THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2020



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

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.

June J. Luna, J. +

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"The King of Love My Shepherd" arr. Dale Wood 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 225)

Celebrant:	The Lord be with you.
People:	And with thy spirit.
Celebrant:	Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

ANTHEM"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" Louisa M.R. Snead and William J. Kirkpatrick Tom and Haley Lynch, Contemporary Music Worship

THE LESSON Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me. Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me. Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength. Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth. My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me. Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving-kindness save me."

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

ANTHEM (Hymn 179, vs. 1 and 2)... "Welcome, Happy Morning!" Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez, St. Martin's Parish Choir





Refrain

Words: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (540?–600?); tr. John Ellerton (1826–1893), alt.; Music: Fortunatus, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842–1900).

Deacon:	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
	according to John.
People:	Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL.....John 14:1–14

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the wav?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Deacon:	The Gospel of the Lord.
People:	Praise be to thee, O Christ.

ANTHEM (Hymn 180, vs. 1 and 2) "He is Risen" Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez, St. Martin's Parish Choir



Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895), alt.; Music: Unser Herrscher, Joachim Neander (1650–1680).

THE SERMON "It's Easy If You Try" 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

GIVE BLOOD

<u>St Martin's Episcopal</u> <u>Church Blood Drive</u>

> Wednesday, May 13 Thursday, May 14

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



Artemio, blood recipient



EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

BLOOD DONATION FACTS





1 IN EVERY 7

To schedule your donation, call 1(888) 482-5663 or visit giveblood.org

LIFETIME, BUT ONLY

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For more information, please call Donor Services at (713) 791-6608 or email medops@giveblood.org.



ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU

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.

6+

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.

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THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM "For the Beauty of the Earth" John Rutter Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez, St. Martin's Parish Choir

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise. For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night. Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, briends on earth, and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild: Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise. For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven: Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

Text: F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917).

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.

ANTHEM (Hymn 390, vs. 1 and 4) "Praise to the Lord" Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez, St. Martin's Parish Choir



Words: Joachim Neander (1650–1680); tr. Hymnal 1940, alt.; Music: Lobe den Herren, melody from Erneuerten Gesangbuch, 1665; harm. The Chorale Book for England, 1863.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Dr. David Henning, Parish Organist and Director of Music*

OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

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ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

Vestry Executive Committee

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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

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Special Counsel to the Vestry*
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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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