

ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Easthampton, Massachusetts

Be careful: If you come here, you will grow.



The Healing of the Man born blind, Duccio di Buoninsegna
Paint on wood panel, finished 1311
The National Gallery, London

Daily Morning Prayer: Rite Two

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

**15 March 2026
at 10:00 a.m.**

NOTES ON THE LITURGY: “The Daily Office” is a phrase that indicates a basic quality of a Christian’s life: namely, that prayer is a “daily” activity and that keeping these prayers is a fundamental “duty” (which is what the word “office” means) of the baptized. Taken from the ancient monastic practice of praying seven times a day, the Prayer Book tradition has combined the three main elements of this monastic worship [the saying of the 1) psalms; 2) reading the scriptures; 3) offering the prayers] to punctuate each threshold experience of the day with a particular “God-awareness” in terms of Morning Prayer, Noonday Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Compline.

Stemming from our baptismal promise “to keep the Apostles’ teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread, and the prayers,” [BCP, page 304], the Daily Offices are most appropriately led by the laity. In this occasion when our priest is away, the St. Philip’s community has the opportunity not only to exercise this prayer ministry but also for some to be introduced to the Daily Office tradition and experience.

Prelude “Little Prelude and Fugue in E Minor” J.S. Bach

Community Notices

On this day, the ministers enter in SILENCE. The People STAND as the cross enters.

The Entrance Rite

Opening Hymn #690 “Guide me, O thou great Jehovah” Cwm Rhondda
The Hymnal, 1982

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, shield, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 thee, be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee.

Words: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt. Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932).

The People remain STANDING.

Opening Sentences

Officiant: Almighty God, by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service: Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the People

In silence, let us acknowledge those things that separate us from God and from one another. Then publicly and aloud (kneeling as you are able), let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept for a time. Then, the Officiant leads the People.

GOD OF ALL MERCY,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY

ALL STAND

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.
People: **And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**
Create in us clean hearts, O God.
And renew a right spirit within us.
Cast us not away from your presence.
Nor take your Holy Spirit from us.
Give us the joy of your saving help again.
And sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Officiant and People:

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

The People SIT for the Psalm.

The Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

1 The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

3 He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

**6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

THE LESSONS

The Epistle:

Ephesians 5:8-14

Emily-Anne Cartledge, Lector

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful

even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept for a time. Then in response to the lesson, STANDING, ALL SING the Canticle.

Canticle 10 #S217

“The Second Song of Isaiah”

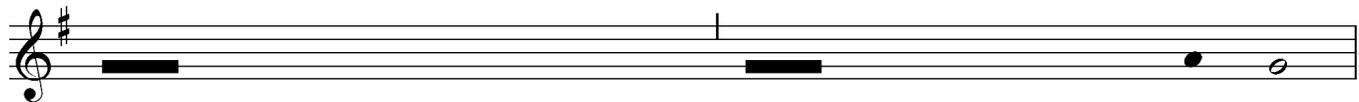
The Hymnal, 1982



1. Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; call upon him when he draws near.



2. Let the wicked for - sake their ways and the e - vil ones their thoughts;



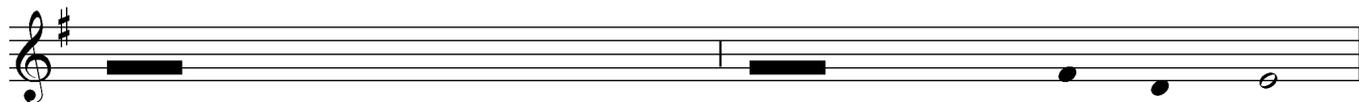
3. And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have com - pas - sion,



and to our God, for he will rich - ly par - don. 4. For my thoughts are not your thoughts,



nor your ways my ways, says the Lord. 5. For as the heavens are higher than the earth,



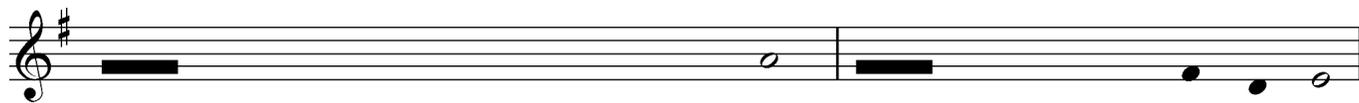
so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.



6. For as rain and snow fall from the hea - vens and return not again, but wa - ter the earth,



7. Bringing forth life and giv - ing growth, seed for sowing and bread for eat - ing,



8. So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; it will not return to me emp - ty;



9. But it will accomplish that which I have pur - posed, and prosper in that for which

(Gloria Patri may be omitted)



I sent it. 10. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit:



11. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men.

In the Offices, the Gospel is announced, the People are SEATED to listen.

The Gospel Lesson:

John 9:1-41

Susan May, Lector

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some

of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his

All things quake with fear at your presence; *
they tremble because of your power.

But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.

O Lord, you are full of compassion, *
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

You hold back your hand; *
you do not punish as we deserve.

In your great goodness, Lord, you have promised forgiveness to sinners,*
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *
and I know my wickedness only too well.

Therefore I make this prayer to you: *
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.

Do not let me perish in my sin, *
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.

For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *
and in me you will show forth your goodness.

Unworthy as I am, you will save me, in accordance with your great mercy, *
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

Antiphon

Your mer - ci - ful prom - ise is be - yond all mea - sure;
it sur - pas - ses all that our minds can fath - om.

Music: Mode 3 antiphon, adapt. Bruce E. Ford (b. 1947); acc. Alec Wyton (b. 1921). Plainsong, Tone 3, verses 1-4, 12-14; Plainsong, Irregular Tone, verses 5-11; adapt. The Standing Commission on Church Music, 1979; acc. Alec Wyton (b. 1921) and SCCM, 1979. Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 Bruce E. Ford. Melody: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc. Accompaniment: Alec Wyton.

The Sermon

Robert Shaw

Sermon Musical Reflection

“Day by Day”

Choir Singers

words: Richard of Chichester, 12th century; music: Mark Schweizer

Silence is kept for a time. Then, at the Officiant's invitation, all STAND and say the Creed.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant: Let us stand and confess what we believe in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

Officiant: I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY,

People: creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and 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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

[KNEELING or STANDING]

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen

Then all join in the singing of the Suffrages

The Suffrages A #S52

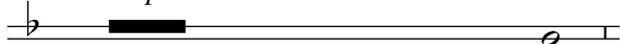
The Hymnal, 1982

Cantor or Officiant



V. Show us your mer - cy, O Lord;

People



R. And grant us your salva - tion.



V. Clothe your ministers with right - eous - ness;



R. Let your people sing with joy.



V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;



R. For only in you can we live in safe - ty.



V. Lord, keep this nation un - der your care;



R. And guide us in the way of jus - tice and truth.



V. Let your way be known up - on earth;



R. Your saving health among all na - tions.



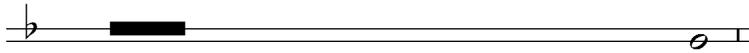
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot - ten;



R. Nor the hope of the poor be ta - ken a - way.



V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;



R. And sustain us with your Holy Spi - rit.

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collects:

Susan May, Intercessor

The Collect for the Day:

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for our Parish

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sound Government

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth, especially Gaza, Sudan, Haiti, Ukraine, and Iran.

Lord, keep this nation under your care and guide us in the ways of justice and truth.

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace and courage to your servants, O Lord.

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in states, cities, and towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served. Give grace to your servants, O Lord. And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name. For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for our Enemies

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

At the Intercessor's bidding, the People may offer their prayers silently or aloud.

The General Thanksgiving

Book of Common Prayer, pg 101

Officiant: ALMIGHTY GOD, FATHER OF ALL MERCIES,

People: **we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks**

**for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;**

but above all for your immeasurable love

**in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not
only with our lips, but in our lives,**

**by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you**

in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Officiant concludes the liturgy with the following.

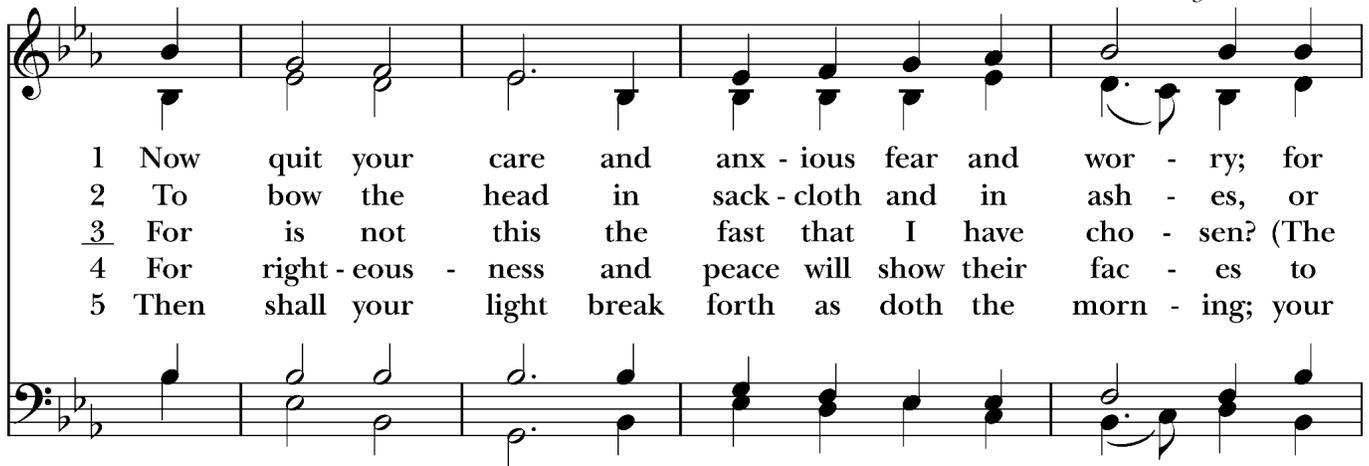
Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

STANDING, we sing the closing hymn.

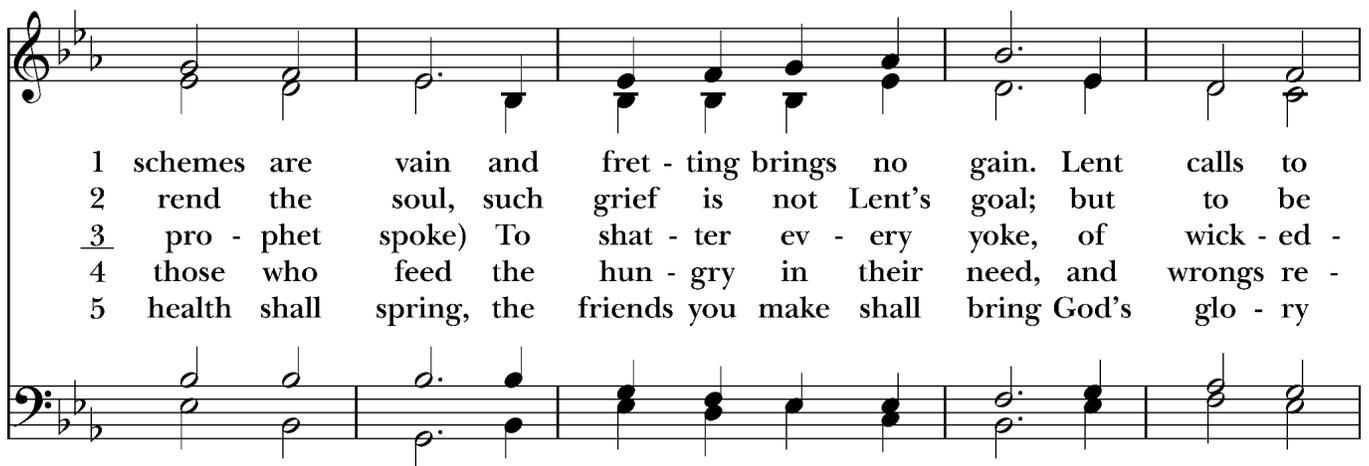
Closing Hymn #145

“Now quit your care”

*Quittez, Pasteurs
The Hymnal, 1982*



1 Now quit your care and anx - ious fear and wor - ry; for
2 To bow the head in sack - cloth and in ash - es, or
3 For is not this the fast that I have cho - sen? (The
4 For right - eous - ness and peace will show their fac - es to
5 Then shall your light break forth as doth the morn - ing; your



1 schemes are vain and fret - ting brings no gain. Lent calls to
2 rend the soul, such grief is not Lent's goal; but to be
3 pro - phet spoke) To shat - ter ev - ery yoke, of wick - ed -
4 those who feed the hun - gry in their need, and wrongs re -
5 health shall spring, the friends you make shall bring God's glo - ry

1 prayer, to trust and ded - i - ca - tion; God brings new beau - ty
 2 led to where God's glo - ry flash - es, his beau - ty to come
 3 ness the griev - ous bands to loos - en, op - pres - sion put to
 4 dress, who build the old waste plac - es, and in the dark - ness
 5 bright, your way through life a - dorn - ing; and love shall be the

Unison *Harmony*

1 nigh; re - ply, re - ply, re - ply with love to love most high;
 2 near. Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light ap - pear;
 3 flight, to fight, to fight to fight till ev - ery wrong's set right.
 4 shine. Di - vine, di - vine, di - vine it is when all com - bine!
 5 prize. A - rise, a - rise, a - rise! and make a par - a - dise!

Unison *Harmony*

1 re - ply, re - ply, re - ply with love to love most high.
 2 Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light ap - pear.
 3 to fight, to fight to fight till ev - ery wrong's set right.
 4 Di - vine, di - vine, di - vine it is when all com - bine!
 5 A - rise, a - rise, a - rise! and make a par - a - dise!

Words: Percy Dearmer (1867-1936), alt. Music: *Quittez, Pasteurs*, French carol; harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958).

Postlude

“Sortie Triomphale”

Joseph H. Greener

Be Careful: IF YOU COME HERE YOU WILL GROW



Holy Week

MARCH 29TH ~ PALM SUNDAY, 10AM
LITURGY OF THE PALMS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS,
EASTHAMPTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

APRIL 2ND ~ MAUNDY THURSDAY, 7PM
FOOTWASHING; HOLY COMMUNION; ENTERING INTO THE THREE SACRED DAYS

APRIL 3RD ~ GOOD FRIDAY, NOON AND 7PM
LITURGY OF THE DAY AND EUCHARIST

APRIL 4TH ~
HOLY SATURDAY LITURGY, 9:30AM
EASTER VIGIL, FIRST PROCLAMATION OF EASTER, 7PM

APRIL 5TH ~ EASTER, 10AM
FESTIVAL EUCHARIST

Prayer List

Nancy D., Mary R., Kevin C., Beverly K.
Noah B., Graciela B. and Baby Pru, Josh C., Betty S.,
Andy G., Bob C., Christopher S., Heidi B., Tracy & Fran K.

Please keep in your prayers the groups that use our facility during the week:
including the Easthampton Family Center (Tues-Fri) and AA Meetings (Sat-Wed).

Birthdays

Anne B ~ Mar 16
Alice R ~ Mar 22

Announcements

March 15, 2026

TODAY'S LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Steve Bailey, Celebrant
Robert Shaw, Preacher
Weyehn Reeves, Verger/Crucifer
Emily-Anne Cartledge, Susan May, Lectors
Susan May, Intercessor
Karen Banta, Organist & Choir Director
St. Philip's Choir Singers
Henry Reeves, Lay Eucharistic Minister
Janine Murphy, Tech Minister
Justin Wolfe, Jeanne Michaels, Ushers
Elizabeth McAnulty, David Brown, Altar
Guild
Janet Couch, Janine Murphy, Counters

COFFEE HOUR TODAY is hosted by Susan S. Thank you so much!

In **SUNDAY SCHOOL** today our young people will be invited to reflect on Jesus' Parable of the Mustard Seed. In the eastern world during Jesus' time, the mustard plant was a shrub that grew and spread quickly. How does that information shed a new light on this parable?

EASTER FLOWER donations are now being accepted. Forms in the back of the church and the hall. Return forms to the parish office by March 29th.

BROWN BAG LUNCH GROUP, a weekly drop-in event on Tuesdays, meets in the parish hall at 12noon. Please come, if you are able. And bring your lunch!

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What Is THE BIBLE Anyway? Join us on **Thursdays at 4:00** to experience a certain kind of answer to this question. An answer that is joyful and engaging.

To get the **Zoom** link email Linda Moore at bythegraceofgod@outlook.com

JOIN THE ST. PHILIP'S CONNECT GROUP! We share blessings, ask for prayers and help or favors. Ask a vestry member for more information.

What is the N.O.W. (News Of the Week)? Find our weekly newsletter, at <https://www.stphilipseasthampton.org/weekly-newsletter>. Subscribe and you'll receive the sermon every Monday and the N.O.W. every Thursday.

ST. PHILIP'S OFFERS COMPLINE ON FACEBOOK Sunday through Friday at 8 pm. Please join us!

SEE CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS on our website at <https://www.stphilipseasthampton.org/upcoming-events>

SUNDAY LECTIONARY STUDY GROUP meets on **Zoom every Sunday at 8:15 a.m.** The gathering of the curious and the prepared reads, reviews, and discusses the scripture lessons that will be offered in the day's liturgy. The link will be printed in the bulletin announcement in the NOW. Please join us in what has always been a lively and helpful discussion.

TO JOIN SUNDAY SERVICE &/or LECTIONARY STUDY:

The Sunday Service is on live-streamed on our website:

<https://www.stphilipseasthampton.org/live-stream-channel>

Lectionary Study is on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83207829066?pwd=N0k0emc5NGkxdGFxQVpKMUNlaWJldz09>

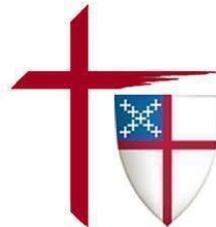
Meeting ID: 832 0782 9066;

Passcode: 270862

TO JOIN BY TELEPHONE:

Audio conferencing participant (joining by telephone) will need to call:
+1 929 436 2866 and follow the verbal instructions. Enter the meeting ID you wish

to join followed by the # key. If you are asked for a password, enter the password followed by the # key. You will be asked to enter your participant ID. If you do not know your participant ID, simply press the # key.



ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Easthampton, MA 01027

www.stphilipseasthampton.org [www.Facebook/st philips easthampton](https://www.facebook.com/stphilipseasthampton)
stphilipseasthampton@gmail.com

A parish of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Right Rev. Dr. Douglas John Fisher
IX Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts
The Very Rev. Miguelina Howell, Bishop-Elect
www.diocesewma.org

THE VESTRY OF ST. PHILIP'S

Becky Taylor, Senior Warden; Deborah Murray Hrubesh, Junior Warden;
Joy Hermansen; Janet Couch; Walter Schiff; Fran Kidder
Joe Bianca, Treasurer; Robert Shaw, Clerk

ST. PHILIP'S STAFF

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Chip Secco, *Sexton*

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Available for appointments anytime