# Choral Evensong

## The Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

**November 15, 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
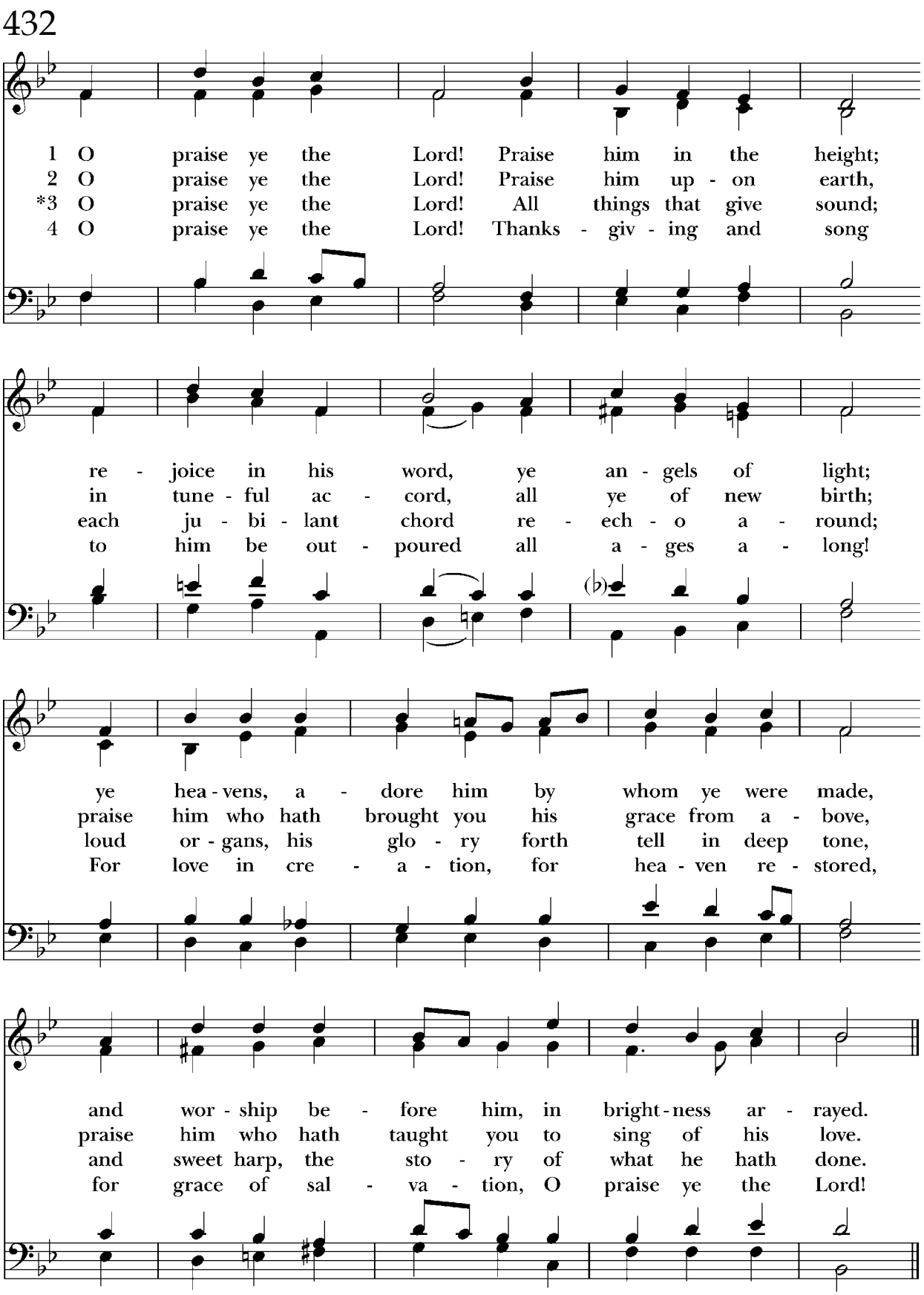
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**Organ Prelude**

*Three Psalm-Preludes Set 1* "No. 2" Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

*The People stand for the Hymn in Procession*

**Hymn in Procession**




Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.; based on Psalms 148 and 150
Music: *Laudate Dominum*, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

**Opening Sentence**

IF I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to thee, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to thee are both alike.

Psalm 139:10,11

**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 78 vv. 1-30

*Attendite, popule*

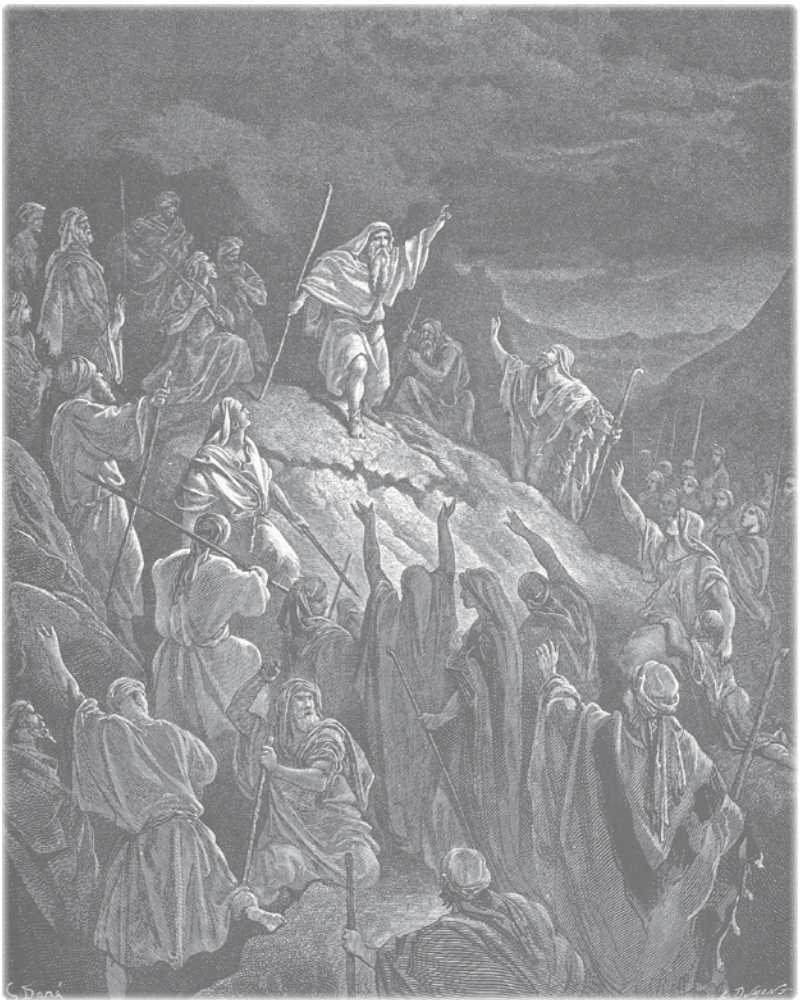
HEAR my law, O my people: incline your ears unto the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will declare hard sentences of old; Which we have heard and known: and such as our fathers have told us; That we should not hide them from the children of the generations to come: but to shew the honour of the Lord, his might and wonderful works that he hath done. He made a covenant with Jacob, and gave Israel a law: which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children; That their posterity might know it: and the children which were yet unborn; To the intent, that when they came up: they might shew their children the same; That they might put their trust in God: and not to forget the works of God, but to keep his commandments; And not to be as their forefathers, a faithless and stubborn generation: a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit cleaveth not steadfastly unto God; Like as the children of Ephraim: who being harnessed, and carrying bows, turned themselves back in the day of battel. They kept not the covenant of God: and would not walk in his law; But forgat what he had done: and the wonderful works that he had shewed for them. Marvellous things did he in the sight of our forefathers, in the land of Egypt: even in the field of Zoan. He divided the sea, and let them go through: he made the waters to stand on an heap. In the day-time also he led them with a cloud: and all the night through with a light of fire. He clave the hard rocks in the wilderness: and gave them drink thereof, as it had been out of the great depth. He brought waters out of the stony rock: so that it gushed out like the rivers. Yet for all this they sinned more against him: and provoked the most Highest in the wilderness. They tempted God in their hearts: and required meat for their lust. They spake against God also, saying: Shall God prepare a table in the wilderness? He smote the stony rock indeed, that the water gushed out, and the streams flowed withal: but can he give bread also, or provide flesh for his people? When the Lord heard this, he was wroth: so the fire was kindled in Jacob, and there came up heavy displeasure against Israel; Because they believed not in God: and put not their trust in his help. So he commanded the clouds above: and opened the doors of heaven. He rained down Manna also upon them for to eat: and gave them food from heaven. So man did eat Angels food: for he sent them meat enough. He caused the east-wind to blow under heaven: and through his power he brought in the south-west-wind. He rained flesh upon them as thick as dust: and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea. He let it fall among their tents: even round about their habitation. So they did eat, and were well filled, for he gave them their own desire: they were not disappointed of their lust.

*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.

*Setting by* Cyril Rootham (1875-1938)

*All sit for the first lesson*



"Mattathias Appeals to the Jewish Refugees" Gustave Doré (1832-1883)

**The First Lesson**

1 Maccabees 2:29-43, 49-50

THEN many that sought after justice and judgment went down into the wilderness, to dwell there: Both they, and their children, and their wives, and their cattle; because afflictions increased sore upon them. Now when it was told the king's servants, and the host that was at Jerusalem, in the city of David, that certain men, who had broken the king's commandment, were gone down into the secret places in the wilderness, They pursued after them a great number, and having overtaken them, they camped against them, and made war against them on the sabbath day. And they said unto them, Let that which ye have done hitherto suffice; come forth, and do according to the commandment of the king, and ye shall live. But they said, We will not come forth, neither will we do the king's commandment, to profane the sabbath day. So then they gave them the battle with all speed. Howbeit they answered them not, neither cast they a stone at them, nor stopped the places where they lay hid; But said, Let us die all in our innocency: heaven and earth shall testify for us, that ye put us to death wrongfully. So they rose up against them in battle on the sabbath, and they slew them, with their wives and children, and their cattle, to the number of a thousand people. Now when Mattathias and his friends understood hereof, they mourned for them right sore. And one of them said to another, If we all do as our brethren have done, and fight not for our lives and laws against the heathen, they will now quickly root us out of the earth. At that time therefore they decreed, saying, Whosoever shall come to make battle with us on the sabbath day, we will fight against him; neither will we die all, as our brethren that were murdered in the secret places. Then came there unto him a company of Assideans, who were mighty men of Israel, even all such as were voluntarily devoted unto the law. Also all they that fled for persecution joined themselves unto them, and were a stay unto them. Now when the time drew near that Mattathias should die, he said unto his sons, Now hath pride and rebuke gotten strength, and the time of destruction, and the wrath of indignation: Now therefore, my sons, be ye zealous for the law, and give your lives for the covenant of your fathers.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

*All stand for the Song of Mary*

**The Song of Mary**

"Magnificat in F" John Ireland (1879-1962)

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*



"St. Paul in Prison" Gustave Doré

**The Second Lesson**

Philippians 3:13-4:1

BRETHREN, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.

Lector: Here endeth the lesson.

*All stand for the Song of Simeon*

**The Song of Simeon**

"Nunc Dimittis in F" John Ireland

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**

OUR 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**

BLESSED Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that, by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

**Collect for Peace**

OGOD, 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*

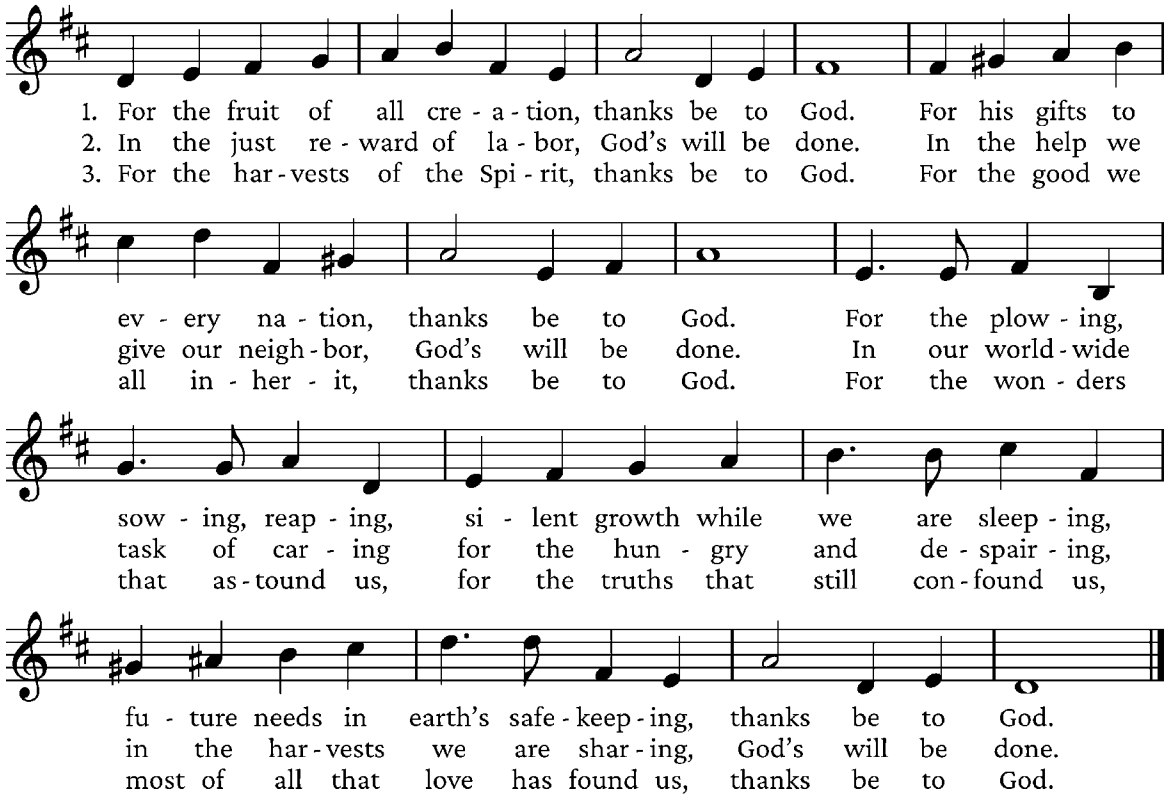
MAY the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Hymn**

424




Words: F. Pratt Green (b. 1903), alt.
Music: *East Acklam,* Francis Jackson (b. 1917)

**Sermon** The Rev. Dane E. Boston

*The Officiant bids the Offering*

**Anthem at the Offering**

"Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks" Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

LIKE as the hart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God. My soul is athirst for God; yea, even for the living God. When shall I come to appear before the presence of God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me, Where is now thy God?

Psalm 42:1-3

*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!*
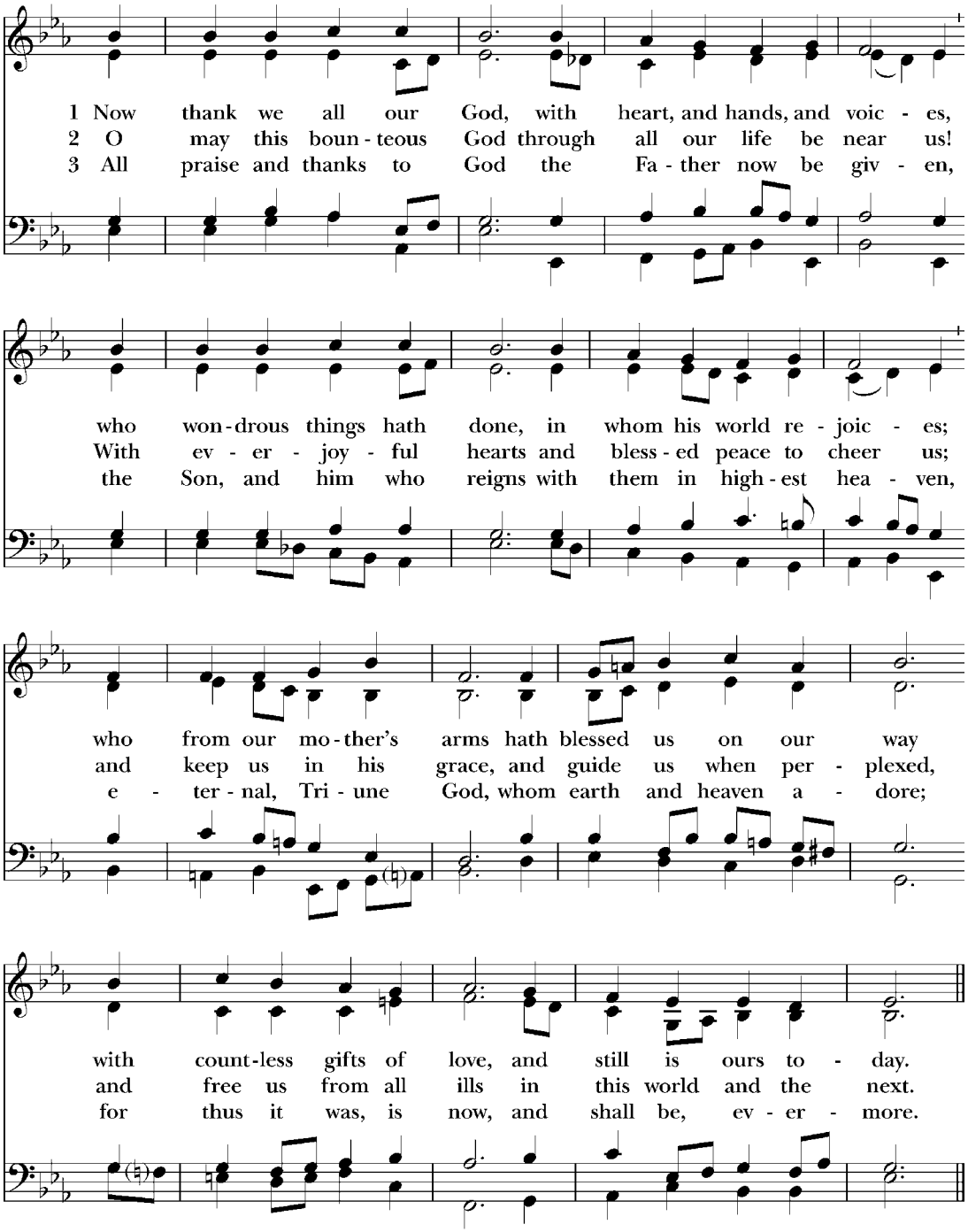
*The People kneel for the Blessing*

**The Blessing**

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

**Hymn**

397




Words: Martin Rinckart (1586-1649); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.
Music: *Nun danket alle Gott*, melody Johann Cruger (1598-1662);
harm William Henry Monk (1823-1889), after Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

**Organ Postlude**

"Carillon" Herbert Murrill (1909-1952)

*The Ministers and Choir depart*

# 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

# Evensong Staff

**Mr. Keith Lathrom**
*Director of Music*
klathrom@smec.org

**Mr. John Meier**
*Principal Organist*
jmeier@smec.org

**Mrs. Barbara Piana**
*Verger and Worship Services Coordinator*
bpiana@smec.org

**Mrs. Hannah Fox**
*Associate Organist*
hcen@smec.org

**Mr. Patrick Perez**
*Cantor and Music Ministry Coordinator*
paperez@smec.org

# Mark Your Calendar

**Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist**

*Thursday, November 26 - 10 a.m. in the Church*

Take a break from the turkey before the holiday season kicks into high gear with our service of traditional harvest-time hymns and Holy Communion around Our Lord's Table.

**Advent Lessons and Carols**

*Sunday, November 29 - 4 p.m. in the Church*

Ring in the New Church Year with scripture and music focused on the Advent season's joyful expectation of the coming of Christ into the world.

**Houston Boychoir Winter Concert**

*Saturday, December 12 - 4 p.m. in the Church*

This free concert will feature the youngest boys through the seasoned alumni singing a wide range of holiday music the whole family can enjoy.

**Christmas Lessons and Carols**

*Sunday, December 20 - 4 p.m. in the Church*

Get into the Christmas spirit a few days ahead of the crowd at Lessons and Carols on the fourth and final Sunday of Advent.

# Christmas at St. Martin's

## Christmas Eve - Thursday, December 24

Family Table Christmas Eve Service
*9:15 a.m. in the Parish Life Center*

Christmas Pageant
*11 a.m. in the Church*

Riverway Christmas Eve Service
*1:30 p.m. in the Parish Life Center*

Traditional Christmas Eve Services with Choir, Organ, and Brass
*1 p.m. in the Church*
*3:30 p.m. in the Church*
*6 p.m. in the Church*
*8:30 p.m. in the Church*

## Christmas Day - Friday, December 25

Traditional Christmas Day Service with Choir and Organ
*11 a.m. in the Church*

# 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*

# Our Clergy

**Jesus Christ**
*The Head of the Church*



**The Rev. Dane E. Boston**
*Rector*
lhough@smec.org



**The Rev. Dr. Andrew T. Grosso**
*Vice Rector*
agrosso@smec.org



**The Rev. Lisa R. Neilson**
*Vicar for Pastoral Care*
lneilson@smec.org



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



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



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



**The Rev. Sharron L. Cox**
*Associate for Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Ministries*
scox@smec.org



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



**The Rev. Andrew S. Hebert**
*Curate*
ahebert@smec.org



**The Rev. Elizabeth A. Miller**
*Pastoral Assistant*
emiller@smec.org



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

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

SMEC.ORG