

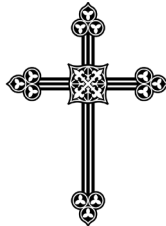
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 30, 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.



ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

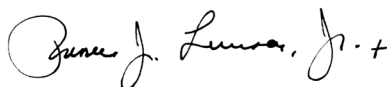
FROM THE RECTOR

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

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

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

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



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

Prayers Before Worship

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

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

APRIL 30

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Wesley Arning

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 the Rev. John Sundara

Windows for the Soul: Following, Changing, Loving, Serving

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.

Creative Spaces with the Rev. Lisa R. Neilson and Dr. Peggy Determeyer

Facing Death (Part 2): At the Time of Death and Beyond

10:15-11 a.m. | Chapel Reception Hall

In partnership with the Hope and Healing Center, this four-week series on life and death will be presented in two parts: Facing Death and Choosing Life.

*For more information about Adult Christian Education,
email Amanda DeViney at adeviney@stmartinseiscopal.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.

Communion Instruction

10:15-11 a.m. | Activity Center

This four-week series instructs children about the Eucharistic sacraments as the basis of our Christian faith.

*For more information about Children's Ministry
email Rocío 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.*

MAY 1-6

Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, May 1

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. Sharron Cox at scox@stmartinsepiscope.org.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, May 2

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. Sharron Cox at scox@stmartinsepiscope.org.

Blanket Ministry

Wednesday, May 3

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. Sharron Cox at scox@stmartinsepiscope.org.

Church Tours

Wednesday, May 3

11 a.m.-noon | The Church

The Docent Guild offers a formal tour of The Church. 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@stmartinsepiscope.org.

St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild

Wednesday, May 3

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. Sharron Cox at scox@stmartinsepiscope.org.

St. Martin's 20s & 30s

Wednesday, May 3

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, May 4

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.

Men

Men of St. Martin's

Thursday, May 4

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, May 4

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

Christian Life Study

Tuesday, May 2 – Evening Group | 6:30-8 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom

Thursday, May 4 – Day Group | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | Parish Life Center and via Zoom

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

The Moms' Group

Wednesday, May 3

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, May 3

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.

VOLUNTARY "Prelude"

Eugene Gigout

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

*HYMN 379 "God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him"

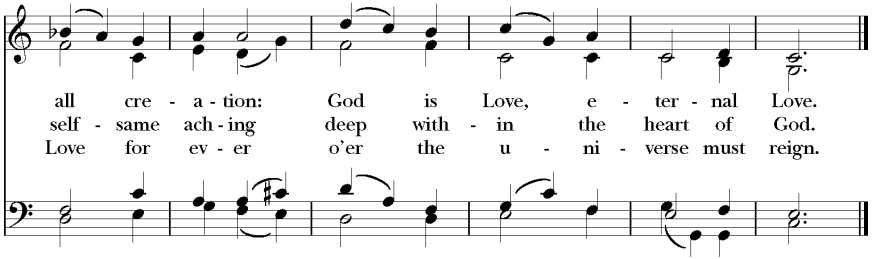
1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

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



all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874–1939), alt.; Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907–1991); Copyright:

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.**

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



Thine be the glo - ry, ri - sen, con- quering Son; end - less is the
 vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
 rolled the stone a - way, kept the fol - ded grave clothes
 where thy bo - dy lay. Thine be the glo - ry, ri - sen, con- quering
 Son; end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

Text: Edmund L. Budry, 1904. Music: Judas Maccabeus from *Harmonia Sacra* (c. 1753); arr. from G. F. Handel (1747). © 2006 Hope Publishing Co. Reprinted under CCLI #805314.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray. *(kneel)*

The Celebrant says the Collect

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSON Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

HYMN 645 (*vs. 1-3*)..... “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821–1877); para. Psalm 23; Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody, harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

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

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

THE GOSPELJohn 10:1-10

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by

me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 25.

HYMN 645 (*vs. 4-6*)..... “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



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 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
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1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821–1877); para. Psalm 23; Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody, harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON “Lambs Who Slay Dragons”

The Rev. John D. Sundara

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)*

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 Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our
Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; the Clergy
of this Parish; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the
Episcopal Church; for all bishops, priests and deacons.

That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, Sylvester, our
Mayor, and the Congress and the Courts; and 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.

We pray for those for whom our prayers have been requested, especially ____; for those who are hospitalized, especially ____; and for those on our continuing prayer list; have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

We pray for those who have died, especially ____; give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We give thee thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially those remembered today with Altar flowers, ____; and we praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

In this moment of silence, let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

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

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you.” Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen.

Minister says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A moment of silence is observed.

Minister and People

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.

Celebrant stands and says

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

THE PEACE *(stand)*

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

People: And with thy spirit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 29 for upcoming events.

Please be seated.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS *(11:15 a.m.)*

Celebrant

Dear Friends in Christ, in companionship with each other as we journey in faith, we welcome new members into this community of St. Martin's Episcopal Church. We welcome them to join us as we seek to love the Lord our God with heart and soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We welcome and cherish their unique gifts and experiences as together we follow the Holy Spirit in transforming this community for the work and mission of Jesus Christ.

Presenter

I present these Christians to be welcomed as members of this community.

Celebrant: Do you desire to continue your journey into Christ as a member of St. Martin's Episcopal Church?

New Members: We do.

Celebrant: Will you commit yourself to seek and serve Christ in this community of faith and pledge to work, pray, and give to build up our common life?

New Members: We will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you who witness these promises, do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: We will.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Loving God, we give thanks that you have brought these new members to join us in ministry. Knit us together, one to another, so that in unity we may know you and serve you in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM "Greater Love Hath No Man"
John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench Love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who His own Self bare our sins in His own Body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins should live unto righteousness. Ye are wash'd, ye are sanctified, ye are justified, in the Name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath call'd you out of darkness into His marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your service.

Text: Holy Scripture; Music: John Ireland.

AT THE PRESENTATION *(stand)*

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

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

DOXOLOGY.....*Easter Hymn*

Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
 Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
 - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

The Celebrant continues (kneel)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM *Celtic Alleluia*

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

Text: *Celtic Alleluia*, Christopher Walker; Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker; © 1985, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, public by OCP Publications. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under LicenSingOnline #U3219.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

During the season of Easter, the Prayer of Humble Access is not a part of our public liturgy. You are invited to use it for your private preparation before receiving Communion.

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 “The Lord is My Shepherd”

Thomas Matthews

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: For Thou art with me; Thy rod and staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Text: Psalm 23. © 1956 by H.T. FitzSimons Co., Inc. All Rights Reserved

HYMN 343 “Shepherd of Souls”

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen
 2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy
 3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not
 4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the
 word of grace, in strength of which we
 then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bid with
 and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
 trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.
 us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
 heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Words: James Montgomery (1771–1845), alt.; Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937), after John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876); Copyright: Music: Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc., Chicago. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net:A-705539.

HYMN "Shall We Gather at the River"

1. Shall we gath-er at the riv - er, where bright an-gel feet have
 2. On the mar-gin of the riv - er, wash-ing up its sil-ver
 3. Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev-ery bur-den
 4. Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will

trod, with its crys-tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing
 spray, we will walk and wor-ship ev - er, all the
 down; grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro -
 cease; soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the

Refrain

by the throne of God?
 hap - py gold - en day. Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er,
 vide a robe and crown.
 mel - o - dy of peace.

the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er; gath - er with the

saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Music and text by Robert Lowry; Tune: *Hanson Place*. Based on Revelations 22:1-5.

H Y M N “Father We Adore Thee”



1. Fa - ther } we a - dore thee; lay our lives be -
 2. Je - sus }
 3. Spi - rit }



fore thee. How we love thee.

Text and Music: Terry Coelho; © 1972, Maranatha! Music (ADMIN. by The Copyright Co.). CCLI #805314.

After Communion, the Celebrant says (kneel)

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

THE 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.**

All stand.

HYMN 174 “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,
 2 Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death’s dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
 3 Might - y vic - tim from on high, hell’s fierce powers be - neath thee lie;
 4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.

who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;
 Is - rael’s hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
 thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:
 From sin’s power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.

praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,
 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;
 now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;
 Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:

gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
 with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.
 thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.
 ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.

Words: Latin, 1632; tr. Robert Campbell (1814–1868), alt.; Music: Salzburg, melody Jakob Hintze (1622–1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750).

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

On the occasion of their marriage

by Jennifer Marie Howie and John Phillip Madden II

In thanksgiving for the marriage of Greyson Emilee McCarthy and John Prentiss Burt

by Helen and Prentiss Burt

In thanksgiving for the baptism of Catherine Louise Semlinger

by her parents, Greg and Lauren Semlinger and her sister, Maggie Semlinger

In thanksgiving for the baptism of August John Shouse

by Kimberly and Edward Shouse

In thanksgiving for the baptism of Hill Clayton Sneed

by Jordan and Clay Sneed



BAPTISMS

April 22 Harris Steven Dubois
Hope Artemisia Farrow
Palmer Quinn Schultz
Robert Alan Schultz

April 23 Poppy Tegen Flora Ferguson



WEDDINGS

April 22 Eliza Jean Mason and James Garrett Tollette



SYMPATHY

March 29 Gregory Louis Gregg
April 10 Phyllis McGuinnis Bartling
April 14 Musa Musallam
April 15 Rosemary Robertson Moriarty
April 17 Donn Charles Fullenweider

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 OLD TESTAMENT 1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

THE EPISTLE Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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	Nicole Jabbari	Mark Solomons
Carolyn Alban	Ronnie Jacobs, Jr.	Bob Spencer
Katie and Harvey Altmann	Lynda Jones	Jan and Jim Stokes
Patsy Angel	Mary Anne Kannard	James Swann
Shelly Bain	Paige Laird	Nancy Talbot
Denice Bass	Sherman Lasker	Martin Taylor
Pam Bentley	Stan Leong	Paul Therrien
Cory Blackman	McKenna Letsos	Mimi Thobae
Dianne Brock	Shawn Levenson	Carlotta Thomas
Paul Case	Patricia Levy	Millie Tomm
Don Cheatham	Nancy Liles	Jane Touchstone
Robin Cogdell	Nicole Lockney	John Treanor
Higdon Compton, Jr.	Ryan Logan	Sue Uthe
Gail Davis	Marie Lord	Randy Vander Naillen
Mac Davis	Greg Martin	Mae Joyce and Grant Wagner
Marcella Davis	Jeffrey Martinson	Janice Waits Murphy
Sue Davis	Jack Mayfield	Mike Webb
Susan Davis	Janet McDaniel	Charles Werlla
Tommy W. Davis	Patricia McDonald	Roger Williams
Arlo Dayanand	Sandra McHenry	Vern Wilson
Bobby deSosa	Michelle McStravick	Eric Zoerb
Linda deSosa	Christine Nguyen	Angela
Rosemary Doupe	Andrew O'Malley	Anne
Ross Dunn	Nwora Onwuzulu	Barbara
Kiersten Dyke	Bob Paddock	Betsy
Jim Easterling	Jim Paddock	Charlie
Stacey and John Elliott	Russell Pae	Dean
Mayfield Family	Carol Postal	Elizabeth
Charles Flores	Jimmy Prentice	Eric and Family
Brad Gallion	Stephen Preston	Henry
Chris Gaylen	Ophelia Pujols	Jana
Catherine Gonzales	Michael Reade	Landry
Nancy Gore	Ted Reed	Laura
Rob and Pat Gruen	Baker Rudolph	Len
Shea Guinn	David Samuelson	Leslie
Gladys Halbouty	Helen and Jim Shaffer	Marilyn
Dow Hamm III	Caroline Shanahan	Martha
Connie Haney	William Shappley	Mary Jane
Susie C. Hatfield	P.K. Sharkey	Michael
Mollie Hill	Clif Shoemake	Susan
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 vriviera@stmartinsepiscopeal.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
1st Lt. Ben Matthews
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

SERMON NOTES

BIG
SUNDAY

SAFARI EDITION

April 30 • 5–7 p.m. • Student Life Center

ROADKILL

It's Roadkill Month! All students in grades 6–12
are invited and welcome to bring a friend!

7 1 7
STUDENTS

7 1 7 STUDENTS

Student Summer Trip

The deadline to register for this trip is April 30.

Passion
CAMP

Daytona Beach, FL • July 9–14 • \$650

REGISTRATION

bit.ly/717studentsmissiontrips

For more information about this trip and scholarships, contact
Florence Ritchie at fritchie@stmartinsepiscope.org or 713-985-3843.



Activity Center

FULL BODY STRENGTH – NEW TIME

Every Tuesday
11:45 a.m. | Aerobics Room



Enjoy Johnny's full body strength training workout during your lunch hour – you will sculpt and tone while having fun!

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



SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR *Healing and Wholeness* *Order of St. Luke*

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

Next Service
Wednesday, May 3 | 5 p.m.
Parish Life Center or via Zoom
bit.ly/oslservice

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

★
STERLING'S
MARKET

Saturdays • 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Rain or Shine
Corner of Sage and Woodway
sterlingsmarket.org

April Showers
Bring May Flowers
...and Shopping!

Discover unique treasures and fresh foods
from local vendors and farmers!

Proceeds benefit St. Martin's Outreach Ministries in our community.
For more information, call 346-335-8650.

The
Order
of the
Daughters
of the King



SATURDAY, MAY 6 | 10 A.M.
CHILDREN'S LIFE CENTER

Season End Reflection

The group ends the year with
Holy Eucharist and reflections.

For more information, please contact Tracee Tindol at
tmartin@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Senior Recognition Sunday!



Sunday, May 7
10 – 11 a.m.
Student Life Center

Graduating high school seniors and their families are invited to a breakfast celebration. We will celebrate our seniors, honor their accomplishments and pray for God's guidance through the next chapter of their lives.



Please register at bit.ly/seniorrecognitionssunday

Contact Florence Ritchie at fritchie@stmartinsepiscopal.org for more information.



TOUR A GOTHIC-STYLE CHURCH WITHOUT LEAVING HOUSTON!

SUNDAY, MAY 7

Following the 11:15 a.m. service

Meet in the Narthex

St. Martin's docents offer free, public and private tours.

Everyone is welcome regardless of religious affiliation.

To schedule a tour, please call St. Martin's Docent Guild at 713-830-4117 and leave a contact name and number for a return call.



The Giving Tree

Celebrate Mother's Day with an Outreach Card

The Giving Tree is a branch of St. Martin's Outreach Ministries, offering Parishioners and the surrounding community the opportunity to honor a loved one on a special occasion through a heartfelt gift that empowers a worthy organization while touching hearts and changing lives.



Order cards at bit.ly/mothersdaygivingtree



Deadline is Tuesday, May 9.

For assistance, contact Tracee Tindol at outreach@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

The Moms' Group

Outreach Group Project

Wednesday, May 10

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Student Life Center Living Room

The Mom's Group will decorate and assemble bags for human trafficking survivors, including at-risk children and teens. The group will also cut out shoe patterns from denim, which will be turned into shoes for Sole Hope.

For more information, contact Florence Ritchie at fritchie@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

ST. MARTIN'S
OUTREACH
MINISTRIES



Be a Prayer Partner

Please consider being a prayer partner with one of our mission trip attendees on the Amistad Mission Trip in Bolivia. This is an active way to be involved without going, but instead partner with a parishioner who will attend. It is a blessing for both parties!

Email worldmission@stmartinsepiscopal.org
for more information.



THE AJ WEISBERGER EDUCATION SERIES ON ADDICTION

May 3

The Unintentional Overdose

Presented by Sydney Züiker, Safe Community Institute Director, Crime Stoppers Of Houston & Sheriff Deputy Jessica Leggett, Harris County Sherriff's Office

Wednesday @ Noon CT

followed by a **FREE** Narcan training + kit from FRONTLINES

HHCI Auditorium and Online



AJ Weisberger

Scan the QR code
below to register

Register Here



Witness to Dignity

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



“Levenson brings us into the Bush’s living room to show us who they were like “behind the scenes” when no one was watching. And, he deals with a subject most modern-day people avoid, namely, death and dying. This is a book of Christian faith, hope, and, supremely, a book of love.

— *Norman Jetmundsen, former Vice President and Associate General Counsel for Vulcan Materials Co.*



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CENTER
STREET

WAYS TO GIVE



TEXT

Text SMEC to
73256



MAIL

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



ONLINE

bit.ly/smeccgiving



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: ST MARTINSEPI SCOPAL.ORG/GIVING

OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

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Mrs. Ashley Monachelli

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Mrs. Kathy Johnson

Director of Membership
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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**

Vestry Members

Mrs. Nancy Bynon
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. Milton West
Vestry Representative
Morning



Mr. Gib Surles
Vestry Representative
Evening

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ
The Head of This Church



The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.
Rector
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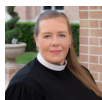
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The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson
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The Rev. Gillian (Gill) B. Keyworth
Deacon
gkeyworth@stmartinsepiscopal.org

WE INVITE YOU TO
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