THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 21, 2024



OUR MISSION

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



FROM THE RECTOR

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

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

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

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

The Pay Dr. Puscell I Layonson In Page

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

Prayers Before Worship

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

NOTICES

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

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

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

JANUARY 21

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Marty Bastian

Lectionary-based Bible Study 8:55-9:25 a.m. Chapel Reception Hall

Theology for Life with Dr. Dave Peterson

"Dave on the Life of David: Lessons of Faith from One of the Old Testament's Most Famous Characters" 10:15-11 a.m.
Bagby Parish Hall

Family Life Class with the Rev. Alex Graham III

"Artificial Intelligence and the Christian Faith" 10:15-11 a.m.
Activity Center, Game Room

Spiritual Formation with the Rev. Sharron Cox

"Praying with Icons" 10:15-11 a.m. Founders' Hall

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.

Adult Confirmation with the Rev. John Sundara

10:15-11 a.m. Chapel Reception Hall

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

Outreach

Learn About Mission Work in El Salvador

Kurt Ackermann from Sus Hijos joins via Zoom to discuss mission work in El Salvador 10:15-11 a.m.

Vestry Conference Room

For more information about missions, contact Courtney Kearns 713-985-3819 or ckearns@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.

JANUARY 22-27

Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, Jan. 22

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, Jan. 23

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, Jan. 24 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.

St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Noon-3 p.m. | Activity Center, Upper Hall East

St. Clare's Guild undertakes a variety of needlepoint projects in worship spaces and for outreach programs. For more information, contact the Rev. Sharron Cox at 713-830-4131 or scox@smec.org.

Church Tours

Wednesday, Jan. 24

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, Jan. 24

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, Jan. 24

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, Jan. 25 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.

Sterling's Market

Saturday, Jan. 27 | Rain or Shine 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Corner of Woodway and Sage

Sterling's Market at St. Martin's Episcopal Church glorifies God through sharing the Gospel and the bounties of the earth with Parishioners, neighbors and visitors. For more information, contact Justin Avery at 713-985-3838 or info@sterlingsmarket.org.

Men

Men of St. Martin's

Thursday, Jan. 25 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, Jan. 25 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, Jan. 23 – Evening Group | 6:30-8 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom Thursday, Jan. 25 – 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, Jan. 24 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 346-335-8659 or jferguson@smec.org.

7-I-7 Students

Life Groups

Wednesday, Jan. 24 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.





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

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

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

The Celebrant says

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

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



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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Celebrant: Let us pray. (kneel)

The Celebrant says the Collect

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSON (morning services)..................Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgement.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith without works, and I by my works will show you my faith. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe — and shudder. Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith without works is barren? Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works. Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," and he was called the friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another road? For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.

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

All stand.



 $Words: Sts.\ 1-3, Philip\ Doddridge\ (1702-1751), alt.; st.\ 4, Isaac\ Watts\ (1674-1748), alt.; Music: \textit{Rockingham}, melody\ from\ \textit{Second\ Supplement to\ Psalmody\ in\ Miniature}, ca.\ 1780; adapt.\ Edward\ Miller\ (1731-1807); harm.\ Samuel\ Webbe\ (1740-1816).$

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And

immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining readings for the day are on page 26.



 $Words: Sts.\ 1-3, Philip\ Doddridge\ (1702-1751),\ alt.;\ st.\ 4,\ Isaac\ Watts\ (1674-1748),\ alt.;\ Music: \textit{Rockingham},\ melody\ from\ \textit{Second}\ Supplement\ to\ Psalmody\ in\ Miniature,\ ca.\ 1780;\ adapt.\ Edward\ Miller\ (1731-1807);\ harm.\ Samuel\ Webbe\ (1740-1816).$

Please be seated.

The Rev. Sharron L. Cox evening service

THE NICENE CREED (stand)

Celebrant and People

I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,

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

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation

came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the

Virgin Mary,

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to

the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of the Father,

and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

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

and glorified;

who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (kneel)

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

That we all may be one.

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

That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; the Clergy of this Parish; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Church of South India (United); 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, John, our Mayor, and the Congress and the Courts; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the World;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

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

That our works may find favor in thy sight.

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

That they may be delivered from their distress.

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

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

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

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

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Minister says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A moment of silence is observed.

Minister and People

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

Celebrant stands and says

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

THE PEACE (stand)

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

People: And with thy spirit.

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 30 for upcoming events.

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM	
Char	rles Wood

O Thou the Central Orb of righteous love, pure beam of the Most High, eternal light of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above. Come, quickly come, and let Thy glory shine, gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine. Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move, as stars about Thy throne, set in the height of God's ordaining counsel, as Thy sight gives measur'd grace to each, Thy power to prove. Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin, our nature all shall feel eternal day, in fellowship with Thee, transforming day to souls erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

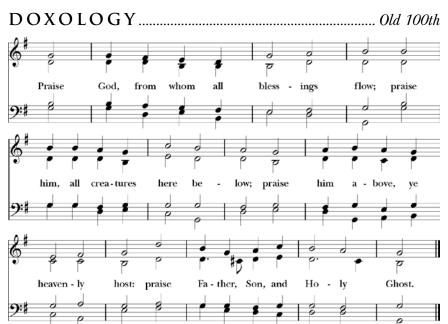
© 1915 by The Year Book Press. ARR.

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.



 $Words: Isaac \ Watts (1674-1748), para. \ of \ Psalm \ 117. \ St. \ 3, \ Thomas \ Ken (1637-1711); \ Music: \ \textit{Old 100th}, \ melody \ from \ \textit{Pseaumes octante trois de David}, \ 1551, \ alt.; \ harm. \ after \ Louis \ Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).$

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.

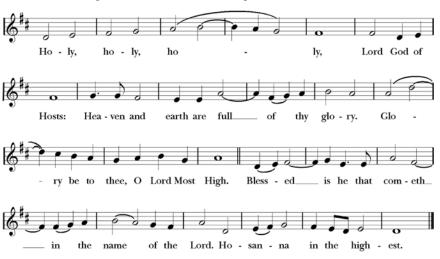
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.)



Music: From Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan (1880–1968); Copyright: By permission of Oxford University Press.

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

 ${\it Celebrant\ and\ People}$

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.

Then may be said

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant says the Invitation.

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

ANTHEM"Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake" Richard Farrant

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

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



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



Music and Text: Peter Scholtes; based on John 13:35; © 1966 by F.E.L. Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI #805314.



Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833–1890), alt.; Music: Down Ampney, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958); Copyright Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

At 9 and 11:15 a.m., after the Post-Communion Prayer, members of the Shepherd's Guild may come forward. The priest or deacon gives the Sacrament to the Eucharistic visitors, saying

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

All stand.





Words: Sabine Baring-Gould (1834–1924), alt.; Music: St. Gertrude, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842–1900).

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE PSALMPsalm 62:6-	14
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- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; * truly, my hope is in him.
- 7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, * my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor; *
 God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O people, * pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, * even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, * all of them together.
- 12 Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; * though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
- 13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, * that power belongs to God.
- 14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, * for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

On the occasion of their marriage

by Analise Eugenia Riddle and William Daniel Hughes III In thanksgiving for the 10th birthday of Anneliese and Carsten by Meredith and Dean Huffman In memory of Katherine Elledge Turley by her loving family



BIRTHS

Nov. 16 Charlotte Bintliff Moorman

Daughter of Katie and Blake Moorman Granddaughter of Ann and John Wooldridge Great Granddaughter of Marjorie Johnson



SYMPATHY

Nov. 22 Patsy W. Angel

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

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:

John Justice

Sandra "Sandy" Justice Bobbie Adams Mary Anne Kannard Carolyn Alban Katie and Harvey Altmann Candi Keebler Scotty Arnoldy Dick Kilday Ally Babineaux Reggie Lang Shelly Bain Rhea Latta Kathy Beadnell Bruce Michael Lee Beth Beathard Nancy Liles Nicole Holdford Lockney Bob Beelev Cory Blackman Ryan Logan Kenny Brown Bella Martin Bella Carosi Ronnie Martin Cole Cattan Janet McDaniel Debbie Chernosky Barbara McMahon Dave McStravick Doug Clarke Hallie Cooley Frances Melicks Michael Craig Len Menefee Sam Cruse Margaret Milner Ruth Moorhead Gail Davis Stuart Nixon Bobby de Sosa Linda de Sosa Ann Noel Ross Dunn Deborah Oliver

Robin Adair

Kiersten Dyke

Jim Easterling

Charles Flores

Bette Haidusek

Ann Halverson

Kavla Hamaker

Marguerite Hillgers

Marilyn Ingham

Christine Jean Mary and Jim Jennings

Amy Heath

Mollie Hill

Iulie G.

Stacey and John Elliott

Catherine Gonzales Nancy Gore Consuelo Saldana Suzzy Schuwerk Helen and Jim Shaffer Caroline Shanahan Clif Shoemake Bob Spencer Paul Therrien LaVonne Waldron Mary Watters Stephen Wedemeyer Ann Winters

Ann Winte Eric Zoerb Alexi Atticus Henry Laura Lynne Will

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.

Andrew O'Mallev

Bob Paddock

Iim Paddock

Betty Polando Joseph Powell

Ophelia Pujol

Heather Rathnau

Dana Raymant

Marjorie Reeks

Monica Rivera

Phyllis Reinhardt

John Davis Roady Joe Rodriguez

Maggie Rodriguez

Ted Reed

Judy Peach

CONTINUING PRAYERS

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

LCDR Bradley Hoffman Lt. Col. Wesley J. Hunnell Capt. Blake J. Kidd Capt. Jack Mullen 1st Lt. Alex Mullen Lt. Paul Piana Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant

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.

FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR

THE REV. JANE P. FERGUSON



SUNDAY, JAN. 21 • BAGBY PARISH HALL • 12:30 P.M.

Immediately following the 11:15 a.m. worship services.

Please join Jane, her husband, Alex, and their daughter, Poppy, as we bid them farewell. Come by and thank Jane for the ministry work she has accomplished at St. Martin's since 2019. Jane's most significant contribution has been to the Student Ministries and nurturing our student Acolytes while leading the Student Confirmation program.

STUDENT WORSHIP NIGHT

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

- II Corinthians 5:17

SUNDAY, JAN. 21 5 – 6 P.M. STUDENT LIFE CENTER

Join the Student Ministries staff and St. Martin's musicians as we spend time in Worship.



Contact: Florence Ritchie • fritchie@smec.org • 713-985-3843





January 22
10 a.m-1:30 p.m.
Bagby Parish Hall

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



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



ACTIVITY CENTER

WATERCOLOR PAINTING CLASS

Mondays and Wednesdays
10:30–11:30 a.m. | Fellowship Room

Learn watercolor techniques and styles in this fun class for all levels. All painting supplies provided.

MOST CLASSES ARE FREE! Visit bit.ly/smecactivitycenter

Contact I Victoria Wilson activitycenter@smec.org • 713-985-3835



The Houston Civic Symphony returns to St. Martin's for a performance that will include Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture;" "Symphony No. 2" by Ludwig van Beethoven; and a concerto performance by the winner of the Symphony's Member Concerto Competition for the 2023 season. Dr. Brian Runnels will conduct.

Contact: Dr. David Henning • dhenning@smec.org • 713-985-3820.





Saturday, Jan. 27 | 9 a.m.–noon 3434 Branard, Houston, TX 77027

Organize and distribute food at the Emergency Services location for the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC). CCSC assists the poor, hungry, disabled and otherwise needy, and provides a back-to-school and Christmas program for low-income children.

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

Hunual PARISH MEETING



Sunday, Jan. 28 10:15 a.m. Bagby Parish Hall

Parishioners are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to learn about progress in the preceding year and plans for 2024. Sunday School for adults will not be offered on this Sunday so that all will have the opportunity to attend. The 11:15 a.m. services in The Church and Parish Life Center will begin at 11:30 a.m. to accommodate the Annual Parish Meeting.

Please join us!

RIVERWAY

Celebration Sunday!

Celebrate January Birthdays and Anniversaries with Riverway.

SUNDAY, JAN. 28
Parish Life Center Narthex

Following the 11:30 a.m. services

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.





Do you love to needlepoint?

Consider joining St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild. This guild welcomes stitchers of any skill level and teaches needlepoint from basic stitches to detailed and advanced work.



SUNDAY, JAN. 28 1-4 p.m. **Activity Center Upper Hall East**

St. Clare's also meets during the week. For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at 713-830-4110 or adeviney@smec.org.



o st.claresneedlepoint



St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild



SUNDAY, JAN. 28

5 p.m. • Christ Chapel

Join us this Epiphany to reflect and hear from the Lord through the contemplative sounds of Taizé Prayer. Through chant-like songs, Scripture and silent meditation, this quiet and prayerful time will nourish your soul!

Contact: Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam • relhakam@smec.org • 713-830-4146.







MEMBERSHIP 101 MONDAY, JAN. 29

Bagby Parish Hall and Online • 6 – 9 p.m. • Dinner will be served.

*Reservations are required by 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28.

Learn more about the mission and core values of St. Martin's and broaden your understanding of our ministries and your role in the Church.

CONTACT

Kathy Johnson, Director of Membership membership@smec.org • 713-985-3834

Register at bit.ly/Membership-101 Case sensitive







THURSDAY, FEB. 1
Parish Life Center, Kitchen
6–8 p.m. • Cost is \$75/person

Sign up at bit.ly/cafestmartinscooking4

Guest Chefs Graham Gemoets and Robert Iris of Butter and Company are returning to St. Martin's for a fun-filled cooking evening that will capture the hearts of young and old alike. The duo have planned a delicious menu that will please every palate.

Contact: Chrissy Kana • ckana@smec.org • 713-985-3806





BUILDING FOR THE GENERATIONS TO COME

In August 2021, St. Martin's celebrated the culmination of the "Building for the Ages" campaign, with a weekend filled with dedications, blessings and consecration of new buildings and garden spaces. You can contribute to the legacy of St. Martin's by donating to the Building for the Ages in the Parish Life Center.

Give online at bit.ly/givetosmec
Select » Building for the Ages

Contact | Ashley Pratka, Director of Development apratka@smec.org • 346-335-8658.



SATURDAY, FEB. 3 · 10 A.M. CHILDREN'S LIFE CENTER

SPRING ASSEMBLY

HOST PREPATAION

The group will assemble gift bags and decorate gift favors for the Diocesan DOK Spring Assembly participants at St. Martin's in March.

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



SUNDAY, FEB. 4 9 A.M. • THE CHURCH

St. Martin's recognizes Scouts and leaders from Churchsponsored Scout Troup 354 and Cub Scout Pack 354 during this special worship service, in which Scouts will also participate. Former and current Scouts and Scout leaders are encouraged to wear their uniforms for this service.

Contact | The Rev. Alex D. Graham III • agraham@smec.org • 713-985-3836

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



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

A Perfect Gift for Valentine's Day!

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

"If you enjoy golf, as I do, you think often about how to improve your game. Russ Levenson's well-written, well researched new book, In God's Grip, is a winsome parable that uses golf to gently confront us with profound, life-changing tips to improve something far more important, our relationship with Christ."

Max McLean, Founder & Artistic Director,
 Fellowship for Performing Arts

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. ST. MARTIN'S PRESENTS

A VERY SPECIAL LENTEN RETREAT

MONDAY-THURSDAY

March 18-21 • 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

March 22 • 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Scout Center

Only four spots remain!

Theresa Harrison returns to St. Martin's to guide retreatants in creativity with the icon of the Annunciation, the moment of the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary.

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



Registration fee: \$495 Includes all supplies and lunch at Café St. Martin's.

Register now at bit.ly/iconretreat2024



Student Mission Trip · June 15–22

Nashville



Registration: bit.ly/2024nashvillemissiontrip

Deadline to register: March 31

Cost: \$800

Open to students who are currently in 6th-12th grade.

An Opportunity To See Nashville With The Lord's Heart And Eyes

This summer, the students and their leaders will head to Nashville for a week-long mission dedicated to help local elderly, children and homeless people. "Week of Hope" participants will serve the non-profit Group Missions team through Jesus-centered programs that combine work, fun and worship.

Contact | Florence Ritchie • fritchie@smec.org • 713-985-3843







TEXT
Text SMEC to 73256



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



ONLINE bit.ly/smecgiving



BEQUESTS

Contact: Ashley Pratka 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

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. Will Hedges Vestry Representative Morning



Mrs. Michelle Bain Vestry Representative Evening

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ

The Head of This Church



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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

WE INVITE YOU TO KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE.

