TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 6, 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"Fanfare"

John Cook

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





Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878–1969), alt.; Music: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873–1932); Copyright: Words: By permission of the author.

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

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

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- 7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak: "O Israel, I will bear witness against you; * for I am God, your God.
- 8 I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; * your offerings are always before me.
- 9 I will take no bull-calf from your stalls, * nor he-goats out of your pens;
- 10 For all the beasts of the forest are mine, * the herds in their thousands upon the hills.
- 11 I know every bird in the sky, * and the creatures of the fields are in my sight.
- 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you, * for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.
- 13 Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, * or drink the blood of goats?
- 14 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving * and make good your vows to the Most High.
- 15 Call upon me in the day of trouble; *
 I will deliver you, and you shall honor me."

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

All stand.



Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880–1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860–1935), alt.; Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874–1948); Copyright: Words: This hymn appears courtesy of the Estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd. Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The remaining readings for the day are on pages 23-24.



Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880–1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860–1935), alt.; Music: Slane, Irish ballad melody; adapt. The Church Hymnary, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874–1948); Copyright: Words: This hymn appears courtesy of the Estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd. Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

Please be seated.

THE SERMONThe Rev. John D. 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 Papua New Guinea; 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

Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, 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 25 for classes and events.

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM"Here I Am, Lord"

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make the darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone, I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life for them. Whom shall I send?

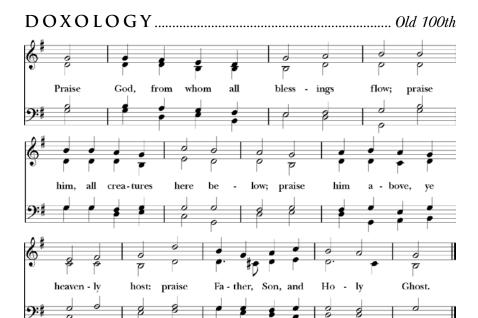
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AT THE PRESENTATION (stand)

(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.

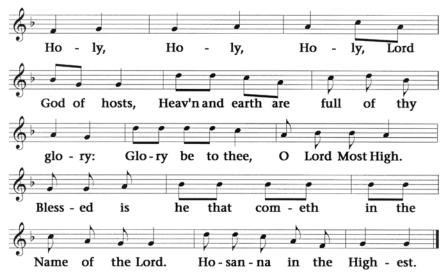
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Who by water and the Holy Spirit hast made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth thy glory in all the world.

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.

O Love, that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee; I give thee back the life I owe, That in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O joy, that seeks me through the pain, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

Text: George Matheson, (1842-1906). Music copyright 2016 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc. All rights reserved.



Words: Francis Ridley Havargal (1836–1879), alt.; Music: Hollingside, John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876).



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).



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

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.



 $Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. \ \textit{Hymnal 1940}, alt.; Music: \textit{Lobe den Herren}, melody from \textit{Erneuerten Gesangbuch}, 1665; harm. \textit{The Chorale Book for England}, 1863.$

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

Healey Willan

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

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In thanksgiving for the ministry of the Rev. Canon Dr. Victor Lee Austin In memory of Sells Neuhaus

by Becky Neuhaus and family



BAPTISMS

Sept. 28 Luke Walker Davis Griffin Robert Guthneck, Jr. John Paul Laurent II



SYMPATHY

Sept. 6 Carol Norwood Scott

Sept. 23 Keith Paul

Sept. 24 Jane Park Boyles

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 Nancy Haywood Monica Rivera Carolyn Alban Mollie Hill John Davis Roady Harvey Altmann Marguerite Hillgers Maggie Rodriguez Buck Anderson Wendy Hurt Consuelo Saldana Scotty Arnoldy Marilyn Ingham Caroline Searls Thelma Isenhart Chelsea Seymour Edith Avery Shelly Bain Christine Jean Helen and Jim Shaffer Susan Beeley Mary and Jim Jennings Caroline Shanahan Cory Blackman Bobby Jornayvaz Diane Shelton Clif Shoemake John Boysen John Justice Jennifer Broussard Sandra "Sandy" Justice Fran Gardner Shores Kenny Brown Mary Anne Kannard **Bob Spencer** Matthews Brown Dick Kilday Trish St. Jean Martin Harry Burrow Robin Kleinpeter Jim and Jan Stokes Hillary Stonger John Canon Searcy Kracke Henry Suman Delonda Citrano Marjorie Krajian Sammy A. Citrano III Mary Tyler Labhart Paul Therrien Hallie Cooley Rhea Latta Carlotta Thomas Sam Cruse Bruce Michael Lee Grantland Wagner James Cunningham Nancy Liles MaeJoyce Wagner Gail Davis Nicole Holford Lockney Mary Watters Paul Davison Richard "Rit" Webb Amanda Lodge Bobby de Sosa Ryan Logan Stephen Wedemeyer Marilyn Whitehurst Linda de Sosa Linda Maddux Ross Dunn Patrick Maehs Desvre Whittington Connie Dver Madelyn Markham Ann Winters Becca Earhart Bill Maynard Stacy Wood Eric Zoerb Russell Ekblad Janet McDaniel Stacey and John Elliott Adams McHenry Atticus Paul Falgout Frances Melicks Cameron Michael Finn Len Menefee Dave Mary Finucane Stuart Nixon Elizabeth and Scott

Charles Flores Deborah Oliver Enzo
Will Fogle Andrew O'Malley Henry
Susan Folk Bob Paddock Julie
Catherine Gonzales Jim Paddock Laura
Nancy Gore Patty Pate Lynne

Shea Guinn Colleen Paxton Phyllis Katharine

Cissy Gully Judy Peach Roger Bette Haidusek Ophelia Pujol Sarah Cathy Haidusek Barbara Quackenbush Stuart

Ann Halverson Phyllis Reinhardt Jean Hatton Julia Richards

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.

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

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 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.

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 with this information. Your assistance in maintaining our prayer list is most appreciated.

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 Anglican 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

THE OLD TESTAMENTJob 1:1; 2:1-10

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

READINGS FOR THE DAY

THE EPISTLE Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

THIS SUNDAY

▶ ADULTS

8+ with the Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden Discuss the lectionary readings of the day following the 8 a.m. service. 8:55 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall

THEOLOGY FOR LIFE with the Rev. Canon Dr. Victor Lee Austin "Things Jesus Never Said: Everything happens for a reason" Reflect on why popular sayings are so popular and how the Bible gives us a different perspective on what we often think is just common sense. 10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall



The Rev. Canon Victor Lee Austin, Ph.D., is canon theologian-in-residence for the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas. Previously, he served as theologian-in-residence at Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue and, before that, as a parish priest in the Hudson Valley. He is the author of several books on topics such as friendship, authority and an introduction

to Christian ethics. Dr. Austin is also the author of a theological memoir, "Losing Susan: Brain Disease, the Priest's Wife, and the God Who Gives and Takes Away," from which he will draw for his presentation today.

ADULT CONFIRMATION with the Rev. John Sundara Discuss "The Book of Common Prayer," the Sacraments and the Church's history and polity to explore the Episcopal faith.

10:15 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



To view all our Christian education options, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/smecedu.

THIS SUNDAY

STUDENT MINISTRIES

SUNDAY GET-TOGETHERS

Students in grades 6–12 spend time in fellowship and discuss the Scriptures shared in worship.

10:15 a.m. • Student Life Center

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children through 5th grade are given a solid foundation of Biblical and theological knowledge in age-appropriate ways.

10:15 a.m. • Children's Life Center

COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

Children in second through fifth grade learn about communion (also known as the "Eucharist" or the "Lord's Supper").

10:15 a.m. • Activity Center

CHILDCARE

Available during all morning services for six-weeks through three-year-olds. 8 a.m. • Children's Life Center

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



To view all our Christian education options, scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/smecedu.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN'S

OCTOBER 7-12, 2024

ALL ADULTS

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

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.

OSL Study Group *Wednesday*, 4:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center and via Zoom Learn and grow in the practice of prayer for healing.

MEN

Dads' Bible Study *Thursday, 8 a.m.* • *Welcome Center* Join dads with children of all ages for coffee, fellowship and Bible study.

WOMEN

Christian Life Study

Join this women's Bible study and strengthen your relationship with God through the study of His word.

Evening Group Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center and via Zoom Day Group Thursday, 9:30 a.m. • Parish Life Center and via Zoom

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.



YOUR PLEDGE TO ST. MARTIN'S DIRECTLY BENEFITS THE MINISTRIES THAT ALLOW US TO GROW IN OUR FAITH.

It is a privilege to make possible our Lord's work. St. Martin's is here for you because of your financial support!

Scan this QR Code or use the link to make your 2025 pledge today - Online!

bit.ly/StMartinsAbundant









TOUR A GOTHIC-STYLE CHURCH WITHOUT LEAVING HOUSTON!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6
Following the 11:15 a.m. service
Meet in the Narthex

St. Martin's docents offer free, public and private tours. Everyone is welcome regardless of religious affiliation. To schedule a tour, please call St. Martin's Docent Guild at 713-830-4117 and leave a contact name and number for a return call.

BLESSING of the ANIMALS

Sunday, Oct. 6 • 5 p.m. The Wayside Chapel

In honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron Saint of animals, all are invited to bring their pets for a special service dedicated to blessing all creatures great and small.

Pet food donations to service local shelters will be collected by Children's Ministry.

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









HOPE IN HARD TIMES: THE PROPHETS FOR TODAY

Led by the Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden

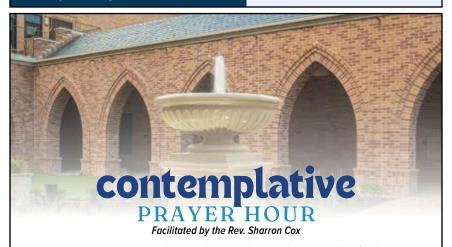
Tumultuous times. Judgment. A divided nation. Fearsome enemies. Poor leadership. Does any of this sound familiar? This was the world of the Old Testament prophets, as they spoke God's word to Israel during some challenging years, not only in judgment but also to give hope that God was faithful and still at work for the good of His beloved chosen people.

Contact: Amanda DeViney adeviney@smec.org • 713-830-4110



SUNDAYS Oct. 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3 and 17 10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

- Hosea and Amos: The Day of the Lord
- · Jonah: God Loves Nineveh Too?
- · Habakkuk: Is God Listening?
- Ezekiel and Jeremiah: Judgment and Hope
- Isaiah: Comfort, O Comfort My People



Sundays » Oct. 13 | Nov. 3 | Dec. 8 | Jan. 12 | Feb. 9 | March 9 | April 6 | May 11 10:15–11 a.m. • Levenson Pastoral Care Center, Bride's Parlor

Benedictine monk and Roman Catholic priest, Laurence Freeman, asserts, "To meditate is to become a student of love." Gather for a time of silent prayer and sharing as we grow to learn to love as God loves.

All are welcome, whether you have experience in quiet prayer or not.

Contact: Amanda DeViney • 713-830-4110 • adeviney@smec.org



PANTRY PRE-SALES!

Starts: Monday, Sept. 30 at 9 a.m. **Closes:** Friday, Oct. 11 at 5 p.m.

Make your holiday planning a breeze or your weeknights easier! Order your Joy of Giving ECW Pantry items before the Market to ensure you get your favorites.

- Bacon-Wrapped Tamales
- All Beef Lasagna
- Pimento Cheese Grits
- Cinnamon Buttermilk Coffee Cake
- Tasty Trash

Or try our exciting new items!

- Spinach Empanadas
- Chicken Pot Pie
- Bread Pudding
- AND MORE!

And if you miss out on the pre-sale or just need to stock up on more of your favorites, visit the Pantry booth in Bagby Parish Hall Refectory during the Market, Oct. 15–17.

Visit **smec.org/joy-of-giving** to see the full menu and order. **Contact:** Tracee Tindol • joyofgiving@smec.org • 713-985-3811





ACTIVITY CENTER

WATERCOLOR PAINTING

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

Enjoy fellowship and watercolor painting each week with supplies and inspiration provided. It's open to everyone!

MOST CLASSES ARE FREE! Visit bit.ly/smecactivitycenter

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





Church in the Field

Tuesday, Oct. 8 | 6:30-9 p.m.

Meet in St. Martin's parking lot

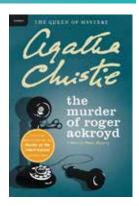
Church in the Field ministers to the homeless in downtown Houston by serving a meal, serving as prayer partners and providing praise music for the worship service once a month. Volunteers, age 18 and older, carpool to the service. Sign up to provide desserts at bit.ly/citfdesserts or scan QR code.

To sign up, contact Tracee Tindol at 713-985-3811 or outreach@smec.org.





DAY GROUP



1–2:30 p.m. | Wednesday, Oct. 9 Children's Life Center, Room 132 and Via Zoom | bit.ly/faithinlitdayzoom

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 Murder of Roger Ackroyd" by Agatha Christie.

Contact: Amanda DeViney • 713-830-4110 • adeviney@smec.org





ITALIAN CUISINE! Learn to make simple and delicious Italian classics in this

Chef Aylin Contreras

hands-on cooking class with Chef Aylin Contreras.

Thursday, Oct. 10 • Parish Life Center, Kitchen 6-8 p.m. • Cost is \$75

Scan the QR code or sign up at bit.ly/cafestmartinscooking1

Chef Contreras will teach techniques for preparing handmade potato gnocchi, homemade Bolognese sauce and tiramisu dessert cups.

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



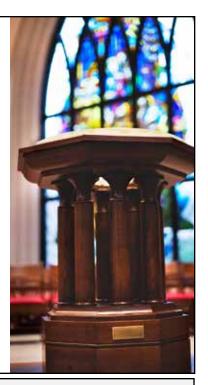
Baptism Instruction Class

Saturday, Oct. 12 9-11:30 a.m. Children's Life Center

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 amid His people.

If you are interested in public baptism on All Saints' Sunday, Nov. 3, please sign up for this Baptism Instruction class by contacting Rocio Velazquez at rvelazquez@smec.org or 713-985-3807.







Deep Roots: Good Books and Good Conversation

Led by the Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden "Christianity and Democracy" by Jacques Maritain Oct. 29 | 6:15–7:45 p.m. | Chapel Reception Hall

We live in a contentious time, where it can sometimes seem like our arguments are as noisy as they are shallow. Yet we possess a great inheritance of wisdom in the Christian tradition that can shake up our present-day perspective and give us deeper roots in richer soil, if only we would seek it out.

"Christianity and Democracy" is available at St. Martin's Gift Shoppe or wherever fine books are sold.

Contact: Amanda DeViney adeviney@smec.org • 713-830-4110





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.



Mrs. Susan McConn Vestry Representative Morning



The Hon. Edith JonesVestry 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 HyldenAssociate 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.

