# FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 3, 2023



#### **OUR MISSION**

To bring by the power of the Holy Spirit as many people as possible to know, love, and serve God as revealed through Jesus Christ; and to be transformed into spiritually renewed disciples of Jesus who know, love and serve one another and the world.



#### FROM THE RECTOR

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

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

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

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

The Pay Dr. Puscell I Layonson In Page

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.

<sup>\*</sup>indicates when latecomers may be seated so as not to disturb other worshipers

#### THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

#### SEPTEMBER 3

Christian Education for Adults, Children's Ministry and 7-1-7 Students will not be offered today in observance of Labor Day. Please join us next Sunday, Sept. 10, for the kick-off of Christian Education classes.

#### SEPTEMBER 4-9

St. Martin's Campus will be closed, Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of Labor Day. We will reopen Tuesday, Sept. 5.

#### Adults

#### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Tuesday, Sept. 5

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, Sept. 6 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, Sept. 6

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.

#### **Church Tours**

Wednesday, Sept. 6 11 a.m.-noon | The Church

The Docent Guild offers a formal tour of The Church. To schedule a group tour or special tours of The Church windows, Christ Chapel or Campus gardens, please contact the Docent Line at 713-830-4117. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### Parish Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Sept. 7 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.

#### Sterling's Market

Saturday, Sept. 9 | 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, contact Justin Avery at 713-985-3838 or info@sterlingsmarket.org.

#### Men

#### Dads' Bible Study

Thursday, Sept. 7 8-9 a.m. | Welcome Center

Join dads with children of all ages for coffee, fellowship and Bible study. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at 346-335-8680 or rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### Women

#### The Moms' Group

Wednesday, Sept. 6 9:15-10:30 a.m. | Student Life Center Living Room

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

#### 7-I-7 Students

#### Life Groups

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

Students in grades 6-12 connect with their peers for fun activities and great discussions about faith and life. Please bring \$5 to cover the cost of dinner. For more information, contact the Rev. Jane Ferguson at 346-335-8659 or jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### HOLY EUCHARIST

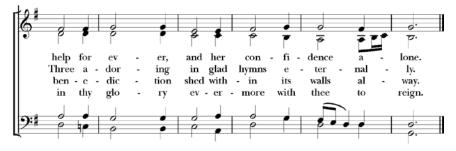
Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. is a spoken service. Musical pieces in this booklet will be skipped or replaced by spoken liturgy, as noted.

VOLUNTARY ......"Pastorale in F"

Johann Sebastian Bach

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





Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818–1856), alt.; Music: Westminster Abbey, Henry Purcell (1659–1695).

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.)



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 of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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.

#### 

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, \* and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \* I shall keep it with all my heart.
- 35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, \* for that is my desire.
- 36 Incline my heart to your decrees \* and not to unjust gain.
- 37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \* give me life in your ways.
- 38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, \* which you make to those who fear you.
- 39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, \* because your judgments are good.
- 40 Behold, I long for your commandments; \* in your righteousness preserve my life.

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

All stand



Words: James Edmeston (1791–1867), alt.; Music: Dulce carmen, melody from An Essay on the Church Plain Chant, 1782; adapt. Collection of Motetts or Antiphons, ca 1840; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889).

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according

to Matthew.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

#### 

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The lectionary for the day is on pages 24-25.



Words: James Edmeston (1791–1867), alt.; Music: Dulce carmen, melody from An Essay on the Church Plain Chant, 1782; adapt. Collection of Motetts or Antiphons, ca 1840; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889).

Please be seated.

THE SERMON ...... "Being Human"

The Rev. Sharron L. Cox evening service

#### THE NICENE CREED (stand)

Celebrant and People

I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation

came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the

Virgin Mary,

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to

the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and he shall come again, with glory,

to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together

is worshiped and glorified;

who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;

and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (kneel)

Minister and People pray responsively
Father, we pray for thy holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve thee;

#### That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; the Clergy of this Parish; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean; 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

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. 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 29 for upcoming events.

#### THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM ....."Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" Charles H.H. Parry

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways! Reclothe us in our rightful mind, In purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise. In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow thee. Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace. Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

Words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892); Music: Repton, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918); Arr. H. A. Chambers.

#### 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 all bless flow; praise praise crea-tures him bove, host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Но Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674—1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637—1711); Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

#### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Celebrant and People



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.



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.

#### 

Ave verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine, vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine, Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine: Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

Hail, true Body, born from Virgin Mary, Who truly suffered, was put to death on the cross for humankind, And from whose pierced side, both water and blood flowed: Be a foretaste for us in our examination of death.

Latin Text attributed to either Pope Innocent III (1198-1216) or Pope Innocent IV (1243-1254).

HYMN 508 ......"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"



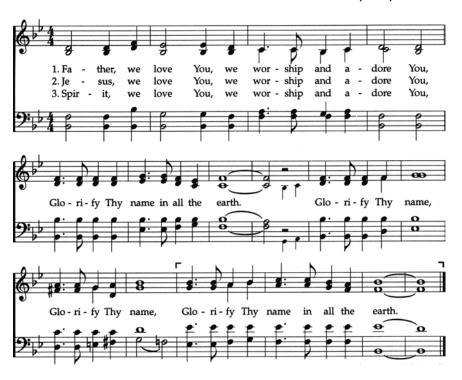
Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889), alt.; Music: Nova Vita, Lister R. Peace (1885-1969).

After Communion, the Celebrant says (kneel)





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



 $Music\ and\ text: Donna\ Adkins; @\ 1976, 1978, 1981\ Maranatha!\ Music\ (Admin.\ By\ the\ Copyright\ Co.)\ CCLI\ \#805314.$ 

#### 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.





Words: Alexander Viets Griswold (1766-1843), alt.; Music: Regent Square, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879).

#### THE DISMISSAL

The Minister says the Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

#### RECOGNITIONS



#### FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for Debbie Day on the occasion of her birthday by her parents



#### BIRTHS

Jan. 10 Mary McGill Howell

Daughter of Sarah Jane and Jack Howell Granddaughter of Mary and Paul Jornayvaz

July 3 Weldon William Pipkin

Son of Lila and Thomas Pipkin

July 9 Johnathan "Jack" Andrew Schnitzer, Jr.

Son of Lily and Johnathan Schnitzer



#### BAPTISMS

Aug. 26 August Robert Randolph

Luke Aaron Williams Vivienne Alysse Williams



#### SYMPATHY

Aug. 21 Nena G. Hand-DeFoy

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 LESSON ...... Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

#### READINGS FOR THE DAY

This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

#### 

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

#### 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:

Robin Adair Cissy Gully Marjorie Reeks **Bobbie Adams** Gladys Halbouty Monica Rivera Carolyn Alban Mollie Hill John Davis Roady Katie and Harvey Altmann JoLynne Huddelston Kathryn S. Patsy Angel Marilyn Ingham Joan Scales Judith Arnold Nicole Jabbari Suzzy Schuwerk Mary and Jim Jennings Helen and Jim Shaffer Ally Babineaux Mary Anne Kannard Shelly Bain Caroline Shanahan

Denice Bass Dick Kilday P.K. Sharkey Bob Beeley Amy Lacy Clif Shoemake Larry Biedenharn Reggie Lang Bob Spencer Corv Blackman Rhea Latta Jan and Jim Stokes Dianne Brock Stan Leong Julie Stulken Levi Brock Shawn Levenson Paul Therrien Kenny Brown Patricia Levv Carlotta Thomas Nancy Burrows Nancy Liles John Treanor Paul Case Christine Turner Nicole Lockney

Doug Clarke Ryan Logan Mae Joyce and Grant Wagner

Robin Cogdell Marie Lord Mike Webb Higdon Compton, Jr. Ronnie Martin Charles Werlla Michael Craig Jeffrey Martinson Walt Williams Gail Davis Jack Mayfield Eric Zoerb Marcella Davis Deanna McCool Beaux Catherine Susan Davis Ianet McDaniel Sandra McHenry Charlie Tommy W. Davis Bobby de Sosa Barbara McMahon Elizabeth Linda de Sosa Michelle McStravick Eric and family

Don DeWalch Margaret Milner Henry Ross Dunn Kate Moorman Holden Kiersten Dyke Stuart Nixon Jay Jim Easterling Andrew O'Malley Laura Stacey and John Elliott Bob Paddock Len Nancy Ellison Iim Paddock Lvnne Charles Flores **Judy Peach** Martha Alan Funderburg Carol Postal Mary Jane Cathy Gonzales Stephen Preston Susan Tom Nancy Gore Ophelia Pujol

Joyce Gubbs Heather Rathnau

Shea Guinn Ted Reed

Please be advised that we will be updating the Continuing Prayers list twice a year in the weeks before Easter and All Saints' Day. Names will remain on the prayer list for six months. To put someone on the Continuing Prayers list, please contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

#### CONTINUING PRAYERS

Names we have received of those in the Armed Forces:

SSgt Clint Bahme Lt. Col. Julian Benton 1st Lt. Benjamin Brown Lt. Col. Chris Davis Wesley Dodd Sgt. James Drury III James Eilers

Major Parker Firestone Capt. Dom Flatt 1st Lt. Will Golinkin LCDR Bradley R. Hoffman Capt. Cody Horr Maj. Wesley J. Hunnell Dallas Wayne Hunter 2nd Lt. Stephen A. Jeckovich Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant Staton Jobe Lt. Cmdr. Kory Krebs Krystal Martinez PV2 Wills Masterson Ensign Ben Morris

1st Lt. Jack Mullen

2nd Lt. Alex Mullen

James W. Peoples Lt. Paul Piana LCMR David A. Pilko PO1 Brian M. Powell SPC Joel Rowell Maj. Christian Schleider 1st Lt. Grant Suter CPO Evan Tomlin

### SERMON NOTES





# KICK-OFF SEPTEMBER 10

8+ — Lectionary-based Bible Study

Sept. 10-Dec. 17\*\* • 8:55 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall

#### Theology for Life with the Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.\*

"Blessed are Those Who Know Their Need of God: A 12-week Survey of the Sermon on the Mount" Sept. 10–Dec. 10\*\*

10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall • \*Oct. 8 class will be led by the Rev. R. Wesley Arning

#### Adult Confirmation Class with the Rev. John D. Sundara

Sept. 10–Oct. 29 • 10:15 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall (except Sept. 17 in Christ Chapel)

#### Family Life Class with the Rev. Alex D. Graham III

Breakfast Club • Sept. 10, Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3

"The Bible in Six Acts" • Sept. 10-Nov. 5

"Advent Traditions" • Nov. 19-Dec. 17\*\*

10:15 a.m. • Activity Center, Game Room

#### Children's Sunday School — For children in grades K-5

Sept. 10-Dec. 17\*\* • 10:15 a.m. • Children's Life Center

#### Student Ministries Sunday Get-Togethers — For students in grades 6–12

Sept. 10-Dec. 17\*\* • 10:15 a.m. • Student Life Center, Living Room

#### Spiritual Formation with the Rev. Sharron L. Cox

"Praying the Lord's Prayer" • Sept. 10-24

"Praying the Jesus Prayer" • Oct. 22 and 29

10:15 a.m. • Pastoral Care Center, Bride's Parlor (except Sept. 10 in Vestry Conference Room)

#### Seekers — Lectionary-based Bible Study

Sept. 10-Dec. 17\*\* • 10:15 a.m. • Activity Center, Aerobics Room

#### For information about:

Adult Education classes, contact Amanda DeViney at adeviney@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-830-4110.

Adult Confirmation classes, contact Juli Browning at jbrowning@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3845.

Children's Sunday School, contact Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3807.

Student Ministries, contact Florence Ritchie at fritchie@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3843.

\*\*Sunday School will not be offered on Nov. 12 and 26.





St. Martin's is partnering with Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) to provide aid to those affected by the Maui wildfires. You can donate in two ways:

- By check: Make out your check to St. Martin's Episcopal Church and earmark it: "Maui Wildfire Relief." You can mail your check to St. Martin's (717 Sage Road, Houston, Texas 77056), drop it by our offices, or place it in the offering plate at one of our upcoming Sunday or Wednesday worship services.
- Donate online: Visit bit.ly/givetosmec and select "Maui Fires" from the dropdown menu.

Please visit stmartinsepiscopal.org and click on the Maui Wildfires slide to read Dr. Levenson's letter and personal prayer for the islands.

For more information, contact Tracee Tindol at tmartin@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3811.



#### SEASONAL DEVOTIONAL by the Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

A portion of proceeds goes to support Outreach Ministries at St. Martin's.

# Finding SHELTER An Autumn Companion

Russ Levenson's Finding Shelter is a continuous gentle invitation to come to the table and to taste and see that God is good. Written with warmth and wisdom, these pages are good company on the journey of faith.

> - Amy Grant, Grammy Award Winning Recording Artist and Songwriter

Russell L Levenson Ir.

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.



#### 🎏 CHRISTIAN LIFE STUDY

A Bible Study for Any Woman Seeking God's Truth

#### 2023-24 Registration Now Open! 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.

#### **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.





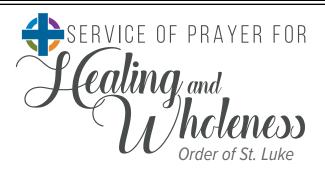
# Coming Home Dinner

Tuesday, Sept. 5 | 5 p.m. 5501 Main St. • Houston, Texas 77004

Sign-up required at signupgenius.com/go/5080B44ACAA2CA2F85-search

Volunteers are needed to decorate tables, bring dinner items, and help serve dinner at SEARCH. SEARCH Homeless Services works to engage, stabilize, educate, employ and house individuals and families who are homeless in the Houston area.

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



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, Sept. 6 | 5 p.m.
Parish Life Center or via Zoom
bit.lv/oslservice

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



WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6
Dinner and Bible Study • 7 p.m.

Sylvia's Enchilada Kitchen • 6401 Woodway Dr., Houston 77057

This fall, we will cover a different theological topic each week. Over the past year, the group has grown tremendously and continues to welcome new friends. The group also meets throughout the city for a monthly Saturday social event. Everyone is welcome and no reservations are needed.

For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-621-3040.



#### **FALL SOCIAL**

Cyclone Anaya's Thursday, Sept. 7, 5–7pm. 5761 Woodway Dr. Houston, Texas 77057

\$20 food and beverage with no-host cocktails

Register at bit.ly/mosmfallsocial2023

Join the Men of St. Martin's at Cyclone Anaya's for refreshments and fellowship as we prepare for our fall Bible study!

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



### SATURDAY, SEPT. 9 10 A.M. CHILDREN'S LIFE CENTER

GUEST SPEAKER

THE REV. SHARRON L. COX

The Order of the Daughters of the King® Chaplain will speak about this year's theme, "...count it all joy." The Rev. Sharron Cox will lead the Installation Service for new members as current members will renew their vows.

For more information, please contact Tracee Tindol at tmartin@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3811.



#### **BIBLE PRESENTATION**

Sept. 10 • 9: 15 a.m. Parish Life Center



Join us in Family Table as we present Bibles to our third-grade students.

To sign up to receive a Bible for your child, please contact Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3807.



SUNDAYS, SEPT. 10-OCT. 29 10:15-11 A.M. CHAPEL RECEPTION HALL

Join the Rev. John Sundara to learn how the Episcopal Church is like other Christian churches and what makes our Anglican heritage unique. Time will be spent discussing "The Book of Common Prayer," the Sacraments, and the Church's history and polity. Adults have the opportunity to be prepared for confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church by attending confirmation class.

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



#### PARENT MEETING

Sunday, Sept. 10 12:30–2p.m. • Student Life Center

This is an information meeting for families with students in grades 8–12 who are interested in confirmation at St. Martin's. We will discuss all the components and expectations of this preparatory class.

Registration for confirmation is open Sept. 1–27 at **bit.ly/studentconfirmation2024** and program begins Oct. 1.

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



# Activity Center

#### **BEGINNER BRIDGE PLAY**

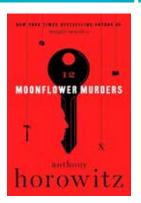
Mondays, beginning Sept. 11 10 a.m.-noon | Upper Hall West Sign up at bit.ly/smecactivitycenter \$125 per person (cash or check)

Tom Jahnke returns to teach basic bridge card play strategy, scoring and much more in this 8-week course — perfect for anyone interested in learning bridge or perfecting their skills! Course materials provided.

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



# DAY GROUP



1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, Sept. 13 Children's Life Center, Room 132 and Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinlitdayzoom

While operating within the framework of Christian theology, Faith in Literature seeks to ascertain in our reading how all good literature, if even by its omission, deals with and reflects themes of faith.

This month, we discuss "Moonflower Murders" by Anthony Horowitz.

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



### Bible Study Kick-off Meeting

Featuring Guest Speaker
Dr. Paul T. Sloan
SEPT. 14 • 7 A.M.
BAGBY PARISH HALL



Breakfast is available for \$8 at St. Martin's Café starting at 6:45 a.m.

**Dr. Sloan** will lead the first meeting of the fall with an introduction to the first book of the New Testament, the Gospel of Matthew.

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





**DONATIONS NEEDED!** 

Help the Joy of Giving Market this year by donating to the Online Auction. Some items of particular interest include:

- Vacation homes
- Sports and event tickets
- Familiy activities and experiences
- Home décor items
- Designer fashion accessories and jewelry

By donating to the Joy of Giving Online Auction, you are helping raise more funds for Outreach grants that benefit many of Houston's most disadvantaged.

Contact Tracee Tindol at **joyofgiving@stmartinsepiscopal.org** or 713-985-3811 for more information about donating to the Online Auction.



### AMY GRANT

ECW FALL LUNCHEON
Monday, Oct. 2
11 a.m.—1 p.m.
Bagby Parish Hall
\$40/person
Table of 10, \$400
Childcare provided



# REGISTRATION OPENS AT NOON, TUESDAY, SEPT 5.

Registration: bit.ly/ecwamygrant
Deadline to register: Monday, Sept. 25

This past spring, Grant released new music and her first single in 10 years, "Trees We'll Never See." ECW is delighted to welcome Amy Grant whose career spans more than 40 years and stretches from her roots in gospel music into becoming an iconic pop star, songwriter and television personality.



For more information, contact Valerie Rivera at vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3817.

# 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 <u>Great Life</u> 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 <a href="mailto:bshoemaker@stmartinsepiscopal.org">bshoemaker@stmartinsepiscopal.org</a> or 713-985-3840.





#### 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

#### SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

#### Dr. David Henning

Director of Music and Parish Organist dhenning@stmartinsepiscopal.org

#### Mr. Keith Lathrom

Choral Director of the Adult Choir klathrom@stmartinsepiscopal.org

#### Ms. Carole Nelson

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

#### The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson

Associate for Student and Family Ministries jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

#### Mrs. Ashley Monachelli

Director of Children's Ministry amonachelli@stmartinsepiscopal.org

#### Mrs. Kathy Johnson

Director of Membership kjohnson@stmartinsepiscopal.org

#### ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

#### **Vestry Executive Committee**

Mr. Tommy Ford, Senior Warden

Mrs. Michelle Bain, Junior Warden

Mr. Gib Surles, Missions Chair

Mr. Dan Meyer, Treasurer

Mr. Ryan LaRue, Clerk

Mr. Matt Anderson, Past Senior Warden

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., Parish Stewardship Chair

Mr. Andy Harvin, Chancellor\*

#### **Vestry Members**

Mrs. Nancy Bynon

Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes

Mrs. Whitney Gormley

Mr. Will Hedges

Mr. Matt Mogas

Mr. Roy W. Nichol

Ms. Sherrie Perkins

Mrs. Courtney Schilling

Mr. Logan Walters

Mr. Milton West

#### Associate Members

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

Mr. Jon Clarkson, Senior Council Representative 2022-2023

Mr. Richard Nelson, Senior Council Representative 2022-2023

Mrs. Hope Huber, *Altar Guild President* 2023-2024

Mrs. Kathy Bennett, ECW President 2023-2024

Mr. Perry Ruthven, 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. Milton West Vestry Representative Morning



Mr. Gib Surles Vestry Representative Evening

#### OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ

The Head of This Church



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



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



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



The Rev. R. Wesley Arning
Associate for Riverway and
Discipleship Ministries
rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org



**The Rev. John D. Sundara** *Vicar for Worship and Evangelism*jsundara@stmartinsepiscopal.org



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



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



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



The Rev. Alex D. Graham III
Associate for Children and
Family Ministries
agraham@stmartinsepiscopal.org



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



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



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



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

# WE INVITE YOU TO KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE.

