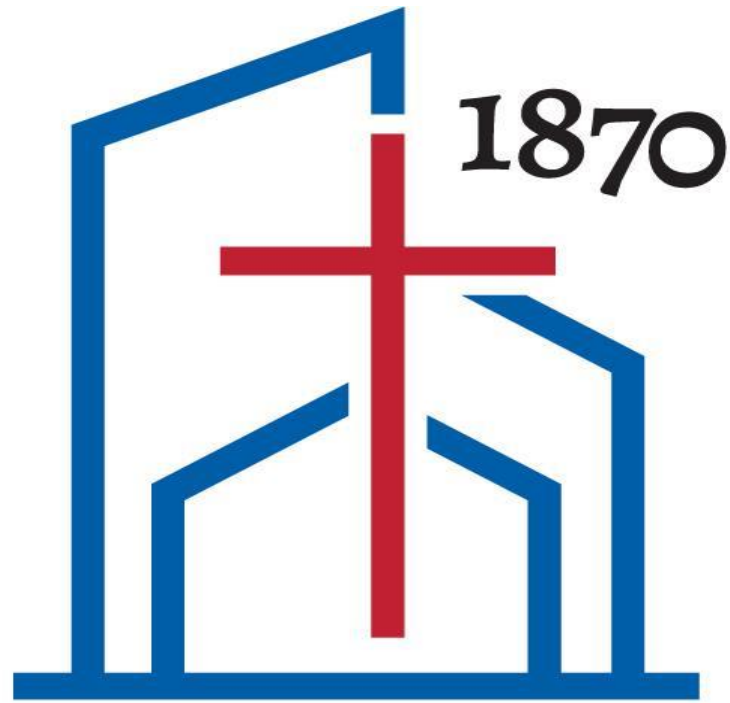


SAINT PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

-ANNAPOLIS, MD-



**ST. PHILIP'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Living Our Faith

**Thanksgiving Eve
Evening Prayer**

Wednesday, November 25, 2020

6:30 PM



A Thanksgiving Prayer in Time of Pandemic

On this Thanksgiving Day like no other,
even now, O God, your name is worthy to be praised.
For in your mercy and kindness
no thought of ours is left unguarded,
no tear unheeded, and no joy unnoticed.

For the blessings we have known
and for those we have yet to recognize,
to you we give our grateful thanks.

For life that reminds us how fragile we are
and also how strong we can be: We thank you, O God.
For sheltering that urges us
to rediscover what truly matters: We thank you, O God.
For communication that allows us
to connect in ways new and old: We thank you, O God.
And for mindfulness that shows us
how much we rely on one another: We thank you, O God.

Watch over your family, Lord, gathered here
and at tables separated by miles,
and bless those who work tirelessly to keep us all safe.
Though we may be kept apart
on this day that calls us together,
we know your Spirit draws us close.

Lord, we ask you to ease the pain of empty chairs
that bring to mind our beloved dead.
Let our grieving find its rest in your Son, Jesus,
in whose Resurrection is our hope.

Grant your Spirit to be present here
that this meal may become a foretaste of your heavenly table
where every tear shall be wiped away, every hunger fed,
and no distance can separate us from your love in Christ,
from whom all good things come.

Amen.

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**Give Us
ThisDay.**
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THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome

The Rev. Randy K. Callender

Opening Hymn

"We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing"

H1982 #433

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing:
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning:
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:

sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!
thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

Opening Sentences

Presider Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People *Thanks be to God*

Confession and Absolution

Presider As we come together to express our thanks to our Creator, for all that God has given to us by grace, without any merit or worthiness on our part, let us begin by admitting that we have ignored opportunities to repent for the things that we have done and the things left undone, so that we are reconciled to God and to each other. Therefore, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept, then Presider and People together say,

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.

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

The Invitatory and Psalter

Presider O God, make speed to save us.

People *O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Presider and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

O Gracious Light

H1982 #S60

1. O gra - cious Light, purc
bright - ness of the ev - er - liv - ing Fa - ther in hea - ven,
O Je - sus Christ, ho - ly and bless - ed! 2. Now as we
come to the set - ting of the sun, and our eyes be - hold the ves - per

light, we sing your prais-es, O God: Fa - ther, Son, and
 Ho - ly Spi - rit. 3. You are wor - thy at all times to be
 praised by hap - py voic - es, O Son of God, O Giv - er of life,
 and to be glo - ri - fied through all the worlds.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 65:9-14

*⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
 you make it very plenteous; *
 the river of God is full of water.*

*¹⁰You prepare the grain, *
 for so you provide for the earth.*

*¹¹You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
 with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.*

*¹²You crown the year with your goodness, *
 and your paths overflow with plenty.*

*¹³May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
 and the hills be clothed with joy.*

*¹⁴May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
 and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
 let them shout for joy and sing.*

*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 the book of Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy 8:1-3, 6-10 (17-20)

Moses said to all Israel: This entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase, and go in and occupy the land that the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. Remember the long way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Therefore keep the commandments of the LORD your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him.

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you. [Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today. If you do forget the LORD your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish. Like the nations that the LORD is destroying before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God.]

Reader The word of the Lord
People *Thanks be to God.*

Canticle 12

"A Song of Creation"

WLP #885



1. Let all cre - a - tion bless the Lord, till heav'n with praise is ring - ing.
2. All liv - ing things up - on the earth, green fer - tile hills and moun-tains,
3. O men and wo - men ev - ery-where, lift up a hymn of glo - ry;



Sun, moon, and stars, peal out a chord, stir up the an - gels' sing - ing.
sing to the God who gave you birth; be joy - ful, springs and foun-tains.
let all who know God's stead - fast care tell our sal - va - tion's sto - ry.

Sing, wind and rain! Sing, snow and sleet! Make mu - sic, day, night, cold and heat: ex -
 Lithe wa - ter life, bright air - borne birds, wild rov - ing beast, tame flocks and herds: ex -
 No tongue be si - lent; sing your part, you hum - ble souls and meek of heart: ex -

alt the God who made you. 1. 2. 3.
 alt the God who made you.
 alt the God who made you.

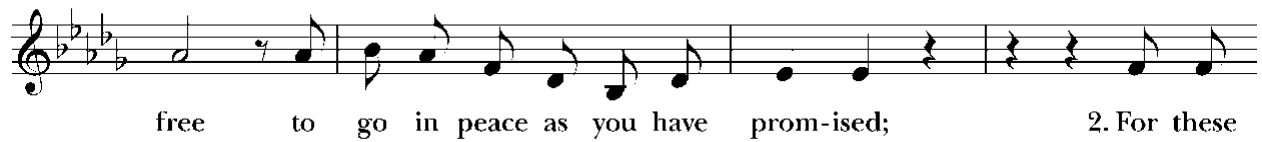
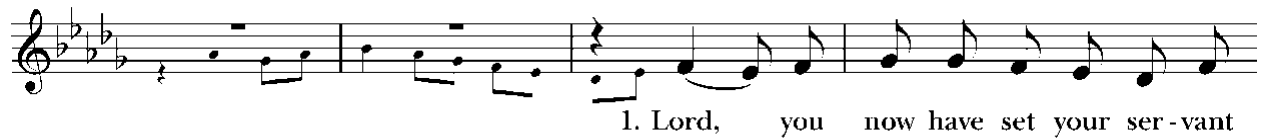
A Reading from James

James 1:17-18,21-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**





Jesus said, "I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you-- you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Deacon The word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Sermon

"Children are a gift from the Lord"

Video Presentation

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

The Prayers

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider and People

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.

Lay leader

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.

We thank you, Lord.

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

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,
We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,
We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering
and faithful in adversity,
We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,
We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,
We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and
promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;
*To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the
Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.*

Presider

Collect for the Day

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Mission of the Church

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself: We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your Name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours for ever. *Amen.*

General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Blessing

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn

"Come, ye thankful people, come"

H1982 #290

Dismissal

Deacon Go forth in peace, with thankful hearts, to fulfill the ministry, that God has chosen you for.

People *Thanks be to God.*

A Prayer for Those Affected by the Coronavirus

O God of compassion, giver of life and health, we pray your healing mercies upon all who are in any way affected by the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Comfort and sustain those who have been stricken; relieve their pain, and restore to them your gifts of gladness and strength. Grant to all in authority the courage to make wise decisions that are essential for the common good, and strengthen them to lead institutions that care for those whom they serve. Watch over all first responders and those in the medical professions whose duty it is to care for the sick; guard them from all danger, and keep them safe in the knowledge that is through their sacrifice and service that the health of the whole community is promoted.

Mercifully accept these our prayers, O God of all comfort, and our only help in time of need. Amen.

-The Rt. Rev. Eugene Sutton

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



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Rector: randycallender@yahoo.com

PLEASE FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK AND YOTUBE!!

Our Great Hall is available to rent for banquets,
receptions and meetings. Call 410-266-9755 to inquire.

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Randy K. Callender, Rector
The Rev. Corby Zeren, Deacon
Mary Kelly, DOV Intern
Mr. Joe Pettigrew, Organist
Mrs. Velma McCullough, Verger
Miss Mojoyin Opeaiye, Executive Assistant to the Rector
Miss Myava Mitchell, Streaming Technician

THE VESTRY

Class of 2021: Lita Brown, Tanya Foote, Lorraine Thomas, Karen Neale
Class of 2022: Margot Flood, Gail Hewitt-Clarke, John Merrick, Jane Libby
Class of 2023: Carol Hall, Newton Gentry III, Richetta Johnson
Senior Warden: Hannah Bulman (2021)
Junior Warden: (2021)
Rectory Property Management: John Merrick & Sheryl Banks
Verger: Velma McCullough
Assistant Treasurer: Karen Neale
Bookkeeper: John Parham
Legal Advisor: Otho Thompson

ST. PHILIP'S FAMILY LIFE CENTER, INC.

Website: www.spfamilylifecenter.com

Mission Statement: To transform lives by providing sustainable health, education and welfare programs to families and children in need.

ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH COLUMBARIUM MEMORIAL GARDEN

Mission Statement: To provide Columbarium Interment Services to parish members, their families, and the Greater Annapolis