



Preparation for Worship

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

— 1 John 1:8-9

Voluntary

Prelude in A minor
BWV 543/1

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Greeting

Please sign and pass the friendship folder.

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

✦ Opening Sentences

✦ Hymn 394 ([see page 13](#))

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

✦ Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as our selves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.

silent prayer

✦ Response

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

TEXT: Traditional liturgical text; revised in *The Worshipbook*, © 1970 The Westminster Press
 MUSIC: Appalachian folk melody; arranged by Richard D. Wetzel, © 1972 The Westminster Press

WAYFARING STRANGER
 9.9.9

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the good news. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

✦ Response

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

TEXT and MUSIC: Bernadette Farrell, © 1993 (Published by OCP)

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

✦ 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

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

N.T. pg. 20

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

Anthem*Come and Taste*FARABEE • arr. Alice Parker
(b. 1925)

Come and taste along with me consolation flowing free,
 From the Father's wealthy throne, sweeter than the honeycomb.
*I'll praise God and you'll praise God, and we'll all praise God together;
 We'll praise the Lord for the work that he has done, and we'll bless his name forever.*

All that come with free good will make the banquet sweeter still;
 Now I go to mercy's door, asking for a little more. *I'll praise God...*

Goodness, running like a stream through the new Jerusalem,
 By a constant breaking forth sweetens earth and heaven both. *I'll praise God...*

O return, ye sons of grace, turn and see God's smiling face.
 Hark, he calls the wayward home, then from him no longer roam. *I'll praise God...*

— words by John Leland (1754–1841)

Sermon**Forgiveness Spoken Here**

John Wurster

silence and stillness✦ **Hymn 444** ([see page 14](#))*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

DETROIT

✦ **Affirmation of Faith**from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God.
 Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
 we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
 whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
 Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
 preaching good news to the poor
 and release to the captives,
 teaching by word and deed
 and blessing the children,
 healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
 eating with outcasts,
 forgiving sinners,
 and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
 Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
 Jesus was crucified,
 suffering the depths of human pain
 and giving his life for the sins of the world.
 God raised this Jesus from the dead,
 vindicating his sinless life,
 breaking the power of sin and evil,
 delivering us from death to life eternal.
 With believers in every time and place,
 we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
 can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Presbyterian Women Lifetime Achievement Award

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 Anthem

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Charles H. H. Parry
 (1848–1918)

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
 forgive our foolish ways!
 Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
 in purer lives thy service find,
 in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard
 beside the Syrian sea
 the gracious calling of the Lord,
 let us, like them, without a word
 rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
 till all our strivings cease;
 take from our souls the strain and stress,
 and let our ordered lives confess
 the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
 thy coolness and thy balm;
 let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
 speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
 O still, small voice of calm.

— words by John Greeleaf Whittier (1807–1892)

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Almighty and merciful God,
 from whom comes all that is good,
**We praise you for your mercy,
 for your goodness that has created us,
 your patience that has borne with us,
 and your love that has redeemed us.**
**Help us to love you,
 and to be thankful for all of your gifts
 by serving you and delighting to do your will,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ Hymn 754 [\(see page 15\)](#)

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

✠ Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Concerto in A Major: Allegro
 Op. 7/2

George Frideric Handel
 (1685–1759)

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | Matthew Dirst – organist | Randall Swanson – director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Rhonda Sands and Jennifer Wilson to the glory of God in celebration of their wedding anniversary and in loving memory of Rhonda's parents and Jennifer's mother.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's readings and prayers are borrowed from various sources such as:

- Genesis 50:15-21 – *Joseph's brothers seek forgiveness; God turned their evil to good.*
- Psalm 103:(1-7) 8-13 – *Bless the Lord, who is gracious and merciful, forgiving our sin.*
- Romans 14:1-12 – *Refrain from judgment; whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.*
- Matthew 18:21-35 – *A lesson in forgiveness from a parable about debts and debtors.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families – Susan Estill; Mark Takayama; Stewart Coffman; Ben Dees; Shirley Coffman; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy Johnson; Beverly Baker; Beverly Hudson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; John Palisin – brother of Peg Palisin; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Halley Delany – sister of Nina Lambright; Truxillo family – Wayne and Sandra Truxillo; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Susan Everhart – niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; Darryl Cazes – brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

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

Friends of St. Philippians – Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach – friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Boyd – friend 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.

MUSIC NOTES

Organ Music

Bach's *Prelude in A minor* begins as a free-form solo for a single hand, in the rhetorical mold of the North German "fantastic style," which put a premium on virtuosic improvisation. After passing through both hands, action moves to the pedal, which also gets an extended solo. Concerto-like figuration then brings this dramatic prelude to a conclusion.

Handel composed his A-major organ concerto (Op. 7, No. 2) for the premiere of his oratorio *Samson* in 1743. Its closing Allegro, cast in the rhythm of the gavotte, borrows heavily from a suite movement by Gottlieb Muffat. Like many a Baroque concerto, the work adapts itself nicely to different circumstances, with or without an accompanying ensemble.

Choral Music

Today's **first anthem** is an arrangement by American composer Alice Parker of the Appalachian Mountain tune FARABEE, with a text by John Leland that first appeared in *The Southern Harmony* in the mid-19th century. Written in 1966, "Come and Taste" is one of the countless works Parker has composed over the course of many decades in her work unearthing old American tunes and reviving them in authentic arrangements for unaccompanied voices. Parker began her musical career following organ, composition and conducting studies at Smith College and The Juilliard School. It was at Juilliard that she began her long association with conductor Robert Shaw, subsequently becoming the primary arranger for the Robert Shaw Chorale for some 20 years. In 1985 Parker founded the professional chorus Melodious Accord, which to date has recorded 16 albums featuring Parker's own compositions and arrangements. In addition to a large catalogue of vocal and choral compositions, as an influential and indefatigable advocate for congregational song, Parker has written several books on the subject of corporate singing, including *Creative Hymn Singing* and *Good Singing in Church*.

This morning's **offertory anthem** is an arrangement of the great hymn tune REPTON by the British composer Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry. The tune originally formed part of a contralto aria in Parry's oratorio *Judith* (1888). The familiar text is by American Quaker poet John Greenleaf Whittier, and was attached to the tune by permission of Parry's estate after the composer's death. The current combination of text and tune have proven wildly popular particularly in England and America. The hymn-anthem arrangement heard this morning, in which much of the original music of the oratorio aria has been restored, is by Herbert Arthur Chambers (1880–1967).

— Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a congregational meeting for **Sept. 24** immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to act on a report from the congregational nominating committee. The committee will present the following nominees for ruling elders to serve on the Session in the class of 2026: Selena Brinegar, Kate Burkart, David Castro, John Hartman, Kurt Grether, Ada Fuller, and Mickey Meyers. Secondly, the committee will present Casey Lambright as its nominee for trustee in the class of 2026. Finally, the committee will present the following nominees to serve two-year terms on the congregational nominating committee: Jane Lee, Dick Nunn, and Gay Van Osdall. The terms for all of these positions begin in January, 2024. Additional nominations may be made at the meeting with prior consent of those being nominated.

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 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

GODLY PLAY – Ages 3 – Kindergarten – Room 104

ELEMENTARY – Grades 1-5 – Room 105

YOUTH – Grades 6-12 – Room 205

CHURCH & SOCIETY – Room 201 – Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **Sept. 24** - *Filmmaking With the Harris County Juvenile Justice Residency Program* - Over the course of 7 weeks, students at the Juvenile Probation Dept. wrote a fictional narrative film entitled "Border Life" based on their personal family experiences crossing the border from Mexico into the US. The film depicts the dire struggles of crossing the border and the incredible family sacrifices that are made. Presented by Dan Gordon - Executive director of Gordon Education Initiatives for the Performing Arts. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes: churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

FAITH & LIFE - Room 200 – *New Class* – An adult class exploring how what we believe informs how we live. Using the short stories in *The Gift of Hard Things: Finding Grace in Unexpected Places* by Mark Yaconelli, participants will read a short text in class and then engage in conversation as a group. There are no materials required and no preparation is needed.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Room 204 – We resume our study of the Kingdom of Judah at 2 Kings 18 with the story of King Hezekiah in Dr. Robert Alter's *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets* (2013). 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.

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

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY – Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster **meets weekly**. The class meets 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!

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.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **Oct. 12** at 7:00 p.m. and we will discuss *American Cartel: Inside the Battle to Bring Down the Opioid Industry* by Scott Higham and Sari Horwitz. Watch your email for details of the next meeting. 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 *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.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP – This reading and discussion group meets on the first Monday of each month, 7:00-8:00 p.m., via zoom. As an activity of the Peacemaking & Social Justice Committee, the group provides a forum for the study and discussion of social justice topics (racism, immigration, globalism, climate change, current events, etc.) within the framework of the church and guided by our faith. The first meeting of the new study year will be on Monday, **Oct. 2**, 7:00 p.m. The study book will be *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*, by Emmanuel Acho. Interested persons and sign-up information can be obtained from Sara Jean Jackson at sjj10223@gmail.com.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The purpose of the meeting is the election of elders, congregational nominating committee and trustees to serve St. Philip. Please review their bios below.

NOMINEES FOR SESSION CLASS OF 2026

SELENA BRINEGAR

Selena Brinegar has been a member of St. Philip since she moved back to Houston in the spring of 2016. She was drawn to St. Philip because of the welcoming community, the music, and the commitment to mission and social justice. Selena first served on Session in the class of 2020. She currently serves as an usher, is an active member of the Young Adult Group, and is a member of the Mission Committee. Selena has also enjoyed participating in Presbyterian Women, as a Confirmation Partner, and on the Peacemaking and Social Justice committee. She is a massage therapist and recently started working at a spa in Cypress after several years of being a nanny for a friend's daughter. Selena has a black cat named Freddy Mercury who faithfully attends all the livestreamed church services and Zoom meetings. Her parents, Janet and Denis Martin, are also members of the church, and they often worship together on the pulpit side of the Sanctuary toward the back. In her free time, Selena enjoys watching British murder mysteries, painting, and spending time lounging with Freddy, the aforementioned cat.



KATE BURKART



Kate Burkart has been a member of St. Philip since 1998 and has served a few terms on Session already! She serves on the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee and heads up its quarterly sales of fair-trade products through Equal Exchange, the denomination's small-farmer co-op partner. Kate is also an active member of St. Philip's Women's Book Group (including coordinating its annual book nomination and voting process), and the national Presbyterian Women's justice and peace book discussion group. Twice a year she leads film/media studies for the Church and Society class (and she would love to talk with you about *Barbie* in the meantime!). Kate is a senior technical writer and project lead for Shea Writing and Training Solutions, currently on a long-term project, managing and mentoring a team of four writers in developing policies, standards, and procedures for one of Shea's clients. In her spare time, she enjoys reading mysteries and discussing them at the monthly Zoom meet-

ings of the "Murder by the Month" group, for which she also serves as administrative coordinator; and sparing a moment for her often-neglected DVR recordings. Kate enjoys the collegiality of service on Session and the opportunity to help St. Philip to grow into the faithful body of Christ that God intends it to be.

DAVID CASTRO

David Castro and his wife, Nancy, have both been lifelong Presbyterians. They were members of The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church (WCPC) for almost 25 years before moving to West University Place to be nearer 2 of their children and their families. David's dad was a Presbyterian minister, and his parents were missionaries in Colombia. He grew up on the mission field from infancy to age 13, when his family returned to the United States. David and Nancy have lived in San Antonio, Tulsa, Oklahoma, The Woodlands, and now Houston. He retired from Hess Corporation at the end of 2016 as the company's chief litigation counsel and head of corporate records. David has served as a ruling elder and a deacon at WCPC and at First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa, and has served on two pastor nominating committees. He was active in the Institute for Energy Law and served as its chair from 2018 to 2020. David worked as a volunteer with Citizens Climate Lobby and, while in The Woodlands, was the local chapter's liaison to Congressman Kevin Brady and his office. He served as a pro-bono mediator for the Conroe Dispute Resolution Center. David and Nancy were attracted to St. Philip's friendly members, its warm, inclusive environment, its commitment to mission, its excellent music program, and its outstanding pastors. He says that he and Nancy were "embraced immediately by St. Philip and have been encouraged and invited to participate in its vibrant life and outreach."



ADA FULLER

Ada Fuller is a Houston native who lived for 20 years in Central Texas before moving back to Houston in 2000. She was first elected as an elder at Grace Presbyterian Church in Temple, Texas. There Ada was also a children's Sunday school teacher, treasurer for three years, and headed the committee to finance a building addition. In Houston, she was a member of First Presbyterian, moving to St. Philip when First Presbyterian left the PC(USA). At St. Philip, Ada has served as an elder, chair of the Welcoming and Membership Committee, and also served as Treasurer. At the Presbytery level, she has served on the Finance Committee and the Committee on Ministry. Ada is a retired CPA, and has two children, Rebecca and Ste-



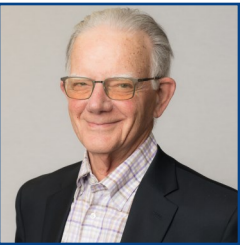
phen, and three grandchildren. In her spare time, she is an active member of the YMCA (where she enjoys seeing other St. Philipians), writes poetry, waits on her cat, is in the Bayou Bend docent class, and tries to squeeze in some travel.

KURT GREETHER

Kurt Grether was introduced to St. Philip by his now-husband, St. Philipian Bill Stubbs. They started attending together in 2018. Kurt has served on the Mission Committee, which provided him the opportunity to learn more about St. Philip. He and Bill became members last year as the pandemic waned and in-person services started again. Kurt graduated from Texas A&M with a finance degree and later earned a master's in computer science. Currently, he manages large system-implementation projects specializing in manufacturing, supply chain, and logistics. Kurt moved from Katy to inside the Loop in 2017 and has enjoyed all that "Inner Loop" living has to offer. He has a son and daughter, who both live inside the Loop since graduating from college in 2018. Kurt enjoys the St. Philip community and is grateful for the many friends he has made here. In his free time, he enjoys cooking, Broadway shows, traveling with Bill, and spending time with their merged family.



JOHN HARTMAN



John and Judy transferred their memberships to St. Philip in 2017 after spending 45 years as members of Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church (MDPC). At MDPC, he served one term on the board of deacons and four terms on Session, so he has had lots of experience with Presbyterian polity and process! John and Judy came to St. Philip after MDPC chose to leave the PC (USA) and have been very pleased with their choice of this church family. He has particularly enjoyed being involved in the Church and Society Class and serving on the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee. John has become passionate about our responsibility as followers of Jesus Christ to do all we can to pass along to future generations a world with a sustainable climate and natural beauty. He has been encouraged by how much enthusiasm he finds at St. Philip for this priority. This church helped Judy and John start a small solar energy business by being, in 2020, their first client for a rooftop solar system. John grew up in the Methodist church, first in northern Ontario and then in east Texas. His formal education consists of bachelor's and master's degrees in

chemical engineering and a master's in business administration. Professionally, John spent 20 years in various positions at Exxon Chemical and then was an owner of a manufacturing and engineering business and an industrial fluids testing laboratory for another 25 years. Those years gave him lots of international business experience. After selling those businesses, he has enjoyed serving as an investor in a Christian private investment fund that supports Christian-owned companies in Asia and Africa. This has given John the pleasure of mentoring business owners in India and Nepal. He has served as a trustee at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and is currently chair of the Brazos Presbyterian Homes board. Most importantly, Judy and John are blessed with two great sons and daughters-in-law and two grandchildren. John is so thankful for the many blessings he has received.

MICKY MEYERS

Mickey grew up at Harlandale Presbyterian Church, southside San Antonio, and is a graduate of Trinity University. She currently is the coordinator for St. Philip's Church and Society. Mickey's husband, Ken, is a retired systems analyst and project manager for the Houston Police Department, and now serves as the technical expert for the Church and Society Class. Mickey is the co-author of *Get Ready! Get Set! Worship! A Resource for Including Children in Worship*, and the author of curriculum for the Presbyterian Publishing House and Geneva Press, and a Bible study for Loma Linda campers at Mo-Ranch. She served as a docent at Holocaust Museum Houston for 20 years and wrote the curriculum pieces *History, Humanity, Responsibility: You Can Make a Difference*, *A resource for churches to study issues of social justice, peacemaking, and tolerance in the context of the Holocaust*, and also wrote *Dietrich Bonhoeffer: The Role of the Church in the Holocaust*. The Meyers' daughter, Micah, is the Art Director at St. Philip. For Mickey, it is a joy to be a part of the adventure of being a member of the St. Philip congregation.



CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE CLASS OF 2025

JANE LEE

Jane Lee is an elder who has served two terms on the St. Philip Session and one term as trustee. She has chaired St. Philip's Worship and Music, Personnel, and Finance Committees. Jane also co-chaired the capital campaign for the Education Building and the Sanctuary renova-



tion, and has taught pre-school and elementary church school classes and Vacation Bible School. She has also been a member of the St. Philip choir. Outside of St. Philip, Jane has volunteered at the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) and was president of the CCSC board of directors. She also chaired the Brazos Presbyterian Homes board for two terms. Jane is a retired hospital executive and registered nurse. She and her husband, Bill, have been members of St. Philip for 51 years.

DICK NUNN



Dick is a native Houstonian and a life-long Presbyterian. He was baptized at First Presbyterian Church in Houston and grew up at Bellaire Presbyterian Church. As a college student, Dick served at Bellaire Presbyterian on a pastor nominating committee and as a deacon. He met his future wife, Judy, at senior high fellowship there, and they married at Bellaire Presbyterian in 1969, after graduating from college. While at Bellaire Presbyterian, Dick and Judy sponsored the junior high and senior high fellowship groups. When their two daughters were young, Dick and Judy transferred their membership to Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church (MDPC). There, they served as adult sponsors for the college-age fellowship and taught various pre-school Sunday School classes. Dick was ordained as an elder at MDPC and served twice on the Session there, chairing the personnel and music committees and serving two terms as Clerk of Session. When MDPC decided to leave the PC(USA), Dick and Judy transferred their membership to St. Philip where Dick has served on the Session and the Finance and Personnel Committees. He is a graduate of Rice University with bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, and master's degrees in accounting. Dick has served on various committees and the board of directors of the Association of Rice Alumni, San Jacinto Girl Scouts, and Brazos Presbyterian Homes. Dick is "semi-retired" and works from his home at Brazos Towers at Bayou Manor. Dick and Judy are enjoying their two daughters and their son-in-law and particularly enjoy watching their two grandsons become young men.

GAY VAN OSDALL

Gay is a lifelong Presbyterian from Bryan, Texas. After attending the University of Texas and graduating from Texas A&M with a bachelor's of business administration, she and her husband, John, moved to Houston, where she alternated between volunteering opportunities and part-time work. At Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church (MDPC), Gay was a deacon, elder, and senior administrative Officer of the Session. While at MDPC, she also participated in mission trips to Guatemala and Mexico, outreach activities, Presbyterian



Women, Sunday school teaching, and serving on a pastor nominating committee. Gay and John joined St. Philip in 2017, drawn by the inclusiveness of the congregation, the excellent pastoral staff, and friends already in the congregation. They are active members of the Church and Society Class. Gay and John's main focus is a faith-based restorative justice program, Bridges to Life. It is now in every prison in Texas, as well as 17 states and 7 foreign countries. She has been on the Bridges to Life board for ten years and volunteers in units in Texas and North Carolina. Gay and John introduced the program in North Carolina and coordinated it in four prison units there. Their son and his wife, who live on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State, are both pastors in the PC(USA). All three of Gay and John's children are happily employed on the West Coast. Gay considers it a privilege to be asked to serve on the Congregational Nominating Committee, appreciating the diversity St. Philip welcomes.

TRUSTEE CLASS OF 2026

CASEY LAMBRIGHT

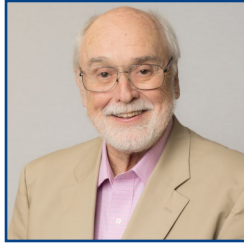
Casey and his wife, Nina, graduated from Austin College in 1991, were married in 1993 at Grace Presbyterian Church in Plano, and joined St. Philip shortly thereafter. Both of their children, Paxton and Ethan, were baptized at St. Philip. Casey is managing attorney at Lambright McKee, a boutique law firm in the Memorial Villages, and one of the founding partners of Frontier Title Company, among other businesses. Having raised Paxton and Ethan as part of the St. Philip family, Casey has served on the Session multiple times, as well as on the Property Committee, as legal liaison for several church projects, and as a Trustee. He has also taught Sunday school for toddlers and youth, served as a confirmation sponsor, chaperoned the youth mission trip to Peru, and worked with the Kids Against Hunger ministry. In addition, Casey provided professional expertise in the union of St. Philip and Central Presbyterian Church in 2010 and developed documentation for the Central Mission Endowment Fund, established at that time. Casey and Nina actively support (among numerous other worthy charitable organizations) the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC), where Nina currently serves on the board, and the Houston Junior Women's Club, where Nina is always on the board! Casey is the proud dad of Paxton and Ethan: Paxton is program officer for IREX, a global development and education nonprofit working in the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa, and is in transition from Washington, DC, to New York City; and Ethan just completed his master's degree in medieval literature and is considering pursuing his doctorate in Bangor, Wales.



APPOINTEES FOR CENTRAL MISSION ENDOWMENT COUNCIL CLASS OF 2026

BOB ARDELL

Bob grew up in Illinois and attended a Presbyterian school, Monmouth College, majoring in geology and economics. After earning his master's degree at Kansas State University, he moved to Houston to start a career in the oil industry, and was soon transferred to New Orleans. He was ordained as a ruling elder at John Calvin Presbyterian Church in Metairie, Louisiana in 1969. After coming back to Houston, he served as an elder and trustee at Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church in Spring and also served on the Presbytery's New Church Development committee during the 1980s. He was a trustee of Monmouth College and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation. Bob and his wife, Lee, joined St. Philip in 2015 after many years at First Presbyterian of Houston. He has volunteered with Kids Against Hunger, participated in the Church & Society Class, and recently finished a term as Trustee. Their daughter, Becky Downs, is pastor of John Knox Presbyterian in Spring Branch and another daughter, Annie, works at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston. Bob enjoys spending time with his four grandchildren, reading, and traveling.

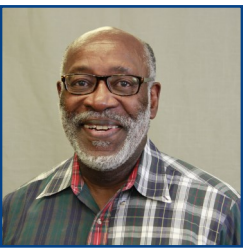


JENNIFER WILSON

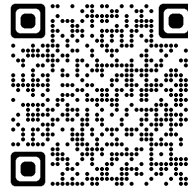
Jennifer was born in Eagle Lake, Texas in 1952 to Bill and Helen Wilson. She was raised in the Methodist church and was a faithful churchgoer until her college years. Jennifer is a retired attorney and is enjoying life without Sunday evening angst! Her path to St. Philip began at MDPC where Rhonda Sands taught her children confirmation and they became friends and Sunday school classmates. When Rhonda's long-time friend, Molly Boren, told them about St. Philip, a church committed to outreach and inclusion, they visited and became members. In September of 2015, Rhonda and Jennifer were married at St. Philip, fulfilling a promise to themselves to get married in THEIR church in THEIR state. They are part of the most loving church family one could ever imagine and have so many church friends with whom they enjoy dinners, travel, and laughter. Jennifer has served on the Peacemaking & Social Justice Committee, the CME Council, and the Mission Committee. She looks forward to serving St. Philip and its congregation in whatever capacity God has chosen for her.



RODERICK JAMES



Roderick is a lifelong Presbyterian. He was baptized at St. Ann Presbyterian Church in Port of Spain, Trinidad. Roderick joined Central Presbyterian Church in 1984 and became a member of St. Philip when the two churches united in 2010. He was a member of the group that formed the Central Mission Endowment Fund and served on the CME Council for two terms. Roderick has been an active member at St. Philip, serving on the Session, the Worship Committee, and the board of the Duerr Lecture Series, and is happy to serve on the Council for another term.



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.**

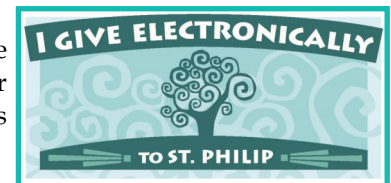
Connect with St. Philip through saintphilip.net and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to lorrie@saintphilip.net.

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.

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.

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.



1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. O brother wind with clouds and rain,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. O brother fire, so warm and bright,
chase off the shadows of the night.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
so, even in the midst of tears,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
5. And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
6. O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn 444

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

DETROIT



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for-giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with-in our souls and bid re-sent-ment cease.



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 what triv - ial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!
 Then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Few petitions of the Lord's Prayer are as difficult to pray as this one, and we would not dare to pray it if we had to depend on ourselves rather than the example of forgiveness we are given in Jesus Christ. The shape note tune sets these words with appropriate sparseness.

TEXT: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1969, 1983, alt.
 MUSIC: *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; harm. Margaret W. Mealy, 1985
 Text © 1969, 1983 Rosamond E. Herklots
 Music Harm. © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

DETROIT
 CM

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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

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