



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024

## Preparation for Worship

*The God who made this world has blessed it with good things, yes – but all of them take working at: coconuts need to be cracked, soil needs to be tilled, mountains need to be climbed, water needs to be conserved. God does not do this for us. God simply accompanies us as we go. God has given us in this unfinished world a glimpse of eternity and walks with us through here to there.*

– Joan Chittister

## Opening Voluntary

*Praeludium in G Major*

Nikolaus Bruhns  
(1665-1697)

## Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

## Introit

*Simple Gifts*

arr. Brenda Austin

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free  
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained,  
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,  
To turn, turn will be our delight,  
Till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

– attr. Joseph Brackett, 1848

## ✦ Opening Sentences

## ✦ Hymn 35 [\(see page 12\)](#)

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

## ✦ Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,  
 in Jesus, our risen Lord, we have seen your glory.  
 Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ.  
 We are quick to accuse and slow to confess.  
 We find faults easily in others, while ignoring our own shortcomings.  
 We have squandered your gifts.  
 We have turned from your ways.  
 We have ignored your Word.

Have mercy on us, compassionate God.  
 Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives.  
 Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace  
 that day by day we might move closer to the people you have would us be.

*silent prayer*

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

## ✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

## ✦ Response

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the response 'Alleluia, alleluia!'. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

MUSIC: Fintan O'Carroll, 1981 ©

## ✦ The Peace

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

## Conversation with Children

*Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 106.  
 Children's Chapel meets in Room 203.*

## Prayer of Illumination

## Scripture Reading

Acts 8:26-39

N.T. pg. 127

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

**Anthem***Down in the River to Pray*Traditional Spiritual  
adap. Justin Langham

As I went down in the river to pray,  
 Studying about that good old way  
 And who shall wear the starry crown  
 Good Lord, show me the way.

O sisters, let's go down to the river to pray.  
 O brothers...  
 O fathers...  
 O mothers...  
 O sinners...

– unknown

**Sermon**

On the Move

John W. Wurster

*silence and stillness*✦ **Hymn 692** ([see page 13](#))*Spirit, Open My Heart*

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

✦ **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,  
 feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
 and calls people to all ministries of the church.  
 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.

### Offertory

*Gifts may be given any time at [www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net)*

### Offertory

*If God be for us, who can be against us?*

George Frideric Handel  
 (1685-1759)

If God be for us who can be against us?  
 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God  
 that justifieth.  
 Who is he that condemned? It is Christ that died, ye rather,  
 that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who  
 makes intercession for us.

—Charles Jennens, adap. Romans 8:31, 33-34

### ✠ 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 642

Heleluyan, We Are Singing

HELELUYAN

*The congregation sings the refrain as directed.*

*Refrain*

*All*



He - le - lu - yan, we are sing - ing.



He - le, he - le - lu - yan. He - le - lu - yan,



*Fine*  
now and al - ways. He - le, he - le - lu - yan.

*Leader*



1 Chris-tians ev - ery-where shall sing now and al - ways:  
2 Town and coun-try peo - ple sing to Je - sus:  
3 Peo - ple far and near will join the cho - rus:

*All*



he - le, he - le - lu - yan.

*Leader*



Chris-tians ev - ery-where shall sing now and al - ways:  
Town and coun-try peo - ple sing to Je - sus:  
Peo - ple far and near will join the cho - rus:

*All*



*to Refrain*  
he - le, he - le - lu - yan.

♣ Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

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

Dietrich Buxtehude  
(1637-1707)

*Please join the Presbyterian Women in the Gathering Area for birthday cake.*

## SERVING TODAY

### Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

### Liturgist

Jennifer Wilson

### Musicians

Bell Canto | Matthew Dirst – organist | St. Philip Choir | Justin Langham – director of music  
Vincent Wren – cellist | Sarah Bertrand, soloist | Thomas O’Neill, cantor

## FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Molly Boren-Whitney to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her son, Cliff.

## WORSHIP NOTES

### Today’s Lectionary readings:

- Acts 8:26–40 – *Philip meets an Ethiopian eunuch, who asks to be baptized.*
- Psalm 22:25–31 – *In the great congregation I will praise the Lord, my deliverer.*
- 1 John 4:7–21 – *Let us love one another; we love because God first loved us.*
- John 15:1–8 – *Jesus says: I am the vine, you are the branches; abide in me.*

Today’s worship service includes traditional Negro Spiritual music. The Black composers of this music are unknown to history and therefore unable to receive royalties directed to their estates for the use of their songs. To remedy this inequity, a fund has been created and approved by the Session where we will collect voluntary “royalties” for using this music. Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net) homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting Negro Spirituals as the fund. Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). You may also contribute by writing a check with *Negro Spirituals* in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office. This small gesture of reparation seeks to help heal the long history of injury to Black persons. Contributions received over the course of the year will be donated annually to a local organization supporting Black musical traditions.

## MUSIC NOTES

Today’s **opening voluntary** is one of the few surviving works of Nikolaus Bruhns, one of the most important North German organists of the generation preceding Johann Sebastian Bach. A student of Dietrich Buxtehude, Bruhns left a small number of vocal and organ pieces in the North German “fantastic style,” which mixes rhetorically-inspired rhapsodic passages with discrete fugal sections. One of Buxtehude’s several settings of the German chorale *Nun lob, mein Seel, den Herren* (“Now Praise, my Soul, the Lord”) serves as our **closing voluntary**. Its lively figuration and long-note delivery of the hymn tune in the pedal nicely elucidates a beloved hymn text full of gratitude for life’s many blessings.

Both today’s **introit** and **anthem** have roots in traditional spiritual music in the 19th century and have unclear origins and have undergone many evolutions in music and text to reach the versions we know today. The first is an arrangement of the timeless Shaker melody, “Simple Gifts,” presented here in a lively rendition by our handbell choir. The tune became widely known when Aaron Copland included it as part of his score for the ballet *Appalachian Spring* in 1944, though the music and text are

originally attributed to Elder Joseph Brackett in 1848. “Down in the River to Pray,” likely composed around the same time as “Simple Gifts,” was first published in the collection *Slave Songs of the United States* in 1867, and like many other slave songs, it has a coded meaning. The use of the phrase “down *in* the river,” rather than its common replacement “down *to* the river,” not only evokes the imagery of a full-immersion baptism, but also the reality that enslaved people escaping captivity would walk *in* the river to hide their scent from hunting dogs. Similarly, the phrases “starry crown” and “Good Lord, show me the way” refer to navigating by starlight and a prayer for God to guide them towards the escape route.

Although Handel’s “Messiah” perhaps receives a majority of its attention in the Christmas season, two of its three parts are a complete depiction of Christ’s death and resurrection. Our **offertory**, an air (English equivalent of an *aria*) taken from the third of the oratorio’s three parts, sets text from Romans as part of a musical declamation of Christ’s final conquest of sin.

–Justin Langham and Matthew Dirst

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

Music reprints and online streaming by permission under OneLicense.net account A-720890.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Congratulations to Bennett Pepi and Elizabeth (Liz) Anne Aksamit who were married April 27.*

*St. Philippians and their families* – Ralph Cherillo; Susan Mitchell; Karen Morris; Susan Huffman; Emily Estill; Barbara Cavanaugh; Peg Palisin; Mary Herlitz; Jan Ostendorf; Dick Nunn; Mark Takayama; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; 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; Terese Murphy- cousin of Gary Gardner and Peg Palisin; 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. Philippians* – Jennifer Schenk and Amy Syres from Second Mile Haiti - friends of the Church & Society Class; Barbara Goodson from Have Shears-Will Travel - friend of the Church & Society Class; 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; 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](mailto:deacons@saintphilip.net)

### ALL-BEETHOVEN PIANO RECITAL

On Sunday, **May 5** at 3:00 p.m., award-winning Russian pianist Osip Nikiforov will present a program comprised of four beloved Beethoven piano sonatas, No. 13, 14, 31, and 23. Originally from Siberia, Osip studied at the University of Minnesota and received doctorate from Rice University in 2023. In addition to orchestral and solo performances in the U.S. and abroad, Osip has also been featured on numerous radio broadcasts by Minnesota Public Radio, [Performance Today by Your Classical](#), WFMT Radio, GetClassical, Classical Connect, Star Tribune, and Houston Press, and his first solo album, *Russian Elegie*, was released by Orpheus Classical Label in 2021.

Osip is no stranger to St. Philip, having performed an all-Rachmaninoff program on our beautiful Steinway concert grand in 2023. Please join us and enjoy a rare offering of four gems in the solo piano repertoire and welcome Osip back to Houston.

MUSIC AT  ST. PHILIP

# SPRING SPIRITUAL CELEBRATION

**Sunday, May 12 | 5:00 pm**

*Featuring orchestra, soloists, and the the combined choirs and handbells of St. Philip Presbyterian and First United Methodist Church Missouri City.*

*Traditional Spirituals with music by:  
H.T. Burleigh  
Stephen Foster  
Antonín Dvořák  
and John Rutter*

Free Admission | St. Philip Presbyterian Church  
4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056 | [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net)

FOLLOW US ONLINE  
Music at St Philip

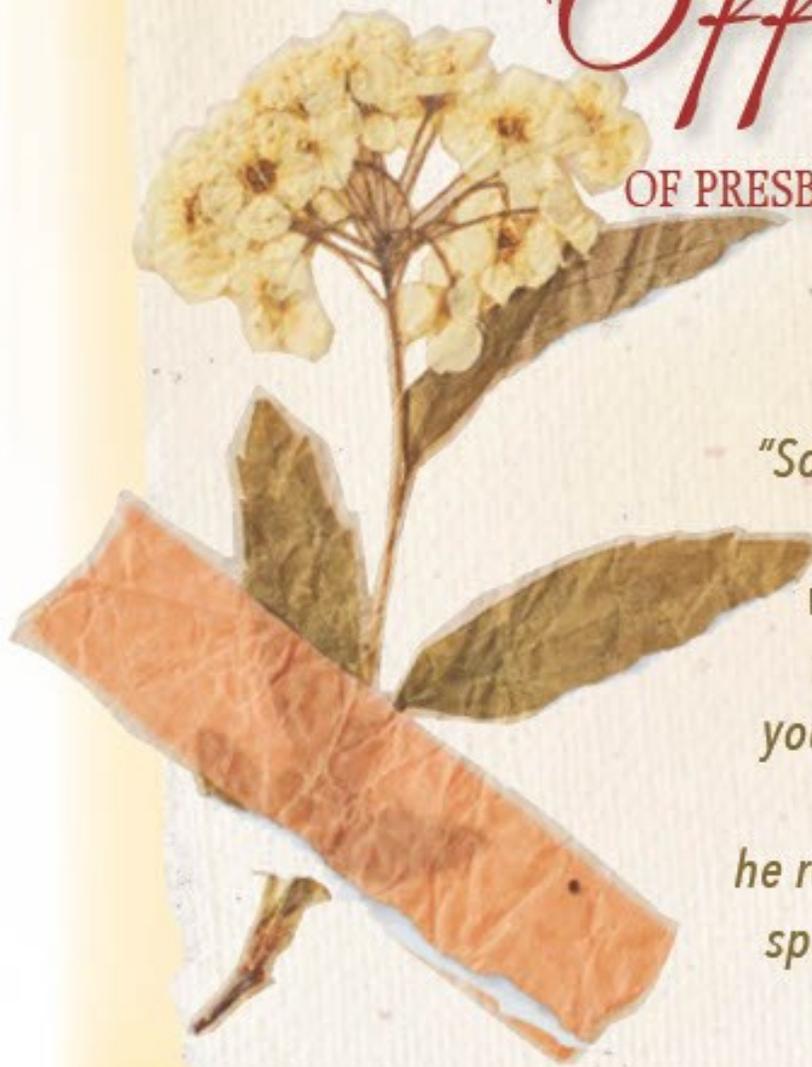
   



2024

*Birthday  
Offering*

OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



*"So have no fear;  
I myself  
will provide  
for you and  
your little ones."  
In this way  
he reassured them,  
speaking kindly  
to them.*

-Genesis 50:21\*

## *Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering*

A special offering for the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering is being collected today. You can make a donation online and choose PW Birthday or use the envelopes found in the Narthex and Gathering Area.

Since 1922, this offering has helped fund mission projects that improve lives. Each year, the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering awards grants. Primarily making possible capital improvement projects, the Birthday Offering supports domestic and international ministries, focusing on areas such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence or women's concerns. Your gift to the Birthday Offering helps fund real solutions in the areas of health, education, economic development and the needs of women and children.

This year's Birthday Offering recipients:

**Advocates for Community Choice dba Bethel Hills Villa 5 Apartments and Recreation Area** Marthasville, Missouri—Many adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) experience difficulties finding appropriate and affordable housing and often struggle to make friends and thrive in the wider community. Many are placed in nursing homes, boarding homes, with aging parents or in other environments that are expensive and isolating. Bethel Hills addresses the unique needs of individuals with I/DD by providing a safe and loving place that takes into consideration their physical, emotional and spiritual needs in an environment where they can flourish. By renovating a villa into four accessible apartments for eight individuals, this project will provide housing that takes into consideration specific needs unique to the residents, such as addressing acute sensitivity to sounds, bright light and certain colors. The new recreational area will offer space for art and music therapy and other leisure activities for people with and without intellectual/developmental disabilities. With the Birthday Offering grant, Bethel Hills will expand its mission to provide supportive, faith-based, inclusive community where all are accepted and valued.

**Shawnee Presbyterian Church Café Ginkgo** Louisville, Kentucky - Shawnee Presbyterian Church serves as a welcoming beacon of light for their community in Louisville. Located in an economically disadvantaged area where single mothers and children face challenges of food insecurity, the church started addressing this need in August 2019. The small yet dedicated congregation began serving free dine-in meals at Café Ginkgo, named for a ginkgo tree located at the building's north entrance. On average, 30 meals were served at Café Ginkgo each Monday. In 2020, the pandemic put a stop to the program. At present, the need for healthy food and fellowship continues to grow. With the Birthday Offering grant, Café Ginkgo will be able to reopen with a renovated kitchen and expanded capacity to provide meals. Improvements to the fellowship hall will allow the church to offer enriching activities: tutoring for elementary ages, Ginkgo Play Zone, financial literacy classes and Mama-to-Mama parenting workshops. The members of Shawnee Presbyterian Church will reach out and serve their beloved community with resilience and strength—just like the ginkgo tree outside their door.

To learn more about both of these projects go to: [https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what\\_we\\_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/](https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/)

## 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. **May 5** - Holocaust Museum Houston - Houston's Holocaust Museum is a voice for Human Rights in Houston. Founded by Holocaust Survivors in the mid 1990s, the museum has recently expanded to include comprehensive coverage of Human Rights abuses, efforts, and champions, from antiquity to the present time. The 21st. Century has experienced serious challenges to Human Rights, from racism to antisemitism to Islamophobia. The mission of the museum is to call Houstonians to action to stand against all forms of Human Rights abuses. - Presented by Robert Westheimer, an HMH volunteer, who will lead the class in a virtual tour of the museum. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:  
[churchsociety\\_stphilip@comcast.net](mailto:churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net).

**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

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 **May 9** at 7:00 p.m. This will be a social gathering at The 401 (6700 Ferris ST). So watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: [nnl@lambrightlaw.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:welcome@saintphilip.net). All meetings are in the Dining Room.

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

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

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

### OPERATION IMPACT DELIVERY MISSION PARTNER CHURCH WIDE SERVICE DAY SAVE THE DATE!

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** (Harris County) and Saturday **June 8** (Galveston County mainland). 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. Sign up at the mission table in the Gathering Area through **May 26** or email:

[mission@saintphilip.net](mailto:mission@saintphilip.net).



**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](http://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](http://saintphilip.net) and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to [lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto: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](http://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.

**The Stewardship Committee** thanks all St. Philipians and friends who have made and continue to make financial contributions to support the life and ministries of the church. As a reminder, only St. Philip's bookkeeper has knowledge of the specifics of financial donations.

**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.



## Hymn 35

## Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
 2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly  
 3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy  
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so  
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his  
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -  
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?  
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

TEXT: Joachim Neander, 1680; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.  
 MUSIC: Stralsund *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863

LOBE DEN HERREN  
 14.14.4.7.8

[Return to page 2](#)

## Refrain

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of  
liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing  
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

## Verses

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's  
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my  
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of  
kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and  
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and  
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of  
fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.  
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.  
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1994  
MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011  
Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME  
Irregular

[Return to page 3](#)