

**St. Philip's Episcopal Church**  
**The Second Sunday of Advent**  
**December 5, 2021**                      **9:00 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: Mother Lisa Erdeljon

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 – "There's a Voice in the Wilderness" (#75)*

*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.***

*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.**

*Kyrie (S96)*

*Lord have Mercy (3x), Christ have Mercy (3x), Lord have Mercy(3x)*

*Collect of the Day*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; 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 Malachi (3:1-4)

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Canticle 16

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*

**he has come to his people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*

**born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, \*

**from the hands of all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*

**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*

**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

Free to worship him without fear, \*

**holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*

**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

To give his people knowledge of salvation \*

**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God \*

**the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Philippians (1:3-11)

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Sequence Hymn – “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” (#76 vs 1-2)*

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
(3:1-6)

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

*Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.*

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

Sermon

Father Eric Mills

*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.**

## *Prayers of the People Form I*

*Deacon:* With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

*Deacon:* For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* For this city for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**People: To thee, O Lord our God.**

*Silence*

*Celebrant:* Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.

**People: Amen**

*The Confession*

*Deacon:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**People: 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.**



*The Absolution*

*Officiant:* 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.

**People: Amen.**

*The Peace:*

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

**People: And also with you.**

*The Welcoming*

*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 – “Comfort, Comfort Ye my People” (#67)*



*The Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God.*

**Lay Readers: Frazer Crane, Barry Thompson**

**Ushers: Bob Fuchs, Bobbie Fuchs, Linda Humphreys, George Humphreys**

**Vestry Person of the Day: Bill Bittenbender**

**Greeter: Janet Dzuricky**

## St. Philip's Contacts

The Rt. Rev. Rob Skirving – Bishop of East Carolina  
Father Eric Mills – Rector – [freric@stphilipschurch.org](mailto:freric@stphilipschurch.org)  
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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**

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#### **2020 – 2022 – Vestry**

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## 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

