

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

Preparation for Worship

We all are called to service to witness to God's name. Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same: to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace, so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

- Rusty Edwards, Hymn 733

VoluntaryConcerto in A Major: Overture – A tempo ordinario
George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759)

Greeting *Please sign and pass the friendship folder.*

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Introit Antiphon (excerpt) Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Let all the world in every corner sing, My God and King.

- George Herbert (1633)

† Opening Sentences

Ephesians 4:1-6

Let us live a life worthy of the calling to which we have been called.

Let us live with humility and gentleness,

with patience, bearing with one another in love,

making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit,

just as we were called to the one hope of our calling,

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Let us worship God!

† Hymn 410 (see page 11)

God Is Calling Through the Whisper

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

Prayer of Confession

Loving God,
you know our weaknesses.
Fearful of the future,
we forget what you have done in the past.
We see scarcity where you supply abundance.
We complain when conditions challenge us.
We begrudge others their success,
allow envy to divide us,
and live lives that are unworthy of the gospel.

Generous God, forgive us. Help us remember your wonderful works, to trust your gracious provisions, and to abide in your faithful presence.

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

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

Response (choir first, congregation sings v. 1 and 2)



† 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

Mark 9:38-41

N.T. pg. 45

Holy wisdom, holy Word. Thanks be to God.

Anthem Antiphon Ralph Vaughan Williams

Let all the world in every corner sing, My God and King.

The heavens are not too high, His praise may thither fly: The earth is not too low, His praises there may grow.

The Church with Psalms must shout, No door can keep them out: But above all, the heart Must bear the longest part.

- George Herbert (1633)

Sermon It's Different Out There John W. Wurster

silence and stillness

† Hymn 361 (see page 12)

O Christ, the Great Foundation

AURELIA

† Affirmation of Faith

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
and feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
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.

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

I know that my redeemer lives

Austin C. Lovelace (1919-2010) Based on *Antioch* in Sacred Harp, 1859

I know that my Redeemer lives.
(Glory, Hallelujah!)
What comfort this sweet sentence gives.
He lives to bless you with his love.
He lives to plead my cause above.

He lives to crush the fiends of hell. He lives and doth within me dwell. He lives, all glory to his name. He lives, my Jesus, still the same.

I know that my Redeemer lives. What comfort this sweet sentence gives. Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground. The dead's alive and the lost is found.

- Daniel Medley, c. 1784

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Great and loving God, you continue to reach out to us in love, and you promise to be with us in all things.

Deepen within us a spirit of thanksgiving that with grateful hearts we may receive the fullness of the life you intend for us in Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

† Hymn 372 (see page 13)

O for a World

AZMON

Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Concerto in A Major: Allegro

G.F. Handel

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | John Wurster | Omar Rouchon is on a sabbatical leave until mid-November

Liturgist

Melissa Aldrich | Lincoln Vahora

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Chancel Choir | Jane Malczewskyj, Mary Cangahuala, Judy Hill, Diana Weiss, Denise Wilborn, Tom Hall, & Gary Gardner - small ensemble Justin Langham, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers are given today by Elizabeth Duerr to the glory of God and in memory of her mother, G. Suttle Ham, MD, a charter member of St. Philip.

WORSHIP NOTES

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

- Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Queen Esther uses her influence to save her people from death.
- Psalm 124—We have escaped from a trap; our help is in the name of the Lord.
- Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 Among the elders erupts a controversy over who can prophesy.
- Psalm 19:7-14 Clear me from hidden faults; let my words be acceptable to you.
- James 5:13–20 *Pray for one another; faithful prayer brings healing and forgiveness.*
- Mark 9:38–50 The disciples find someone else casting out demons in Jesus' name.

MUSIC NOTES

Handel composed his **Concerto in A Major** for organ and strings (Op. 7, No. 2) for the premiere of his oratorio *Samson* in 1743. Its compositional bookends take the form of a two-part French overture—with a slow, majestic introduction and a quicker fugue—plus a closing Allegro in the rhythm of the gavotte. The opening movement additionally provides some opportunities for improvised display at various open-ended cadences, while the last movement 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.

Despite his complicated life-long relationship with religion, Englishman Ralph Vaughan Williams was a prolific composer of sacred music and frequently set the texts of 17th-century Anglican priest George Herbert. One of his most famous settings is *Antiphon*, the climactic final movement of *Five Mystical Songs* composed

between 1906 and 1911. In contrast to the other songs of the set, *Antiphon* is a triumphant hymn of praise that is recognized by its driving ostinati (repeated patterns) and contrastingly declamatory refrains. Notwithstanding his shifts towards atheism, Williams consistently reveres religious tradition in his music, and later settled into a "cheerful agnosticism" towards the end of his life.

Called by many the Dean of American Church music, Austin Lovelace was a dedicated church musician and prolific writer and composer with numerous articles and books on hymnody and over 700 compositions in print, including today's **offertory**. Leaning on the infectious tune *Antioch* from the Sacred Harp collection, Lovelace's accessible writing allows the poetic form of the text to shine with triumphant interjections of "glory, hallelujah!"

-Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families — David Winship; Bob Ardell; Richard Johnson; Philip McDaniel; Charlotte Kibler; Carolyn Vestal; Diane Clarke; CJ Miller; Russell Bahruth; Karen Morris; Susan Huffman; Emily Estill; Barbara Cavanaugh; Mary Herlitz; Jan Ostendorf; Dick Nunn; Mark Takayama; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy E. Johnson; Beverly Baker; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Mateo Marte Wood – grandson of Ruena Woods; Faith Fugit – daughter of Joyce Fugit; Raquel Calhoun -sister-in-law of Pam Keever; Jerry Isbell – son-in-law of Bill & Karen Morris; Terese Murphy- cousin of Gary Gardner and Peg Palisin; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Sheila Kinsky and her children – sister of Bill Connolly; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Paige Everhart – sister of Nancy E. Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound — Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians – Carrie Prati & Concepcion ("Concha") Estrada friends of Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash – friend of Jane Cooper; 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; Tom Barnett - friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach – friends of Stephen Paine; 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:

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

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

GODLY PLAY - Ages 3 - Kindergarten - Room 103

ELEMENTARY – Grades 1-4 – Room 105

YOUTH—Grades 5-12—Dining Room

NEW CLASSES

We are offering three cycles of 6-week classes from September-December to experiment with increased variety of topics, teachers, and formats in our Sunday School, as well as introducing new opportunities for youth to engage in mission and children to engage in music.

ELEMENTARY – Grades 1-4 – ROOM 105 – Children learn the Lord's Prayer with mind and heart. Come October, all ages attend "the Gospel According to Bluey" to pair a Jesus teaching with 2 episodes of Bluey and explore the themes in breakout groups by ages.

YOUTH—Grades 5-12—DINING ROOM—Youth families turn the Sunday School hour into a time to revive the Kids Against Hunger program as leaders in our congregation.

INTRO TO PRESBYTERIANISM—ROOM 202—presented by John Wurster.

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CHURCH & SOCIETY – ROOM 201 – Join us from **9:30 a.m.** – **10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. Oct. 6 - What Happened at the 226th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA)? -The General Assembly met June 25 - July 4 in Salt Lake City, Utah. What were the issues facing this year's assembly, including environmental justice, the "Olympia Overture", the threat of gun violence, Christian Nationalism, Christian Zionism, and more. - Rev. Teri Ott returns to Church & Society to share the story of what happened at this year's assembly, when Presbyterians gathered to discern how God is leading us in these times to "Live Into Hope." - Presented by Rev. Dr. Teri Ott - editor/publisher of Presbyterian Outlook. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – ROOM 204 – We are resuming our study of Job in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Wisdom Books: Job, Prophets and Ecclesiastes* (2010). Join us from 9:30 – 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—In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship in the chapel, while also praying, seeing 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. The Children's Chapel is held every 2nd and 4th Sunday when we have Sunday School classes. Children are able to participate in this during the worship service.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

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. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome! To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to:

john@saintphilip.net.

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 will continue our learning from *They Walked With God* by Max Lucado. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at:

ggardne148@aol.com.

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

keatan@saintphilip.net.

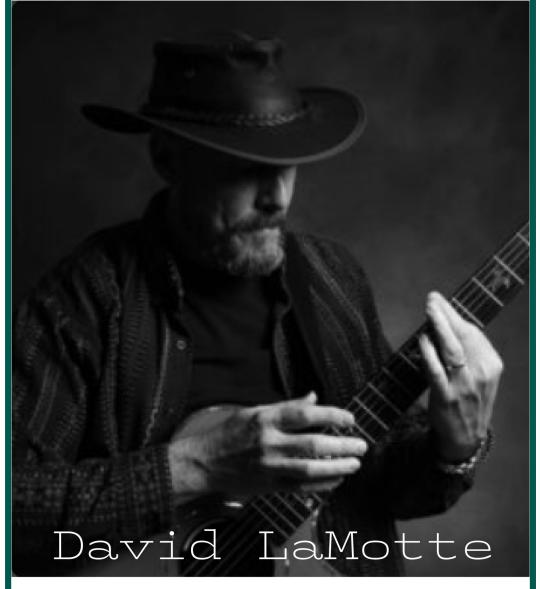
WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **October 10** at 7:00 p.m. We will discuss *The Measure* by Nikki Erlich. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—Agreeing that a focus on Disinformation is timely and important as the presidential election draws near, the current study book is Barbara McQuade's *Attack from Within; how disinformation is sabotaging America*. This group will meet by zoom on Monday, **October 7**, 7-8 p.m. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson at:

sjj10223@gmail.com.

MUSIC AT ST. PHILIP

presents



TONIGHT | 5 PM FELLOWSHIP HALL

Free Admission

FOLLOW US ONLINE Music at St Philip









MISSION ACTIVITIES

KIDS' MEALS VOLUNTEER DAY RESCHEDULED -

Our volunteer day has been rescheduled for **Monday**, **September 30** from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. at 330 Garden Oaks Blvd., 77018. Please sign up in the Gathering Area on Sundays or email if you have questions:

mission@saintphilip.net.

Every individual, including children, attending must register via the link provided below for the event date of **September 30.** Registration link:

https://vhub.at/StPhilipPresbyterian.

Kids' Meals goal is to make things as smooth as possible for you. It is recommended volunteers wear comfortable clothing, closed toed-shoes, and a hat. In case someone prefers not to wear a hat, hairnets will be distributed as an option. Limited parking, carpool if possible. Please arrive at the Kids' Meals office by 12:30 p.m. Upon arrival, you will enter the Welcome Center, sign-in at the computers, and attend a brief orientation. Once everyone is ready to get to work, you will be supplied with the needed items for your task.

LORD OF THE STREETS VOLUNTEER SUNDAY MORNING—Congregation members are invited to volunteer serving breakfast or help with the worship before breakfast is served on Sunday morning, October 13. We will be serving with another volunteer group from a different organization or church. St. Philip members can carpool from the St. Philip parking lot or arrive directly to Lord of the Streets Episcopal Church at 1015 Holman ST. Start time and additional details will be provided soon. Save the date and sign up in the Gathering Area or email mission@saintphilip.net if you can join us in serving our homeless neighbors in downtown Houston.

SEARCH SCATTERED SITE LUNCH AND ACTIVI-

TY–Join the mission committee on Friday, **November 15** to host a meal and activity for the homeless clients of SEARCH. Five volunteers will be needed from 10:45 a.m. to 12 p.m. to serve food and lead a bingo game or singalong activity. The lunch will be held at SEARCH Homeless Services office, 2015 Congress St., Houston, TX 77002. Sign up to help will begin in October. Save the date and if you are interested email:

mission@saintphilip.net.

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.

Thursday Evening Circle—meets 1st Thursday of each month (October 3)—at 7 p.m. in the Dining Room—
Leader—Sarah Victorian sarah.m.0617@gmail.com

Monday Morning Saints—meets 2nd Monday of each month (October 14)—at 10 a.m. in the Dining Room
Leader—Tricia Tolbert—phtolbert@gmail.com

The Hallmark Circle—meets 2nd Wednesday of each month (October 9)—at 1:30 p.m. location to be announce. Leader—Sue Shirley-Howard:

sue@fluencyhouston.com

<u>Sunday Circle</u>—meets 3rd Sunday of each month
(October 20)—after worship in the Dining Room

Leader—Jan Meyer—jsmeyer9990@gmail.com

<u>One More Chance Study for Everyone</u>—meets 4th Sunday of each month (October 27) at 10 a.m. in the Library

Leader—Lee Ardell—leeardell@gmail.com

PEACEMAKING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

COMPOSTING SURVEY

The Earth Care team is conducting a survey to determine interest in making a composting bin available at St. Philip for members to bring in their compostable food waste. If you are interested, you can read more and fill out a survey at https://bit.ly/StPComposting. If 15 members regularly brought their compost to Saint Philip, we think it could justify a contract with Zero Waste.



RECYCLING

Learn more the City of Houston's plastic recycling pilot project and the Houston Recycling Collaboration at:

https://bit.ly/HRCCOH.

CALLING ALL ST. PHILIP UKULELES! Do you play the ukulele or want to learn how? Sign up to play during the worship service on Sunday, October 13! There will also be rehearsals TODAY and October 6 for about 30 minutes immediately following worship. If you'd like more

information, please reach out to Justin at:

justin@saintphilip.net.

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Save the Dates

Fall Picnic – **October 13** – following worship service Alternative Market – **November 10** – 9:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.



DINNERS FOR 8

There's hardly a better way to get to know fellow St. Philippians than to share a meal together, especially if you are new to St. Philip or visiting!

Here is what it's about:

- a host for each meal plans an entrée or a destination for the group (in your home or away)
- the guests choose to bring appetizer, salad/bread, beverage, or dessert
- the group meets just four times between December and May
- you may indicate your preference for lunch at a restaurant venue on a Saturday or after worship on Sunday or dinner in a home
- choose a group with all ages (children) or with adults only
- even if you are only one, you can sign up and be paired with a group

You can register in the Gathering Area on Sundays, on the saintphilip website or in the ChurchLife app through **October 13**. If you have questions, stop by the table in the Gathering Area or call Joyce Fox 832-265-0760 or jatfox@comcast.net.



713.622.4807 • saintphilip.net

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST, we seek to be an inclusive, grace-filled community, engaging the world with open minds,

willing hands and generous hearts.



Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

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

WE LONG

for deeper faith, vibrant hope and boundless love for everyone, every day, everywhere.

Thank you for joining us today! We hope that you find our worship together to be joyous, meaningful, and thought-provoking. Children of all ages are welcome to worship with their families. Activity bags containing worship aids for children are available in the narthex on the way into the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available throughout the morning from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery 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. 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.

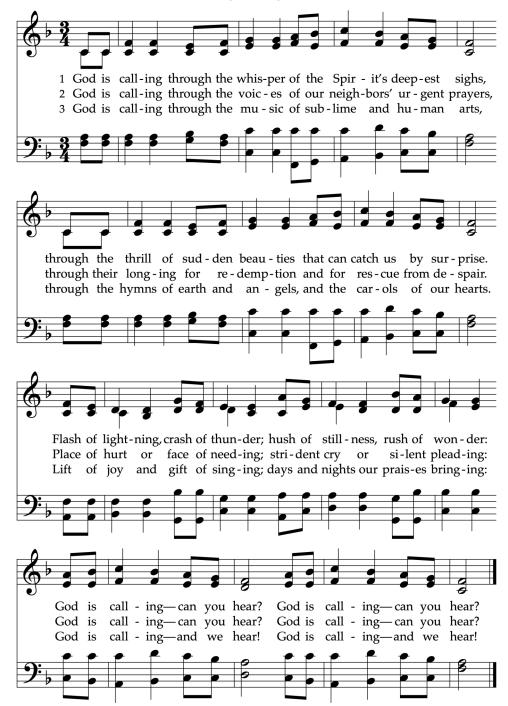
I Give Electronically—in response to parents' hopes that their children might be able to see their Tave ELECTRONICALLY ongoing commitment to St. Philip and with the intent to better represent the totality of our giving as a congregation, we have available in the pews giving cards that can be placed in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



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

God Is Calling Through the Whisper

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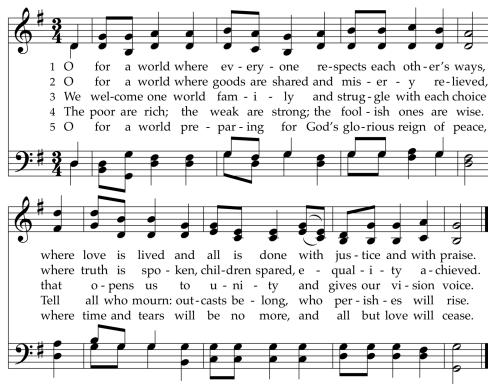


This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.



The text was written by a leading Chinese educator, author, and editor who chaired the commission that prepared an important ecumenical Chinese hymnal, *Hymns of Universal Praise* (1936). This familiar tune invites comparison of these words with its usual text (see no. 321).

Hymn 372 O for a World AZMON



Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987 MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839 Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

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Return to page 4