



## **ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

5320 Limestone Road  
Wilmington, DE 19808  
302-239-2100  
[www.stphilips.us](http://www.stphilips.us)

*"As an inclusive and caring congregation, our mission is to make disciples,  
praise God, and serve the community."*

**January 5, 2025**  
**Second Sunday of Christmas**

*How Good It Is to Worship the Lord!!....Thank you for worshiping with us this morning. We pray that you would sense Christ's presence among us as we open our spirits to God.*

**If You Are Visiting with Us Today ...Welcome!!** Please be so kind as to sign our guest book and introduce yourself to the Pastor as you leave. We ask **everyone** to sign the red fellowship pads as they are passed down the pew. Only visitors need to put their address and phone number. Additionally, in your pew rack, there is a bible. We believe we are called not only to proclaim God's Word, but to give it away. So, should you need a copy of God's Word, we invite you to take a bible as a gift from our congregation.

**Nursery Care:** Jesus said, "Let the little children come." So, living in our baptismal promises, we welcome and encourage children to worship with us. However, we understand that children often wiggle during the service, so if you so desire, parents are invited to go for a walk in the narthex or to take children (thru age 4 years) to the nursery, which is in the room just off the narthex.

**Ministers**

The People of St. Philip's

**Senior Pastor**

Rev. Patrick V. Downes

**Associate Pastor**

Rev. Amy Wright

**Organist /Music Director**

Dr. Stephen Benscoter, CAGO

**Director of Choir Ministry**

Dr. Lauren Conrad

**Office Assistant**

Lisa Kalinowski

**Council Officers & Members:**

President.....Gerry Butler

Vice President.....Amanda DeWeese

Treasurer .....Teri Suddard

Secretary.....Liz Freburger

Coleman Bye

Carol Johnson

David Kenney

Mary Kay LaRue

John Longo

Debbi Miller

Dave Porter

Mike Rosen

Jim Stevens

**Sunday Morning Schedule**

8:00 A.M. Worship Service in Sanctuary

10:30 A.M. Worship Service in Sanctuary

\*\* Holy Communion Celebrated Each Week at Both Worship Services

**Church Office Hours:**

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday)

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# The Order of Worship

## Second Sunday of Christmas - January 5, 2025

### The Prelude

*"Once He Came in Blessing" J.S. Bach*

### \* The Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Most merciful God,

C: **We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. For give us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

### \* The Gathering Hymn

*"Love Has Come"*

*Next Page ►*



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

## \* The Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

## \* Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray . . . Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## The Old Testament Lesson *Jeremiah 31:7-14*

<sup>7</sup> For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;

proclaim, give praise, and say, 'Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.'

<sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,

among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back,

I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.'

<sup>11</sup> For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

<sup>12</sup> They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

<sup>13</sup> Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

<sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Reading *Psalm 147:12-20*

<sup>12</sup> Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

<sup>13</sup> **For he strengthens the bars of your gates;  
he blesses your children within you.**

<sup>14</sup> He grants peace within your borders;  
he fills you with the finest of wheat.

<sup>15</sup> **He sends out his command to the earth;  
his word runs swiftly.**

<sup>16</sup> He gives snow like wool;  
he scatters frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup> **He hurls down hail like crumbs—  
who can stand before his cold?**

<sup>18</sup> He sends out his word, and melts them;  
he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup> **He declares his word to Jacob,  
his statutes and ordinances to Israel.**

<sup>20</sup> He has not dealt thus with any other nation;  
they do not know his ordinances. Praise the Lord!

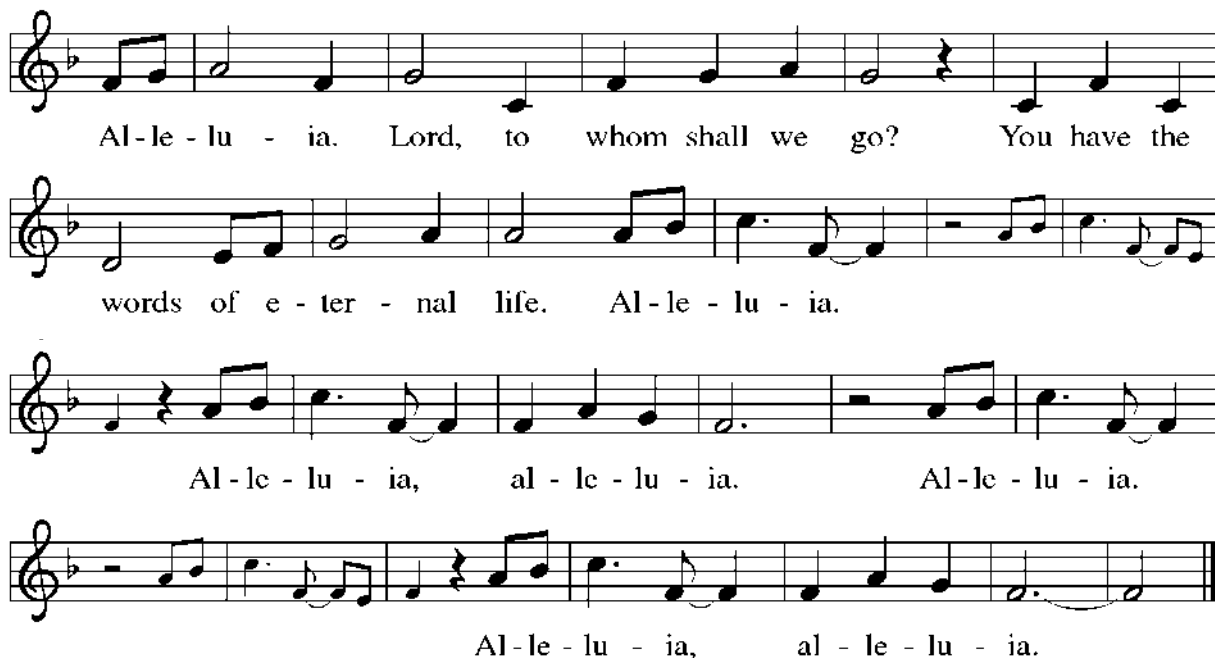
## The New Testament Lesson *Ephesians 1:3-14*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## \* Gospel Acclamation



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## \* The Gospel Lesson *John 1:1-18*

**P:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John the first chapter.

**C:** **Glory to you O, Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
<sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him  
not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the  
light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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

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

*(The Gospel Lesson continues on the Next Page ►)*

And 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. <sup>15</sup>(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."')

<sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Children's Sermon**

### **The Sermon**

*Rev. Amy Wright*



\* Hymn of the Day

*"In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness"*



1 In a deep, un - bound - ed dark - ness, long be - fore the  
2 Though our world is ev - er - chang - ing, you are con - stant,  
3 Joy trans - forms our lips to boast - ing on - ly in your  
4 God of Ha - gar, God of Sa - rah, God of no - mad



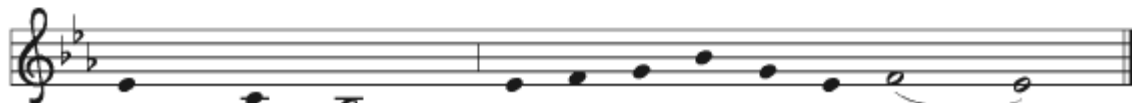
first light shone, you, O God, be - yond all mer - it  
firm, and sure, faith - ful to your cov - 'nant prom - ise.  
match - less grace, send - ing Christ to dwell a - mong us,  
A - bra - ham; God of Mir - iam, God of Mo - ses,



worked a won - der faith makes known: in your mer - cy,  
Trust - ing you, we live, se - cure: sing - ing prais - es,  
Word made flesh in time and space: Friend and Sav - ior,  
Fi - 'ry Pil - lar, great I AM: lead us home - ward,



in your mer - cy, you em - braced us  
sing - ing prais - es, long as heart and  
Friend and Sav - ior, in whose life we  
lead us home - ward, to the love - feast



as your own,  
breath en - dure, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
glimpse your face,  
of the Lamb,

## \* Apostles' Creed

P: Responding to the good news of God's grace, let us confess our faith together.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified died and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit**

**the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## \* The Prayers of the Church

*Congregation responds to each petition with: **Your mercy is great.***

## \* Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*The congregation is invited to share a sign of God's peace with your neighbors in whatever way you are mutually comfortable with: handshakes, hugs, elbow bumps, "peace signs," or words of peace and grace.*

## Greetings and Announcements

*At this time the Pastors will lift up some of the relevant events/happenings in the congregation. Offering plates are no longer passed around. Instead the offering plate is near the baptismal font. At some point this morning you may deposit your offering in the offering plate or you may continue to mail, automatically deposit, or use the website to continue your generous giving. Thank you so much for all you do for the ministry we are all a part of here at St. Philip's.*

## \* Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray . . . Good and loving God,

C: **we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## \* The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

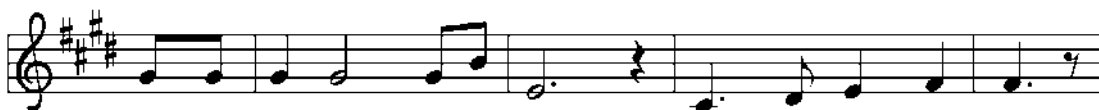
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places . . . We praise your name and join their unending hymn of praise.

## \* Sanctus (*"Holy, Holy, Holy"*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -



est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \* The Words of Institution

P: Holy God, in the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Almighty Father, by your Spirit bless this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, both now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## \* The Lord's Prayer

P: Joined together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: **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, forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

P: Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Agnus Dei

("Lamb of God")



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## The Reception of Communion

*The pastors will give direction on how communion will proceed this morning. Remain seated until directions are given.*

## Communion Distribution Hymns

*As you are waiting to come forward to receive the bread and the wine and/or after you are seated again, we ask you to join us in singing together the following hymns during the distribution of the Eucharist.*



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?  
 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?  
 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
 What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?  
 What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!  
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;  
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,  
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;  
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
 Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,  
 as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,  
 veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.  
 he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.  
 comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

## \* Post Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray . . . Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord

C: Amen

## \* Blessing

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord look on you with favor + give you peace.

C: Amen

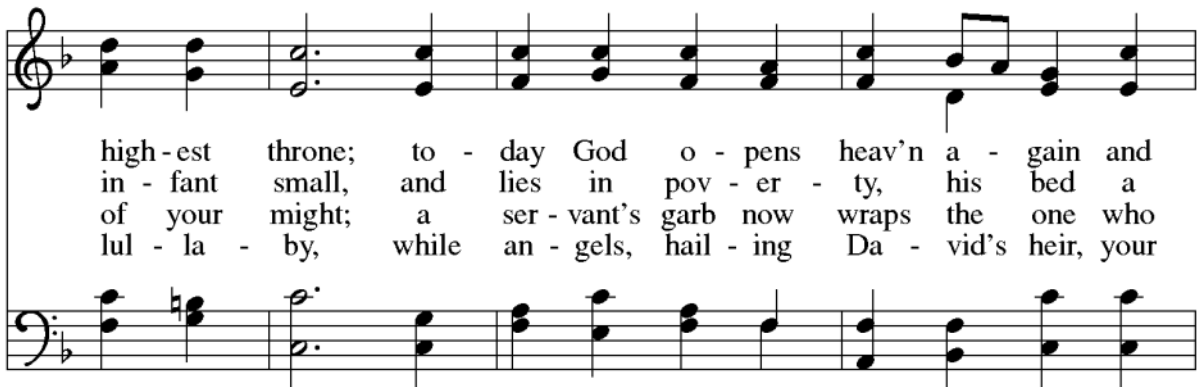
## \* Closing Hymn

*"Let All Together Praise Our God"*

ELW 287



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore the  
2 From God's right hand the Son de - scends, is born an  
3 O ten - der Child, you veil in flesh the splen - dor  
4 Your moth - er feeds you ten - der - ly, sings you a



high - est throne; to - day God o - pens heav'n a - gain and  
in - fant small, and lies in pov - er - ty, his bed a  
of your might; a ser - vant's garb now wraps the one who  
lul - la - by, while an - gels, hail - ing Da - vid's heir, your

*The Hymn is Continued on Next Page ►*



sends the on - ly Son, and sends the on - ly Son.  
 man - ger in a stall, a man - ger in a stall.  
 clothed the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.  
 glo - ry mag - ni - fy, your glo - ry mag - ni - fy.

5 A wonderful exchange you make:  
 you take our flesh and blood,  
 and in return give us to share  
 the shining realm of God,  
 the shining realm of God.

6 Unlock the door again today  
 that leads to paradise;  
 the angel bars the way no more.  
 To God let praises rise,  
 to God let praises rise!

**\* Sending**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*"Prelude in C" Edward Shippen Barnes*

## Remember Us When You Pray

*We believe in the power of prayer, so please remember to keep the following persons and their families in your prayers. Even if you do not know them it means so much to them to know that they are remembered in our daily prayer lives. Also, it would be a wonderful gift for them to hear from their church family:*

### ***We Pray for the Members of St. Philip's:***

Ron Henry, Judi Parsons, John & Barb Williams, Charles & Ruth Bowles, Lois Hardy, Carol Ruckle, Sharon Smith, Louise James, Helga Kissell, Bob O'Brien, Sherry Thompson, Eleanor Georgiana, Dave Frampton, Amy Papili, Donna Hokanson, Lynn Pouser, Bev Reedy, Elizabeth Stirk, Paul & Barbara Stadelberger, Jeff Stirk, Charlie Boss, Debra Gelesh, Richard Braun, Ellen Lenker, Janette Saxton, Phyllis Bolgiano, Donna Daugherty, Yvonne Cilento, Shelly Meador, Danny Mason, Kim Longo, John Reichley, Rev. Arlene Favreau-Pysher, Suzanne Bradley

***We Pray for our Loved Ones:*** *(Though we do not explicitly name these beloved ones in worship during our prayer time, please lift up their names in prayer aloud or silently during the time set aside for other intercessions):* **Our soldiers serving overseas and their families; Sgt. Tyler Harris**, nephew of Susan Mack; **Ruth DiDonato, Family of Earl & Irene Meyer, Christina Ruble & Family**, family of Linda Burkum; **Emily Ruckle & Tina Davis**, family of Carol Ruckle; **John & Carly Hoeni**, family of Lynn Muller; **Beckie McNelly**, sister of Bob Gibble & Barb Williams; **Lou Cookson**, father of Nick Cookson; **Beth Cookson**, mother of Nick Cookson; **Dorothy Owens**, sister of Ruth Henry; **Stuart Emerson & Family**, friends of the Swift Family; **Jacob Buckworth & Dawn Cupsie**, grandson & daughter of Lamont & Sharon Smith; **Donald Oesterbo, Jr.**, son of Carol Oesterbo; **Linda Allen**, friend of Faith Simpser; **Mary Jane Myers**, mother of Mark Myers; **Joe Cilento, Jr.**, son of Yvonne Cilento; **Paul Budd, Sr.**, father of Scott, & **Lee & Patricia Craig**, friends of The Budds; **David Martin, Diane Balinski, Debra Jennings, & Barney Jennings**, family of Donna Hokanson; **Molly Wagner**, granddaughter of Margaret Wagner; **Jermaine & Joslyn Sanders**, friends of Nancy Zinnato; **Norman Richards & Phyllis Mensinger**, family of Mark & Marge Davis; **Mildred Marine**, grandmother of Heather Stirk; **John, Sr. & Anna Longo**, parents of John Longo; **Lew & Donna Longhenry**, parents & **Brad Oliver**, brother-in-law of Bryan Longhenry; **The Family of Robert Schuh**, family of Diana Longhenry; **Martin Page & Family**, friends of Mike Rosen; **Craig Shechter**, father of Amanda DeWeese; **Alistair Black**, grandson of Bob & Delores Wardwell; **Mike & Jeanie Kelly**, friends, & **Family of Rosemary Herron**, Loved ones of Edna Basilio; **Carol Henzy**, sister of Beth Molnar; **Zoe Kenaley**, great-granddaughter of Vic Brick; **John Lehne**, friend of Carol Goodman; **Henry Houtmann**, grandson & **Doris S. & Kathleen K.**, friends of Anne Hamilton; **Frank Kulick**, brother of Ruth Bowles; **Christopher Longo**, son of John & Kim Longo; **Lisa Santak**, daughter of Marion Santak; **Michele Levanduski**, Family of Paul Gelesh; **Kristi Barnett**, friend of Angela Klemens; **Rick Ricciardi**, brother of Nancy Warner; **Henry Jones**, father of Derrick Thompson, **Carla Solano and Family**, cousin of Bonnie Anderson; **Michelle Nevins**, wife of David Nevins; **Craig Florschutz**, husband of Jennifer Florschutz; **Mark Doyle**, friend of Harold and Sharon Holeman; **Mark & Jeanne Favreau**, family of Rev. Arlene Favreau-Pysher

## What's Happening At St. Philip's

**Today's Altar Flowers** are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of our daughter, Alyssa's 21st Birthday, by Bob and Kristin Baronio.

**Today's Piano Vase** is dedicated in honor of my 90th Birthday, by JoanMarie Powers.

**Pastor Patrick is on vacation this week** for his and Dawn's 30th Wedding Anniversary trip. He will return to the church office tomorrow.

**Thank you to Sue Fuhrman** for sharing her musical talents with us this morning as Stephen Bencoter is on vacation this week. Stephen will return for next Sunday!

**Every year we provide the members the chance** to sign up to dedicate chancel flowers (we used to call them altar flowers when they sat on the altar, but now they are on the shelf in the chancel area) in memory or in honor of loved ones. In order to make it easy for you to sign up for flowers for the 2024 Calendar Year, below is a link to a sign up genius form that will allow you to dedicate flowers for the coming year. **The flowers for 2025 will be \$50.** You will pick the date you want to sign-up for and then it will ask you to type in your dedication and then click the submit button. Like last year, we are asking that you please mail in your payment for the flowers **AT THE TIME YOU FILL OUT THIS DEDICATION SIGNUP.** The only reason we are asking this is that many people forget that they signed up and then forget to send the money in. Altar Guild is trying to avoid coming after the dedication money months afterwards. Thank you so much. To make a dedication, click here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9AE29A57-52711374-flower#/>

### *Making Disciples*

**O.W.L.S. (older, wiser, Lutheran seniors) will gather on Tuesday, January 14th.** This group is geared towards retirees in the congregation that would like to engage in a time of food, fellowship, and light learning. The next meeting will be held **January 14th from 11:30 am to 1 pm.** Amy Papili will be our speaker. She will be discussing Computer Safety!! Especially in this time when there are so many computer and internet scams, laws will be changing in 2025 regarding privacy and safety. Come to hear how to operate more safely online as things speed up with technology each year. Bring your own lunch and we'll provide the fellowship and learning. See you then!!

### **Making Disciples (Continued . . .)**

**The Women's Evening Book Club** meets on the second Friday of the month at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall or individual homes. Our time together is much like a happy hour with good friends! Feel free to bring a snack or beverage to share. **Our next meeting is January 10th.** If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Downes or Donna Daugherty. Mark your calendars and plan to come . . . We hope you will join us. Everyone is welcome!

**Women, Wine, and Whine** - Just booked our next wine social gathering for Sunday afternoon, **January 19th, from 2 to 5 p.m., at Acadian Winery in West Grove.** There will be music!

**Koinonia:** If you're looking for a small group that has fellowship, food and support for one another a koinonia group (Greek for fellowship) might be right for you! The **first Koinonia Group** that meets at St. Philip's will be **meeting, Sunday, January 12th at 6:30 p.m.** we will be studying the book of Parables. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. A **second group** that meets with the Mueller's will meet on **Sunday, January 5th at 6:30 p.m. at the Mueller's home.** We are going to read Luke in one sitting ahead of time and discuss. Questions about Koinonia? Contact Sharon Kittle.

**The Young at Heart Group** will be meeting on **Saturday, January 18, 2025, 1:30-3 p.m.,** at Gigi's. New people are always welcome! Please RSVP to Gigi.

**The Daytime Book Group** will next meet on Tuesday, January 21st at 12:30 p.m. Our book for discussion is FROZEN RIVER, by Ariel Lawhon. February 18th will be MYSTERY OF MRS CHRISTIE, by Marie Benedict. March 18th will be HOMEFRONT, by Kristin Hannah, and April 15th is THE SILENT PATIENT.

### **Praising God**

**Worship Assistants Are Needed!!!** In particular we are in need of Assisting Ministers. This is an easy job because the pastor helps you during the entire service. Assisting with communion and the prayers. Let Pastor Patrick or Louise James know if you are interested.

**Remembrance of Baptism Worship Service** is NEXT SUNDAY, January 12, 2024 - At both worship services, we will celebrate The Baptism of our Lord by, once again, having a Remembrance of Baptism service. In previous years, this worship experience was loved by those who attended it. We'll be focusing our worship on how we are saved through our Baptism into Jesus' own death and resurrection. Be sure to join us!!

## **Serving the Community (continued...)**

**Kenya Culture Night** - Want to know more about Kenya and the Water is Life Kenya water project St. Philip's is sponsoring? The WILK Committee is hosting a Kenyan Cultural Night on **January 11 at 5:00-8:00pm**. All are welcome to gather beginning with a traditional dinner of beef stew and goat stew along with sides (please feel free to bring food along for yourself or children if you feel this may not be to your liking). Following dinner there will be an exciting night filled with singing, dancing, games, crafts and more! Please RSVP to let us know if you are coming so we can have enough food. **The deadline to signup is January 5th.**

To signup, use this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-53718961-wilk>

**Food Insecurity continues to be a problem in our community! Can you help?** Food demand still continues to be very high. If you are at the grocery store or if someone goes for you, you can pick up needed items and drop them in the box in the narthex. We are especially in need of: **Pasta, Pasta Sauce** (cans are best and Dollar Store has good prices), **Shelf Milk (2%, Almond Breeze, Whole, or Soy** – Again, the Dollar Store is a good source), **Mac & Cheese, Cereal, Canned Vegetables, Toilet Paper, Salt & Pepper, Crackers, Coffee, Tea Bags, Cake Mix/Frosting.** Thank you so much for your generosity!!

**Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group Continues to Meet at St. Philip's** - The Alzheimer's Assn. of the Delaware Valley is sponsoring a monthly support group for anyone who has a loved one with any form of dementia, including Alzheimer's. Living with or caring for a person with dementia can be extremely challenging, overwhelming and exhausting. The group offers education, support, and the opportunity to connect with others in a similar situation. Free and open to the public, the group will meet on the **second Tuesday of the month.** The next meeting will be on **January 14th at 1 p.m.** in Room #128. For more information, contact Erica Holmes.

**Attention Widows, Widowers, and Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones!!** If you have lost a spouse, partner, or close loved one and would like to have some fellowship and support, there is now a support group meeting for fellowship and to provide comfort and support through this life transition. The next gathering is **January 9th at 12:30 p.m. lunch/1 p.m. meeting** in the Social Hall here at church. If you are interested in being a part or learning more, contact Sally Krapf.

### **Serving the Community (continued...)**

**Stephen Ministry Training** - Have you ever thought about wanting to help people during their times of need but didn't know what to say or how to help? That is what Stephen Ministers do for us here at St. Philip's. If you might have interest in serving one another in that way, there will be a Stephen Ministry training class starting in January of 2025 and running through April. If you are interested in being a part or just in getting more information let Gigi Mueller (Stephen Leader) know.

**Join the HABITAT RESTORATION CREW!** The current project is removing invasive plants and vines from around the trees and in meadow areas. Upcoming work dates follow a **first Saturday, third Wednesday of each month** pattern, **10:00 a.m. to Noon** each day. Mark your calendars now!! Helpful tools to bring: Large loppers, large digging shovels, sturdy hand-held garden pruners, small bow or pruning saw, sturdy leather [or other thorn-resistant] gloves, leaf and grass rakes. Be sure to mark your personal tools. Contact Phil Duncan to let him know you are coming.

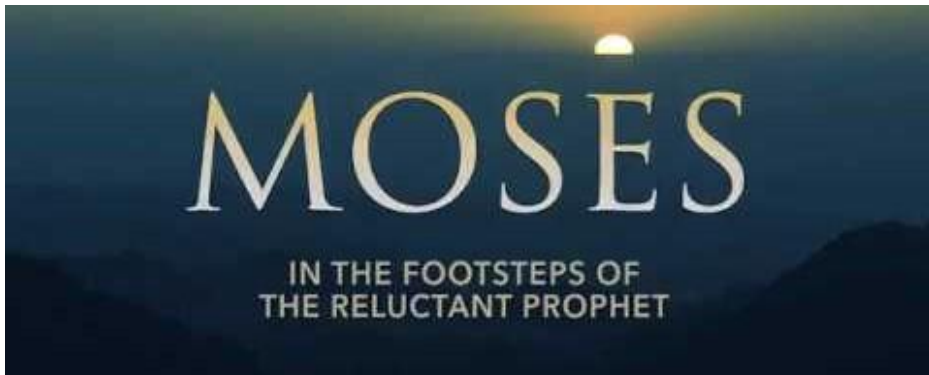
**Family Promise - St. Philips Next Host Week: January 19th -25th** Our next host week will be January 19-25. Sign up posters will be in the Narthex with menus listing food you can provide in late December. Below is a Sign-Up Genius link for those who are able to contribute non-perishable items.

Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-54055916-family>

Thank you in advance for your continued support. Feel free to contact Rebecca Bardenhagen or Marty Budd with any questions.

**New Supplies needed for Care Kits for the Homeless.** As the seasons are changing our winter kits need to be refreshed with new supplies. Please consider signing up below to help replenish supplies. Also, kits can be found under the coat rack in the narthex. Consider picking up one or two to share with homeless persons you may encounter in your travels.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-53363560-homeless>



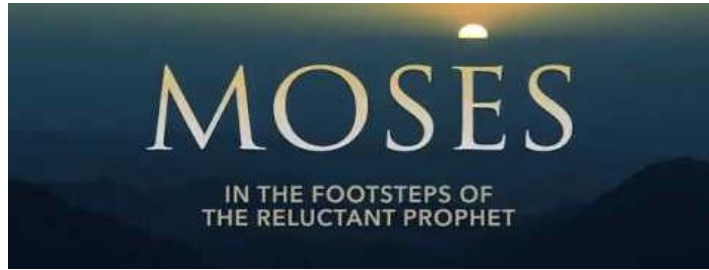
**Join us For A Special Winter Video Series Journey  
Alongside the first Biblical Prophet, Moses**

On Sunday Mornings January 12 - February 23, 2024 at 9:15 am  
Classes will be held in the Social Hall Led By Pastor Patrick  
and are all about The Life and Impact of the Prophet, Moses.

The Birth of Moses  
Two Moments that Defined the Man  
The Exodus  
The Ten Commandments  
Lessons from the Wilderness  
Don't forget . . . Pass it On  
The Legacy of Moses

Everyone is invited to this class, whether you were registered for small groups  
or not. This is a whole church experience.





**Session 1 January 12th: The Birth of Moses**

We know the story, but what were the significant details of Moses birth and raising?

**Session 2 January 19th: Two Moments that Defined the Man**

Moses may have been born an Israelite, but two things change the course of his life and the salvation history of an entire people,

**Session 3: January 26th: The Exodus**

The most significant event in the history of Moses' people.

**Session 4 February 2nd: The Ten Commandments**

Laws to be sure, but more a sense of commitment to each other.

**Session 5 February 9th: Lessons from the Wilderness**

What we do in life when we are "going nowhere."

**Session 6 February 16th: Don't Forget . . . Pass it On**

The events in the wilderness have shaped the Jewish People.

**Session 7 February 23rd: The Legacy of Moses**

The Enduring Impact of Moses on People of Faith



**On Sunday,  
January 26, 2025  
we will hold our  
Annual  
Congregational  
Celebration**

**Join us as we continue  
to celebrate the  
wonderful  
ministry that God has  
called us to here  
at St. Philip's!**

**Make this one of  
the  
first items you  
mark down on  
your  
2025 calendar!**



**St. Philip's CONGREGATIONAL CELEBRATION!!**

**Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.**

**In the Sanctuary**

# THOSE WHO SERVE

**PRESIDING MINISTER**

Rev. Amy Wright

**PREACHER**

Rev. Amy Wright

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Dr. Stephen Benscoter, CAGO

**CHOIR DIRECTOR/VOCALIST**

Dr. Lauren Conrad

**ASSISTING MINISTER**

Beth Molnar

(8:00 a.m.)

Tom Brenneman

(10:30 a.m.)

**LAY READER**

Mike Berkheimer

(8:00 a.m.)

Sally Krapf

(10:30 a.m.)

**USHERS**

Dick and

Kathy Streamer

(8:00 a.m.)

Harold and

Sharon Holeman

(10:30 a.m.)

**GREETERS**

Dick and

Kathy Streamer

(8:00 a.m.)

Linda Burkum and

Elizabeth Stirk

(10:30 a.m.)

**ACOLYTE**

Allie Pouser

(10:30 a.m.)

**GROWING IN THE GOSPEL**

No Growing in the Gospel this Week!

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

<b>Sunday, January 5 Second Sunday of Christmas</b>	<p>8:00 a.m.</p> <p>10:30 a.m.</p> <p>12:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Worship Service at St. Philip's <i>(Also, Livestreams on YouTube (Available All Day))</i>  <i>No Small Groups, Kids Club, or Youth Group Breakfast Club Today - All Christian Education will return on January 12th</i></p> <p>Worship Service at St. Philip's <i>(Also, Livestreams on YouTube (Available All Day))</i></p> <p>Youth Group Ice Skating</p>
<b>Monday, January 6 Feast of the Epiphany</b>	<p>6:00 p.m.</p> <p>6:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Altar Guild Meeting in the Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room</p>
<b>Tuesday, January 7</b>	<p>9:00 a.m.</p> <p>7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Staff Meeting</p> <p>WILK Meeting in Room #127</p>
<b>Wednesday, January 8</b>	<p>1:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Grocery Club in the Fellowship Hall</p>
<b>Thursday, January 9</b>	<p>12:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Grief Group in the Fellowship Hall</p>
<b>Friday, January 10</b>	<p>7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Evening Book Group location TBD</p>
<b>Saturday, January 11</b>	<p>9:00 a.m.</p> <p>5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Group meeting in the Fellowship Hall</p> <p>WILK Kenyan Culture Night in the Fellowship Hall</p>
<b>Sunday, January 12 Baptism of Our Lord</b>	<p>8:00 a.m.</p> <p>9:15 a.m.</p> <p>9:15 a.m.</p> <p>9:15 a.m.</p> <p>10:30 a.m.</p> <p>6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Worship Service at St. Philip's <i>(Also, Livestreams on YouTube (Available All Day))</i></p> <p>Adult Large Group in the Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Youth Breakfast Club in the Youth Room</p> <p>Kid's Club in the Christian Ed Wing</p> <p>Worship Service at St. Philip's <i>(Also, Livestreams on YouTube (Available All Day))</i></p> <p>Youth Group Drive Around Scavenger Hunt</p>

