LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Christ the King

November 26, 2023



OUR MISSION

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



ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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

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

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

June J. Luna, Jr. +

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

Prayers Before Worship

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

NOTICES

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

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

NOVEMBER 26

Christian Education for Adults, Children's Ministry and 7-1-7 Students will not be offered today in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Please join us next Sunday, Dec. 3, when Christian Education classes resume.

The 6 p.m. Traditional worship service will not be offered today.

NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 2

Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, Nov. 27 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. 28 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. 29 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.

Church Tours

Wednesday, Nov. 29 11 a.m.-noon | The Church

The Docent Guild offers a formal tour of The Church and Dr. Henning will perform on the Gloria Dei organ. To schedule a group tour or special tours of The Church windows, Christ Chapel or Campus gardens, please contact the Docent Line at 713-830-4117. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@smec.org.

Order of St. Luke (OSL) Healing Ministry Study Group

Wednesday, Nov. 29 4:30-6 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom

Learn and grow in the practice of prayer for healing, with an opportunity to train as an OSL prayer minister. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@smec.org.

St. Martin's 20s & 30s

Wednesday, Nov. 29 7-9 p.m. | Children Life Center

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

Parish Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Nov. 30 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@smec.org.

Men

Men of St. Martin's

Thursday, Nov. 30 7-8 a.m. | Bagby Parish Hall

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

Dads' Bible Study

Thursday, Nov. 30 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@smec.org.

Women

Christian Life Study

Tuesday, Nov. 28 – Evening Group | 6:30-8 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom Thursday, Nov. 30 – Day Group | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | Parish Life Center and via Zoom

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

The Moms' Group

Wednesday, Nov. 29 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@smec.org.

7-I-7 Students

Life Groups Wednesday, Nov. 29 6-8 p.m. | Student Life Center

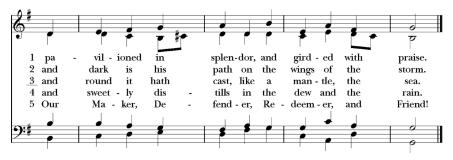
Students in grades 6-12 connect with their peers for fun activities and great discussions about faith and life. Please bring \$5 to cover the cost of dinner. For more information, contact the Rev. Jane Ferguson at 346-335-8659 or jferguson@smec.org.

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.

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

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



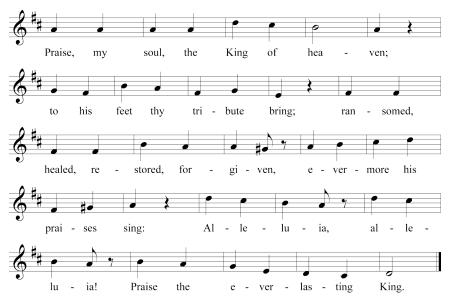
Words: Robert Grant (1779–1838); Music: Hanover, att. William Croft (1678–1727).

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. and 11:15 a.m.)



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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray. (kneel)

The Celebrant says the Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSON Ezekiel 34:11-17

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats.

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

All stand.

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 $^{*}HYM\,N~6\,4\,5$ (vs. 1-3)...... "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821–1877); para. Psalm 23; Music: St. Columba, Irish melody, harm. Hymnal 1982.

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining lectionary for the day is on page 24.

&‡‡ 0 The 1 King of love my shep-herd is, whose good - ness Where 2 flow, streams of liv - ing wa - ter my ran-somed * 3 Per fool - ish oft I verse and strayed, but yet in * 4 In death's dark vale Ι fear no ill with thee, dear Thou ta - ble sight; 5 spread'st а in my thy unc - tion 6 And so through all the length of days thy good - ness d. 0 . 0 fail eth Ι lack if nev er; noth ing 1 2 soul he lead eth, and where the ver dant 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul der thy 4 Lord, be side me; rod and staff my $\mathbf{5}$ grace be stow eth; and oh, what trans port 6 fail eth Good Shep herd, may Ι nev er: 0 0. 1 I am his, and he is mine for ev er. pas - tures 2 with food les tial feed eth. grow, ce <u>3</u> gent ly laid, and home, re . joic ing, brought me. com thy guide 4 fort still, cross be fore to me. $\mathbf{5}$ of de light from thy pure chal ice flow eth! -6 sing thy praise with in thy house for ev er. -

*HYMN 345 (vs. 4-6)...... "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23; Music: St. Columba, Irish melody, harm. Hymnal 1982.

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 Church of Nigeria; 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 29 for upcoming events.

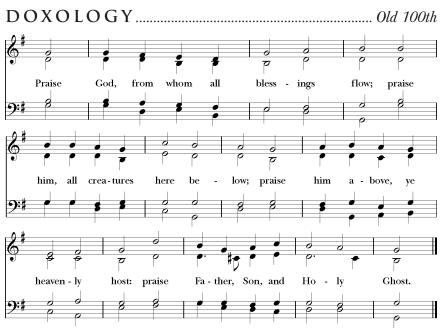
THE OFFERTORY

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: For the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away.

Words: Revelation 21:1-4; Music: Edgar L. Bainton © 1928 by Novello & Co. Limited. Copyright renewed 1956.

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.

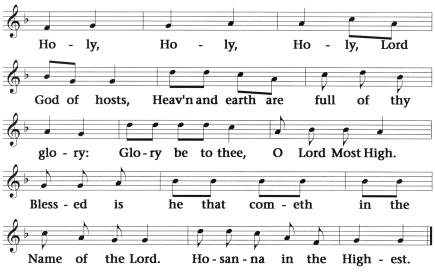
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord thou hast received us as thy sons and daughters, made us citizens of thy kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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



John Merbecke, 1549. Copyright © 1940, 1943, 1961. The Church Pension Fund.

The Celebrant continues (kneel)

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN**.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant and People

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

(8 a.m. only in place of sung Fraction Anthem)Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



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

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Then may be said by the Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant says the Invitation.

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

Felix Mendelssohn

Lord, in thy mercy grant us peace throughout all generations; thou art alone our sword and shield, Lord who dost guide the nations. Defend us, O God, we pray thee.

Text: Martin Luther. Music: Felix Mendelssohn, edited by John Rutter. © 1996 Oxford University Press.

HYMN 508 "Breathe On Me, Breath of God" Breathe on Breath of God. life 1 me, fill me with а new, God, 2 Breathe on me, Breath of un - til mу heart is pure, 3 Breathe on Breath of God, till I am whol ly thine, me, 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall Ι nev er die; d 0. \overline{a} love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do. that I mav til with thee I will one will, do or to dure. un to en till all this earth - ly part me glows with thy fire \mathbf{di} vine. of thee the life but live with per - fect of thine e ter ni ty.

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



Used by Permission. Words: Caroline V. Sandell-Berg, 1855; trans. By Ernst W. Olson, 1925 TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA; Music: © 1925 renewed 1953 Augsburg/Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.



Title: Spirit of the Living God; Words: Daniel Iverson (1890–1977); Music: Daniel Iverson; Copyright: © 1935, 1963 Birdwing Music (a Division of the Sparrow Corp.) and BMG Songs, Inc. All Rights on Behalf of Birdwing Music Administered by BMG Songs, Inc. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. 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 494 "Crown Him With Many Crowns"



Words: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894); Music: Diademata, George Job Elvey (1816-1893).

THE DISMISSAL

The Minister says the Dismissal **People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

VOLUNTARY "Toccata"

Max Reger

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

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for Bobby Newman and King Newman by Molly Parr

In memory of Olive Horne Becker on the anniversary of her birthday by Linda Lester Griffin

In loving memory of my husband, John Lollar on the anniversary of his birthday by Klinka and his girls, Carolyn, Kristen and Sydney



BAPTISMS

Nov. 17 Reece Kenedy Halverson



W E D D I N G S

Nov. 18 Anabel Ricardo and Matthew Weisberger

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

ΤH	E PSALM	Psalm	100
1	Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *		
	serve the Lord with gladness		
	and come before his presence with a song.		
2	Know this: The Lord himself is God; *		
	he himself has made us, and we are his;		
	we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.		
3	Enter his gates with thanksgiving;		
	go into his courts with praise; *		
	give thanks to him and call upon his Name.		
4	For the Lord is good;		
	his mercy is everlasting; *		
	and his faithfulness endures from age to age.		
ΤН	E E P I S T L EEphesia	ans 1:15	5-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

SERMON NOTES

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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 Beeley Rev. Dr. Christopher and Shannon Beeley Larry Biedenharn Corv Blackman Kenny Brown Cole Cattan Debbie Chernosky Doug Clarke Robin Cogdell Higdon Compton, Jr. Hallie Coolev Michael Craig Gail Davis Marcella Davis Susan 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. Catherine Gonzales Nancy Gore Joyce Gubbs Shea Guinn Cissy Gully Betty Polando Gladys Halbouty Carol Postal Ann Halverson

Amy Heath Mollie Hill JoLynne Huddelston Marilyn Ingham Nicole Iabbari Nisha Jains Mary and Jim Jennings Mary Anne Kannard Candi Keebler Dick Kildav Anne Kurtzahn Amy Lacy Reggie Lang Rhea Latta Bruce Michael Lee Stan Leong Shawn Levenson Patricia Levv Nancy Liles Nicole Lockney Ryan Logan Marie Lord Bella Martin Ronnie Martin Jeffrey Martinson Jack Mayfield Deanna McCool Janet McDaniel Sandra McHenry Barbara McMahon Michelle McStravick Margaret Milner Kate Moorman Stuart Nixon Ann Noel Deborah Oliver Andrew O'Malley Bob Paddock Jim Paddock Patty Pate Judy Peach

Stephen Preston Ophelia Pujol Heather Rathnau Ted Reed Mariorie 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 Kenneth Swann Paul Therrien Carlotta Thomas John Treanor Christine Turner Mae Joyce and Grant Wagner Eammon Walsh Mary Watters Walt Williams Eric Zoerb Beaux Catherine Donald Elizabeth Elizabeth Eric and family Henry Holden Jay Laura Len Lynne Martha Mary Mary Jane Susan Tom 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 vrivera@smec.org.

Joseph Powell

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

SSgt Clint Bahme Lt. Col. Julian Benton 1st Lt. Benjamin Brown 1SG Tom Cadwallender 1SG Yonatan Cadwallender Lt. Col. Chris Davis Wesley Dodd Sgt. James Drury III James Eilers Major Parker Firestone Capt. Dom Flatt Daniel Goldman Max Goldman

lst Lt. Will Golinkin LCDR Bradley R. Hoffman Capt. Cody Horr Maj. Wesley J. Hunnell Dallas Wayne Hunter 2nd Lt. Stephen A. Jeckovich Staton Jobe Capt. Blake J. Kidd Lt. Cmdr. Kory Krebs Krystal Martinez PV2 Wills Masterson Ensign Ben Morris Capt. Jack Mullen

2nd Lt. Alex Mullen James W. Peoples Lt. Paul Piana LCMR David A. Pilko Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant PO1 Brian M. Powell SPC Joel Rowell Maj. Christian Schleider 2nd Lt. Jeffers Shaper 1st Lt. Grant Suter CPO Evan Tomlin

.....

Please 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 vrivera@smec.org.



On Saturday, Nov. 18, the Rt. Rev. Hector F. Monterroso, Bishop Assistant, presided over our Confirmation service. Please join us in congratulating those we welcomed to the Episcopal Church by confirmation and reception.

Confirmed Jacob Alexander Barham Nancy Hale Cobb Ann Cuclis Catherine Bezman Detchessahar Travis C. Harper Taylor Weylandt McLean Kiara Rankin Miglioretti Connor Neuhaus Roady Amy Arlene Stephens Benjamin Riley Stephens Emily Sullivan

Received

Aleeta Ellen Bureau Annie Janis Donald D. Kirby Shannon G. McNally Donald L. Nona, Jr.

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.



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.



ST. MARTIN'S

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



DePelchin's Children's Center

ANGEL TREE Christmas Gift Program

Gifts due to DePelchin: Friday, Dec. 1 ≪ 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

4815 Dickson St., Houston, TX 77007

Through the annual St. Martin's Angel Tree Project, volunteers purchase Christmas gifts for children in foster care, adoption and mental health services provided by DePelchin's Children's Center.



St. Martin's sponsors 250 children annually.

For more information, contact Outreach at 713-985-3811 or outreach@smec.org.

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sterlingsmarket.org

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 vrivera@smec.org.

SUNDAY, DEC. 3 4–6 P.M. • BAGBY PARISH HALL

Festival

Adven

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.

RIVERWAY

Celebration Sunday!

Celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries with Riverway!

SUNDAY, DEC. 3 Following the 11:15 a.m. services Parish Life Center Narthex

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

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



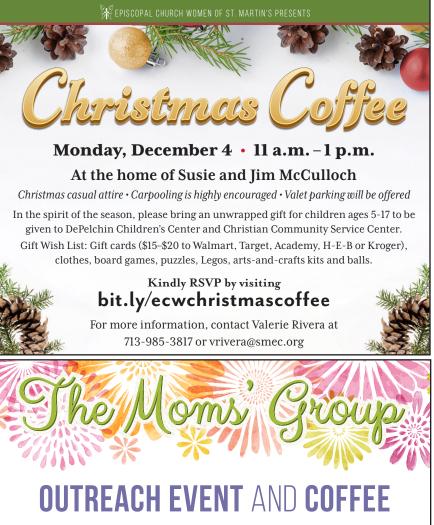
TOUR A GOTHIC-STYLE CHURCH WITHOUT LEAVING HOUSTON!

SUNDAY, DEC. 3 Following the 11:15 a.m. service Meet in the Narthex

S AR HOL

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St. Martin's docents offer free, public and private tours. Everyone is welcome regardless of religious affiliation. To schedule a tour, please call St. Martin's Docent Guild at 713-830-4117 and leave a contact name and number for a return call.



Wednesday, Dec. 6

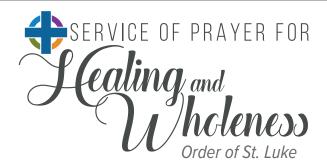
9:15–10:30 a.m.

Student Life Center Living Room

In this meeting, we will gather to put together hygiene kits and children's items for the Riverside Project.

To contribute to the Riverside Project Amazon wish list, visit a.co/fK6HVJ0.

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



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, contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or adeviney@smec.org.



THE PRAYERS OF ADVENT SPONSORED BY THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

SPONSORED BY THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

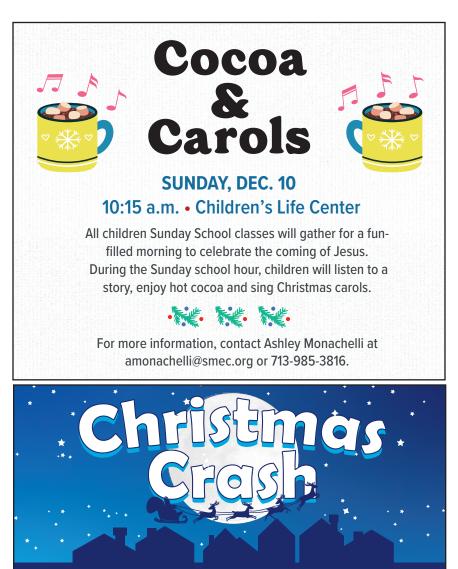
SATURDAY, DEC. 9 | 9 A.M.-NOON | PARISH LIFE CENTER

The Collects for the season of Advent cover the Advent themes of longing, preparation, waiting and return. St. Martin's Clergy will provide meditations on one of the four Advent Collects to prepare for the celebration of our Lord's birth. The Quiet Day will end with Noonday Prayer.



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





SUNDAY, DEC. 10 5 – 8 p.m. • Student Life Center For Students in Grades 6-12

Students are encouraged to bring a friend for an awesome night of games, contests dinner and prizes. Wear a tacky Christmas sweater, reindeer antlers or a festive Christmas outfit!

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



SUNDAY, DEC. 10 5 p.m. • Christ Chapel

This quiet and prayerful time apart from the bustle of holiday activities will nourish your soul as you continue preparations for the birth of Christ anew in your heart this Advent season!

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

SUNDAY, DEC. 10 7 P.M. PARISH LIFE CENTER

WAYNE & FRIENDS

BORN IS THE KING!

Wayne Watson, St. Martin's Director of Contemporary Music, opens the Christmas season with a gathering of talented musicians who will perform an unforgettable concert filled with instrumental Christmas classics, carols and modern Christmas compositions.

All are welcome! Bring family and friends!

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

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.



The Shepherd's Guild ministry complements the work of St. Martin's Clergy in visiting homebound Parishioners or those who reside in retirement and assisted living facilities.

The trained lay volunteers offer support, prayers and Holy Communion, being a physical reminder of Jesus' love for them and their value and importance within our church community.

To learn more about joining this ministry or to provide information about Parishioners who may benefit by the Shepherd's Guild, contact Deacon Gill at **gkeyworth@smec.org** or **346-335-8660.**

Training and support is provided.



HHCI[®] Hope and Healing Center & Institute

THE AJ WEISBERGER EDUCATION SERIES ON ADDICTION

What to Know About Fentanyl JANUARY 10

Wednesday at Noon 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 Alicia Kowalchuk, DO



OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. David Henning Director of Music and Parish Organist dhenning@smec.org

Mr. Keith Lathrom Choral Director of the Adult Choir klathrom@smec.org

Ms. Hannah Cen Associate Organist hcen@smec.org

Ms. Carole Nelson Coordinator of Children's Music Ministries cnelson@smec.org The Rev. Jane P. Ferguson Associate for Student and Family Ministries jferguson@smec.org

Mrs. Ashley Monachelli Director of Children's Ministry amonachelli@smec.org

Mrs. Kathy Johnson Director of Membership kjohnson@smec.org

Mrs. Barbara Piana Verger and Worship Coordinator bpiana@smec.org

ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

Vestry Executive Committee

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

Vestry Members

Mrs. Nancy Bynon Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes Mrs. Whitney Gormley Mr. Will Hedges Mr. Matt Mogas Mr. Roy W. Nichol Ms. Sherrie Perkins Mrs. Courtney Schilling Mr. Logan Walters Mr. Milton West

Associate Members

The Hon. James A. Baker, III, Special Counsel to
the Vestry*
Mr. David Harvin, Senior Council Representative
2023-2024
Mrs. Beth Reeves, Senior Council Representative
2023-2024
Mrs. Hope Huber, Altar Guild President
2023-2024
Mrs. Kathy Bennett, ECW President 2023-2024
Mr. Perry Ruthven, Men of St. Martin's President
2023-2024
Mr. Bob Porter, Usher Representative 2022-2024
*Denotes Associate Vestry filled at the discretion of the Rector.



Mr. Milton West Vestry Representative

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ

The Head of This Church



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



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



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



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



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



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





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



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



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



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



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



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

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

WE INVITE YOU TO Keep this booklet For reference.

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

STMARTINSEPISCOPAL.ORG