

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

**Christmas Eve
The Nativity of Our Lord**



**Festival Holy Eucharist, Rite II
December 24, 2025
8:00 p.m.**

Welcome! This 8:00 p.m. service is broadcast on Facebook Live or YouTube. 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.

Festival Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

PRELUDE Trio sonata in e minor: II, andante J.S. Bach

INTROIT Troped Lesson from *Missa in Gallicantu* Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
 Hunter Harris, *tenor*
 Doug Grimm, *baritone*

All stand as they are able.

HYMN Once in Royal David's City *Irby*
 Jamie Gilson, *tenor* arr. David Willcocks

Soloist Once in Royal David's city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
 Where a mother laid her baby
 In a manger for his bed:
 Mary was that mother mild
 Jesus Christ her little child.

All He came down to earth from heaven,
 Who is God and Lord of all,
 And his shelter was a stable,
 And his cradle was a stall;
 With the poor and mean and lowly,
 Lived on earth our Savior holy.

 And through all His wondrous childhood
 He would honor and obey,
 Love and watch the lowly maiden,
 In whose gentle arms He lay:
 Christian children all must be
 Mild, obedient, good as He.

For He is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day like us He grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

THE ACCLAMATION

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

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

HYMN OF PRAISE Angels We Have Heard on High *Gloria*
The Hymnal 1982 #96

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?

SALUTATION

OFFICIANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

OFFICIANT Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The People are seated.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--
 on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation,
 you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
 and the bar across their shoulders,
 the rod of their oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors
 and all the garments rolled in blood
 shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us,
 a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
 and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
 His authority shall grow continually,
 and there shall be endless peace
 for the throne of David and his kingdom.
 He will establish and uphold it
 with justice and with righteousness
 from this time onward and forevermore.
 The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

PSALM 96:1, 7-13

Cantate Domino
 Joseph Thorne Harris



*The congregation chants the **entire** psalm with choir.*

- ¹ Sing to the Lord a | nēw | song; *
 sing to the Lord, | all the w^hole | earth.
- ⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, you | families of the | peoples; *
 ascribe to the | Lōrd honor and | power.
- ⁸ Ascribe to the Lord the honor | due his | Name; *
 bring offerings and | come in- to his | courts.
- ⁹ Worship the Lord in the | beauty of | holiness; *
 let the | whole earth tremble be- | fore him.
- ¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations: "The | Lord is | King! *
 he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
 he will | judge the peoples with | equity."

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and | all that is | in it; *
let the field be joyful and | all that is there- | in.

¹² Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the | Lord when he | comes, *
when he | comes to judge the | earth.

¹³ He will judge the | world with | righteousness *
and the | peo- ples with his | truth.

THE SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

Remain seated.

A Reading from the Letter to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand as they are able.

HYMN

Away in a Manger

*Cradle Song
The Hymnal 1982 #101*

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

These words are in the public domain.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it

were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Elizabeth Roles

NICENE CREED

All stand as they are able.

Let us affirm our faith, saying together the words of the Nicene Creed:

**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

The Leader and People pray responsively

Come let us adore Christ, the Lord. Let us pray, “Eternal God, grant us your peace.”

O Christ, you make joyful our hearts. Strengthen your Church with humility and faith that we might live in love.

Eternal God,

PEOPLE **Grant us your peace.**

O Christ, you abhor neither the simple nor the lowly. Shine your light on all the world that the nations may look upon your truth and find their salvation.

Eternal God,

PEOPLE **Grant us your peace.**

O Christ, may all of creation burst forth in songs of praise. May all the works of your hand glorify you

Eternal God,

PEOPLE **Grant us your peace.**

O Christ, you summon your people to draw near to the manger. May all of the heartache of our lives fade away in the joy of your presence.

Eternal God,

PEOPLE **Grant us your peace.**

O Christ, you love us as your people. Grant your healing grace to us, to the poor, to those in need of love. Open your arms to the sick and the lonely.

Eternal God,
PEOPLE **Grant us your peace.**

O Christ, all glory be given to you. You blessed our bodies with your birth;
and you promise to raise us to new life by your death and resurrection.

Eternal God,
PEOPLE **Grant us your peace.**

The Celebrant says

Eternal God,
in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

OFFICIANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.
PEOPLE **And also with you.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Night of Silence Dan Kantor (b. 1960)
arr. John Ferguson (b. 1941)

Cold are the people, winter of life
We tremble in shadows this cold, endless night
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping
Flowers that will echo the sunrise
Fire of hope is our only warmth
Weary, its flame will be dying soon

Voice in the distance, call in the night
On wind you enfold us you speak of the light
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly

Rumours of a dawn so embracing
Breathless love awaits darkened souls
Soon will we know of the morning

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy infant, so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Spirit among us, shine like the star
Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely
Rising in the warmth of your Son's love
Star unknowing of night and day
Spirit we wait for your loving Son

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake, at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia'
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born

The people stand as they are able as the gifts are brought forward.

OFFERTORY HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste fideles
arr. David Willcocks

O come, all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant,
O come, ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come, and behold him,
Born the King of angels;

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.*

God from God,
Light from Light eternal,

lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only-begotten
Son of God the Father;

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God,
glory in the highest;

See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps;

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others. This selection is in the public domain.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing as they are able.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant. The fourth staff is for the People.

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

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

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him 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 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 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 for 'heaven and earth', 'full of your glory', and 'san - na in the high - est'.

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 ANTHEM

A Spotless Rose

Herbert Howells

A spotless Rose is blowing
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might
The blessed babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

HYMN

Silent Night

Stille Nacht

All kneel as they are able. The congregation is invited to sing the entire carol following the vocal introduction in German.

Jonas McCanless, baritone and guitar

Solo Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

All Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

The congregation stands when the Celebrant returns to the altar.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

This prayer takes the place of the Postcommunion Prayer for those worshiping 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.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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.**

BLESSING

HYMN

Joy to the World!

arr. John Rutter

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns;
Let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods,
Rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

THE DISMISSAL

After the Dismissal, the People respond

PEOPLE

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Christus Advenit: Toccata on Vom Himmel Hoch

Garth Edmundson



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

During the holiday season, we invite all children to attend all services, including Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We look forward to seeing the children in church, and the nursery will reopen on Sunday, December 28, 2025.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS TO BENEFIT CAMP HENRY AND BOUND FOR GLORY CAMP

The Vestry has designated that the loose plate and designated offerings from the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services benefit our Cornerstone Centennial 2026 gift designees: Camp Henry, the Episcopal camp at Lake Logan, and Bound for Glory Camp, a free literacy and adventure camp for struggling readers in Brevard. Please include “Christmas Offering” on the memo line or envelope with your offering.



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.

THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

Wait! Don't put away those Christmas decorations! In our liturgical year, the Christmas season immediately follows Advent. The traditional Twelve Days of Christmas begin with Christmas Eve on the evening of December 24 and continue until the feast of Epiphany on January 6. In church, notice that our hangings change to white, symbolizing purity, hope, and joy: Christmas is the season when we proclaim the unique nature of our God – that God does not stand distant from us, but fully enters our lives – Emmanuel, "God with us."

Christmas Flowers and Greenery 2025

Gifts for the beautiful array of flowers and greenery for our Christmas services have been given to the Glory of God and:

In memory of Stanley, Eleanor, and Elizabeth Chapman by Ruth Chapman

In memory of Becky Ambrose by Jeff and Kathy Ambrose

In thanksgiving for Sam, Annelise, Emily, Lawton, Catherine, Hannah, and Sam by Ann Ives

In memory of Aleen Steinberg and Joyce Douglas by Jacquelyn Rogow

In thanksgiving for William Gilbert and Betsy Smith and our children Laura Grace and Trevor by Ellen and Geoff Davis

In memory of Harry Sherwood by Mary Sherwood

In memory of Priscilla Bobst Caldwell and Dian Smith Brewton by Peggy Bridges

In memory of Keith Roland by Thomas and Jessalyn Valentine

In memory of Matthew and Anna Mayberry, John Wallace, and Roberta Tonissen by Richard and Martha Mayberry

In memory of Verling Milton Votaw, Mary Elizabeth Mount Votaw, John Votaw, Mark Votaw, Rhoda Votaw, Virginia Votaw Addis, Robert Addis, Richard McKenzie Hamor, Martha Jellison Ayotte, Richard Joseph Ayotte by the Rev. Alastair and Holly Votaw

In memory of Jack Roland McBrayer by Mary Alice McBrayer

In thanksgiving for Ben, Maggie, Anna, Kaleb, Mikala, Asher, Brayden, Henry, Finley, Rose, Stella, and Lucy by Jan and Denis Bolena

In memory of Donald and Rachel Bleasdale by Susan Winsor

In memory of Patrick Phillips by Lisa Rodke

In memory of Elizabeth Allison Bridges, James Oliver Bridges, James Donald Bridges, William Christopher Bridges, and Barbara Weld Bridges by Peggy Bridges

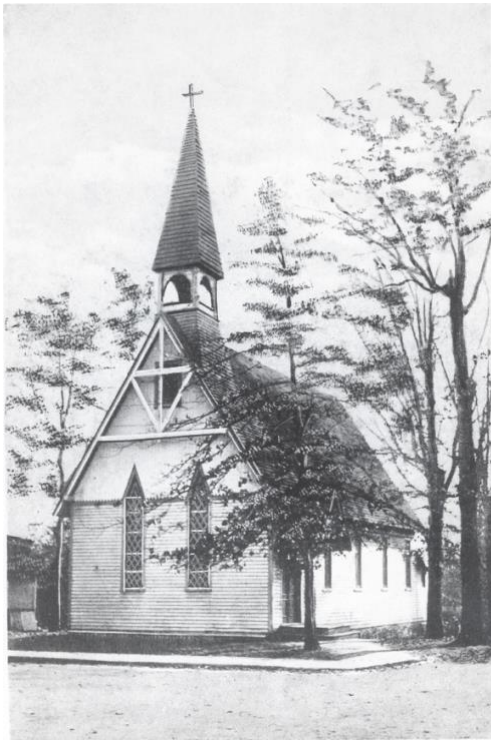
In thanksgiving for Iseley, Gatlin, Adelina, Lorelai, and Teagan by the McKague family

COVER ART: *Nativity Scene* (1622), painting by Gerrit van Honthorst. Wallraf-Richartz-Museum, Cologne, Germany. (Attribution: Honthorst, Gerrit van, 1590-1656. Nativity Scene, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=46662> [retrieved December 9, 2025]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gerard_van_Honthorst_001.jpg.)

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Officiant.....	The Rev. Elizabeth Roles
Seminarian.....	Brad Wilson
Director of Music Ministry.....	Dr. Brittnee Siemon
Organist	Jackson Morton
Acolyte	Jann Mellman
Reader 1.....	Holly Votaw
Reader 2.....	Christine Wright
Reader 3.....	Bill Mellman
LEMs	Peggy Bridges
	Fred Brown
	Jann Mellman
Ushers	Pat Dunham
	Kathleen Elliott
	Melissa Elliot
	Scott Elliott
Liturgical Coordinator	Peggy Bridges



Celebrate 100 years with us!

SAINT PHILIP'S
CHURCH
1926-2026
CORNERSTONE
CENTENNIAL

Join us in 2026

... to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of our historic church building. We're planning opportunities for fellowship, worship, music, history, fun, fundraising, and much more.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

50s Potluck and Family Game Night

Focus on our church family as we recreate an old-fashioned 1950s Potluck Dinner and Family Game Night for all ages. Optional: Dress in 50s-style clothing! Prizes will be awarded for game winners and best 50s attire.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Cornerstone Centennial Evensong

A service of Choral Evensong featuring a *Magnificat* setting dedicated to the Rev. Elizabeth Roles, poetic texts by the Rev. Dr. Judith A. Davis, and new music by composers Thomas Rex Harrison and Jesse Kaiser.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

Live and Silent Auction

A festive auction with music, snacks, and door prizes. Proceeds will support Camp Henry, the Episcopal camp at Lake Logan, and Bound for Glory Camp, a free literacy and adventure camp for struggling readers in Brevard.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

'Historically Speaking' with the Rev. Elise Johnstone

The Rev. Elise Johnstone, a descendant of one of the founding families of the Episcopal Church in Transylvania County, is Rector of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Seattle, WA. Join us for a conversation with her and parishioner Craig Gralley, author of the forthcoming book *Echoes of Eden in Western North Carolina: The Johnstone Settlement, 1852-1864*. Elise will also preach and teach Sunday, August 30.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

Service of Acknowledgement

The Rev. Elise Johnstone joins us for a special service as we speak honestly to God about the sin of slavery and look forward with hope to a renewed future.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

Bishop's Celebration

An evening with the Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin in celebration of our Cornerstone Centennial.

ALSO COMING IN 2026

More Centennial Events

Watch for announcements about a book signing with Craig Gralley. We're also planning History Tours in the summer, with opportunities to learn about local sites with connections to the history of St. Philip's and surrounding communities.



St. Philip's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



ST. PHILIP'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

256 E Main Street, Brevard, NC 28712

828.884.3666

www.stphilipsbrevardnc.org



MINISTERS: The Baptized People of God
The Rt. Rev. José Antonio McLoughlin, Bishop
The Rev. Elizabeth Roles, Rector



OUR VISION: *Rooted in God's word and guided by Christ's example, St. Philip's Episcopal Church will be a loving, inclusive community committed to living out Christ's commandments.*



OUR MISSION: *Guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, and informed by Scripture, tradition and reason, we will:*

- *Learn and teach by word and example how God continues to be at work in the world and in our lives;*
- *Love and serve all people as Christ loves us;*
- *Grow in faithful stewardship of the resources God has given us; and*
- *Celebrate joyfully this faith in our life, worship, prayer, and service.*

