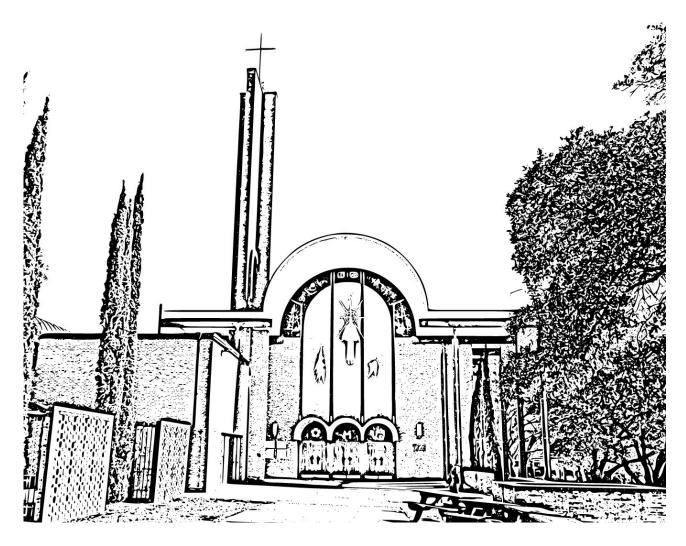
# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



JANUARY 29, 2023 11:00 AM

ST. MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 606 W 15<sup>TH</sup> STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS | WWW.SAINTMARTINS.ORG

## LOVE, SHARE, & SERVE BOLDLY.

No matter where you find yourself on your faith journey—join us! Here you have found a church home where believers congregate to encourage each other and grow spiritually in an abundant relationship with the Lord. At St. Martin's, we promote and value an inclusive fellowship. Whether you are young, old, gay, straight, single, married, partnered—from all walks of life, backgrounds, and cultures—we welcome you!

In worship, the Holy Spirit gathers us around the means of grace—the saving Word of God and the sacraments. From the table of communion where Jesus Christ comes with forgiveness, life, and salvation, God sends us out to share the good news and to care for those in need.

Families with small children are welcome to enjoy the Prayground rug in the Narthex where there are toys and activities. The joyful noise of our young ones is always welcome in this space.

Notes in italics offer directions about the service. **The people's responses are in bold.** 

## **PRELUDE**

PSALM-PRELUDE: SET ONE, NO. 2

HERBERT HOWELLS, OP. 32

This piece is a meditation on Psalm 37:11

"The meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."

## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

## WELCOME

The people stand as they are able.

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,

making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

#### Amen.

#### LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING





## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

## **GLORIA**



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

# WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

The people are seated

FIRST READING MICAH 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

3"O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

6"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
8He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### SECOND READING

I CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The people stand as they are able.



GOSPEL MATTHEW 5:1-12

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

- <sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- <sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- <sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- <sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
  - <sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
  - 8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
  - 9"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- <sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- <sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

#### CHILDREN'S SONG

The people are seated. Children are invited to come forward for the children's time.



## CHILDREN'S TIME

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

The people stand as they are able. Prayer cards, which are in the pew pockets, are collected by the ushers during the hymn. Prayer requests may also be sent via email or text message to prayer@saintmartins.org.

#### WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU?

MOON



#### **CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Respond to each petition with: Merciful God, receive our prayer.

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** 

The people greet each other, saying "Peace be with you" or similar

# MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

AT THE TABLE

LOOK WHO GATHERS AT CHRIST'S TABLE



## AT THE TABLE REFLECTION

Throughout 2023, members of our congregation share on our Stewardship theme "At the Table".

In public policymaking, the saying goes, "If you're not at the table, you're on the menu." In order to address a particular problem, you have to be included in the discussion. If you are influential, if you have money, if you have credentials, then you are much more likely to be included at the policymaking table, enabling you to further enhance your power – and diminish the power of those not there. To seek the

different experiences and insights and solutions that are needed to successfully solve our biggest problems, we need to be bold enough to find and include others at the policymaking table.

John Howard

#### **OFFERING**

The people are seated.

St. Martin's and its ministries are supported by our offerings of ourselves, our time, and our possessions. We give now as God has so graciously given to us. To donate, go to saintmartins.org/giving

#### MUSICAL OFFERING

ST. FRANCIS' PRAYER

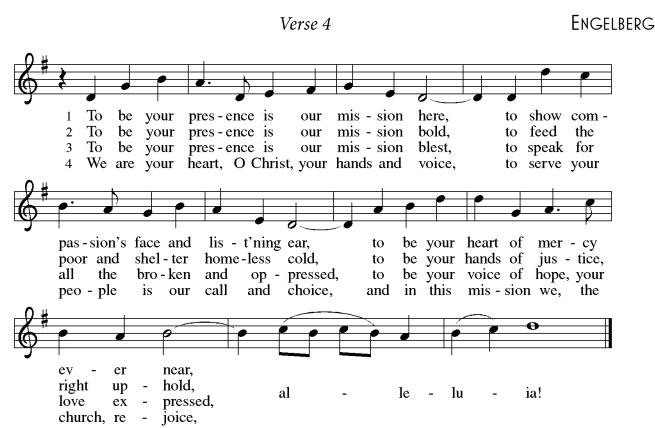
MARGARET BONDS

#### OFFERING HYMN

The people stand as they are able.

## TO BE YOUR PRESENCE

**ELW 546** 

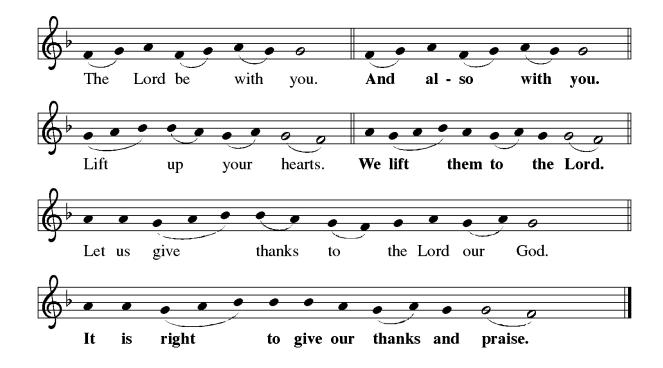


## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together,

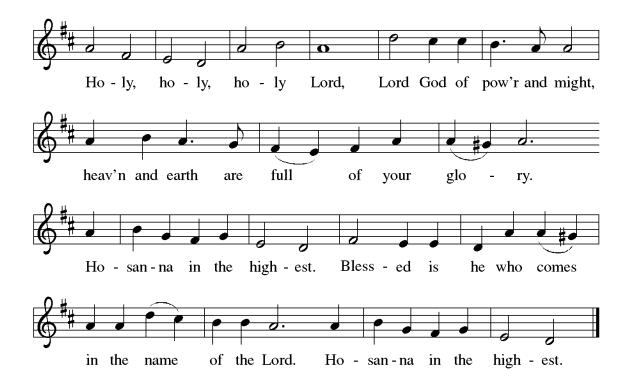
Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive there offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... and join their unending hymn:



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. ... For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, , ... and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



#### 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

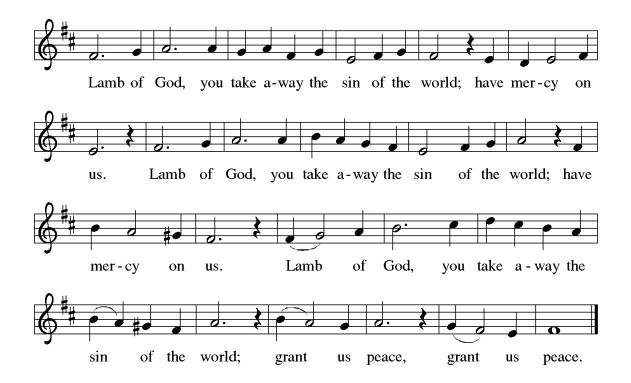
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into
temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

#### The people are seated

Our communion table is open to all. Everyone is welcome to receive communion regardless of age or denomination. Please come forward to receive the bread, then pick up a cup to receive the wine. Gluten free wafers are available by request. If you prefer to remain in your seat, please pick up a communion cup in the narthex or let the usher know so a communion assistant can come to you.

## AGNUS DEL



#### HOLY COMMUNION

#### MUSIC AT COMMUNION

THE BEATITUDES

ALBERT HAY MALOTTE

#### TABLE BLESSING

The people stand as they are able.

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you today, tomorrow and always. **Amen.** 

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.

## SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The people are seated.

## **BLESSING**

The people stand as they are able.

The God who faithfully brings forth justice

and breaks the oppressor's rod

+ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,

today and always.

#### Amen.

SENDING HYMN

THAXTED



#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

VOLUNTARY ON WE SHALL OVERCOME

# SERVING TODAY

Pastor Ellen Williams - preaching/presiding
Harvey Kitzman - assisting ministers
Elizabeth Moon - lector
Teresa Reddy-communion assistant

Tim O'Brien - Director of Music

Austin Haller - Organist & Associate Director of Music

St. Martin's Choir

Jenny Ohrstrom, June Julian soprano;

Katherine Altobello O'Brien, mezzo-soprano;

Jameson James, tenor; Gil Zilkha, bass

Norm Hummell - ushers