

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 19, 2023



OUR MISSION

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



ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

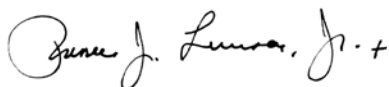
FROM THE RECTOR

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

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

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

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



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

Prayers Before Worship

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

NOTICES

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

St. Martin's asks that anyone coming into a worship service not bring oversized or large backpacks.

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

NOVEMBER 19

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Dick Elwood

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 Prayer: Real Prayer – Matthew 6:7-15

10:15-11 a.m.

Bagby Parish Hall

Contemplative Prayer Hour with the Rev. Sharron Cox

10:15-11 a.m.

Pastoral Care Center, Bride's Parlor

Family Life Class with Mr. Ryan Presley

"Advent Traditions: Part 1"

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@smec.org.*

7-1-7 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@smec.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@smec.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@smec.org.

NOVEMBER 20-25

Adults

St. Martin's Campus will close at noon Wednesday, Nov. 22 through Saturday, Nov. 25, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, Nov. 20

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@smec.org.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, Nov. 21

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@smec.org.

Blanket Ladies

Wednesday, Nov. 22

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@smec.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 “This is a Happy Land” arr. George Shearing

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

*HYMN 598 ... “Lord Christ, When First Thou Cam’st to Earth”

1 Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth, up - on a cross they
2 O awe - ful Love, which found no room in life where sin de -
3 New ad - vent of the love of Christ, shall we a - gain re -
4 O wound - ed hands of Je - sus, build in us thy new cre -

bound thee, and mocked thy sav - ing king - ship then
nied thee, and, doomed to death, must bring to doom
fuse thee, till in the night of hate and war
a - tion; our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled,

by thorns with which they crowned thee; and still our wrongs
the powers which cru - ci - fied thee, till not a stone
we per - ish as we lose thee? From old un - faith
we wait thy rev - e - la - tion: O love that tri -

may weave thee now new thorns to pierce that
was left on stone, and all those na - tions'
our souls re - lease to seek the king - dom
umphs o - ver loss, we bring our hearts be -

stead - y brow, and robe of sor - row round thee.
pride, o'er-thrown, went down to dust be - side thee!
of thy peace, by which a - lone we choose thee.
fore thy cross, to fi - nish thy sal - va - tion.

Words: Walter Russell Bowie (1882–1969), alt.; Music: *Mit Freuden zart*, melody from “Une pastourelle gentille,” 1529; adapt. *Psaumes cinquante de David*, 1547, and *Kirchengesang darinnen die Heubtartikel des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset*, 1566; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), after Heinrich Reimann (19th cent.); Copyright: Words: By permission of the family of Walter Russell Bowie.

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

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

The Celebrant says

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

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



Praise, my soul, the King of hea - ven;
to his feet thy tri - bute bring; ran - somed,
healed, re - stored, for - gi - ven, e - ver - more his
prai - ses sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia! Praise the e - ver - las - ting King.

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

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSON 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand.

*HYMN 652 (vs. 1-2).....“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

1 Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for - give our fool - ish
 2 In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, be - side the Syr - ian
 3 Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, till all our striv - ings
 4 Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy cool - ness and thy

1 ways! Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind, in
 2 sea, the gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, let
 3 cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and
 4 balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire; speak

1 pur - er lives thy ser - vice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.
 2 us, like them, with - out a word, rise up and fol - low thee.
 3 let our or - dered lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.
 4 through the earth - quake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

Words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892), alt.; Music: *Rest*, Frederick Charles Maker (1844–1927).

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPELMatthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 24.

*HYMN 652 (vs. 3-4) “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

1 Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for - give our fool - ish
2 In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, be - side the Syr - ian
3 Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, till all our striv - ings
4 Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy cool - ness and thy

1 ways! Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind, in
2 sea, the gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, let
3 cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and
4 balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire; speak

1 pur - er lives thy ser - vice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.
2 us, like them, with - out a word, rise up and fol - low thee.
3 let our or - dered lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.
4 through the earth - quake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

Words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892), alt.; Music: *Rest*, Frederick Charles Maker (1844–1927).

Please be seated.

THE SERMON “Like a Thief in the Night”

The Rev. R. Wesley Arning

THE NICENE CREED *(stand)*

Celebrant and People

I believe in one God,

**the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

**the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation**

**came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the**

Virgin Mary,

**and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to
the Scriptures,**

**and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father,
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,

**who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped**

**and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe one holy catholic and
apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission
of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(kneel)*

Minister and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for thy holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

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

That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

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

That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, Sylvester, our
Mayor, and the Congress and the Courts; and for all who govern and
hold authority in the nations of the World;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in thy sight.

We pray for those for whom our prayers have been requested,
especially ____; for those who are hospitalized, especially ____; and for
those on our continuing prayer list; have compassion on those who
suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

We pray for those who have died, especially ____; give to the departed
eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We give thee thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially those remembered today with Altar flowers, ____; and we praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

In this moment of silence, let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

A period of silence, during which people may add their own petitions quietly in the privacy of their hearts.

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you.” Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Minister says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A moment of silence is observed.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *(stand)*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 28 for upcoming events.

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM “O Radiant Dawn”

James MacMillan

O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, ‘The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.’ Amen.

Text: Antiphon for 21 December © 2008 by Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers Ltd

AT THE PRESENTATION *(stand)*

(8 a.m. only in place of sung Doxology)

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

DOXOLOGY *Old 100th*

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

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

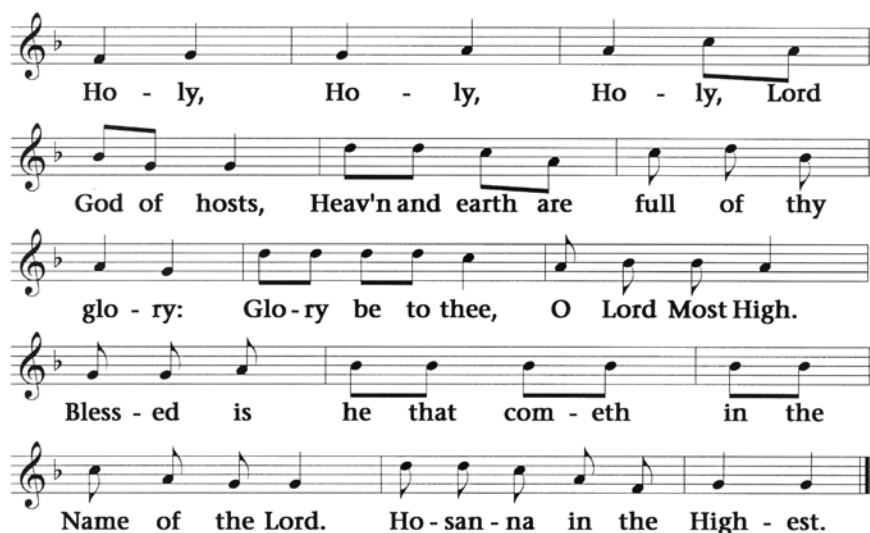
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

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.

AN T H E M “Now Thank We All Our God”
Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. Hal Hopson

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices; who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices; who from our mother’s arms has blest us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. (PD). Tune: *NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT*, Johann Cruger, 1598-1662 (PD). Music: from Cantata 79, *Gott, der Herr, ist Sohn’ und Schild*, Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750 (PD). Copyright 2011 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP) A division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc., St. Louis, MO

H Y M N “As the Deer”

As the deer pant - eth for the wa - ter, so my
You're my friend and you are my broth - er ev - en
I want you more than gold or sil - ver, on - ly
soul long - eth af - ter you. You a - lone are my heart's de - sire— and I
though you— are a King. I love you more than an - y oth - er, so much
you can— sat - is - fy. You a - lone are the real joy - giv - er and the
long to wor - ship you. You a - lone are my strength, my shield; To
more than an - y - thing.
ap - ple of my eye.
you a - lone may my spir - it yield.
You a - lone are my heart's de - sire,— and I long to wor - ship you.

Words and Music: Martin Nystrom; CCLI Song #1431; © 1984 Maranatha Praise, Inc.; All rights Reserved. CCLI #805314.

HYMN 178 “Alleluia, Alleluia”

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the
ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give
Praise to his Name.

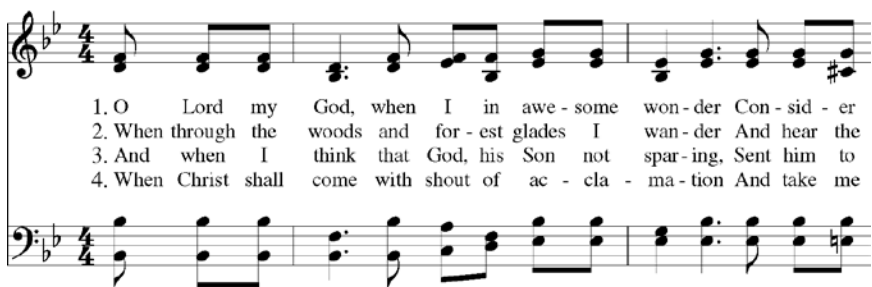
1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
Now we shall live for ev - er.
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior. Al - le -

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

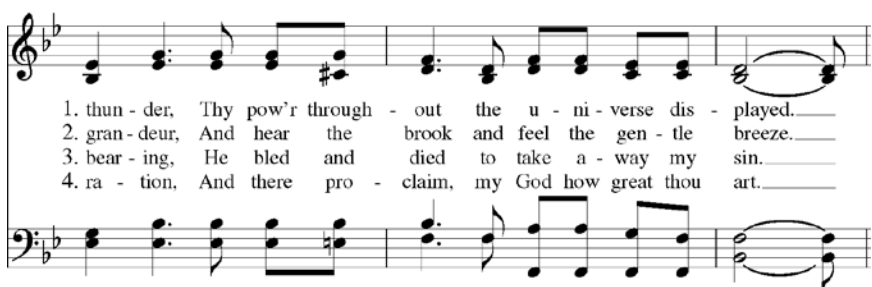
HYMN "How Great Thou Art"



1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der Con - sid - er
 2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
 3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to
 4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



1. all the worlds* thy hands have made, I see the stars I hear the roll - ing*
 2. birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 3. die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
 4. home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



1. thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played.
 2. gran - deur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze.
 3. bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin.
 4. ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my God how great thou art.



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee: How great Thou



Words: Stuart K. Hine (b. 1899); Music: Swedish Folk Melody; arr. Stuart K. Hine; Copyright: Words and arr. © 1953. Renewed 1981 MANNA MUSIC, INC. 15510 Stanford, Suite 101, Valencia, CA 91355. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

After Communion, the Celebrant says (kneel)

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

At 9 and 11:15 a.m., after the Post-Communion Prayer, members of the Shepherd's Guild may come forward. The priest or deacon gives the Sacrament to the Eucharistic visitors, saying
In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

All stand.

HYMN 555 “Lead On, O King Eternal”

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease;
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears;

hence - forth in fields of con - quest thy tents shall be our home:
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er thy face ap - pears.

through days of prep - a - ra - tion thy grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 Thy cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light:

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 but deeds of love and mer - cy, the heaven - ly king - dom comes.
 the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Words: Ernest Warburton Shurtleff (1862–1917); Music: *Lancashire*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813–1879).

THE DISMISSAL

The Minister says the Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

VOLUNTARY “Toccata”
Johann Pachelbel

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

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for those confirmed and received at our Nov. 18 Confirmation service

In thanksgiving for the baptism of Reece Kenedy Halverson

by her grandparents, Margie and Bin Halverson and Karen and Ross Jennings

In thanksgiving for the sixty-first wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Frank V.

Kotar on November 2

by their children, F. Edward Kotar and Cindy J. Wilson

In memory of José Luis Bravo

by Deborah Mayes Bravo



BAPTISMS

Nov. 11 Clifford Hoffman Vaughn

Landry Louise Vaughn

Asa Lou Uchida Wooten



WEDDINGS

Nov. 11 Margaret Louise Strode and Thomas Edgar Smith, Jr.



SYMPATHY

Oct. 11 Roland Michael Mills

Oct. 23 Mildred Tonn

Oct. 28 William “Trey” Crayton Nelson III

Oct. 29 Beverly Garrett Neath Haltom

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

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE OLD TESTAMENTJudges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

THE PSALMPsalm 123

- 1 To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

SERMON NOTES

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	Amy Heath	Stephen Preston
Bobbie Adams	Mollie Hill	Ophelia Pujol
Carolyn Alban	JoLynne Huddelston	Heather Rathnau
Katie and Harvey Altmann	Marilyn Ingham	Ted Reed
Patsy Angel	Nicole Jabbari	Marjorie Reeks
Judith Arnold	Nisha Jains	Monica Rivera
Ally Babineaux	Mary and Jim Jennings	John Davis Roady
Shelly Bain	Mary Anne Kannard	Joe Rodriguez
Denice Bass	Candi Keebler	Kathryn S.
Kathy Beadnell	Dick Kilday	Joan Scales
Bob Beeley	Anne Kurtzahn	Suzzy Schuwerk
Rev. Dr. Christopher and Shannon Beeley	Amy Lacy	Helen and Jim Shaffer
Larry Biedenharn	Reggie Lang	Caroline Shanahan
Cory Blackman	Rhea Latta	Clif Shoemake
Kenny Brown	Bruce Michael Lee	Bob Spencer
Cole Cattin	Stan Leong	Jan and Jim Stokes
Debbie Chernosky	Shawn Levenson	Kenneth Swann
Doug Clarke	Patricia Levy	Paul Therrien
Robin Cogdell	Nancy Liles	Carlotta Thomas
Higdon Compton, Jr.	Nicole Lockney	John Treanor
Hallie Cooley	Ryan Logan	Christine Turner
Michael Craig	Marie Lord	Mae Joyce and Grant Wagner
Gail Davis	Bella Martin	Eammon Walsh
Marcella Davis	Ronnie Martin	Mary Watters
Susan Davis	Jeffrey Martinson	Walt Williams
Bobby de Sosa	Jack Mayfield	Eric Zoerb
Linda de Sosa	Deanna McCool	Beaux
Don DeWalch	Janet McDaniel	Catherine
Ross Dunn	Sandra McHenry	Donald
Kiersten Dyke	Barbara McMahon	Elizabeth
Jim Easterling	Michelle McStravick	Elizabeth
Stacey and John Elliott	Margaret Milner	Eric and family
Nancy Ellison	Kate Moorman	Henry
Charles Flores	Stuart Nixon	Holden
Alan Funderburg	Ann Noel	Jay
Julie G.	Deborah Oliver	Laura
Catherine Gonzales	Andrew O'Malley	Len
Nancy Gore	Bob Paddock	Lynne
Joyce Gubbs	Jim Paddock	Martha
Shea Guinn	Patty Pate	Mary
Cissy Gully	Judy Peach	Mary Jane
Gladys Halbouty	Betty Polando	Susan
Ann Halverson	Carol Postal	Tom
	Joseph Powell	Wayne

Please be advised that we will be updating the Continuing Prayers list twice a year in the weeks after Easter and All Saints' Day. The list will be completely redone. To add or remove someone on the Continuing Prayers list, please contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vriviera@smec.org.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

Prayers for those on Active Military Duty in the Armed Forces:

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

Please be advised that each year the week after Veterans Day, this list will be completely redone. To add or remove someone on the Military Service Prayers list, please contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vriviera@smec.org.



CHRISTMAS *Flowers*



**Remember a loved one with poinsettias to
decorate St. Martin's worship spaces and the
Gardens of the Holy Cross.**

All requests received by 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 20, will be included in the Christmas Flowers listing available in the worship booklets at all Christmas services. Any requests received after the deadline will be published in worship booklets in the weeks following Christmas.

Make your flower dedication online at

bit.ly/ChristmasAltarFlowers (case sensitive)

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



Joyful Living JOYFUL GIVING

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@smec.org or 346-335-8658.

STUDENT WORSHIP NIGHT

SUNDAY, NOV. 19 • 5 – 6 P.M. • STUDENT LIFE CENTER

Join the Student Ministries staff and St. Martin's musicians as we spend time in Worship. Let's prepare for a week of Thanksgiving and Gratitude together.

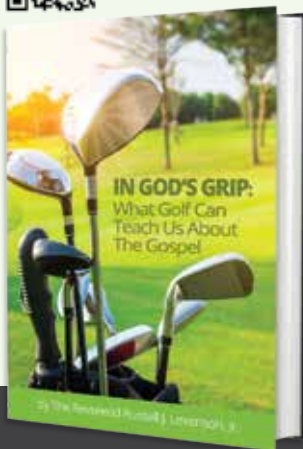
For more information, contact Florence Ritchie at
fritchie@smec.org or 713-985-3843.

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



Order Your Copy Today!

<https://a.co/d/9hypX4Q>



"This is a book about God's help."

— Russell J. Levenson, Jr.

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

"This delightful little book on what golf can teach us about the most important questions people have about their lives is a truly great read. As a former teenager caddy at the oldest 18-hole course in North American (the Chicago Golf Club), who caddied for the likes of Charlie Coody, Ben Crenshaw, Tom Weiskopf and others, and is pleased to serve as a divinity school dean, I recommend it wholeheartedly."

— Dr. Doug Sweeney, Dean of Beeson Divinity School

Place orders now at **St. Martin's Gift Shoppe**
or wherever fine books are sold, contact Barbara
Shoemaker at bshoemaker@smec.org or
713-985-3834.

DONATE BLOOD SAVE LIVES

Monday, Nov. 20

9 a.m.–1:30 p.m. • Student Life Center

*Schedule your next appointment at
bit.ly/smecblooddrive*

*Donate blood and
receive a warm
cozy blanket!*



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



2024 WHCSA Basketball League at St. Martin's

Registration closes December 10!



- 8-Game schedule runs January–March.
- Pre-K (age 4) through 5th Grade (age 11) may register.
- Registration (\$245) includes uniforms and pictures. Coaches and volunteers also needed!



Register today at bit.ly/smecbball2024



For questions, contact Emily Lermann, Director of Basketball Operations, at 239-410-8749 or emily.lermann@fitcasa.com.

To learn more about the Activity Center, contact Sarah-Hampton Cambas at 713-985-3835 or scambas@stmartinsepiscopal.org.

THANKSGIVING DAY *Service*

THURSDAY, NOV. 23
10 a.m. • The Church

All Parishioners, family and friends are invited to celebrate Holy Eucharist and give thanks for God's bounty and our blessings.

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



THE GATHERING

For church members and others in our community who experience memory loss and their caregivers

November 27
10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Bagby Parish Hall



Nov. 27
Jane Vandiver

A WALK IN THE WOODS

For more information, contact Kathy Tellepsen at 713-301-4786 or kattellepsen@me.com.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Hosted by the Episcopal Church Women of St. Martin's

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

10 a.m. • Parish Life Center

The joys of the seasons come to life for children up to 12 to celebrate Jesus' birthday and enjoy a fun-filled celebration. Activities include a reading of the Christmas Story, camel rides, photos with Santa, face painting, balloon art, crafts and more holiday fun.

To sign up for the Reindeer Food donations, visit

bit.ly/ecwreindeerfood

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

EL SALVADOR INFORMATION MEETING

SUNDAY, DEC. 3

10:15 A.M.

ACTIVITY CENTER, FAMILY ROOM

Trip Dates: March 9–14, 2024

Adults and families will be heading back to San Salvador, El Salvador to serve with St. Martin's ministry partner Kurt Ackermann and his organization Sus Hijos.

Mission Trip registration now open at
bit.ly/2024elsalvadormissiontrip

For more information, contact Courtney Kearns
at ckearns@smec.org or 713-985-3819.





Advent Festival

SUNDAY, DEC. 3

4–6 P.M. • BAGBY PARISH HALL

Please join us for an Advent celebration! Make a family Advent wreath then enjoy a pancake dinner. Fresh evergreens and supplies will be available to make the wreath. Please come join the fun!

To register and purchase a ticket, visit bit.ly/adventfamilyfest.

(tickets are \$5 per family member)

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



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN OF ST. MARTIN'S PRESENTS



Christmas Coffee

Monday, December 4 • 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

At the home of Susie and Jim McCulloch

Christmas casual attire • Carpooling is highly encouraged • Valet parking will be offered

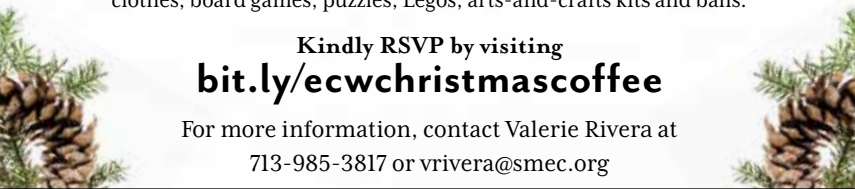
In the spirit of the season, please bring an unwrapped gift for children ages 5-17 to be given to DePelchin Children's Center and Christian Community Service Center.

Gift Wish List: Gift cards (\$15–\$20 to Walmart, Target, Academy, H-E-B or Kroger), clothes, board games, puzzles, Legos, arts-and-crafts kits and balls.

Kindly RSVP by visiting

bit.ly/ecwchristmascoffee

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



SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR *Healing and Wholeness* *Order of St. Luke*

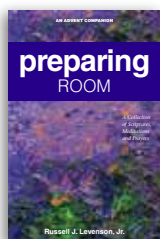
St. Martin's International Order of St. Luke (OSL) Healing Community offers a service of prayer for healing and wholeness on the first Wednesday of each month. This short service is held for anyone in need of prayer for themselves, friends or family.

Next Service
Wednesday, Dec. 6 | 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.

Advent Resources

Prepare for this solemn and wonderful season with these special resources:



“Preparing Room” **by the Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.**

- Scriptures key to telling the Christmas story as it centers on Jesus
- Brief meditations to help readers step more deeply into the Advent story
- Reflections on how to prepare just a bit more room for the King
- Prayers from Judeo-Christian tradition or by the author



“Advent Wreath Devotional” **by Laura and Russ Levenson**

The “Advent Wreath Devotional” in both adult and children’s versions provides a framework within which to traverse the Advent season.

Available for sale through St. Martin’s Gift Shoppe.
Contact Barbara Shoemaker at bshoemaker@smec.org or 713-985-3840 for more information.



Navigating Grief and Stress During the Winter Holidays (and Beyond)

DECEMBER 13

Presented by

Wednesday at Noon CT
Available In-Person & Online

Register at hhci.org/events

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



HHCI CEO
Matthew Thornton, PhD



HHCI CEO
Madeline Smith, MSW,
LCSW & PhD



HHCI CARES Director
Peggy Greenmeyer, PhD



HHCI CARES
Community Aging Representative
Debbie Smith, DSW, MA, MSW

WAYS *to* GIVE



TEXT

Text SMEC to 73256



MAIL

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



ONLINE

bit.ly/smecgiving



BEQUESTS

Contact: Ashley Pratkan at
apratka@smec.org or 346-335-8658



TRANSFER OF ASSETS

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

For all stewardship questions, contact Debbie Hutchison at
dhutchison@smec.org or 713-985-3803.

OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

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ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

Vestry Executive Committee

Mr. Tommy Ford, *Senior Warden*
Mrs. Michelle Bain, *Junior Warden*
Mr. Gib Surles, *Missions Chair*
Mr. Dan Meyer, *Treasurer*
Mr. Ryan LaRue, *Clerk*
Mr. Matt Anderson, *Past Senior Warden*
Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., *Parish Stewardship Chair*
Mr. Andy Harvin, *Chancellor**

Vestry Members

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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
Morning



Mrs. Whitney Gormley
Vestry Representative
Evening

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ
The Head of This Church



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

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FOR REFERENCE.

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