

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE 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

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.*



** indicates when latecomers may be seated so as not to disturb other worshippers.*

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE

VOLUNTARY“Christmas Intrada”
David Conte

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

HYMN “O come, all ye faithful”

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye,
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je - sus,
O come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him,
ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove; glo - ry to God,
to thee be glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther;
born the King of an - gels;
glo - ry in the high - est; O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
now in flesh ap - pear - ing;
- dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Words; John Francis Wade (1711–1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802–1880) and others; Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711–1786); harm. The *English Hymnal*, 1906.

Officiant: The Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us.
People: O come, let us adore him.

COLLECT FOR THE NATIVITY

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this time of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant 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.

INTRODUCTION *(sit)*

Please remain seated.

THE PROPHET

Narrator

Just as Christians have done for 2,000 years, let us turn our hearts and minds toward Bethlehem. Bethlehem was not a large or important city. Kings and Queens did not have their palaces in Bethlehem. It was a quiet, sleepy town.

The little town sits in the Judean hill country some ten miles south of Jerusalem. In the center of the town is an inn. The inn is filled with tired people looking for a place to rest.

HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (*remain seated*)



1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the wond - rous Gift is given!

A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.


Words: Phillips Brooks (1835–1893); Music: *St. Louis*, Lewis H. Redner (1831–1908).

As night gathers, the final two travelers come slowly up the road. A concerned man is carefully helping his young wife. She is about to become a mother. They are Joseph and Mary from the Galilean town of Nazareth. They have had to travel for days to come to this city – the city of their ancestor, King David. They have come, like so many others, because the Roman Emperor has decided to count his subjects in order to tax them.

They arrive at the inn, but unfortunately, it is already full for the night. With nowhere else to go, they find shelter in a nearby stable. There, among the animals, Mary gives birth to the Christ Child. They name him Jesus.

They have no crib to lay him in and so a feeding trough – a manger – will have to make do.

HYMN “Away in a Manger” (*remain seated*)

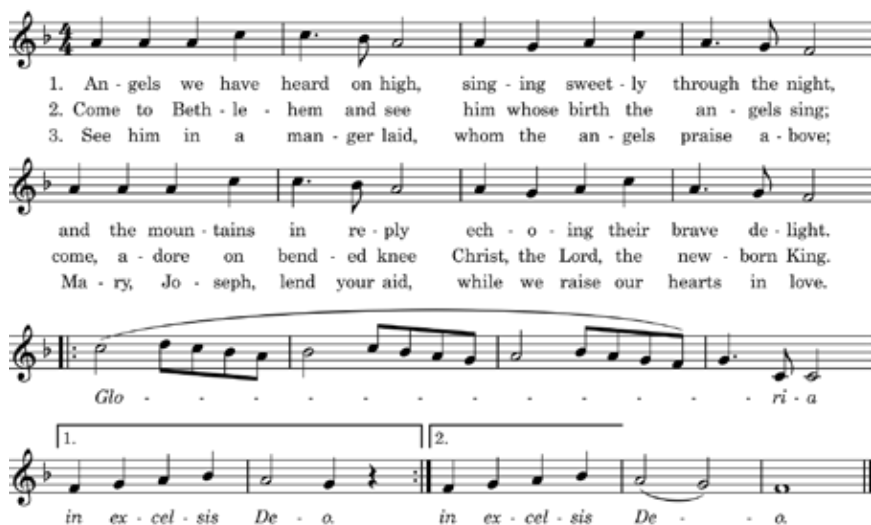


1. A - way in a man - ger; no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay close by me for - ev - er, and
 down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he
 cry - ing he makes. I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the
 love me I pray. Bless all the dear child - ren in thy ten - der
 lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 sky and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is night.
 care, and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

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

In the hills outside Bethlehem, shepherds keep watch over their flocks by night. Stars brighten in the sky. All at once, the dark is lost in light, and in the midst of the light is something even brighter: the face of an angel.

HYMN “Angels We Have Heard on High” (*remain seated*)

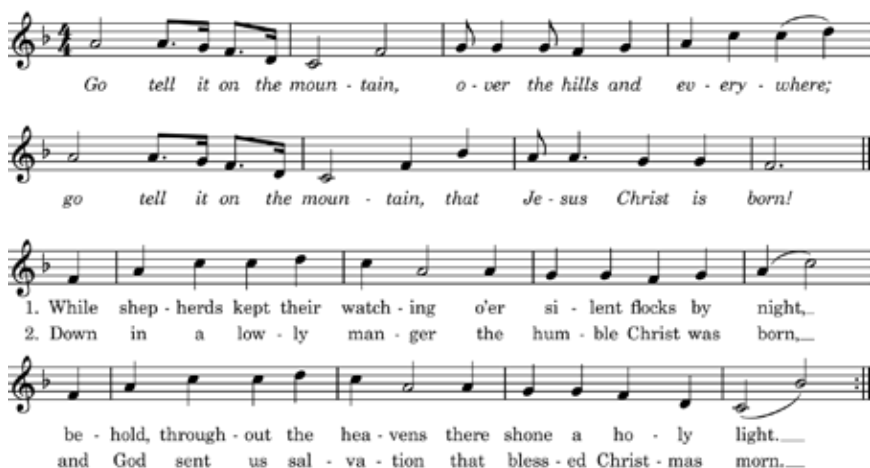


1. An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 2. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 3. See him in a man - ger laid, whom the an - gels praise a - bove;
 and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light,
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.
 Glo - - - - - ri - a
 1. in ex - cel - sis De - o 2. in ex - cel - sis De - o

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813–1882), alt.; Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887–1958); Copyright: Words: By permission of Fleming H. Revell Company.

The shepherds were terrified by the arrival of the angel. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord. Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.”

HYMN “Go Tell it on the Mountain” (*remain seated*)



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born!

1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,...

2. Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,...

be - hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.____

and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.____

Words: African-American spiritual 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (b. 1901); Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935); Copyright: Music: Arrangement © 1984, Horace Clarence Boyer.

Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said,

“May glory be given to God in the highest heaven!
And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!”

The angels left and went into heaven. Then the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem. Let’s see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby. The baby was lying in the manger.

As the lights are dimmed, candles will be lit.

HYMN “Silent Night” (*remain seated*)



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light

Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child, Ho - ly
 Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far: Heav'n ly
 Ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, With the

In - fant so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
 hosts sing al - le - lu - ia Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born, Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792–1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820–1885); Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824–1910).

So now, we too come. We come to the manger to find Jesus, God’s own Son, who is born to save us from our sins. We come, like the shepherds, to worship and bring our gifts to the holy child, God’s gift to us.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Please see page 10 for Christmas flower dedications.

Please see page 20 for announcements.

OFFERTORY

HYMN “The First Nowell” (*remain seated*)

1. The first No - well the an - gel did say
2. They look - ed up and saw a star
3. And by the light of that same star

was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
shin - ing in - the east be - yond them far;
three wise men came from coun - try far;

in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
and to the earth it gave great light,
to seek for a king was their in - tent,

on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Words: English Carol; Music: *The First Nowell*, English Carol, harm. J. Stainer.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

HYMN “Joy to the World” (*stand*)



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re-ceive her king;— Let
 2. Joy to the earth, the Sav-ior reigns! Let all their songs em-ploy:— While
 3. No more let sin and sor-row grow, Nor thorns in-fest the ground:— He
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the na-tions prove— The
 ev- 'ry heart pre- pare him room— And heav'n and na- ture sing, And
 fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains_ Re- peat the sound- ing joy, Re-
 comes to— make_ his bless- ings flow_ Far as the curse is_ found, Far
 glo- ries of_ his right- eous- ness, And won- ders of his love, And
 heav'n and na- ture sing, And heav'n, and heav'n_ and na- ture sing.
 peat the sound- ing joy, Re- peat, re- peat_ the sound- ing joy.
 as the curse is_ found, Far as, far as_ the curse is found.
 won- ders of his love, And won- ders, won- ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: *Antioch*, G.F. Händel.

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

VOLUNTARY “Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella” Keith Chapman

*Please return candles to one of the baskets
 found in the Narthex as you leave.*

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

SERVING

OFFICIANTThe Rev. Naomi B. Sundara
Chaplain to the Preschool

ASSISTINGThe Rev. R. Wesley Arning
Associate for Riverway and Discipleship Ministries

READERSAshley Monachelli
Director of Children's Ministry
Ursella Rylander
Coordinator of Preschool Ministries

VOCALISTSEric Priest
Lay Associate Pastor
Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam
Worship Coordinator

INSTRUMENTALISTSEric Priest, *guitar*
Katherine Sullivan, *violin*
Ed Harper, *cello*
Curry Duffey, *double bass*

ORGANISTHannah Cen
Associate Organist

PRODUCERBruce Morgan

THE PROPHETDavid Stockwell

ANGELSElise Madray
Madge Madray
Mary Madray

SHEPHERDSJames Bell
Paul Bell
Penn Bell

HOLY FAMILYChad Flores
Dale Flores
Lila Flores

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Loving Memory of:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

August Spencer Cummings, Raleigh White Johnson, Jr., Ann Schumacher Adkins and Ward Noble Adkins, Sr.

by the John Adkins family

Ann and Ward Adkins, Sr.

by Kathleen and Ward Adkins, Jr.

Kathy McCarty Ferguson

by Liz, David, Oliver and Franny Anders

Paul Bacon

by Cathy Bacon and family

Mary Louise and the Rev. Tom Bagby, founding Rector of St. Martin's Episcopal Church

by their grandchildren, Tom Bagby III, Brooke Bagby O'Neil and Rebecca Bagby Luna

Marian McFall Arnspiger, Samuel David Arnspiger and Christopher David Arnspiger

by Allison and Joe Bailey, Adrian and Trey Buchanan and their families

Sonny Wallace

by Meredith and Mark Barineau

Our grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William D. Morehouse; Mr. and Mrs. James R. Lingle; Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Bell, Jr.; and Mr. and Mrs. William U. Hunter

by Hunter and Paul Bell

Our parents

by Kathy and Rex Bennett

Our parents

by Debbie and Paul Berner

My beloved parents, Claire and Elmo Reese

by Pamela Besr

John W. Bicknell; Lutie and Dwight A. Bicknell; Daniel D. Bicknell; Elizabeth Ann Bicknell; Frances and Henry T. Duncan; and Frances and Robert Montgomery

by Mary D. Bicknell

Larry Biedenbarn

by Kahler, Kristian and Conrad Marlow

George "Papa" Burkholder and Eugene "Grandpa" Binet

by Heidi and Todd Binet, Hailee, Luke and Burke

Grace Blake

by her loving family and friends

Grace Anne Blake

by her loving family and friends

My parents, Elsa and Philip Block; and my dear friends, Pat Howard and Maryanne Tyler

by Lorrie Block

Joseph A. Brand

by Doris Brand

Clara and Oliver St. Yves

by Diane and Todd Brewer

My beloved father, Raybourne Thompson, Jr.

by Helen Thompson Burt, Prentiss and Greyson Burt, Mary Helen Burt and Raybourne Burt

Ann and Jimmy Cain; Beverly and Cliff Caldwell; and Julie Huffman

by the Tollet, Carmichael and Caldwell families

Cliff Campbell, Lorelle and Jim Dyer, and Brian Dyer

by Diane, Bill, Nicole, William, Blakely and Andrew

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Loving Memory of:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

Beloved wives, Paula Craig Chandler and
Mary Strauss Waggoner Chandler

by Jim Chandler

Our parents, Helen and Buck Wheat

*by their daughters, Angela Cheves and
Melanie Whatley, and their families*

Bernice and Calvin Class, in honor of their
76th wedding anniversary

by Martha Class

Catherine Anne Cooksey

by her family

Elizabeth and Thomas Costa and Elizabeth E.
Costa and Robert Mahoney

by Meg Costa and Susan Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford R. Cravens

by Susan and Ben Cravens

Our parents, Gerdean and Harry Platter; and

Erma and Rich DalBello

by Susan and Patrick DalBello

Sallie Mann Eubank Buck

by Ellen and Geoffrey Davis

Our loving parents and grandparents, Judy
and Hal DeMoss

*by Holly DeMoss, Chip and Jan DeMoss, Austin,
Alden, Adrienne and Carter DeMoss*

Russell Ekblad

by Suzanne Ekblad

Our daughter, Mary-Linda Elizabeth

by Rebekah and Moustapha El-Hakam

Frank A. Liberato and Jean and Norris Flodine

by Lynne Liberato and James Flodine

Kenneth Dale Robinson

by Lila and Chad Flores

Eric "Grumpy" Eilers

by Robin and Jeff Floyd, Lindsay and James Eilers

Stephanie Menta

by Kimberly and Zach Menta

Our son, Christopher Clinton Fox, and our
parents, Charlotte and Ross Fox

by Stephanie and Clinton Fox

Dora Colaizzi and Lynn and Bob Francisco

by Ellie, Michael, Casey, Gregg, Nicki and Joseph

Our parents, Frances and Fred Bredthauer;
and Jo Claire and Henry Gissel

by Amy and Lewis Gissel

Lydia and Alan Cooke and Victoria and
Sherman Glass

by Alana and Sherman Glass, Jr.

R. Randall Grace, Jr.

by R. Randall Grace, MD

Curt Fletcher

by Julie, Scott, Maddie and Ellie Grandt

Victoria May and Gerald Thomas Westbrook

by their loving children, Brenda, Brent and Laura

Tommy Hail, husband, father, grandfather
and great-grandfather

by his family

Elizabeth Williams Dwyer and

Nan Luckett Williams

by Casey, Will, Henry and Caroline Hedges

Val Jean Hide

by Cindy Hide

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Loving Memory of:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

Mary Jo and Truman Beeson; Maggie and Tom Holstien; Steve Harper, Carlos Kepke, Debbie Lackey, Mary Louise Presley, Kay Walker and Tim Womack

by Jodie and Jeff Holstien

Nathalie and Mont Hoyt; Stephanie Anne Martin and Mark Hayes Petrazzolo

by Mont P. Hoyt, Jr.

Joan G. and James M. Ingham

by James A. Ingham

Rusty Jackson

by Joyce and David Jackson

Russ Jacobe

by Brenda Jacobe

Adell and Jack Johnson, Sr.

by Jack Johnson, Jr.

Gloria and Sam Symington

by Jack Johnson and family

Karen Johnson, Ruth and Pick Johnson, Velma and Dwane Wallace and Dick Vetter

by their family

Our parents, Catherine and Roy Knowles; and Bob Johnson

by Kathy and Alex Johnson

David Roger Jones

by Edith and Woody Jones

Our loving parents, Jim and LaMerle Skipton; Bill and Edna Jones; my brother, Paul Jones; and our brother-in-law, Robert Fry

by Pat and David Jones

Our loving mother, Rosemary Nyarubona

by the family of Rosemary Nyarubona

Susan Rench Kamas, Madeline Rench and Joe Rench

by their loving family

Dr. Mavis, Mary and Cooke Kelsey; Margaret and John Heinzerling; Ann Frost Bailey and James P.S. Griffith, Jr.

by Ann and Tom Kelsey

Polly DuVal Kinder

by Marie Louise, David, Corbin and George Kinder

Julia Loretta King, Raymond Francis King, Jr., Harris Spencer Wood, Mary Elizabeth King, Raymond Francis King, Sr., Mary Rose Camara Kivlehan and Joseph William Kivlehan

by the King family

Alexandra Lacy

by Maria Lacy, Brad Lacy and family

Mike, Alida and Amy Webb

by Barbara

Terry K. Bertin

by Mary and Lon Lehr

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hugh Liedtke; Skip Liedtke, Peter Mark and Craig Bade

by Kristy Liedtke

Kitty W. Lindley

by the Richard J. Lindley family

My beloved parents, Betty and Flip Lloyd, and other loved ones

by Judge Roberta Lloyd

Our son, Wilson Gerard Lohse

by Callie and Ryan Lohse

Ana Maria Matehuala

by Adrian Luna

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Loving Memory of:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

Our parents, Mary and John Winkler and Meriel and Joseph Lyman

by Sande and Dwight Lyman

Her brother, Robert W. Allbright

by Stacey and Ted Lyons

Marjorie Walton Plant, Arthur Fletcher Plant, Jr. and Arthur Fletcher Plant III

by Pamela Plant Macklin

Julius Stephen Marks

by Mary Lynn Marks

Earle P. Martin III

by Deborah, Daniel, Grant, Aly and Tom Martin

Betsey Martin

by her loving family

Patti Goldston Mayfield, Susan Ray Mayfield and Jack Hastings Mayfield

by Sheila and Tad Mayfield

Our parents, Blanche and Jim Morman

by their children and grandchildren

Sidney S. McClendon III

by Bunny McClendon and family

Effie Graham and Linda McCulloch

by Susie and Jim McCulloch and the Semlinger family

Mr. and Mrs. Jack H. McInnis and

Garrett Haidusek

by Anya and Kevin McInnis

Nann and Andrew McKinney, our parents

by Isabell and Andrew McKinney

David Curtis Fletcher

by Leslie and Mark Mendenhall

Kevin Riehle

by Jean Meyers

William C. Miller

by his Family

Merlin Miller and Marion Rathburn

by Elizabeth and John Miller

Mary and Walter Mischer Sr.; Dorothy and Sam Winters; Jane Winters and Max Mischer

by Leila and Walt Mischer

Carlos Erwin Kepke

by Marleen Mocsary Kepke, Bethelyn and Steve Dawson

Lee P. Moncrief, Gerry and Henry Eversole; Rosemary and George Moncrief; and Henry W. Eversole, Jr.

by Nancy Moncrief

Elizabeth and Lockert Sleeper

by Frances Sleeper Moore, Dave Moore and John, Emily, Maddie and Ethan Merritt

Karen Moore

by Robert Moore and family

Rosemary Robertson Moriarty

by Keith Alan Moriarty

James L. Morgan and Richard R. Nelson, Jr.

by Tricia and Richard Nelson

Richard R. Nelson, Jr.

by Marjorie Nelson

Sells Neuhaus

by Becky Neuhaus and family

Louise and Ed Frank and Betty and

Oscar Neuhaus

by Ed and Graham Neuhaus

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Loving Memory of:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

Our parents, Paula Craig Chandler and Brian Edward OBrien

by Shannon and Robert OBrien

Our parents and siblings

by Nancy and Gil Ontiveros

Doris and Bob Dayton and Margaret and Henry Oppermann

Donna and Henry Oppermann

Darcy Conway, Guillermo Sanchez and Juan Gonzalez

by Suzanne Page-Pryde and Art Pryde

Our parents, Harriet and Harry Pryde; and Edith and Philip Ingemanson; Aunt Edna and Uncle Thure Ingemanson; brother, James Ingemanson, and niece, Julia Pryde

by Suzanne Page-Pryde and Art Pryde

Our parents and Matt Palmer

by Heather and Paul Palmer

Ellen and Bill Parkey

by Dana and Bob Parkey

Their parents, Luceil and John R. Yancey; Pauline and Albert C. Partlow; and her brothers, John R. Yancey, Jr. and Stephen C. Yancey

by Cynthia and Al Partlow

Craig James Pearson

by Gay Pearson

Craig Plumhoff

by Mary Leslie Plumhoff and family

Lucille and Ray Arnold, Bill Powers and Joe Fulton

by Meredith, Jim, Edie and Caroline Powers

Mary Louise Presley

by Dorothy and James Presley

Ruth and Henry Quackenbush, Peter S. Quackenbush, Eleanor and Gordon Wright and Pamela Payton Wright

by Barbara and David Quackenbush

My loving husband, John David Rape

by Elizabeth Rape

John Rape, my dad

by Whitney Rape

Eula and Earl Reeves and Sherald R. Smith

by Beth and Bobby Reeves

Pamela Dexter Neuhaus

by Shawn and John Roady, Davis, Sarah Beth and Connor

Sells Neuhaus

by Shawn and John Roady, Davis, Sarah Beth and Connor

Kent "Rocky" Robinson, Jean Brown, Mary and Kent Robinson, Marge Hubbart, Elvida and Nick Kohnen and Matt Thanheiser

by Debbie Robinson, Will, Haley and Perry Thanheiser, Jordan and Chris Rocheleau, Meagan and Duncan Robinson and family

Anne and Joe Scepansky and Hugh Roff, our parents

by Mary Katharine and John Roff

Robert Terry Russ

by his loving family

Tim Schmidt

by Caren, Kyle, Paige, Brad and Autumn

Barbara Hoglund

by Kirsten and Charles Schutt

Mary-Ann and Charles Schutt

by Kirsten and Charles Schutt

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Loving Memory of:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

Her father, Randall Rohden, and his parents,
Ann and David Shackouls
by Judy and Bobby Shackouls

Elizabeth Anne Shaffer and J. Lee Enyart
by Helen and James Shaffer

Mary Glenn Yeager Smith
by Martin Smith

Mary Elizabeth Snellgrove
by Robert Snellgrove and family

Mary Carlyne Lea Holmes, Jennifer Lea
Holmes, Martha Griswold Stedman, Ed
Stedman, Jr. and Edward Stedman IV
by Joan and Culver Stedman

Barbara and Wayne Ford
by Dawn Stillwell

Robert Sprague Sumers
by his family

Richard R. Nelson, Jr.
by Dale and Bill Sumers

Ed's mom, Alice Taussig; and Mary's dad,
William C. Wright
by Mary and Ed Taussig

Anne Sewell Thomson
by her family

Our parents, Evelyn and Jack Hill; and Nancy
and Fisher Trigg; and our son, Henry Trigg
by Cynthia and Fisher Trigg

Our parents, Alma and Harden Wittig; and
Enriqueta and Gerrit van Wageningen
by Edith and Henry "Van" van Wageningen

Our grandparents, Ralph Virene, Patricia and
Jim Stanley, Carol Hopkins, Clyde Whitfield
Hopkins, Patricia and Raymond Mayer and
Bernice DeWitt Snider
by Anna and Joe Virene

Ernestine and Joe Baker
*by Suzy and Tom Walker, Lisa and Jake Zapalac
and Stephanie and David Goodman*

Margaret and Sid Walker
*by Suzy and Tom Walker, Lisa and Jake Zapalac
and Stephanie and David Goodman*

Brenda and Donald Durr
by Sid, Wendy and Davis Wall

Betty Lou Mills Rip
by her loving family

Our loving son, brother and father, Allen "AJ"
John Weisberger
*by Camille, Mark, Jack, Britt, Matt, Anabel and
Grayson Weisberger*

Richard B. Wilkens III
*by his family, Sandy, Derry, Richard, Mary Lee,
Brady and James Wilkens*

Sunny Wilkens Ernst, Nina Derry Murphy
Wilkens, Louise S. Wilkens, R. B. Wilkens, Jr.,
Kathleen C. Pratt and O. Laurens Pratt
by Sandra Pratt Wilkens

Ruth and Frank Giampietro, Nan Luckett
Williams and Elizabeth Williams Dwyer
by Mary and Will Williams

My late husband, John R. Dietert
by Donna Wilson

My parents, Nell and Francis Winters
by Ann Winters

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Thanksgiving for:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

Hester and David Anders

by Liz, David, Oliver and Franny Anders

Our children, their spouses and our grandchildren

by Margaret and Bob Baze

Our children and grandchildren

by Debbie and Paul Berner

Eric Rutledge

by Heidi and Todd Binet, Hailee, Luke and Burke

The Ball, Brown and Stouffer families

by Caroline, Will, Margaret, Audrey and Russell Brown

Dr. David Henning and Keith Lathrom

by Sharon Lee and Arthur Brumley

Our children and grandchildren, Sara and Michael McGinnis, Anne-Marie and Walker Cain and Sawyer, Cameron and Charlie Cain

by Marjorie and Walker Cain

Our parents, Jan and Max Goodloe and Gwen and Butch Caire, and our children, Ryland and McKennon

by Allyson and Brandon Caire

Nicole, William and Isla and Blakely and Andrew

by Diane and Bill Campbell

Our parents and Isla

by Nicole and William Campbell

Our grandchildren, Judson, Max, Patrick and Victoria Collie

by Barbara and Bob Collie

The birth of Cadence Ashley Smith

by Meg Costa and Susan Smith

Ben, Mary Evans, Will, Tripp and Tucker Cravens

by Susan and Ben Cravens

Laura Grace Serna and Geoffrey Trevor Davis, Jr. and Betsy Smith and William Gilbert

by Ellen and Geoffrey Davis

Our wonderful grandparents, Catey and Steve Cumley and Ken and Mary Carter

by Mimi, Caroline, Everest, Abigail and Crawford

Cheryl and Brad Duff

by Gretchen, Douglas, Key and Mary Margaret

Our beautiful children, Key and Mary Margaret Doyle

by Gretchen and Douglas Doyle

Sheryl and Doug Doyle

by Gretchen, Douglas, Key and Mary Margaret

Our children, Bakri, Maddux, Trinity, Leeland and Jimmie

by Rebekah and Moustapha El-Hakam

Pat and Karen Foster

by Kimberly, Kyle and Zach

The Rev. Marty Bastian and Clergy of St. Martin's Episcopal Church

by Stephanie and Clinton Fox

Blair Francisco and Ainslee Ring

by Ellie, Michael, Casey, Gregg, Nicki and Joseph

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Thanksgiving for:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

Our family and friends

by Jean and Bill Frazer

Our family and friends

by Bette and John Fryar

The birth of Jane Elizabeth Greaves and the marriage of Chandler Gericke and Tyler Greaves

by Stephanie and Troy Greaves

The Clergy of St. Martin's Episcopal Church

by Bitsey Hail

Our children, Henry and Caroline, and our nieces and nephews, Alexander, Lila, Juliet and Liam

by Casey and Will Hedges

Our sons, William and Ford

by Megan and Will Holstien

Will, Megan, William, Ford, Elizabeth, Chris and Tommy

by Jodie and Jeff Holstien

Jack, Paul and Mary Howell

by Sarah Jane and Jack Howell

The blessings of our children, their spouses, our grandchildren, family and friends

by Mary and Bill Hughes

My family

by James A. Ingham

Mary Louise Johnson, Allie, Larry and Lars Sarahan, Elizabeth Johnson and Rebecca Johnson

by Kathy and Alex Johnson

Our 50th wedding anniversary

by Debbie and David Johnson

Miranda and Andrew Jones and daughters

by Edith and Woody Jones

Our children, David and his wife, Christina, and Jordan and her husband, Clay; and our grandsons, James and Hill

by Pat and David Jones

Our families and especially our grandchildren, Patrick, Wilson, Carter, Clara, Thomas, Cameron and Keaton

by Ann and Tom Kelsey

Katherine, Oliver, Oliver IV and Caroline, Shannon, K.C. and Conrad and Elizabeth, Sean, Sarah and Kimberly

by Barbara and Charles Kraft

Our granddaughters, Greer, Margot and Bonnie Gilliam

by Stacey and Ted Lyons

Our daughters, Madeleine, Mary Dyer and Rebecca

by Cynthia and Chad Mabry

My great-grandchildren, Morgan and Sidney Oliver, Whitton, Easton, Rory and River Pearce and Grayson and Nolan Menniti

by Bunny McClendon

My sister and brother-in-law, Helen and Jim Shaffer

by Dr. Janet P. McDaniel

Our family

by Anya and Kevin McInnis

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Thanksgiving for:

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Our grandchildren, Ian McKinney, James and Walker Moore

by Isabell and Andrew McKinney

Matthew, Merlyn and Ruthie Miller

by Elizabeth and John Miller

Our daughters, Sophie and Grace Miller

by Megan and Steven Miller

My 10 grandchildren, Lily, Trey, Henry, Caroline, Lucas, Annabelle, Clara, Anderson, Charlotte and Adele, and their parents

by Nancy Moncrief

Our parents and grandparents, Ann and John Wooldridge

by their children and grandchildren

Betty Morgan, Marjorie Nelson and the Persia and Williams families

by Tricia and Richard Nelson

Nancy Haywood

by Carole Nelson

The Sumers, Nelson, Wiedeman, Persia and Williams families

by Marjorie Nelson

Our many blessings

by the Newtons

Our children and grandchildren

by Jacque and Buck Ogilvie

Blair Renee Overman

by Pam and Jim Overman

The 80th birthday of Russell Pac

by Alice Pac

Our children, Angelique and Grant Page and Toni and Grier Page, and grandchildren, Poppy, Amelie, Quinn, Tate, Sophie and Zane Page

by Suzanne Page-Pryde and Art Pryde

Our children and grandchildren

by Heather and Paul Palmer

Blaine and Will Parkey and and Wiley and Bennett

by Dana and Bob Parkey

Mr. and Mrs. William R. Parkey, Jr.

by Mr. and Mrs. William R. Parkey III

The birth of Eloise Ella Jennifer Gazis

by her grandparents

Family and friends

by Cynthia and Al Partlow

St. Martin's Clergy, Staff and volunteers, and our friends and family

by Sherrie Perkins and David Stockwell

My godsons, Beck Jackson and William Franklin, and my mom, Elizabeth Rape

by Whitney Rape

Whitney Rape, Maureen and Jacques Beary

by Elizabeth Rape

Our family and friends, especially our grandchildren, and the ministry of our wonderful Clergy team and the Rector Search Committee

by Beth and Bobby Reeves

Flowers for Christmas



The flowers about the Altar and The Church are given to the glory of God and in Thanksgiving for:

Dedications are listed alphabetically by donor.

Becky, Rad, Steve and Tim Neuhaus and their families

by Shawn and John Roady and family

Sam, John Henry, Mary and Gus Robbins

by Sayler and Greg Robbins

Perry Alice and August Matthew Thanheiser and Preston Kent Robinson

by Debbie Brown Robinson, Haley and Will Thanheiser and family, Jordan and Chris Rocheleau, and Meagan and Duncan Robinson and family

Ann Roff, our children and grandchildren and the Clergy of St. Martin's

by Mary Katharine and John Roff

Our grandchildren, Helen Grace, Allison, Charlie, Caroline, Ashleigh, Annie, Cate, Charlotte and Grier

by Judy and Bobby Shackouls

Our sister and sister-in-law, Janet McDaniel

by Helen and Jim Shaffer

The Ray and Enyart families

by their parents and grandparents, Helen and Jim Shaffer

Morgan, Maddie, Avery and Will

by GiGi, Aunt Gail and Uncle Reid and Aunt Susan

Our children, Culver and Andrew Stedman

by Joan and Culver Stedman

Marjorie Shepherd Nelson and our family

by Dale and Bill Sumers

Our children and their spouses and our grandchildren

by Cynthia and Fisher Trigg

The Clergy and Staff of St. Martin's

by Jeanene Trout

Our children and grandchildren

by Cindy and Steffen van Keppel

Our sons and their families

by Edith and Henry "Van" van Wageningen

Sue and Terrell Howes and Kathy and Donald Wall

by Sid, Wendy and Davis Wall

Derry, Richard, Mary Lee, Brady and James Wilkens

by Sandra Pratt Wilkens

The Hedges and Dwyer families

by Mary and Will Williams

RIVERWAY

Celebration Sunday!

Celebrate December Birthdays and Anniversaries
with Riverway.

SUNDAY, DEC. 29

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!

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

YEAR- END GIVING

The Internal Revenue Service requires that, in order to be tax deductible in 2024, cash, check or credit card contributions to St. Martin's Episcopal Church must be received by the Church or postmarked by the United States Postal Service no later than **Tuesday, Dec. 31**; this includes any payment to your 2024 pledge, prepayment of your 2025 pledge and payment of your Building for the Ages pledge.

The Finance staff is required to check the postal cancellation dates on all receipts in early January to ensure our legal compliance to this rule.



ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Debbie Hutchison
dhutchison@smec.org
713-985-3803

THEOLOGY *for* LIFE

Frequently Asked Questions

Sundays, Jan. 5–Feb. 23
10:15–11 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

Have you ever wondered about some of the things we do here? Have you ever gotten hard questions from non-believing friends or family that you don't quite know how to answer? In this series, we hope to give the best answers we can to your good questions, always grounded in God's holy Word.

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

An exciting lineup of exceptional guests and friends of St. Martin's will lead this series.

- JAN. 5** What is the Anglican Communion?
Led by Archbishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon, Ph.D.
- JAN. 12** Why do we baptize babies?
Led by the Rev. Dr. Jim Jackson, Jr.
- JAN. 19** How can we believe the Bible is true?
Led by Dr. Lynn Cohick
- JAN. 26** Annual Parish Meeting – No Sunday School
- FEB. 2** How can we share our faith?
Led by Cn. Carrie Boren Headington
- FEB. 9** What do we believe about Communion?
Led by the Rt. Rev. Mike Hill
- FEB. 16** What happens when we die?
Led by the Rt. Rev. Mike Hill
- FEB. 23** How are we saved?
Led by the Rev. Dr. David Peterson

GUEST PREACHER AND TEACHER

The Rt. Rev.
**JOSIAH
IDOWU-FEARON**

SUNDAY, JAN. 5
9 AND 11:15 A.M. • THE CHURCH
10:15 A.M. • BAGBY PARISH HALL



The Rt. Rev. Josiah Idowu-Fearon is the retired Secretary General of the Anglican Communion and is currently Bishop-in-Residence at St. John the Divine in Houston.

Bishop Idowu-Fearon will preach during the 9 and 11:15 a.m. traditional services, and teach at the new Theology for Life series, "Frequently Asked Questions."



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



FEAST OF LIGHTS

ACOLYTE DINNER CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, JAN. 5 • 4 P.M. • BAGBY PARISH HALL

After the event, all acolytes will walk to The Church to prepare for the Feast of Lights service.

Acolytes who serve in Family Table and The Church and their families are invited to attend a dinner in recognition of their contributions to enhancing our worship services. We will celebrate our graduating seniors and spring acolyte promotions.

All who plan to attend the special event are requested to sign up at bit.ly/acolytedinner.

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

A Change of Heart



Every woman has at least one thing in common with her mother-in-law: both love the same man. Women are invited to this study group focused on the mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationship.

Wednesdays | Jan. 8 – Feb. 26
Student Life Center, Upstairs Lounge

Each class is limited to the first 20 who register.

Registration details for both Morning and Afternoon Sessions can be found at bit.ly/smecachangeofheart

Contact: Graham Neuhaus • geneuhaus@aol.com

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 quarterly 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 vriviera@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

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ *The Head of This Church*



The Rev. Martin J. Bastian

Vice-Rector
mbastian@smec.org



The Rev. R. Wesley Arning

*Associate for Riverway and
Discipleship Ministries*
rwarning@smec.org



The Rev. John D. Sundara

Vicar for Worship and Evangelism
jsundara@smec.org



The Rev. Naomi B. Sundara

Chaplain to the Preschool
nsundara@smec.org



The Rev. Lisa R. Neilson

Vicar for Pastoral Care
lneilson@smec.org



The Rev. Elizabeth 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 You 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.

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

SMEC.ORG

