

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The Twentieth Sunday of Pentecost;

Breast Cancer Awareness Sunday

October 11, 2026

8:00 and 10:30 am



The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest
Rector

2900 Hanes Avenue, Richmond, VA 23222

office@stphilipsrva.org

stphilipsrva.org

(804) 321-1266



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 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: About Today's Worship:

We welcome all people to meet Christ in the sharing of our sacred meal.

♦ Options at Communion

Intinction is the practice of dipping the bread into the wine in the chalice rather than eating the bread first and then drinking the wine. It is entirely acceptable to receive the Sacrament by intinction. **Intinction** will be done by verbally indicating to the priest of your desire. The priest will **intinct for you** and place the wafer in your hand for you to consume.

You may **ONLY Sip** from the common cup that will be held by the Lay Eucharistic Minister. Drinking from the common cup is also an acceptable way to receive the Blood of Christ (wine).

You may **choose to not receive wine** with the knowledge that the Body of Christ (wafer) is full and sufficient. Should you wish to not receive wine you may return to your seat after receiving the wafer.

Should you desire a **blessing**, cross your arms over your chest to indicate your desire to the priest. If you seek a deeper relationship with Christ through baptism, please speak with a priest after the service.

Should you need a **Gluten-Free wafer** please indicate your need to the 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

Morning has broken

82 Hymnal Hymn 8

Unison or harmony

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. _____
 like the first dew - fall on the first grass. _____
 born of the one light E - den saw play! _____

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word! _____
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass. _____
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day! _____

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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 FOR THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; 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 32:1-14

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel. The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked

they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.”

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 106:1-6, 19-23

1 Hallelujah!

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

2 Who can declare the mighty acts of the Lord *
or show forth all his praise?

3 Happy are those who act with justice *
and always do what is right!

4 Remember me, O Lord, with the favor you have for your people, *
and visit me with your saving help;

5 That I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
that I may glory with your inheritance.

6 We have sinned as our forebears did; *
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.

19 Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb *
and worshiped a molten image;

20 And so they exchanged their Glory *
for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.

21 They forgot God their Savior, *
who had done great things in Egypt,

22 Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, *
and fearful things at the Red Sea.

23 So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, *
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 4:1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN* *The Lord Is My Shepherd* LEVAS Hymnal Hymn 104

- 1 The Lord is my Shepherd, no want shall I know;
 I feed in green pastures, safe-folded I rest;
He leadeth my soul where the still waters flow,
 Restores me when wand'ring, redeems when oppressed.**
- 2 Through the valley and shadow my death though I stray,
 Since thou art my guardian, no evil I fear;
Thy rod shall defend me, thy staff be my stay;
 No harm can befall, with my comforter near.**
- 3 In the midst of affliction my table is spread;
 With blessings unmeasured my cup runneth o'er;
With perfume and oil thou anointest my head;
 O what shall I ask of thy providence more?**
- 4 Let goodness and mercy, my bountiful God,
 Still follow my steps till I meet Thee above;
I seek by the path which my ancestors trod,
 Through the land of their sojourn, thy kingdom of love.**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON (8:00AM)

The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest, Rector

THE SERMON (10:30AM)

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff,

Retired Suffragan Bishop of the Episcopal Church's Diocese of Virginia

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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, Lord, hear our prayer.

A brief silence.

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of God's Church, and for the unity of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Mark E., Gayle, Mark A., our Bishops; for Susan, our Guest Preacher, for Marlene, our Rector; and for all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay ministers, that they may faithfully proclaim the Gospel of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our nation, our elected leaders, and all who hold authority, that they may serve with wisdom, justice, and compassion, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For this community of St. Philip's, that we may be strengthened in faith, abound in love, and serve Christ in all persons, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who are sick, suffering, or in any need or trouble, especially Kaitlyn Adams, Keisha Allick, Ralph and Judy Anderson, Ivan Bowser, Helen Clayton-Bracey, Jean Boone, Barrington Bowser, Jr., Deborah Little-Bowser, Robert Bracey, Richard Byrd, Jasmine Buster, Michael Carpenter, Jamal Crawley, Jr., Yvonne Crenshaw, Alexander and Barbara Corbett, Judy Whitney- Davis, Rondle Edwards, Bradley Fassett, Anna Lou Flynn, George Frazier, Eudora Forrest, Linda Foster, Beverly Garnes, Edward Gore, Sharon Hooper, Herbert Jefferson, Louise Jefferson, Kathy Jones, Keith Jones, Tiffany Jones, Michael Jones, Shirley Kendall, Isabelle LeSane, Dionne Linton, Selena Martin, Avery McGilvary, Jr., Robinette Miller, Romaine Morgan, Melvin Murphy, Gregory Ralph, Lester Reynolds, Frank Saunders, Carmen Simon, Yejide Sokoya, Aleta Staunton, Evelyn Styles, Mable Terry, Michelle Walker, Marilyn West, Artile White, Shirley Williams and those known to us this day, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the families of our church, Francine Young, Kimberly and Kali Ridley. Guide these families in the world you so love. Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have been diagnosed with breast cancer, for survivors, for those undergoing treatment, and for their families and caregivers, that they may be sustained by God's healing presence, strengthened with courage and hope, and surrounded by love and support, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For physicians, nurses, researchers, and all who work to prevent, treat, and cure breast cancer and other illnesses, that God may guide their hands and bless their efforts, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have lost loved ones to breast cancer and other diseases, that they may find comfort in God's promises and peace in the assurance of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those celebrating birthdays, Portia Carter, Shirley Parker, Bryson Wesley, Carol Sims, Willis Barnett, Mindy Golatt, Joshua Koroma, Tori Seymour, Colin Greene, Frederico Garza and anniversaries, and other blessings, and for all who seek God's guidance in the days ahead, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the faithful departed, that they may have a place in God's eternal kingdom where sorrow and pain are no more, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, receive the prayers we offer this day. Grant healing to the sick, comfort to the grieving, strength to the weary, and hope to all who call upon you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

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, BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, HEALING AND TRAVEL BLESSINGS

LITURGY OF THE TABLE

An offering is received to support St. Philip's ministry of sharing God's love.

All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed.



OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY*

LEVAS 56

Praise God from whom all — bless - ings flow,

Praise Him all crea - tures, here be - low.

Praise Him a - bove ye — heav - en - ly host.

Praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, *Eucharistic Prayer B*

The people stand, as able

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 true 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 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.

THE INVITATION

These are the gifts of God for People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. **AMEN.**

Please be seated until it's time to receive. The choir receives first. All are welcome to the Lord's Table, no matter age or denomination. Anyone not receiving communion is welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. You may also choose to receive the bread and not receive the wine, by crossing your arms over your chest after receiving the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available. Simply make your request known when the minister comes to you.



**1 Jesus, keep me near the cross;
There's a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream,
Flows from Calv'ry's mountain.**

Refrain:

**In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.**

**2 Near the cross, a trembling soul,
Love and mercy found me;**

**There the bright and morning star
Shed its beams around me. [Refrain]**

**3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
Bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day
With its shadow o'er me. [Refrain]**

**4 Near the cross! I'll watch and wait,
Hoping, trusting ever,
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river. [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.

PRAYER FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Gracious and loving God, source of all healing and hope, we lift before you all those affected by breast cancer. Surround with your healing presence those who have been diagnosed, strengthen those undergoing treatment, and comfort those who live with uncertainty, fear, or pain.

Grant courage to survivors, peace to families and caregivers, and everlasting comfort to those who mourn loved ones lost to this disease. Bless physicians, nurses, researchers, and all who labor to bring healing and a cure. Guide their minds, steady their hands, and prosper their work.

As the Body of Christ, teach us to be a community of compassion, encouragement, and support for all who are burdened. May those who suffer know that they are never alone, but are upheld by your love and the prayers of your people. Through Jesus Christ, who bore our sorrows, carried our griefs, and makes all things new. **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! Alleluia!**

**1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand -
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]**

**3 His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming floods;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]**

**4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]**

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.



The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Myrtle Armstrong, Jean Boone, and Regina Boone in honor of breast cancer survivors, those currently undergoing treatment, caregivers, physicians, and researchers.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Clergy:

The Rev. Marlene E. Forrest, Rector

Guest Preacher:

*The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff,
Retired Suffragan Bishop
of the Episcopal Church's Diocese of Virginia (10:30am)*

Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

*Joy Lee (8:00am)
Brad Mackey and Gary McDowell (10:30am)*

Lector:

*Joy Lee (8:00am)
Paulette Yates (10:30am)*

Minister of Music/ Organist:

*Dr. Willis L. Barnett
St. Philip's Choir*

Ushers & Greeters:

*Joy Lee and Kimion Walker (8:00am)
St. Philip's Episcopal Church Women Team and
Vestry Member, Larry Clark (10:30am)*

Verger:

Nathaniel Lewis

Vestry Person of the Day:

*Joy Lee (8:00am)
Karen Merritt (10:30 am)*

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The Rt. Rev'd Susan E. Goff

The Rt. Rev'd Susan E. Goff is Retired Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Virginia. She was elected Bishop Suffragan and consecrated in 2012. She became Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in 2018, upon the retirement of the Rt. Rev'd Shannon Johnston, Thirteenth Bishop of the Diocese. She retired in 2022 after the consecration of the Rt. Rev'd E. Mark Stevenson, Fourteenth Bishop of the Diocese, and is now serving as Visiting Bishop.

During her time as Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority, Bishop Goff oversaw the mission and ministry of the diocese in all its multiple dimensions during the interim time between Bishops Diocesan, with a particular focus

on strengthening relationships between God, congregations, diocesan leadership and related organizations. She has a particular passion for justice ministries and for the full inclusion of all of God's beloved in the faith community. In addition to her work in the diocese, Bishop Goff is licensed as a visiting bishop in our companion Diocese of Liverpool in England. She also represents The Episcopal Church in relationships with the Anglican Church in Central America (IARCA).

Since she was ordained in 1980, Bishop Susan has ministered in the Diocese of Virginia. She began her service as a school Chaplain, first at St. Margaret's in Tappahannock, then at St. Catherine's in Richmond. From there she was called to be Rector of Immanuel, Old Church, and later as Rector of St. Christopher's, Springfield. She became Canon to the Ordinary in 2010, and from that position she was elected bishop.

Bishop Susan received her Master of Divinity degree with distinction from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology, Magna Cum Laude, from Douglass College (Rutgers University) in New Jersey. While a seminarian, she directed Eagle's Nest Camp, the summer camp of the Diocese of Newark. During a two-year leave of absence from seminary, she lived and worked among Arapaho people on the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming.

Bishop Susan is a visual artist who creates mixed media canvasses and sculptures that include found objects. She and her husband, the Rev. Tom Holliday, share their colorful, art-filled home in Richmond, Virginia, with their Amazon parrot, Jasper.