

**St. Philip's Episcopal Church**  
**The First Sunday of Advent**  
**November 27, 2021**                      **10:00 AM – Rite II**

*We, at St. Philip's Church,  
strive to love God and love others in all we do.*

*If you would like social distance seating, please tell the usher.*

Celebrant and Preacher: Father Eric Mills

*Call to Worship - "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place"*

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel His mighty power  
and His grace. I can hear the brush of angel's wings,  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

*Opening Hymn – "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending" (#58)*

*Opening Acclamation*

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Opening Acclamation*

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath*

*Celebrant:* Our King and Savior now draws near.

**People: Come, Let us adore Him.**

*Kyrie*

*Celebrant:* Lord, have mercy.

**People: Christ, have mercy.**

*Celebrant:* Lord, have mercy.

*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.

**People: Amen.**

*Collect of the Day*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People: Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah (33:14-16)

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 25:1-9

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
**let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
**let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \*  
**and teach me your paths.**

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
**for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.**

5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \*  
**for they are from everlasting.**

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
**remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**

7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \*

**therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**

8 He guides the humble in doing right \*

**and teaches his way to the lowly.**

9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness \*

**to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

### A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians (3:9-13)

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Sequence Hymn – “O Day of God” (#601 vs 1-2)*

## The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (21:25-36)

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Sequence Hymn - "O Day of God" (#601 vs 3)*

*The 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.**

*A Litany of Thanksgiving*

*Deacon:* Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us:

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

*Deacon:* For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

*Deacon:* For our daily food and drink, our homes families, and our friends,

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

*Deacon:* For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

*Deacon:* For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play;

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

*Deacon:* For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

*Deacon:* For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

*Deacon:* For the communion of saints, in all times and places;

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

*Deacon:* Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

**People: To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Silence*

*Celebrant:* Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things.

**People: Amen**

*The Peace:*

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*The Welcoming*

*Ministry Minute*

### *Offertory*

(Congregation stands and sings the following with the presentation of gifts.) (#380 v.3)  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly hosts: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Eucharist

### *Eucharistic Prayer A*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Celebrant:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

*Celebrant and People (S130) (Sung)*

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Celebrant:* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant:* We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 for ever.

**People: AMEN.**

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

**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.**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant:* The gifts of God for the people of God.

## *Communion*

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Communion.*

*Please follow the ushers' instructions to receive. If you are seated in the balcony or acolyte area (social distance areas) please remain in place and Communion will be delivered to you.*

## *Post Communion Prayer*

*Celebrant: Let us pray.*

***Celebrant and People: 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 forever. Amen.***

*Celebrant: Blessing*

*Deacon: Dismissal*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Closing Hymn – “Watchmen, Tell us of the Night” (#640)*



*The Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God  
In Loving Memory of Max Ray Williams  
By Sarah Williams.*

**Lay Readers: Rose Dahill, Steve Moore**  
**Ushers: Debbie Evans, Marcie Wright, Craig Elliott, Pat Elliott**  
**Vestry Person of the Day: Tom Griffin**  
**Greeter: Rose Dahill**

## St. Philip's Contacts

The Rt. Rev. Rob Skirving – Bishop of East Carolina  
Father Eric Mills – Rector – [freric@stphilipchurch.org](mailto:freric@stphilipchurch.org)  
Mother Lisa Erdeljon – Assistant to the Rector – [mthrlisa@stphilipchurch.org](mailto:mthrlisa@stphilipchurch.org)  
Deacon Pam Hayes – [pthayes825@gmail.com](mailto:pthayes825@gmail.com)  
Debbie Skillman (Music Director) – [dskillman@ec.rr.com](mailto:dskillman@ec.rr.com)  
Lorraine Beamer (Parish Administrator) – [info@stphilipchurch.org](mailto:info@stphilipchurch.org)  
Janet Fox – (External Communicator) – [janetfox@mindspring.com](mailto:janetfox@mindspring.com)  
Karla Platt (Sexton)

### Vestry

**Senior Warden** – Dana Richardson — [jdr-lar@atmc.net](mailto:jdr-lar@atmc.net) – (2021-2023)

**Junior Warden** – Dave Ham – [dham109@carolina.rr.com](mailto:dham109@carolina.rr.com) (2019-2022)

#### **2019 – 2021 – Vestry**

Deborah Jordan – [jordans4@ec.rr.com](mailto:jordans4@ec.rr.com)

Debbie Evans - [dshallin@hotmail.com](mailto:dshallin@hotmail.com)

Liz Halbert – [lizbert5@gmail.com](mailto:lizbert5@gmail.com)

Tom Griffin – [tgriffin@ec.rr.com](mailto:tgriffin@ec.rr.com)

#### **2020 – 2022 – Vestry**

Rich Alt – [richalt@verizon.net](mailto:richalt@verizon.net)

Holly Meiners – [hollykm@atmc.net](mailto:hollykm@atmc.net)

Steve Russell – [sruss7676@outlook.com](mailto:sruss7676@outlook.com)

#### **2021-2023 – Vestry**

Bill Bittenbender – [billbitt42@gmail.com](mailto:billbitt42@gmail.com)

Bob Wright – [rwright7@ec.rr.com](mailto:rwright7@ec.rr.com)

Treasurer - Bob Fuchs – [bobfuchs@atmc.net](mailto:bobfuchs@atmc.net)

Clerk -Margaret Bearden – [margaretbearden@sbcglobal.net](mailto:margaretbearden@sbcglobal.net)

## Ministry Board Chairs

Facilities & Finance Board: Don Halbert - [dnhalbert@gmail.com](mailto:dnhalbert@gmail.com)

Faith Formation Board: Nan Bush - [nanbush5@gmail.com](mailto:nanbush5@gmail.com)

Outreach Board: Bob Fuchs – [bobfuchs@atmc.net](mailto:bobfuchs@atmc.net)

Parish Life Board: Steve Moore – [stevenam70@gmail.com](mailto:stevenam70@gmail.com)

Pastoral Care Board: Deacon Pam Hayes - [pthayes825@gmail.com](mailto:pthayes825@gmail.com)

Worship Board: Ricky Evans – [ricky@rickyevansgallery.com](mailto:ricky@rickyevansgallery.com)

## December Service Schedule

December 5 – 1 service at 9:00 am – Annual Meeting immediately following the 9:00 am service.

December 12 – 8:00am and 10:00 am  
- Special Advent service at 5:00 PM

December 19 – 8:00 am and 10:00 am

December 21 – 7:00 PM - Longest Night Service (Blue Christmas)

December 24 – Christmas Eve – 4:00 PM (Blessing of the Creche)  
and 9:00 PM (Candle Light)

December 25 – Christmas Day – 1 Service – 9:00 AM

December 26 – 1 service 9:00 AM– Lessons and Carols

