NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 8, 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.

Bunne 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 8

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. Wesley Arning

"Blessed are Those who Know Their Need of God: A 12-week Survey of the Sermon on the Mount" A Christian's Righteousness: Anger and Lust – Matthew 5:21-30 10:15-11 a.m. Bagby Parish Hall

Family Life Class with the Rev. Alex Graham

"The Bible in Six Acts" Act 3: The King Chooses Israel 10:15-11 a.m. Activity Center, Game Room

Seekers with the Rev. Dick Elwood

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 9-14

Adults

Classes and activities in the Activity Center will not meet Monday through Thursday, Oct. 9-12, due to the Joy of Giving Market.

St. Martin's 20s & 30s

Wednesday, Oct. 11 7-9 p.m. | Chapel Reception Hall

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. 12 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. 14 | 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, Oct. 12 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, Oct. 11 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. 11 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.

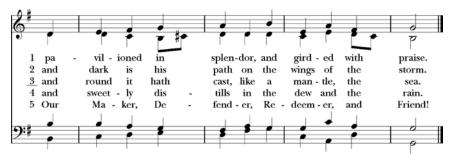
HOLY EUCHARIST

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"To God Alone on High" by Johann Sebastian Bach

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

0 wor - ship all glo - rious 1 the King, a bove! 2 0 tell of his might! 0 sing of his grace! 3 The of earth, with its store won - ders un told, Thy boun - ti ful care, what tongue cite? 4 can re 5 Frail chil - dren frail, of dust, and fee ble as grate - ful 1 0 lv sing his power and his love! 2 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o рy space. 3 might - y, thy hath found - ed of Al power old, 4 It breathes in the shines in the light; air; it find thee $\mathbf{5}$ in thee do we trust, nor to fail; Our shield de fend - er, the An - cient Days, 1 and of 2 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form, 3 hath stab - lished it fast bv a change - less de cree, hills, 4 it streams from the it de scends the plain, to $\mathbf{5}$ thy mer - cies, how ten - der! how firm the end! to



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

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: 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

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSONPsalm 25:1-8

1	To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; *
	let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
2	Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
	let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
3	Show me your ways, O Lord, *
	and teach me your paths.
4	Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
	for you are the God of my salvation;
	in you have I trusted all the day long.
5	Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
	for they are from everlasting.
6	Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
	remember me according to your love
	and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
7	Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
	therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
8	He guides the humble in doing right *
	and teaches his way to the lowly.
Reader: The Word of the Lord.	
People: Thanks be to God.	

All stand.



Words: German composite; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt.; Music: St. Elizabeth, melody from Schlesische Volkslieder, 1842; harm. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867–1953).

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

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



Words: German composite; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt.; Music: St. Elizabeth, melody from Schlesische Volkslieder, 1842; harm. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867–1953).

Please be seated.

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 Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East; 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

Morten Lauridsen

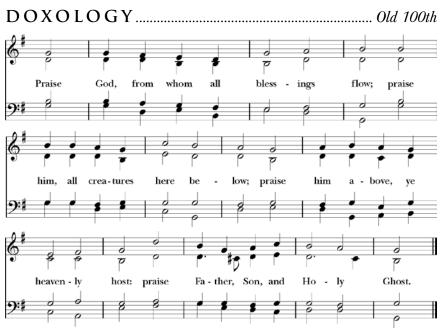
O Nata Lux de lumine Jesu redemptor saeculi Dignare Clemens supplicum Laudes preces que sumere. Qui carne quondam contegi Dignatus est pro perditis Nos membra confer effici Tui beati corporis.

O born light of light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, mercifully deem worthy and accept the praises and prayers of your supplicants. Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost ones, grant us to be made members of your holy body.

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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.

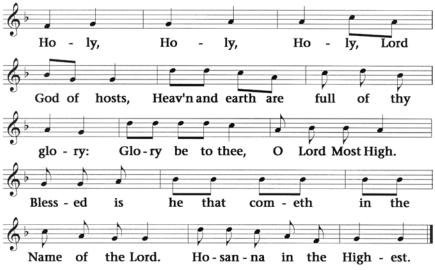
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

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., 11:15 a.m. and 6 p.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.

FRACTION ANTHEM Celtic Alleluia



Text: Celtic Alleluia, Christopher Walker; Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker; © 1985, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, public by OCP Publications. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under LicenSingOnline #U3219.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Then may be said by the Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

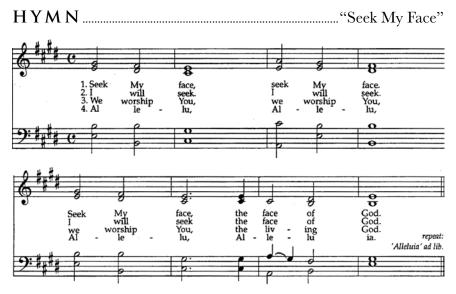
The Celebrant says the Invitation.

All Christians who have been baptized with water and in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and are permitted to receive Holy Communion in their own church are welcome to do so on this occasion. If you do not wish to receive one or both Elements, cross your arms over your chest and the Clergy will give you a blessing. Please tell the Clergy administering Communion if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

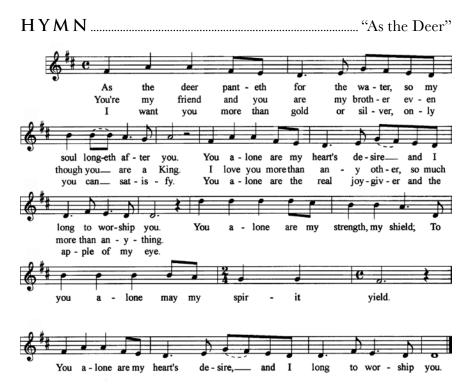
ANTHEM "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" John Rutter

The Lord bless you and keep you: The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

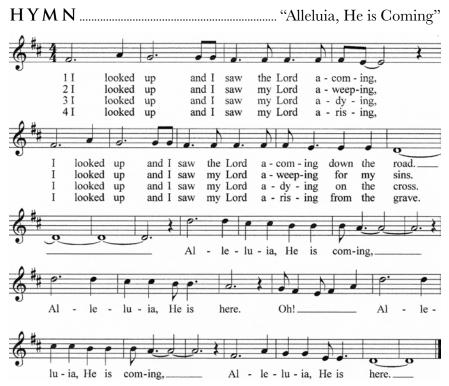
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After Communion, the Celebrant says (kneel) Let us pray.

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.



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).

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

On the occasion of their marriage by Kirstin Keely Hughes and Brett Hamilton Epler



BIRTHS July 4

Robert Fitzgibbons "Fitz" Board Son of Emily and Alex Board



B A P T I S M S

Sept. 30 Vivienne Margaret Glass



SYMPATHY Aug. 21 Dorwayne Phelps Hinde

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

SERMON NOTES

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE OLD TESTAMENTExodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE EPISTLEPhilippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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** Carolyn Alban Katie and Harvey Altmann Patsy Angel Judith Arnold Ally Babineaux Shelly Bain Denice Bass Kathy Beadnell Bob Beelev Larry Biedenharn Cory Blackman Dianne Brock Kenny Brown Nancy Burrows Paul Case Cole Cattan Debbie Chernosky 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

Cissy Gully Gladys Halbouty Ann Halverson Mollie Hill JoLynne Huddelston Marilyn Ingham Nicole Jabbari Mary and Jim Jennings Mary Anne Kannard Dick Kilday Anne Kurtzahn Amy Lacy Reggie Lang Rhea Latta Bruce Michael Lee Stan Leong Shawn Levenson Patricia Levy Nancy Liles Nicole Lockney Ryan Logan Marie Lord Ronnie Martin Jeffrev Martinson Jack Mayfield Deanna McCool Janet McDaniel Sandra McHenry Barbara McMahon Michelle McStravick Margaret Milner Kate Moorman Stuart Nixon Andrew O'Malley Bob Paddock **Jim Paddock** Patty Pate Judy Peach Betty Polando Carol Postal Stephen Preston Ophelia Pujol

Heather Rathnau Ted Reed Marjorie Reeks Monica Rivera John Davis Roady Joe Rodriguez Kathryn S. Joan Scales Suzzy Schuwerk Helen and Jim Shaffer Caroline Shanahan Clif Shoemake Bob Spencer Jan and Jim Stokes Iulie 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 Eric and family Henry Holden Jay 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 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 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 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.



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.



2024 Stewardship is here! Please join us and prayerfully consider what St. Martin's means to you and your family and make an annual commitment in the form of an annual pledge. We are grateful for your stewardship pledges. Your generosity makes everything possible.

To make your pledge online, visit bit.ly/smec2024stewardship

Questions? Contact Ashley Pratka, Director of Development, at apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 346-335-8658.



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.

JOY OF GIVING ECW PANTRY

Make your holiday entertainment a breeze! Purchase Joy of Giving ECW Pantry items at the Market.

- 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!

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.

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.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Chat with Amistad Children

Tuesday, Oct. 10 | 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Spend some of your Tuesday night getting to know the children and Mama Isabel in Casa San Martin in Cochabamba, Bolivia over Zoom. All ages are welcome, and a translator will be available.

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

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

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PRAYER SERVICE

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.

DONATE BLOOD SAVE LIV

Monday, Oct. 16

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9 a.m.–3 p.m. **Student Life Center**

Schedule your next appointment at bit.ly/smecblooddrive

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

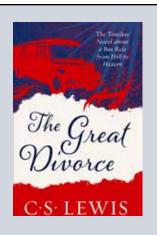


EAT. **DRINK. BRING I.D.**



EVENING GROUP

Tuesday, Oct. 17 | 7-8:30 p.m. Children's Life Center, Room 109 and Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinliteveningzoom



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 "The Great Divorce" by C.S. Lewis.

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





WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18 Noon–1 p.m. • Children's Life Center, Large Pod

Nurturing the Spiritual Life of Children led by Ashley Monachelli, *Director of Children's Ministry*

St. Martin's Children's Ministry presents a new series developed especially for parents of young children. These discussions are designed to grow your love of Jesus and what it means to live according to God's Word. Grab lunch from Café St. Martin's and join us for the conversations.

For more information, contact Ashley Monachelli at amonachelli@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3816.

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.





PARISH CHOIR CONCERT

Thursday, Oct. 19 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. The Church Under the direction of Keith Lathrom, Choral Director of the Adult Choir, the Parish Choir will present a concert of exciting choral music accompanied by brass, timpani and the *Gloria Dei* organ. The centerpiece of the concert will be the moving "Gloria" by English sacred music composer, John Rutter.

The performance will also feature Dr. David Henning, Director of Music and Parish Organist, performing two solo pieces featuring the *Gloria Dei* Organ's colorful palette of sounds. We hope you will attend this exciting event!

For more information, contact Keith Lathrom at klathrom@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3815.



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 \$250

For more information, contact TD at td@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-830-4132.



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, Oct. 20 5:30-8:30 p.m. ★ Children's Life Center

The Children's Ministry will offer an opportunity for parents to enjoy quality time while knowing that their children are safe, enjoying a fun evening.

To register, visit: **bit.ly/parentsnightout2023** *First child registered is* \$25 • *Each additional child is* \$10

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

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: Paying for Aging

OCTOBER 9

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



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.



Mrs. Whitney Gormley Vestry Representative Morning



Mr. Ryan LaRue 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. 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 lneilson@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

The Rev. Gillian (Gill) B. Keyworth Deacon 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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