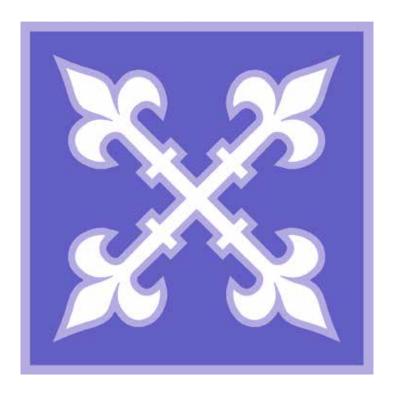
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023



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.

June 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.

NOTICES

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

St. Martin's asks that anyone coming into a worship service not bring oversized or large backpacks.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

MARCH 19

Adults

8+ with the Rev. John Sundara

8:55-9:25 a.m. | Chapel Reception Hall

This class is a Clergy-led coffee and discussion following the 8 a.m. service. Each class focuses on one of the lectionary readings for the day.

Theology for Life with Dr. Bill Blocker, College of Biblical Studies, Houston

The Cost of Discipleship

10:15-11 a.m. | Bagby Parish Hall

This class features a series of Biblical, theological and historical topics that engage the mind and heart in worship of God and living a life of faith.

Seekers with the Rev. Nick Dyke

10:15-11 a.m. | Activity Center, Aerobics Room

This class is for more senior parishioners for fellowship and lectionary-based Bible study.

For more information about Adult Christian Education, email Amanda DeViney at adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

7-1-7 Students

Episcopal Youth Community

10:15-11 a.m. | Student Life Center

Grades 6-12 are welcome to join Student Ministries for coffee, lemonade, donuts and conversation about the Scriptures shared in worship.

For more information about 7-1-7 Students email Student Ministries at students@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Children's Ministry

Children's Sunday School

10:15-11 a.m. | Children's Life Center

We have engaging lessons, curriculum and content for both preschool and elementary school. Childcare is available during all morning services for infants through four-year-olds.

For more information about Children's Ministry email Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Music Ministry

Young Singers of St. Martin's

8:15 a.m. | Rehearsal in Children's Life Center 9:15 a.m. | Family Table service in Parish Life Center

Young Singers of St. Martin's, for grades 1-12, make joyful and beautiful music while affording them a special place in the worship services at St. Martin's.

For more information about Young Singers of St. Martin's, email yssm@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

MARCH 20-25 Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, March 20 10 a.m.-noon | Activity Center, Upper Hall East

Saintly Stitchers fill St. Martin's with pew kneelers and other gifts for worship spaces. For more information, contact the Rev. Lisa Neilson at Ineilson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Praver Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, March 21 9-11:30 a.m. | Activity Center, Family Room

Knit and crochet shawls to be blessed for those in need of prayer. For more information, contact the Rev. Lisa Neilson at Ineilson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Blanket Ministry

Wednesday, March 22 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.

Church Tours

Wednesday, March 22 11 a.m.-noon | The Church

The Docent Guild offers a formal tour of The Church and Dr. Henning will perform on the Gloria Dei organ. To schedule a group tour or special tours of The Church windows, Christ Chapel or Campus gardens, 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, March 22

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.

Order of St. Luke (OSL) Healing Ministry Study Group

Wednesday, March 22

4:30-6 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom

Learn and grow in the practice of prayer for healing, with an opportunity to train as an OSL prayer minister. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

St. Martin's 20s & 30s

Wednesday, March 22

7-8:45 p.m. | Children's Life Center

Join our young adults for discussion, prayer and dinner. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Parish Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 23

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 Dr. David Henning at dhenning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Sterling's Market - Round Up Your Friends

Saturday, March 25 | Rain or Shine

9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Corner of Woodway and Sage

Sterling's Market at St. Martin's Episcopal Church glorifies 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

Men of St. Martin's

Thursday, March 23

7-8 a.m. | Bagby Parish Hall

This men's group meets for fellowship, mutual support and Bible study. For more information, contact the Rev. John Sundara at jsundara@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Dads' Bible Study

Thursday, March 23 8-9 a.m. | Welcome Center

Join dads with children of all ages for coffee, fellowship and Bible study. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Women

The Moms' Group

Wednesday, March 22 9:15-10:30 a.m. | Student Life Center Living Room

Join mothers of infants through grade 12 students for a book study and fellowship. For more information, contact the Rev. Jane Ferguson at jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

7-1-7 Students

Life Groups

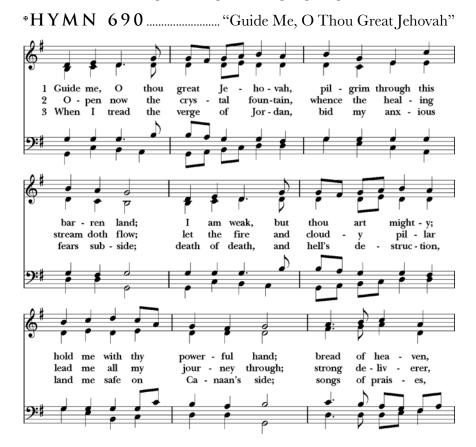
Wednesday, March 22 6-8 p.m. | Student Life Center

Students in grades 6-12 connect with their peers for fun activities and great discussions about faith and life. Please bring \$5 to cover the cost of dinner. For more information, contact the Rev. Jane Ferguson at jferguson@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.

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



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



Words: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt.; Music: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932).

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: His mercy endureth for ever.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A moment of silence is observed.

Minister and People

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all

that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

 $(8 \ a.m.)$

Celebrant: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

People: Have mercy upon us.

TRISAGION



Title: The Holy Eucharist, Holy God: Trisagion; Music: Ver. Hymnal 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846–1924).

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

All stand.



 $Words: Augustus\ Montague\ Toplady\ (1740-1778),\ alt.;\ Music:\ \textit{Toplady},\ Thomas\ Hastings\ (1784-1872).$

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid

of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 27.



Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt.; Music: Toplady, Thomas Hastings (1784-1872).

Please be seated.

THE SERMON.....The Rev. Dr. Suse E. McBay, Ph.D.

THE NICENE CREED (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 (kneel) (responsively)

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for our bishops, Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa; and for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, and Sylvester, our Mayor; for the Congress and the Courts; for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those in hospitals ____, and those who have requested our prayers ____, and those on our continuing prayer list, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, for all who remember and care for them; for first responders, and for all who serve in our armed forces and their families, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all the blessings of this life; for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially ____, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of St. Martin and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE (stand)

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

People: And with thy spirit.

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 31 for upcoming events.

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM"Be Thou My Vision" arr. Bob Chilcott

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; All else be nought to me, save that thou art — Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father; thine own may I be; Thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee. High King of heaven, when victory is won, may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880–1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860–1935), alt.; Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874–1948); Copyright: Words: This hymn appears courtesy of the Estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd. Music: By permission of 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.



Text, John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872; Music, Gardiner, William Gardiner's Sacred Melodies, 1815; By permission of Houghton Mifflin Company.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (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.

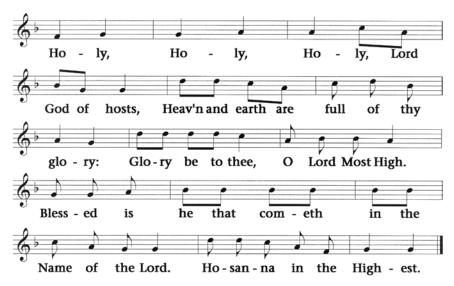
It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

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.)



John Merbecke, 1549. Copyright © 1940, 1943, 1961. The Church Pension Fund.

The Celebrant continues (kneel)

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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, he brake 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, 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, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with 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

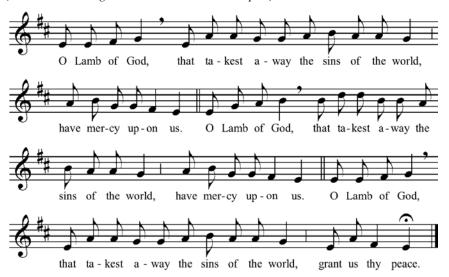
People and Celebrant

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.

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



John Merbecke, 1549. Copyright © 1940, 1943, 1961. The Church Pension Fund.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

People and Celebrant

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.

All Christians who have been baptized with water and in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and are permitted to receive Holy Communion in their own church are welcome to do so on this occasion. If you do not wish to receive one or both Elements, cross your arms over your chest and the Clergy will give you a blessing. Please tell the priest administering Communion if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

ANTHEM"'Ubi Caritas'' Maurice Duruflé

Ubi cáritas et ámor, Déus ibi est. Congregávit nos in únum Chrísti ámor. Exsultémus et in ípso jucundémur. Timeámus et amémus Déum vívum. Et ex córde diligámus nos sincéro. Amen.

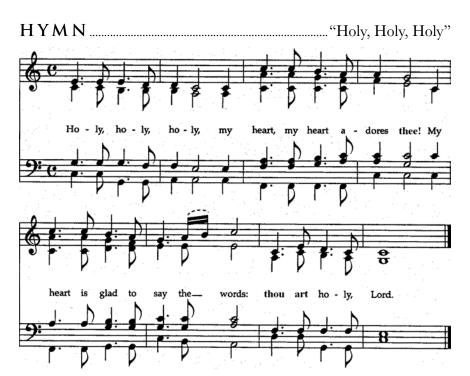
Where there is charity and love, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us together. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us revere and love the living God. And from a sincere heart, let us love one another. Amen.

Text: Antiphon for the washing of feet, Maundy Thursday Eucharist. Music: Gregorian Chant, setting by Maurice Duruflé. ©Durand Editions Musicales, 1960.



6 Just as I am, of thy great love the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove, here for a season, then above: O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789–1871); Music: Woodworth, William Batchelder Bradbury (1816–1868).



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 $\label{eq:Music and text: Bob Kilpatrick (b. 1952); Copyright: @ 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, P. O. Box 2383, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. CCLI #805314.$

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

People and Celebrant

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.

At 9 and 11:15 a.m., after the Post-Communion Prayer, members of the Shepherd's Guild may come forward. The priest or deacon gives the Sacrament to the Eucharistic visitors, saying

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. **Amen.**

LENTEN BLESSING

All stand.



Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1887); Music: Olivet, Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal. Alleluias are omitted during the season of Lent.

Minister: Let us bless the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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

RECOGNITIONS



SYMPATHY

Feb. 26 Mary Lou Rapson Feb. 28 Edward J. Davis March 4 Brent T. Johnson

To mark a special occasion with an altar flower dedication, visit bit.ly/smecaltarflowers or contact Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam at relhakam@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

OTHER READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE PSALM Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

THE EPISTLE Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light — for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

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:

Bobbie Adams Mark Solomons Nicole Jabbari Carolyn Alban Ronnie Jacobe, Jr. **Bob Spencer** Katie and Harvey Altmann Lynda Jones Jan and Jim Stokes Patsy Angel Mary Anne Kannard James Swann Muriel Kearby Albaral Nancy Talbot Shelly Bain Pam Bentley Paige Laird Martin Taylor Corv Blackman Sherman Lasker Paul Therrien Dianne Brock Mimi Thobae Stan Leong Paul Case McKenna Letsos Carlotta Thomas Don Cheatham Shawn Levenson Millie Tonn Higdon Compton, Jr. Patricia Levy Jane Touchstone Beth Costa Nancy Liles Sue Uthe

Gail Davis Nicole Lockney Randy Vander Naillen Mac Davis Ryan Logan Mae Joyce and Grant Wagner

Sue Davis Marie Lord Janice Waits Murphy

Tommy W. Davis Greg Martin Mike Webb Arlo Davanand Jeffrey Martinson Charles Werlla Bobby deSosa Jack Mayfield Roger Williams Linda deSosa Janet McDaniel Vern Wilson Rosemary Doupe Patricia McDonald Eric Zoerb Ross Dunn Christine Nguven Angela Kiersten Dyke Nwora Onwuzulu Anne **Jim Easterling** Bob Paddock Barbara Stacey and John Elliott Iim Paddock Betsev Mayfield Family Russell Pae Charlie Charles Flores Jimmy Prentice Dean **Brad Gallion** Stephen Preston Elizabeth Chris Gaylen Michael Reade Eric and Family

Catherine Gonzales Ted Reed Henry Nancy Gore Susan Rovello Jana Rob and Pat Gruen Baker Rudolph Landry David Samuelson Shea Guinn Laura Gladys Halbouty Helen and Jim Shaffer Leslie Caroline Shanahan Dow Hamm III Marilyn Connie Haney William Shappley Mary Jane Susie C. Hatfield P.K. Sharkey Michael Mollie Hill Clif Shoemake Naomi Jeff Holden Betsy and William Smith Willie

Marilyn Ingham Ryan Smith

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
Lt. Col. Julian Benton
1st Lt. Benjamin Brown
Lt. Col. Chris Davis
Wesley Dodd
Sgt. James Drury III
James Eilers
Major Parker Firestone
Capt. Dom Flatt
1st Lt. Will Golinkin
LCDR Bradley R. Hoffman

Capt. Cody Horr Maj. Wesley J. Hunnell Dallas Wayne Hunter Staton Jobe Lt. Cmdr. Kory Krebs Krystal Martinez PV2 Wills Masterson Ensign Ben Morris 1st Lt. Jack Mullen 2nd Lt. Alex Mullen Lt. Cmdr. Holly E. Pace James W. Peoples
Lt. Paul Piana
LCMR David A. Pilko
Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant
PO1 Brian M. Powell
SPC Joel Rowell
Maj. Christian Schleider
1st Lt. Grant Suter
1st Lt. Luke Voss

Please circle the name of any loved one that you would like to remain on our Continuing Prayer list, tear out this sheet of your bulletin and place it in the Prayer List box in the Narthex. You may also email Valerie Rivera at vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org with this information. Your assistance in maintaining our prayer list is most appreciated.

SERMON NOTES



Monday, March 20 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Bagby Parish Hall



Scan QR code to schedule your next appointment or visit bit.ly/givebloodmarch23





FREE FOR DONORS

\$10 Tango eGift Card and a ticket to Big Rivers Waterpark & Adventures

Christian Life Study



DAY GROUP

The Day Group continues to study Max Lucado's "Life Lessons from Acts."

Thursdays

9:30–11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center and via Zoom Contact Anna McLean at 281-782-0594 or amaynebr1@gmail.com.



EVENING GROUP

The Evening Group continues its in-depth study of the "Gospel of Luke" by Leon Taylor.

Tuesdays

6:30–8 p.m. • Children's Life Center and via Zoom Contact Ann Wilson at 713-828-8722 or annwilson33@gmail.com.

clsbiblestudy.com







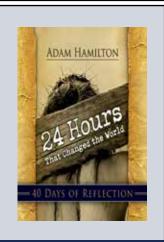
Spend some of your Tuesday night getting to know the eight children and Mama Isabel in Casa San Martin in Cochabamba, Bolivia over Zoom. All ages are welcome, and a translator will be available.

Email Outreach for the zoom link at outreach@stmartinsepiscopal.org. For more information about our partner, Amistad Mission, check out their website at amistadmission.org.



EVENING GROUP

Tuesday, March 21 | 7-8:30 p.m. Children's Life Center, Room 109 and Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinliteveningzoom



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.

For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



Activity Center

CRAFTS AND COLORING

Every Wednesday 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Room



Enjoy a fun new craft or coloring design every Wednesday! All supplies provided.

For more information about this class and the extended Activity Center calendar, visit bit.lv/smecactivitycenter. MOST CLASSES ARE FREE!

WEDNESDAY EVENING ADULT LENTEN SERIES



As one of the 20th century's most famous atheists-turned-Christians, C.S. Lewis has much to offer as Christians consider the heart of this Season of Lent: repentance and change. With a different speaker for each week, culminating in a screening of Max McClean's film "A Reluctant Convert," the series will explore different dynamics of change and renewal through the lens of Lewis' writings.



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

St. Martin's Fourth Rector

Lewis and You: What Lewis Has to Teach Us Today

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Holy Eucharist | The Church...... 5:30 p.m.

Dinner | Bagby Parish Hall 5:45 p.m.

Program | Bagby Parish Hall 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON ADULT LENTEN SERIES:



Thursday, March 23

4 p.m.

Chapel Reception Hall

During Lent, St. Martin's Clergy will share their stories of change. Following Jesus brings with it changes of all kinds: from personal change within, to change in careers, geography and more. What is it like when God turns a person 180 degrees? What lessons have the Clergy learned and what wisdom do they have to share? Come join them on Thursday afternoons to discover their path to being closer to God.





Volunteers Needed for Palm Sunday Dramatic Re-Enactment Services

Rehearsal Date: Saturday, April 1 10 a.m.—noon • The Church

Palm Sunday: Sunday, April 2 9 and 11:15 a.m. service • The Church

No "acting" experience needed and costumes will be provided. Families with children 10 and above are welcome to participate.

Interested? Please contact Bruce Morgan at robertbrucemorgan@gmail.com.

ST. CLARE'S NEEDLEPOINT GUILD



Do you love to needlepoint?

Consider joining St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild. This guild welcomes stitchers of any skill level and teaches needlepoint from basic stitches to detailed and advanced work.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26 1–4 p.m. **Activity Center Upper Hall East**

St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild also meets during the week. For more information, contact Valerie Rivera at vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



st.claresneedlepoint



St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild



March 27 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **Bagby Parish Hall**

For church members and others in our community who experience memory loss and their caregivers

et Your Shine

Mar. 27 Jane Vandiver

For more information, contact Kathy Tellepsen at 713-301-4786 or kattellepsen@me.com.



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

5:30 p.m. | Holy Eucharist | The Church

5:45 p.m. | Dinner | Bagby Parish Hall

6:30 p.m. | Program | Bagby Parish Hall

Don't miss award-winning actor, Max McLean, who plays in the movie, "The Most Reluctant Convert: The Untold Story of C.S. Lewis." McLean will attend the screening and lead a question-and-answer period following the film in Bagby Parish Hall.



Max McLean

Arts. FPA produces theater and film from a Christian worldview meant to engage diverse audiences.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to meet McLean in person and see his performance as C.S. Lewis. Filmed in and around Oxford University, McLean plays an elder C.S. Lewis who looks back on his remarkable journey of faith.



STRIPPING OF PALMS

Tuesday, March 28

1-4 p.m. • Student Life Center

Before we can make crosses to wear on Palm Sunday, volunteers strip and divide the fronds. All Parishioners are invited to participate.



PALM CROSS MAKING

Wednesday, March 29 8:30 a.m.−3 p.m. • Student Life Center

Join members of the Altar Guild as they make palm crosses to distribute on Sunday of the Passion–Palm Sunday.





Student Mission Trips

The deadline to register for these trips is March 31.





REGISTRATION bit.ly/717studentsmissiontrips

For more information about the trips and scholarships, contact Florence Ritchie at fritchie@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3843.





St. Martin's
is offering
scholarships for
higher education
to our graduating
high school
seniors.

Applications can be found at stmartinsepiscopal.org/student-ministries. **The submission deadline is Thursday, April 6.** Recipients will be informed Sunday, April 30, and celebrated on Senior Recognition Sunday, May 7.

For more information, contact Florence Ritchie at 713-985-3843 or fritchie@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



NOTICE. GIVE. MAKE. BLESS.



Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box or UTO Envelope.

One-hundred percent of all funds given to UTO are granted the following year to support innovative mission and ministry in the Episcopal Church.



To learn more visit: bit.ly/smecuto



The call is *free*, and you might just feel that way too.

The Hope Line is here for you daily from 5-8 pm at

(832) 831-7337

RELIEF. JUST A CALL AWAY.

Although the stresses we all face may be different, the toll they take on us, our families and our communities are the same. That's why the Hope Line is here – as an outlet for the feelings and emotional distress we all face every day.





Hop On In!

Surprise your loved ones with Easter gift ideas from the Gift Shoppe.





Sundays • 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday–Thursday • 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

TRADITIONAL SERVICES IN THE CHURCH

SERVE IN WORSHIP



ACOLYTE



GREETER AND
WELCOME MINISTRY



LYDIA'S GUILD

There are many wonderful opportunities at St. Martin's to use your gifts and help others connect with God.

If you are interested in serving in one of our worship ministries or have any questions, please contact us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

 ${\it Email\ worship coordinators@stmartin sep is copal.org.}$





COMMUNION INSTRUCTION CLASS

April 16, 23, 30 and May 7 10:15-11 a.m. • Activity Center, Upper Hall West

Sunday, May 14 • Recognition Service 9 a.m., The Church

Led by the Rev. Alex D. Graham III and Lay Minister Eric Priest, this four-week series introduces children in second grade and above about the Eucharist sacraments as the basis of our Christian faith. For more information, email Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



For class schedule and registration, visit bit.ly/2023kidscommunion

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Children's Ministry Presents



June 5–8
9:30 a.m.-noon • Children's Life Center

Registration: bit.ly/vbs2023stellar

Registration closes Sunday, April 30.

It is not too early to start thinking about a fun-filled week of Vacation Bible School.

This year's theme is "Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light." Children will travel on a cosmic quest and will have a blast shining Jesus' light on the world. An outreach component will be included during the week-long activities.

For more information, contact childrensministry@stmartinsepiscopal.org

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.

Witness to Dignity

The Life and Faith of George H.W. and Barbara Bush

From AMAZON reviews

"The author started this book by describing his internal debate about writing this book when there are so many books and stories out about George and Barbara Bush... what more could be added? But the idea stuck with him as needing to be written...and I am so glad he did."

> — ReadingSpecialistMom 5.0 out of 5 stars



Poignant and thought provoking read about faith in action Reviewed in the United States on December 21, 2022 Verified Purchase







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



ONLINE bit.ly/smecgiving



BEQUESTS

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



TRANSFER OF ASSETS

Pledging and setting up a recurring gift online helps you and the church budget.

LEARN MORE AT: STMARTINSEPISCOPAL.ORG/GIVING

OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. David Henning

Director of Music and Parish Organist dhenning@stmartinsepiscopal.org

Ms. Carole Nelson

Coordinator of Children's Music Ministries cnelson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson

Associate for Student and Family Ministries jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

Mrs. Ashley Monachelli

Director of Children's Ministry amonachelli@stmartinsepiscopal.org

Mrs. Kathy Johnson

Director of Membership kjohnson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

Vestry Executive Committee

Mr. Tommy Ford, Senior Warden

Mrs. Michelle Bain, Junior Warden

Mr. Gib Surles, Missions Chair

Mr. Dan Meyer, Treasurer

Mr. Ryan LaRue, Clerk

Mr. Matt Anderson, Past Senior Warden

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., Parish Stewardship Chair

Mr. Andy Harvin, Chancellor*

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Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes

Mrs. Whitney Gormley

Mr. Will Hedges

Mr. Matt Mogas

Mr. Roy W. Nichol

Ms. Sherrie Perkins

Mrs. Courtney Schilling

Mr. Logan Walters

Mr. Milton West

Associate Members

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

Mr. Jon Clarkson, Senior Council Representative 2022-2023

Mr. Richard Nelson, Senior Council Representative 2022-2023

Mrs. Janet Hoover, Altar Guild President 2022-2023

Mrs. Dee Frappier, ECW President 2022-2023

Mr. Jim McCulloch, Men of St. Martin's President 2022-2023

Mr. Bob Porter, Usher Representative 2022-2023

*Denotes Associate Vestry filled at the discretion of the Rector.



Mr. Will Hedges
Vestry Representative
Morning



Mrs. Nancy Bynon Vestry Representative Evening

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ

The Head of This Church



The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr. *Rector*lhough@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Sharron L. Cox Associate for Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Ministries scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Martin J. Bastian Vice-Rector mbastian@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. R. Wesley Arning Associate for Young Adults and Small Group Ministry rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. John D. SundaraVicar for Worship and Evangelism jsundara@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Naomi B. Sundara *Chaplain to the Preschool*nsundara@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Lisa R. Neilson *Vicar for Pastoral Care*lneilson@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. John R. Bentley, Jr.Pastoral Associate
jbentley@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Dr. Susannah E. McBay, Ph.D. Associate for Christian Education and Riverway



The Rev. James (Jim) E. Cunningham *Deacon Emeritus* jcunningham@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Alex D. Graham III
Associate for Children and
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The Rev. Nicolas (Nick) R. D. Dyke Pastoral Associate ndyke@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Jane P. FergusonAssociate for Family and
Student Ministries
jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Richard (Dick) H. Elwood *Pastoral Associate* delwood@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Gillian (Gill) B. KeyworthDeacon
gkeyworth@stmartinsepiscopal.org

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