

St. Philip's Episcopal Church
The Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026 10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist Rite II

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

The Invitation to silently prepare for worship

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

.Call to Worship - "Spirit of the Living God"

Spirit of the Living God, Fall fresh on me.

Spirit of the Living God, Fall fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the Living God, Fall fresh on me.

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Hymn: "At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow" (#435)

The Penitential Order

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures forever.

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. **(Pause)**

Deacon and People: 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.

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

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading from the Book of Exodus (17:1-7)

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord,

“What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95

Venite, exultemus

1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

3 For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

5 The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

7 For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

8 Harden not your hearts,

as your forebears did in the wilderness, *

**at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.**

9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.

10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
**"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways."**

11 So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (5:1-11)

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn: "Rock of Ages" (#685 v. 1-2)

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (4:5-42)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in

spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn: “Rock of Ages” (#685 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 (Please stand or kneel as you are able.)

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

Leader: For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Rob our own Bishop, for Sarah our Bishop-Elect, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those in positions of public trust that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all who serve, or dwell, in harm's way; and all whose daily life is marked by peril or uncertainty, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those important to you; your prayers are invited either aloud or in the silence of your heart. (*Pause*)

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed St. Philip, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord our God.

Silence

Celebrant: For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever.

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

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 A

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. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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 (S130)

**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: : Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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. **People: AMEN**

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

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: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

People: have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

People: have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

People: grant us peace.

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.

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.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads before the Lord.

Celebrant: Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **People: Amen.**

Hymn – “My Song is Love Unknown (#458)

Deacon: The Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God.

Lenten and Holy Week Service Schedule

Wednesdays in Lent -12:00 PM - Holy Eucharist Rite II – Chapel of the Cross

March 29 – Palm Sunday – 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Thursdays in March – 1:00 PM – Stations of the Cross, Chapel Annex

April 2 – Maundy Thursday – 7:00 PM (Chapel of the Cross)

April 3 – Good Friday / Tenebrae – 7:00 PM (Sanctuary)

April 5 - Easter Day – 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Celebrant: Mother Betty Glover

Preacher: Deacon Pam Hayes

Deacon: Deacon Pam Hayes

Lay Readers: Susan Chase, Denise Willoth

Ushers: Ross Lively, Scott Willoth, Jim Belvin, Bertie Belvin

Vestry Person of the Day: Tracy Baltz

Welcome!

There are many churches in our community and we are glad that you chose to join us in worship this morning. It is our hope that you find St. Philip's to be a new home if you are looking for a church, or a home away from home if you are visiting Southport!

We believe that God is Love, and that we are called to love both God and others as God's children.

Please know that we place a premium on having a chance to get to know one another. Unfortunately, Sunday mornings do not allow us that precious time together. It would be wonderful if you would mention on the visitor card (or drop us an email) that you would like to meet us for a time of conversation and coffee!

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 –

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Deacon Pam Hayes – deaconpam@stphilipschurch.org

Debbie Skillman (Music Director) – dskillman@ec.rr.com

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Vestry

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Junior Warden – Bill Happer – fishinginsouthport2022@gmail.com (2024-2026)

2024-2026 Vestry

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