

St Philip's

episcopal church

11 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

Prelude

'Prélude'

J.-N. Lemmens (1823-1881)

Opening Hymn

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

Hymnal 438



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - jice.
his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

READINGS

Micah 5:2-5a

Reader A reading from the Prophet Micah.

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,

from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,

whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock
in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

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

The Song of Mary (*Magnificat*)

Sung by the choir.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations
will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Hebrews 10:5-10

Reader A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your
will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is
written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Hymnal 66

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

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

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with

the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Preacher The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Gabe Lamazares

PRAYER LIST

Anne, Coye, Catherine, Anne, Erin, Sue, Claudia, Cal, Lisa, Peter, Beth, Nilda, Ken, Holley, Dan, Diane, Nick, Angie, Diane, Gail, Diane, Karen, Dean, Fred, Mike, Mina, Eileen, Jim, Lily, Marie, Carole, Sam, Julie, Betsy, Becky, Federico, Kasandra, Lindley, Tom, Michele, Brenda, Elisabeth, Kappy, Ian, Lynda, Ciara, Charlotte, Ellen, Steve, Nicole, Sandy, Dana, Truman, Diana, Kristen, Liz, Anita, Carol, Emmanuel, Christina, Ken, Madison, Susan, David, Cora, Jonah.

For prisoners in the Durham County Jail: Javier, Brandon, Paul, Allen, Nathan, Darius, Earl, Blake, Antonio, Robert

Offertory Anthem

Anonymous Text
Music by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Of one that is so fair and bright
Velut maris stella,
Brighter than the day is light,
Parens et puella:
I cry to thee, thou see to me, Lady, pray thy Son for me
Tam pia,
That I may come to thee.
Maria!

All this world was forlorn
Eva peccatrice,
Till our Lord was y-born
De te genetrice.
With ave it went away Darkest night, and comes the day
Salutis
The well springeth out of thee.
Virtutis.

Lady, flow'r of ev'rything,
Rosa sine spina,
Thou bare Jesu, Heaven's King,
Gratia divina:
Of all thou bear'st the prize, Lady, queen of paradise
Electa:
Maid mild, mother es Effecta.
Effecta.

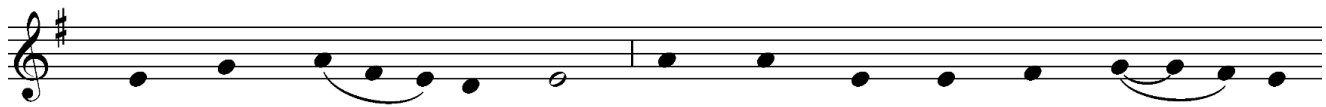
Communion Voluntary

'Tierce en taille'

N. de Grigny (1672-1703)



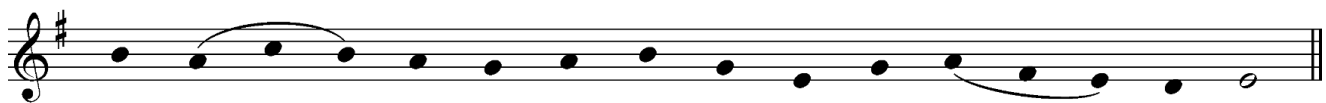
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Closing Hymn

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

Hymnal 437

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 2 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
 his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Postlude

'Fugue in C'

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

WORSHIP LEADERS

Lectors

John Sommerville
Donna Hicks

Eucharistic Ministers

Freda Tucker
Amanda Harrison

Intercessor

Tim Riggs

Verger

Ron Thompson

Social Hour Host

Dianne Boucher

Ushers

Darrell Powell
Richard Ammons
Newman Aguiar

Livestream Support

Henry Sommerville

Healing

Dory Van Duzer

Crucifer

Bill Pierson
Jack Yeatts

Torch Bearers

Julian Tietje
Louise Down

Altar Guild

Cynthia Gration
Bynum Walter
Darrell Powell
Connie Semans
Pam Denning

Guest Organist

Andy Lang

Choir

Soprano

Sarah Ázeline
Erin Conn
Nancy Davis
Erin Gasch
Barrett Mardre
Laura Nichols

Alto

Carolyn Coolidge
Erica Jackson
Elizabeth Lindquist
Rachel Stenbuck
Valerie Wettlaufer

Tenor

Miles Jenkins
Tim Riggs
David Smith
Gabe StClair
Del Wigfall

Bass

Colin Anderson
Anton Blackburn
David Graham
Jacob Groff
Alex Smith

NEWS

Help Us Fill The Gap!

We've seen a 5% increase in pledges this year – thank you to our new pledgers, and to everyone who's increased their pledge! We still have a gap between current pledges and what's needed for next year's budget. If you haven't pledged yet, please pledge now to help us fill the gap!

Email

stewardship@stphilipdurham.org
and we'll send you a pledge packet.

Pledge online: Scan the QR →
stphilipdurham.org/pledge



Epiphany Chili Cook-off

January 6, 5:30 p.m. – Parish Hall

Who will win the golden spoon? Our Epiphany celebration features our third annual chili cook-off and potluck before the 7 p.m. Epiphany service. May the best chili cook win!

Please RSVP by Thursday, January 2 – whether you're entering the chili cook-off, bringing a side dish, or just attending.



RSVP: Tinyurl.com/EpiphanyChili2025

Vestry Highlights

The vestry met Monday, December 16, convening at Maryann's house for a festive December meeting. Here's what happened:

Vestry members discussed the church's finances and the 2025 budget. Maryann and Finance Committee Chair Duncan Krause presented a draft budget for 2025, outlining various scenarios regarding The Trees in their proposal. A lively discussion ensued, with the committee's and vestry's next steps outlined for the next few weeks.

The vestry nominating committee presented the nominees for the incoming class of vestry members, who we'll vote on during the church's February 2 annual meeting. The vestry looks forward to sharing the nominees with the community at the preliminary annual meeting during all three services on January 19. Vestry nominations from the floor will also be accepted on that day.

The vestry discussed the upcoming Sunday Adult Forum on January 5, when the Harris Property Discernment Committee will present their proposal about the future of The Trees to the church. Join us January 5 at 10 a.m. in the parish hall for conversation, stories, and questions about The Trees.

Flowers for The Beloved Community at The Trees

During Advent, we started sharing our altar flowers with The Beloved Community at The Trees. Every Sunday a member of TBC drops by St. Philip's after the 11 a.m. service and gathers the flowers, which then are rearranged to grace their worship space at The Trees that afternoon and evening. (Lucky flowers; they get to hear the prayers and hymns multiple times each Sunday!)

Holiday Office Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 24: Open 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 25: Closed

Thursday, Dec. 26: Closed

Friday, Dec. 27: Closed

Monday, Dec. 30: Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 31: Open 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 1: Closed

Thursday, Jan. 2: Open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Some staff members may be available by appointment. Please contact staff members directly to arrange a meeting.

Last Chance!

Haitian Coffee & Chocolate

Today after each service

The Global Missions Committee will be selling fair-trade, organic coffee and chocolate supporting Haiti and Liberia after every service on December 22. Come get those delicious last-minute Christmas gifts!

Front desk help needed

9am-12pm or 12-3 pm

We're looking for front desk volunteers to cover a weekly shift: **9 am - 12 pm or 12 - 3 pm**. You'd answer the phone, greet visitors, and occasionally help with light office tasks. The yoke is easy, the burden light – you can even bring your own reading or project to work on while you're here.

For more info: Email Maryann at maryann@stphilipdurham.org.

End of Year Giving FAQs

Is there still time to fulfill my 2024 pledge?

Yes! Please send your payments by December 31. Your timely gifts help St. Philip's pay end-of-year bills on time.

How soon do I need to give?

- **Dropping off in person:** Bring your gift before 3 p.m. December 27 (contact finance@stphilipdurham.org to arrange a drop-off time)
- **Credit card:** Initiate the gift by December 28
- **Mailed gifts:** Postmark by December 31

What about donating stock?

Contact office@stphilipdurham.org by 9 a.m. December 24 for instructions.

Can I give through my IRA?

If you're age 70½ and older and own an IRA, you may be able to make a tax-excludable gift and also meet your required minimum distribution. *Contact your IRA administrator by December 27 – and let us know you've initiated the transfer.*

Adult Forum January 5: The Trees Discernment Proposal

*Sunday, January 5
10 a.m. in the parish hall*

What has the Harris Property Committee discerned about The Trees? Come to our first Sunday forum of the year to learn more about what's been happening at The Trees and hear about the committee's recommendation about The Trees' future. The committee presented their report to the vestry in November, and the vestry will vote on the recommendation in January. Come for stories, conversation, and questions about The Trees!

Christmas Lessons and Carols

*Sunday, December 29, 10 a.m.
Church and online*

Next Sunday, December 29, we'll have ONE worship service at 10 a.m. of Christmas Lessons and Carols with Eucharist in the church. The service includes nine lessons and nine carols related to the Christmas story, with the carols following each lesson illustrating what was read.

The tradition of Christmas Lessons and Carols dates from 1880, when it was first sung at Truro Cathedral on Christmas Eve – the same year St. Philip's was organized. Join us for this beautiful service combining hymns and choir anthems!

No formation hour this day. Nursery available 9:30-11:45 a.m.

Guest Preacher the Rev. Phillip Bass

*Sunday, January 5
8 a.m. • 9 a.m. • 11 a.m.*

On Sunday, January 5, we'll welcome guest preacher the Rev. Phillip Bass, founding priest of The Beloved Community at The Trees. The Beloved Community is a community dedicated to providing healing ministries outside of a traditional church setting, especially for those who have experienced religious trauma. St. Philip's supports The Beloved Community through use of The Trees for their worship services and support groups. Phillip previously served as associate rector of the Church of the Nativity in Raleigh, and he's also a licensed clinical mental health counselor. Make sure to welcome him on January 5!

Wanted at Urban Ministries of Durham

Books: The bookshelves at UMD are empty! If you have books you're done with, consider donating them to UMD. There's a continuing need for books – they disappear quickly because folks are hungry for things to read.

Sweatpants: Please help us provide sweatpants to the men at UMD to wear during cold winter weather. All sizes (M, L, XL, XXL) and colors are welcome. We'll collect pants until December 22.

Please place donations on the parish hall donations table. Thanks!

Prayers & Poetry Holiday Schedule

Fridays, 12-2 p.m. at The Trees

Prayers & Poetry will meet as normal on December 27, and January 3.

Noonday Friday prayer is followed by poetry and a bring-your-own lunch. No registration required. Open to the public.



Connect With Us

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



Join our email list

Sign up for our weekly e-news, The Epistle,
at tinyurl.com/StPhilipsEpistle

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!

Find us on Social Media

@stphilipsdurham

