## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

#### September 1, 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.



#### WELCOME TO ST. MARTIN'S

## 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.

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

#### Prayer 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.
- To use a hearing assisted device, see one of our ushers.
- St. Martin's asks that anyone coming into a worship service not bring oversized or large backpacks.
- Please silence all cell phones when entering The Church and also refrain from texting.
   Thank you for being respectful of God and others as we spend time together in worship.





#### 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 ......""Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" Charles H.H. Parry

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





Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824–1908), alt.; Music: St. Denio, Welsh hymn, from Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822–1877); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906, alt.

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

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

#### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant says

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

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



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

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Celebrant: Let us pray. (kneel)

The Celebrant says the Collect

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

#### Please be seated.

#### THE LESSON ...... Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

All stand

\*HYMN 660 (vs. 1-2)......."O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"



 $Words: Washington\ Gladden\ (1836-1918); Music: \textit{Maryton}, Henry\ Percy\ Smith\ (1825-1898).$ 

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining readings for the day are on pages 24-25.

\*HYMN 660 (vs. 34)......"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"



Words: Washington Gladden (1836–1918); Music: Maryton, Henry Percy Smith (1825–1898).

Please be seated.

THE SERMON.....The Rev. Naomi B. Sundara

#### THE NICENE CREED (stand)

Celebrant and People

I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation

came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the

Virgin Mary,

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to

the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of the Father,

and he shall come again, with glory,

to judge both the quick and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

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

who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together

is worshiped

and glorified;

who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;

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

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (kneel)

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

That we all may be one.

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

#### That thy Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai and Hector, our bishops; the Clergy of this Parish; for our Search Committee and the fifth Rector; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Anglican Church of Mozambique and Angola; for all bishops, priests and deacons;

#### That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Joe, our President, Greg, our Governor, John, our Mayor, and the Congress and the Courts; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the World;

#### That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

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

#### That our works may find favor in thy sight.

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

#### That they may be delivered from their distress.

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

#### Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

#### May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.

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

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

#### The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may ever be defended by thy gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Minister says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A moment of silence is observed.

#### Minister and People

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

#### The Celebrant stands and says

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

#### THE PEACE (stand)

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

People: And with thy spirit.

Please be seated.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 26 for classes and events.

#### THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM ....."Jubilate Deo"

Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: Serve the Lord with gladness and come before His presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: It is true that he that hath made us and not we ourselves; We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving. And into his courts with praise be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting: And his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen.

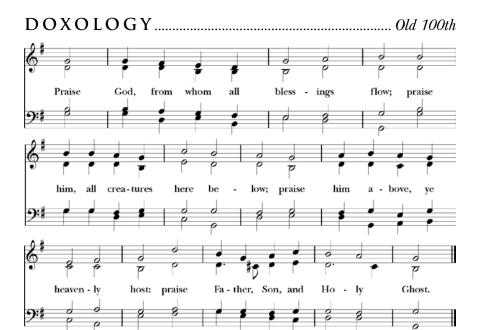
Music & Text: Benjamin Britten; © 1961 Oxford University Press.

#### AT THE PRESENTATION (stand)

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

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

People: And of thine own have we given thee.



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

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

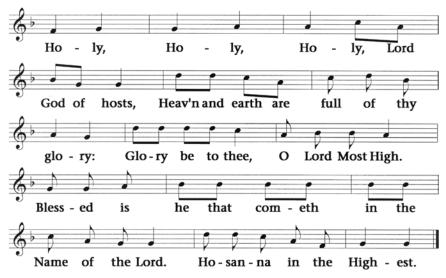
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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

#### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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



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

#### The Celebrant continues (kneel)

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

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

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

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

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

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

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant says

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

#### Celebrant and People

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

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

(8 a.m. only in place of sung Fraction Anthem)

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!



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

#### PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Then may be said

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.

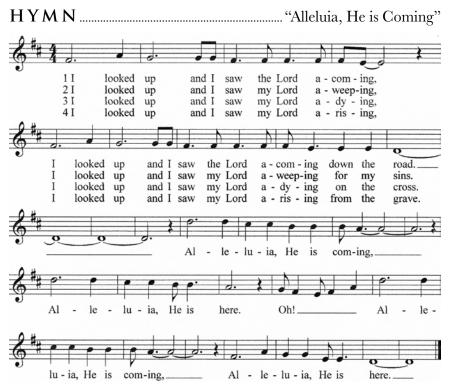
The Celebrant says the Invitation.

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.

#### 

God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in my eyes, and in my looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking; God be at my end, and in my departing.

Text: Old English Prayer. Music: John Rutter. © 1970 Oxford University Press. ARR.



Music and Text: Copyright © Martha Butler, 1141 S. Landing, Leasburg, NC 27291 UPB.



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HYMN ....."Seek My Face"



Text and Music: Steven Wray; © 1986 Eyes & Ears Music (Admin. by The Copyright Co.). CCLI #805314.

After Communion, the Celebrant says (kneel) Let us pray.

#### Celebrant and People

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

At 9 and 11:15 a.m., after the Post-Communion Prayer, members of the Shepherd's Guild may come forward. The priest or deacon gives the Sacrament to the Eucharistic visitors, saying In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. **Amen.** 

#### THE BLESSING

All stand.





Words: Att. to John Fawcett (1739/40–1817); Music: Sicilian Mariners, Sicilian melody; first published The European Magazine and London Review, 1792, alt.

#### THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

VOLUNTARY ......"Concerto in G Major: Movement III" Johann Sebastian Bach

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

#### RECOGNITIONS



#### FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In memory of Sharon Aldrich by Men's Bible Study, Table 7



#### SYMPATHY

Aug. 22 Sharon King Aldrich

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

#### CONTINUING PRAYERS

Individuals are included on the Continuing Prayers list for numerous reasons, some of which may include recovery from illness, thanksgiving or need for support for special ministry and mission. In addition to praying for participants in cancer support groups, the Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group and The Gathering, this week please pray for the following:

Bobbie Adams Mollie Hill Monica Rivera Carolyn Alban Marguerite Hillgers John Davis Roady Cecilia Illeman Maggie Rodriguez Harvey Altmann Consuelo Saldana **Buck Anderson** Marilyn Ingham Thelma Isenhart Caroline Searls Scotty Arnoldy Edith Avery Christine Jean Helen and Jim Shaffer Shelly Bain Mary and Jim Jennings Caroline Shanahan Diane Shelton Beth Beathard Bobby Jornayvaz Cory Blackman John Justice Clif Shoemake Sandra "Sandy" Justice John Boysen Bob Spencer Kenny Brown Mary Anne Kannard Trish St. Jean Martin Matthews Brown Dick Kilday Jim and Jan Stokes Harry Burrow Robin Kleinpeter Hillary Stonger John Canon Marjorie Krajian Henry Suman Delonda Citrano Mary Tyler Labhart Paul Therrien Sammy A. Citrano III Rhea Latta Carlotta Thomas Hallie Cooley Bruce Michael Lee Anne Thomson Nancy Liles Grantland Wagner Sam Cruse James Cunningham Nicole Holford Lockney MaeJoyce Wagner Gail Davis Amanda Lodge Mary Watters Richard "Rit" Webb Paul Davison Ryan Logan Stephen Wedemeyer Bobby de Sosa Madelyn Markham Linda de Sosa Bill Maynard Marilyn Whitehurst Janet McDaniel Ross Dunn Desyre Whittington Becca Earhart Adams McHenry Ann Winters Frances Melicks Stacy Wood Stacey and John Elliott Len Menefee Eric Zoerb Paul Falgout The Rev. Lisa Neilson Mary Finucane Atticus Charles Flores Stuart Nixon Cameron Will Fogle Deborah Oliver Dave Susan Folk Andrew O'Malley Elizabeth and Scott Catherine Gonzales Bob Paddock Henry Nancy Gore Jim Paddock Iulie

Ann Halverson Barbara Quackenbush Roger Jean Hatton Phyllis Reinhardt Sarah Nancy Haywood Julia Richards Stuart

Patty Pate

Judy Peach

Ophelia Pujol

Colleen Paxton

Shea Guinn

Cissy Gully

Bette Haidusek

Cathy Haidusek

Please be advised that the weeks after Easter and All Saints' Day, this 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.

Laura

Louise

Lvnne

Phyllis Katharine

#### CONTINUING PRAYERS

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

Lt. Col. Julian Benton
1LT. Tom Cadwallender
1LT. Yonatan Cadwallender
1st LCDR Casey Gainer

LCDR Bradley Hoffman
Lt. Col. Wesley J. Hunnell
2nd Lt. Stephen A. Jeckovich
Capt. Blake J. Kidd

Capt. Jack Mullen

1st Lt. Alex Mullen PFC. Parris F. Owen Corporal James W. Peoples

Lt. Paul Piana

Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant PO1 Brian Powell

PO1 Brian Powell Sgt. Joel Rowell PO Evan Tomlin

Please be advised that each year the week after Veterans Day, this list will be completely redone. To add or remove someone on the Military Service Prayers list, please contact Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vrivera@smec.org.

#### OTHER WORSHIP SERVICES





#### 9:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center

The Family Table service with Holy Eucharist combines contemporary worship music with traditional liturgy and is designed for families with young children.

#### 11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center

The Riverway Contemporary Service is both Episcopalian and modern, offering the Holy Eucharist in a relaxed service with contemporary music.

#### WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Holy Eucharist Services 7 a.m., noon and 6 p.m. • Christ Chapel

OSL Healing Prayer Service First Wednesday of the month 5–6 p.m. • Parish Life Center Online at bit.ly/oslservice

#### READINGS FOR THE DAY

T	HE PSALMPsalm 15
1	Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
	who may abide upon your holy hill?
2	Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
	who speaks the truth from his heart.
3	There is no guile upon his tongue;
	he does no evil to his friend; *
	he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
4	In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
	but he honors those who fear the Lord.
5	He has sworn to do no wrong *
	and does not take back his word.
6	He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
	nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
7	Whoever does these things *
	shall never be overthrown.

#### READINGS FOR THE DAY

#### THE EPISTLE ......James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act-they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

#### THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

#### **SEPTEMBER** 2–7, 2024

Sunday School classes are not offered today and St. Martin's Campus is closed Sept. 2 in observance of Labor Day. We will reopen Sept. 3.

#### **ALL ADULTS**

Prayer Shawl Ministry *Tuesday 3, 9 a.m.* • *Activity Center, Family Room* Knit and crochet shawls to be released for those in need of prayer.

Blanket Ladies *Wednesday, 10 a.m.* • *Activity Center, Family Room* Make receiving blankets for newborn infants at local charity hospitals.

Docent Tour Wednesday, 11 a.m. • The Church

The Docent Guild offers a formal tour of The Church. To schedule a group tour or tours of other Campus locations, contact the Docent Line at 713-830-4117.

St. Clare's Guild *Wednesday, Noon • Activity Center, Upper Hall East*St. Clare's Guild undertakes a variety of needlepoint projects in worship spaces and for outreach programs.

Parish Choir *Thursday*, 11:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. • The Music Center, Rehearsal Hall Sing a variety of traditional music in service to the Lord and our congregation.

Sterling's Market Saturday, 9 a.m. • Corner of Woodway and Sage, rain or shine Glorify God through sharing the Gospel and the bounties of the earth with Parishioners, neighbors and visitors.

#### **STUDENTS**

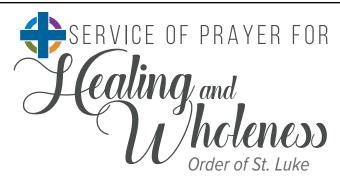
Life Groups Wednesday, 6 p.m. • Student Life Center

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 the meal.

#### **EVENTS**



To view all our upcoming events, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/smecevents.



St. Martin's International Order of St. Luke (OSL) Healing Community offers a service of prayer for healing and wholeness on the first Wednesday of each month. This short service is held for anyone in need of prayer for themselves, friends or family.

# Next Service Wednesday, Sept. 4 | 5 p.m. Parish Life Center or via Zoom bit.ly/oslservice

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



WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 4 • 7–9 p.m.
Sylvia's Enchilada Kitchen • 6401 Woodway Dr., Houston 77057

We will start a study on the Gospel of Luke this fall in the Children's Life Center. We also meet throughout the city for a monthly Saturday social event. Everyone is welcome and no reservations are needed

Contact: The Rev. Wesley Arning • rwarning@smec.org • 713-621-3040



Join dads with children of all ages for coffee, fellowship and Bible study. This men's group is for those who want to begin their day seeking ways to connect to the Gospel. No registration is necessary to attend the discussions led by the Rev. R. Wesley Arning. All Dads are welcome!

Contact: The Rev. R. Wesley Arning • rwarning@smec.org • 346-335-8680



## FOOD.FUN. FELLOWSHIP.

CYCLONE ANAYA'S
Thursday, Sept. 5, 5–7 p.m.
5761 Woodway Dr.
Houston, Texas 77057

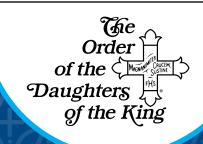
Cost is \$25 per person includes food and beverages with no-host cocktails.





REGISTRATION:
bit.ly/mosmkickoff

Contact: Juli Browning • jbrowning@smec.org • 713-985-3845



## SATURDAY, SEPT. 7 • 10 A.M. CHILDREN'S LIFE CENTER

#### **GUEST SPEAKER: THE REV. SHARRON COX**

The Order of The Daughters of The King® Chaplain, the Rev. Sharron Cox, will lead the Installation Service for new members as current members will renew their vows.

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

#### St. Martin's Welcomes Back

# THE REV. DR. SUSE

## THE REV. DR. MICHAEL





#### SUNDAY, SEPT. 8

Dr. McBay will preach at all traditional services in The Church. Dr. Lloyd will preach at the 11:15 a.m. Riverway service in the Parish Life Center.

Contact: Juli Browning • jbrowning@smec.org • 713-985-3845



## BOUT MINISTRY? LETTUCE GROW TOGETHER!

Sunday, Sept. 8 10:15-11 a.m. • Activity Center Gym

# PRIZES, FOOD AND MUSIC! Discover how to get plugged into St. Martin's!

Find a ministry that "speaks" to you, one where you feel comfortable and can enhance your spiritual life.

See what is in store for the entire Parish, including Adult Christian Education, guest preachers and teachers, ministries, programs for adults, special retreats and classes. Please join us and discover what is in store at St. Martin's!

Contact: Juli Browning • jbrowning@smec.org • 713-985-3806



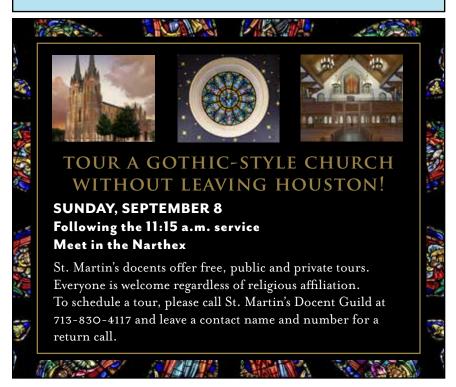
#### **BIBLE PRESENTATION**

Sept. 8 • 9: 15 a.m. Parish Life Center



Join us in Family Table as we present Bibles to our third-grade students.

To sign up to receive a Bible for your child, please contact Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@stmartinsepiscopal.org or 713-985-3807.





# MEMBERSHIP 101 MONDAY, SEPT. 9

Bagby Parish Hall and Online • 6 – 9 p.m. • Dinner will be served Reservations are required by 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8



Register at bit.ly/Membership-101 Case sensitive

**CONTACT:** Kathy Johnson • membership@smec.org • 713-985-3834





Four-week study on the Book of Ruth

Registration ends Monday, Sept. 9



Registration: bit.ly/justforsmallgroups

Contact: The Rev. Wesley Arning or Kathy Johnson at smallgroups@smec.org





Tuesday, September 10 | 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Spend some of your evening getting to know the children and Mama Isabel in Casa San Martin in Cochabamba, Bolivia over Zoom. All ages are welcome, and a translator will be available.

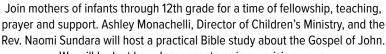
Contact Tracee Tindol at outreach@smec.org or 713-985-3811 for the zoom link.





Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 11 9:15–10:30 a.m.

Children's Life Center, Large Pod



We will look at how Jesus meets us in surprising ways.

Childcare is provided for infants (6 weeks) through age 3.

Contact: Ashley Monachelli • amonachelli@smec.org • 713-985-3816









A Bible Study for Any Woman Seeking God's Truth

## **2024–2025 Registration Now Open!** clsbiblestudy.com

The Day and Evening Classes will study Max Lucado's "Help is Here: Finding Fresh Strength and Purpose in the Power of the Holy Spirit," "Nehemiah: The Courage to Face Opposition" by Don Field and "The King's Choir: Singing the Psalms with Jesus" by Christopher Ash with Alison Mitchell.

#### **DAY GROUP - Begins Sept. 12**

Thursdays • 9:30-11:15 a.m. • Parish Life Center and via Zoom.

The Day Group offers a Godly Play program for 3- and 4-year-olds and nursery care for younger children.

Contact: Anna McLean • 281-782-0594 • amaynebr1@gmail.com

#### **EVENING GROUP - Begins Sept. 17**

Tuesdays • 6:30–8 p.m. • Children's Life Center and via Zoom.

Contact: Ann Wilson • 713-828-8722 • annwilson33@gmail.com



#### PARENT MEETING

Sunday, Sept. 15 10:15–11 a.m. • Student Life Center

This is an information meeting for families with students in grades 8-12 who are interested in confirmation at St. Martin's. We will discuss all the components and expectations of this preparatory class, including required acolyte services during your Confirmation year.

Registration for confirmation is open Sept. 1–Oct. 31 at bit.ly/studentconfirmation2025.

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



#### **SEPTEMBER 15**

#### 8+ LECTIONARY CLASS

8:55 a.m. | Chapel Reception Hall

#### THEOLOGY FOR LIFE WITH ST. MARTIN'S CLERGY AND GUESTS

"Things Jesus Never Said" 10:15 a.m. | Bagby Parish Hall

#### SPIRITUAL FORMATION WITH THE REV. SHARRON COX

"The Kingdom of God is Within You: Cultivating the Interior Life in Christ"

10:15 a.m. | Founders' Hall

#### FAMILY LIFE CLASS WITH THE REV. ALEX GRAHAM III

"The Art of Marriage: How to Maintain a Healthy and Vibrant Marriage" 10:15 a.m. | Activity Center, Game Room

#### **ADULT CONFIRMATION WITH THE REV. JOHN SUNDARA**

10:15 a.m. | Chapel Reception Hall To register, email jbrowning@smec.org

#### STUDENT SUNDAY MORNING GET-TOGETHERS

10:15 a.m. | Student Life Center

#### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:15 a.m. | Children's Life Center



To view all programs and ministries, scan the QR code or visit, bit.ly/smecedu







Help the Joy of Giving Market this year by donating to the Silent Auction. Some items of particular interest include:

- Vacation homes
- Sports and event tickets
- Familiy activities and experiences
- Home décor items

By donating to the Joy of Giving Silent Auction, you are helping raise more funds for Outreach grants that benefit many of Houston's most disadvantaged.

Contact Tracee Tindol at **joyofgiving@smec.org** or 713-985-3811 for more information about donating to the Silent Auction.

#### MEMBERSHIP

If you are visiting today, please fill out a Welcome Card from the pew rack to place in the offering plate or complete it online by scanning the QR code or visiting **bit.ly/smecvisitors**. Please introduce yourself to one of



our Clergy and we will be in touch to let you know more about our Parish Family.

Seeking membership in a parish is a very important step and it is our goal to support your understanding of our Parish, its ministries and your place in the life of St. Martin's. Our membership process begins by attending one of our quartely Membership 101 classes.

Contact: Kathy Johnson • 713-985-3834 • kjohnson@smec.org

#### ST. MARTIN'S IS HERE FOR YOU

For general questions, contact the Reception Desk at 713-621-3040 during business hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday–Friday).

For pastoral concerns during business hours, contact 713-985-3817 or pastoralcare@smec.org.

For pastoral emergencies after hours and weekends, call 713-621-3040 and follow the prompts to reach the priest on call.

For prayer requests, contact the prayer request line at 713-830-4124 or Valerie Rivera at 713-985-3817 or vrivera@smec.org.

For death notifications and funerals, contact Cyndy Ensign at 713-985-3808 or censign@smec.org.

#### OUR STAFF AND VESTRY

#### SUNDAY PROGRAM STAFF

#### Dr. David Henning

Director of Music and Parish Organist dhenning@smec.org

#### Mr. Keith Lathrom

Choral Director of the Adult Choir klathrom@smec.org

#### Ms. Hannah Cen

Associate Organist hcen@smec.org

#### Ms. Carole Nelson

Coordinator of Children's Music Ministries cnelson@smec.org

#### Mr. Tyler (TD) Davis

Interim Director of Student Ministries tdavis@smec.org

#### Mrs. Ashley Monachelli

Director of Children's Ministry amonachelli@smec.org

#### Mrs. Kathy Johnson

Director of Membership kjohnson@smec.org

#### Mrs. Barbara Piana

Verger and Worship Coordinator bpiana@smec.org

#### ST. MARTIN'S VESTRY

#### **Vestry Executive Committee**

Mr. Dan Meyer, Senior Warden

Mr. Ryan LaRue, Junior Warden

Mrs. Nancy Bynon, Missions Chair

Ms. Sherrie Perkins, Treasurer

Mr. Logan Walters, Clerk

Mr. Tommy Ford, Past Senior Warden

Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., Parish Stewardship Chair

Mr. Andy Harvin, Chancellor\*

#### **Vestry Members**

Mr. Scott Anderson

Mrs. Summer Craig

Mrs. Elizabeth Dukes

Mr. Will Hedges

The Hon. Edith Jones

Mr. David Leonard

Mrs. Susan McConn

Mr. Roy Nichol

Mrs. Courtney Schilling

Mr. Milton West

#### Associate Members

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

Mr. David Harvin, Senior Council Representative 2023-2025

Mrs. Beth Reeves, Senior Council Representative 2023-2025

Ms. Samantha Hutchison, *Altar Guild President* 2024-2025

Mrs. Shelly Newton, ECW President 2024-2025

Mr. Perry Ruthven, Men of St. Martin's President 2023-2025

Mr. John Sutherland, *Usher Representative* 2024-2026

\*Denotes Associate Vestry filled at the discretion of the Rector.



Mr. Milton West

Vestry Representative

Morning



**Mr. David Leonard** *Vestry Representative Evening* 

#### OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ The Head of This Church



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



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



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



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



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



The Rev. Elizabeth A. Miller Pastoral Assistant emiller@smec.org



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



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



**The Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden**Associate for Christian Education jhylden@smec.org



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



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



The Rev. Gregory W. Cross Curate gcross@smec.org

## PRAYER FOR THE SEARCH FOR ST. MARTIN'S FIFTH RECTOR



Heavenly Father,

As a community of believers, we come together in prayer seeking Your guidance as St. Martin's Episcopal Church continues the search for our fifth rector. May we be blessed with Your Holy Spirit's wisdom and discernment. We especially ask that You guide the hearts and minds of the Search Committee who will be deeply involved in this choice. Lord Jesus, shepherd Your flock with tender care and love. Give us patience as we wait, trusting in Your gracious provision. Guide us, Oh Lord, as we navigate this season of change, knowing that You are with us every step of the way. Our fervent prayer is that Your will be done.

With humble expectations, we pray this prayer in Jesus name, who we joyfully serve and love. Amen.

# WE INVITE YOU TO KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE.

