

St. Philip's Episcopal Church
The Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 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: "Hail, thou once despised Jesus" (#495)

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures forever.

The Decalogue (Please Stand or kneel as you are able)

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People: Amen. Lord have mercy.

The Confession

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 Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **People: 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 alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel (37:1-14)

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says

the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act,” says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

2 If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?

3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.

4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.

5 My soul waits for the Lord,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.

6 O Israel, wait for the Lord, *
for with the Lord there is mercy;

7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (8:6-11)

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: "Humbly I adore thee" (#314) vs. 1 & 2

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John (11:1-45)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn: "Humbly I adore thee" (#314) vs. 3

Sermon

Fr. John Sosnowski

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.

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 Sentence:

Celebrant: 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 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**

(Cantor) 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.

Communion

How to receive Holy Communion:

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

- 1. DRINK: Immediately consume your bread and wait for the chalice bearer to bring the cup. 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, wait for the chalice bearer who is holding a small glass cup. This cup is designated for intinction (dipping) only. The chalice bearer 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 return to your seat. 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. Amen.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads before the Lord.

Celebrant: Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **People: Amen.**

Hymn – “All my hope in God is founded (#665)

Deacon: The Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God.

Celebrant and Preacher: Father John Sosnowski

Deacon: Deacon Pam Hayes

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Aedan Barnes, Maitland Barnes, Jane Mitchell

Lay Readers: Aedan Barnes, Barbara Edwards

Ushers: Craig Elliott, Pat Elliott, Chris Gizzi, Holly Gizzi

Vestry Person of the Day: Angela Urquhart

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)

Altar of Repose (Sanctuary) will be livestreamed

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

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

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 – motherbetty@stphilipschurch.org
Deacon Pam Hayes – deaconpam@stphilipschurch.org
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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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