

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 15, 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, 11 a.m.-2 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 vrivera@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 317 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 "Aria"

Flor Peeters

The people stand as the procession begins.

*HYMN 372 "Praise to the Living God"

1 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name
2 Form - less, all love - ly forms de - clare his love - li - ness;
3 His Spi - rit flow - eth free, high surg - ing where it will:
4 E - ter - nal life hath he im - plant - ed in the soul;

who was, and is, and is to be for ay the same.
ho - ly, no ho - li - ness of earth can his ex - press.
in pro - phet's word he spoke of old; he speak - eth still.
his love shall be our strength and stay while a - ges roll.

The one e - ter - nal God ere aught that now ap - pears:
Lo, he is Lord of all. Cre - a - tion speaks his praise,
Es - tab - lished is his law, and change - less it shall stand,
Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name

the first, the last, be - yond all thought his time - less years!
 and ev - ery - where a - bove, be - low, his will o - beys.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, on sea, on land.
 who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.

Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845–1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836–1926); Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1985, alt.

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: His mercy endureth for ever.

DECALOGUE (*kneel*)

Celebrant and People pray responsively

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honor thy father and thy mother.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet.

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

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us, and

write all these thy laws in our hearts, we be - seech thee.

John Merbecke and George C. Martin.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A moment of silence is observed.

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

The Celebrant stands and says

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

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

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

People: Have mercy upon us.

TRISAGION

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

THE OLD TESTAMENT 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me him whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eli’ab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abin’adab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he comes here.” And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him; for this is he.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 23, Coverdale
(said at 8 a.m., sung at 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 6 p.m.)



- 1 The Lord | is my | shepherd *
therefore | can I | läck | nothing.
- 2 He shall feed me in a | grëen | pasture *
and lead me forth be- | side the | waters • of | comfort.
- 3 He shall con- | vert my | soul *
and bring me forth in the paths of | righteous- • ness, | for
his | Name’s sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will | fear no | evil *
for thou art with me; thy | rod and • thy | stäff | comfort me.
- 5 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against | them that |
trouble me *
thou hast anointed my head with oil, | and my | cup shall
• be | full.
- 6 Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the
| days of • my | life *
and I will dwell in the house of the | Lörd | för | ever.

All stand.

*HYMN 658 “As Longs the Deer”

(Verses 1-2 before the Gospel; verses 3-4 after the Gospel)

1 As longs the deer for cool - ing streams in
 2 For thee, my God, the liv - ing God, my
 3 Why rest - less, why cast down, my soul? Hope
 4 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the

parched and bar - ren ways, so longs my soul, O
 thirst - y soul doth pine: O when shall I be -
 still, and thou shalt sing the praise of him who
 God whom we a - dore, be glo - ry, as it

God, for thee and thy re - fresh - ing grace.
 hold thy face, thou Ma - jes - ty di - vine?
 is thy God, thy health's e - ter - nal spring.
 was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

New Version of the Psalms of David, 1696, alt.; para. of Psalm 42:1-7; Music: Martydom. This selection is in the public domain.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
 People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL John 9:1-41

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of

the world.” As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man’s eyes with the clay, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Silo’am” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, “Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is he”; others said, “No, but he is like him.” He said, “I am the man.” They said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Silo’am and wash’; so I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age, ask him.” So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, “Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?” And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”

The man answered, “Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you.” He said, “Lord, I believe”; and he worshiped him. Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this, and they said to him, “Are we also blind?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Conclusion of Sequence hymn

THE SERMON

*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, kneeling

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

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence

The 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.**

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 “Brother James’ Air”
Gordon Jacob

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want. He makes me down to lie in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by. My soul he doth restore again and me to walk doth make within the Paths of Blessedness, e’en for his own name’s sake. Yea, though I pass through shadowed vale, yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still. My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; my head with oil thou does anoint, and my cup overflows. Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me, and in my Father’s heart always my dwelling place shall be.

Text: Psalm 23 from the Scottish Psalter (1650). Music: Brother James MacBeth Bain, arr. Gordon Jacob. © 1934 Oxford University Press.

AT THE PRESENTATION

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

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

DOXOLOGY



All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all gifts, to
of - fer thee; And hence with grate - ful hearts to -
- day Thine own be - fore thy feet we lay.

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*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.

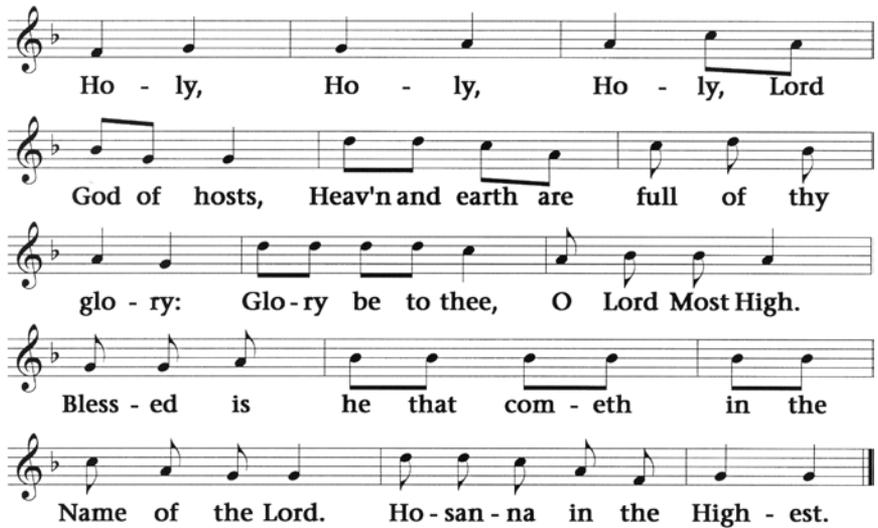
It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

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.)



The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first line of music is: Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord. The second line is: God of hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy. The third line is: glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. The fourth line is: Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the. The fifth line is: Name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

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

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

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

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

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. in place of Fraction Anthem)

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

People: Have mercy upon us.

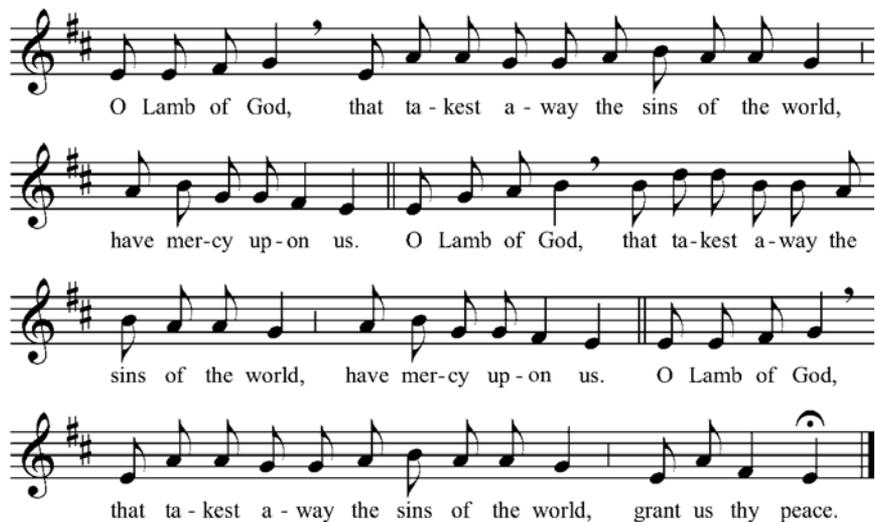
Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:

People: Have mercy upon us.

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

People: Grant us thy peace.

FRACTION ANTHEM



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

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

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

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 “Open Thou Mine Eyes”

John Rutter

Open thou mine eyes and I shall see: Incline my heart and I shall desire: Order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of thy commandments. O Lord God, be thou to me a God and beside thee let there be none else, no other, nought else with thee. Vouchsafe to me to worship thee and serve thee according to thy commandments, in truth of spirit, in reverence of body, in blessing of lips, in private and public.

Text: Lancelot Andrews (1555-1626) Copyright 1980 by Oxford University Press.

HYMN 691 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

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

HYMN 686 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”



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



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



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



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



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



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

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

HYMN 700 “O Love that Casts Out Fear”

1 O love that casts out fear, O love that casts out sin,
 2 True sun-light of the soul, sur-round us as we go;
 3 Great love of God, come in! Well-spring of heaven-ly peace;
 4 Love of the liv-ing God, of Fa-ther and of Son;

tar-ry no more with-out, but come and dwell with-in.
 so shall our way be safe, our feet no stray-ing know.
 thou Liv-ing Wa-ter, come! Spring up, and nev-er cease.
 love of the Ho-ly Ghost, fill thou each need-y one.

Music: *Moseley*; Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889). This selection is in the public domain.

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 637....."How Firm a Foundation"

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

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

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

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

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

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY “Sortie”
 Theodore Dubois

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

St. Martin's Welcomes

THE REV. TIMOTHY JONES

Former Dean of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral



Sunday, March 15

8, 9 and 11:15 a.m.

The Church

10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall

The Rev. Timothy Jones, former dean of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia, South Carolina, is the author of several books, including *Fully Beloved: Meeting God in Our Heartaches and Hopes* (Thomas Nelson, 2026) and *The Art of Prayer: A Simple Guide to Conversation with God* (Waterbrook, 2005). He also served as dean of Trinity when our Rector was on staff there years ago.



Learn more about Fr. Jones
 at smec.org/guest-speakers/#jones



ST. MARTIN'S
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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:

The Abraham family	Naomi Illeman	Bill Schwaiger
Shelly Bain	Sara Jabbari	Helen and Jim Shaffer
Ken Beadell	Mary and Jim Jennings	Caroline Shanahan
Lorrie Beasley	Susan and Chester Keeton	Clif Shoemake
Cory Blackman	Mark Kennedy	Betsy Smith
Jodie and Patrick Browne	Dick Kilday	Marc Sony
Gary Browning	Diane Knutzen	Mitch Starkey
Dan Burns	Alex and Trip Larzelere	Lynn and Ray Stauffacher
Oran Chappell	Rhea Latta	Dolly Steinman
Gene Cooley	Bruce Michael Lee	Michael Stern
Lynne Couste	Mary Lehman	Janis and James Stokes
Linda Craig	Nicole Lockney	Trish and Joe Tannian
Angelina Crooks	Ryan Logan	Norma Taylor
Gail Cunningham	Julie Long	Claudia Thornton
Bobby de Sosa	John Love	Betty Tutor
Linda de Sosa	Patrick Machs	Scarlett and Luke Tyler
Charlotte Dion	James Masten	Rose Vaile
Abby Aldrich Elliott	Jane McAfee	Van Valentine
Carole Embley	Barbara and Bob McClellan	Patel Vinod C.
Famose Garner	Janet McDaniel	Mary Watters
Susan Garrett	Adams McHenry	Lisa Weaver
Judy Gerrish	Kathy and Dave McStravick	Cei Anne Whitlock
Gloria Goldini	Michelle McStravick	Grant Wilborn
Nancy Gore	Frank Melchor	Eric Zoerb
Susan and Aart Gosma	Kae Nakisa	Angela
Cynthia Graham	Rosie Nasiridin	Atticus
The Rev. Alex Graham	Kim Parshall	Blair
Demetricka Wilson Green	Colin Peoples	Carolina
Jeffrey "Shea" Guinn	Antone Peterson	David
Bette Haidusek	Ophelia Pujol	Henry
Nancy Hall	Mary Sommers Pyne	Jane
Wayne Hall	Phyllis Reinhardt	Jim
John W. "Dub" Hardy	James Reiss	Kay
Nancy Haywood	Blanca and Jason Rivera	Lynne
Muffi Henschel	John "Jack" Roady	Mark
Aaron Holbrook	J.R. Rodriguez	Nancy
Judy Holcomb	Maggie Rodriguez	Pam
Alicia Holder	Hank Roper	Sally
Janet Hoover	Consuelo Saldana	Stephen
Leota Mae Hopkins	Angela Salinas	Susan
Laurie Howard	Margaret Salinas	Tara
Brett Hudson	Lynne Sanyoto	Wayne
Wendy Hunt	Sherie Sardis	

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

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.

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 vriviera@smec.org with this information. Your assistance in maintaining our prayer list is most appreciated.

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

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

NEXT TWO WEEKS AT ST. MARTIN'S

ADULTS

SUNDAY

- ▶ **8+** *March 15, 22 • 8:55 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall*
- ▶ **Theology for Life** *March 15, 22 • 10:15 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall*
- ▶ **Anglicanism 101** *March 15, 22 • 10:15 a.m. • Chapel Reception Hall*
- ▶ **Contemplative Prayer** *March 15 • 10:15 a.m. • Levenson Pastoral Care Center Bride's Parlor*

MONDAY

- ▶ **Saintly Stitchers** *March 16, 23 • 10 a.m. • Activity Center Upper Hall East*
- ▶ **Global Prayer Group** *March 16, 23 • 1:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center*
- ▶ **The Gathering** *March 23 • 10 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall*

TUESDAY

- ▶ **Prayer Shawl Ministry** *March 17, 24 • 9 a.m. • Activity Center Family Room*
- ▶ **Rector's Bible Study** *March 17, 24 • Noon • Student Life Center*
- ▶ **Faith in Literature Evening Group** *March 17 • 7 p.m. • Children's Life Center*

WEDNESDAY

- ▶ **Morning Prayer Group** *March 18, 25 • 8 a.m. • Activity Center Family Room*
- ▶ **Blanket Ladies** *March 18, 25 • 10 a.m. • Activity Center Family Room*
- ▶ **Docent Tour** *March 18, 25 • 11 a.m. • The Church Narthex*
- ▶ **St. Clare's Guild** *March 18, 25 • Noon • Activity Center Upper Hall East*
- ▶ **OSL Study Group** *March 18, 25 • 4:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center*
- ▶ **Lenten Series** *March 18 • 6:15 p.m. • Bagby Parish Hall • smec.org/lent-series*

THURSDAY

- ▶ **Parish Choir** *March 19, 26 • 7 p.m. • The Music Center Rehearsal Hall*

MEN

TUESDAY

- ▶ **Kids' Meals** *March 24 • 5 p.m. • Parish Life Center Kitchen*

NEXT TWO WEEKS AT ST. MARTIN'S

MEN

THURSDAY

- ▶ **Men of St. Martin's** *March 19, 26 • 7 a.m. • Bagby Parish Hall*
- ▶ **Dads' Bible Study** *March 19, 26 • 8 a.m. • Welcome Center*

WOMEN

TUESDAY

- ▶ **CLS Evening Group** *March 17, 24 • 6:30 p.m. • Children's Life Center*

THURSDAY

- ▶ **CLS Day Group** *March 19, 26 • 9:30 a.m. • Parish Life Center*

STUDENTS

SUNDAY

- ▶ **Sunday Get-Togethers** *March 15, 22 • 10:15 a.m. • Student Life Center*
- ▶ **Youth Choir** *March 15, 22 • 10:15 a.m. • Children's Life Center*

WEDNESDAY

- ▶ **Life Groups** *March 18, 25 • 6 p.m. • Student Life Center*

CHILDREN

SUNDAY

- ▶ **Childcare** *March 15, 22 • 8 a.m. • Children's Life Center*
- ▶ **Young Singers** *March 15, 22 • 8:30 a.m. • Children's Life Center*
- ▶ **Sunday School** *March 15, 22 • 10:15 a.m. • Children's Life Center*

WEDNESDAY

- ▶ **Kids J.A.M. (Jesus and Me)** *March 18 • 6 p.m. • Children's Life Center*

VISIT SMEC.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS



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Christian Education



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

Upcoming Events



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

Outreach Opportunities



Chat with Amistad

Spend some of your evening getting to know the children and Mama Isabel of Casa San Martin in Cochabamba, Bolivia. They love to meet new friends, pets and ask and answer questions.

All ages are welcome and a translator will be available.

Contact Tracee Tindol for Zoom link:
 ttindol@smec.org • 713-985-3811

Tuesday, March 17
6 p.m. *NEW TIME*
Meet via Zoom



A Table Before Me

Artists' Reception
 and Talk

THURSDAY, MARCH 19
6–8 P.M.

PARISH LIFE CENTER NARTHEX



"Bread and Wine—Body and Blood" by Joy Hilley

"A Table Before Me," the current art exhibit in the Parish Life Center, features the work of four visual artists exploring a Eucharistic theme. Join us as we explore the beauty of their unique vision and allow the Spirit to draw us more deeply into the mystery of the Eucharist Table.

Exhibit Dates: Now through Sunday, May 12

Artists' Talk: Thursday, March 19, 6–8 p.m.

Artists: Stephanie Fox, Sherri Harris, Artist-in-Residence Joy Hilley and Caren Schmidt

Contact: Haley Lynch • hlynch@smec.org • 713-830-4110



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

Mrs. Susan McConn, *Senior Warden*
Mr. David Leonard, *Junior Warden*
Mrs. Kathy Bennett, *Missions Chair*
Mr. Mike Fuqua, *Treasurer*
Mrs. Debbie Robinson, *Vestry Stewardship Liaison*
Mr. John Maclay, Jr., *Clerk*
Ms. Sherrie Perkins, *Senior Council President*
Mr. Andy Harvin, *Chancellor**

Vestry Members

Mr. Scott Anderson
Mrs. Hunter Bell
Mrs. Summer Craig
Miss Samantha Hutchison
Mr. David Jones
The Hon. Edith Jones
Mr. David Kinder
Mr. James Williams
Mrs. Greta Zimmerman

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*



Mrs. Hunter Bell
Vestry Representative
Morning



Mrs. Debbie Robinson
Vestry Representative
Evening

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. Gregory W. Cross
Associate for Liturgy and Worship
gcross@smec.org



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



The Rev. Elizabeth A. Miller
Pastoral Assistant
emiller@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

