EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 1, 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

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

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

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

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

June J. Luna, Jr. +

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

Prayers Before Worship

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

NOTICES

St. Martin's is a gun-free campus.

St. Martin's asks that anyone coming into a worship service not bring oversized or large backpacks. *indicates when latecomers may be seated so as not to disturb other worshipers

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

OCTOBER I

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Alex Graham

Lectionary-based Bible Study 8:55-9:25 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" A Christian's Righteousness: Christ and the Law – Matthew 5:17-20 10:15-11 a.m. The Church

Family Life Class with the Rev. Alex Graham

Breakfast Club 10:15-11 a.m. Activity Center, Game Room

Seekers with the Rev. Nick Dyke

Lectionary-based Bible Study 10:15-11 a.m. Activity Center, Aerobics Room

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

Adult Confirmation with the Rev. John Sundara 10:15-11 a.m. Chapel Reception Hall

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

7-I-7 Students

Sunday Get-Togethers For students in grades 6-12 10:15-11 a.m. Student Life Center, Living Room

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

Children's Ministry

Children's Sunday School

For children through grade 5 10:15-11 a.m. Children's Life Center

Childcare is available during all morning services for infants through three-year-olds.

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

Music Ministry

Young Singers of St. Martin's For children and youth in grades 1-12 8:15 a.m. | Rehearsal in Children's Life Center 9:15 a.m. | Family Table service in Parish Life Center

For more information about Young Singers of St. Martin's, contact Carole Nelson at 346-335-8677 or cnelson@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

OCTOBER 2-7

Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, Oct. 2 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, Oct. 3 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, Oct. 4 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, Oct. 4 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, Oct. 4 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.

St. Martin's 20s & 30s

Wednesday, Oct. 4 7-9 p.m. | Children Life Center

Youth adults meet weekly for a time of fellowship and study. For more information, contact the Rev. Wesley Arning at 346-335-8680 or rwarning@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Parish Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Oct. 5 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 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, Oct. 7 | 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

Men of St. Martin's Thursday, Oct. 5 7-8 a.m. | Bagby Parish Hall

This men's group meets for fellowship, mutual support and Bible study. For more information, contact the Rev. John Sundara at 713-985-3842 or jsundara@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

Dads' Bible Study

Thursday, Oct. 5 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

Christian Life Study

Tuesday, Oct. 3 – Evening Group | 6:30-8 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom Thursday, Oct. 5 – Day Group | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | Parish Life Center and via Zoom

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

The Moms' Group

Wednesday, Oct. 4 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, Oct. 4 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

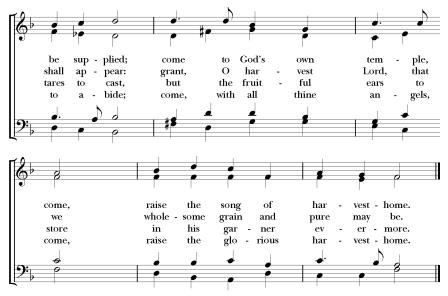
Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. is a spoken service. Musical pieces in this booklet will be skipped or replaced by spoken liturgy, as noted.

VOLUNTARY"Prelude and Fugue in G Major" by Johann Sebastian Bach

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

*HYMN 290 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"





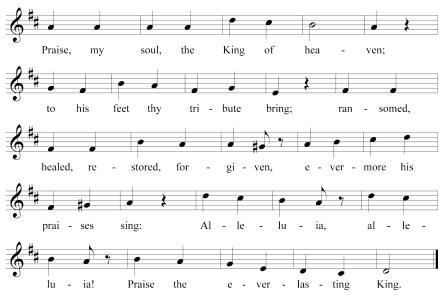
Words: Henry Alford (1810–1871), alt.; Music: St. George's, Windsor, George Job Elvey (1816–1893).

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. and 11:15 a.m.)



Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847); Music: Lauda anima, John Goss (1800-1880).

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with thy spirit. Celebrant: Let us pray. *(kneel)*

The Celebrant says the Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSONPhilippians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

All stand.

*HYMN 135 (vs. 1-2)...... "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" and praise, Songs of thank-ful ness Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise, 2 Man - i - fest Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme; at faint - ing soul; Man - i - fest mak - ing 3 in whole pal-sied limbs and 4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen-dent light, man - i - fest - ed by the star the sa - ges from a - far; to Ca - na, wed - ding-guest, God-head man - i - fest; and at in thy man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might; where dis - ci - ples with glo - ry filled awe thy trans - fi - gured saw. branch of roy al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem; man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine; man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill; When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Ie ru - sa - lem, an - thems be thee ad-dressed, God in to man made man-i - fest. an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest. an - thems be thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest. to cross and Eas Day at - test God in man made ter man-i - fest. -

Words: Sts. 1–3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807–1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895–1984); Music: Salzburg, melody Jakob Hintze (1622–1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750).

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

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

- Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
- People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The lectionary for the day is on page 26.

*HYMN 135 (vs. 3-4)...... "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" Songs of thank-ful ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise, 2 Man - i - fest Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme; at faint - ing soul; 3 Man - i - fest mak - ing in whole pal-sied limbs and 4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen-dent light, man - i - fest - ed by the star the sa - ges from a - far; to Ca - na, wed - ding-guest, God-head man - i - fest; and at in thy man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might; where dis - ci - ples with filled awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw. branch of roy al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem; man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine; man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill; When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Ie ru - sa - lem, an - thems be thee ad-dressed, God in to man made man-i - fest. an - thems be God in to thee ad-dressed, man made man-i - fest. an - thems be thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest. to cross and Eas Day at - test God in man made ter man-i - fest. -

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Please be seated.

THE SERMON "The Pathway to Joyful Living" The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

THE NICENE CREED (stand)

Celebrant and People I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried: and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (kneel)

Minister and People pray responsively Father, we pray for thy holy catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

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

That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; the Clergy of this Parish; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Anglican Episcopal Church in Japan; 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 and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through 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.

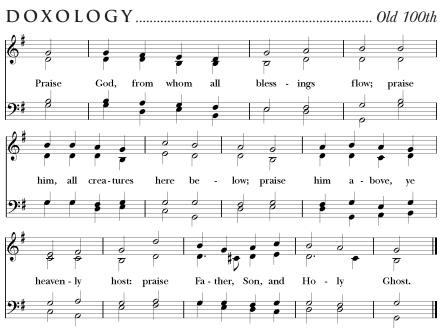
THE OFFERTORY

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father! There is no shadow of turning with Thee! Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as Thou hast been, thou forever wilt be. Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see! All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided, great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest; sun, moon, and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Pardon for sin, and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

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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.



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.

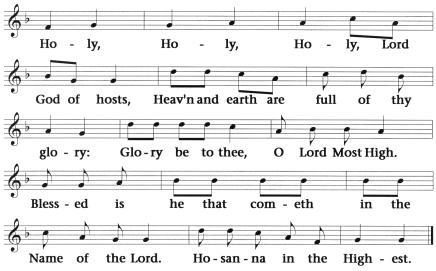
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Who by water and the Holy Spirit hast made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth thy glory in all the world.

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

(said at 8 a.m., sung at 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.)



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.

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge. But forgive that is past and give us grace to amend our sinful lives, to decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee now and ever more. Amen.

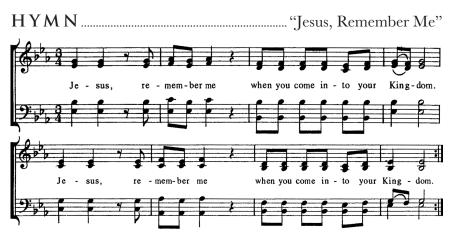
Copyright Oxford University Press 1998. Text: J. Bull, 1568 Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations.



Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt.; Music: Toplady, Thomas Hastings (1784-1872).



Words and Music: Traditional Spiritual, arr. by Keith Phillips. © 1986 Word Music.



Tune: Jacques Berthier, (1923-1994); Words: Luke 23:42; Music: From the Taize Community; Copyright © 1981 by Les Presses de Taize (France). Used by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc., Chicago, exclusive agent. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

After Communion, the Celebrant says (kneel) Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

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.



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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 the baptism of Vivienne Margaret Glass by Mari and Bryan Glass

- In memory of Ed DeMouche and Tim DeMouche by Rebecca DeMouche
- In memory of Mary Gray Lester on the anniversary of her birthday by Linda and John Griffin, Laura and Jack Schuhmacher, and Allison and Philip Lorenzo



BAPTISMS

Sept. 23

Ameri Elliott Detmar Everest Augustin Detmar Vincenzo Anthony Detmar

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 OLD TESTAMENT Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

THE PSALM Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

1	Hear my teaching, O my people; *
	incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2	I will open my mouth in a parable; *
	I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
3	That which we have heard and known,
	and what our forefathers have told us, *
	we will not hide from their children.
4	We will recount to generations to come
	the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
	and the wonderful works he has done.
12	He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
	in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
13	He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
	he made the waters stand up like walls.
14	He led them with a cloud by day, *
	and all the night through with a glow of fire.
15	He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
	and gave them drink as from the great deep.
16	He brought streams out of the cliff, *
	and the waters gushed out like rivers.

A Prayer for the Courage to Give

"Dear Lord Jesus, release me from my fear and discomfort; that I may truly feel what it feels like to be Your guest. So many others experience this feeling, and I pray I, too, may feel the joy of knowing that I am Your guest and that I have the ability, as that guest, to generously and joyfully give back to You a portion of what You have given to me. Amen."

Bob Heston, Chair, Parish Stewardship Committee

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 **Bobbie Adams** Carolvn Alban Katie and Harvey Altmann Patsy Angel Judith Arnold Ally Babineaux Shelly Bain Denice Bass Bob Beeley Larry Biedenharn Cory Blackman Dianne Brock Kenny Brown Nancy Burrows Paul Case Cole Cattan Doug Clarke Robin Cogdell Higdon Compton, Jr. Michael Craig Gail Davis Marcella Davis Susan Davis Tommy W. Davis Bobby de Sosa Linda de Sosa Don DeWalch Ross Dunn Kiersten Dyke Jim Easterling Stacey and John Elliott Nancy Ellison **Charles** Flores Alan Funderburg Julie G. Cathy Gonzales Nancy Gore Joyce Gubbs Shea Guinn Stephen Preston Cissy Gully Ophelia Pujol

Gladys Halbouty Ann Halverson Mollie Hill JoLvnne Huddelston Marilyn Ingham Nicole Jabbari Mary and Jim Jennings Mary Anne Kannard Dick Kildav Anne Kurtzahn Amy Lacy Reggie Lang Rhea Latta Bruce Michael Lee Stan Leong Shawn Levenson Patricia Levv Nancy Liles Nicole Lockney Ryan Logan Marie Lord Ronnie Martin Jeffrey Martinson Jack Mayfield Deanna McCool Ianet McDaniel Sandra McHenry Barbara McMahon Michelle McStravick Margaret Milner Kate Moorman Stuart Nixon Andrew O'Mallev Bob Paddock Jim Paddock Patty Pate Judy Peach Betty Polando Carol Postal

Heather Rathnau Ted Reed Mariorie Reeks Monica Rivera John Davis Roady Kathryn S. Joan Scales Suzzy Schuwerk Helen and Jim Shaffer Caroline Shanahan Clif Shoemake Bob Spencer Jan and Jim Stokes Julie Stulken Kenneth Swann Paul Therrien Carlotta Thomas John Treanor Christine Turner Mae Joyce and Grant Wagner Eammon Walsh Mary Watters Walt Williams Eric Zoerb Beaux Catherine Donald Elizabeth Elizabeth Eric and family Henry Holden Iav Laura Len Lvnne Martha Mary Mary Jane Susan Tom

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.

Names we have received of those in the Armed Forces:

SSgt Clint Bahme Lt. Col. Julian Benton Ist Lt. Benjamin Brown Lt. Col. Chris Davis Wesley Dodd Sgt. James Drury III James Eilers Major Parker Firestone Capt. Dom Flatt Ist Lt. Will Golinkin LCDR Bradley R. Hoffman

Capt. Cody Horr Maj. Wesley J. Hunnell Dallas Wayne Hunter 2nd Lt. Stephen A. Jeckovich 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 Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant PO1 Brian M. Powell SPC Joel Rowell Maj. Christian Schleider 2nd Lt. Jeffers Shaper 1st Lt. Grant Suter CPO Evan Tomlin

Please circle the name of any loved one that you would like to remain on our Continuing Prayer list, tear out this sheet of your bulletin and place it in the Prayer List box in the Narthex. You may also email Valerie Rivera at vrivera@stmartinsepiscopal.org with this information. Your assistance in maintaining our prayer list is most appreciated.



COMMUNION INSTRUCTION CLASS

Sundays Oct. 1, 8, 15 and 22 10:15–11 a.m. • Activity Center

This fall, over the course of four Sundays, the Rev. Alex Graham III and Lay Minister Eric Priest will teach children in second grade what communion (also know as the "Eucharist," or the Lord's Supper") is about. Parental or significant adult participation is necessary to help children continue learning at home.

Registration: bit.ly/kidscommunionfall23

For more information, contact Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3807.

NEW MORNING PRAYER AND COMPLINE SERVICES

Every Monday and Thursday in October Only Christ Chapel

Morning Prayer – 8:30 a.m.

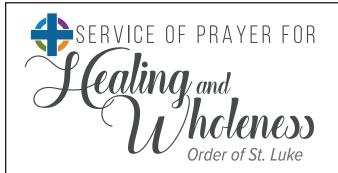
There is no better way to begin your day than in prayer with a Clergy member. Join us for Scripture readings and reflection. This short service of prayer and meditation will feed your heart and strengthen you for whatever the day has in store.

Compline Evening Service – 5:30 p.m.

Compline, or Night Prayer, is descended from the night prayers said before bed at the end of the monastic round of daily prayer. It is the very last worship service of the day in the "Book of Common Prayer" and is a service of quietness and reflection, before the arrival of evening and rest.

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





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, Oct. 4 | 5 p.m. Parish Life Center or via Zoom bit.ly/oslservice

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



INSTRUCTED EUCHARIST

717 STUDENTS

Thursday, Oct. 5 • 6 p.m. The Church

This is open to all middle and high school students and is required for Confirmation candidates. We will journey through the sacrament of communion, learning the meaning and symbolism behind the words and actions that we share each week.

A Chick-fil-A[®] dinner will be served in the Student Life Center before walking over to The Church.

For more information, contact the Rev. Jane P. Ferguson at jferguson@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 346-335-8659.





ZUMBA WITH SANDY

Every Tuesday 9:45 a.m. | Aerobics Room | MOST CLASSES ARE FREE!

Sign up at bit.ly/smecactivitycenter

Join Sandy for a class that is an easy-to-follow, high energy, calorie burning, total body dance-based workout! Open to all levels.

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

ST. MARTIN'S TREACH MINISTRIES 🌌

Coming Home Dinner



Tuesday, Oct. 3 | 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.



Every Saturday • 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Rain or Shine • Sage and Woodway

STERLING'S

MARKET

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

A portion of the proceeds supports St. Martin's Outreach Ministries.

sterlingsmarket.org

For more information, contact Justin Jacobson Avery at info@sterlingsmarket.org or 713-985-3838.



SATURDAY, OCT. 7 10 A.M. ST. MARTIN'S PARKING LOT

GROUP TOUR OF

We will carpool to The Landing, our Outreach partner, for a private group tour of their facilities.

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



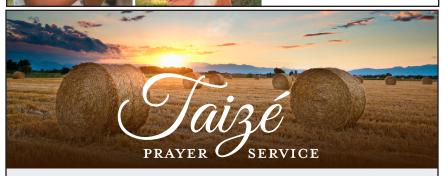
BLESSING of the ANIMALS

Sunday, Oct. 8 • 5 p.m. The Wayside Chapel

In honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, all are invited to bring their pets for a special service dedicated to blessing all creatures great and small.

St. Martin's Clergy will bless family pets of all kinds, but please keep them on leashes or in cages. Pet food donations will also be accepted.

For more information, contact Barbara Piana at bpiana@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-830-4116.



Sunday, Oct. 15 5 p.m. • Christ Chapel

Taizé Prayer returns to St. Martin's this fall. Last spring we dipped our spiritual toes into the reflective and contemplative sounds of Taizé Prayer, and these services resonated with many Parishioners. Taizé Prayer services supply time for meditative singing, scripture reading and prayer that allows us to respond to the Psalmist's cry to "Be still, and know that I am God!"

To hear more about Taizé and contemplative prayer, visit The Wayside Podcast at stmartinsepiscopal.org/the-wayside-podcast on Oct. 12.

For more information, contact Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam at relhakam@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-830-4146.



Joy of Giving Market is the perfect start to the holiday season!

Premiere Shopping Party Tuesday, Oct. 10 • 4–8 p.m. Enjoy food and first looks at the wonderful merchandise. *\$20 in advance ticket / \$25 at the door*

Additional Market Days and Hours Wednesday, Oct. 11 • 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12 • 10 a.m. – 3 p.m Free Admission. Wide variety of items perfect for holiday shopping.

TICKETS SALES NOW AVAILABLE

Visit bit.ly/jogmarket for more information.

PANTRY PRE-SALES Sept. 25–Oct. 6

Make your holiday entertainment a breeze! Order Joy of Giving ECW Pantry items before the Market opens to ensure you get your favorites.

- Artichoke & Feta Cheesecake
- Bacon-Wrapped Tamales
- Cheddar Cheese Biscuits
- Cinnamon Buttermilk Coffee Cake
- Kahlua Pecans
- Tasty Trash

- Or try our exciting new items!
 - Pumpkin Muffins
- Pecan Pie
- Pimento Cheese Grits
- All Beef Lasagna
- AND MORE!

To view the full menu and order, visit **bit.ly/pantrypresales**

ONLINE AUCTION

Bidding starts Monday, Oct. 9 and closes Friday, Oct. 13 at 6 p.m. Some items of particular interest include:

- Vacation homes
- Family activities and experiences
 Home décor items
- Designer fashion accessories and jewelry
- Sporting goods memorabilia
- Opera, symphony, TUTS/Broadway Across America tickets

To preview items, register online and start placing a bid, visit **bit.ly/jogsilentauction**

Funds from the Silent Auction help Outreach grant funds, which provide organizations with assistance to serve the most disadvantaged in Houston and beyond.

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

What Everyone Needs to Know About Estate Planning

Wednesday, Oct. 18 • 9-11 a.m.

Chapel Reception Hall Sponsored by St. Martin's Preschool and St. Martin's Young Leaders. Registration is required for this free event.



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.



Please register at: bit.ly/101823estateplanning For more information contact Ashley Pratka at apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 346-335-8658.





Wednesdays, Oct. 18 and 25 | Nov. 1 and 8

5 p.m. • Holy Eucharist • The Church 5:30 p.m. • Dinner • Café St. Martin's, Bagby Parish Hall 6:30–8:30 p.m. • Film and Discussion • Parish Life Center

Movies with a Message is a new way to enjoy fellowship by watching a movie with a clear message about faith in Christ, and then learning from a discussion led by Clergy members. Join us for Holy Eucharist, followed by dinner and a movie screening and discussion. Come for part or all of the evening!



Oct. 18 "The Jesus Revolution" with the Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.



Oct. 25 "Unbroken: Path to Redemption" with the Rev. John D. Sundara



Nov. 1 "All Saints" with the Rev. Alex D. Graham III



Nov. 8 "Risen" with the Rev. Naomi Sundara

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



Friday, Nov. 3 – Sunday, Nov. 5 Camp Blessing

Students in grades 6–8 are invited to join us for a weekend retreat. What a great way to spend some time with God while getting to hang out with friends, old and new.

Register at: **bit.ly/smecmsretreat**

Deadline to register is Sunday, Oct. 29 • Cost is \$300

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

A NEW BOOK by the Rev. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.



"This is a book about God's help." – Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

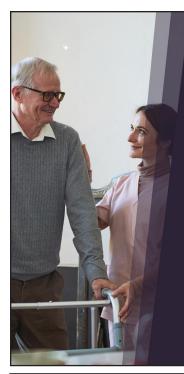
Expected in early November!

"IN GOD'S GRIP: What Golf Can Teach Us About The Gospel"

"Russ has done a masterful job of showing how the game of golf is a metaphor of living a good life through the Gospels and that when we are in 'God's Grip,' anything is possible."

 Joe Sweeney, businessman and author of five books including, New York Times best-seller "Networking is a Contact Sport."

For more information and to be added to the waiting list, contact Barbara Shoemaker at bshoemaker@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3840.



HHCI CARES

Aging with Grace: Understanding Living Options

OCTOBER 2

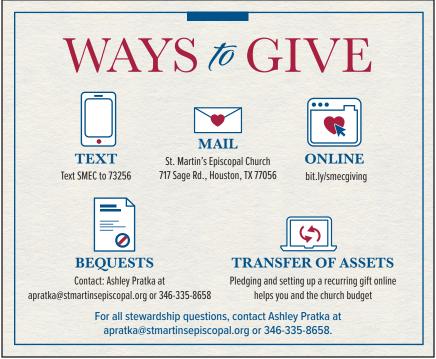
Monday at 10:00 a.m. CT Available Online Only

Register at hhci.org/events

For more information, contact Emilee Clyburn at eclyburn@hhci.org or 346-335-8622



Presented by Rabbi Seth Stander, MAHL, Community Aging Specialist at HHCI CARES.



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. Hannah Cen Associate Organist hcen@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

Mrs. Barbara Piana Verger and Worship Coordinator bpiana@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. David Harvin, Senior Council Representative
2023-2024
Mrs. Beth Reeves, Senior Council Representative
2023-2024
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. Tommy Ford Vestry Representative

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ

The Head of This Church



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



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



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



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



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



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





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



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



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



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



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



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



gkeyworth@stmartinsepiscopal.org

WE INVITE YOU TO Keep this booklet For reference.

717 Sage Road Houston, TX 77056 713-621-3040

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