

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 2, 2022



OUR MISSION

To bring by the power of the Holy Spirit as many people as possible to know, love, and serve God as revealed through Jesus Christ; and to be transformed into spiritually renewed disciples of Jesus who know, love and serve one another and the world.



ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

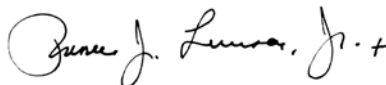
FROM THE RECTOR

IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD,
JESUS CHRIST, WELCOME.

Jesus' first words to His earliest disciples were very simple, "Come, follow Me..." (Matthew 4:19) It was a gentle invitation to take seriously the wonderful journey of faith found in Christ. For more than 2,000 years, people of all ages have responded to that invitation through a personal decision to follow Jesus Christ in a community of prayer, study and service. St. Martin's is just such a place.

St. Martin's is a member Church in the Diocese of Texas, The Episcopal Church in the United States of America and the greater worldwide Anglican Communion consisting of more than 77 million people. Our Parish Church considers it a tremendous honor to be a place where men, women, youth and children can grow in their personal relationship with our Lord, come to know and use their own spiritual gifts, and discover a personal ministry to be expressed both in the Church, the greater Houston area and beyond.

I want to personally invite you to participate in our worship services and as many of our activities and ministries as your own commitments and time will allow.



The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr., Rector

Prayers Before Worship

O Lord, we thank You that You have called us as members of Your family into this beautiful house of God. Grant that here we may feel Your presence and the beauty of Your peace, and that, as we return to our homes and work, we may sense Your guiding hand and loving care and be used in the service of our neighbors, our nation and the world, and all You send our way, through Him Who came not to condemn the world but to save it, Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***

Please continue to take CORONA virus precautions. We encourage all who visit our campus to be fully vaccinated. If not vaccinated, we request you wear a mask while on our campus; or continue to participate in the variety of virtual offerings for worship, education and fellowship. Please note that anyone not abiding by these recommendations is doing so at his or her own risk. Thank you for your cooperation.

NOTICE: St. Martin's is a gun-free campus.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

JANUARY 2

Christian Education for Adults, 7-1-1 Students and Children's Ministry will not be offered today in observance of the New Year's holiday. Please join us next Sunday, Jan. 9, when Christian Education classes resume.

St. Martin's Campus will be closed Monday, Jan. 3, in observance of the New Year's holiday. We will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

JANUARY 3-8

Adults

Education for Ministry

Tuesday, Jan. 4

6:30-8:30 p.m. | Welcome Center



Efm is a challenging and affirming four-year study developed and administered by the University of the South's School of Theology. For more information, contact the Rev. Dr. Suse McBay at smcbay@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Church Tours

Wednesday, Jan. 5

10:30-11:45 a.m. | The Church



The Church will be open for visitors with a formal tour at 10:45 a.m. To schedule a group tour, please contact the Docent Line at 713-830-4117. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild

Wednesday, Jan. 5

Noon-3 p.m. | Activity Center, Upper Hall East



St. Clare's Guild undertakes a variety of needlepoint projects in worship spaces and for outreach programs. For more information, contact the Rev. Lisa Neilson at Ineilson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Parish Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Jan. 6

7-9 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal Hall



Sing a variety of traditional music in service to the Lord and our congregation. For more information, contact the Rev. Dr. Chad Martin at cmartin@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Sterling's Market

Saturday, Jan. 8 | Rain or Shine

9 a.m.-noon | Corner of Woodway and Sage



The mission of the Sterling's Market at St. Martin's Episcopal Church is to glorify God through sharing the Gospel and the bounties of the earth with Parishioners, neighbors and visitors. For more information and to volunteer, contact info@sterlingsmarket.org.

Men

Dads' Bible Study

Thursday, Jan. 6

8-9 a.m. | Welcome Center



Join dads with children of all ages for coffee, fellowship and Bible study. No registration is necessary to attend the discussions. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Women

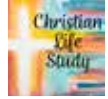
Christian Life Study

Tuesday, Jan. 4 – Evening Group

6:30–8 p.m. | Via Zoom

Thursday, Jan. 6 – Morning Group

9:30–11:30 a.m. | Parish Life Center, Children’s Life Center and via Zoom



This friendly and loving group of women meets over the course of the year to target various topics in the Bible to deepen faith. For more information, contact the Rev. Marty Bastian at [lgallien@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:Igallien@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

Blanket Ladies

Wednesday, Jan. 5

10-11:30 a.m. | Activity Center, Family Room



Make receiving blankets for newborn infants at local charity hospitals. For more information, contact the Rev. Lisa Neilson at Ineilson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

HOLY EUCHARIST

Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. is a spoken service. Musical pieces in this booklet will be skipped or replaced by spoken liturgy, as noted.

VOLUNTARY "Chorale Prelude on Quem Pastores" Healey Willan

The Celebrant greets the People. Following the greeting, all stand.

*HYMN 87 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

**indicates when latecomers may be seated so as not to disturb other worshipers*

with the an-gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788), alt.; Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831–1915).

Begin on page 323 of "The Book of Common Prayer" (BCP)

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.**
Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA Gloria

An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813–1882), alt.; Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887–1958); Copyright: Words: By permission of Fleming H. Revell Company.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray. (*kneel*)

The Celebrant says the Collect

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSONJeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock

and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

HYMN 109 (vs. 1-2) "The First Nowell"

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
 5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Words: English Carol; Music: *The First Nowell*, English Carol, harm. J. Stainer.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

THE GOSPELMatthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 37.

HYMN 109 (vs. 6)..... "The First Nowell"

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star
 4 This star drew nigh to west,
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
 5 full re - v - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star where - ev - er it went.
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

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sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Words: English Carol; Music: *The First Nowell*, English Carol, harm. J. Stainer.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON The Rev. Sharron L. Cox

THE NICENE CREED (*BCP p. 327*)

Celebrant and People

I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of his Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father;
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation
 came down from heaven,
 and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the
 Virgin Mary,
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered and was buried;
 and the third day he rose again according to
 the Scriptures,
 and ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth on the right hand of the Father,
 and he shall come again, with glory,
 to judge both the quick and the dead;
 whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
 who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
 who with the Father and the Son together
 is worshiped
 and glorified;
 who spake by the Prophets.

**And I believe one holy catholic and
apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission
of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*BCP p. 387,
Form III*) (*kneel*)

Minister and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for thy holy catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve thee;
That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for our Anglican Communion; for the Archbishop
of Canterbury, Justin; for our Presiding Bishop, Michael;
for our Bishops, Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector; for all bishops,
priests and deacons;
**That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word
and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the
nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in thy sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief
or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

For Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, Sylvester, our Mayor, and the Congress and the Courts; for all who serve in our armed forces and their families; for persecuted Christians; for victims of terror attacks; for an end to war and conflict; for victims of natural disasters; for first responders; for those suffering from the effects of the Coronavirus; for health care workers; for those in the hospitals,__; for those whom our prayers have been requested,__; for those on our Continuing Prayer List; for all the blessings of this life; for the dearly departed,__; and we give thanks for their lives and pray for their loved ones left behind.

I invite your own prayers and intercessions.

A period of silence, during which people may add their own petitions quietly or in the privacy of their hearts.

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect (BCP p. 394)

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Minister says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Minister and People (BCP p. 331)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and 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.

Priest stands and says (BCP p. 332)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *(stand)*

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

People: **And with thy spirit.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

+ SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR
Healing and Wholeness

St. Martin's International OSL Healing Community offers a service of prayer for healing and wholeness on the first Wednesday of each month. This short service is held for anyone in need of prayer for themselves, friends or family.

Next Service
Wednesday, Jan. 5 | 5 p.m.
Parish Life Center or via Zoom
bit.ly/oslservice

For more information, contact Katwana Coleman at kcoleman@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Christian Life Study



MORNING GROUP

Jan. 6 through Feb. 17

9:30 to 11:20 a.m. • Parish Life Center

Join the CLS Morning Group in their study of

“Isaiah: Here is Your God”

by Tim Chester

For more information, contact Anna McLean at
281-782-0594 or amaynebr1@gmail.com.

Register at CLSBibleStudy.com

The
Order
of the 
Daughters
of the King

SATURDAY, JAN. 8 | 10 A.M.
CHILDREN'S LIFE CENTER

Special Guest: Tory B. Arnold

We welcome The Order of the Daughters of the King® Diocesan President, Tory B. Arnold, who will speak about the Strategic Plan Companion and how we can “nurture and grow our members.”

For more information, please contact Tracee Martin at tmartin@smartinsepiscopal.org.



In January St. Martin's celebrates

World Missions Month

Come see how we plan to deepen our presence around the globe through innovative local and global opportunities.

Upcoming World Missions Talks at All Morning Services

Sunday, January 9

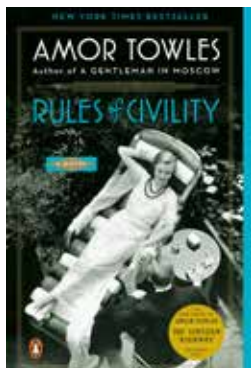
Texas Water Mission, Sus Hijos, Seafarers

Sunday, January 23

Sole Hope, Amistad Mission, Plant with Purpose

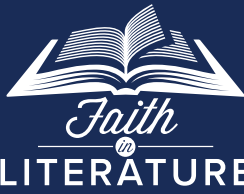


DAY GROUP



1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, Jan. 12
Children's Life Center, Room 132

The Faith in Literature group explores, discusses and makes relevant connections between faith and works of fiction, past and present. While operating within the framework of Christian theology, we seek to ascertain in our reading how all good literature, if even by its omission, deals with and reflects themes of faith.



EVENING GROUP

Tuesday, Jan. 18
7-8:30 p.m.

Children's Life Center, Room 109



The Faith in Literature group explores, discusses and makes relevant connections between faith and works of fiction, past and present. While operating within the framework of Christian theology, we seek to ascertain in our reading how all good literature, if even by its omission, deals with and reflects themes of faith.



Thursday, Jan. 20 · 6-8 p.m.
Parish Life Center Kitchen

St. Martin's hosts Cooking Classes with professional chefs—including our own Chef Julio Flores. The series are designed for all skill levels and perfect for those interested in sharpening their culinary skills and sharing in fellowship.

Register for this Greek cuisine class with Chef Mary Cuclis at bit.ly/stmartinscooking4

STUDENT MINISTRIES

SAN ANTONIO

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

JUNE 13-17, 2022



Register now at bit.ly/2022MSMissionTrip
Registration deadline March 31

Student Beach Adventure

DAYTONA



BEACH FL

PASSION CAMP 2022

JULY 10-16

Register at bit.ly/2022PassionCamp
Registration deadline March 31



St. Martin's Choir Tour to

PARIS

July 16-25, 2022

All are welcome to join us on this wonderful tour!

- Fly Air France (non-stop) from Houston to Paris on July 16.
- Day trip to Normandy with a guided tour of the American Cemetery and Omaha Beach.
- Tour and performance in the Chartres Cathedral, La Madeleine, St. Sulpice and St. Jean de Caen.



Interested in joining us on this exciting trip?

Contact Angel Romero at aromero@stmartinsepiscopal.org

Café

ST. MARTIN'S

Mondays–Wednesdays

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Thursdays

11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Bagby Parish Hall



Come by and discover delicious specialties prepared daily by Chef Julio and his team.

Enjoy our hot meal entrées, sandwiches, salad bar, baked potato bar, desserts and more!

Visit our webpage for more information:

stmartinsepiscopal.org/cafe-st-martins/

7 Night Cruise Aboard the Quantum of the Seas

Join St. Martin's Episcopal Church
Alaska Glacier Cruise

June 13-20, 2022

with The Rev. Dr. Russ Levenson



Guest Speaker on both cruises



Reverend Dr. Russ Levenson

Voyages of Paul Cruise

Join St. Martin's Episcopal Church with Rev. Dr. Russ Levenson
August 7 - 18, 2022



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ST. MARTIN'S
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THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM “What Is This Lovely Fragrance” Healey Willan

What is this lovely fragrance wafting like to the scents of flowers in spring! Shepherd, O tell us, whence such beauty, hear you not heavenly caroling? What is this light so fair, so tender breaking upon our wondering eyes? Never the Morning Star so radiant followed o’er eastern skies. Shepherds, O haste with eager footstep seek the Saviour, born today. Low at His feet we lay our treasure, Heart’s adoration, love for aye.

Words: Poem translated from the French by YSOBEL. Music: *Old French Carol*, arranged for SATB and Organ by Healey Willan. © 1942 by Oxford University Press.

AT THE PRESENTATION

(8 a.m. only in place of sung Doxology)

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

DOXOLOGY *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

Refrain
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711); Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan William (1872-1958).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(BCP p. 340) (stand)*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

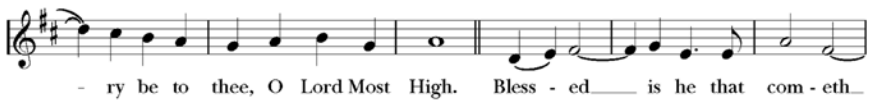
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Celebrant and People (said at 8 a.m.; sung at 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 6 p.m.)



Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880–1968); Copyright: By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Celebrant continues (BCP p. 341) (kneel)

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(BCP p. 336)*

People and Celebrant

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

(8 a.m. only in place of sung Fraction Anthem)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM*St. Louis*

Cantor sings

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.

Congregation sings

**No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

Then may be said

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS (*BCP p. 337*)

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says the Invitation. (BCP p. 338)

Distribution of the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist. At this time, we are offering only the wafer, which is considered full Communion in the Episcopal Church. Please tell the priest administering Communion if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

ANTHEM "Up! Good Christen Folk, and Listen"
G. R. Woodward

Up! Good Christen folk, and listen how the merry church bells ring, and from steeple bid good people come adore the newborn King: Born of mother, blest o'er other, *Ex Maria Virgine*, in a stable ('tis no fable), *Christus natus hodie*.

Words: G. R. Woodward. Music: from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582, harmonized by G. R. Woodward. Reprinted from *The Cowley Carol Book* by permission.

HYMN “Away in a Manger”

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, The
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing; the Ba - by a - wakes, But
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay Close

lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The
 lit - tle Lord Je - sus— no cry - ing he makes. I
 by me for - e - ver, and love me, I pray. Bless

stars in the sky— looked down where He lay; The
 love Thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky, And
 all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care, And

lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay;
 stay by my side un - til mor - ning is nigh.
 fit us for hea - ven, to live with Thee there.

Text: Anon. (v. 1-2 Kirkpatrick, 1885; vs. 3 Charles H. Gabriel, 1892); Music: *Mueller*; arr. John Weaver.

HYMN 89 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
 2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
 4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
 peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heav - en - ly
 world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heav - en - ly
 pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
 hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all-gracious King." The world in sol- emn
 bend on hov- ering wing, and ev- er o'er its
 tid- ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
 an- cient splen- dors fling, and all the world give

 still- ness lay to hear the an- gels sing.
 Ba- bel- sounds the bless- ed an- gels sing.
 cease your strife and hear the an- gels sing!
 back the song which now the an- gels sing.

Words: E.H. Sears; Music: *Carol*, R.S. Willis.

HYMN 99 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and
 ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that

Verses

Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep - herds kept their
 2 The shep - herds feared and
 3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
 trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
 man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

Repeat Refrain

hold, through-out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
 out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
 God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Words: African-American spiritual 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (b. 1901); Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935); Copyright: Music: Arrangement © 1984, Horace Clarence Boyer.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. (BCP p. 339)

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

All stand.

HYMN 115 "What Child Is This?"

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: *Antioch*, G.F. Händel.

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Personal prayers are available at the west Side Chapel after this service.

SERMON NOTES

OTHER READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE PSALM Psalm 84:1-8

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you. Happy are the people whose strength is in you! Whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water. They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion. Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob. Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your Anointed.

THE EPISTLE Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

Individuals are included on the *Continuing Prayers* list for numerous reasons, some of which may include recovery from illness, thanksgiving or need for support for special ministry and mission. In addition to praying for participants in cancer support groups, the Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group and The Gathering, this week please pray for the following:

Shelly Bain	John Jamail	Aaron Strong
Jack Beeson	Shirlee Jamail	Susan Strother
Missy Belote	Helen Joyner	Paul Stumpff
Anne Berry	Muriel Kearby Albaral	Nancy Talbot
Alli Blackman	Paige Laird	Paul Therrien
Cory Blackman	Amy Lee	Bart Tomlinson
Grace Blake	Stan Leong	H. Michael Tyson
John and Dianne Brock III	Shawn Levenson	Randy Vander Nailen
Jane Cabes	Nancy Liles	Becky Wareing
Higdon Compton, Jr.	Martha Ann Linden	Charles Warren
Beth Costa	Robertta Lloyd	Mary Waters
Gail Davis	Ryan Logan	Derry Wilkens
Mac Davis	Jaclyn Manning	James Wilkerson
Sue Davis	Jo Nell Marshall	Eric Zoerb
Tommy W. Davis	Jeffrey Martinson	Ben
Louis DelHomme	BD McAndrew	Betsey
Bobby deSosa	Michelle McStravick	Elizabeth
Betty DeVerter	Hal Means	Henry
Chase Dixon	Len Menefee	Jane
Nancy Doss	Benice Nwabueze	Kathryn
Jim Easterling	Judy and Jay O'Connor	Laura
Stacey Elliott	Jim Paddock	Lorrie
Matt Fryar	Troy Phillips	Marilyn
Brad Gallion	Jimmy Prentice	Mark
Max Goodloe	Ophelia Pujol	Matthew
Hollis, McKay and	Barbara Quackenbush	Oran
Rand Grace	Rocky Robinson	Patsy
Gladys Halbouty	Robert Rosales	RC
Tish Hale	David and Clare Sackllah	Sally
Tom Harrington	Jimmy Sackllah	Thomas
Walesk Harvey	Brady Samuelson	Victor and Barbara
Elizabeth Hill	Jim Sanitato	Woody
Mollie Hill	Ellie Schilling	
Jeff Holden	Helen and Jim Shaffer	
Elizabeth Holderfield	Clif Shoemake	
Wayne Hollis	Richard Smith	
Debra Ibarra Mayfield	Bob Spencer	
Brittney Jacobson	Jim Stokes	

Please be advised that we will be updating the Continuing Prayers list twice a year in the weeks before Easter and All Saints' Day. Names will remain on the prayer list for six months. To put someone on the Continuing Prayers list, please contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

Names we have received of those in the Armed Forces:

SSgt Clint Bahme	LCDR Bradley Ryan	2nd Lt. Alex Mullen
Lt. Col. Julian Benton	Hoffman	Lt. Holly E. Pace
1st Lt. Benjamin Brown	Capt. Cody Horr	Lt. Paul Piana
Lt. Col. Chris Davis	Maj. Wesley J. Hunnell	LCMR David A. Pilko
Wesley Dodd	Dallas Wayne Hunter	Maj. Thomas Cook Plant
James Drury III	Staton Jobe	PO1 Brian Matthew Powell
James Eilers	Lt. Cmdr. Kory Krebs	SPC Joel Rowell
Major Parker Firestone	Krystal Martinez	Maj. Christian Schleider
Capt. Dom Flatt	PV2 Wills Masterson	1st Lt. Grant Suter
Nathan Fordice	1st Lt. Ben Matthews	1st Lt. Luke Voss
1st Lt. Will Golinkin	1st Lt. Jack Mullen	

ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU! GOD LOVES YOU!

General Questions

Contact the Reception Desk at 713-621-3040.

Prayer Requests

Contact the Prayer Request Line at 713-830-4124,
or Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or
vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

After Hours Emergencies

Call 713-621-3040 and press 2 to reach the Priest on Call.

Death Notifications and Funerals

Contact Cyndy Ensign at 713-985-3808 or
censign@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

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ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

Vestry Executive Committee

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Mr. Titus Harris III, *Junior Warden*

Mrs. Anya McInnis, *Missions Chair*

Mr. Matt Anderson, *Treasurer*

Mrs. Diane Campbell, *Clerk*

Mr. Culver Stedman, *Past Senior Warden*

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The Hon. John Wooldridge

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The Hon. James A. Baker, III, *Special Counsel to the Vestry**

Mr. Bill Frazer, *Senior Council Representative 2021-2022*

Mr. Will Williams, Jr., *Senior Council Representative 2021-2022*

Mrs. Therese Moore, *Altar Guild President 2021-2022*

Mrs. Dana Parkey, *ECW President 2021-2022*

Mr. Joe Lopez, *Men of St. Martin's President 2019-2022*

Mr. Michael Weaber, *Usher Representative 2021-2022*

**Chancellor and Special Counsel are associate positions, filled at the discretion of the Rector.*



Mr. Matt Anderson
Vestry Person ~ Morning



Mr. Titus Harris
Vestry Person ~ Evening

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Jesus, The Christ
The Head of This Church



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