

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist

Sunday, July 26, 2026

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

Prelude

Instrumental

All stand as they are able.

HYMN (10:30 a.m. only)

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

Verse 1 Come Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Verse 2 Here I raise my "Ebenezer";
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

Verse 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, Oh, take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (8:00 a.m. only)

The following is said, all standing

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE (10:30 a.m. only)

Seek Ye First

Seek Ye First

Verse 1 Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
 And His righteousness,
 And all these things will be added unto you.
 Singing Hallelu, Hallelujah.

Verse 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you,
 Seek and ye shall find,
 Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
 Allelu, Allelujah.

Verse 3 Man shall not live by bread alone,
 But by every word
 That proceeds from the mouth of God.
 Singing Allelu, Allelujah.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.
PEOPLE **And also with you.**
CELEBRANT Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5-12

All sit.

A Reading from the First Book of the Kings.

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a

son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:129-136

Mirabilia

The reader and the congregation read the psalm responsively by half verse.

¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.

¹³¹I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.

¹³²Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.

¹³³Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.

¹³⁵Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-39

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

All stand as they are able.

HYMN (10:30 a.m. only) It is Well with My Soul

Verse 1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”

Chorus It is well (It is well)
With my soul (With my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

Verse 2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed His own blood for my soul. (*Chorus*)

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

³¹Another parable Jesus put before the crowds: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

SERMON

Brad Wilson

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

Planning for Rites and Rituals Year A

Sisters and brothers, give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name! Let us pray to God, saying, "Spirit, help us in our weakness. *Intercede for us.*"

God of the Church, may your people be as persistent as the mustard shrub.
May we spread your love and grace to all people and in all places. May we do
our kingdom work with the confidence that nothing can separate us from your
love.

LEADER Spirit, help us in our weakness.

PEOPLE **Intercede for us.**

God of the world, make known your deeds among the peoples. Bring peace in
places of conflict and violence.

LEADER Spirit, help us in our weakness.

PEOPLE **Intercede for us.**

God of creation, all of your works are marvelous. Everything in creation with which you have surrounded us speaks to your goodness. Give us eyes to see your fingerprints in our world.

LEADER Spirit, help us in our weakness.

PEOPLE **Intercede for us.**

Present God, you did not withhold your own Son, but gave him up for all of us. May we all come to know and experience the depths of your love. By your love, transform hearts and change lives.

LEADER Spirit, help us in our weakness.

PEOPLE **Intercede for us.**

God of wholeness, neither hardship nor distress can separate anyone from your love. Assure the suffering and sick, the hurt and sorrowful, that you care for them. May they remember that you are God who does marvelous things.

Christy Adams, Alston, Kathy Ambrose, Peggy Ayres, Barry, Bill, Dez Blue, Christopher Bolk, Leslie Brown, Charles, Holly Renee Copeland, Courtney, Darrington Crane, Jay Curwen, Carl Denny, Judy Caldwell Dexter, Lance Dickenson, Suzanne Dininny, Jan Dryselius, Dianne and Howard Dyer, Judith Egan, Ellen, Eugene, the Borgia family, Tim Courtois and family, Liz Ford, Ann Franklin, Colten Frey, Edie Gabcik, John Gannon, Elizabeth Harger, Tim Harris, Howard Jackson, Jada, Kay Jones, Lyn Kane, Roxann Kibbin, Michael Kirwen, Kurt, Ruth LePine, Tom Lewis, Rodge and Barbara Livengood, Elisabeth Marchant, Dottie Marcinko, Buddy Marines, Johnny Martinez, Larry Maupin, Mark and Leslie Montgomery, Veronica Morrow, Jenifer Morrow, Tom Murray, Nikarra, Pam, Pat, Nancy Patterson, Rebecca Peele, Judy Pierce, West Rial, Jim Rice, Hudson Rudisill, Gabrielle Ruge, Linda Schieve, Bill Sharp, Frank Shoemaker, Alice Silva, Isabella Smith, Ray Snellgrove, Barbara Staubs, Caroline Stein, Brenda Summers, Matthew Sundstrom, Sr., Marcia Thies, Mike Tiddy, Jenny Tierney, Jim Tso, Jeremy Tuck, Emily Walthall, Will, Penny Williams, Eileen Gilson Williams, Ed Wiseman, Risdon Wood, Judy Yancey

LEADER Spirit, help us in our weakness.

PEOPLE **Intercede for us.**

God of our ancestors, you have always been mindful of your promises. You promise that not even death can separate us from your love. May all those who have died grow in your eternal love, remembering Dan Elliott.

LEADER Spirit, help us in our weakness.

PEOPLE **Intercede for us.**

We give thanks for the flowers at the altar, given to the glory of God and in memory of Dan Elliott by his family.

We pray for those who are expecting childbirth, remembering Claire Sikes-Clark and Zif Clark.

In our diocese, we pray for St. James, Black Mountain; St. James, Hendersonville; and St. James, Lenoir. In our Anglican Communion, we pray for The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

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

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY MUSIC Bless The Lord (10,000 Reasons)

Verse 1 The sun comes up
 It's a new day dawning
 It's time to sing your song again
 Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
 Let me be singing when the evening comes

Chorus Bless the Lord O my soul
 O my soul
 Worship his holy name
 Sing like never before
 O my soul
 I'll worship your holy name

Verse 2 You're rich in love and you're slow to anger
 Your name is great and your heart is kind
 For all your goodness I will keep on singing
 10, 000 reasons for my heart to find

Chorus Bless the Lord O my soul
 O my soul
 Worship his holy name
 Sing like never before
 O my soul
 I'll worship your holy name

Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship your holy name

Verse 3 And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing your praise unending
10, 000 years and then forever more

Bless the Lord O my soul
O my soul
Worship his holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship your holy name
I will worship your holy name

OFFERTORY (*10:30 a.m. only*) Doxology *Old 100th*

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *The Book of Common Prayer*
Eucharistic Prayer B

All stand 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Celebrant and People

**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 Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all;
presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Philip and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

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 HYMN

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace

Amen, amen, amen
Amen, amen, amen

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace

Amen, amen, amen
Amen, amen, amen
Amen, amen, amen
Amen, amen, amen

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,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of 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 Savior. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

After the prayer, the People respond

Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

- Verse 1* Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
- Verse 2* Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word
I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.
- Verse 3* Be Thou my battle shield, sword for the fight
Be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high tow'r:
Raise Thou me heav'nard, O pow'r of my pow'r.
- Verse 4* Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.
- Verse 5* High King of heaven, my vict'ry won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.
- Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

DISMISSAL

The priest or seminarian offers a dismissal, and the people respond

PEOPLE

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Instrumental



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

On Sunday, July 26, 2026, we welcome Brad Wilson to preach at our morning services. Brad is studying for the priesthood at General Theological Seminary in New York City and currently serves at St. Philip’s. Please join us in giving him a warm welcome!

HEARING THE MUSIC

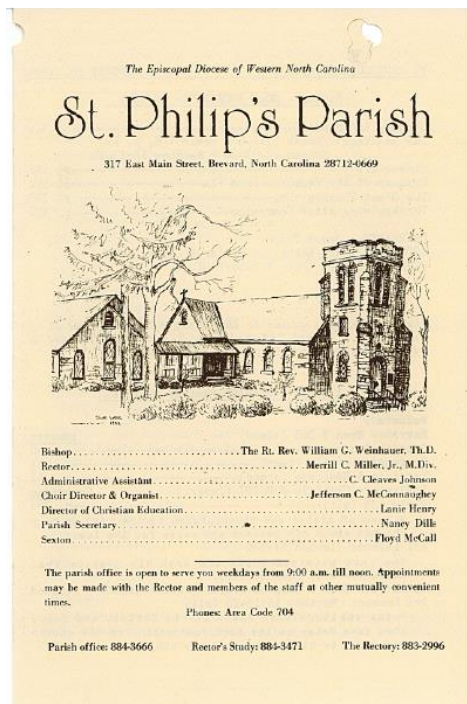
On Sunday, July 26, 2026, Christy Bauman and Megan Banner and their daughters will offer music. They look forward to sharing this family music as a joyful opportunity to pray, sing, listen, and celebrate together. We hope you’ll join us for this special Sunday!

THIS SUNDAY AT ST. PHILIP’S

- **Sunday at 8:00 a.m.** – During this season, we enjoy sharing the same Holy Eucharist, Rite II liturgy in our Sunday morning 8:00 a.m. spoken service as the 10:30 a.m. service.
- **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.

CORNERSTONE CENTENNIAL NUGGET: THE YEARS 1983-1996

By 1983, the Rev. Merrill Miller was in his eighth year in the parish, and his annual reports to the parish for the next thirteen years indicated a parish steadily growing, not only in numbers but also in spiritual growth, lay participation, and in reaching out to the needy in the community, the country and the world.



In the 1980s, the parish became debt-free for the first time in 20 years, the first full-time assistant rector joined the staff (John Carter, 1986-1992), ramps providing better access into the church and parish house were completed, 73 were presented for confirmation and 55 for baptism (1980-1989), and parish organizations were reorganized or reactivated. There were also regular reminders about biblical stewardship and annual giving, and that “pledges are behind but the parish budget is the largest in history.” With the growth in numbers, the inadequacy of space for new and existing programs became another recurring theme. Some office space was gained when a “professional” computer and copier were purchased, displacing the old Addressograph machine, the stencil maker, the mimeograph machine, and the outdated AB Dick copier that used slick paper. After concluding in 1986 that air-conditioning the church

“was not a primary need of the parish,” the Vestry did an about-face and installed it in 1988.

In his 1990 report, Fr. Merrill noted the “more subtle challenge that we have had to face during the year reflects the polarization the national Episcopal Church has experienced in recent years.” (The issues in the national Church at the time were the ongoing controversy over the ordination of women, human sexuality, reckoning with institutional racism, and an ongoing decline in membership.) He also noted that although the discussions had taken on a “more lively tone,” they were not “mean-spirited.” And yet the parish continued to grow in numbers, especially with children and youth “spilling out of the church and parish house on Sunday.” The 9:00 Family Service was added, and the altar gradually moved out from the back of the chancel, closer to the congregation. In 1993, the Vestry retained the services of an architect to design a new addition to the parish hall. Ground was broken on the addition in February 1995 and the space dedicated by Bishop Johnson in October.

The 1996 annual report, citing the previous year’s activities and changes, was written by Deacon John Morton after Fr. Miller’s resignation and retirement in April of that year. Morton wrote that while much would be changing in the near future, “nearly every indicator of parish health is positive,” a good start in building on the Miller legacy.

GIVING IS A SPIRITUAL ACT!

Thank you for investing your treasure in the work and mission of St. Philip's. Your gift helps us continue your legacy at St. Philip's for the future through the St. Philip's Foundation and Planned Giving. Visit <https://www.stphilipsbrevardnc.org/donate> to learn about legacy planning and explore donating.

THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

The Season after Pentecost is the sixth and final season of the church year. This season, sometimes referred to as "ordinary time," is the longest of the Church year, lasting through summer and well into late autumn, ending with the coming of Advent. During the Season after Pentecost, we recount the stories of Jesus' ministry, read and study passages from the Old Testament, and discuss letters written by disciples for members of the early church. The color for the Season after Pentecost is green, appropriate for the season of growth.

WEEKLY SERVICES AT ST. PHILIP'S

Join us each week at our services of Holy Eucharist!

- Sundays, 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II (*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*)

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Birthdays

26 Zinnia Duckworth	28 Parker Chapman	29 Thomas Freeman
28 Bob Rodes	29 Tom Bell	31 Mark Lemel
28 Keri Zink	29 Judy Pierce	31 Ted Duncan
28 Rhodes Schmidt	29 Robin Dean	

Anniversaries

01 Tom and Suzanne Bell	01 Matt and Julie Workman
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COVER ART: *Parable of the Yeast* (detail) (1975). Painting by Peter Koenig, United Kingdom. (Attribution: Koenig, Peter. Parable of the Yeast, detail, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58557> [retrieved June 26, 2026]. Original source: Peter Winfried (Canisius) Koenig, <https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/>.)

WORSHIP LEADERS

Officiant..... The Rev. Elizabeth Roles
Seminarian.....Brad Wilson
Director of Music Ministry.....Dr. Brittnee Siemon
Altar Guild.....Jo Buescher
Jackie Carleton
Kathryn Polmanteer

8:00 a.m.

Acolyte	Kathryn Polmanteer	Ushers	Mac Morrow
Reader	Felicity Myers		Craig Roth
Creed/Prayers	Abigail Cooley	Liturgical Coordinator	
LEM	Bob Wesneski		Ed Nezelek

10:30 a.m.

Acolytes	Megan McCabe Melissa McCabe	Ushers	Craig Gralley Janet Gralley
Reader 1	Christie Eberhardt	Offering Counters	
Reader 2	Christine Wright		Liz Fuller
Reader 3	Denis Bolena		Daphne Chalaron
LEM	Denis Bolena Christie Eberhardt Wayne Eberhardt	Liturgical Coordinator	Peggy Bridges

*****Notes*****



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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.*



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