

St. Philip's Episcopal Church
The First Sunday after Christmas Day
December 28, 2024 9:00 AM - Holy Eucharist Rite II

We, at St. Philip's Church strive to love God and love others in all we do.

*Before the service, speak to the Lord;
During the service, let the Lord speak to you;
After the service, speak to one another.*

*Please quietly prepare for worship respecting
those around you who may be praying*

Call to Worship - "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place"

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel His mighty power and
His grace. I can hear the brush of angel's wings,
I see glory on each face; Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Hymn: "Angels from the Realms of Glory" (#93)

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **People:** Amen.

Gloria (S280)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the

Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (61:10-62:3)

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:13-21

- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Galatians (3:23-25; 4:4-7)

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn: “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (#82 v. 1-2)

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1:1-18)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn : “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (#82 v.3)

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.

Prayers of the People Form II

Deacon: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church.

Silence

Deacon: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

Deacon: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

Deacon: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

Deacon: I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present.

Silence

Deacon: Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Celebrant: Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.

People: Amen

The Peace (Please stand as you are able)

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Welcoming

Ministry in Focus

Collect for the Rector Search Committee

Loving God, through the Holy Spirit, guide our search committee in discerning the rector You have called for us. Keep them faithful to Your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Offertory Sentence: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name, bring offerings and come into his courts.

Offertory

(Congregation stands and sings the following with the presentation of gifts.)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: 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 you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:

Celebrant and People (S129)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant: 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: 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

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The gifts of 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

How to receive Holy Communion:

*Holy Communion will be served in front of the altar. After you receive the bread you
may choose one of three options regarding the wine.*

*1. DRINK: Immediately consume your bread and step to the chalice bearer farthest from the
priest serving the bread. This is the common cup designated for you to take a drink from.
Dipping the bread into this cup is NOT permitted.*

2. *INTINCT: Holding your bread, go to the first chalice bearer who is holding a small glass cup. This cup is designated for intinction (dipping) only. As you stand in front of the chalice bearer, they will offer the words of administration and you may dip your bread into the shallow cup. Please note there is only a small quantity of wine in this chalice to ensure fingers do not touch the wine.*

3. *NO WINE: Immediately consume your bread and carefully walk past both chalices if you desire to not take part in the wine. Please know that receiving communion in one species only is still considered a full and valid communion.*

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Sending Prayer for Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Deacon: In the name of Christ, and of this congregation, we send you forth bearing the body and blood of Christ to (_____), who cannot be with us today. Take God's holy Word, the prayers of this congregation, and this holy food for holy people.

People: We who are many are one Body because we share one bread, one cup.

Celebrant: Blessing

People: Amen.

Hymn – “Good Christian Friends Rejoice” (#107)

Deacon: The Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God.

Celebrant and Preacher: Mother Betty
Deacon: Deacon Pam Hayes
Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Ellen Wester, Tina Powers
Lay Readers: Tina Powers, Dorothy Haviland
Ushers: Craig Elliott, Pat Elliott, Mary Snell, Carol Parnell
Vestry Person of the Day: Ross Lively



The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God

St. Philip's Contacts

The Rt. Rev. Rob Skirving – Bishop of East Carolina
The Rev. Sarah Fisher – Bishop Elect of East Carolina
The Rev. Betty M. Glover - Interim Rector – Motherbetty@stphilipschurch.org
Deacon Pam Hayes – deaconpam@stphilipschurch.org
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Senior Warden – Al Snell – asnell117@gmail.com (2023-2025)
Junior Warden – Paul Bailey – paul1.bailey@outlook.com (2024-2026)

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