St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The First Sunday after Christmas



Holy Eucharist December 28, 2025 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Notes

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.

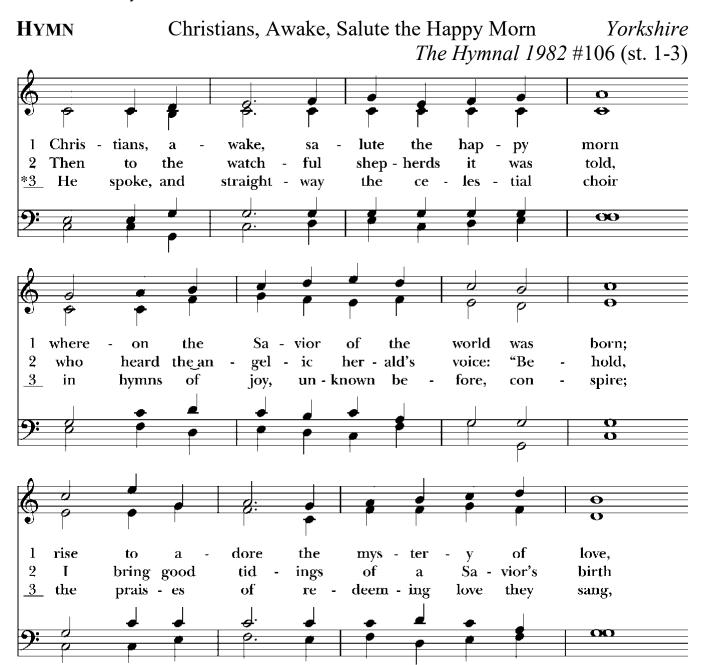
The service is found in the Book of Common Prayer, found in the pews. The readings can be found elsewhere in this bulletin.

SALUTATION	BCP, pg. 323
KYRIE	BCP, pg. 324
COLLECT OF THE DAY	Leaflet, pg. 6-7
FIRST READING	Leaflet, pg. 7
PSALM	Leaflet, pg. 8
SECOND READING	Leaflet, pg. 8
HOLY GOSPEL	Leaflet, pg. 9
SERMON	The Rev. Angela Emerson
NICENE CREED	Leaflet, pg. 11
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND CONFESSION	Leaflet, pg. 11
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 Enigma Variations: IX, "Nimrod" Edward Elgar

All stand as they are able.





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.

The Celebrant says

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



COLLECT OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE And also with you.

CELEBRANT Let us pray.

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

All are seated.

FIRST READING Isaiah 61:10-62:3

All sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

The reader and the congregation read the psalm responsively by half verse (in bold).

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

SECOND READING

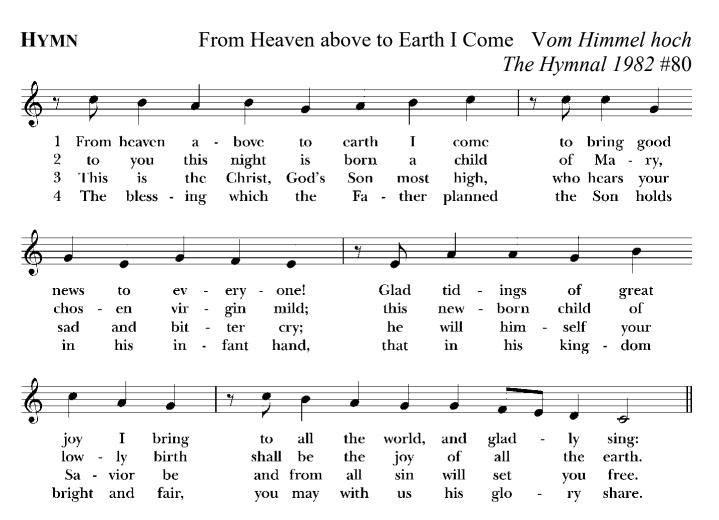
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Galatia.

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

^{4:4}But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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



HOLY GOSPEL John 1:1-18

PRIEST The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

PEOPLE Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being

through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

PRIEST The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Angela Emerson

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 III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; PEOPLE That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
PEOPLE That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

PEOPLE That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

PEOPLE That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

PEOPLE That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

PEOPLE Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy, remembering Helen Freedman;

PEOPLE May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Christy Adams, Alston, Amber, Peggy Ayres, Barry, Dez Blue, Christopher Bolk, Brette Brian, 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, 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.

In our diocese, we pray for St. John's Cartoogechaye, Franklin; St. John's, Asheville; St. John's, Marion; and St. John's, Sylva. In our Anglican Communion, we pray for The Anglican Church of Canada.

The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.

PEACE

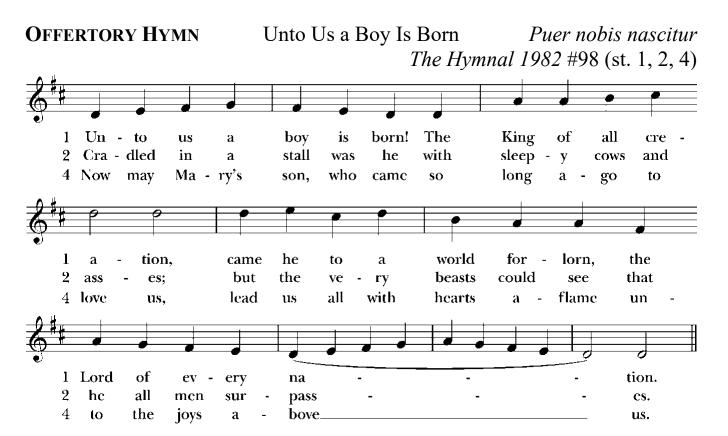
CELEBRANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE And also with you.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Liturgy of the Table



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.

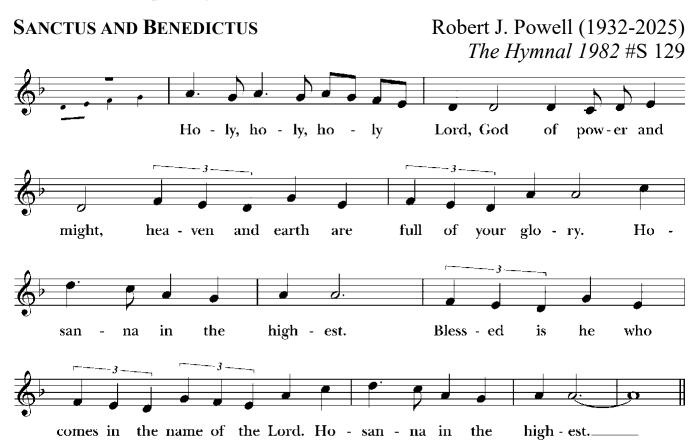
The Celebrant proceeds

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 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



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*.

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

Celebrant and People

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.



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.

The people stand as they are able.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

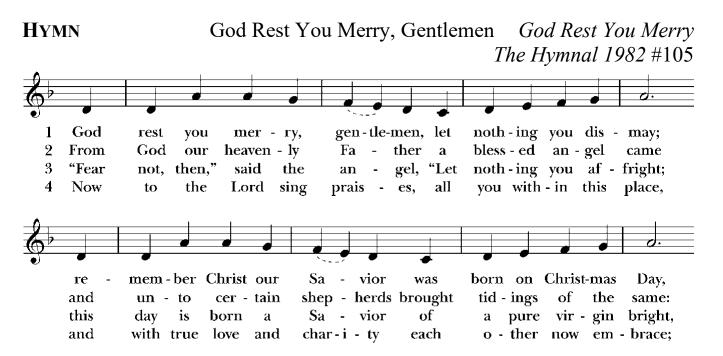
Celebrant and People

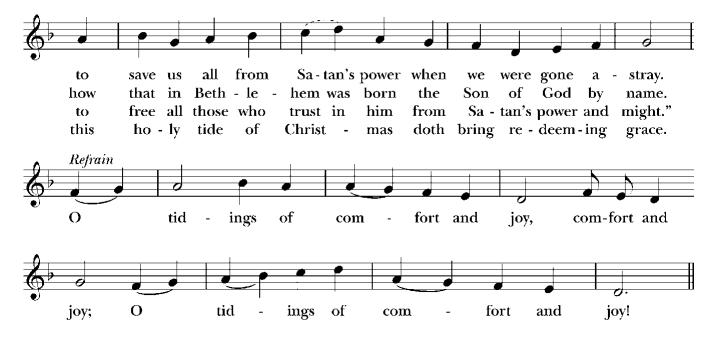
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

After the prayer, the People respond **Amen.**

BLESSING





DISMISSAL

The priest offers a dismissal, and the people respond

PEOPLE Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Trio Sonata in e minor: III, allegro

J. S. Bach





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 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

On Sunday, December 28, 2025, we welcome the Rev. Angela Emerson. Angela graduated from the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas in 2006. Prior to seminary, she practiced law in Georgia for 26 years. After seminary, she served as Curate and Chaplain to the school at St. Michael and All Angels in Tucson, Arizona before moving to Vermont to serve as Canon for Stewardship and Development. After retiring, she served as interim at two Vermont parishes. She relocated to Brevard in July of 2023. Please join us in welcoming Angela!

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.
- NO Coffee & Conversation, Adult Forum, or Youth Sunday School, or Godly Play December 28 Sunday School classes for all ages will resume Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 9:15 a.m.
- **NO Children's Church December 28, 2025** Children's Church will resume at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 4, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.
- 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.

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 contributions to ministry partners and the Diocese of Western North Carolina, Sharing House, Camp Henry Scholarship Fund, and Habitat for Humanity, to name a few. Visit https://www.stphilipsbrevardnc.org/donate to explore donating. To make a gift now use Realm or text STP to 73256.

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."

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BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

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28 Jill Stewart	31 Milton Fletcher	02 Alex Topper
29 Diane Livingston	01 Karen Palmer	03 Michael McCarthy
20 M M 1	02 D C -1.:	02 Ci., 1-, D -1,

30 Martha Mayberry02 Ron Schieve03 Cindy Rehm30 Joe Drake02 Ken Racht03 Asa Boehrig

30 Elliott Walthall 02 Craig Adams

Anniversaries

28 Manfred and Cindy Rehm
29 Ron and Linda Schieve
30 Judith Davis and Anne Gilson
20 Richard and Joan Keirstead

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: Icon of the Holy Family, Ukrainian folk style. Judith Davis, 2021

WORSHIP LEADERS

Officiant	The Rev. Angela Emerson
Organist	Jackson Morton
•	Doug Grimm
	Jo Buescher
2 2202	Kathryn Polmanteer

8:00 a.m.

Acolyte	Kathryn Polmanteer	Ushers	Sherry Watt
Reader 1	Kiran Mehta		Terry Watt
Reader 2	Abigail Cooley	Liturgical	Coordinator
Reader 3	Jean Woods		Ed Nezelek
	44		

LEM Holly Votaw

10:30 a.m.

Acolyte	Jann Mellman		
Reader 1	Chris Whatley	LEMs	Peggy Bridges
Reader 2	Wayne Eberhardt		Daphne Chalaron
Reader 3	Barbara Boerner		Wayne Eberhardt

Ushers Denis Bolena Offering Counters

Jan Bolena Liz Fuller

Liturgical Coordinator Bill Mellman

Ken Racht

Notes

Notes



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.

† † †