

# St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 5, 2023

8:00 and 10:30 am



*Cara B. Hochhalter, Let Your Light Shine. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59034>*

## The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest, Rector

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## WELCOME!

We are 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\*

*Hail, Thou Once Despis'd Jesus*

Hymn 495

Hail, thou once despised Jesus!  
Hail, thou Galilean King!  
Thou didst suffer to release us;  
thou didst free salvation bring.  
Hail, thou universal Savior,  
bearer of our sin and shame!  
By thy merit we find favor:  
life is given through thy Name

Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,  
all our sins on thee were laid:  
by almighty love anointed,  
thou hast full atonement made.  
All thy people are forgiven  
through the virtue of thy blood:  
opened is the gate of heaven,  
reconciled are we with God.

Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory,  
there for ever to abide;  
all the heavenly hosts adore thee,  
seated at thy Father's side.  
There for sinners thou art pleading:  
there thou dost our place prepare;  
ever for us interceding,  
till in glory we appear.

Worship, honor, power, and blessing  
thou art worthy to receive;  
highest praises, without ceasing,  
right it is for us to give.  
Help, ye bright angelic spirits,  
all your noblest anthems raise;  
help to sing our Savior's merits,  
help to chant Emmanuel's praise!

**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**

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

**Loving God, you have entrusted us with the message of your power, grace, justice, and love. We ask for your guidance, that we may be teachers and learners together. Believing that you are in our midst, we set apart those who would serve in our Sunday School. May they serve you in nurturing the spiritual growth of all who are entrusted in their care. Bless each one gathered here, enabling them to be channels of your grace. We pray all these things through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*Officiant to Sunday School teachers and helpers:*

You have recognized God's call in your lives. Will you endeavor to develop your gifts for teaching so as to continue to pass on the Christian faith?

*I will.*

Will you be faithful to the task, taking seriously the commitment of time and talent?

*I will.*

Will you take seriously your role as learner, studying diligently the Scriptures and Sunday School lessons for each day?

*I will.*

*We have heard God's call to teach and lead Sunday School for our church. We teach, trusting in God's support, sustaining grace, and empowerment for this task. We teach, relying on*

*prayer and the presence of the Holy Spirit. We teach, inviting others to recognize and respond to God's call in their lives. We teach, depending on our church family to uphold us in prayer, love, and support.*

**Amen!**

*(The children and youth follow the cross out to Sunday School.)*

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **THE FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 58: 1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 112: 1-10**

- 1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- 6 For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \*  
the desires of the wicked will perish.

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

1 Corinthians 2: 1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him” —

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God’s Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else’s scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN\***

*Make Me a Blessing*

LEVAS 158

**Out in the highways and byways of life,  
Many are weary and sad;  
Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife,  
Making the sorrowing glad.**

**Make me a blessing, Make me a blessing,  
Out of my life May Jesus shine;  
Make me a blessing, O Savior, I pray,  
Make me a blessing to someone today.**

**Tell the sweet story of Christ and His love,  
Tell of His power to forgive;  
Others will trust Him if only you prove  
True, every moment you live,**

**Give as ‘twas given to you in your need,  
Love as the Master loved you;  
Be to the helpless a helper indeed,  
Unto your mission be true.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SERMON**

The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest

**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**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*(A brief silence.)*

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way, especially Marc Albertson, Trey Bankhead, Cynthia Bently, Susan Bradley, Mary Carter, Alexander Corbett, Alice Flannigan, Joseph Flannigan, Eudora & Lewis Forrest, Anaya Gavins, Damar Hamlin, Marvis Hazel, Eva Hicks, Ester Hyatt, Francine L. Johnson, Alaina LaVonne, Mary Little, Steven Little, Barbara Lowe, Kay Mack and family, Christian Miller, Robinette Miller, Edmund Moore, Romaine Morgan, Lela Morris, Tara Plummer, Hortense Powell, Inez Tuck, Clementine Washington, Louise White, Cynthia Smith Williams, and John Williams. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants Yvonne Crenshaw, Debora Johnson-Seabrook, Mary Jordan, Jennifer Murray (James), and Renee Roth 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. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for James Neal and all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

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

*(The children and youth return to the service.)*

## **THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## The Peace of God

Eudora L. Forrest (2000)

The peace of God be al - ways with you, And may God's

6 grace be al - ways in your heart. And may His love keep

11 you in per - fect peace, The love of God, the love of God,

17 — the love of God keep you in per - fect peace. *rit.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, AND TRAVEL BLESSINGS

### LITURGY OF THE TABLE

### OFFERTORY

### 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.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**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.**

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Rachel, and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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.**

**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.**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture,  
in the Body and the Blood  
he will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven  
spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the Light of Light descendeth  
from the realms of endless day,  
that the powers of hell may vanish  
as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
cherubim with sleepless eye  
veil their faces to the Presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
'Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, Lord Most High!'

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

## CLOSING HYMN\*

*Be Thou My Vision, O Lord of My Heart*

Hymn 488

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father; thine own may I be;  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.**

**High King of heaven, when victory is won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

## DISMISSAL

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:

Dianne Beatty (8 am)

Monte Carroll and Henry Davis (10:30 am)

#### Lectors:

Marilyn West (8 am)

Walter Hammond (10:30 am)

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

**Verger:** Nathaniel Lewis

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# UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS AT ST. PHILIP'S

**Attention:** The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, February 26** after the only service that day at 9:30 am. We will not livestream the meeting, and you must be present to vote.

Today we **celebrate Rev. Marlene's first anniversary** as rector with St. Philip's after the 10:30 am service. Please bring something to share with all.

**Souper Bowl Sunday with Chili Cookoff!** Wear your favorite sports team Jersey on Sunday, February 12! We will have one service at 9:30 am and share in God's love for our neighbors in need and give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday. All donations collected will go directly to the St. Francis Food Pantry and our Blessing Box Ministry.

**Shrine Mont Sunday, February 19:** Interested in learning about Shrine Mont? James Williams will appraise us of activities and happenings at Shrine Mont at both services.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancakes!** Join us on **February 21, 6-8 pm**, to celebrate the last evening before the start of Lent. St. Philip's will serve pancakes, bacon, and sausage. All who are interested in helping with Shrove Tuesday supper, please meet with Joy Lee for a brief meeting today immediately after the 10:30 service. Thank you!

**Lent:** We will read *The Healing Marks of Jesus* for our Lenten studies. We will meet on Zoom each **Tuesday** in Lent at **7 pm from February 28 to April 4. Lenten bags are here!** Lenten bags for children and families and Lenten booklets can be picked up at Souper Bowl Sunday, Shrine Mont Sunday, and Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

God willing, our own seminarian, **Janetta Lavoie Greene will be ordained** to the Sacred Order of Deacons, Saturday, March 4 at 10:30 am at the Church of the Epiphany, Herndon, VA.

**Mark the date!** The Ministry Fair and Newcomers Reception has been moved to Sunday, **March 5** after the 9:30 am service (one service only). Thanks to the Knights of St. Philip's for hosting the reception! If you can, please bring something to share and welcome all our newcomers.

**Baptism! If you are interested in getting baptized on Easter, April 9,** you must attend two required classes in March after the 10:30 am services. Contact our office manager, Diem, and she will keep you up to date in the process.



**Still Not Too Late To Pledge:** Your pledge means more than ever to the vestry and to the church as we press forward. If you have not yet submitted your pledge, it's never too late; and if you've never pledged, please consider doing so. Keep the good works of this faith community going, and thank you for all the gifts you bring to St. Philip's.

**Confirmation Class, Sunday, April 23:** Save the date! If you would like to be confirmed, reaffirmed, or received into the Episcopal Church, our first confirmation class will be on April 23 between services.