

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 11, 2026



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 100 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.*

CONNECTING WITH ST. MARTIN'S

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 **smec.org/visitor-card**. 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

The Church is open for viewing Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

For general questions, contact the Reception Desk at 713-621-3040 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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

For pastoral emergencies when the Reception Desk is closed, 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.

HOLY EUCHARIST

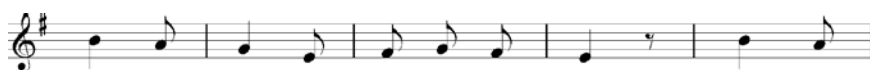
As found beginning on page 323 in the Book of Common Prayer

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 “Epiphany Suite” Charles Callahan

The people stand as the procession begins.

*HYMN 128 “We Three Kings”



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,
3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.
4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



O star of won - der, star of night,



star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,



Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820–1891), alt.; Music: *Three Kings of Orient*, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820–1891).

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 and 11:15 a.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

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan didst proclaim him thy beloved Son and anoint him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The People sit. Either the Old Testament or the Epistle is read.

THE OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him, he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not fail or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread forth the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: "I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to graven images. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLEActs 10:34-43

And Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the word which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), the word which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses to all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and made him manifest; not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that he is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM.....Psalm 29, Coverdale

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



- 1 Bring unto the Lord, O ye mighty, bring young rams | unto
• the | Lord *
ascribe unto the | Lörd | worship • and | strength.
- 2 Give the Lord the honour due | unto • his | Name *
worship the | Lord with | holy | worship.
- 3 It is the Lord that com- | mandeth • the | waters *
it is the glorious | God that | maketh • the | thunder.
- 4 It is the Lord that ruleth the sea; the voice of the Lord is
mighty in | oper- | ation *
the voice of the | Lord • is a | glorious | voice.
- 5 The voice of the Lord | breaketh • the | cedar-trees *
yea, the Lord | breaketh • the | cedars • of | Libanus.
- 6 He maketh them also to | skip like • a | calf *
Libanus also, and Sirion, | like a | yöung | unicorn.
- 7 The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire; the voice
of the Lord | shaketh • the | wilderness: *
yea, the Lord | shaketh • the | wilderness • of | Cades.
- 8 The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to bring forth young,
and | discovereth the • thick | bushes *
in his temple doth | every • man | speak of • his | honour.
- 9 The Lord sitteth a- | bove the | water-flood *
and the Lord re- | maineth • a | King for | ever.
- 10 The Lord shall give | strength • unto his | people *
the Lord shall give his | people • the | blessing • of | peace.

All stand.

*HYMN 490 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

(Verses 1-2 before the Gospel; verse 3 after the Gospel)



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright - ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
 When we have run with pa - tience the race, we



star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934); Music: *Houston*, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934); Copyright: Words, Music: Copyright © 1970, 0975, Celebration, P.O. Box 309, Aliquippa, PA 15001, USA. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

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

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

THE GOSPEL Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Conclusion of Sequence hymn

THE SERMON The Rev. Dr. Matthew S.C. Olver

*THE NICENE CREED

**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

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 Sarah, the Archbishop-elect of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Kai, Hector and Brian, our bishops; the Clergy of this Parish; in the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, for the Anglican Church in Central America; for all bishops, priests and deacons;

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

We pray for Donald, 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.

Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

A Minister says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A moment of silence is observed.

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.

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM “There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth”
Felix Mendelssohn

There shall a star from Jacob come forth, and a Sceptre from Israel rise up. And dash in pieces Princes and Nations. How brightly beams the morning star with sudden radiance from afar, with light and comfort glowing! Thy Word, Jesus, inly feeds us, Rightly leads us, Life bestowing. Praise, oh praise such love o’erflowing!

© 1979 by Addington Press. ARR. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705539.

AT THE PRESENTATION

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

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise him all crea - tures here be -
low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a -
bove ye heaven - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.
Refrain
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*stand*)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

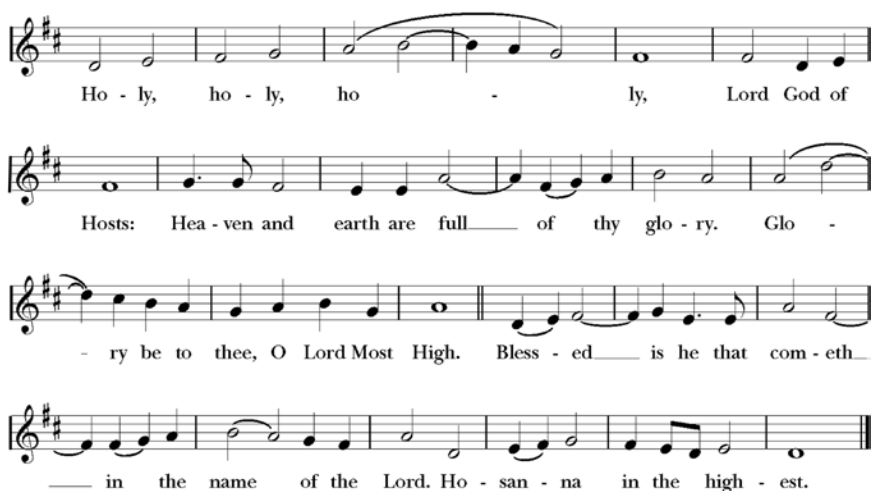
It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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. and 11:15 a.m.)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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!

FRACTION ANTHEM



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 together

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.

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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 priest administering Communion if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

If you are unable to come to the Altar Rail, please alert an Usher and Communion will be brought to you.

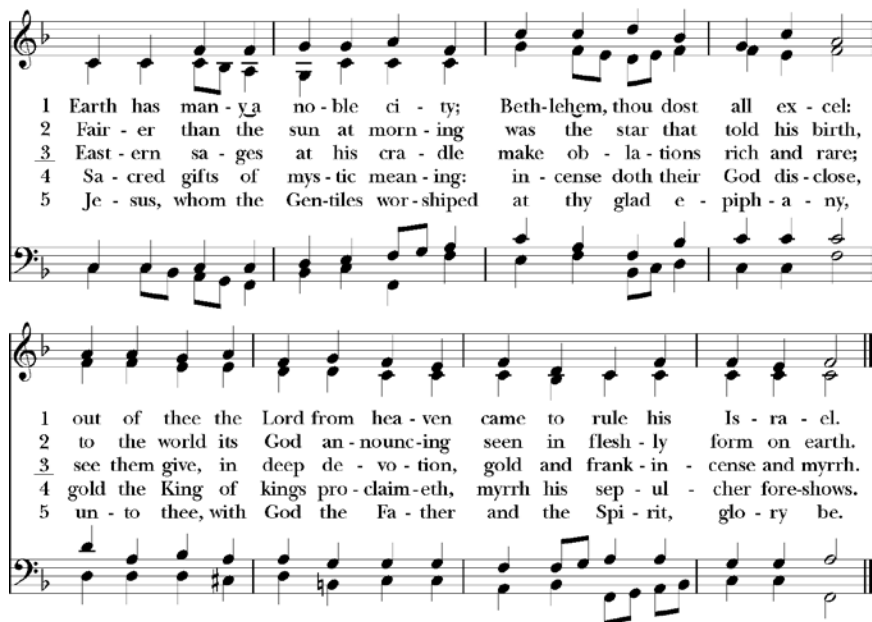
ANTHEM “Set Me as a Seal”

René Clausen

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death. Many waters cannot quench love; neither can the floods drown it.

Music: René Clausen. © 1989 Postco Music Press.

HYMN 127 “Earth has Many a Noble City”

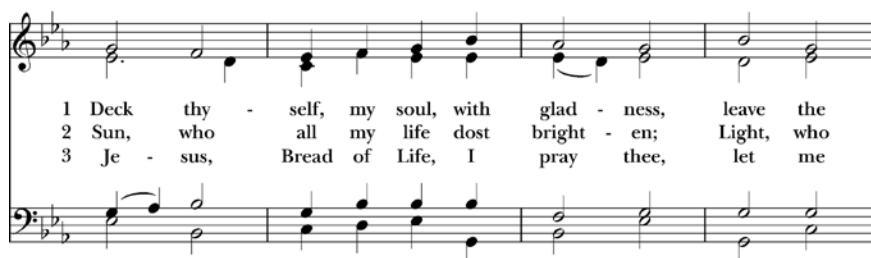


1 Earth has man - ya no - ble ci - ty; Beth-lehem, thou dost all ex - cel:
 2 Fair - er than the sun at morn - ing was the star that told his birth,
 3 East - ern sa - ges at his cra - dle make ob - la - tions rich and rare;
 4 Sa - cred gifts of mys - tic mean - ing: in - cense doth their God dis - close,
 5 Je - sus, whom the Gen - tles wor - shipped at thy glad e - piph - a - ny,

1 out of thee the Lord from hea - ven came to rule his Is - ra - el.
 2 to the world its God an - nounc - ing seen in flesh - ly form on earth.
 3 see them give, in deep de - vo - tion, gold and frank - in - cense and myrrh.
 4 gold the King of kings pro - claim - eth, myrrh his sep - ul - cher fore - shows.
 5 un - to thee, with God the Fa - ther and the Spi - rit, glo - ry be.

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348–410); tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt.; Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder AndSchtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. William Henry Havergal (1793–1870); harm. K. D. Smith (b. 1928); Copyright: Music: Harmonization by permission of K.D. Smith.

HYMN 339 “Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness”



1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the
 2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who
 3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's
 dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y
 glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -



splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der
 know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth:
 vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this
 at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me
 from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how



won - drous ban - quet found - ed - high o'er all the heavens he
 be a fit par - ta - ker of this bless - ed food from
 vast and deep its trea - sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.
 hea - ven, for our good, thy glo - ry, giv - en.
 give me, as thy guest in heaven re - ceive me.

Music: *Schmücke dich*; Johann Franck (1618-1677); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.; This selection is in the public domain.

HYMN 711.....“Seek Ye First”

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
 Ask, and it shall be king - dom of God,
 giv - en un - to you,
 and his right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
 seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be
 add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
 o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain
 2
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: St. 1, Matthew 6:33; adapt. Karen Lafferty (20th cent.). St. 2, Matthew 7:7; Music: *Seek Ye First*, Karen Lafferty (20th cent.);
 Copyright: Words: St.1 Copyright © 1972, Maranatha! Music. Music: Copyright © 1972, Maranatha! Music. All Rights Reserved.
 International Copyright Secured. Used by permission. CCLI 805314.

HYMN 295 “Sing Praise to Our Creator”

1 Sing praise to our Cre - a - tor, O you of Ad-am's race—
 2 To Je - sus Christ give glo - ry, God's co - e - ter - nal Son;
 3 And praise the Ho - ly Spi - rit poured forth up - on the earth;

God's chil - dren by a - dop - tion, bap - tized in - to his grace.
 as mem - bers of his Bo - dy we live in him as one.
 who sanc - ti - fies and guides us, made strong in our re - birth.

Words: Mark Evans (b. 1916), alt.; Music: *Christus, der ist mein Leben*, melody Melchior Vulpinus (1560?–1616); Copyright: Words: © 1962, World Library Publications, 3815 N. Willow Rd., Schiller Park, IL 60176. ARR. Used with permission.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

All kneel.

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.

HYMN 135 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
 4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen-dent light,

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
 and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God - head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
 where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
 man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
 When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,



Words: Sts. 1–3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807–1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895–1984); Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622–1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750).

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY “Sonata IV: Allegro”
Felix Mendelssohn

Personal prayers available at west Side Chapel near Baptismal font after service

RECOGNITIONS



FLOWERS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

On the occasion of their marriage

by Kelli Denise Llewellyn and Tanner Aubrey KinCannon

In thanksgiving for the ministry of the Rev. Dr. Matthew S.C. Olver

In thanksgiving for St. Martin's Acolytes



SYMPATHY

Dec. 15 Carla Ransleben Clayton

Dec. 24 Donna Jeanne Stanley Taylor

Dec. 25 Sandra Dunnam Justice

To mark any occasion with altar flower dedications, visit smec.org/altar-flowers 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:

Crocket Abraham	Naomi Illeman	Terrie Smith
Shelly Bain	Sara Jabbari	Marc Sony
Ken Beadell	Mary and Jim Jennings	Mitch Starkey
Cory Blackman	Susan and Chester Keeton	Dolly Steinman
Gary Browning	Dick Kilday	Michael Stern
Julia Butler	Diane Knutzen	Janis and James Stokes
Karen Tomfohrde Carey	Alex and Trip Larzelere	Norma Taylor
Gene Cooley	Rhea Latta	Betty Tutor
Lynne Couste	Bruce Michael Lee	Scarlett and Luke Tyler
Linda Craig	Mary Lehman	Rose Vaile
Angelina Crooks	Julie Long	Van Valentine
Gail Cunningham	John Love	Patel Vinod C.
Bobby de Sosa	Patrick Maehs	Mary Watters
Linda de Sosa	James Masten	Lisa Weaver
Charlotte Dion	Jane McAfee	Cei Anne Whitlock
Sydney Eickenroht	Barbara and Bob McClellan	Grant Wilborn
Stacey and John Elliott	Janet McDaniel	Eric Zoerb
Nancy Ellison	Adams McHenry	Angela
Famose Garner	Kae Nakisa	Atticus
Susan Garrett	Bob Paddock	David
Judy Gerrish	Kim Parshall	Henry
Nancy Gore	Colin Peoples	Jane
Susan and Aart Gosma	Ophelia Pujol	Kay
Cynthia Graham	Mary Sommers Pyne	Lynne
The Rev. Alex Graham	Phyllis Reinhardt	Mark
Demetricka Wilson Green	James Reiss	Nancy
Jeffrey "Shea" Guinn	Blanca and Jason Rivera	Sally
Bette Haidusek	John Roady	Stephen
Nancy Hall	J.R. Rodriguez	Susan
Wayne Hall	Maggie Rodriguez	Wayne
John W. "Dub" Hardy	Hank Roper	
Nancy Haywood	Consuelo Saldana	
Muffi Henschel	Angela Salinas	
Aaron Holbrook	Margaret Salinas	
Judy Holcomb	Lynne Sanyoto	
Leota Mae Hopkins	Sherie Sardis	
Laurie Howard	Bill Schwaiger	
Brett Hudson	Helen and Jim Shaffer	
Denise Hunnell	Caroline Shanahan	
Wendy Hunt	Clif Shoemake	

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 vriviera@smec.org.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

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

Col. Julian Benton	Lt. Jonathan Lesieur	CPO Brian Powell
1LT. Tom Cadwallender	Charles Lewis	1st Lt. S. Jeffers Shaper
1LT. Yonatan Cadwallender	Capt. Jack Mullen	CPO Evan Tomlin
Capt. Casey Gainer	Capt. Alex Mullen	
CDR Bradley Hoffman	PFC Parris F. Owen	
LTC Wesley J. Hunnell	SrA James W. Peoples	
1st Lt. Stephen A. Jeckovich	Lt. Paul Piana	
Major Blake J. Kidd	PFC Alex Pickett	
Cadet George N. Kinder	Lt. Col. Thomas C. Plant	

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 vriviera@smec.org.

OTHER WORSHIP SERVICES

 *family table*

 RIVERWAY

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.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Morning Prayer • 8:30 a.m.
Evening Prayer • 4:30 p.m.
Christ Chapel

WEDNESDAY SERVICES

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



ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BY THE GRACE OF GOD
THE PEOPLE, VESTRY AND WARDENS OF
ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
INVITE YOU TO

THE INSTALLATION
OF OUR NEW RECTOR

The Rev. Dane Ethan Boston

The Right Reverend C. Andrew Doyle
Bishop of Texas, Presiding



Wednesday, the 21st of January
Two Thousand Twenty-Six
Six O'clock in the Evening
St. Martin's Episcopal Church

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube.

717 SAGE RD., HOUSTON, TX 77056
Reception to follow in Bagby Parish Hall
Clergy: Green Stoles | *Childcare Available*

Your presence and participation will be a blessing to our entire
Church family as we embark on this new chapter.

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you
and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Jeremiah 29:11

NEXT TWO WEEKS AT ST. MARTIN'S

ADULTS

SUNDAY

- ▶ **8+ Jan. 11 and 18 • 8:55 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall**
- ▶ **Theology for Life Jan. 11 and 18 • 10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall**
With Dr. Lauren Whitnah – smec.org/guest-speakers/#whitnah
- ▶ **Contemplative Prayer Jan. 11 • 10:15 a.m. • Levenson Pastoral Care Center Bride's Parlor**
- ▶ **Sole Hope Pattern Cutting Jan. 11 • 10:15 a.m. • Activity Center Gym**
- ▶ **Mission Trip Meeting Jan. 18 • 10:15 a.m. • Activity Center Family Room**

MONDAY

- ▶ **Saintly Stitchers Jan. 12 • 10 a.m. • Activity Center Upper Hall East**
- ▶ **Global Prayer Group Jan. 12 • 1:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center**

TUESDAY

- ▶ **Prayer Shawl Ministry Jan. 13 and 20 • 9 a.m. • Activity Center Family Room**
- ▶ **Rector's Bible Study Jan. 13 and 20 • Noon • Student Life Center**
- ▶ **Faith in Literature Evening Group Jan. 20 • 7 p.m. • Children's Life Center**

WEDNESDAY

- ▶ **Morning Prayer Group Jan. 14 • 8 a.m. • Activity Center Family Room**
- ▶ **Blanket Ladies Jan. 14 and 21 • 10 a.m. • Activity Center Family Room**
- ▶ **Docent Tour Jan. 14 and 21 • 11 a.m. • The Church Narthex**
- ▶ **St. Clare's Guild Jan. 14 and 21 • Noon • Activity Center Upper Hall East**
- ▶ **Faith in Literature Day Group Jan. 14 • 1 p.m. • Children's Life Center**
- ▶ **OSL Study Group Jan. 14 • 4:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center**
- ▶ **St. Martin's 20s & 30s Jan. 14 • 7 p.m. • Children's Life Center**

THURSDAY

- ▶ **Parish Choir Jan. 15 and 22 • 7 p.m. • The Music Center Rehearsal Hall**

NEXT TWO WEEKS AT ST. MARTIN'S

MEN

THURSDAY

- ▶ **Men of St. Martin's** *Jan. 15 and 22 • 7 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall*
- ▶ **Dads' Bible Study** *Jan. 15 and 22 • 8 a.m. • Welcome Center*

WOMEN

TUESDAY

- ▶ **CLS Evening Group** *Jan. 13 and 20 • 6:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center*

WEDNESDAY

- ▶ **The Moms' Group** *Jan. 14 and 21 • 9:30 a.m. • Student Life Center Living Room*

THURSDAY

- ▶ **CLS Day Group** *Jan. 15 and 22 • 9:30 a.m. • Parish Life Center*

STUDENTS

SUNDAY

- ▶ **Sunday Get-Togethers** *Jan. 11 and 18 • 10:15 a.m. • Student Life Center*
- ▶ **Youth Choir** *Jan. 11 and 18 • 10:15 a.m. • Children's Life Center*

WEDNESDAY

- ▶ **Life Groups** *Jan. 14 • 6 p.m. • Student Life Center*

CHILDREN

SUNDAY

- ▶ **Childcare** *Jan. 11 and 18 • 8 a.m. • Children's Life Center*
- ▶ **Young Singers** *Jan. 11 and 18 • 8:30 a.m. • Children's Life Center*
- ▶ **Sunday School** *Jan. 11 and 18 • 10:15 a.m. • Children's Life Center*

VISIT SMEC.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS



[smec.org/
learn](https://smec.org/learn)

Christian Education



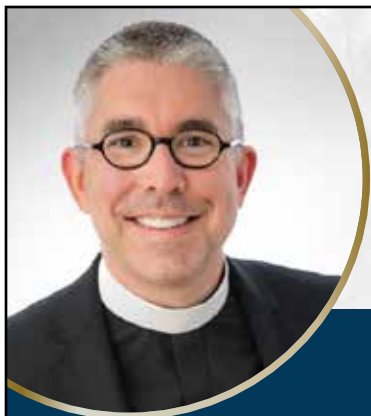
[smec.org/
events](https://smec.org/events)

Upcoming Events



[smec.org/
outreach](https://smec.org/outreach)

Outreach Opportunities



The Rev. Dr. Matthew Olver

Executive Director, The Living Church Foundation

Sunday, Jan. 11

8, 9 and 11:15 a.m. • The Church



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

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Olver serves as the Executive Director of The Living Church Foundation, which since 1878 has published The Living Church magazine serving The Episcopal Church and the wider Anglican Communion. Dr. Olver is a liturgical theologian with a wide range of publications, previously serving as a professor at Nashotah House and as an associate rector at Church of the Incarnation, Dallas. Today, in his work for The Living Church Foundation, he leads an independent nonprofit that serves the renewal and mission of the church through a wide array of publications.

STEWARDSHIP 2026



**Commit to Christ as your
cornerstone and support
St. Martin's annual ministries,
programs and worship by making
your 2026 pledge today!**



**Pledge online
and learn more:**



Contact:
Sarah-Hampton Cambas at
scambas@smec.org or **713-985-3848**.



FEAST OF LIGHTS

SUNDAY, JAN. 11

6 P.M. • THE CHURCH

This beautiful service takes the light of Christ into the world, literally with our actions and symbolically through candles. During the service, acolytes will be commissioned and recognized for their contributions to enhancing services and helping to glorify God.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS SESSION

Unmasking Human Trafficking

A powerful conversation with leaders on the front lines.

Did you know that Houston is considered one of the largest hubs for human trafficking in the United States?

Monday, Jan. 12

8:30–10 a.m. • Student Life Center



Christa Freyhof

Executive Director

Freedom Church Alliance



David Gamboa

Communications Director

Elijah Rising

Contact: Savanna Bowman
sbowman@smec.org
713-830-4138



Church in the Field

Parishioners and friends ages 18 and over minister to those who are homeless near downtown Houston through meals, prayer and music at the monthly worship service.

Find out about and sign up for Dessert Ministry at smec.org/church-in-the-field.

Tracee Tindol

ttindol@smec.org • 713-985-3811

Tuesday, Jan. 13

6:30 p.m.

St. Martin's Parking Lot

ST. MARTIN'S
OUTREACH
MINISTRIES



**JUST
FOR
EPIPHANY**



BOOK OF GALATIANS

STARTING JAN. 18



Join us at
smec.org/just-for

Deadline: Jan. 18

Contact: Haley Lynch

hlynch@smec.org • 713-830-4110

St. Martin's small group ministry meets weekly at various times and locations — either at Church or in homes — for a four-week small group study of Galatians.

Family Nights is back! For our Wednesday evening groups beginning Jan. 28, we have nursery care, Kids J.A.M. for children and Life Groups for youth as well, so you can bring the whole family! Family dinner is available 5-6 p.m. in the Crosswalk Garden.

If you plan to attend dinner, please RSVP at smec.org/family-nights.

There's a place for everyone — come grow with us!




Friday, Jan. 23 • 7 p.m. • The Church

Free admission

In his 20th season as Music Director and Conductor of the Houston Civic Symphony, Brian Runnels brings decades of experience. He first conducted the Symphony in 1979 as Apprentice Conductor and has since led orchestras, musical theatre, oratorio, and opera across several states. He retired from teaching in 2023 after 36 years, including service as Professor of Music at Houston Christian University.

Contact: Dr. David Henning • dhenning@smec.org • 713-985-3820



73RD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
10:15 A.M. • BAGBY PARISH HALL

Parishioners are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to learn about progress in the preceding year and plans for 2026. Sunday School for adults will not be offered on this Sunday so that all will have the opportunity to attend. Please join us!

MEMBERSHIP101



PART 1 • MONDAY, JAN. 26

6–8:30 p.m.

Bagby Parish Hall and Online

Dinner will be served



Join us in our
mission at
smec.org/membership

PART 2 • SUNDAY, FEB. 2

9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Hope and Healing Center
& Institute

Kathy Johnson, Director of Membership
membership@smec.org • 713-985-3834



Good Books and Good Conversation

Led by the Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden

THURSDAY, JAN. 29 | 6:15–7:45 P.M.

STUDENT LIFE CENTER, LIVING ROOM

Join in the dialogue!

“The Long Loneliness” by Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day led an extraordinary life, coming to faith as a young woman after a period as a bohemian writer in New York. After her conversion, she retained her radical social views, co-founding the Catholic Worker movement in 1933 to take up the cause of the poor during the Great Depression. Her remarkable memoir, “The Long Loneliness,” tells the story of her conversion in her own words.

Contact: The Rev. Dr. Jordan Hylden
jhylden@smec.org • 713-830-4106



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

Mrs. Hannah Fox

Associate Organist
hcen@smec.org

Ms. Carole Nelson

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

Mrs. Rozlyn Cline

Director of Children's Ministry
rmcline@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

Ms. Sherrie Perkins, *Senior Warden*
Mr. Logan Walters, *Junior Warden*
Mrs. Susan McConn, *Missions Chair*
Mr. David Leonard, *Treasurer*
Mrs. Courtney Schilling, *Clerk*
Mr. Dan Meyer, *Senior Council President*
Mr. Bob Heston, Jr., *Parish Stewardship Chair*
Mr. Andy Harvin, *Chancellor**

Vestry Members

Mr. Scott Anderson
Mrs. Hunter Bell
Mrs. Kathy Bennett
Mrs. Summer Craig
Mr. Mike Fuqua
Mr. Will Hedges
The Hon. Edith Jones
Mr. John Maclay, Jr.
Mrs. Debbie Robinson
Mr. Milton West

Associate Members

The Hon. James A. Baker, III, *Special Counsel to the Vestry**
Mr. Charles Kraft, *Senior Council Representative 2025-2026*
Mr. Steffen van Keppel, *Senior Council Representative 2025-2026*
Mrs. Moira Davis, *Altar Guild President 2025-2026*
Mrs. Whitney Gormley, *ECW President 2025-2026*
Mr. Jim Drew, *Men of St. Martin's President 2025-2026*
Mr. John Sutherland, *Usher Representative 2024-2026*

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



Mr. Milton West
Vestry Representative

OUR CLERGY

Jesus, The Christ
The Head of This Church



The Rev. Dane E. Boston
Rector
lthough@smec.org



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



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



The Rev. Sharron L. Cox
*Associate for Spiritual Formation and
Pastoral Ministries*
scox@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. Gregory W. Cross
Curate
gcross@smec.org



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



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

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

SMEC.ORG

