FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 7, 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

MAY 7

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Dr. Suse McBay, Ph.D.

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. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

Windows for the Soul: The Way of The Cross and The Hope of the Resurrection 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. Dick Elwood

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.

Gathering

Contemplative Hour

10:15-11 a.m. | Bride's Parlor

Come reflect and pray with this group that meets periodically on Sunday. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at scox@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 Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@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.

MAY 8-13

Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, May 8

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@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, May 9

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@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Blanket Ministry

Wednesday, May 10

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@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Church Tours

Wednesday, May 10

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@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild

Wednesday, May 10

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@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

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

Wednesday, May 10

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, May 10

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 11

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 - April Showers Bring May Flowers and Shopping!

Saturday, May 13 | 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, May 11

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 11

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.

7-1-7 Students

Life Groups

Wednesday, May 10

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.

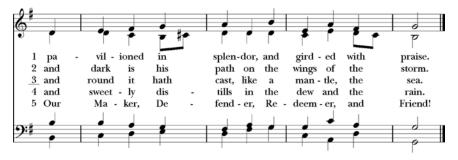
HOLY EUCHARIST

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: Robert Grant (1779-1838); Music: Hanover, att. William Croft (1678-1727).

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.)



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

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

Please be seated.

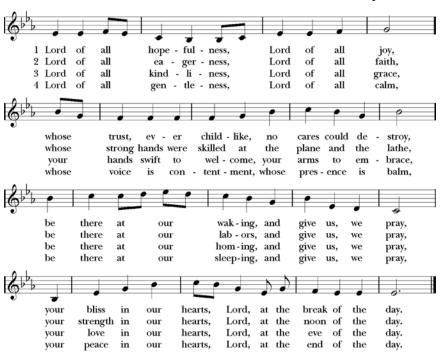
THE LESSONPsalm 31:1-5, 15-16

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

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

All stand.

HYMN 482 (vs. 1-2)....."Lord of All Hopefulness"



Words: Jan Struther (1901–1953); Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927; harm. Hymnal 1982; Copyright: Words: By permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

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

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not

know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The lectionary for the day is on page 25.

HYMN 482 (vs. 3-4)....."Lord of All Hopefulness" hope - ful - ness, 1 Lord of all Lord of all joy, 2 Lord all Lord all of ea - ger - ness, of faith. 3 Lord all kind - li - ness, Lord all of grace, 4 Lord Lord all gen - tle - ness, of calm, whose child - like, no cares could de trust, ev - er stroy, whose strong hands were skilled the plane and the lathe, at your hands wel - come, your arms em brace. to whose voice con tent - ment, whose pres - ence balm, be there at our wak-ing, and give pray, us. we be there lab - ors, and at our give us, we pray, be there hom-ing, and at our give us, we pray, be there our sleep-ing, and give pray, your bliss hearts, Lord, at the break of day. at the the your strength in our hearts, Lord, noon of day. your love in our hearts. Lord. at the eve of the day. Lord, at the of the day. your peace in our hearts, end

Words: Jan Struther (1901–1953); Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927; harm. Hymnal 1982; Copyright: Words: By permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON"""" "It's Easy If You Try"

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

morning services

THE SERMON "Magic Genie Jesus"

The Rev. John D. Sundara evening service

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 Church in Wales; 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.

THE OFFERTORY

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, And the Spirit of God dwelleth within you: For the temple of God is holy, Which temple ye are: For the love of whom ye do this day Celebrate the joys of the temple with a season of festivity. Alleluia.

Text: Sarum antiphon.

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.

DOXOLOGYEaster Hymn



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.

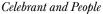
People: It is meet and right so to do.

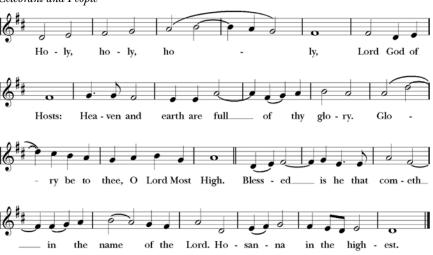
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

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





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.



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 Call" R. Vaughan-Williams, arr. Keith Lathrom

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes His guest. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move; such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633); Music: The Call, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958); Copyright: Music: Copyright © 1911 by Stainer and Bell Ltd. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

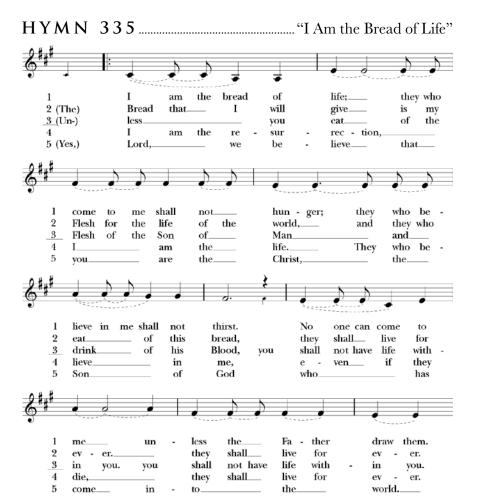
HYMN"Jesus, Name Above All Names"



Je-sus Name a-bove all names, Beau-ti-ful Sav-iour, Glo-ri-ous Lord; Em-



Text and Music: Nada Hearn; Copyright © 1974, 1978 Scripture in Song, ARR. UBP. CCLI #805314.





Words: Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927), adapt. from John 6; Music: IAm the Bread of Life, Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928); Copyright: Words: Copyright © 1971 G.I.A. Publications, Inc., Chicago. Music: © 1970, 1975, Celebration. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.





Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950); Music: Alleluia No. 1, Donald Fishel (b. 1950); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928), Charles Mallory (b. 1950) and George Mims (b. 1938); Copyright © 1973, The Word of God. All Rights Reserved. P. O. Box 8617, Ann Arbor, MI 48107, U.S.A. Music: Arrangement copyright © 1979, Celebration. P.O. Box 309, Aliquippa, PA 15001, U.S.A. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

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.



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

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.

Witness to Dignity

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



"We can never adequately thank Russ for his tireless efforts to minister to our parents when they needed it – and him – most. He was so incredibly generous with his time, and compassion, and as you will discover in the pages that follow, he came to have a very close and special relationship with my parents"

— Jeb Bush, Second Son of President George H.W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush, 43rd Governor of Florida





Available now wherever fine books are sold. Scan the QR code for more information.



RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

On the occasion of their marriage

by Emma Claire Barnes and Scott Mixson Staffel II

On the occasion of their marriage

by Mary Lou Pringle and Peter Doyle

In thanksgiving for St. Martin's high school seniors

In thanksgiving for the baptism of Wilson Kirkland Bruce Denby

by Katharine and Tim Denby

In thanksgiving for the baptisms of Riley and Walker Marietta

by Emily and Matt Marietta

In thanksgiving for the baptism of William Griffin Grier Shackouls

by Elizabeth and Scott Shackouls



BIRTHS

April 25 Miles Ryan Martins

Son of Emily and Ben Martins

Grandson of Lyl and Andy Harvin and Michele Martins

Great-grandson of Helen and Bill Harvin



BAPTISMS

April 29 Catherine Louise Semlinger

August John Shouse

Hill Clayton Sneed

April 30 Savannah Cambre

Scarlett Cambre



WEDDINGS

April 29 Jennifer Marie Howie and John Phillip Madden II



SYMPATHY

April 22 Timothy Wayne Milligan

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

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE FIRST LESSONActs 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

THE EPISTLE 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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 Ronnie Jacobe, Jr. Carolyn Alban **Bob Spencer** Lynda Jones Katie and Harvey Altmann Jan and Jim Stokes Mary Anne Kannard James Swann Patsy Angel Nancy Talbot Shelly Bain Paige Laird Denice Bass Sherman Lasker Martin Taylor Paul Therrien Pam Bentley Stan Leong Cory Blackman McKenna Letsos Mimi Thobae Shawn Levenson Dianne Brock Carlotta Thomas Paul Case Patricia Levy Millie Tonn 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 Janet McDaniel Susan Davis Charles Werlla Tommy W. Davis Patricia McDonald Roger Williams Sandra McHenry Vern Wilson Arlo Dayanand Michelle McStravick Eric Zoerb Bobby deSosa Linda deSosa Christine Nguven Angela Andrew O'Malley Rosemary Doupe Anne Nwora Onwuzulu Ross Dunn Barbara Kiersten Dyke Bob Paddock Betsev Jim Easterling Iim Paddock Charlie Russell Pae Stacey and John Elliott 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 Ted Reed Nancy Gore Laura Baker Rudolph Rob and Pat Gruen Len Shea Guinn David Samuelson Leslie Helen and Jim Shaffer Gladys Halbouty Marilvn Caroline Shanahan Dow Hamm III Martha William Shappley Connie Haney Mary Jane Susie C. Hatfield P.K. Sharkev Michael Mollie Hill Clif Shoemake Susan Betsy and William Smith Willie Jeff Holden

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
CPO Evan Tomlin
1st Lt. Luke Voss

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.

SERMON NOTES



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.

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





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

Student Ministries.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH





Tuesday, May 9 | 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

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.

Contact Outreach for the zoom link at 713-985-3811 or outreach@stmartinsepiscopal.org.







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.



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.





FLOWER ARRANGING

Wednesday, May 10 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Room

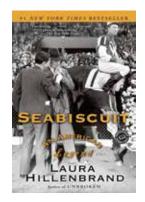


Learn how to create a beautiful flower arrangement for your home or office, just in time for Mother's Day! Vase and flowers provided for a \$5 supply fee. Register online and pay in person (cash or check).

For more information about this class and the extended Activity Center calendar, call 713-985-3835 or visit bit.ly/smecactivitycenter.



DAY GROUP



1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, May 10 Children's Life Center, Room 132 and Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinlitdayzoom

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 713-830-4110 or adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



Farewell Receptions for

The Rev. Dr. SUSE McBAY, PH.D.

Sunday, May 14 10:15–11 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

Sunday, May 21

12:30 p.m. • Parish Life Center Narthex

Please join us to celebrate Suse's ministry work and her many accomplishments. She will preach at our four traditional services on Sunday, May 14, and then her final Riverway service on Sunday, May 21.

GIVING BLOOD = SAVING LIVES

Monday, May 15 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Bagby Parish Hall



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



For more information, contact Caleb Decker at cdecker@giveblood.org or 346-831-4215.



EAT.DRINK. BRING I.D.



EVENING GROUP

Tuesday, May 16 | 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 or 713-830-4110.







TEXTText SMEC to 73256



MAIL

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

Mr. Keith Lathrom

Choral Director of the Adult Choir klathrom@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*

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 2022-2024

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



Mr. Ryan LaRue Vestry Representative Morning



Mrs. Courtney Schilling 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. CoxAssociate 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 smcbay@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Nicolas (Nick) R. D. Dyke Pastoral Associate ndyke@stmartinsepiscopal.org



The Rev. Alex D. Graham III

Associate for Children and

Family Ministries

agraham@stmartinsepiscopal.org



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



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



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

WE INVITE YOU TO KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE.

