

EIGHTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

July 23, 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

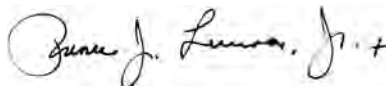
FROM THE RECTOR

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.

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

JULY 23

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Dick Elwood

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.

Just For Summer with Eric Priest

The Lectionary Speaks

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

This class will focus on passages from the Sunday lectionary. What is each lesson saying? How do the Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle and Gospel lessons connect with each other? Join us and bring your worship booklet.

Seekers with the Rev. Nick Dyke

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

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

For more information about Adult Christian Education, contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or adeviney@stmartinsepisopal.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.

Those who finished fifth grade are now part of Student Ministries.

For more information about 7-1-7 Students, contact Florence Ritchie at 713-985-3843 or students@stmartinsepisopal.org.

Children's Ministry

Children's Sunday School

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

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

For more information about Children's Ministry, contact Rocio Velazquez at 713-985-3807 or rvelazquez@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

JULY 24-29

Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, July 24

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 713-830-4131 or scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, July 25

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 713-830-4131 or scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Blanket Ministry

Wednesday, July 26

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.

St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild

Wednesday, July 26

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.

Parish Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, July 27

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 713-985-3820 or dhenning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

St. Martin's 20s & 30s: Stories that Stick

Thursday, July 27

7-8:30 p.m. | Off Campus

Join our young adults for discussion, prayer and snacks. For more information and the location, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at 346-335-8680 or rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Summer Fun at Sterling's Market

Saturday, July 29 | 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.

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 "Prayer"

Louis Vierne

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

*HYMN 523 "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, ci - ty
2 See! the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
3 Round each ha - bi - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and
4 Blest in - hab - it - ants of Zi - on, washed in the Re -

of our God; he whose word can - not be bro - ken
ter - nal love, well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - ering,
deem - er's blood! Je - sus, whom their souls re - ly on,

formed thee for his own a - bode; on the Rock of A - ges
and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, when such a
show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their
makes them kings and priests to God. 'Tis his love his peo - ple

found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose? With sal -
 riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,
 ban - ner, light by night, and shade by day, safe they
 rais - es o - ver self to reign as kings: and as

va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes,
 like the Lord, the giv - er nev - er fails from age to age.
 feed up - on the man - na which he gives them when they pray.
 priests, his sol - emn prais - es each for a thank - of - fering brings.

Words: John Newton (1725–1807), alt.; Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907–1991); Copyright: Music: Copyright © 1942, Renewal 1970 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

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

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking; Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSONGenesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place – and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

*HYMN 474 (vs. 1-2)..... “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

1 When I sur - ve y the won - drous cross where the young
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were an

Prince of Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 cross of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 of - fering far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride,
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748); Music: *Rockingham*, from *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, ca. 1970; harm. Edward Miller (1731–1807).

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPELMatthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The lectionary for the day is on pages 26-27.

*HYMN 474 (vs. 3-4)..... “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross where the young
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were an

Prince of Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 cross of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 of - fering far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride,
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748); Music: *Rockingham*, from *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, ca. 1970; harm. Edward Miller (1731–1807).

Please be seated.

THE SERMON “From Hearing to Believing”

The Rev. Lisa R. Neilson

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
of the Province of Central Africa; 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

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

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 30 for upcoming events.

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM“Nearer, My God, to Thee”
Dan Forrest

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! E’vn though it be a cross
that raiseth me. Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee;
nearer to thee!’ Oh, let the way appear, leading to heav’n. All that
Thou sendest me, in mercy giv’n. Thy Spirit beckons me, nearer, my
God to Thee. There in my Father’s home safe and at rest, There in
my Savior’s love, perfectly blest. Age after age to be nearer, my God
to Thee!

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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
heaven - 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 *Pseumes 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.

Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

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 “Ubi Caritas”

Maurice Duruflé

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exultemus et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.

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

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

HYMN 671 “Amazing Grace”

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 *5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see,
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Words: John Newton (1725–1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus; Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851–1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919).

HYMN "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
 2. Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
 3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
 stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
 man i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
 hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by
morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy
hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 (Lam. 3:22-23); Music: William M. Runyan, 1923; © 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

HYMN 693 “Just As I Am”

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - ya
 * 3 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,
 4 Just as I am: thou wilt re - ceive; wilt wel - come,
 5 Just as I am, thy love un - known has bro - ken

1 blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me
 2 con - flict, man - ya doubt; fight - ings and fears with -
 3 heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in
 4 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve, be - cause thy prom - ise
 5 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

1 come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 2 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 3 thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 4 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 5 thine a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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

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

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.**

THE BLESSING

All stand.

HYMN 690 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor-dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

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

THE DISMISSAL

The Minister says the Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

VOLUNTARY “Fanfare”
Kenneth Leighton

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

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for the baptisms of Eloise and Holden Hryc
by Stacy and Dale Cheesman III

In thanksgiving for the baptism of Lucille Elizabeth Medrano
by Laura Lee and Cole Medrano

In thanksgiving for the baptisms of Henry Wayne and Houston Gillen Rutherford, Jr.
by Sally Bell Rutherford

In memory of William C. Miller
by the Miller family



BIRTHS

Feb. 6 Annabelle Louise Schramm

Daughter of Amy and Payton Schramm

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 PSALMPsalm 139: 1-11, 22-23

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; *
try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me *
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE EPISTLE Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh – for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ – if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

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	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	
LCDR Bradley R. Hoffman	2nd Lt. Alex Mullen	



THE BUMPY ROAD OF OBEDIENCE:

A Sermon Series on the Life of Jacob

JULY 23, 30, AUG. 6 and 13
All-Church Sermon Series

8, 9, 11:15 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Traditional Services • The Church

9:15 a.m. Family Table Service • Parish Life Center

11:15 a.m. Riverway Service • Parish Life Center

Obedying God is a not always easy. Oftentimes it is a road filled with twists, turns and bumps along the way. What can we learn from the Old Testament character of Jacob? Join us for this 4-week series being preached in all our Sunday worship services.

For more information, contact Juli Browning
at jbrowning@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3845.



**Just 4
Summer**
The Lectionary
Speaks



SUMMER ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL AT ST. MARTIN'S

Sundays through Aug. 20

10:15 a.m.–11 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

St. Martin's yearly summer adult education class is focusing on passages from the Sunday lectionary. What is each lesson saying? How do the Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle and Gospel lessons connect with each other? Join us and bring your worship booklet.

For more information, contact Liz Gallien at
lgallien@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-830-4139.



ST. CLARE'S NEEDLEPOINT GUILD



Do you love to needlepoint?

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

SUNDAY, JULY 23

1–4 p.m.

Activity Center Upper Hall East

St. Clare's also meets during the week. For more information, contact **Amanda DeViney** at 713-830-4110 or adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



[st.claresneedlepoint](https://www.instagram.com/st.claresneedlepoint)



[St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild](https://www.facebook.com/St.Clare'sNeedlepointGuild)



Activity Center

CIRCUIT TRAINING

Every Monday | 10:30 a.m.
Aerobics Room

Sign up at bit.ly/smecactivitycenter
MOST CLASSES ARE FREE!

This body conditioning class involves high-intensity aerobics mixed with resistance and weights to encourage strength building and endurance!

For more information, contact Sarah-Hampton Cambas at 713-985-3835 or scambas@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

THURSDAY

Thrills

JULY 27

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

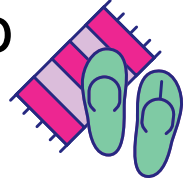
Student Life Center

Students entering grades 6–12

Includes lunch • Cost is \$10



OUTDOOR GAMES AND POOL PARTY!



Bring your swimsuit and towel and prepare for a day of fun and games in and out of the water!



717 STUDENTS



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

ST. MARTIN'S
OUTREACH
MINISTRIES

CCSC Work Day

Saturday, July 29 | 9 a.m.–noon

3434 Branard, Houston, TX 77027

Organize and distribute food at the Emergency Services location for the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC). CCSC assists the poor, hungry, disabled and otherwise needy, and provides a back-to-school and Christmas program for low-income children.

Contact Tracee Tindol at outreach@stmartinsepisopal.org or 713-985-3811 for more information.



RIVERWAY

Celebration Sunday!

Celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries with Riverway!
Sunday, July 30

Following 11:15 a.m. services
Parish Life Center Narthex

We invite everyone who has had a recent birthday or anniversary to join us in acknowledgement of your special day, and share a dessert or breakfast item with us. Everyone is welcome!

For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org.



SUPPORT GROUP

Monthly Grief Support Group (VIRTUAL)

Presented by:



Rabbi Seth M. Stander, MAHL, Community
Aging Specialist, HHCI CARES

JULY 26

Wednesday @ Noon CT
Available Online Only



Register today at hhci.org/events

For more information, contact Seth Stander at
sstander@hhci.org or 346-335-8627



What Everyone Needs to Know About Estate Planning

10 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, Aug. 9

Chapel Reception Hall

Please Register at: bit.ly/3pvWFiaEstatePlans



No matter what stage of life you are in, it is never too early to think about wills and estate planning. St. Martin's will welcome **Jana Fay Bacarisse**, a probate and estate planning attorney and founder of Bacarisse Law PLLC to St. Martin's for an educational seminar. She has more than 18 years of experience in estate administration, probate, estate planning, guardianships, and elder law.

Topics include:

- What happens to your estate if you die without a will.
- How to plan to take care of your children upon your death.
- Beneficiary designations and related issues.
- Issues in marriages with separate and community property.
- How to get started with your estate plans.

This event is designed to be educational only. Please consult with your family and your estate planning attorney before making any estate planning decision.

Registration is required for this free event.

Please register at: bit.ly/3pvWFiaEstatePlans

For more information contact Ashley Pratkan at apratkan@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 346-335-8658.



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 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



BEQUESTS

Contact: 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.

For all stewardship questions, contact Ashley Pratka at
apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 346-335-8658.

OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

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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. 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. Logan Walters
Vestry Representative
Morning



Mr. Dan Meyer
Vestry Representative
Evening

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ
The Head of This Church



The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.
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The Rev. Gillian (Gill) B. Keyworth
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WE INVITE YOU TO
KEEP THIS BOOKLET
FOR REFERENCE.

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Houston, TX 77056
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