

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Advent



Photo by Bonnie Jensen

Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 14, 2025

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Welcome! We offer two services today: one at 8:00 a.m. and one at 10:30 a.m. The 10:30 a.m. service is broadcast on Facebook Live or YouTube. Livestreaming begins at 10:25 a.m. If you are visiting, please fill out a visitor card (located in the pew rack) and drop it in the offering plate or hand to an usher.

The Word of God

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE 1 AT 8:00 A.M.

The service is found in the Book of Common Prayer, found in the pews. The readings can be found elsewhere in this bulletin.

SALUTATION	BCP, pg. 323
KYRIE	BCP, PG. 324
COLLECT OF THE DAY	Leaflet, pg. 4
FIRST READING	Leaflet, pg. 5
CANTICLE	Leaflet, pg. 7
SECOND READING	Leaflet, pg. 8
HOLY GOSPEL	Leaflet, pg. 9
SERMON	Abby Glass
NICENE CREED	Leaflet, pg. 9
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND CONFESSION	Leaflet, pg. 10
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING	BCP, pg. 333
THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE	
POST COMMUNION PRAYER	BCP, pg. 339

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II AT 10:30 A.M.

PRELUDE

Ave Maris Stella I: When the Salutation Gabriel Hath Spoken

Marcel Dupré

All stand as they are able.

HYMN

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry *Winchester New*
The Hymnal 1982 #76 (st. 1-3)

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.

The Celebrant says to the People

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

PEOPLE

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

CELEBRANT Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated. As the congregation sings, a family lights the Advent Wreath candle(s).

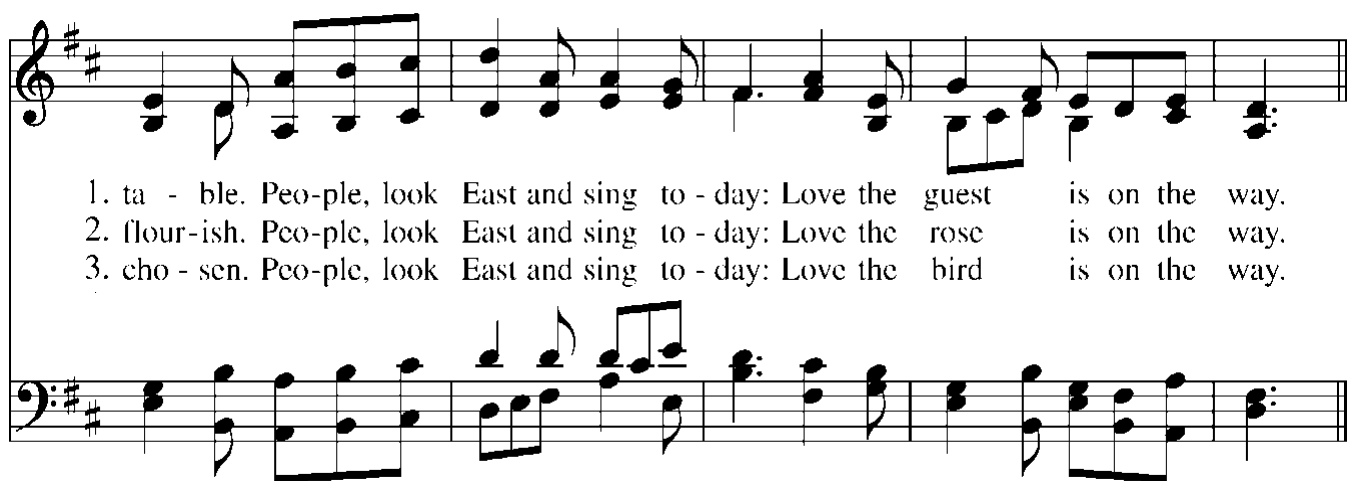
ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Besançon Carol

Wonder, Love, and Praise #724 (st. 1-3)

1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be

1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may
3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has



FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
 the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
 like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly,
 and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
 the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
 the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
 and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
 “Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
 with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
 and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

READER	The Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE	Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 15

The Song of Mary

Magnificat
Linda White



8:00 a.m.: The reader and the congregation read the canticle responsively by half verse.

10:30 a.m.: The congregation chants the **entire** canticle with choir.

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

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

He has mercy on those who | fear him *
in every gene- | ration.

He has shown the strength of his | arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their con- | ceit.

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

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

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

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

SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

A Reading from the Epistle of James.

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as they are able.

HYMN

"Thy Kingdom Come!" on Bended Knee

St. Flavian

The Hymnal #615 (st. 1-3)

1 "Thy king - dom comel" on bend - ed knee the pass - ing a - ges pray;
 2 But the slow watch - es of the night not less to God be - long;
 3 And lo, al - rea - dy on the hills the flags of dawn ap - pear;

1 and faith - ful souls have yearned to see on earth that king-dom's day.
 2 and for the ev - er - last - ing right the si - lent stars are strong.
 3 gird up your loins, ye pro - phet souls, pro-claim the day is near:

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

PRIEST The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
PEOPLE **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?

⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

PRIEST The Gospel of the Lord.
PEOPLE **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

Abby Glass

NICENE CREED *All stand as they 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 1

The Leader and People pray responsively

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying,
“Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the
salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for
the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For Brevard, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, and for those on our St. Philip's prayer list,

Christy Adams, Alston, Amber, Peggy Ayres, Barry, Dez Blue, Christopher Bolk, Leslie Brown, Charles, Pamela Costagliola, Jay Curwen, Dave, Dave, Carl Denny, Lance Dickenson, Nancy Dillard, Suzanne Dininny, Jan Dryselius, Dianne and Howard Dyer, Judith Egan, Ellen, Annette Ellerton, Liz Ford, Edie Gabcik, John Gannon, Charlotte Gilmore, Kathy Haehnel, Tim Harris, Howard Jackson, Kay Jones, Lyn Kane, Michael Kirwen, Kurt, Ruth LePine, Tom Lewis, Kay Mann, Elisabeth Marchant, Dottie Marcinko, Johnny Martinez, Larry Maupin, Kathryn McKinley, Mark and Leslie Montgomery, Veronica Morrow, Jenifer Morrow, Courtney and Nikarra, Francis Leon Olea, Pat, Nancy Patterson, Judy Pierce, Debbie and John Poe, Bev and Milbrey Raney, Liam Rial, Jim Ride, Lisa Rodke, Mary Rose, Hudson Rudisill, Gabrielle Ruge, Roy Sawyer, Linda Schieve, Frank Shoemaker, Alice Silva, Isabella Smith, Ray Snellgrove, Caroline Stein, Brenda Summers, Arden Swift, Marcia Thies, Mike Tiddy, Jim Tso, Emily Walthall, Penny Williams, Eileen Gilson Williams, Ed Wiseman, Risdon Wood, and Judy Yancey

Let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

In our diocese, we pray for St. Thomas, Burnsville. In our Anglican Communion, we pray for The Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil (The Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil).

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Minister 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.**

ABSOLUTION

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

PEACE

CELEBRANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

May God's grace be upon this mantle, warming, comforting,
enfolding, and embracing.

May this mantle be a safe haven...

A sacred place of security and well-being...

Sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones.

May the one who receives this mantle

Be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace,

And wrapped in love. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Table

OFFERTORY ANTHEM O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

The text is found on page 56 of The Hymnal 1982 located in the pew.

(10:30 a.m. only)

Old 100th

The Hymnal 1982 #380 (st. 3)

*3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise

him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing as they are able.

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 God thanks and praise.**

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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 sing

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Robert J. Powell (1932-2025)
The Hymnal 1982 #S 129

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. _____

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and'. The second staff contains 'might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third staff contains 'san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who'. The fourth staff contains 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____'. There are triplets marked with a '3' and a bracket over the notes 'heaven and earth' and 'san - na'.

The Celebrant continues

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.

The Celebrant continues

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

The Celebrant then continues

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

People and Celebrant

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND FRACTION ANTHEM

CELEBRANT We break this bread
to share in the Body of Christ.

PEOPLE **We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread. Alleluia!**

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All who seek Christ are invited to receive the bread and wine standing or kneeling at the altar rail. If you choose not to receive the wine, let the server know that you want only the bread by placing one hand over your heart (receiving only the bread is full communion). If you prefer not to take communion, you may come forward for a blessing, crossing your arms over your chest, or not come forward at all; no one will judge you.

To receive the wine by intinction, please come to the altar rail. Extend your hands, palms flat, and the bread will be placed there for you to dip the bread into the wine.

To receive the wine by sipping from the chalice, please also come to the altar rail, consume the bread, then please help the Lay Eucharistic Minister guide the chalice to your lips to sip.

Please wait for an usher to release you from your pew to come forward. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY

Ave Maris Stella II: Jesu's Tender Mother, Make Thy Supplication

Ave Maris Stella III: So Now as We Journey, Aid Our Weak Endeavor

Marcel Dupré

HYMN

Sing Out, My Soul

Tune: Jacques Berthier

Text: Luke 1:46

(A) Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. (B) Sing out and glo-ri-fy the

(C) Lord who sets us free. Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul.

(D) Sing out and glo-ri-fy the Lord God!

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

This prayer takes the place of the Postcommunion Prayer for those worshipping at home.

Gracious God, since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The people stand as they are able.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage**

to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

After the prayer, the People respond

Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN

Come, thou Long-Expected Jesus

Stuttgart

The Hymnal 1982 #66

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

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

DISMISSAL

The Priest offers a dismissal, and the People respond

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Ave Maris Stella IV: Amen (Finale)

Marcel Dupré



Hearing Loop assistance is available inside this building. Set hearing aid on “T” (telecoil) setting. Headsets are also available in both the narthex and Miller Hall that will allow access to the Hearing Loop. Please see an usher for help.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

We welcome children of all ages in all our worship services. In the narthex, you can find worship bags with quiet activities for children. **Nursery for children Kindergarten age and younger is available today beginning at 10:15 a.m. for our 10:30 a.m. service.** An usher can direct you to our nursery located on the lower level of our parish building.

HEARING THE WORD DECEMBER 14

On Sunday, December 14, 2025, we welcome Abby Glass to preach at our Sunday morning services. We share Abby with the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd as our Children, Youth, and Family Minister. Please join us in welcoming Abby!

FIBER AND FRIENDS MINISTRY

The Fiber and Friends Ministry creates prayer shawls, lap blankets, baby blankets, hats, scarves, and other handcrafted items as acts of kindness—offered to mariners through the Seamen’s Institute and to anyone in need of comfort, healing, or support. The ministry gathers every Tuesday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the church parlor. All are welcome to knit, crochet, or simply join in fellowship.

THIS SUNDAY AT ST. PHILIP’S

- **Sunday at 8:00 a.m.** – During this season, we enjoy the beautiful traditional language of Holy Eucharist, Rite 1, in our Sunday morning 8:00 a.m. spoken service. For this service, we will be using *The Book of Common Prayer*, so bring your own (or use one of our pew copies)! We will enjoy music voluntaries at the prelude, communion, and postlude.
- **“Poetry of Christmas II: Atheists, Doubters, and Nostalgia” at 9:15 a.m.** – (See “Adult Formation Offerings” page 21)
- **“Holy Encounters: Exploring Jesus’ Way of Being in the World” at 9:15 a.m.** – (See “Adult Formation Offerings” page 21)
- **Youth Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.** – Middle and high school youth are invited to join us for Sunday School. We are using short videos from bibleproject.com to jump start our discussions; this fully animated series traces key biblical themes from their first appearance through the entire narrative of the Bible. We meet in the youth classroom located downstairs in the Education wing.
- **Godly Play at 9:15 a.m.** – Children ages 4 through 5th grade will be engaged in Godly Play. The Godly Play approach helps them to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Godly Play meets in the Education wing downstairs.

- **Nursery at 9:15 a.m.** – Nursery for children Kindergarten age and younger is available today beginning at 9:15 a.m.
- **Children’s Church at 10:30 a.m.** – On Sunday all children (K-5th grade) are invited to Children’s Church during the Liturgy of the Word in the 10:30 a.m. service. Children may be brought to the Sunday School room across from the Godly Play room (the youth classroom) before parents/grandparents go to church. Children will be taken to the church during the Peace and should join their family for communion.
- **Sunday at 10:30 a.m.** – Join us for Holy Eucharist, Rite II (with music) at our 10:30 a.m. service.
- **Coffee Hour after the 10:30 a.m. service** – All are invited and always welcome to join us in Miller Hall (our large upstairs meeting room) after the 10:30 a.m. service for juice or coffee and fellowship. This is a great chance to mingle, meet new people, or just relax with friends.

ADULT FORMATION OFFERINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

- **“Poetry of Christmas II: Atheists, Doubters, and Nostalgia” at 9:15 a.m.** – Poems by Longfellow, Hardy, and Yeats, poets who disbelieved the Christmas stories but wished they were true. Adult Forum takes place in the YAC (our large downstairs meeting room) at 9:15 a.m.
- **“Holy Encounters: Exploring Jesus’ Way of Being in the World” at 9:15 a.m.** – This autumn, the Coffee and Conversation team is facilitating conversation around Jesus’ way of being in the world as we explore the Sermon on the Mount together. Join us as we look to cultivate holy moments of encounter as individuals, in community, and in the world around us. Coffee & Conversation meets in Miller Hall, our large upstairs meeting room.

SACRED ANOINTING DURING ADVENT

On the Sundays in Advent, Elizabeth and Brad (our seminarian) will offer **sacred anointing in the Chapel during Communion** at the 8:00 and 10:30 services. In Scripture, anointing with oil marks God’s people for healing, purpose, and joy. During Advent, it’s a meaningful way to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, our Messiah—“the Anointed One.” We invite you to receive this simple sign of blessing as we await his coming in hope.

OUR 2026 GIVING CAMPAIGN CONTINUES!

Our 2026 Giving Campaign continues. Please prayerfully consider your annual pledge in *Moving FORWARD! with Grace and Generosity*. [Click here](#) to view our Giving 2026 brochure, which shows how your generosity sustains our mission and ministry. If you need a pledge card, you can [print one here](#) or pick one up in the narthex, Miller Hall foyer, or Parish Office. Every pledge—large or small—makes a difference and helps our

church plan faithfully for the year ahead. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to the life of St. Philip's!

<i>Giving 2026</i> Week 11	Last Year	This Year
	Status to Date	Status to Date
Number of Pledges	168	167
Total Dollars	\$586,284	\$609,985
	End of Pledge Drive	End of Pledge Drive
Number of Pledges	180	
Total Dollars	\$637,712	

JOIN US FOR OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES



St. Philip's welcomes you to our

Christmas Services

December 24

3:00 pm 'No-Stress Pageant' and Holy Eucharist with Carols

*5:00 pm Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
with the Chancel Choir

*8:00 pm Festival Holy Eucharist
with the Chancel Choir

11:00 pm Midnight Candlelight Service
with special music

December 25

*10:30 am Holy Eucharist with Carols and Homily
*Livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 24 -JANUARY 2

The parish office will be closed Wednesday, December 24, 2025 - Friday, January 2, 2026. However, someone will check messages each weekday, and - as always - a priest will be on call for pastoral emergencies. Note: Most groups do not observe regular schedules this week; we suggest that you confirm your group is actually meeting before you travel.

GIVING IS A SPIRITUAL ACT!

Thank you for investing your treasure in the work and mission of St. Philip's. Your gift supports our service to the community – building ramps, collecting food, tutoring children, growing vegetables, delivering meals, and many other activities. Visit

<https://www.stphilipsbrevardnc.org/donate> to explore donating. To make a gift now use Realm or text STP to 73256.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

During the Advent season, our hangings change to Sarum Blue, the Advent wreath appears, and the form of our Eucharistic prayer changes. St. Philip's and many other churches will light the rose-colored candle of the Advent Wreath this Sunday. Why? For a brief and entertaining explanation we can turn to the Rev. Tim Schenck (co-founder of Lent Madness), who writes "What's Up with the Pink Candle?". Enjoy! *O Come, Emmanuel!*

IT'S TIME TO CHOOSE A COSTUME FOR OUR NO-STRESS CHRISTMAS PAGEANT! DECEMBER 14 and 21

It is hard to believe, but it's time to prepare for our "No-Stress Christmas Pageant" on December 24th! "No Stress" means no rehearsals, no lines to memorize and the freedom to wear whatever represents someone's vision of the Christmas story, be it a Wise Man or dinosaur! Costumes from home may be worn or borrowed from St. Philip's collection. We have many choices for traditional costumes, including beasts, but sizes are limited.

This year we are inviting individuals and families to sign up for costume selection and fitting. If this is done far enough in advance, alterations and additions are possible.

Costumes will be displayed and helpers available during the Sunday School hour at 9:15 a.m. on December 14th and 21st, or by appointment – please watch for e-mails or announcements for our costume "shop" location! To sign up for a time to try on costumes, please contact Lynn Adams (lynnpadams@gmail.com or 828-388-0192) or Claire Sikes-Clark (clairersikes@gmail.com).

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Birthdays

14 Violet Silva	17 Joan Zeller	19 Christine Wright
14 Rosie Shepherd	18 Finn McMillan	20 Davis Whitfield-Cargile
15 Isaiah Nergart	18 Holly Farlow	
15 Rosie Sink	19 Cindy Rudd	

Anniversaries

15 Denis and Jan Bolena

WEEKLY SERVICES AT ST. PHILIP'S

Join us each week at our services of Holy Eucharist!

- Sundays, 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I (*spoken*)
- Sundays, 10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II (*with music*)
- Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist Rite II (*College Walk Senior Living Community Chapel*)
- Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing (*Chapel*)

COVER ART: *The Fourth Sunday of Advent* (2020), photograph by Bonnie Jensen.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Officiant..... The Rev. Elizabeth Roles
Homilist Abby Glass
Seminarian.....Brad Wilson
Director of Music Ministry.....Dr. Brittnee Siemon
Organist Jackson Morton
Altar Guild..... Dolores Brown
Jo Buescher

8:00 a.m.

Acolyte	Kathryn Polmanteer	Ushers	Steve Clay
Reader 1	Gena Hawk		Scott Elliott
Reader 2	Melanie McKague	Liturgical Coordinator	
Reader 3	deRosset Myers		Keith Hawk
LEM	Bob Wesneski		

10:30 a.m.

Acolytes	Megan McCabe	LEMs	Billie Begg
	Melissa McCabe		Fred Brown
Reader 1	Molly Tartt		Abby Glass
Reader 2	Mary McGinnis	Offering Counters	
Reader 3	Daphne Chalaron		Janet Gralley
Ushers	Susan Murray		Jennifer Lacefield
	Tom Murray		
Liturgical Coordinator	Nancy Harger		



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