THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 14, 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.

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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

APRIL 14

Adults

8+ with the Rev. Marty Bastian

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

Theology for Life with the Rev. John Sundara

"The Art of the Resurrection" 10:15-11 a.m. Bagby Parish Hall

Family Life Class with the Rev. Alex Graham III

"Human Sexuality" 10:15-11 a.m. Activity Center, Game Room

Contemplative Prayer Hour with the Rev. Sharron Cox

10:15-11 a.m. Pastoral Care Center, Bride's Parlor

Seekers with the Rev. Marty Bastian

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.

APRIL 14-20

Adults

Saintly Stitchers

Monday, April 15

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, April 16

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, April 17

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, April 17

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, April 17

11 a.m.-noon | The Church

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

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

Wednesday, April 17

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, April 17 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, April 18 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, April 20 | 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, April 18 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, April 18 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, April 16 – Evening Group | 6:30-8 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom Thursday, April 18 – 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, April 17 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 Ashley Monachelli at 713-985-3816 or amonachelli@smec.org.

7-1-7 Students

Life Groups

Wednesday, April 17 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. John Sundara at 713-985-3842 or jsundara@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: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818–1866), alt.; Music: St. Kevin, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842–1900).

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.)



Text: Edmund L. Budry, 1904. Music: Judas Maccabeus from Harmonia Sacra (c. 1753); arr. from G. F. Handel (1747). © 2006 Hope Publishing Co. Reprinted under CCLI #805314.

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

People:

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

| Please be seated. | |
|-------------------|---|
| T | HE LESSONPsalm 4 |
| 1 | Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; * you set me free when I am hard-pressed; |
| | have mercy on me and hear my prayer. |
| 2 | "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; * |
| | how long will you worship dumb idols |
| | and run after false gods?" |
| 3 | Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; * |
| | when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me. |
| 4 | Tremble, then, and do not sin; * |
| | speak to your heart in silence upon your bed. |
| 5 | Offer the appointed sacrifices * |
| | and put your trust in the Lord. |
| 6 | Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" * |
| | Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord. |
| 7 | You have put gladness in my heart, * |
| | more than when grain and wine and oil increase. |
| 8 | I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; * |
| | for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety. |
| Rε | eader: The Word of the Lord. |

All stand

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 708 (vs. 1)....."Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"



Words: Hymns for the Young, ca. 1830, alt.; Music: Sicilian Mariners, Sicilian melody, from The European Magazine and London Review, 1792.

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

THE GOSPELLuke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining readings for the day are on page 27.

HYMN 708 (vs. 2)....."Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" shep-herd lead 1 Sa - vior, like thy us; much we need 2 Ear - lv us seek thy vor. ear - ly let thy plea ten - der care; in sant pas - tures feed us; learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa vior, pre - pare. Bless for thy folds with thy love our bos - oms Bless Je - sus! Bless -Thou bought ed Je - sus! hast us, thine we are. Je - sus! Bless - ed Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Words: Hymns for the Young, ca. 1830, alt.; Music: Sicilian Mariners, Sicilian melody, from The European Magazine and London Review, 1792.

THE NICENE CREED (stand)

Celebrant and People

I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation

came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the

Virgin Mary,

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to

the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of the Father,

and he shall come again, with glory,

to judge both the quick and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

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

who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together

is worshiped

and glorified;

who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (kneel)

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

That we all may be one.

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

That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; the Clergy of this Parish; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia; 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

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 forever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

Many waters cannot quench Love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who His own Self bare our sins in His own Body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins should live unto righteousness. Ye are wash'd, ye are sanctified, ye are justified, in the Name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath call'd you out of darkness into His marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your service.

Text: Holy Scripture; Music: John Ireland.

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.

DOXOLOGYEaster Hymn



Words: Latin, 14th cent.; tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt. St. 4, Charles Wesley.

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.

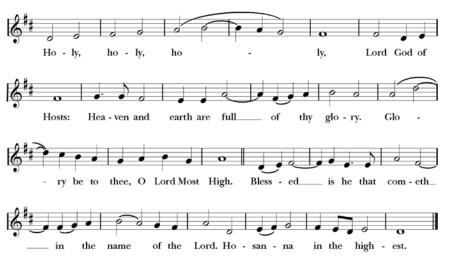
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

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: Healey Willan, 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

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

During the season of Easter, the Prayer of Humble Access is not a part of our public liturgy. You are invited to use it for your private preparation before receiving Communion.

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.

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back, guiltie of dust and sinne. But quick-ey'd Love observing me grow slack from my first entrance in, drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning, if I lacked anything. A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here: Love said, You shall be he. I, the unkinde, ungrateful? Ah, my deare, I cannot look on thee. Love took my hand and smiling did reply, Who made the eyes but I? Truth, Lord but I have marr'd them: let my shame go where it doth deserve. And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame? My deare, then I will serve. You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat: so I did sit and eat.

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HYMN 645"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"



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



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.



Text and Music, Lanny Wolfe; @ 1977 Lanny Wolfe Music, (admin. By Pathway Music, Cleveland, TN). CCLI #805314.

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 EASTER BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All stand.



A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

On the occassion of their marriage

by Lauren Michelle Jaehne and Colin Thomas Burns In thanksgiving for those confirmed, reaffirmed and received at our April 13 Confirmation service

In thanksgiving for the baptism of Clara Olive Scully

by Mariam and Tyler Scully

In memory of Mary Louise Presley

by Dorothy and James Presley

In memory of Patsy Lefoldt Shappley

by William Shappley and family



BIRTHS

March 27 Jacob "Jake" Ray Howard

Son of Jean Marie and Cutter Howard Grandson of Kathy and Dan Ellwood



BAPTISMS

April 7 Lachlan McLean Lyman and Parker James Lyman



WEDDINGS

April 6 Nitha Inthavong and Andrew David Nolan



SYMPATHY

March 23 Russell Frazier Hughes

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 FIRST LESSONActs 3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

THE EPISTLE1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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 Cissy Gully Judy Peach
Bobbie Adams Bette Haidusek Betty Polando
Carolyn Alban Ann Halverson Joseph Powell
Katie and Harvey Altmann Jean Hatton Ophelia Pujol

Scotty Arnoldy Kayla Hamaker Barbara Quackenbush Edith Avery Amy Heath Heather Rathnau Ally Babineaux Mollie Hill Dana Raymant Shelly Bain Marguerite Hillgers Marjorie Reeks Kathy Beadnell Marilyn Ingham Phyllis Reinhardt Beth Beathard Thelma Isenhart **Iulie Richards** Christine Jean Monica Rivera Corv Blackman Mary and Jim Jennings Cathy Blackwell John Davis Roady Kenny Brown John Justice Joe Rodriguez

Sandra "Sandy" Justice Harry Burrow Maggie Rodriguez Consuelo Saldana John Canon Mary Anne Kannard Bella Carosi Candi Keebler Helen and Jim Shaffer Caroline Shanahan Cole Cattan Dick Kilday Clif Shoemake Debbie Chernosky Marjorie Krajian **Bob Spencer** Doug Clarke Reggie Lang

Hallie Cooley Rhea Latta Trish St. Jean Martin
Almeria Cottingham Bruce Michael Lee Paul Therrien
Michael Craig Nancy Liles Annie Troung
Sam Cruse Nicole Holford Lockney Christine Troung

James CunninghamAmanda LodgeMary WattersGail DavisRyan LoganStephen Wedemeyer

Bobby de Sosa Bella Martin Ann Winters
Linda de Sosa Ronnie Martin Stacy Wood
Ross Dunn Janet McDaniel Eric Zoerb
Kiersten Dyke Barbara McMahon Alexi
Becca Earhart Dave McStravick Atticus

Stacey and John Elliott Frances Melicks Elizabeth and Scott

Mary Finucane Len Menefee Henry
Charles Flores Margaret Milner Julie
Will Fogle Stuart Nixon Laura
Susan Folk Ann Noel Lynne
Julie G. Deborah Oliver Mary Jane

Catherine Gonzales Andrew O'Malley Stuart

Nancy Gore Bob Paddock Shea Guinn Jim Paddock

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.

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 PFC Parris F. Owen Corporal James W. Peoples 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.



Please plan to join us on Sunday, May 5, for one or more of these special offerings.

MORNING

8 a.m. • The Church • Holy Eucharist with Sermon by Dr. Levenson Traditional Worship Service

9:15 a.m. • The Church • Holy Eucharist with Sermon by Dr. Levenson Combined Traditional and Family Table Worship Services

10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall • "A Trip Down Memory Lane" with Russ and Laura Children's event in Activity Center; childcare available in Children's Life Center

11:15 a.m. • The Church • Holy Eucharist with Sermon by Dr. Levenson Traditional Worship Service; Riverway will join Dr. Levenson's last service

EVENING

5:30 p.m. • Bagby Parish Hall • "Fajitas and Farewell" Celebration Dinner for Adults

Please R.S.V.P for dinner by April 28 at smec.org/russ-farewell.

6:30 p.m. • Concert • The Church

The Kingdom Pickers with Russ and Laura, featuring Haley and Tom Lynch
*No 6 p.m. Worship Service or Childcare

Finally, please continue to pray for Russ and Laura, for our wonderful Parish, for the Clergy and Staff, and our fifth Rector. On behalf of the Vestry of St. Martin's, we offer our sincere thanks for your continued generosity.

Contact: Brittney Pena • bpena@smec.org • 713-985-3821

BOOKS BY DR. LEVENSON

PUBLISHED BOOKS

Be inspired with these books that explore faith







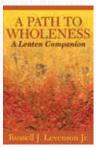
GO!

IN GOD'S GRIP

WITNESS TO DIGNITY

DEVOTIONALS

Be inspired with these books that explore faith







Bits of Heaven



Finding Shelter



Preparing Room

For more details or to purchase books, visit

bit.ly/levensonbooks





St. Martin's welcomes a new Clergy member, beginning Sunday, April 14



Be sure to say a warm "hello!" to the Rev. Miller when you see her on Campus!

Contact: Liz Gallien Igallien@smec.org 713-830-4139

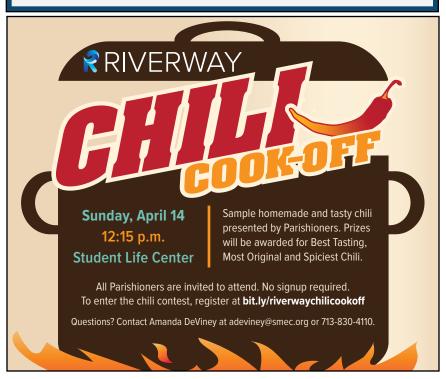
THE REV. ELIZABETH MILLER

Pastoral Assistant

The Rev. Miller is a cradle Episcopalian and a native southeast Texan who grew up in Orange. She attended Southwestern University and obtained a degree in International Studies, followed by a master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of Houston.

After teaching Spanish, French, History and serving as a school counselor, the Rev. Miller and her husband, John, settled in Beaumont for 23 years where they raised their three children. In 2015, she entered the Iona School of Ministry in the bi-vocational priest program of the Diocese of Texas.

In 2018, the Rev. Miller joined Trinity Episcopal Church in Anahuac as its spiritual leader and deacon in charge. In 2019, she was ordained and served the church as Vicar for five years. The Rev. Miller and her family now live in Houston where her husband works as a radiologist at Houston Methodist.









MEMBERSHIP 101 MONDAY, APRIL 15

Bagby Parish Hall and Online • 6-9 p.m. • Dinner will be served. *Reservations are required by 5 p.m. Sunday, April 14.*

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.

This will be the last class that the Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr. will lead!

CONTACT

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

Register at bit.ly/Membership-101 Case sensitive



April 26-28 • Lake Livingston Cost is \$250

For students in grades 9-12

Join us for a weekend away from the busyness of life to spend time together in fellowship with one another and the Lord. We will talk about the Song of Songs and step out Saturday evening for a fancy dress dinner.

Sign up at bit.ly/smechsretreat

Deadline to register is April 14 or until the trip is full.

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



NOTICE. GIVE. MAKE. BLESS.

To learn more visit: bit.ly/smecuto

United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church is a way to practice gratitude and change the world.

Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box or UTO Envelope.

UTO blue Boxes are available in the Welcome Center and you'll find UTO envelopes in the Church pews.

One-hundred percent of all funds given to UTO are granted the following year to support innovative mission and ministry in the Episcopal Church.





Sole Hope

Shoe-Cutting at Home April 2024 Project Sign-up Required at bit.ly/solehopeathome

Cut and prepare fabric uppers from old denim for Sole Hope's Ugandan cobblers to handcraft shoes for vulnerable kids. No skills required and all supplies are provided. Kits are available for pick-up by sign-up on Mondays from the Front Reception Desk and should be returned to the same location by 3 p.m. Friday.

Sign up at bit.ly/solehopeathome is required.

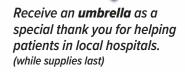
Contact Tracee Tindol at tmartin@smec.org or 713-985-3811 for more information.



Monday, April 15 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Student Life Center

Walk-ins Welcome!
Schedule your next appointment.
bit.ly/smecblooddrive





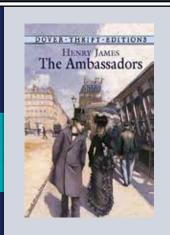
Questions? Contact Justin Jacobson Avery at events@smec.org or 713-985-3838.





EVENING GROUP

Tuesday, April 16 | 7-8:30 p.m. Children's Life Center, Room 109 and Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinliteveningzoom



While operating within the framework of Christian theology, Faith in Literature seeks to ascertain in our reading how all good literature, if even by its omission, deals with and reflects themes of faith.

This month, we discuss "The Ambassadors" by Henry James.

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



MOST CLASSES ARE FREE! For more information, visit bit.ly/smecactivitycenter.

ACTIVITY CENTER

CORE & MORE

WEDNESDAYS 8:30–9:15 a.m. Aerobics Room

Join Angela for a full body workout with focus on the core! This class helps to stabilize your core, strengthen your muscles and improve overall fitness.

Open to ALL levels.

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

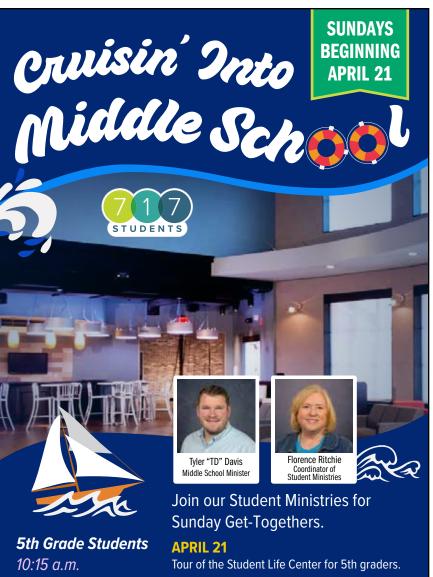


The Shepherd's Guild ministry complements the work of St. Martin's Clergy in visiting homebound Parishioners or those who reside in retirement and assisted living facilities.

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.



Student Life Center



MAY 19

Parents and 5th graders learn about our 2024-25 programs.

JUNE 2

5th grade "graduates" permanently move to Student Ministries.

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

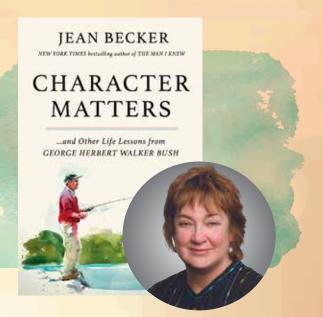




The Ladies For Literacy Guild, in partnership with St. Martin's Episcopal Church presents:

JEAN BECKER

in conversation with Khambrel Marshall to discuss her book



Wednesday, April 24

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Parish Life Center

To register, visit, barbarabushhouston.org/bookclub

All are welcome! Space is limited and RSVP is required.

Books will be available at the event for signing.

Contact: Justin Jacobson Avery • events@smec.org • 713-985-3838







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

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. Dan Meyer, Senior Warden

Mr. Ryan LaRue, Junior Warden

Mrs. Nancy Bynon, Missions Chair

Ms. Sherrie Perkins, Treasurer

Mr. Logan Walters, Clerk

Mr. Tommy Ford, Past Senior Warden

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., Parish Stewardship Chair

Mr. Andy Harvin, Chancellor*

Vestry Members

Mr. Scott Anderson

Mrs. Summer Craig

Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes

Mr. Will Hedges

The Hon. Edith Jones

Mr. David Leonard

Mrs. Susan McConn

Mr. Roy Nichol

Mrs. Courtney Schilling

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. Ryan LaRue Vestry Representative Morning



Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes Vestry Representative Evening

OUR CLERGY

$\ \, \textbf{Jesus, The Christ} \\$

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. Elizabeth Miller Pastoral Assistant emiller@smec.org



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



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



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

WE INVITE YOU TO KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE.

