

# FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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*March 17, 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.*



**ST. MARTIN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## FROM THE RECTOR

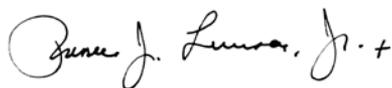
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IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD,  
JESUS CHRIST, WELCOME.

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.

### **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 worshippers*

# THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

## MARCH 17

### Adults

#### **8+ with the Rev. Wesley Arning**

Lectionary-based Bible Study

8:55-9:25 a.m.

Chapel Reception Hall

#### **Theology for Life with the Rev. Dr. Jim Jackson, Jr.**

"A Short History of Christian Thought" – Final Class

10:15-11 a.m.

Bagby Parish Hall

#### **Contemplative Prayer Hour with the Rev. Sharron Cox**

10:15-11 a.m.

Pastoral Care Center, Bride's Parlor

#### **Seekers with the Rev. Wesley Arning**

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cnelson@smec.org).*

# MARCH 18-23

## Adults

### **Saintly Stitchers**

Monday, March 18

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Tuesday, March 19

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

### **Blanket Ladies**

Wednesday, March 20

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

### **St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild**

Wednesday, March 20

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

### **Church Tours**

Wednesday, March 20

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

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

Wednesday, March 20

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](mailto:scox@smec.org).

**St. Martin's 20s & 30s**

Wednesday, March 20

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](mailto:rwarning@smec.org).

**Parish Choir Rehearsal**

Thursday, March 21

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](mailto:dhenning@smec.org).

**Sterling's Market**

Saturday, March 23 | 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](mailto:info@sterlingsmarket.org).

## Men

**Dads' Bible Study**

Thursday, March 21

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](mailto:rwarning@smec.org).

## Women

### **Christian Life Study**

Tuesday, March 19 – Evening Group | 6:30-8 p.m. | Children's Life Center and via Zoom

Thursday, March 21 – 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 [lgallien@smec.org](mailto:lgallien@smec.org).

### **The Moms' Group**

Wednesday, March 20

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](mailto:amonachelli@smec.org).

## 7-1-7 Students

### **Life Groups**

Wednesday, March 20

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](mailto: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.*

## VOLUNTARY ..... “Psalm Prelude”

Percy Whitlock

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

## \*HYMN 637 ..... “How Firm a Foundation”

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 “Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 “When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 “When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 “The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

Words: K. in John Rippon's *Selection*, 1787, alt.; Music: *Lyons*, att. Johann Michael Haydn (1737–1806).

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

**People: His mercy endureth for ever.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 22:37-40

## CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO (*kneel*)

*The Celebrant says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*A moment of silence is observed.*

*Minister and People*

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*(8 a.m. only in place of sung Trisagion)*

Celebrant: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

**People: Have mercy upon us.**

## TRISAGION

The musical score for the Trisagion is presented in two systems. The first system contains the vocal line and the beginning of the piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with the lyrics "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y," and the piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and a steady bass line. The second system continues the vocal line with "Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." and concludes the piano accompaniment with a final cadence. The key signature is one flat (G minor) and the time signature is common time (C).

Title: The Holy Eucharist, Holy God: Trisagion; Music: Ver. Hymnal 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846–1924).

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect*

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**THE LESSON** .....Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

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

*All stand.*

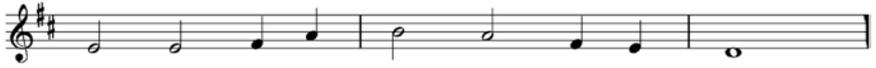
\*HYMN 686 (vs. 1-2).... "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my  
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er  
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good  
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by  
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering  
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me  
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from  
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735–1790), alt.; Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813.

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

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

**THE GOSPEL** .....John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The remaining lectionary for the day is on pages 28-29.*

\*HYMN 686 (vs. 3)..... “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my  
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er  
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good  
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by  
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering  
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me  
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from  
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735–1790), alt.; Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813.

*Please be seated.*

THE SERMON..... “Transformed by the Word”

*The Rev. Lisa R. Neilson*

# 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*

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Church in Wales; and for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, and John, our Mayor; for the Congress and the Courts; for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those in hospitals \_\_\_\_, and those who have requested our prayers \_\_\_\_, and those on our continuing prayer list, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, for all who remember and care for them; for first responders, and for all who serve in our armed forces and their families, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially \_\_\_\_, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all the blessings of this life; and in the communion of St. Martin and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**To thee, O Lord our God.**

*Silence*

*Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son 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.*

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**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please see page 32 for upcoming events.*

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**THE OFFERTORY**

ANTHEM ..... “The Lord is My Shepherd”

Thomas Matthews

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: For Thou art with me; Thy rod and staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Text: Psalm 23. © 1956 by H.T. FitzSimons Co., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

AT THE PRESENTATION (*stand*)

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

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

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

# DOXOLOGY..... *Gardiner*

All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all

gifts, to offer thee; And hence with grateful hearts to -

day. Thine own be - fore thy feet we lay.

Text, John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872; Music, *Gardiner*, William Gardiner's Sacred Melodies, 1815; By permission of Houghton Mifflin Company.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**People: It is meet and right so to do.**

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

Who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

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

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord  
God of hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy  
glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the  
Name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

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

*The Celebrant continues (kneel)*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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, he brake 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, 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, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ’s holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with 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 Fraction Anthem)*

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

**People: Have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

**People: Have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

**People: Grant us thy peace.**

## FRACTION ANTHEM

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world,  
have mer-cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Lamb of God,  
that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

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

## 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.*

AN T H E M ..... “Ave Verum”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Ave verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine, vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine, Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine: Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

*Hail, true Body, born from Virgin Mary, Who truly suffered, was put to death on the cross for humankind, And from whose pierced side, both water and blood flowed: Be a foretaste for us in our examination of death.*

Latin Text attributed to either Pope Innocent III (1198-1216) or Pope Innocent IV (1243-1254).

H Y M N ..... “Softly and Tenderly”

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing,  
 2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing,  
 3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing,  
 4. Oh! For the won - der - ful love He has prom - ised,

1. Call - ing for you and for me; \_\_\_\_\_ See, on the por - tals He's  
 2. Plead - ing for you and for me? \_\_\_\_\_ Why should we lin - ger and  
 3. Pass - ing for you and for me; \_\_\_\_\_ Shad - ows are gath - er - ing,  
 4. Prom - ised for you and for me; \_\_\_\_\_ Though we have sinned, He has

1. wait - ing and watch - ing, Watch - ing for you and for me. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. heed not His mer - cies, Mer - cies for you and for me? \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. death beds are com - ing, Com - ing for you and for me. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. mer - cy and par - don, Par - don for you and for me. \_\_\_\_\_

Come home, Come home, come home, come home,  
 Ye who are wea-ry, come home! Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,  
 Je - sus is call - ing, Call - ing, O sin - ner, come home!

Words: Will L. Thompson (1847–1909) Music: Will L. Thompson.

HYMN 693 ..... “Just As I Am”

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy  
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - ya  
 \* 3 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,  
 4 Just as I am: thou wilt re - ceive; wilt wel - come,  
 5 Just as I am, thy love un - known has bro - ken

1 blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me  
 2 con - flict, man - ya doubt; fight - ings and fears with -  
 3 heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in  
 4 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve, be - cause thy prom - ise  
 5 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

1 come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 2 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 3 thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 4 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 5 thine a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am, of thy great love  
 the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,  
 here for a season, then above:  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789–1871); Music: *Woodworth*, William Batchelder Bradbury (1816–1868).

# HYMN ..... "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

*Unison*

1. We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.  
 2. We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.  
 3. We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.  
 4. All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come.

We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.  
 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.  
 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.  
 And all praise to Christ Je - sus, His on - ly Son.

And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored.  
 And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.  
 And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride.  
 And all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one.

*Refrain*

And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our love.

Yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

*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.**

## LENTEN BLESSING

*All stand.*

**HYMN 691** ..... “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
 3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,  
 Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
 be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's  
 guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
 love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.  
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808–1887); Music: *Olivet*, Lowell Mason (1792–1872).

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Alleluias are omitted during the season of Lent.*

**Minister:** Let us bless the Lord.

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

**VOLUNTARY** ..... “The Lord of Heaven”

Percy Whitlock

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

# OTHER READINGS FOR THE DAY

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## THE PSALM ..... Psalm 51:1-13

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

# OTHER READINGS FOR THE DAY

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## THE EPISTLE .....Hebrews 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

## RECOGNITIONS

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### BIRTHS

Nov. 14

Hadley Grace Higgins

Daughter of Hutton and Taylor Higgins



### SYMPATHY

March 11

Mary Frances Monteith

To mark a special occasion with an altar greenery dedication, visit [bit.ly/smecaltarflowers](http://bit.ly/smecaltarflowers) or contact Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam at [relhakam@smec.org](mailto:relhakam@smec.org).

# CONTINUING PRAYERS

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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	Kayla Hamaker	Joseph Powell
Bobbie Adams	Amy Heath	Ophelia Pujol
Carolyn Alban	Mollie Hill	Barbara Quackenbush
Katie and Harvey Altmann	Marguerite Hillgers	Heather Rathnau
Scotty Arnoldy	Russell Hughes	Dana Raymant
Edith Avery	Marilyn Ingham	Marjorie Reeks
Ally Babineaux	Thelma Isenhart	Phyllis Reinhardt
Shelly Bain	Christine Jean	Monica Rivera
Kathy Beadnell	Mary and Jim Jennings	John Davis Roady
Beth Beathard	John Justice	Joe Rodriguez
Cory Blackman	Sandra "Sandy" Justice	Maggie Rodriguez
Kenny Brown	Mary Anne Kannard	Consuelo Saldana
John Canon	Candi Keebler	Helen and Jim Shaffer
Bella Carosi	Dick Kilday	Caroline Shanahan
Cole Cattan	Marjorie Krajian	Clif Shoemake
Debbie Chernosky	Reggie Lang	Bob Spencer
Doug Clarke	Rhea Latta	Trish St. Jean Martin
Hallie Cooley	Bruce Michael Lee	Paul Therrien
Almeria Cottingham	Nancy Liles	Annie Troung
Michael Craig	Nicole Holford Lockney	Christine Troung
Sam Cruse	Amanda Lodge	Mary Watters
James Cunningham	Ryan Logan	Stephen Wedemeyer
Gail Davis	Bella Martin	Ann Winters
Bobby de Sosa	Ronnie Martin	Stacy Wood
Linda de Sosa	Janet McDaniel	Eric Zoerb
Ross Dunn	Barbara McMahan	Alexi
Kiersten Dyke	Dave McStravick	Atticus
Becca Earhart	Frances Melicks	Elizabeth
Jim Easterling	Len Menefee	Henry
Stacey and John Elliott	Margaret Milner	Julie
Mary Finucane	Ruth Moorhead	Laura
Charles Flores	Stuart Nixon	Lynne
Will Fogle	Ann Noel	Mary Jane
Susan Folk	Deborah Oliver	Scott
Julie G.	Andrew O'Malley	Stuart
Catherine Gonzales	Bob Paddock	
Nancy Gore	Jim Paddock	
Bette Haidusek	Judy Peach	
Ann Halverson	Betty Polando	

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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](mailto:vrivera@smec.org).

# CONTINUING PRAYERS

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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  
Corporal James W. Peoples  
Lt. Paul Piana  
Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant

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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](mailto:vrivera@smec.org).

***Please circle the name of any loved one that you would like to remain on our Continuing Prayer list, tear out this sheet of your bulletin and place it in the Prayer List box in the Narthex. You may also email Valerie Rivera at [vrivera@smec.org](mailto:vrivera@smec.org) with this information. Your assistance in maintaining our prayer list is most appreciated.***

# Witness to Dignity

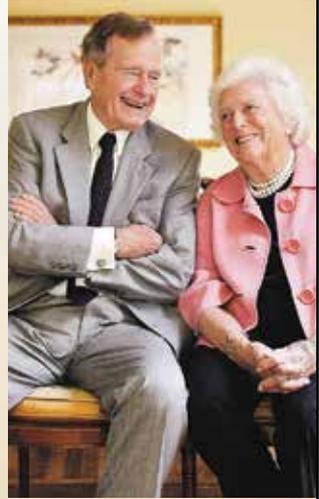
*The Life and Faith of  
George H.W. and Barbara Bush*

**Now Available in  
Paperback!**



Available now wherever fine books are sold. Scan the QR code for more information.

For more information, contact Barbara Shoemaker, Gift Shoppe Supervisor, at [bshoemaker@smec.org](mailto:bshoemaker@smec.org) or 713-985-3840.



**DONATE BLOOD  
SAVE LIVES**

**Monday, March 18  
9 a.m.–1:30 p.m.  
Student Life Center**

*Schedule your next appointment at*

***[bit.ly/smecblooddrive](http://bit.ly/smecblooddrive)***

*Walk-ins Welcome!*



*Receive a tumbler as a thank you to helping patients in our local hospitals! (while supplies last)*



**Gulf Coast Regional  
Blood Center**

**Questions? Contact Justin Jacobson Avery  
at [events@smec.org](mailto:events@smec.org) or 713-985-3838.**



## Volunteers are invited to be part of the cast for Palm Sunday Dramatic Re-Enactment Services

### Rehearsal Date

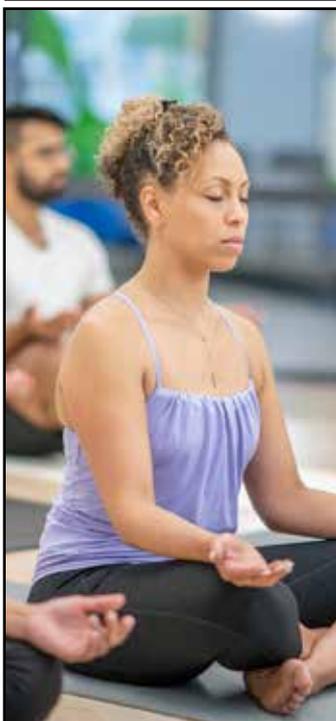
Saturday, March 23  
10 a.m.–noon  
The Church

### Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24  
9 and 11:15 a.m. services  
The Church

No “acting” experience needed and costumes will be provided.  
Adults, youth and children over the age of 10 (with participating parents).  
Limited time commitment.

Interested? Please respond by Monday, March 18, to Bruce Morgan at  
[robertbrucemorgan@gmail.com](mailto:robertbrucemorgan@gmail.com).



# ACTIVITY CENTER

## SLOW FLOW YOGA

Tuesdays

1–1:45 p.m. | Aerobics Room

Join Megh for a Slow Flow Yoga! This class focuses on all the benefits of yoga through slow and continuous movement. Learn yoga sequences that help to improve focus, strength, balance, flexibility, reduce stress and enhance emotional wellbeing! Open to all levels.

**MOST CLASSES ARE FREE!**

For more information, visit [bit.ly/smecactivitycenter](http://bit.ly/smecactivitycenter).

Contact | Victoria Wilson

[activitycenter@smec.org](mailto:activitycenter@smec.org) • 713-985-3835

ST. MARTIN'S  
**OUTREACH**  
MINISTRIES



## Amazing Place Easter Party

**Tuesday, March 19 | 10 a.m.**  
**3735 Drexel Dr., Houston, TX 77027**

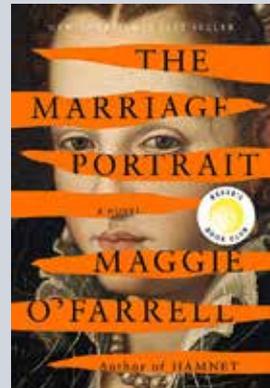
Come join us as we help celebrate this spring season with our friends at Amazing Place. Visit [amazingplacehouston.org](http://amazingplacehouston.org) to learn about this organization that serves adults with mild to moderate dementia.

Contact Tracee Tindol at **713-985-3811** or [outreach@smec.org](mailto:outreach@smec.org) for more information.



## EVENING GROUP

**Tuesday, March 19 | 7-8:30 p.m.**  
**Children's Life Center, Room 109 and**  
**Via Zoom | [bit.ly/faithinliteveningzoom](https://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 Marriage Portrait" by Maggie O'Farrell.*

For more information, contact Amanda DeViney at [adeviney@smec.org](mailto:adeviney@smec.org) or **713-830-4110**.



# THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Sundays, before and after  
the morning services.**

*Parishioners and guests are invited  
to make their pilgrimage along the  
Via Dolorosa, or "Way of Sorrows,"  
during Lent and Holy Week 2024.*

A free guide is available in the Northex  
of the Church or download a digital  
copy at [bit.ly/smeclent](https://bit.ly/smeclent)

**Wednesdays, Feb. 21–March 20**

4:30–5:30 p.m. • The Church

**Holy Week, March 25–28**

11 a.m.–1 p.m. • The Church

**Good Friday, March 29**

11 a.m.–noon and 1–2 p.m. • The Church

**Contact:** Barbara Piana

[bpiana@smec.org](mailto:bpiana@smec.org) • 713-830-4116



## LUNCH & LEARN

SERIES FOR PARENTS WITH  
YOUNG CHILDREN

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20**

**Noon–1 p.m. • Children's Life Center, Large Pod**

**Christ's Exaltation and Ours**

led by the Rev. Alex Graham III

St. Martin's Children's Ministry continues its Lunch-And-Learn series this spring with a discussion developed especially for parents of young children.

Join us and grow your love of Jesus and discover what it means to live according to God's Word.

Grab lunch from Café St. Martin's and join us for the conversations.

**Contact:** Ashley Monachelli • [amonachelli@smec.org](mailto:amonachelli@smec.org) • 713-985-3816

## WEDNESDAY EVENING ADULT LENTEN SERIES



### MARCH 20 – FINAL CLASS

*"For Thine is the Kingdom, Power and Glory... Amen!"*

Dinner • Bagby Parish Hall .....5–6:30 p.m.

Holy Eucharist • The Church ..... 5:30 p.m.

Program • Bagby Parish Hall ..... 6:30 p.m.

*Pre-register for dinner at [bit.ly/lentendinner](http://bit.ly/lentendinner)*

## LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY...

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

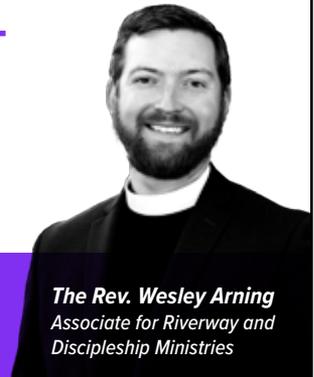
Join us weekly as Dr. Levenson offers this five-part review of our Lord's most well-known sermon. Each class is of its own, so weekly attendance is not necessary ... but preferred!

**Contact:** Amanda DeViney • [adeviney@smec.org](mailto:adeviney@smec.org) • 713-830-4110

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON ADULT LENTEN SERIES

*Then Sings My Soul*

**Thursday, March 21 – Final Class  
4–5 p.m. • Chapel Reception Hall**



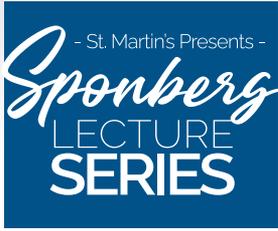
*The Rev. Wesley Arning  
Associate for Riverway and  
Discipleship Ministries*

Join the Rev. Wesley Arning, Lay Pastor Eric Priest and Parishioner Ryan Presley as they share a favorite hymn or song that transformed their lives and their faith, and learn how this drew them closer to Christ.

**Contact:** Amanda DeViney, Clergy Assistant  
[adeviney@smec.org](mailto:adeviney@smec.org) • 713-830-4110



ST. MARTIN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



# How the Christian Revolution Remade the World

with Tom Holland

Thursday, March 21 • 7 p.m. • The Church

*A book signing will take place from 5:30–6:30 p.m. in the Welcome Center.*

*Books are available for purchase in the Gift Shoppe.*



Registration required at

[bit.ly/032124sponberg](https://bit.ly/032124sponberg)

\$20 for adults | \$10 for students



Tom Holland, author and historian, will speak about his book, **“Dominion: How the Christian Revolution Remade the World.”** The book looks at how Christ’s teachings liberated the Western mind and has been described as the most important theological writing of the last 50 years.



Ron Sponberg was a loyal member of the Church and the Men of St. Martin’s. His life was dedicated to God, his family and his country.

Before his death, Ron and his family endowed a lecture series designed to re-educate us about our country’s core principles and teach us about their genesis.

American democracy, as it should, has always allowed for a healthy debate about the direction of the country.

When its core principles are at risk of being eliminated — whether by those at the right or left of the political spectrum — they need to be defended. This series will remind us of what they are and where they came from.



**Contact:** Juli Browning, Worship Service Coordinator  
[jbrowning@smec.org](mailto:jbrowning@smec.org) • 713-985-3845



# **PALM CROSSES** for **PALM SUNDAY**

*Stripping of the Palms and Palm Cross Making*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 22**

8:20 A.M. – 5 P.M. • STUDENT LIFE CENTER

Join members of the Altar Guild as volunteers strip, divide the fronds and make palm crosses to distribute on Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday. This annual tradition is a fun and meaningful time of fellowship and service. Please bring scissors.

**Contact:** Barbara Piana  
bpiana@smec.org • 713-830-4116



# **PALM SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24**

8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Holy Eucharist  
9 and \*11:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist and  
Dramatic Re-enactment, *The Church*  
*\*The 11:15 a.m. service will be live-streamed*

## **Family Table**

8 and 9:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist and Dramatic  
Reading, *Parish Life Center*  
*Service begins behind the Student Life Center*

## **Riverway Contemporary Worship Service**

11:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist, *Parish Life Center*  
*Join the Riverway community as we recall Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem*

All Sunday School classes will not meet March 24  
in observance of Palm Sunday.

# STUDENT WORSHIP NIGHT

717 STUDENTS

## *Palm Sunday*

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24**

**5 – 6 P.M. • STUDENT LIFE CENTER**

All middle and high school students are welcome to join us for prayer, praise, music and dinner. Parents are welcome!

**Contact:** Florence Ritchie • [fritchie@smec.org](mailto:fritchie@smec.org) • 713-985-3843



# HOLY WEDNESDAY

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27**

7 a.m. and noon, Holy Eucharist  
Christ Chapel

Stay after the noon service for the  
Sacrament of Healing (Holy Unction).

**Taizé Prayer Service**  
6 p.m., Holy Eucharist  
Christ Chapel



# MAUNDY THURSDAY

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28**

7 p.m. • The Church

Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Stripping of the Altar and Holy Eucharist with the Parish Choir.

The worship service will conclude outdoors near the Wayside Chapel and Great Cross.



# GOOD FRIDAY

**FRIDAY, MARCH 29**

## Traditional Service

\*Noon and 6 p.m. • The Church

Liturgy for Good Friday with sermon and Parish Choir performs Movement 1 from *Ein Deutsches Requiem* by Johannes Brahms.

\*The noon service will be live-streamed.

## Family Table Service

Noon • Parish Life Center

This worship service is specifically designed for families.

## Riverway Contemporary Service

6:30 p.m. • Parish Life Center

Join the Riverway community for a relaxed service, featuring the liturgy for Good Friday, sermon and special music.



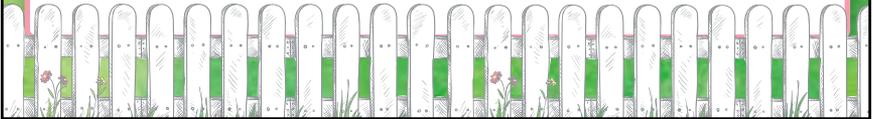
The Episcopal Church Women of St. Martin's Invites You to



**Saturday, March 30 • 10 a.m. • Free Admission**  
**Parish Life Center**  
**Bring your egg basket!**

The adventures begin with a reading of the Easter story in the Parish Life Center, followed by an Easter egg hunt, crafts, a petting zoo, face painting, balloons and more. Everyone is welcome!

**Contact:** Valerie Rivera • 713-985-3817 • [vrivera@smec.org](mailto:vrivera@smec.org)



## **HOLY SATURDAY BAPTISMS**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 30**  
10 a.m. • Christ Chapel

The rite of Holy Baptism is a special occasion for St. Martin's — a service of joy that underscores the communal aspect of worship and expresses God's presence in the midst of His people.

People of all ages and stages of life are invited to enter into a lifelong journey with Christ through the sacrament of baptism.

*Join us and welcome new members to St. Martin's!*

**Contact:** Rocio Velazquez • [rvelazquez@smec.org](mailto:rvelazquez@smec.org) • 713-985-3807

# RIVERWAY

## *Celebration Sunday!*

Celebrate March Birthdays and Anniversaries  
with Riverway.

**EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

**Parish Life Center Narthex**

*Following the 11:15 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](mailto:adeviney@smec.org).

## WAYS *to* GIVE



### TEXT

Text SMEC to 73256



### MAIL

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



### ONLINE

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



### BEQUESTS

Contact: Ashley Pratka at  
[apratka@smec.org](mailto: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](mailto:dhutchison@smec.org) or 713-985-3803.

# EASTER

## AT ST. MARTIN'S

**SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

*The Sunday of the Resurrection*

### **Easter Morning Breakfast** *Hosted by St. Martin's Vestry*

8–11 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

Before or after the Easter services, enjoy a complimentary breakfast served and sponsored by the current and past Vestry of St. Martin's.

### **Traditional Worship Services**

7, 9, \*11:15 a.m. and 6 p.m. • The Church

Holy Eucharist; festive music by the Parish Choir, Gloria Dei Organ, brass and tympani. *\*The 11:15 a.m. service will be live-streamed.*

### **Family Table Services**

8 and 9:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center

Join us for a family-friendly worship service with Holy Eucharist.

### **Riverway Service**

11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center

This worship service for students, families and adults features the Holy Eucharist and beautiful music.

### **Student Ministries Easter Egg Hunt**

10:15–10:40 a.m. and 10:45–11:10 a.m. • Student Life Center

Students are invited to take part in this tradition with a twist!

### **Sunday School**

*Sunday school classes will not meet March 31 in observance of Easter.*

### **Childcare**

*Childcare will be provided for infants through three-year-olds in the Children's Life Center during all Easter morning services.*



ST. MARTIN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

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## 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

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## 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. Will Hedges**  
*Vestry Representative*  
*Morning*



**Mrs. Nancy Bynon**  
*Vestry Representative*  
*Evening*

# OUR CLERGY

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



**The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr.**  
*Rector*  
lthough@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. Gillian (Gill) B. Keyworth**  
*Deacon*  
gkeyworth@smec.org

WE INVITE YOU TO  
KEEP THIS BOOKLET  
FOR REFERENCE.

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

STMARTINSEPISCOPAL.ORG

