



CHORAL EVENSONG

The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 20, 2026

4 p.m.

*In the Name of Christ Jesus, welcome to Choral Evensong at St. Martin's Episcopal Church!
May all who gather here be nourished by this service of prayer, scripture, sermon, and music.*

A Prayer Before Worship

 ALMIGHTY GOD, who pourest out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 833

Organ Prelude

“Adagio in E major”

Frank Bridge (1879-1941)

Introit

“Te lucis ante terminum”

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

TE LUCIS ANTE TERMINUM, rerum Creator, poscimus, ut solita clementia sis praesul ad custodiam. Procul recedant somnia, et noctium fantasmata; hostemque nostrum comprime, ne polluantur corpora. Praesta, Pater omnipotens, per Jesum Christum Dominum; qui tecum in perpetuum regnat cum Sancto Spiritu. Amen.

BEFORE THE ENDING OF THE DAY, Creator of the world, we pray that with thy wonted favour, Thou would'st be our guard and keeper now. From all ill dreams defend our eyes, from nightly fears and fantasies; tread under foot our ghostly foe, that no pollution we may know. O Father, that we ask be done, through Jesus Christ, Thine only Son; who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee, shall live and reign eternally. Amen.

Compline Hymn, tr. John M. Neale (1818-1866)

The People stand for the Hymn in Procession

Hymn in Procession

23

1 The fleet - ing day is near - ly gone;
 2 At prayer time, near the Tem - ple gate,
 3 With "It is fi - nished" on your lips,
 4 O God, cre - a - tion's rul - ing force,

we har - vest what the morn - ing sowed.
 A - post - les made a lame man walk.
 at that ninth hour you died for us.
 O Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for us,

Now grant us un - di - mi - nished strength
 They gave him heal - ing in your Name;
 In - spire us by your dy - ing breath
 O Spi - rit, bring - ing power and health,

to stand and do what still re - mains.
 now give us grace to walk your way.
 to live for you and do your will.
 we praise and bless you ev - ery hour.

Words: Charles P. Price (b. 1920)

Music: *Du meiner Seelen*, from *Cantica Spiritualia*, 1847

Opening Sentence



WORSHIP THE LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Psalm 96:9

Preces and Responses

Officiant: O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.



GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Officiant: Praise ye the Lord.

Choir: The Lord's name be praised.

Setting by Philip Radcliffe (1905-1986)

The People are seated as the Choir sings the Appointed Psalm

Appointed Psalm

Psalm 104

Benedic, anima mea



RAISE THE LORD, O my soul: O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding glorious, thou art clothed with majesty and honour. Thou deckest thy self with light as it were with a garment: and spreadest out the heavens like a curtain. Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: and maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind. He maketh his Angels spirits: and his ministers a flaming fire. He laid the foundations of the earth: that it never should move at any time. Thou coveredst it with the deep like as with a garment: the waters stand in the hills. At thy rebuke they flee: at the voice of thy thunder they are afraid. They go up as high as the hills, and down to the valleys beneath: even unto the place which thou hast appointed for them. Thou hast set them their bounds which they shall not pass: neither turn again to cover the earth. He sendeth the springs into the rivers: which run among the hills. All beasts of the field drink thereof: and the wilde asses quench their thirst. Beside them shall the fowls of the air have their habitation: and sing among the branches. He watereth the hills from above:

the earth is filled with the fruit of thy works. He bringeth forth grass for the cattel: and green herb for the service of men. That he may bring food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man: and oil to make him a chearful countenance, and bread to strengthen mans heart. The trees of the Lord also are full of sap: even the cedars of Libanus which he hath planted. Wherein the birds make their nests: and the firre-trees a dwelling for the stork. The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats: and so are the stony rocks for the conies. He appointed the moon for certain seasons: and the sun knoweth his going down. Thou makest darkness that it may be night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do move. The lions roaring after their prey: do seek their meat from God. The sun ariseth, and they get them away together: and lay them down in their dens. Man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour: until the evening. O Lord, how manifold are thy works: in wisdom hast thou made them all, the earth is full of thy riches. So is the great and wide sea also: wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts. There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan: whom thou hast made to take his pastime therein. These wait all upon thee: that thou mayest give them meat in due season. When thou givest it them, they gather it: and when thou openest thy hand, they are filled with good. When thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: when thou takest away their breath, they die, and are turned again to their dust. When thou lettest thy breath go forth, they shall be made: and thou shalt renew the face of the earth. The glorious Majesty of the Lord shall endure for ever: the Lord shall rejoyce in his works. The earth shall tremble at the look of him: if he do but touch the hills, they shall smoak. I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will praise my God while I have my being. And so shall my words please him: my joy shall be in the Lord. As for sinners they shall be consumed out of the earth, and the ungodly shall come to an end: praise thou the Lord, O my soul, praise the Lord.

All stand

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*Settings by Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)
& Walter Parratt (1841-1924)*

All sit for the first lesson

The First Lesson

2 Kings 4:8-37

AND IT FELL ON A DAY, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread. And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually. Let us make a little chamber, I pray thee, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither. And it fell on a day, that he came thither, and he turned into the chamber, and lay there.

And he said to Gehazi his servant, Call this Shunammite. And when he had called her, she stood before him. And he said unto him, Say now unto her, Behold, thou hast been careful for us with all this care; what is to be done for thee? wouldest thou be spoken for to the king, or to the captain of the host? And she answered, I dwell among mine own people. And he said, What then is to be done for her? And Gehazi answered, Verily she hath no child, and her husband is old. And he said, Call her. And when he had called her, she stood in the door. And he said, About this season, according to the time of life, thou shalt embrace a son. And she said, Nay, my lord, thou man of God, do not lie unto thine handmaid. And the woman conceived, and bare a son at that season that Elisha had said unto her, according to the time of life. And when the child was grown, it fell on a day, that he went out to his father to the reapers. And he said unto his father, My head, my head. And he said to a lad, Carry him to his mother. And when he had taken him, and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and then died. And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out. And she called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again. And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither the new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well. Then she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, Drive, and go forward; slack not thy riding for me, except I bid thee. So she went and came unto the man of God to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunammite: Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well. And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is vexed within her: and the LORD hath hid it from me, and hath not told me. Then she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me? Then he said to Gehazi, Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any man, salute him not; and if any salute thee, answer him not again: and lay my staff upon the face of the child. And the mother of the child said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And he arose, and followed her. And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice, nor hearing. Wherefore he went again to meet him, and told him, saying, The child is not awaked. And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon his bed. He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the LORD. And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands: and he stretched himself upon the child; and the flesh of the child waxed warm. Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes. And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunnamite. So he called her. And when she was come in unto them, he said, Take up thy son. Then she went in, and fell at his feet, and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

The Song of Mary

“Magnificat in D major”

A. Herbert Brewer (1865-1928)

MY SOUL DOTH MAGNIFY THE LORD, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

All sit for the second lesson

The Second Lesson

James 1:19-27

WHEREFORE, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

All stand for the Song of Simeon

The Song of Simeon

“Nunc Dimittis in D major”

A. Herbert Brewer

LORD, NOW LETTEST THOU THY SERVANT DEPART IN PEACE, according to thy word; For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people, To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together

I BELIEVE IN GOD, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lesser Litany

Philip Radcliffe

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Officiant: Let us pray.

The People kneel

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer

 UR FATHER, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Suffrages

Officiant: O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir: And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant: O Lord, save the State.

Choir: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant: Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir: And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant: O Lord, save thy people.

Choir: And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant: Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir: Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Officiant: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collect of the Day

GRANT US, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Collect for Peace

GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

Collect for Aid against All Perils

LIGHTEN OUR DARKNESS, we beseech thee, O Lord, and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Authorized Intercessions

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

The Officiant continues

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

Benedicamus Domino

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sentence of Scripture

The Officiant continues

THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

Welcome and Announcements

Sermon

The Rev. Dane E. Boston

The Officiant bids the Offering

Anthem at the Offering

“The souls of the righteous”

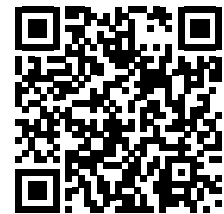
Geraint Lewis (b. 1958)

THE SOULS OF THE RIGHTEOUS are in the hand of God, and the pain of death shall not touch them. To the eyes of the foolish, they seemed to perish, but they are in peace.

Wisdom 3:1-3

During the Anthem, Ushers will come forward to collect member pledges and donations. While visitors are never expected to give, all donations are welcome. Offerings support Choral Evensong and St. Martin's ministries.

Contributions may also be made online by visiting smec.org/give or by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generous support!



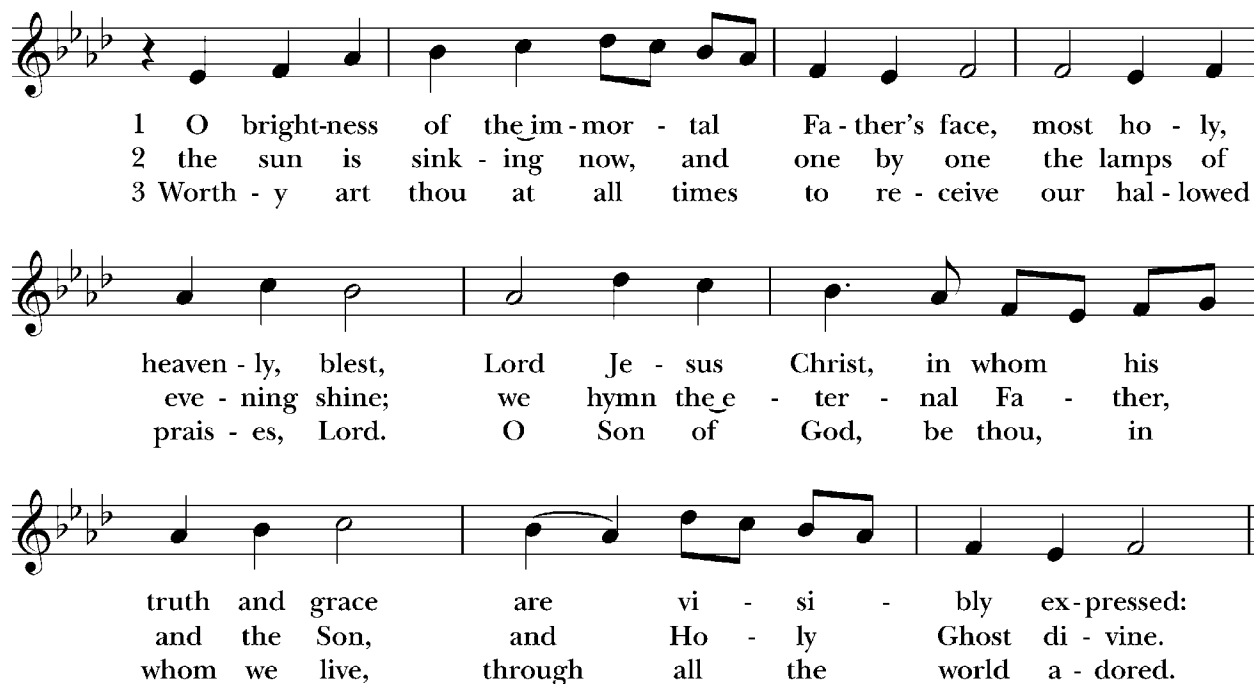
The People kneel for the Benediction

Benediction

*Following the Benediction,
all stand for the final hymn*

Hymn

37



1 O bright-ness of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther's face, most ho - ly,
2 the sun is sink - ing now, and one by one the lamps of
3 Worth - y art thou at all times to re - ceive our hal - lowed

heaven - ly, blest, Lord Je - sus Christ, in whom his
eve - ning shine; we hymn the e - ter - nal Fa - ther,
prais - es, Lord. O Son of God, be thou, in

truth and grace are vi - si - bly ex - pressed:
and the Son, and Ho - ly Ghost di - vine.
whom we live, through all the world a - dored.

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. Edward W. Eddis (1825-1905); para. of *O Gracious Light*
Music: *Evening Hymn*, Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Organ Postlude

“Allegro deciso”
Évocation, Op. 37 Mvt. 3

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

The Ministers and Choir depart

*All are invited to Bagby Parish Hall following the service for
fellowship and Christian Formation beginning at 5 p.m.*

Welcome to St. Martin's

In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, welcome to St. Martin's Episcopal Church!

We are so grateful that you are worshipping with us today. Everything that this vibrant Parish does flows from the worship of our Lord. Our service times and styles may vary, but through the riches of our Anglican tradition, they are all offered for the same ultimate purpose: to glorify our God and Father, to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ His Son, and to rejoice in the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit.

Whether you are here for the very first time or have been attending St. Martin's for decades, I invite you to explore our many daily and weekly opportunities for worship, learning, fellowship, and service. We are a community where people of every age and stage of life are met by Jesus and deepen their relationship with Him. Join us as we open God's Word in Bible studies large and small, gather in nourishing, nurturing care for one another, and reach out to show God's love in tangible ways to our brothers and sisters here in Houston, and around the globe.

Come, worship the Lord, and grow with us. Welcome to St. Martin's!

The Rev. Dane E. Boston, Rector

Music St. Martin's

presents

e n s e m b l e

/ALTE·RA/

"One of the [United] States' leading chamber choirs"

Gramophone

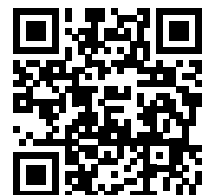
Sunday, October 25

4 p.m. - The Church

Join us as we welcome Ensemble Altera to St. Martin's for the very first time as they present an evening of profound choral music not to be missed!

This concert is free of charge and open to the public.

To accommodate the schedules of visiting artists, there will be no service of Choral Evensong offered this evening.



Listen here!

Join Us for Worship

Traditional Services with Choir

Holy Eucharist: Rite One - 9 a.m. in the Church - First Sunday of Every Month

Morning Prayer - 9 a.m. in the Church - Second through Fifth Sundays of Every Month

Holy Eucharist: Rite One with Children's Chapel - 11:15 a.m. in the Church - Every Sunday

Contemporary Worship

Family Table - 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Life Center - Every Sunday

Riverway with Children's Chapel - 11:15 a.m. in the Parish Life Center - Every Sunday

Spoken Holy Eucharist: Rite One

8 a.m. & 6 p.m. in the Church - Every Sunday

7 a.m. & noon in Christ Chapel - Every Wednesday

The Daily Office (Morning and Evening Prayer)

8:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel - Monday through Friday

Our Vestry

Executive Committee

Mrs. Susan McConn*
Mr. David Leonard
Mrs. Kathy Bennett
Mr. Mike Fuqua
Mrs. Debbie Robinson
Mr. John Maclay Jr.
Ms. Sherrie Perkins
Mr. Andy Harvin

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
Mrs. Diane Campbell
Mr. Ed Frank
Mrs. Mary Williams
Mrs. Laurie Moreland
Mr. Jim Drew
Mr. Ted Carpenter
*Senior Warden
†Vestry Representative

Evensong Staff and Parish Choir

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Principal Organist
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Mrs. Barbara Piana

Verger and Worship Services Coordinator
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Mrs. Hannah Fox

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Pam Adger
Tim Anderson
Gerald Beathard
John Bentley
Pam Bentley
Jeffrey Berry
Sharon Brumley
Daniel Burns
Tabitha Burns
Emily Margaret Ceres
Debbie Chernosky
Matt Chernosky
Ava Costales
Courtney Costales
Debbie Day
Chelsea DeLorenz
David Edlund
Ami Figg
Don Figg
Mary Alice Fields
Robert Fleischer
Stan Galanski

McKenzie Garey
Alison Gilmore
Samuel Gonzalez
Sarah Ann Gonzalez
Rufus Griscom
Anne Hawkins
Louise Huck
Edith Jones
Mary Anne Kannard
Jay Karahan
Robert Kidd
Katie LaRue
Courtney Ledbetter
Sharon Lietzow
Abby Lysinger
Christine Mahaffey
Marjorie Maxfield
Christianne Melanson
Dawn Mena
Melissa Moore
Bill Miller
Bobby Neal
Carole Nelson

Dillon Nichols
Patrick Perez
Ophelia Pujol
Daisy Quayle
Jeffrey Ragsdale
Christiana Ransford
George Ransford
Garrett Reider
Nathaniel Richard
Randy Riddell
Joeavian Rivera
Rene Rodriguez
Constantine Rubarth
Andre Scott
Patricia Shadle
Joe Stephens
David Stockwell
Anne Stoeber
Carlotta Thomas
Madalyn Tomkins
Virginia Tomlinson
Lois Van Vooren
Annamarie Zmolek

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Jesus Christ
The Head of the Church



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