

# St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

9:30 am



## 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.

## The Season of Lent

### Liturgical changes for Lent

The season of lent brings a variety of liturgical changes to underscore the more somber character of the season of penitence before the great feast of Easter. You will notice some of these changes on the first Sunday in lent which is March 6th this year. Others will not be evident until later in the season of the great 40 days. All are traditions that have been incorporated over hundreds of years of the church is heritage. They help us to move deeper into our spiritual lives by offering tools for worship that impact all of our senses.

The liturgical changes made both in the decorations of the church as well as in the regular liturgy during Lent include:

**Liturgical Colors** -The altar hangings are purple, a color of Jesus' royal kingship and of his royal priesthood, as he embraces suffering and finally death on the cross for his people. At Saint Phillips we use unbleached vestments during lent.

**Sundays in Lent** -On the first Sunday in Lent we will begin with the Great Litany (found on page 148 of the Book of Common Prayer). It replaces both the Prayers of the People and the General Confession on this day only.

**Penitential Order** – There are changes in the liturgy during Lent as well. The service starts with the Penitential Order (found on page 319 of the Book of Common Prayer) beginning on the second Sunday in Lent, which focuses on confessing our sins and receiving forgiveness from the very beginning of our worship. We will use Rite I, the older form of the Eucharist during Lent.

**The Procession**- On Sundays in Lent the procession will enter in silence.

**Processional Cross** -The regular shiny brass processional cross is replaced by a plain, wooden processional cross, or covered with black or purple cloth reminding us of the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ on a tree. His sacrifice defeats death and makes us whole.

**Flowers** – There are no flowers on the altar during Lent, reflecting the focus on repentance over celebration.

**Music** – The music used for the regular parts of the Eucharist changes; it is more in a minor key and in a more transcendent style. There will be no musical prelude or postlude during Lent. The Gloria in Excelsis is replaced in Lent by the Trisagion. The Fractional Anthem will be “Lamb of God.”

**Eucharistic Prayers** – During Lent we will use Eucharistic Prayer C which is more penitential and requires greater participation from the congregation.

**Post Communion Prayer** – At the end, the post-communion prayer is different, demanding our attention to the actual words of what we are praying.

**Alleluia** – All Alleluias are put away (the ancient term is “buried”) during Lent, reflecting that Lent is again about penitence over celebration. They are resurrected at the joyous celebration of Easter.

**Hymns** – The hymns during Lent are different in character, with words that draw us to the holiness of God and our need for God’s forgiveness and grace.

All of these changes to the liturgy during Lent are designed to get our attention and force us to engage the experience in a more present way.

Hopefully our Lenten Services will help to take each of us out of our comfort zone and truly reflect on our lives and relationship with Christ.

# HOLY EUCHARIST - Rite I

## THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

**Celebrant:** Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

**People:** His mercy endureth for ever.

## THE DECALOGUE

God spoke these words, and said: I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bowdown to them, nor worship them.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Honor thy father and thy mother.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt do no murder.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not steal.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not covet.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shall treat thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments all the Law and the Prophets. (*Matthew 22: 37-40*)

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**Most merciful God, confess that we have sinned against thee thought, word, and deed, what we have done, by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## THE TRISAGION

Hymn S 360

**Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

**Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

**Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

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

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT**

Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM 121**

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

2 My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
    shall neither slumber nor sleep;

5 The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
    the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
    nor the moon by night.

7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
    it is he who shall keep you safe.

8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
    from this time forth for evermore.

## THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

*We've Come This Far By Faith*

AA Hymn 412

**We've come this far by faith  
Leaning on the Lord  
Trusting in His holy word  
He's never failed me yet  
Oh! Can't turn around  
We've come this far by faith**

**Don't be discouraged  
When trouble's in your life  
He'll bear your burdens  
And move all misery and strife**

**We've come this far by faith  
Leaning on the Lord  
Trusting in His holy word  
He's never failed me yet  
Oh! Can't turn around  
We've come this far by faith**

**GOSPEL**

John 3:1-17

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

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the

kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O 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**

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world and all of creation.

*(A brief silence.)*

O God, you so love your church. Raised up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, seminary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our planetary home. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and activist who love your earth and who inspire us to care for the natural world. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony. Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and to address its root causes. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovering. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress. Uphold those who are ill or grieving especially Marc Albertson, Trey Bankhead, Jean Boone, Mary Carter, Marilyn Chalmers, Alexander Corbett, Alice Flannigan, Joseph Flannigan, Eudora & Lewis Forrest, Marvis Hazel, Eva Hicks, Ester Hyatt, Francine L. Johnson, Alaina LaVonne, Mary Little, Steven Little, Barbara Lowe, Kay Mack, Christian Miller, Robinette Miller, Edmund Moore, Romaine Morgan, Lela Morris, Tonja Phillips, Tara Plummer, Hortense Powell, Henry Robinson, Clementine Washington, Louise White, and Cynthia Smith Williams. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

O God you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Revive our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants Dorothea Mills, Jordan Williams, Pamela Carter, Elliot Jones, Mark Jones, Reagan Stokes and Telitha Taylor 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.**

O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, Trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

*The Peace of God*

Eudora L. Forrest

### The Peace of God

Eudora L. Forrest  
2000

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1

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, the love of God,

17

the love of God keep you in per - fect peace.

rit.

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## COMMISSIONING OF THE WARDENS AND VESTRY

**Let us pray. (Silence)**

O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage. Enlighten with your grace the Wardens and Vestry of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

In the Name of God and of this congregation. I commission you Larry Clark and Melissa Greene as Wardens and Tim Brown, Carol Arrington-Sims, Alan Foster, Sr., Moses, Golatt, Carolyn Lanier, Joy Lee, Nathaniel Lewis, and Sarah McDermott as members of the Vestry in this Parish.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WELCOME NEWCOMER, BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, AND TRAVEL BLESSINGS

## LITURGY OF THE TABLE

### OFFERTORY

*I Trust in God*

### 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.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

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 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.”

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.

**FRACTION ANTHEM**

*Lamb of God*

Hymn S 160

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.

**COMMUNION HYMN    *At The Cross***

AA Hymn 412

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!

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

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]  
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**

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**  
**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Gracious One, these are your children, help them to serve you faithfully, and keep the Girl Scout Promise. Help them to listen to your voice; help them to be willing and quick to do your work; help them to be friendly and loving; and help them to thank you every day for all your gifts to them. Help them to have open hearts and open hands to serve those in need. And may God continue to do a good work in them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

#### **THE BLESSING**

May the Lord bless you and keep you above and beyond what you could ask or imagine. **Amen.**

May the Lord's face shine upon you revealing the depths of God's infinite love.  
**Amen.**

May the Lord be gracious to you breaking your heart open with new mercies.

**Amen.**

May the Lord's countenance be upon you reminding you that you are chosen and valued. **Amen.**

May the Lord give you peace assuring you of the Holy One's constant faithful care.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and forever more. **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**      *Kneel at the Cross*

AA Hymn 242

**Kneel at the cross,  
Christ will meet you there,  
Come while He waits for you;  
List to His voice,  
Leave with Him your care,  
And begin life anew.**

**Refrain:**

**Kneel at the cross,  
Leave ev'ry care,  
Kneel at the cross,  
Jesus will meet you there, meet you there.**

**Kneel at the cross,  
There is room for all  
Who would His glory share;  
Bliss there awaits,  
Harm can ne'er befall  
Those who are anchored there. [Refrain]**

**Kneel at the cross,  
Give your idols up,  
Look unto realms above;  
Turn not away  
To life's sparkling cup;  
Trust only in His love. [Refrain]**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and your neighbor.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

**Lay Eucharistic Ministers:** John Williams and Gwen Jallah

**Lector:** Jay Greene

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

**Verger:** Nathaniel Lewis

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## Lenten and Holy Week Service Schedule



Holy Week is the week preceding Easter and the final week of Lent. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. Holy Week includes Holy Thursday (also known as Maundy Thursday) and Good Friday, which, together with Holy Saturday, are known as the Triduum. Before the revision of the liturgical calendar in 1969, Holy Week was the second week of Passiontide; in the current calendar, Passiontide is synonymous with Holy Week.

During Holy Week, Christians commemorate the Passion of Christ, who died on Good Friday in reparation for the sins of mankind and rose on Easter Sunday to give new life to all who believe. Thus, while Holy Week is solemn and sorrowful, it also anticipates the joy of Easter through the recognition of God's goodness in sending His Son to die for our salvation.

**Palm Sunday (April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023):** At the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM service, Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem is commemorated by everyone joining in a procession of singing and the waving of palm leaves, followed by the Holy Eucharist.

**Maundy Thursday with Agape Meal (April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023):** 7 PM. The Last Supper is remembered with a service that includes Foot Washing, Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar.

**Good Friday (April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023):** Noon and 7 PM. This solemn service commemorates Christ's suffering and death on the cross by offering special prayers and Holy Communion.

**Great Easter Vigil (April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023):** 7PM. The liturgy intended as the first (and arguably, the primary) celebration of Easter. The service begins in darkness, sometime between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter and consists of four parts: The Service of Light (kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet); The Service of Lessons (readings from the Hebrew Scriptures interspersed with psalms, canticles, and prayers); Christian Initiation (Holy Baptism) or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows; and the Eucharist.

**Easter Sunday (April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023):** During the service, participants affirm that “the Lord is risen indeed.” Easter Egg Hunt to follow the 10:30am service.

## Upcoming Highlights at St. Philip's

Please join us after the service for our Ministry fair, newcomer's reception.

### **Lenten Devotional Study**

Our gift from St. Mary's Guild this year is “Drawn to the Cross: Inspiration from Henri Nouwen” We will be using it for our weekly Lent devotional Sunday each Sunday (**March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3, 2022**) following the 10:30am service in the Parish Hall and for the Circle of Love Wednesday Noonday Prayer service.

**Girl Scouts Sunday:** We will celebrate our Girl Scouts during the **March 12** 10:30 service. If you are a scout (all ages/genders/types of scouts) or an adult leader, we encourage you to wear your uniform that day so we can recognize you.

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

**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. Email Diem if you are interested: [office@stphilipsrva.org](mailto:office@stphilipsrva.org).

**Easter Egg Candy Donations** It's not too soon to start thinking about our Easter Egg hunt! We have plenty of plastic eggs but need donations of candy (**individually wrapped and no nuts or peanut butter please**) Please drop off your

donations in the marked box across from the church office in the atrium.

**Stuffing Plastic Eggs & Pizza Party** Join in the fun after the 10:30 am service on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> and enjoy fellowship, pizza and stuffing plastic eggs. We need a few volunteers to hide easter eggs on Easter morning. Let Diem know if you are interested. Thank you