

# INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVED

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*July 2, 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

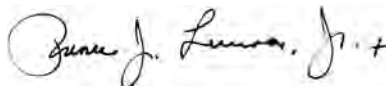
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IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD,  
JESUS CHRIST, WELCOME.

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.*

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

# THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

## JULY 2

Christian Education for Adults, Children's Ministry and 7-1-7 Students will not be offered today in observance of Independence Day. Sunday School will resume next Sunday, July 9.

## JULY 3-8

St. Martin's Campus is closed Monday and Tuesday, July 3 and 4, in observance of Independence Day. We will re-open on Wednesday, July 5.

### Adults

#### **Blanket Ministry**

Wednesday, July 5

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 713-830-4131 or [scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

#### **St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild**

Wednesday, July 5

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 713-830-4131 or [scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

#### **Summer Fun at Sterling's Market**

Saturday, July 8 | 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 Sarah-Hampton Cambas at 713-985-3848 or [info@sterlingsmarket.org](mailto:info@sterlingsmarket.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 ..... “Meditation on America”

Richard Purvis

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

## \*HYMN 579 ..... “Almighty Father, Strong to Save”

1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the  
2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain o'er which our traf - fic  
3 O Spi - rit, whom the Fa - ther sent to spread a - broad the  
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, our peo - ple shield in

rest - less wave, who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep its  
runs a - main by moun - tain pass or val - ley low; wher -  
firm - a - ment; O Wind of hea - ven, by thy might save  
dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed li - mits keep: O hear us when we  
ev - er, Lord, thy peo - ple go, pro - tect them by thy  
all who dare the ea - gle's flight, and keep them by thy  
tect them where - so e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 guard - ing hand from ev - ery per - il on the land.  
 watch - ful care from ev - ery per - il in the air.  
 rise to thee glad praise from space, air, land, and sea.

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

*Please remain standing.*

**HYMN 720** ..... “O Say Can You See”

1 O say can you see, by the dawn's ear - ly light,  
 2 O thus be it ev - er, when free - men shall stand  
 what so proud - ly we hailed at the twi - light's last gleam - ing,  
 be - tween their loved homes and the war's des - o - la - tion!  
 whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the per - il - ous fight,  
 Blest with vic - tory and peace, may the heaven - re - scued land  
 o'er the ram - parts we watched, were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing?  
 praise the Power that hath made and pre - served us a na - tion!  
 And the rock - ets' red glare, the bombs burst - ing in air,  
 Then con - quer we must, when our cause it is just,  
 gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
 and this be our mot - to, "In God is our trust."

O say does that star-span-gled ban-ner yet wave  
 And the star-span-gled ban-ner in tri-umph shall wave  
 o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?  
 o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

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

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Praise to the Lord, the Al - migh - ty, the King of cre -  
 a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for  
 he is thy health and sal - va - tion;  
 join the great throng, psal - ter - y, or - gan and  
 song, sound - ing in glad a - do - ra - tion.

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 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*

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

*Please be seated.*

**THE LESSON** (*morning services*).....Hebrews 11:8-16

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old – and Sarah herself was barren – because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**THE LESSON** (*evening service*)..... Genesis 22:1-14

God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.” Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand.*



\*HYMN 717 (vs. 1-2)..... “My Country ‘Tis of Thee”

1 My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of  
 2 My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the  
 3 Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from  
 4 Our fa - thers' God, to thee, au - thor of

lib - er - ty, of thee I sing; land where my  
 no - ble free, thy name I love; I love thy  
 all the trees sweet free - dom's song; let mor - tal  
 lib - er - ty, to thee we sing; long may our

fa - thers died, land of the pil - grim's pride,  
 rocks and rills, thy woods and tem - pled hills;  
 tongues a - wake, let all that breathe par - take,  
 land be bright with free - dom's ho - ly light;

from ev - ery moun - tain - side let freed - om ring.  
 my heart with rap - ture thrills like that a - bove.  
 let rocks their si - lence break, the sound pro - long.  
 pro - tect us by thy might, great God, our King.

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

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

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

**THE GOSPEL** ..... Matthew 5:43-48

Jesus said, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The lectionary for the day is on page 26.*

**\*HYMN 717** (vs. 3-4) ..... “My Country ‘Tis of Thee”

1 My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of  
2 My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the  
3 Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from  
4 Our fa - thers' God, to thee, au - thor of

lib - er - ty, of thee I sing; land where my  
no - ble free, thy name I love; I love thy  
all the trees sweet free - dom's song; let mor - tal  
lib - er - ty, to thee we sing; long may our



fa - thers died, land of the pil - grim's pride,  
 rocks and rills, thy woods and tem - pled hills;  
 tongues a - wake, let all that breathe par - take,  
 land be bright with free - dom's ho - ly light;

from ev - ery moun - tain - side let freed - om ring.  
 my heart with rap - ture thrills like that a - bove.  
 let rocks their si - lence break, the sound pro - long.  
 pro - tect us by thy might, great God, our King.

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

*Please be seated.*

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THE SERMON ..... “*Helping God to Bless America*”  
*The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.*  
*morning services*

THE SERMON ..... “*God in the 11th Hour*”  
*The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson*  
*evening service*

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# 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 Anglican Episcopal  
Church of Brazil; 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 God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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.**

*Please be seated.*

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please see page 30 for upcoming events.*

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## THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM .....“America the Beautiful”  
arr. Robert Russell Bennet

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

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

## AT THE PRESENTATION *(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 ..... *Old 100th*



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
 him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
 heav - en - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

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

## 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.

For with thy co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, thou art one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Substance; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of thee, O Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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, Heav'n 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.

The image shows a musical score for the Sanctus and Benedictus. It consists of five staves of music in a single system, all in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first line is 'Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord'. The second line is 'God of hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy'. The third line is 'glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.'. The fourth line is 'Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the'. The fifth line is 'Name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.'.

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

*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*



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

*Then may be said by the Celebrant and People*

**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 ..... “Hymn for America”

Stephen Paulus

We have loved you for your rivers, we have loved you for your shores,  
Every treasure you have shown us, Every seed that you have sown; We  
have loved you for your mountains, For your prairies, for your fields,  
All these gifts we have been given, All these glories that we share; Now  
we thank you for these blessings, We, your people, everywhere. Many  
are the stars of heaven, Many are the hopes of earth; All around us  
worlds unfolding, All around these dreams to grow. From the moment  
of our rising ‘Till we rest when day is done, May we tell our hearts’  
own story, Hearts that honor and believe, Through our care of one  
another, For this life and land we love.

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HYMN 716 .....“God Bless Our Native Land”

1 God bless our na - tive land; firm may she  
 2 For her our prayers shall rise to God, a -

ev - er stand through storm and night: when the wild  
 hove the skies; on him we wait; thou who art

tem - pests rave, ru - ler of wind and wave,  
 ev - er nigh, guard - ing with watch - ful eye,

do thou our coun - try save by thy great might.  
 to thee a - loud we cry, God save the state!

Words: Siegfried August Mahlmann (1771–1826); tr. Charles Timothy Brooks (1813–1883) and John Sullivan Dwight (1812–1893), alt.; Music: *America*, from *Thesaurus Musicus*, 1745.

HYMN 719 .....“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,  
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,  
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!  
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!  
 thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.  
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.  
 and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

Words: Katherine Lee Bates (1859–1929), alt.; Music: *Materna*, Samuel Augustus Ward (1848–1903).

HYMN ..... “Surely the Presence”

Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place; I can

feel His might - y pow - er and His grace. I can

hear the brush of an - gel's wings, I see glo - ry on each face;

Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place.

Text and Music, Lanny Wolfe; © 1977 Lanny Wolfe Music, (admin. By Pathway Music, Cleveland, TN). 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.**

*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.**

*All stand.*



# HYMN ..... "God Bless America"

God bless A - mer - i - ca, land that I love.  
Stand be - side her and guide her thru the  
night with a light from a - bove. From the moun - tains,  
to the prai - ries, to the o - ceans white with foam.  
God bless A - mer - i - ca, my home sweet home.  
God bless A - mer - i - ca, my home sweet home.

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## THE BLESSING

HYMN 718 ..... “God of Our Fathers”

1 God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y  
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the  
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -  
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
 past, in this free land by thee our lot is cast;  
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;  
 way, lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,  
 be thou our ru - ler, guard - ian, guide, and stay  
 thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease,  
 fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise,  
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.  
 thy bount - eous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

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

# THE DISMISSAL

*The Minister says the Dismissal*

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

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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

## RECOGNITIONS

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### FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for the founders of our country and the birth of our nation

In thanksgiving for Ruth Giampietro's 95th birthday

by Mary and Will Williams



### BIRTHS

March 28

Henry Wayne Rutherford

Son of Ann and Houston Rutherford

Grandson of Nancy Rutherford and Mike Rutherford, Jr.

Great grandson of Sally Rutherford



### BAPTISMS

June 24

Olivia Marie Maupin

Katherine Greer Skotnicki

Robert Rives Skotnicki



### WEDDINGS

June 24

Faith Ann Lamb and Gregory Wyatt Cross



### SYMPATHY

May 8

George C. Briggs

June 6

Alice Kotonias Fariss

June 11

J. Scott Laurent

June 14

Jim Latham Daniel, Jr.

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

# READINGS FOR THE DAY

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## THE OLD TESTAMENT ..... Deuteronomy 10:17-21

The Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

## THE PSALM ..... Psalm 145:1-9

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, \*  
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you \*  
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \*  
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another \*  
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty \*  
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, \*  
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; \*  
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 The Lord is loving to everyone \*  
and his compassion is over all his works.

# SERMON NOTES

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*“I have been honored to serve as president of this great nation for two years now and believe more than ever that one cannot be America’s president without trust in God. I cannot imagine a world, a life, without the presence of the One through whom all things are possible.”*

*President George H.W. Bush*



# CONTINUING PRAYERS

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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	Shawn Levenson	Catherine
Carolyn Alban	Patricia Levy	Charlie
Katie and Harvey Altmann	Nancy Liles	Elizabeth
Patsy Angel	Nicole Lockney	Eric and family
Shelly Bain	Ryan Logan	Henry
Denice Bass	Marie Lord	Holden
Bob Beeley	Jeffrey Martinson	Jay
Pam Bentley	Jack Mayfield	Laura
Cory Blackman	Deanna McCool	Len
Dianne Brock	Janet McDaniel	Martha
Nancy Burrows	Sandra McHenry	Mary Jane
Paul Case	Michelle McStravick	Susan
Robin Cogdell	Kate Moorman	Tom
Higdon Compton, Jr.	Andrew O'Malley	
Gail Davis	Bob Paddock	
Marcella Davis	Jim Paddock	
Susan Davis	Carol Postal	
Tommy W. Davis	Stephen Preston	
Bobby de Sosa	Ophelia Pujol	
Linda de Sosa	Heather Rathnau	
Ross Dunn	Ted Reed	
Kiersten Dyke	Joan Scales	
Stacey and John Elliott	Helen and Jim Shaffer	
Nancy Ellison	Caroline Shanahan	
Charles Flores	P.K. Sharkey	
Alan Funderburg	Clif Shoemake	
Nancy Gore	Bob Spencer	
Shea Guinn	Jan and Jim Stokes	
Cissy Gully	Julie Stulken	
Gladys Halbouty	Paul Therrien	
Mollie Hill	Carlotta Thomas	
JoLynne Huddelston	John Treanor	
Marilyn Ingham	Christine Turner	
Nicole Jabbari	Mae Joyce and Grant Wagner	
Mary Anne Kannard	Mike Webb	
Dick Kilday	Charles Werlla	
Amy Lacy	Allison Williams	
Reggie Lang	Walt Williams	
Stan Leong	Eric Zoerb	

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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](mailto:vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

# CONTINUING PRAYERS

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Names we have received of those in the Armed Forces:

SSgt Clint Bahme	Capt. Cody Horr	James W. Peoples
Lt. Col. Julian Benton	Maj. Wesley J. Hunnell	Lt. Paul Piana
1st Lt. Benjamin Brown	Dallas Wayne Hunter	LCMR David A. Pilko
Lt. Col. Chris Davis	2nd Lt. Stephen A. Jeckovich	Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant
Wesley Dodd	Staton Jobe	PO1 Brian M. Powell
Sgt. James Drury III	Lt. Cmdr. Kory Krebs	SPC Joel Rowell
James Eilers	Krystal Martinez	Maj. Christian Schleider
Major Parker Firestone	PV2 Wills Masterson	1st Lt. Grant Suter
Capt. Dom Flatt	Ensign Ben Morris	CPO Evan Tomlin
1st Lt. Will Golinkin	1st Lt. Jack Mullen	1st Lt. Luke Voss
LCDR Bradley R. Hoffman	2nd Lt. Alex Mullen	

 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, July 5 | 5 p.m.**  
**Parish Life Center or via Zoom**  
[bit.ly/oslservice](http://bit.ly/oslservice)

For more information, please contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or [adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org).



# Activity Center

## LUNCHTIME YOGA CLASS

Every Thursday  
Noon | Aerobics Room

Sign up at [bit.ly/smecactivitycenter](http://bit.ly/smecactivitycenter)  
MOST CLASSES ARE FREE!

Enjoy 45 minutes of breathing, stretching, balance and relaxation. Beginners to advanced levels welcome.

For more information, contact Sarah-Hampton Cambas at 713-985-3835 or [scambas@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:scambas@stmartinsepiscopal.org).





# ST. CLARE'S NEEDLEPOINT GUILD

## Stitching 101

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

12:30–2 p.m.

Activity Center, Upper Hall East



Please join St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild for our first beginning stitchers class! The cost is \$15, which will cover supplies and instruction. All you need to bring is your smile and a pair of embroidery scissors! Class size is limited.

Please sign up by email to [lamar\\_hall@yahoo.com](mailto:lamar_hall@yahoo.com).

For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or [adeviney@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:adeviney@stmartinseiscopal.org).

# Christian Community Service Center BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

**Your \$50 donation** will provide an underserved child with a uniform, shoes and school supplies.

### Options to Donate:

Text SMEC to 73256 and select C.C.S.C. from the drop-down menu.

Visit [bit.ly/givetosmec](http://bit.ly/givetosmec) and select C.C.S.C. from the drop-down menu.

This is a secure mobile and online giving site.

	<p>Your \$50 donation will benefit one underserved child with a uniform, shoes and school supplies.</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Please make check payable to: St. Martin's Episcopal Church</p> <p>Write in memo: "CCSC:BS"</p>
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For more information, contact Tracee Tindol at 713-985-3811 or [outreach@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:outreach@stmartinseiscopal.org).

# SERVE IN WORSHIP

Whether you feel called to serve up front or behind the scenes, there are many wonderful opportunities to use your gifts and help others connect with God at St. Martin's.

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

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact **Barbara Piana** at **713-830-4116** or [worshipcoordinators@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:worshipcoordinators@stmartinsepiscopal.org).



**ACOLYTE**



**CHALICE BEARER**



**GREETER AND  
WELCOME  
MINISTRY**



**LAY READER**



**LYDIA'S GUILD**



**USHER**

# ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU! GOD LOVES YOU!

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## **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](mailto: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](mailto:censign@stmartinsepiscopal.org).



# CHRISTIAN LIFE STUDY

A Bible Study for Any Woman Seeking God's Truth

**2023–24 Registration Now Open!**  
[clsbiblestudy.com](http://clsbiblestudy.com)

## MORNING GROUP STUDY

**Class Starts Thursday, Sept. 14**

Thursdays • 9:30–11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center and via Zoom

For more information, contact Anna McLean at  
281-782-0594 or [amaynebr1@gmail.com](mailto:amaynebr1@gmail.com).

## EVENING GROUP STUDY

**Class Starts Tuesday, Sept. 12**

Tuesdays • 6:30–8 p.m. • Children's Life Center and via Zoom

For more information, contact Ann Wilson at  
713-828-8722 or [annwilson33@gmail.com](mailto:annwilson33@gmail.com).



**HHCI** Hope and Healing  
Center & Institute

SUPPORT GROUP

## Monthly Grief Support Group (VIRTUAL)

Presented by:



Peggy Determeyer, Ph.D.,  
M.Div., McGee Fellow & Director  
of HHCI CARES

**HHCI CARES**

**JULY 11**

Tuesday @ 5:30 pm CT

Available Online Only

Register today at [hhci.org/events](http://hhci.org/events)

For more information, contact Peggy Determeyer  
at [pdetermeyer@hhci.org](mailto:pdetermeyer@hhci.org) or 346-335-8623

# Witness to Dignity

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

*From AMAZON reviews*

“What a fulfilling life the Bush senior lived.  
Most interesting and inclusive book.  
Excellent read.”

— Jean Texas

5.0 out of 5 stars **Great Life**

Reviewed in the United States on January 14, 2023  
Verified Purchase



Available in the St. Martin's Gift Shoppe and wherever fine books are sold. Dr. Levenson will gladly sign books for anyone who asks. For more information, contact Barbara Shoemaker, Gift Shoppe Supervisor, at [bshoemaker@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:bshoemaker@stmartinsepiscopal.org) or 713-985-3840.

## WAYS TO GIVE



### TEXT

Text SMEC to  
73256



### MAIL

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



### ONLINE

[bit.ly/smecgiving](http://bit.ly/smecgiving)



### BEQUESTS

Contact: Ashley Pratka at  
[apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org)  
or 346-335-8658



### TRANSFER OF ASSETS

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

For all stewardship questions, contact Ashley Pratka at  
[apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org) or 346-335-8658.

# OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

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## SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

### **Dr. David Henning**

*Director of Music and Parish Organist*  
dhenning@stmartinseiscopal.org

### **Mr. Keith Lathrom**

*Choral Director of the Adult Choir*  
klathrom@stmartinseiscopal.org

### **Ms. Carole Nelson**

*Coordinator of Children's Music Ministries*  
cnelson@stmartinseiscopal.org

### **The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson**

*Associate for Student and Family Ministries*  
jferguson@stmartinseiscopal.org

### **Mrs. Ashley Monachelli**

*Director of Children's Ministry*  
amonachelli@stmartinseiscopal.org

### **Mrs. Kathy Johnson**

*Director of Membership*  
kjohnson@stmartinseiscopal.org

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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. Hope Huber, *Altar Guild President 2023-2024*  
Mrs. Kathy Bennett, *ECW President 2023-2024*  
Mr. Jim McCulloch, *Men of St. Martin's President 2023-2024*  
Mr. Bob Porter, *Usher Representative 2022-2024*

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



**Mr. Ryan LaRue**  
*Vestry Representative*  
*Morning*



**Mrs. Sherrie Perkins**  
*Vestry Representative*  
*Evening*

# OUR CLERGY

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**Jesus, The Christ**  
*The Head of This Church*



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



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



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



**The Rev. R. Wesley Arning**  
*Associate for Young Adults and Small Group Ministry*  
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**The Rev. John D. Sundara**  
*Vicar for Worship and Evangelism*  
jsundara@stmartinseiscopal.org



**The Rev. Naomi B. Sundara**  
*Chaplain to the Preschool*  
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**The Rev. Lisa R. Neilson**  
*Vicar for Pastoral Care*  
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**The Rev. John R. Bentley, Jr.**  
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**The Rev. Alex D. Graham III**  
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**The Rev. Nicolas (Nick) R. D. Dyke**  
*Pastoral Associate*  
ndyke@stmartinseiscopal.org



**The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson**  
*Associate for Family and Student Ministries*  
jferguson@stmartinseiscopal.org



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



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

WE INVITE YOU TO  
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713-621-3040*

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