal setting from his *Orgelbüchlein* (*Little Organ Book*). The text and tune of this *Trostlied* (a song of consolation) come from the Thuringian poet Georg Neumark, one of the most productive hymn writers of the 17th century.

Today's **introit** is the second of two motets that comprise Op. 29 by 19th-century German composer Johannes Brahms. This short setting of Psalm 51 displays many characteristics of Brahms' choral writing like clearly defined harmonies and tight voice leading, and expressive melodic content. The five-part voicing of this motet allows for a wider texture, with the lowest basses lingering around the bottom of their register while the soprano melody soars to the top of theirs.

One of the leaders in sacred choral music today, Elaine Hagenberg links her music with the text in a genuine and expressive way, often using creative textures and beautiful melodic lines, which are exemplified in the two sections of contrasting material that make up today's **anthem**. The text, an adaptation from Revelation 21, makes an unexpected, yet lovely musical pairing with the Psalm 51 text heard in the introit.

Charles Gounod is best known today for his operas, but his religious music was regarded more highly by many during his own lifetime. Gounod incorporated many "operatic" features in his prolific output of sacred music, distancing himself from the more austere liturgical style of composers like Palestrina. Titled in the original French *Repentir*, or "Repentance," our **offertory** is a setting of Gounod's own prayer text that was composed towards the end of his life as a contemplation of his eventual death. It also exemplifies his sacred style, communicating through music that is reverent and animated.

— Justin Langham and Matthew Dirst

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

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LENT AT ST. PHILIP

Join us for worship each Wednesday at noon as we journey through the season of Lent. Guest preachers from across the area will lead us. Lunch will be available in the Gathering Area at 12:30 p.m. Here's the schedule for this year's series:

March 20: Jim Dement, former St. Philip member and interim pastor in El Campo.

John Wurster offers daily e-votions through Lent. These brief biblical reflections are sent by e-mail each morning. To join the e-votions list, send a note to john@sainthphilip.net. Those subscribed for last year continue on the list for 2024.

LENTEN LECTIO DIVINA PRAYER GROUP—The ancient desert mystics believed that scripture was like a love letter written to us by God, and the meditative scriptural reflection known as *Lectio Divina* ("divine reading") assumes that God speaks to us intimately, God is already praying in us, and we'll experience a profound encounter with the heart of God, rather than an intellectual study of scripture. Keatan is guiding a group through the four cycles of Lectio (read, reflect, respond, rest) every Monday morning at 9:00-9:20 a.m. for the season of Lent. To receive the Zoom link sent early Monday mornings, email Keatan at: keatan@saintphilip.net

MUSICAL MEDITATION AT ST. PHILIP—As part of our Holy Week calendar, St. Philip Presbyterian will be hosting an afternoon "Musical Meditation" on Holy Saturday, **Mar. 30** at 5 p.m. This year's theme is "Godly Sorrow" (with reference to 2 Corinthians 7:10) featuring soprano Julia Fox and violist Yvonne Smith, alongside St. Philip organist, Matthew Dirst. Major works will include "Miroir de peine" by Henrik Andriessen for soprano and organ, Hindemith's "Trauermusik" for viola and organ, music from BWV 18 by Bach, and other selections. A free-will offering will be taken.

PALM SUNDAY - Mar. 24 - Worship at 11:00 a.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - Mar. 28 - Worship at 7:00 p.m. with communion and the St. Philip Choir. The service concludes with the stripping of the church.

GOOD FRIDAY - Mar. 29 - 12:00 pm service of scripture and song with Cecelia Duarte; 8 pm Tenebrae service of darkness with the St. Philip Choir.

EASTER SUNDAY - Mar. 31 - 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. festival services with communion, the St. Philip Choir, and brass ensemble. Confirmation at 11:00 a.m. service. Breakfast and Easter activities between services.

EASTER LILIES—In order to continue our longstanding support of the Brookwood Community, we have kept in place our customary order for Easter lilies. They will be delivered to St. Philip to adorn our Sanctuary for our Easter service.

We invite you to contribute to our flower fund and dedicate a lily to someone this Easter. Donations may be made for any amount either through our website—saintphilip.net, choosing the Flowers/Holiday fund option from the menu; or by sending a check to the Church Office. If donating online where the memo line is limited in the number of characters, please e-mail Lorrie Castle (lorrie@saintphilip.net) with your name and the person(s) being honored and/or remembered. Similar information should be included with mailed checks. Mailed dedications should arrive by **Mar. 25**. Thanks for your help in continuing this holiday tradition!



The list of donors and memorials/honors will appear in the bulletin and the Philip-Eye following Easter.

Name(s) of Donors _____

Who are Lilies in Memory or Honor of: _____

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philipians and their families – Emily Estill; Barbara Cavanaugh; Peg Palisin; Mary Herlitz; Helen Deleon; Jan Ostendorf; Ben Dees; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy Johnson; Beverly Baker; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Alice Woodall-Chisholm – cousin of Mary McGuire; Sheila Kinsky and her children – sister of Bill Connolly; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Susan Everhart – niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philipians – Paul Feagan – friend of Jacqui Colton; Annette Covey – friend of Guy & Melissa Aldrich; Stephen Wedemeyer and Mary Watters – friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Claude Bowden – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton – friends of William Rowe; Magdalena Rustomji – friend of Mickey & Ken Meyers; Caitlan Prescott – friend of Mary McGuire; Tom Barnett – friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach – friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Hazrum, Erin McDougal, and Eric Alberto Marquez – friends of Kate Burkart; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; 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.

EASTER 2024 VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY – Join the St. Philip March 2024 Easter mission project assembling the 60 boxes for The Women's Home Easter boxes on Saturday, **Mar. 23** at 10:00 a.m. in the Arts & Crafts Studio. This is a fun service project for all ages and an opportunity for the St. Philip community to come together in service during the Easter holiday! Sign up for the Easter box assembly in the Gathering Area on Sundays, in MyStPhilip, or email: mission@saintphilip.net.

PLANT IT FORWARD - St. Philip members are invited to volunteer with mission partner Plant-It Forward's farmers on Saturday, **Apr. 13** at the Plant It Forward Fondren farm located at 10595 Fondren Road, Houston TX 77096 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. This was the first urban farm and today, 3 businesses operate here: The Grace Farm, Hope Farm, and Chef Constant Sustainable Farm. Volunteers will help farmers with weeding and mulching. Please bring water and wear hats, long sleeves and pants, sunscreen, and close-toed shoes. Sign up in the Gathering area at the Mission table beginning Sunday, through **Apr. 7** or email Angelina Fonseca-Grewal at mission@saintphilip.net if you can attend. Rides are available, please let Angelina know. More information about the event can be found at: [Field Notes - Plant It Forward Farms](#)

OPERATION IMPACT DELIVERY MISSION PARTNER CHURCH WIDE SERVICE DAY – Join the St. Philip mission partner Interfaith Ministries for their Operation IMPact event to deliver hurricane supply boxes and bottled water cases to the Meals on Wheels seniors at their homes. Save the dates of Saturday, **June 1** and Saturday **June 8**. St. Philip mission committee and

church members will meet at the church to divide the hurricane supply boxes and water, then drive in teams of 2 or 3 in each car to the addresses Interfaith Ministries provides. If you are not traveling to Mo-Ranch for the retreat the weekend of **June 1**, this is a great service opportunity you can participate in benefiting the homebound seniors in our community. **June 1** distribution will be in Harris County and **June 8** distribution will be in Galveston County mainland, not on the island. Sign up will begin in April. Angelina Fonseca-Grewal can drive 4 volunteers, but other drivers will be needed.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 A.M. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY – Ages 3 – Kindergarten – Room 104

ELEMENTARY – Grades 1-5 – Room 105

YOUTH – Grades 6-12 – Room 205

FAITH & LIFE – Room 200 – An adult class exploring how what we believe informs how we live. There are no materials required and no preparation is needed.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Room 204 – We are beginning our study of Job in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Wisdom Books: Job, Prophets and Ecclesiastes* (2010). 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.

CHURCH & SOCIETY – Room 201 – Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **Mar. 24** - Palm Sunday - "Sacred Music for Holy Week" - As part of our Holy Week calendar, St. Philip Presbyterian will be hosting an afternoon "Musical Meditation" on Holy Saturday, **Mar. 30** at 5 p.m. This year's theme is "Godly Sorrow" (with reference to 2 Corinthians 7:10) featuring soprano Julia Fox and violist Yvonne Smith, alongside St. Philip organist, Matthew Dirst. Major works will include "Miroir de peine" by Henrik Andriessen for soprano and organ, Hindemith's "Trauermusik" for viola and organ, music from BWV 18 by Bach. Presented by Dr. Matthew Dirst, organist for St. Philip and also Professor of Music at the Moores School of Music, University of Houston, where he teaches courses in music history and performance practice. He is Founder and Artistic Director of Ars Lyrica Houston, a Grammy-nominated ensemble that specializes in Baroque chamber and dramatic works. Matthew is the author of *Engaging Bach: The Keyboard Legacy from Marpurg to Mendelssohn*. **Mar. 31** - Easter Sunday - Church & Society will not meet Easter Sunday so that we can attend the Easter morning breakfast. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes: churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

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

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 King at:

keatan@saintphilip.net.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP – This group meets on first Monday nights, 7-8 p.m., by zoom, to discuss social justice issues of the day. The current exploration of Christian nationalism is Kaitlyn Schiess' book, *The Ballot and the Bible; how Scripture has been used and abused in American politics*. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson (sjj10223@gmail.com) to be added to our mailing list.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY – 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. 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 **Apr. 11** at 7:00 p.m. and we will discuss *Killers of a Certain Age* by Deanne Raybourn. So watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at:

nml@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 *They Walked With God* by Max Lucado. The book talks about 40 people in the Bible and how God used them. It lets us know that he has a place for us too. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN – 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: welcome@saintphilip.net.

Monday Morning Saints – 2nd Mon. of each month @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Circle – 3rd Sun. of each month @ 12:30 p.m.

Thursday Evening Circle – 1st Thurs. of each month @ 7:00 p.m.



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 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.

Are you interested in donating flowers to decorate the chancel on a Sunday morning? The 2024 flower calendar is available online at saintphilip.net, go to the calendar and look for the icon you see here or click [here](#). We have several open dates in February and March — and beyond.

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.

Hymn 5

God, the Sculptor of the Mountains

JENNINGS-HOUSTON



1 God the sculp - tor of the moun - tains, God the
 2 God the nui - sance of the Pha - raoh, God the
 3 God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the
 4 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the



mill - er of the sand, God the jewel - er of the
 cleav - er of the sea, God the pil - lar in the
 plant - er of the wheat, God the reap - er of the
 calm, de - ter - mined youth, God the ta - ble - turn - ing



heav - ens, God the pot - ter of the land:
 dark - ness, God the bea - con of the free:
 har - vest, God the source of all we eat:
 proph - et, God the res - ur - rect - ed truth:



you are womb of all cre - a - tion;
 you are fount of all de - liv - erance;
 you are host at ev - ery ta - ble;
 you are pres - ent ev - ery mo - ment;



we are form - less; shape us now.
 we are aim - less; lead us now.
 we are hun - gry; feed us now.
 we are search - ing; meet us now.

Despite the great sweep of these stanzas, each one ends by describing how our human condition needs God's help: formless, aimless, hungry, searching. Each of these adjectives is followed by a related three-syllable petition: shape us now, lead us now, feed us now, meet us now.

TEXT: John Thornburg, 1993, alt.

MUSIC: Amanda Husberg, 1995

Text © 1993 John Thornburg

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JENNINGS-HOUSTON

8.7.8.7.8.7

[Return to page 1](#)

Hymn 754

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept-ed us;
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

The scriptural basis of this text is Romans 15:7, recast as a prayer in the opening two lines of the first stanza. The many implications of living as people who have been accepted by Christ fill the remaining stanzas. This tune was composed for the first publication of this text.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1974
 MUSIC: Doreen Potter, 1974
 Text and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

BARONITA
 7.6.7.6.D

[Return to page 3](#)

Hymn 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
 2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness-
 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,
 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

This hymn is a 21st-century adaptation of the traditional Celtic prayer style known as a *lorica* (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate"). Many such petitions for God's presence and protection were never written down, but this one is based on an example attributed to St. Patrick.

TEXT and MUSIC: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, 2004
 Text and Music © 2004 This Here Music, Worldmaking.net

GREEN TYLER
 9.8.9.5.5

[Return to page 4](#)