THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2020



By the Reverend Craig Biddle III

Bronze, 2003

Given to the Glory of God

in Memory of

Joseph S. Mundy

by his beloved wife, Marion E. Mundy

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.



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.

Gener J. Luna, Jr. +

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.*

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your provision for our church family, especially the resources we need to expand and develop our church campus in order to further the work of Your Gospel in this place. Give us strength and grace as the construction takes place, that it would go as You will, for Your purposes and Your kingdom. Bless and keep safe all those who labor on our behalf. All this we ask through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

VOLUNTARY....."O God, Our Help in Ages Past" arr. Edwin Childs

Dr. David Henning, Parish Organist and Director of Music

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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP page 224)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for eyer. Amen. Amen.

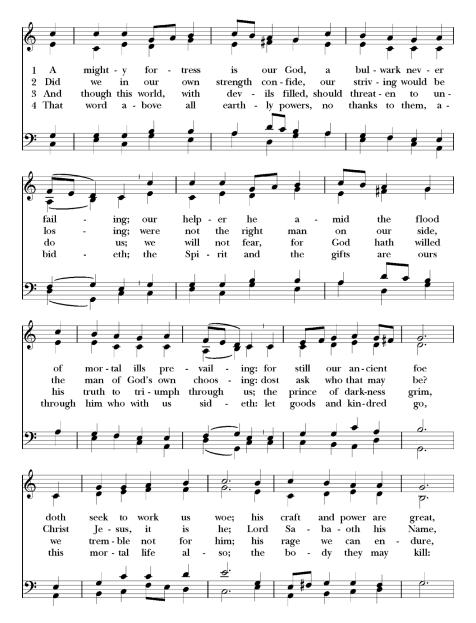
ANTHEM"All Creatures of Our God and King" Lasst uns erfreuen Tom and Haley Lynch, Contemporary Music Worship

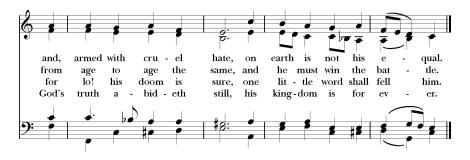
THE LESSON Acts 2:14a, 36–41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

ANTHEM (Hymn 688, vs. 1 and 4)...... "A Mighty Fortress" Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez, St. Martin's Parish Choir





Words: Martin Luther (1483–1546); tr. Frederic Henry Hedge (1805–1890); based on Psalm 46; Music: Ein feste Burg, melody Martin Luther (1483–1546); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750).

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL......Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eves were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some

of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

ANTHEM "In the Garden" C. Austin Miles

Annamarie Zmolek, St. Martin's Parish Choir

THE SERMON "Heartburn or Burning Hearts?" The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

THE NICENE CREED (BCP page 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 page 387, Form III)

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 Donald, our President, the Congress and the Courts; for all who serve in our armed forces and their families; we pray for peace throughout the world, and especially in the Middle East; and we pray for the victims of terror attacks; and we remember before you, and pray for the protection of our Christian brothers and sisters who face danger or persecution for their faith; and we pray for victims of all natural disasters; for the many people who have contracted the coronavirus; for comfort for those grieving loved ones who have died and peace for those who are fearful as the virus spreads, for those in isolation, those who have lost their job or their business, for parents who find themselves trying to home school their children, and for all those in our communities involved in ministering to the sick, especially for all health care workers; we pray for the safety of all law enforcement agents, firefighters, paramedics and all first responders who provide security and protection to the citizens they serve, and we pray for those in the hospitals _____; and those for whom our prayers have been requested____; and for those on our Continuing Prayer List; and for all the blessings of this life, especially those remembered today with Altar flowers,____; and we remember before you the departed especially____; 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 page 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 page 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 page 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

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

People: And with thy spirit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

My friends,

Prompted by friend to St. Martin's, the Rev. Josh Condon, Rector of Church of the Holy Spirit, the Rev. Jonathan Adams suggested that we might want to follow the example of our neighboring parish and hold a blood drive here at St. Martin's.

Late last week, Jonathan, Justin Jacobson, Dennis Davis and I met with staff members of the Gulf Coast Blood Center and made plans for our drive that will run Tuesday through Thursday, April 28–30 in Bagby Parish Hall.

More information is below and you MUST register on line for appointments to give blood during the COVID-19 season. To keep social distancing and other safety practices intact, Gulf Coast Blood Center cannot take walkin customers. Please make your appointment today and let others know! Laura and I are the first two "in line" to give blood, and we hope many of you will join us in the hours and days that follow.

Thank you so much for your consideration!

Faithfully,

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

Bune J. Luna, Jr.+

Rector

Please register below and see the attachments for additional information. Note that 16- and 17-year-olds can participate with a completed parental consent form. You may download the form in English or Spanish here: https://www.giveblood.org/about-donating/parental-consent-form/

Appointments for Tuesday, April 28:

https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/310690

Appointments for Wednesday, April 29:

https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/310691

Appointments for Thursday, April 30:

https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/310692

St Martin's Episcopal **Church Blood Drive**

Tuesday, April 28 Wednesday, April 29 Thursday, April 30

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 717 Sage Road **Bagby Parish Hall**

Appointments are required to donate during this time. Please go online to schedule at www.giveblood.org or contact Michael Murry at Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center: 346-831-4215 or mmurry@giveblood.org





EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.













@commitforlife | #commitforlife

BLOOD DONATION FACTS

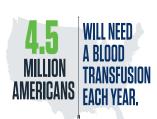
TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, THE BLOOD CENTER RELIES ON ABOUT

















ARE DONE TO ENSURE PATIENT SAFETY.



PEOPLE WILL NEED BLOOD At some point in their Lifetime, but only





COMMON QUESTIONS

About Donor Eligibility

CAN I DONATE IF...

Q I have diabetes? You can donate if you are feeling well, regardless of blood sugar level. Q I have a thyroid condition? If thyroid is controlled by medication, you can donate. Q I have high blood pressure? If your blood pressure is controlled, you can donate. O I had cancer? Most cancers have a one-year deferral. Minor skin cancers have a two-week deferral. Leukemia and lymphoma are the only cancers that have an indefinite deferral. I have recently had a pregnancy/miscarriage? You can donate six weeks after the end of your pregnancy. Q I had surgery? Yes, you can donate. If you had a blood transfusion, you are deferred for one year. Q I am on antibiotics? You can donate 48 hours after you complete your medication and are symptom free. I have traveled outside the Unites States? Please bring dates and locations for everywhere you have been if you have traveled outside the United States or Canada within the last 12 months, or if you have lived outside the United States or Canada during the last three years. Q I just got a tattoo? You can donate one week after getting a tattoo in a licensed facility.







We may not be able to meet in person right now, but we want to know if you are sick, hospitalized or need to speak with a member of the Clergy.

Prayer Requests

Contact the Prayer Request Line at 713-830-4124 or Deb Tisch at 713-985-3817 or dtisch@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

After Hours Emergencies

Call 713-621-3040 and press 2 to reach the Priest on Call. Please leave your name, phone number and a brief message.

Death Notifications and Funerals

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

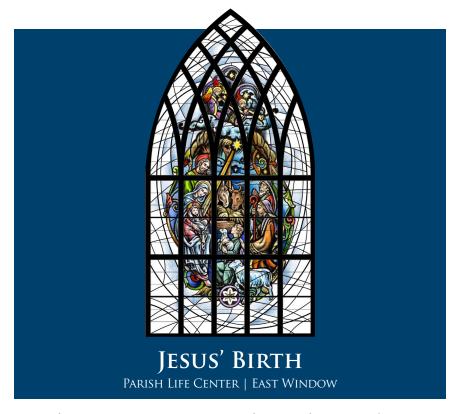




ALL PARISH WINDOW

Bless Others with Your Gift.

Our Goal is \$670,000. Join Us Today!



Give at www.stmartinsepiscopal.org or text "SMEC" to 73256

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM""Ave Verum Corpus" Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez, St. Martin's Parish Choir

AT THE PRESENTATION

DOXOLOGY Easter Hymn



Words: Latin, 14th cent.; tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt. St. 4, Charles Wesley.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP page 336)

Celebrant 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.

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

THE EASTER BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

VOLUNTARY......""Christ is Alive"

Dr. David Henning, Parish Organist and Director of Music

OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

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ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

Vestry Executive Committee

Mr. JimHibbert, Senior Warden

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

Mr. Andy Harvin, Chancellor*

Vestry Members

Mrs. Michelle Bain

Mr. Tommy Ford

Mrs. Whitney Gormley

Mrs. Casey Hedges

Mr. Matt Mogas

Mr. Robert Paddock

Mr. Bob Parkey

Mr. Gib Surles

The Hon. John Wooldridge

Associate Members

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

Mr. Dale Cheesman III,

Special Counsel to the Vestry*

Mr. George Francisco IV, Special Counsel to the Vestry*

Mr. Bill Chiles, Senior Council

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr.,

Special Counsel to the Vestry*

Mr. Bill Chiles, Senior Council

Representative 2019–2020

Mrs. Flo McGee, Senior Council Representative 2019–2020

Mrs. Susan Peterson, Altar Guild President 2019–2020

Mrs. Hope Huber, *ECW President* 2019–2020

Mr. Joe Lopez, Men of St. Martin's President 2019–2021

Mr. Ryan LaRue, *Usher Representative* 2018–2020

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

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ *The Head of This Church*



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