



St Philip's

episcopal church

worship • love • action
a church for all people

A COMMEMORATION OF
THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELIMINARY ANNUAL MEETING

11 AM, JANUARY 18, 2026

Welcome!

The Season of Epiphany

Welcome to St. Philip's! Epiphany is the season of illumination, as a star leads us to God's manifestation among us. What was born in obscurity is revealed in motion – crossing borders and widening the circle of belonging. The Light that enlightens the nations asks what must change now that we see.

Bathrooms are in the parish house (in hallway outside parish hall).

Social time available after all services:

Following 8am: Breezeway entrance

Following 9am: Garden close

Following 11am: Social hour in parish hall

Visitor cards can be found throughout the campus.

If you're here for the first time, please fill out a visitor card! Put your completed visitor card in the offering plate, or hand it to one of our clergy after the service.

Please ask if you need help – we'll make sure you find the right place.

Worship & Formation

Sundays

8am	Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
9am	Holy Eucharist for all ages (Parish Hall)
10am	Adult Forum (Parish Hall) Children's Formation (2nd floor) Youth Formation (Lower level)
11am	Holy Eucharist with choir (Church)
12:30	Social Hour (Parish Hall)

Wednesdays

5:30pm	Holy Eucharist (Chapel)	
5:30-6:30	Dinner (Parish Hall) →	
6-6:25	Family Choir (2nd floor)	
6-6:30	Beginners' Handbell Choir (Lower level)	
6:30-7	Intermediate Handbell Choir (Lower level)	
6:30-7	Junior Choir (2nd floor)	
6:30pm	Engage! Adult formation (Library)	

Worshipping with Children

Children are welcome at all services. We know kids wiggle and make noise – that's okay! Tips for engaging children in worship: Sit where they can see what's happening and point out what's happening during the service; help your child follow along in the bulletin; and bring quiet toys that are special for church. If your child needs a break from the service, feel free to walk them out and encourage them to come back and try again. Know that you probably notice your child's noises and wiggles more than anyone else.

Children's worship materials are available in the parish hall and church.

Nursery

8:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

First floor, off of Parish Hall

Infants – kindergarten

Please sign your children in and out of the nursery. You'll be asked to complete a registration form if it's your child's first visit.

The Liturgy of the Word

Organ Voluntary

Silent Procession

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**



*Martin Luther King, Jr.
Kelly Latimore Icons*

All sing.

1. We have come in - to His house and gath - ered in His name to
 2. So for - get a - bout your - self and con - cen - trate on Him and
 3. Let us lift up ho - ly hands and mag - ni - fy His name and

1. wor - ship Him, _____ We have come in - to His house and
 2. wor - ship Him, _____ So for - get a - bout your - self and
 3. wor - ship Him, _____ Let us lift up ho - ly hands and

1. gath - ered in His name to wor - ship Him; _____ We have
 2. con - cen - trate on Him and wor - ship Him; _____ So for -
 3. mag - ni - fy His name and wor - ship Him; _____ Let us

1. come in - to His house and gath - ered in His name to
 2. get a - bout your - self and con - cen - trate on Him and
 3. lift up ho - ly hands and mag - ni - fy His name and

Song of Praise continues on next page.

wor-ship Christ, the Lord, Wor-ship Him, Christ the Lord.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the hand of Moses your servant you led your people out of slavery, and made them free at last: Grant that your church, following the example of your prophet Martin Luther King, may resist oppression in the name of your love, and may strive to secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Exodus 3:7-12

Reader A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 77:11-20

Sung by the choir.

Anglican Chant by Shirley Hill (1933-2014)

- ¹¹ I will remember the works of the Lord, *
and call to mind your wonders of old time.
- ¹² I will meditate on all your acts *
and ponder your mighty deeds.
- ¹³ Your way, O God, is holy; *
who is so great a god as our God?
- ¹⁴ You are the God who works wonders *
and have declared your power among the peoples.
- ¹⁵ By your strength you have redeemed your people, *
the children of Jacob and Joseph.
- ¹⁶ The waters saw you, O God;
the waters saw you and trembled; *
the very depths were shaken.
- ¹⁷ The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered; *
your arrows flashed to and fro;
- ¹⁸ The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world; *
the earth trembled and shook.
- ¹⁹ Your way was in the sea,
and your paths in the great waters, *
yet your footsteps were not seen.
- ²⁰ You led your people like a flock *
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

Reader A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round

Hymnal 617

Please stand as you are able and sing.

Unison or harmony

1 E - ter - nal Ru - ler of the cease - less round
2 We would be one in ha - tred of all wrong,
3 Oh, clothe us with thy heaven - ly ar - mor, Lord,

of cir - cling plan - ets sing - ing on their way,
one in the love of all things sweet and fair,
thy trust - y shield, thy word of love di - vine;

guide of the na - tions from the night pro - found
one with the joy that break - eth in - to song,
our in - spi - ra - tion be thy con - stant word,

in - to the glo - ry of the per - fect day;
one with the grief that trem - bleth in - to prayer;
we ask no vic - to - ries that are not thine;

rule in our hearts, that we may ev - er be
 one in the power that makes thy chil - dren free
 give or with - hold, let pain or plea - sure be;

guid - ed and strength - ened and up - held by thee.
 to fol - low truth, and thus to fol - low thee.
 e - nough to know that we are serv - ing thee.

Words: John White Chadwick (1840-1904), alt. Music: *Song 1*, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), rev.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 6:27-36

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

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

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Preacher The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

The Intercessor bids the prayers.

The Intercessor and People pray responsively

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, remembering especially **Anne, Coye, Erin, Claudia, Cal, Lisa, Nilda, Diane, Nick, Angie, Diane, Karen, Fred, Lily, Sam, Becky, Federico, Lindley, Tom, Michele, Brenda, Clara, Kappy, Andres, Robert, Lynda, Ciara, Charlotte, Sandy, Dana, Truman, Carol, Madison, Sylvia, Mike, John, Frances, Cyndy, Beth, Dory, William, Jennifer, Anne, Annette, Justin, Rowena, Sarah, Samuel, Mitali, Louise, Donna, Seth, Lisa** and those in the Durham County Jail, especially, **Brian, Patrick, Terrance, Dmario, Luis, Marlon, Jemar, Robert, Freddy, Brett.** *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for all the blessings of this life, (*especially _____*). *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes,

O God, by the leading of a star you led the peoples of the earth to your Son. Lead us, who now know you by faith, to your presence and hear the prayers of your people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

The Celebrant bids the confession.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Greetings and Announcements

The Holy Communion

*The Celebrant continues with the offertory sentence.
Please stand as you are able as the bread and wine are brought forward.*

Offertory Hymn

1. Ho - ly God, you raise up proph-ets; Praise and hon - or do we sing,
2. Mo - ral con-science of his na - tion, Re - con - cil - ing black and white,
3. Teach - er of Christ - like non - vio - lence To the out - cast, poor and meek;
4. Preach - er of Christ's love for neigh - bor, He won No - bel's prize for peace;

1. For your faith - ful, hum - ble ser - vant, Doc - tor Mar - tin Luth - er King.
2. Dreamed he of a just so - cie - ty, we must car - ry on his fight.
3. Great - er weap - on 'gainst op - pres - sion Is to turn the o - ther cheek.
4. Peo - ples, beat your swords to plough - shares, Wars 'twixt na - tions all shall cease.

Refrain

Bless - ed Mar - tin, pas - tor, proph - et, you the moun - tain - top did see;

Bless - ed Mar - tin, ho - ly mar - tyr: Pray that we may - all be free.

5. Champion of oppressed humanity
Suff'ring throughout all the world;
He offered pride and dignity
Let Christ's banner be unfurled!

Refrain

6. So, when felled by sniper's bullet,
Under heavens overcast,
He could cry, "Thank God Almighty,
I am free, I'm free at last!"

Refrain

Words: Harold T. Lewis (b. 1947). Music: *Martin's Song* by Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Songs of Praise*.

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus et Benedictus

All sing.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

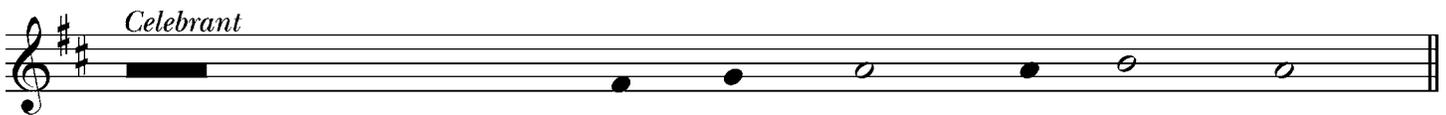
We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Memorial Acclamation

Celebrant



Therefore, according to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People



We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -



rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 Theodore Presser Co. Used by permission of the publisher.

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all, presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Agnus Dei

All sing.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant

The Gifts of the God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion is offered in the form of bread and wine. To receive bread only, open your hands, where the priest will place a wafer (gluten-free wafers available).

Wine is offered through intinction by the priest. Indicate to the priest if you would like wine on the host.

If you would like to receive a blessing in place of communion, please come forward to the altar and place your hands across your chest.

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

LEVAS 152

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees (on our
2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees (on our

1. knees); Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees (on our
2. knees); Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees (on our

1. knees). When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing
2. knees). When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

The hymn continues on the next page.

sun, Oh— Lord, have mer - cy on me (on me). me).

Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees (yes, on our knees); Let us

praise God to - geth - er on our knees (yes, on our knees). When I

fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun, Oh—

Lord, have mer - cy on me (on me).

One bread, — one bod - y, —

— one Lord of all, — one cup of

bles - ing which we bless. — And we, — though

The hymn continues on the next page.

man - y, through-out the earth, We are one

Last time ⊕

bod - y in this one Lord.

Last time ⊕

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or
 2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the
 3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and

The hymn continues on the next page.

1. free,
2. works,
3. grown,

wom - an or man,
one in the Lord
gath - ered to one

D.S.

1. — no more. One
2. — of all. One
3. — for all. One

D.S.

⊕ CODA

Lord.

Words: 1 Corinthians 10:16, 17; 12:4; Galatians 3:28; The Didache 9. Music: John B. Foley, SJ. Copyright © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and New Dawn Music, P.O. Box 13248, Portland, OR 97213. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

*Due to copyright restrictions, a digital image of this hymn is unavailable.
Please enjoy listening to the music.*

Communion Hymn

We Shall Overcome

LEVAS 227

The musical score is written in 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system has the lyrics "We shall o - ver - come, _____ We shall o - ver - come, _____". The second system has the lyrics "We shall o - ver - come some - day; _____ Oh, _____". The third system has the lyrics "deep in my heart, _____ I do be - lieve, _____ (Oh)". The piano accompaniment includes several triplet markings over groups of three notes.

Hymn continues on next page.

1.-4. 5.

We shall o - ver - come some - day. day.

2. We'll walk hand in hand, today.
3. God is on our side, today.

4. We are not afraid, today.
5. We shall live in peace, someday.

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals*. Arr. Copyright © 1992 Carl Haywood.

Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**God of all grace,
 may we live in expectation and hope,
 and may the gifts we have received at this table
 remind us not only of the gift of your Christ,
 but of your steady presence among us,
 that we may act faithfully in response to your love. Amen.**

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people.

Closing Hymn

Lift every voice and sing

LEVAS 1

The first system of the piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand (treble clef) features a series of chords and moving lines, while the left hand (bass clef) provides a steady bass line with some harmonic support.

The second system of the piano accompaniment continues the musical texture. The right hand has some longer notes and rests, and the left hand maintains its rhythmic pattern.

1. Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing, Till earth and heav - en
2. Sto - ny the road we trod, Bit - ter the chast - 'ning
3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

The fourth system of the piano accompaniment concludes the page. It features similar chordal and melodic elements to the previous systems, ending with a final chord in the right hand.

The hymn continues on the next page.

1. ring, Ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
 2. rod, Felt in the days when___ hope un - born___ had
 3. tears, Thou who hast brought us___ thus far on___ the

1. ty; Let our re - joic - ing rise High as the list - 'ning___
 2. died; Yet with a stead - y beat, Have not our wear - y___
 3. way; Thou who hast by thy might, Led us in - to the___

The hymn continues on the next page.

1. skies, Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea. _____
 2. feet Come to the place for which our fa - thers sighed? _____
 3. light, Keep us for - ev - er in the path, ___ we pray. _____

1. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 2. We have come o - ver a - way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 3. Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we met thee;

The hymn continues on the next page.

1. Sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has
 2. We have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the
 3. Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we for -

1. brought us; Fac - ing the ris - ing sun Of our new
 2. slaugh - tered; Out from the gloom - y past, Till now we
 3. get thee, Shad - owed be - neath Thy hand, May we for -

The hymn continues on the next page.

1. day be - gun, Let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 2. stand at last Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 3. ev - er stand, True to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Words: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938). Music: J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954). Copyright © 1921 by Edward B. Marks Music Company. Copyright Renewed. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Silent Procession

The Dismissal

Worship Leaders

Crucifers

Treat Harvey
Ezra Viars

Torchbearers

Louise Downs
Jack Yeatts

Ushers

Freda Tucker
Ashley Njai
James Rives
Newman Aguiar
Diantha Daniels

Altar Guild

Jean Hughes
Lauren Goslin
Connie Semans
Kate Broderick
Bynum Walter

Lectors

Julie Bennett
Jack Mitchell

Intercessor

Donna Hicks

Eucharistic Ministers

Amanda Harrison
Joshua Aguiar

Verger

Bill Pierson

Healing

Anne Goetz

Livestream Support

Jamal Njai

Social Hour Host

Anne Parks

Choir

Soprano

Julie Bennett
Erin Conn
Nancy Davis
Erin Gasch
Ginger Jones-Robinson
Laura Nichols

Alto

Vanessa Bak
Carolyn Coolidge
Kimberly Slentz-Kesler
Valerie Wettlaufer

Bass

Michael Adams
Jack Mitchell
Johnny Reis
Alex Smith

Tenor

Tim Riggs
David Smith
Gabe StClair

Proposed Bylaw Updates

Join us at the Annual Meeting (Sunday, February 1) to vote on these changes!

A majority of parishioners present must approve the changes before they go into effect.

Our bylaws are the rules that govern how we operate as a church. Ours were last updated nearly 30 years ago, and it's time to ensure our bylaws reflect who we are today. After much evaluation and input from parishioners, the vestry is proposing several changes to align our bylaws with current practices and make our governance more inclusive, transparent, and practical:



1. Allow electronic/remote participation in voting and meetings.

Why? Our current bylaws say parishioners must be physically present at the annual meeting in order to vote with a paper ballot. The proposed change would allow parishioners to vote and attend electronically (for instance, via Zoom).

The parish now has the technological capacity to include remote participants in worship and formation, and the vestry recognizes that remote participants should be included in the voting process, vestry meetings, and the full life of the church.



2. Require six to eight vestry candidates to run for four vestry positions.

Why? Our current bylaws require eight vestry candidates to run for four vestry positions. But for several years, the nominating committee has had difficulty identifying eight candidates.

The proposed change would allow compliance with the bylaws if only six candidates are willing to run, but the elections committee could still nominate eight candidates if as many can be identified. (Nominations from the floor would still be accepted during the preliminary annual meeting.) By continuing to require more nominees than available positions, the change ensures the parish would still have a democratic election process.



3. Clarify how often the vestry must meet and how our operating reserve fund is calculated.

Why? The proposed changes would align our bylaws with current practices. Our current bylaws require the vestry to meet monthly, while the proposed change would allow for one month with no meeting (typically coinciding with summer vacations). Our current bylaws also require our operating reserve fund to equal "1/6 of the annual operating budget." The proposed change clarifies that the percentage set aside is based on budgeted expenses for the year, rather than revenue.

**Questions? Come to the January 25 Sunday Forum: Bylaws Q&A
(10am in parish hall).**

Vestry Nominees



Jillian “Jill” Downs (she/her)

What originally brought you to St. Philip’s? How has your experience since then reinforced your expectations – or surprised you?

Our family, including my husband and our daughters, now ages 21 and 13, found a church home in St. Philip’s after moving from the DC area in late 2016 and putting down roots in Durham. My simple expectation was reengaging in Episcopal traditions with hopes of igniting spiritual connection. A pleasant surprise has been some of our closest bonds growing not inside the parish walls, but on the shores of Kerr Lake! We cherish what has become an annual camping adventure with fellow Journey to Adulthood youth, leaders, and parent friends.

What gifts, skills, assets, and experience – personal or professional – would you bring to vestry service?

- In my current professional role with a global funder, I respect nonprofit partners whose boards of directors enable their organizations to survive and thrive not only fiscally, but by staying focused on mission work. On the vestry, I would, above all, support St. Philip’s in fulfilling its vision as a beacon of God’s light in downtown Durham through “worship, love, and action.”
- As a former civil servant with educational background in city and environmental planning, I am interested in broader issues St. Philip’s will continue addressing in the coming years, including a church restoration project and future uses on the urban block and at The Trees. On the vestry, I would deliberate on these complex topics with openness and care for the church and greater Durham community.
- Our daughters have benefited significantly from St. Philip’s holistic youth programming. Based on their experiences of Sunday formation, acolyte service, and J2A pilgrimage, on the vestry, I would remain a proponent of church as a warm and inclusive place for children and families to learn and grow.

How has your involvement with a particular ministry, worship experience or other activity at St. Philip’s been meaningful to you?

I am honored to participate on St. Philip’s Sacred Spaces Committee, whose goal is steering pre-work for interior improvements in the 1908 sanctuary, mindful of its historic character and meeting the needs of today’s parish community. Considering design recommendations to enhance liturgy, flexibility, and accessibility in the church has been a meaningful, contemplative, and creative team process.

Vestry Nominees



James Rives (He/him)

What originally brought you to St. Philip's? How has your experience since then reinforced your expectations – or surprised you?

I'm a cradle Episcopalian, but for most of my adult life I attended services only rarely. About 15 years ago, I realized I wanted worship to be a regular part of my life again. St. Philip's was very close to where I was living, so I gave it a try. The services were everything that I wanted: traditional in feel, progressive in attitude. I kept coming back, and gradually realized (no surprise) that the services reflect the people who make up the St. Philip's community.

What gifts, skills, assets, and experience – personal or professional – would you bring to vestry service?

- As a long-time academic, I have much experience working with peers to define and advance collective priorities.
- As a department chair for eight years, I have experience with budgets, administration, and long-term planning.
- I'm focused and organized.
- I've been told I have good people skills, but I'll have to let others decide for themselves!

How has your involvement with a particular ministry, worship experience or other activity at St. Philip's been meaningful to you?

Although I greatly value all the social ministries that St. Philip's sponsors, worship is at the core of my St. Philip's experience; it's the one thing that no other kind of group or organization can provide. For the last year and a half, I've enjoyed serving as an usher and doing what I can to help others have a good worship experience.

Vestry Nominees



Andy Slaughter (He/him)

What originally brought you to St. Philip's? How has your experience since then reinforced your expectations – or surprised you?

My family has been attending St. Philip's for almost 15 years now. We were initially drawn here after hearing about the wonderful Atrium children's programming, as well as a desire to find a more thoughtful and inclusive faith tradition than what we had previously been involved with. In my time at St. Philip's, my expectations of this have been validated, but also I continue to be

impressed with the amount of volunteering and involvement this community provides to local organizations. There are so many people in this parish who work either through St. Philip's or independently to make Durham a better and more equitable place to live.

What gifts, skills, assets, and experience – personal or professional – would you bring to vestry service?

- Professionally I am a proposal manager with a large central laboratory services provider working in the clinical trials (pharmaceutical and biotech) industry.
- Clear communication, organization, and attention to detail
- Thoughtfulness and a mindset to see issues and challenges from a variety of perspectives
- Personally, I have also been serving as a board member and a shop coordinator at the non-profit Durham Bike Co-op for the last three years. I lead a Saturday morning workshop that allows people to earn volunteer hours and learn some bike maintenance and mechanic skills by salvaging bicycle components.

How has your involvement with a particular ministry, worship experience or other activity at St. Philip's been meaningful to you?

In terms of worship experience, I do appreciate the liturgy and continuing an actual faith tradition with roots and legacy, but mostly I just deeply value my connections to the community here at St. Philip's. This church community, the friends I have made here, and the memories my family and I have of so many church holidays and events are all things I treasure greatly. Now that my children are becoming adults and moving on in their own lives, I would like to give back to this place that has been so very good to me.

Vestry Nominees



Natalie Sommerville (She/her)

What originally brought you to St. Philip's? How has your experience since then reinforced your expectations – or surprised you?

A move to Durham brought my husband, Henry, and me to St. Philip's in 2002. The friendliness of parishioners and clergy, the commitment to being a church in the city, and the beautiful worship spaces made St. Philip's our church in short order. I am grateful that in this changing world, especially in an era of significant challenges, St. Philip's both adapts to meet the moment and stays true to the essential attributes that initially called us here. It has been a delight to grow spiritually and to raise my family at St. Philip's.

What gifts, skills, assets, and experience – personal or professional – would you bring to vestry service?

- More than 30 years working in libraries, a service profession that honors individual needs while using standards to ensure best practices over the long term
- Experience working collaboratively on a variety of leadership teams, with a recent emphasis on leading through the effects of national and world events, funding constraints, and personnel changes
- Experience creating and maintaining authoritative data, along with analyzing and using it to assess and evaluate impact
- Personal commitment to practicing anti-racism and to addressing societal harms against marginalized people

How has your involvement with a particular ministry, worship experience or other activity at St. Philip's been meaningful to you?

Liturgy has been an anchor throughout my adult life. I find inspiration and community in attending services and marking the liturgical year. This has led me to participate in liturgy-forward ministries over the years, including the acolyte and lay Eucharistic ministries, either directly or through supporting my family's participation. Altar guild is my longest standing ministry. For the last 20 years, I have worked collaboratively to prepare our physical spaces for worship. A lot goes into it! I hope that in this behind-the-scenes way, I am supporting everyone's liturgical experience.

Vestry Nominees



Bynum Walter (she/her)

What originally brought you to St. Philip's? How has your experience since then reinforced your expectations – or surprised you?

I am a lifelong Episcopalian and came to St. Philip's when Matt Walter and I moved back to North Carolina from Baltimore in 2011. We had been attending Cathedral of the Incarnation and friends there highly recommended St. Philip's. As an Episcopal Church with a strong liturgy centered around the Book of Common Prayer and the Hymnal 1982, I find St. Philip's to be comfortable and reassuring. The wild card is all the other stuff we do to be the Body of Christ in Durham; this part doesn't so much surprise as keep teaching me new ways to be a faithful person.

What gifts, skills, assets, and experience – personal or professional – would you bring to vestry service?

- 20 years working as a city planner, with a focus on process and community engagement
- Executive experience leading teams of up to 20 people
- Current and previous participation in a wide variety of St. Philip's and/or diocesan ministries

How has your involvement with a particular ministry, worship experience or other activity at St. Philip's been meaningful to you?

This fall I started working with Rite 13. Sometimes it is fun, other times awkward, other times illuminating! To use some old-fashioned stewardship language, I am giving of my time and talent. But it also helps me, and that's been my experience with every ministry I have engaged with at St. Philip's. Every time I give, I get just as much (if not more) back in strengthened faith and fellowship. Giving my time and talent to St. Philip's is an important part of my practice of faith, so I welcome the opportunity to serve on the vestry again.

Vestry Nominees



Aileen Womark-Montes (she/her)

What originally brought you to St. Philip's? How has your experience since then reinforced your expectations – or surprised you?

My long-time friendship with Sharon Massey brought me to St. Philip's – I came to worship beside her in her time of sadness, illness, and loss. Every time I showed up, I felt welcomed, seen, heard, cherished, and celebrated here. The love was palpable.

What gifts, skills, assets, and experience – personal or professional – would you bring to vestry service?

- My listening heart, which has led me to share who I am today on every level.
- The gifts of willingness, prayer, openness, and honesty.
- My professional experience as a special education teacher in Durham public schools for young adults with autism, developmental delays, deafness and other communication challenges. Through this work, I discovered I have a gift for communicating with all different sorts of people with different abilities.
- Knowledge of American Sign Language
- Love for community and children
- My diverse background, and a heritage that covers several continents and a mixed-race family – all of which lead to new understanding and compassion. My parents were born in Germany, I was born on Long Island and raised in Israel, and I married a man from Peru! My children are bi-racial with an international heritage. My diverse background and family have deeply impacted my journey of faith and relationship with Jesus and the church.) It feels like Jesus put me in the special forces of being able to communicate easily with different groups of people.

How has your involvement with a particular ministry, worship experience or other activity at St. Philip's been meaningful to you?

- I deeply appreciate the Wednesday evening Eucharist – I love it and find it very helpful. After the Eucharist, I find great joy attending Wednesday night dinner and the Engage studies.
- I'm interested in reviving our involvement with Urban Ministries of Durham. I volunteered at UMD before coming to St. Philip's, and I'd like to be involved in supporting that ministry.
- I feel a strong sense of being hospitable to anyone new at St. Philip's. If I see someone new here on a Sunday, I'll introduce myself and offer to give them a tour, because people were hospitable to me when I first arrived.

What's Happening at St. Philip's

Guest preacher:

The Rev. Joyce Corbin Allen

Today, January 18 • All three services

On MLK Sunday, we welcome the Rev. Joyce Corbin Allen as our guest preacher at all three services. A second-career priest ordained in 2015, Joyce brings decades of experience from both parish ministry and the wider world, along with a deep commitment to racial justice. She currently serves the Diocese through supply and bridge-priest roles and as a member of the Dismantling Racism and Pilgrimages teams. Joyce is passionate about creating space for honest, sometimes uncomfortable conversations as part of our shared call to be co-creators of God's dream for creation.

Sunday Forum:

Remembering Martin Luther King

Today, January 18 • 10am • Parish Hall and Zoom

On MLK Sunday, come share and listen to personal memories of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. How did you hear the news? How did it affect you, your family, or your community? And what feels different or the same today? Those who were too young to remember are especially invited to come listen. *The conversation will continue in the library after the 11am service for anyone who wishes to share more.*

Host Social Hour

Our social hour after the 11 a.m. service is lay-led, and it takes you to make it work! Hosts bring snacks, set them up, and hang around to talk to folks. You'll have a great time!

Sign up on the parish hall easel, or email office@stphilipsdurham.org to request a date.

Annual Meeting and Vestry Election

Preliminary meeting: Today, January 18

Annual meeting: Sunday, February 1

Our annual meeting is coming up February 1. This year we'll elect new vestry members, vote on proposed bylaw changes, and hear about the work of St. Philip's over the past year. But first comes our preliminary meeting. Today, during the announcements at all three services, we'll hear who's nominated for vestry and take nominations from the floor.

Annual Meeting Lunch

RSVP by Wednesday, January 28

We'd love to feed you lunch at the annual meeting – please RSVP!

RSVP:

<https://TinyURL.com/StPAnnualMeetingLunch>



RSVP for lunch

Name tags are coming to St. Philip's

As our community grows, we're trying something many of you have asked for: name tags! They're a simple but powerful way to help us connect. Name tags make it easier to start conversations, reduce the awkwardness of forgotten names, and help longtime parishioners and newer folks get to know one another.

Sign up for a name tag by January 25 to have yours ready at the Annual Meeting (Sunday, February 1). After that we'll make name tags regularly.

Get a Name Tag:

<https://tinyurl.com/StPhilipsNameTags>



Get a
name tag

MLK Day Rally and March

Monday, January 19 • 10am

Celebrate King's life and legacy with Durham's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. march and rally. The parade from the NC Mutual Tower building culminates in a presentation of music, prayer and speeches at First Presbyterian Church.

10am – March starts from NC Mutual Tower
(411 W. Chapel Hill Street)

11:45am – Rally at First Presbyterian Church
(305 E. Main Street)

Celebrating MLK Day in Durham

This Monday, January 19

From service opportunities to Durham's annual march to community gatherings – there are so many great ways to celebrate Dr. King in Durham.

Local MLK events: <https://tinyurl.com/StPhilipsMLK>

Engage!

Episodes and Personages of the Evangel

This Wednesday, January 21 • 6:30pm

Library and Zoom

Join our own Norman Pendergraft – professor emeritus of art and director emeritus of the NC Central University Art Museum – for a presentation on European art relating to the people and events depicted in the Gospels. Come learn all about it!

Styrofoam & Textile Recycling Returns

Wednesday, Jan. 28 – Wednesday, Feb. 18

In two weeks we'll be collecting clean, dry Styrofoam (food containers, cups, egg cartons, packing material, etc) and clean, unusable textiles (clothes, shoes, purses, linens, fabric, leather).

Help needed! We really need volunteers to help deliver what we collect. Interested in helping? Call or text Duncan Krause at 706-255-3138.

Vestry Highlights

The vestry met Monday, January 12. Here's what happened:

The vestry finalized and unanimously approved the 2026 budget. After extensive work and careful analysis, the team is eager to present the budget at the February 1 annual meeting. Vestry members extended special thanks to Marcus Southern, Duncan Krause, and the many other assisting hands and hearts for their work on the budget.

Senior Warden Marty Nelson led the vestry through the run-of-show for the annual meeting (two weeks from this Sunday!). Stay tuned for more details, and mark your calendar for February 1.

Erin Gasch introduced the slate of vestry nominees running for the four available positions on the 2026 vestry. This year, six candidates have stepped forward to serve, with their identities securely stored in the church vault until the official reveal this Sunday!

The vestry bid farewell to outgoing vestry members Lowell Dargbeh, Addis Crook-Jones, Erin Gasch, and Sarah Johnson. Maryann spoke about the unique skills and gifts each departing member brought. The outgoing members expressed their gratitude and spoke about the personal growth and learning they experienced during their three-year terms.

Altos Needed!

The choir needs a few more regular members: We're especially low on altos, but singers of all parts are welcome. Training provided. For more info, contact Lewis Moore at lewis@stphilipsdurham.org.

Nature Journaling

Fridays through March 27 • 10:30am

The Trees • 1701 Pleasant Green Road

Come observe the changing of seasons at The Trees. We'll use the practice of nature journaling to help us slow down and focus our attention on the wonder of creation. Bring a notebook, your favorite pen and drawing supplies (extra materials will be on hand), and sturdy shoes for walking on the trails. No experience needed – you don't need to be "good" at drawing to enjoy tuning in to nature! For more info, email Liz Sappenfield at esappenfield@gmail.com.

Community News

Support Cold Weather Shelters in Durham

100 Days of Warmth • Contribute or Volunteer

Durham's 100 Days of Warmth Campaign envisions a Durham where every person has a warm, safe place to sleep on cold nights. You can help make that vision a reality by supporting 100 Days of Warmth – a coordinated plan to increase the number of safe, warm places available to our neighbors this winter. The campaign supports non-profits operating cold weather shelters, including Urban Ministries.

Ways you can help:

- Contribute to the United Way's 100 Days of Warmth Fund
- Volunteer at a cold weather shelter
- Donate supplies for cold weather survival kits
- Spread the word about cold weather shelter options and this campaign

Volunteer or donate:

<https://linktr.ee/durhamcommunitysafety>



St. Philip's Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Maryann D. Younger, *Rector*
The Rev. Gabe Lamazares, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Lisa Fischbeck, *Priest Associate*
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Pogoloff, *Priest Associate*
The Rev. Jim Craven, *Priest Associate*
Emily Sparks, *Ryals Minister for Families*
Chris Reed, *Interim Youth Assistant*
Lewis Moore, *Director of Music Ministries*
Amanda Robinson, *Parish Administrator*
Grace Camblos, *Minister for Communications*
Gwenetta Drewery, *Parish Custodian*
Amanda "Mya" Meyer, *Parish Sexton*
Ashley Eastham, *Bulletin Coordinator*
Tonya Wilson, *Parish Chef*
Laura Kirby, *Executive Director, The Trees*
Olynda Smith, *Operations Manager, The Trees*
Henry Kennelly, *Seminarian in Residence, The Trees*

St. Philip's Vestry

Lowell Darbegh	Jeff Pitts
Erin Gasch	Mike Uhl
Sarah Johnson	Heather Beard
Addis Crooks-Jones	John Bowman
Sue Guptill	Caroline Wang
Marty Nelson	Emily Yeatts



Connect With Us

stphilipsdurham.org



Join our email list

tinyurl.com/StPhilipsEpistle

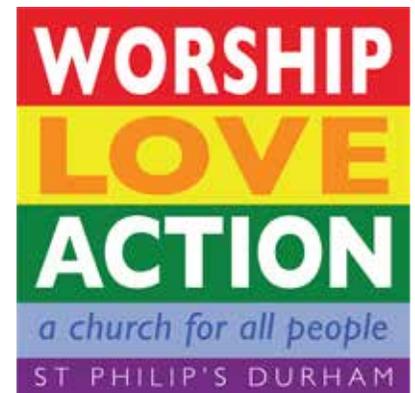


Calendar

stphilipsdurham.org/calendar

Find us on Social Media

@stphilipsdurham



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!