INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVED

July 5, 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.*



Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register for the next in-person service?

Register online here: bit.ly/worship-prayerday or call 713-621-3040 to save a seat by phone. Registration opens at 9 a.m. on Monday and closes at noon on Friday for the following Sunday's services.

I registered, but my plans changed and I cannot attend. What should I do?

If your plans change, please let us know. You can cancel your reservation by clicking the cancel button on your confirmation email. This will open a seat for another Parishioner.

Will I have reserved seats?

Yes! In order to maximize the number of people that can attend each service and to abide by the Diocesan and CDC six-feet, social-distancing requirements, we will assign seats. Helpers will lead you to your seats when you arrive at The Church. To sit with family or friends, please make a reservation for everyone at the same time.

Where is the best place to park given construction?

Please park in the far west lot at Sage and Woodway. While we will not have Valet Parking at this time, family members may drop others off under the Porte cochères.

Can I attend all of the in-person services?

For now, we ask you to be Generous by giving others the chance to worship in person once you have enjoyed that same opportunity.

Are services available online?

Yes, we will continue to live stream our service on YouTube and Facebook.

Will I be able to use the Bibles and/or Books of Common Prayer that are in the pew racks?

No. We have removed all materials including hymnals and Books of Common Prayer for your safety. All of the service information will be in the bulletin. You are also welcome to bring a personal copy from home.

What time should I arrive for the service?

Doors to The Church will open 30 minutes before the service starts. You must be in your seats five minutes before the service start time. We recommend you come when the doors open because with our new procedure of having helpers seat you, it may take longer than usual to get everyone situated.

What if I am late to the service?

Doors to The Church will close five minutes before the service starts. We will continue to live stream our service and that requires that we keep to an exact schedule. We appreciate your understanding and assistance in keeping things on schedule.

Now that we have reopened for worship, has St. Martin's campus also reopened? Not at this time. Essential staff continue to work on campus as needed, but campus remains closed.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

VOLUNTARY "Patriotic Suite"

Charles Callahan Dr. David Henning, Director of Music and Parish Organist

All stand.

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**.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP page 242)

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

The Celebrant says the Collect

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

Please be seated.

HYMN 720 (all verses)"O Say Can You See" Annamarie Zmolek, Christine Mahaffey, Patrick Perez and Joel Willliams, St. Martin's Parish Choir



Words: Francis Scott Key (1779-1843); Music: National Anthem, source unknown, ca. 18th cent.

THE LESSONRomans 7:15–25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

HYMN 717 (vs. 1 and 4)....."My Country, 'Tis of Thee"



Words: Samuel Francis Smith (1808-1895); Music: America, from Thesaurus Musicus, 1745.

All stand.

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

THE GOSPEL......Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds." At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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

Please be seated.

1 Al might - y Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the 2 0 Christ, the Lord of hill and plain o'er which our traf - fic 3 O Spi - rit, whom the Fa - ther spread a broad the sent to 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, peo - ple shield in our rest - less wave, who bidd'st the might - y cean deep its 0 main by moun tain pass val ley low: wher runs a - \mathbf{or} -Ó Wind ĥea - ven, firm - a - ment; of by thy might save dan - ger's hour; from rock tem - pest, fire and foe, and pro --0 own ap point - ed li - mits keep: 0 hear us when we Lord, thy peo - ple them by thy ev er. go, \mathbf{pro} tect all who dare the ea - gle's flight, and keep them by thy where - so e'er they thus tect them go; ev er - more shall the cry to thee for those in per il on sea. guard il the land. ing hand from ev on ery per watch _ ful care from ev ery per il in the air. and sea. rise thee glad land, to praise from space, air, b) 🖉 **‡**و

HYMN 579 (vs. 1 and 4) ... "Almighty Father, Strong to Save"

Words: Sts. 1 and 4, William Whiting (1825–1878), alt.; sts. 2–3, Robert Nelson Spencer (1877–1961), alt.; Music: *Melita*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876).

THE SERMON"Silver Lining of Grace" *The Rev. Martin J. Bastian*

THE NICENE CREED (BCP page 327) (stand)

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) (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 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, 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 (stand)

Celebrant:The peace of the Lord be always with you.People:And with thy spirit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WAYS TO GIVE



TEXT TO GIVE

Text SMEC to 73256



ONLINE stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving



MAIL

St. Martin's Episcopal Church | 717 Sage Road, Houston, TX 77056



ESTATE PLANNING

Contact: Director of Parish Stewardship, Ashley Pratka: apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 346-335-8658



TRANSFER OF ASSETS

Pledging and setting up a recurring gift online helps you and the church budget. Go online today: stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving

> Please contact Accounting Supervisor, Debbie Hutchison with questions or for assistance: dhutchison@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3803

NEW BOOK BY THE REV. DR. RUSSELL J. LEVENSON JR. A portion of proceeds goes to support Outreach Ministries at St. Martin's



Bits of Heaven A Summer Companion \$16.95 | 9781640652712

"In this wonderful, refreshing, and powerful book, an experienced Rector holds your hand and takes you through the eternal truths that can shape and enhance a life. With humor and anecdote, he helps you understand the gift of faith. As you plan your summer, this is a must read addition. With this book, Russ Levenson is becoming the finest writer of devotional texts in the Episcopal Church today."

- The Very Reverend Ian Markham, Dean and President of Virginia Theological Seminary

"The traditional Anglican term for the days and weeks of summer is 'Ordinary Time,' but this small but potent book is anything but. It is an extraordinary gift to all of us from Russ Levenson, priest and pastor."

> – Jon Meacham, Former Editor and Chief of Newsweek and Executive Editor and Executive Vice President of Random House

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2020



Monday–Thursday, July 27–30

Registration not required.

St. Martin's is teaming up with St. John the Divine and Christ Church Cathedral to offer a free, online VBS that will be open to everyone in the Diocese July 27-30.

Families who registered for the original program will receive kits containing inexpensive materials for crafts and lessons to use at home before the program starts. Christian Service



Just \$50 provides an underserved child with a uniform, shoes and school supplies.

How to Use Text to Give

Our text-to-give system is easy to use. Simply text SMEC to 73256. You will be prompted to enter your chosen contribution amount and then select CCSC in the drop-down menu. You will also enter your credit card number. This is a secure mobile giving site. A confirmation text is sent immediately to your phone with a receipt number.

Other options:

If you would like to donate through the online website, visit stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving-to-outreach

If you prefer to mail a check, please address the check to St. Martin's Episcopal Church and note in the memo area "CCSC Back to School." You can mail it to St. Martin's, Attn: CCSC BTS.

For more information, contact Outreach Ministries at 713-985-3811 or outreach@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

REGISTER NOW FOR FALL Christian Life Study

CLS is a group of more than 300 women studying the Bible. We are committed to growing spiritually by seeking God and studying His Word. Please register now at clsbiblestudy.com for the Day or Evening Bible study groups that begin in September and run through April.

DAY GROUP

Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:20 a.m.

Studies include 1 & 2 Thessalonians and James both by N.T. Wright, and Worship the King by Teddy Heard Orr.

> EVENING GROUP - NOTE NEW DAY! Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Studies include Hebrews, James and 1 & 2 Timothy.

ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU! WE MISS YOU! GOD LOVES 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. Don't hesitate to call the church

General Questions

Contact the Reception Desk at 713-621-3040.

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.

Please be seated.

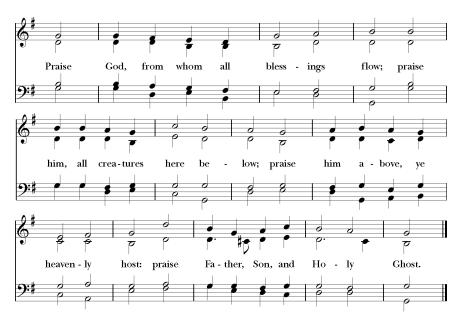
THE OFFERTORY

A N T H E M "America the Beautiful" Robert Russell Bennett

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea. O beautiful for pilgrims' feet whose stern impassioned stress a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness! America! America! God mend thine every flaw, confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law. O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife. Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life. America! America! May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine. O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears. America! America! God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

Text: Katherine Lee Bates. Music: Samuel A. Ward, arranged by Robert Russell Bennett. © 1973 Lawson-Gould Music Publishers, Inc. ARR.

AT THE PRESENTATION



Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637–1711); Music: Old 100th, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?–1561?).

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

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 BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Please be seated.



Words: Daniel Crane Roberts (1841-1907); Music: National Hymn, George William Warren (1828-1902).

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal **People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia. ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. David Henning

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ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

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*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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Assistant for Liturgy, Outreach and



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The Rev. Robert E. Wareing *Pastoral Associate* rwareing@stmartinsepiscopal.org

WE INVITE YOU TO Keep this booklet For reference.

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