

# St. Philip's Episcopal Church

## The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023  
9:30 am



**The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest, Rector**

Mobile Phone: (804) 356-8216

Email: [revmarlene@stphilipsrva.org](mailto:revmarlene@stphilipsrva.org)

Pastoral Care Email: [pastoralcare@stphilipsrva.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stphilipsrva.org)

**2900 Hanes Avenue, Richmond, VA 23222**

[office@stphilipsrva.org](mailto:office@stphilipsrva.org)

[stphilipsrva.org](http://stphilipsrva.org)

**804-321-1266**



## WELCOME!

I am so glad you are here, and I hope you find worship at St. Philip's Episcopal Church to be inspiring, spirit-filled, and nurturing for your faith journey. Here are two ways to take a next step:

- 1) Simply fill out the visitor card in the pew. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate or given to an usher. Your responses are confidential, and we will contact you only if you make that request.
- 2) A calendar of events can be found on our website at [stphilipsrva.org](http://stphilipsrva.org) or in our e-News (subscribe on the website) as an invitation to you! All of our classes, services, and programs are open to all. If you are interested in learning more about St. Philip's or the Episcopal Church, please let me know!

As you prepare your heart, soul, mind, and body for worship, may the love of God and the mercy of Christ fill your heart with peace.

The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest  
Rector of St. Philip's

### About Today's Worship:

- ♦ We welcome all people to meet Christ in the sharing of our sacred meal. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the sacraments of bread and wine, please come forward during communion and place your arms across your chest.
- ♦ **A gluten-free alternative** is available. Please communicate this preference to our priest.

Holy Baptism is our rite of initiation into the Christian faith and primary to membership in our parish. If you would like to learn more about this sacred rite and membership in our church, please speak with Rev. Marlene or contact our office at 804-321-1266.

## HOLY EUCHARIST - Rite II

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN\*

*All creatures of our God and King*

82 Hymn 400

1 All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voices, let us sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Bright burning sun with golden beams,  
pale silver moon that gently gleams,

Refrain:

O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Great rushing winds and breezes soft,  
you clouds that ride the heavens aloft,  
O praise him, Alleluia!  
Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice,  
stars nightly shining, find a voice:  
[Refrain]

3 Swift flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for your Lord to hear,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Fire, so intense and fiercely bright,  
you give to us both warmth and light,  
[Refrain]

4 Dear mother earth, you day by day  
unfold your blessings on our way,  
O praise him, Alleluia!  
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,  
let them his glory also show: [Refrain]

5 All you with mercy in your heart,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
O sing now: Alleluia!  
All you that pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God, and cast on him your care:  
[Refrain]

6 And even you, most gentle death,  
waiting to hush our final breath,  
O praise him, Alleluia!  
You lead back home the child of God,  
for Christ our Lord that way has trod:  
[Refrain]

7 Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him, Alleluia!  
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
[Refrain]

**Celebrant:** Come to Jesus, you who are thirsty.

**People:** Alleluia!

**Celebrant:** Drink deeply of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Alleluia!

**Celebrant:** Let your heart overflow with the living water that renews the face of the earth.

**People:** Hallelujah; thanks be to God.

#### **THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

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 (sung)**

**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. For you alone are the Holy One; 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.** The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

#### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

#### **THE FIRST LESSON**

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 114

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

## THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 14:1-12

“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. The LORD is a warrior; the LORD is his name.

“Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea; his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea. The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone. Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power-- your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy. In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries; you sent out your fury, it consumed them like stubble. At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up, the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.' You blew with your wind, the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

“Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?” Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: “Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SEQUENCE HYMN\*

*Go Down, Moses*

LEVAS Hymn 228

**1 When Israel was in Egypt's land,  
let my people go;  
Oppressed so hard they could not stand,  
let my people go.**

**Refrain:**

**Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land;  
Tell old Pharaoh to let my people go.**

**2 The Lord told Moses what to do,  
let my people go;  
To lead the children of Israel through,  
let my people go. [Refrain]**

**3 They journeyed on at his command,  
let my people go;  
And come at length to Canaan's land,  
let my people go. [Refrain]**

**4 Oh, let us all from bondage flee,  
let my people go;  
And let us all in Christ be free,  
let my people go. [Refrain]**

## **THE GOSPEL**

**Matthew 18:21-35**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. By the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

*(A brief silence.)*

Your people receive mercy and your grace overflows in our lives. Fill your church with faith and love, and give understanding hearts to those who work to strengthen our ecumenical and interreligious commitments. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your creation groans as it suffers the impacts of pollution and lack of care. As the seasons change, renew in us the will to protect plants, animals, and habitats. Bless us with bountiful harvests that all may share. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your world is shattered and the nations rage. Remember us in your mercy. Teach wisdom to our elected leaders so that we know peace in our world, peace in our homes, and

peace in our hearts. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your children wander homeless and the hungry cry for bread. Seek out those who are lost or lonely, anxious or depressed, or struggling with addiction or illness. Provide for those in any need, especially Cynthia Bentley, Shirley Brown, Jean Boone, Dale Brittle, Annie Campbell, Mary Carter, Marilyn Chalmers, Alex Corbett, Lorraine Fasset, Rueben Greene, Yolanda Haynes, Eva Hicks, Ester Hyatt, Bill James, Alaina LaVonne, Barbara Lowe, Robinette Miller, Edmund Moore, Romaine Morgan, Lela Morris, Robert Myers, Tara Plummer, Hortense Powell, Dora Sims, Amy Smith, James E. Smith and Clementine Washington. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your work is done in this congregation with our hands, feet, voices, minds, and hearts. Build up the ministries of this community, that we serve our neighbors and welcome the stranger in your name. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants Kenneth Taylor and David Carter as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your blessed saints who have died now rest in your presence. Give us thankful hearts for those who have been examples of faith in our lives, and receive us with joy when we come to share eternal life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **CONFESSON OF SIN**

God has promised that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; therefore let us call upon the Lord, confessing our sins.

**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.**

Sisters and brothers, God offers forgiveness of our sins and the grace of repentance. Accept God's grace, repent of your sin, and be restored to abundant life.

### **THE PEACE**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people:*

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

### **The Peace of God**

*by Eudora L. Forrest*

**The Peace of God be always with you,  
And may God's grace be always with your heart.  
And may His love keep you in perfect peace,**

**The love of God, the  
love of God, the love  
of God  
Keep you in perfect peace.**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, AND TRAVEL BLESSINGS**

### **LITURGY OF THE TABLE**

#### **OFFERTORY**      *Music Offering*

#### **DOXOLOGY\***

LEVAS 56

**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.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his truth promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

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:

**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.**

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 him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection. We await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Philip, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

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

**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.**

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

**FRACTION ANTHEM\***

*Lamb of God*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.**

**1 Alas! and did my Savior bleed,  
And did my Sovereign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head  
For such a one as I?**

**Refrain:**

**At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light,  
And the burden of my heart rolled away -  
It was there by faith I received my sight,  
And now I am happy all the day!**

**2 Was it for crimes that I have done  
He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!  
And love beyond degree! [Refrain]**

**3 Well might the sun in darkness hide,  
And shut His glories in,  
When God, the mighty Maker, died  
For man the creature's sin. [Refrain]**

**4 But drops of grief can ne'er repay  
The debt of love I owe:  
Here, Lord, I give myself away -  
'Tis all that I can do! [Refrain]**

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

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

#### **BLESSING**

May the grace of God the Father bless you with peace, may the love of Christ, God's son, sustain you in joy, and may the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with courage, this day and forevermore. Bless the Lord! Amen!

**1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise Him, for he is thy health and salvation:  
Join the great throng,  
Psaltery, organ, and song,  
Sounding in glad adoration.**

**2 Praise to the Lord; over all things he gloriously reigneth:  
Borne as on eagle-wings, safely his saints he sustaineth.  
Hast thou not seen  
How all thou needest hath been  
Granted in what he ordaineth?**

**3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy way and defend thee;  
Surely his goodness and mercy shall ever attend thee;  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do,  
Who with his love doth befriend thee.**

**4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath breath join with Abraham's seed to adore him!  
Let the "Amen"  
Sum all our praises again  
Now as we worship before him. Amen**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Brothers and Sisters, siblings in Christ, our worship has ended, but our service to the world begins. Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord and our neighbor. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*\*Music referenced is for the 10:30 am service.*

#### **WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

**Lay Eucharistic Ministers:**

Monte Carroll and Henry Davis (9:30 am)

**Lectors:**

Lydia Johnson (9:30 am)

**Organist/Minister of Music:** Dr. Willis L. Barnett

**Verger:** Nathaniel Lewis

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## Announcements

**Blessing of the Backpacks, Purses, and Briefcases.** Please join us at 8:00 am and 10:30 am on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> to have your special items blessed. All are welcome. Following the 10:30 a.m. service, we will have our Christian Formation Kick-Off with fellowship and food.

**Sunday School Registration.** There will be a table in the atrium for Sunday School registration today and next Sunday. The first day of Sunday School is Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Join us Saturday, September 23rd at 4pm for a Movie/Popcorn Night and Anthem LemonAid Stand!** A free screening of “Black Panther” the movie and popcorn. Bring a comfy chair, blanket, pillow or whatever will make you feel comfortable.

**Anthem LemonAid** kids helping kids with cancer! We will hold a lemonAid stand raising funds to support Children’s Hospital of Richmond. Sales benefits the Hematology and Oncology Clinic at Children’s Hospital.

**Recruiting Teachers for Sunday School!** The new Formation year is fast approaching, and we are working on putting together our roster of teachers for youth formation. If you are interested in being part of our formation teams, please email Diem Miller at [office@stphilipsrva.org](mailto:office@stphilipsrva.org) if you are interested.

**Lay Eucharistic Visitors Wanted!** If you are interested in becoming a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, please contact Nathaniel Lewis by phone or email at [verger@stphilipsrva.org](mailto:verger@stphilipsrva.org). If you are selected for this ministry, you will be required to undergo training prior to your first visit.

**Inquires/Confirmation Class** If you are interested in confirming the faith professed at your baptism as an adult, renewing your faith, or being received into the Episcopal Church, then you are likely interested in our next Confirmation class beginning this coming Fall are **October 15th, November 5th and 19th, December 3rd and Dec. 17th at 9:30 a.m.** Email the parish office at [office@stphilipsrva.org](mailto:office@stphilipsrva.org) if you are interested.



**Our Office Manager** will be out of the office starting Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> and will return on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. She will return all phone calls and emails when she is back. The Parish Office will be closed during that time.

## This Week at St. Philip's Church

### **Monday, September 18**

10:00 a.m. Northside Food Pantries Meeting  
7:00 p.m. N.A. Meeting

### **Tuesday, September 19**

Newsletter Submission must be emailed to Diem, [office@stphilipsrva.org](mailto:office@stphilipsrva.org) by Noon  
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts

### **Wednesday, September 20**

12:00 p.m. Noon Prayer; Circle of Love  
6:30 p.m. Ex. Committee Meeting

### **Thursday, September 21**

8:00 a.m. Food Pantry Set-up in Parish Hall  
6:00 p.m. Pride Service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

### **Friday, September 22**

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry

### **Saturday, September 23**

4:00 p.m. Movie & Popcorn Night with Anthem LemonAid Stand

### **Sunday, September 24; The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost; Blessing of the Bookbags, Purses, and Briefcases.**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Rite II  
9:00 a.m. Bible Study  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Rite II  
11:40 a.m. Christian Formation Kick-Off and Pizza Party!

### **Thank you for donating to St. Philip's!**



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- Text - Text GIVE to (833) 959-2287
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Your financial gifts to St. Philip's are of vital importance to support our ongoing ministries and our outreach to the most vulnerable among us. Please continue to offer your faithful gifts.