

St Philip's

episcopal church

11 a.m.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Prelude
Voluntary

Organ

Opening Hymn

Come, we that love the Lord

Hymnal 392

Music not available for this hymn. Please enjoy the music!

COLLECT

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

READINGS

Acts 8:26-40

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of

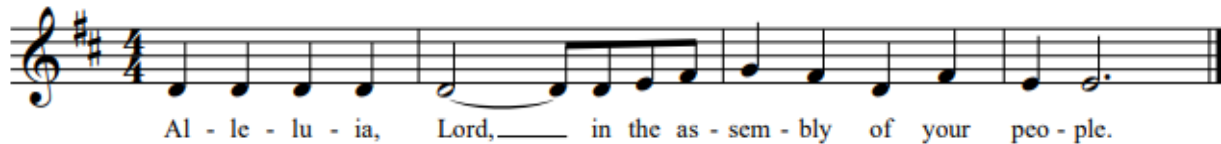
the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24-30

Setting by Michael Accurso (b. 20th century)

The congregation sings the antiphon at the beginning and where indicated. The choir sings the verses.



24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: * "May your heart live for ever!"

Antiphon

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; * he rules over the nations.

Antiphon

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

Antiphon

I John 4:7-21

Reader A reading from John's first letter.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

What wondrous love is this

Hymnal 439



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
 is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Preacher The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Preacher The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Maryann D. Younger

PRAYER LIST

Anne, Catherine, Anne, Coye, Wayland, Erin, Sue, Claudia, Cal, Lisa, Peter, Beth, Nilda, Ken, Holley, Gabe, Dan, Diane, Nick, Angie, David, Diane, Gail, Diane, Karen, Kenneth, Brenda, Sam, Eleanor, Elisabeth, Kappy, Tom, Ian, Mina, Marie, Carole, Sharon, David, Judith, Dana, Jim, Lily, Nancy, Fred, Mike, Dawn, Eileen, Lynda, Lyla, Chris, Annette, Frank, Michael, Michele, Ciara, and Marcia.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Many waters cannot quench Love,
neither can the floods drown it.
Love is strong as death.
Greater love hath no man than this,
That a man lay down his life for his friends.

Who His own Self bare our sins in His own Body on the tree,
That we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.
Ye are wash'd, ye are sanctified,
ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath call'd you
out of darkness into his marvellous light.

I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your

bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God,
which is your reasonable service.

Music by John Ireland (1879-1962)

COMMUNION MOTET

O sacrum convivium,
in quo Christus sumitur;
recolitur memoria passionis ejus;
mens impletur gratia;
et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.
Alleluia

O sacred feast
in which Christ is received!
The memory of his passion is recalled.
The mind is filled with thanks,
and a pledge of future glory is given to us.
Alleluia.

Music by Thomas Tallis (~1505-1585)

Communion Hymn

We sing the praise of him who died

Hymnal

471

1 We sing the praise of him who died, of
2 In - scribed up - on the cross we see in
3 The cross: it takes our guilt a - way, and
4 It makes the cow - ard spi - rit brave, and
5 The balm of life, the cure of woe, the

1 him who died up - on the cross; the sin - ner's hope let
2 shin - ing let - ters, God is love: he bears our sins up -
3 holds the faint - ing spi - rit up; it cheers with hope the
4 nerves the fee - ble arm for fight; it takes its ter - ror
5 mea - sure and the pledge of love, the sin - ner's re - fuge

1 sin de - ride: for this we count the world but loss.
2 on the tree: he brings us mer - cy from a - bove.
3 gloom - y day, and sweet - ens ev - ery bit - ter cup.
4 from the grave, and gilds the bed of death with light.
5 here be - low, the an - gels' theme in heaven a - bove.

Words: Thomas Kelly (1769-1855), alt. Music: *Breslau*, melody from Lochamer Gesangbuch, ca. 1450; harm. Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847).



1 Fa - ther e - ter - nal, Ru - ler of cre - a - tion,
 2 Rac - es and peo - ples, lo, we stand di - vid - ed,
 3 En - vious of heart, blind - eyed, with tongues con - found - ed,
 4 Lust of pos - ses - sion work - eth des - o - la - tions;
 5 How shall we love thee, ho - ly hid - den Be - ing,



1 Spi - rit of life, which moved ere form was made,
 2 and, shar - ing not our griefs, no joy can share;
 3 na - tion by na - tion still goes un - for - given,
 4 there is no meek - ness in the powers of earth;
 5 if we love not the world which thou hast made?



1 through the thick dark - ness cov - ering ev - ery na - tion,
 2 by wars and tu - mults love is mocked, de - rid - ed;
 3 in wrath and fear, by jea - lous - ies sur - round - ed,
 4 led by no star, the ru - lers of the na - tions
 5 Bind us in thine own love for bet - ter see - ing



1 light to our blind - ness, O be thou our aid:
 2 his sav - ing cross no na - tion yet will bear:
 3 build - ing proud towers which shall not reach to heaven:
 4 still fail to bring us to the bliss - ful birth:
 5 thy Word made flesh, and in a man - ger laid:



thy king - dom come, O Lord, thy will be done.

Words: Laurence Housman (1865-1959), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Langham*, Geoffrey Turton Shaw (1879-1943). Used by permission of the United Nations Association.

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
 2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
 3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Lectors

Rafi Sommerville
Reg Combs

Eucharistic Ministers

Freda Tucker
Bill Pierson

Intercessor

Bob Walker

Ushers

Darrell Powell
Carol Linden
Richard Ammons
Newman Aguiar

Verger

Ron Thompson

Livestream Support

Henry Sommerville

Crucifer

Amanda Harrison

Acolytes

Ezra Viars
Clara Viars

Altar Guild

Mona Griffis
Sarah Johnson
Darrell Powell
Annie Woyee

Healing Prayer

Martin Fowler

Choir

Alto

Carolyn Coolidge
Erica Jackson
Elizabeth Lindquist
Kat Moore
Valerie Saba
Kimberly Slentz-Kesler

Bass

Colin Anderson
Jacob Groff
Anton Blackburn
Mike Power
Johnny Reis

Guest Organist

Andy Lang

Soprano

Julie Bennett
Erin Conn
Nancy Davis
Erin Gasch
Donna Hicks
Barrett Mardre
Laura Nichols

Tenor

Mike Kilbridge
Tim Riggs
David Smith
Gabe StClair
Del Wigfal

NEWS

Vestry Highlights

The vestry met Monday, April 22. Here's what happened:

Maryann shared details about **Bishop Jennifer's May 19 Pentecost visit**. On Pentecost, Bishop Jennifer will be with us for the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. She'll preach and preside, and at the 11 a.m. service we'll also have baptisms and confirmations. Plus Bishop Jennifer will join our Adult Forum session and engage in lunch and discussions with the vestry. Mark your calendars and remember to wear red!

The vestry **approved funding for an acoustic analysis** of the church as part of our interior renovation planning. This analysis will thoroughly assess our current acoustics and recommend improvements for the experience of both music and spoken word.

Last Saturday the **vestry and staff came together for a weekend visioning retreat** at The Trees, where they explored questions about God's vision for St. Philip's. On Monday night, the vestry continued the visioning conversation and **reviewed a plan to engage the whole congregation in our visioning process** in coming months. The process will result in a vision statement by the end of the year – stay tuned!

Coming Soon: Ascension Day

Thursday, May 9, 7 p.m.

Join us for an evening service celebrating one of the earliest Christian festivals. Dating back to the year 68, Ascension Day commemorates Christ's ascension into heaven. According to scripture, Jesus met several times with his disciples during the 40 days after his resurrection, instructing them on how to carry out his teachings. Then on the 40th day he took them to the Mount of Olives, where they watched as he ascended to heaven. Join us!

Baptism opportunity: Pentecost, May 19

Sign up by Friday, May 3

St. Philip's will offer baptisms on Pentecost Sunday. If you're interested in baptism for yourself or your child, please fill out the baptism form at <https://tinyurl.com/StPBaptisms>

Questions? Contact Emily Sparks at emily@stphilipdurham.org.

Creation Care: Reusable Bulletins

This Easter Season, we're experimenting with a new approach to bulletins – one that will use way less paper! Starting this Sunday, we'll use reusable bulletins at all three services. Here's what to expect:

- **Don't throw out that bulletin!** At the end of the service, return your bulletin where you picked it up – we'll use them again next week
- **Grab a bulletin insert:** Worship information that changes week-to-week – readings, hymns, the prayer list, worship leaders, announcements – will be printed on a weekly insert
- **Online worshipers** will see two download links

We'll try this approach through at least May 12. Your feedback is welcome as we fine-tune things!

Outdoor Learning Collaborative – Garden Morning

Saturday, May 4

Calling gardeners and people who like to work outdoors! Join a gardening morning with fellow Episcopalians from St. Titus. We'll weed and clean up garden beds at Bethesda Elementary – work that'll support students' outdoor learning opportunities. With several helpers, we'll get a lot done.

No special skills needed. If you can help, e-mail Sue Guphill for more info at sueguptill01@gmail.com!

Adult Forum: St. Philip's Properties and Creation Care

Today, 10 a.m., Parish Hall and Zoom

How are St. Philip's properties impacting our Creation Care? Join Mike Uhl for a look at how we use power and water resources at St. Philip's and The Trees. We'll look at how we can understand our usage, try out new ideas and find opportunities for improvement.

Wednesday Night Schedule

5:30 p.m. – Eucharist – Chapel

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. – Dinner – Parish Hall

6 p.m. – Family Choir – Gathering Room

6:30 p.m. – Junior Choir – Gathering Room

6:30 p.m. – Handbell Choir – Basement

6:30 p.m. – Engage!

SAVE THE DATE: Spring United Thank Offering

Sunday, May 12

What if your personal gratitude practice could impact thousands? The United Thank Offering (UTO) encourages us to notice daily blessings, give thanks to God and make an offering for each blessing. On May 12 we'll collect St. Philip's UTO offerings. Make checks payable to St. Philip's with "UTO" in the memo line.

Engage! "Waking Up White" book study

Wednesdays, April 10 - May 1, 6:30 p.m.

Library and Zoom

Richard Williams will lead us in discussions of "Waking Up White" – a book that's both a racial autobiography and a tutorial in the history and corrosive impact of white privilege. With eloquence and a sense of urgency, the author takes us on a journey into the heart of what is arguably the American issue. Join us!

Engage! "Between the Listening and the Telling: How Stories Can Save Us" book study

Wednesdays, April 17 - May 15, 6:30 p.m., Parlor

John will lead a discussion about how our stories can bind us together in community. Reading the book is recommended, but not required.

Ladies' Breakfast

Wednesday, May 1, 9 a.m.

Guglhupf Restaurant, 2707 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd

Inviting all ladies of every age to join us for breakfast. We meet the first Wednesday of every month to share in conversation and get to know each other beyond the "Peace" in church.

Call Darrell Powell at 412-828-0502 for more details.

Old Guys' Breakfast

Wednesday, May 1, 9 a.m.

Refectory Cafe, 2726 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd

Are you an old – or not-so-old – guy? Come have breakfast with our older but young-at-heart men at the Refectory Cafe this coming Wednesday. All gentlemen, regardless of age, who have time for good coffee, excellent food, great fellowship and conversation are welcome to join us.

Email Ron Thompson at ncron271@hotmail.com for more details.

Coming Soon: Sponsor a Pilgrim

Look for an opportunity soon to support J2A pilgrims financially in their journey to Bavaria, Germany this summer. All financial sponsors will be matched with a pilgrim. Pilgrims will pray for sponsors, write a note to sponsors during the pilgrimage, and sponsors will be invited to a celebration in the fall. prayer as they prepare for their journey and time in Bavaria.

Community News

Durham CAN – Duke Employee Housing Survey

Do you work at Duke, or know someone who does? Durham CAN is surveying Duke staff to get more info on local housing costs compared to salary levels. One of CAN's goals is increasing the supply of affordable workforce housing in Durham. This short (3-5-minute) survey will give a rough idea of how many Duke staff can't afford to live in Durham due to the low inventory of affordable housing.

If you're a Duke employee, please fill out this survey. Then please pass it on to co-workers! Durham CAN will use the results to plan their next steps in advocating for Durham affordable housing. Find the survey at tinyurl.com/DukeSurvey24STP

De Colores: LEAP Spring Fundraiser and Auction Party

Thursday, May 2, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

De colores is LEAP's annual celebration and fundraising auction. Join us for a night to celebrate and support the incredible work of the children at LEAP as we enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Come ready to bid on exciting auction items! *Find a link in the Epistle, our weekly e-news.*

Durham County Low-Income Homeowners Relief Program

Do you (or someone you know) need help with your local property tax burden? Durham County's Low-Income Homeowners Relief Program might be able to help!

If your household's income equals or is less than 80% of the area median income, you could qualify for help with your property taxes. You can still apply even though the deadline for property tax payments is past – and even if you've already paid your 2023 tax bill. Apply through the Department of Social Services through June. *Find a link in the Epistle, our weekly e-news.*



Connect With Us

Learn more about St. Philip's at our website, www.stphilipdurham.org

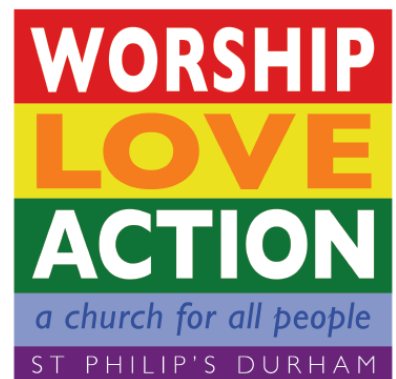


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As a community of worship, love, and action, St. Philip's is a church for all people. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you at St. Philip's. We believe God loves us all – no exceptions!