



ST. PHILIP'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Uvalde, Texas

*A Liturgy for the
2020 Presidential Election*

343 North Getty - Uvalde, TX 78801

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www.stphilipsuvalde.org

“I want us to have a conversation about the upcoming election.”

That’s what I said to the vestry at our September vestry meeting. As soon as I said those words the anxiety level went up - theirs and mine. Some said we shouldn’t do that, couldn’t do that. Others were just quiet. A few thought we needed to have the conversation. I thought we could have the conversation but wasn’t at all sure about where the conversation would go or how it would end.

We had the conversation and it was one of the best conversations the vestry has had in a long time. What made our conversation so meaningful is that it was less about the content of the conversation, and more about our way of being toward one another as we had the conversation.

As a result of that conversation the vestry is implementing a couple of practices that focus on our way of being toward one another.

- We will pray “A Liturgy for the 2020 Presidential Election” on Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/StPhilipsChurchUvalde>) each Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. beginning October 7. Please join us in this prayer and invite your friends and family.
- The vestry has approved “A Pledge to the 2020 Presidential Electorate” that names how we want to be toward each other. You are invited to join the vestry and clergy of St. Philip’s and take the pledge. A copy of the pledge is attached.

As we move forward in this election season I would like us to carry a few questions - not so much to be answered but to be followed:

- What does it mean to be a Christian during this time? What are the values, qualities, and characteristics we see in Jesus’ life that are most needed at this time, and how will we embody those?
- What is being called for or asked of us as individuals and as a parish?
- How do we best support and care for ourselves and one another?

God’s peace be with you,
Mike+

A Liturgy for the 2020 Presidential Election

Jesus said, "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (*John 13:34-35*)

Silence

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Let us pray

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People pray together, saying,

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you (us), forgive you (us) all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you (us) in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you (us) in eternal life. Amen.

A deacon or lay person using the preceding form substitutes "us" for "you."

Reflection on Scripture

The scripture readings will change each week. Please go to the St. Philip's website or watch for the scripture readings in the weekly e-news.

Prayers

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of our president, officials, and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Donald, Melania, and the Trump family, that you would bless them, O Lord, and give them all the good things we want in our own lives and the lives of those we love.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For Joe, Jill, and the Biden family, that you would bless them, O Lord, and give them all the good things we want in our own lives and the lives of those we love.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For those with whom we disagree and are in conflict, with whom we struggle to understand and be in relationship, and from whom we are divided, that you would bless them, O Lord, and give them all the good things we want in our own lives and the lives of those we love.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Silent Reflection

Officiant For God alone my soul in silence waits; from him comes my salvation.

People He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.

Silence

Officiant In God is my safety and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

People Put your trust in him always, O people, pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

People and Officiant

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.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Officiant concludes

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. *Amen.*

A Pledge to the 2020 Presidential Electorate

Preface

The Vestry of St. Philip's Episcopal Church recently had a conversation about the upcoming presidential election. We discussed how we wanted to be toward one another regardless of our individual political beliefs, whether we are in agreement or disagreement, and regardless of who wins the election. The idea of taking a pledge came from that conversation.

This pledge is not necessarily a goal to be accomplished, but a way of being toward one another - a practice to be lived day to day.

Pledge

As a person of faith committed to the life and teachings of Jesus, I make this pledge to all people regardless of their political beliefs, whether we are in agreement or disagreement, and regardless of who wins the election.

With respect to my words and actions, whether in person or through social media, I pledge and commit myself, both before and after the election -

- To love others as Jesus has loved me (John 13:34);

- To treat others as I would want them to treat me (Luke 6:31);
- To love my enemies, do good to those who hate me, bless those who curse me, and pray for those who abuse me (Luke 6:27-28);
- To “proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ” (*Book of Common Prayer*, 305); and
- To “strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being” (*Book of Common Prayer*, 305).

This I pledge in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Note: This pledge has been signed by all members of the clergy and vestry at St. Philip’s. If you would like to sign this pledge, a copy is enclosed and the pledge can also be found on the church website.



St. Philip's Episcopal Church
343 North Getty Street, Uvalde, TX 78801
830-278-5223
www.stphilipsuvalde.org

Sunday Worship Services:

10:30 a.m. in the Church
(With safety protocols in place - distancing and masks.)
or
10:30 a.m. - Facebook Livestream

Weekday Worship Services:

Morning Prayer

Monday and Friday 8:00 a.m. - Facebook Livestream

Compline

Monday and Friday 8:00 p.m. - Facebook Livestream

A Liturgy for the 2020 Presidential Election

Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. - Facebook Livestream

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

<https://www.facebook.com/StPhilipsChurchUvalde>

<https://www.instagram.com/stphilipsuvalde/>

All are welcome!