

# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

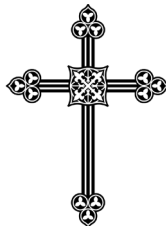
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*December 27, 2020*



## OUR MISSION

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



**ST. MARTIN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# FROM THE RECTOR

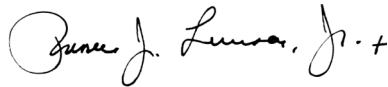
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IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD,  
JESUS CHRIST, WELCOME.

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

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

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



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

## ***Prayers Before Worship***

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

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your provision for our church family, especially the resources we need to expand and develop our church campus in order to further the work of Your Gospel in this place. Give us strength and grace as the construction takes place, that it would go as You will, for Your purposes and Your kingdom. Bless and keep safe all those who labor on our behalf. All this we ask through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **How do I register for the next in-person service?**

Registration opens at 9 a.m. on Monday for all in-person services for that week. To register for the Wednesday, Sunday or The Family Table services, visit at [bit.ly/smecworshippersv](http://bit.ly/smecworshippersv) or call 713-621-3040.

## **What do I do when I arrive?**

Please check in when you arrive.

- Seating is on a first come, first serve basis. When seated, use the six feet signs in the pews to social distance yourself from the people sitting next to you. Ushers are available to assist if needed.
- Doors to The Church open at 11:20 a.m. for the Wednesday service.
- Doors to The Church open at 9:20 a.m. for the Sunday service.
- Doors to Bagby Parish Hall open at 8:45 a.m. for The Family Table service.
- Doors close 5 minutes before the service starts. We appreciate your understanding and assistance in keeping on schedule.

## **What if my plans changed and I cannot attend?**

Please cancel your reservation to allow others the opportunity to have your seat. The link to cancel can be found in your confirmation email. If the number of people in your reservation changes:

- For The Church, please contact Kathy Johnson at 713-985-3834.
- For The Family Table, please contact Beth Ollenburger at 713-830-4146.

## **Will childcare be available?**

Currently child care is available for Sunday in-person worship only. *Availability is limited.* For additional information and to register, visit [bit.ly/smecworshippersv](http://bit.ly/smecworshippersv) or contact Holli Kight at 713-985-3816 or [hkight@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:hkight@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

## **Will I be able to use the Bibles and/or Books of Common Prayer that are in the pew racks?**

No. All materials, including hymnals and Books of Common Prayer, have been removed for your safety. All service information will be the worship bulletin. You are welcome to bring your own Book of Common Prayer or Bible to use.

## **Will valet parking be available?**

While valet parking is unavailable at this time, family members may drop off others under porte cochères.

## **Are services available online?**

Yes, we will continue to live stream our services on YouTube and Facebook.

## **Now that we have reopened for worship, has St. Martin's campus also reopened?**

Essential staff continue to work on campus as needed, but the campus remains closed.

- Café St. Martin's Curbside is available for lunch Monday–Friday. The menu and instructions for ordering and pick-up are available at [stmartinsepiscopal.org/cafe-st-martins](http://stmartinsepiscopal.org/cafe-st-martins). Please contact Chrissy Kana at [cafe@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:cafe@stmartinsepiscopal.org) for further questions.



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT **ST. MARTIN'S**

DECEMBER 27—JANUARY 2

## ADULT AND STUDENTS

In observance of Christmas and New Year holidays, Adult and Students Christian Education classes will not be offered. Classes will resume Sunday, Jan. 10.

St. Martin's offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 28, and beginning noon Thursday, Dec. 31 through Friday, Jan. 1, in observance of Christmas and New Year holidays.

For more information about Adult Christian Education,  
email Katwana Coleman at [kcoleman@stmartinsepicopal.org](mailto:kcoleman@stmartinsepicopal.org).

For more information about 7-1-7 Students,  
email Student Ministries at [students@stmartinsepicopal.org](mailto:students@stmartinsepicopal.org).

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**SUNDAY, DEC. 27**

### Children's Sunday School



Children's Ministry has brand-new lessons, curriculum and content for both preschool and elementary school. We'll be sending out weekly emails with links to virtual Sunday school videos and parent leader guides.



For more information about Children's Ministry,  
email Holli Kight at [hkight@stmartinsepicopal.org](mailto:hkight@stmartinsepicopal.org).

# HOLY EUCHARIST

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VOLUNTARY ..... “Carol Prelude”

John Ferguson

*Kevin Riehle, Choral Director of Adult Choir*

*All stand following the greeting.*

*Begin on page 323 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)*

**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.**

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(BCP p. 213)*

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And with thy spirit.**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray. *(kneel)*

*The Celebrant says the Collect*

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**HYMN 93** (vs. 1 and 4)..... “Angels from the Realms of Glory”  
*Jan Cornelius LeClair, Brennan Blankenship, Jeff Ragsdale,  
 Ben LeClair, Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez  
 St. Martin's Parish Choir*

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions  
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;  
 beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;  
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

*Refrain*

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light:  
 ye have seen his na - tal star: come and wor - ship,  
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Words: James Montgomery (1771–1854), alt.; Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813–1879).

**THE LESSON** .....Galatians 3:23–25; 4:4–7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

**Reader:**           The Word of the Lord.

**People:**           **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand.*

HYMN (vs. 1) ..... "Away in a Manger"

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, The  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing; the Ba - by a - wakes, But  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay Close

lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The  
 lit - tle Lord Je - sus— no cry - ing he makes. I  
 by me for - e - ver, and love me, I pray. Bless

stars in the sky— looked down where He lay; The  
 love Thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky, And  
 all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care, And

lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay. The  
 stay by my side un - til mor - ning is nigh. I  
 fit us for hea - ven, to live with Thee there.

Text: Anon. (v. 1-2 Kirkpatrick, 1885; vs. 3 Charles H. Gabriel, 1892); Music: *Mueller*; arr. John Weaver.



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

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

**THE GOSPEL**.....John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

HYMN (vs. 3) ..... “Away in a Manger”

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, The  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing; the Ba - by a - wakes, But  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay Close

lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The  
 lit - tle Lord Je - sus— no cry - ing he makes. I  
 by me for - e - ver, and love me, I pray. Bless

stars in the sky— looked down where He lay; The  
 love Thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky, And  
 all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care, And

lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay. The  
 stay by my side un - til mor - ning is nigh. I  
 fit us for hea - ven, to live with Thee there.

Text: Anon. (v. 1-2 Kirkpatrick, 1885; vs. 3 Charles H. Gabriel, 1892); Music: *Mueller*; arr. John Weaver.

*Please be seated.*

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THE SERMON ..... "Light of the World"  
*The Rev. Chad T. Martin*

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THE NICENE CREED (*BCP p. 327*) (*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** (*BCP p. 387,  
Form III*) (*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 our Anglican Communion; for the Archbishop  
of Canterbury, Justin; for our Presiding Bishop, Michael;  
for our Bishops, Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector; for all bishops,  
priests and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word  
and Sacraments.**

We pray 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.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief  
or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

For Donald, our President, Joe, our President-elect, Greg, our Governor, Sylvester, our Mayor and the Congress and the Courts; for all who serve in our armed forces and their families; we pray for peace throughout the world, and especially in the Middle East; and we pray for the victims of terror attacks; and we remember before you, and pray for the protection of our Christian brothers and sisters who face danger or persecution for their faith; and we pray for victims of all natural disasters. We pray for the safety of all law enforcement agents, firefighters, paramedics and all first responders who provide security and protection to the citizens they serve. We continue to pray for the many people who have contracted the coronavirus; for those in isolation, those who have lost their job or their business, and for all those in our communities involved in ministering to the sick, especially for all health care workers; and we pray for those in the hospitals; and those for whom our prayers have been requested\_\_; and for those on our Continuing Prayer List; and for all the blessings of this life, especially those remembered today with Altar flowers\_\_; and we remember before you the departed especially\_\_; we give thanks for their lives and pray for their loved ones left behind.

I invite your own prayers and intercessions.

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

*Celebrant adds a concluding Collect (BCP p. 394)*

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Minister says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Minister and People (BCP p. 331)*

**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.**

*Priest stands and says (BCP p. 332)*

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.**

**T H E P E A C E** *(stand)*

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

**People:** **And with thy spirit.**

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**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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*Please be seated.*

# Christmas OFFERING

The Christmas Offering is a longstanding St. Martin's tradition. We are blessed to be able to share our gifts with others in the community through this Outreach offering. Your generosity, especially at this time of year, will bring hope to others.



ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CHRISTMAS OFFERING

  
*Gifts to us are valued as gifts.  
We will do them in prayer.  
Thank You.*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This year you can mail checks to the church that are clearly designated Christmas Offering, or give online or text SMEC to 72356, and choose "Christmas" from the drop-down menu.

## YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires that, in order to be tax deductible for 2020, cash, check or credit card contributions to St. Martin's Episcopal Church must be received by the church or postmarked by the United States Postal Service no later than Thursday, Dec. 31. This includes payment of your 2020 pledge, prepayment of your 2021 pledge and payment of your *Building for the Ages* pledge. The Finance staff is required to check the post office cancellation dates on all receipts in early January to ensure our legal compliance to this rule.



For more information, contact Debbie Hutchison at 713-985-3803 or [dhutchison@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:dhutchison@stmartinsepiscopal.org).



# SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR *Healing and Wholeness*



St. Martin's International OSL Healing Community offers a service of prayer for healing and wholeness on the first Wednesday of each month.

This short, online service of prayer and healing will teach us how to pray in a pandemic.

Visit [bit.ly/oslservice](http://bit.ly/oslservice) to join the meeting.

## **Next Service**

Wednesday, January 6 | 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Katwana Coleman at [kcoleman@stmartinseiscopal.org](mailto:kcoleman@stmartinseiscopal.org).

# REGISTER NOW FOR SPRING *Christian Life Study*

It's a new year and a perfect time to join in the Christian Life Studies Bible study group for women.

## **EVENING GROUP**

**Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m.**

Studies include *Hebrews* and *James* by N.T. Wright

## **DAY GROUP**

**Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:20 a.m.**

Study is *James* by N.T. Wright

Please register at [clsbiblestudy.com](http://clsbiblestudy.com) for both classes or contact Candy Provine for the Day Group at 713-823-9002, or Ann Wilson for the Night Group at 713-828-8722.



# THE *family table*

**THERE ARE NOW TWO WAYS TO ENJOY  
THE FAMILY TABLE SERVICE!**

## **IN PERSON**

9: 15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall  
Limited childcare with advance reservation  
To register, visit [bit.ly/smecworshipsvp](http://bit.ly/smecworshipsvp)

## **ONLINE**

Join us at 8 a.m. on Sundays for The Family Table worship service on YouTube and Facebook. For links to the service, visit St. Martin's website and look for The Family Table slider at the top of the page.

## **JOIN US VIA ZOOM EVERY SUNDAY**



The Altar, our contemporary worship service for students and adults of all ages, is online every Sunday at 11:15 a.m. followed by a virtual coffee hour. Join us via Zoom!

[bit.ly/thealtarservice](http://bit.ly/thealtarservice)

Meeting ID: 972 3813 2533 | Passcode: 110154

For more information, please contact Beth Ollenburger at [bollenburger@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:bollenburger@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

# ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU! WE MISS YOU! GOD LOVES YOU!

*We may not be able to meet in person right now, but we want to know if you are sick, hospitalized or need to speak with a member of the Clergy. Don't hesitate to call the church.*

## **General Questions**

Contact the Reception Desk at 713-621-3040.

## **Prayer Requests**

Contact the Prayer Request Line at 713-830-4124 or Cyndy Ensign at 713-985-3808 or [censign@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:censign@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

## **After Hours Emergencies**

Call 713-621-3040 and press 2 to reach the Priest on Call.

## **Death Notifications and Funerals**

Contact Cyndy Ensign at 713-985-3808 or [censign@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:censign@stmartinsepiscopal.org).

# WAYS TO GIVE



## **TEXT TO GIVE**

Text SMEC to 73256



## **ONLINE**

[stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving](http://stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving)



## **MAIL**

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



## **ESTATE PLANNING**

Contact: Director of Parish  
Stewardship, Ashley Pratkan:  
[apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:apratka@stmartinsepiscopal.org)  
or 346-335-8658



## **TRANSFER OF ASSETS**

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

Go online today:

[stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving](http://stmartinsepiscopal.org/giving)

Please contact Accounting Supervisor,  
Debbie Hutchison  
with questions or for assistance:  
[dhutchison@stmartinsepiscopal.org](mailto:dhutchison@stmartinsepiscopal.org)  
or 713-985-3803

# THE OFFERTORY

## ANTHEM ..... "What is this Lovely Fragrance" Healey Willan

What is this lovely fragrance wafting like to the scents of flowers in spring! Shepherd, O tell us, whence such beauty, hear you not heavenly caroling? What is this light so fair, so tender breaking upon our wondering eyes? Never the Morning Star so radiant followed o'er eastern skies. Shepherds, O haste with eager footstep seek the Saviour, born today. Low at His feet we lay our treasure, Heart's adoration, love for aye.

Words: Poem translated from the French by YSOBEL. Music: *Old French Carol*, arranged for SATB and Organ by Healey Willan. © 1942 by Oxford University Press.

## AT THE PRESENTATION

### DOXOLOGY ..... *Lasst uns erfreuen*



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise him all crea - tures here be -



low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a -



bove ye heaven - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711); Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan William (1872-1958).

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(BCP p. 340) (stand)*

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.**

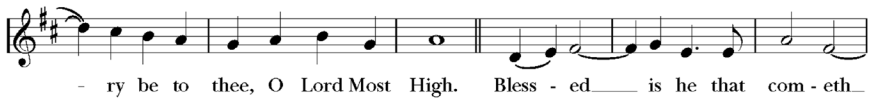
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

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

*Celebrant and People*



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

*The Celebrant continues (BCP p. 341) (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 *(BCP p. 336)*

*People and Celebrant*

**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.*

*Cantor sings*

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS *(BCP p. 337)*

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. (BCP p. 338)*

*Please tell the priest administering Communion if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray. *(BCP p. 339)*

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.

## THE BLESSING *(BCP p. 339)*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## HYMN 87 (vs. 1 and 3)..... "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*  
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788), alt.; Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831–1915).



# THE DISMISSAL

*A Minister says the dismissal*

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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### RECOGNITIONS

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#### FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for Altar Guild Group III  
by Betsy Trice

In thanksgiving for the graduation of Adeyemi (Yemi) Afolabi with a  
bachelor's of science degree in Geosciences  
by the Afolabi Family

To mark a special occasion with an altar flower dedication, visit [bit.ly/ChurchFlowers](http://bit.ly/ChurchFlowers) or contact Barbara Piana at 713-830-4116.

# OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

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## ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

### *Vestry Executive Committee*

Mr. Jim Hibbert, *Senior Warden*

Mr. Titus Harris III, *Junior Warden*

Mrs. Anya McInnis, *Missions Chair*

Mr. Matt Anderson, *Treasurer*

Mrs. Diane Campbell, *Clerk*

Mr. Culver Stedman, *Past Senior Warden*

Mr. Andy Harvin, *Chancellor\**

### *Vestry Members*

Mrs. Michelle Bain

Mr. Tommy Ford

Mrs. Whitney Gormley

Mrs. Casey Hedges

Mr. Matt Mogas

Mr. Robert Paddock

Mr. Bob Parkey

Mr. Gib Surlis

The Hon. John Wooldridge

### *Associate Members*

The Hon. James A. Baker, III, *Special Counsel to the Vestry\**

Mr. Dale Cheesman III, *Special Counsel to the Vestry\**

Mr. George Francisco IV, *Senior Council Representative 2020–2021*

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., *Senior Council Representative 2020–2021*

Mrs. Therese Moore, *Altar Guild President 2020–2021*

Ms. Sherrie Perkins, *ECW President 2020–2021*

Mr. Joe Lopez, *Men of St. Martin's President 2019–2021*

Mr. Ryan LaRue, *Usher Representative 2018–2021*

\*Chancellor and Special Counsel are associate positions, filled at the discretion of the Rector.

# OUR CLERGY

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**Jesus, The Christ**  
*The Head of This Church*



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