ST. MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 606 W 15th Street, Austin, Texas | WWW.Saintmartins.Org

APRIL 16, 2023

II:OO AM



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! This Service of the Word derives its pattern from the service of Holy Communion. Although a weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper is the norm, a service of the word of God is also celebrated regularly or occasionally in many places.

Gathered by the Holy Spirit, we hear and proclaim the saving word of God for all the world. We give thanks for that saving word and all the gifts of God, who then sends us to share the good news we have received and to care for those in need.

Families with small children may enjoy playing with toys on the Prayground rug in the Narthex. The nursery is open for children 0-5 years. The joyful noise of our young ones is always welcome in this space.

Hearing Assitance Devices are available in the Narthex or you can listen through your smartphone .The ushers are available to help you.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

Our service begins as we gather again to hear the Word of God, pray, sing, and be nourished in our faith so we may go out into the world to love, share, and serve boldly.

WELCOME *The people stand as they are able.*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

We remember our baptisms through this liturgy of thanksgiving, appropriate especially during the Easter season.

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.**

GATHERING HYMN

Al-le-lu -- le lu - ia, ia, al al - le - lu - ia. -1 O sons and daugh let sing ters, us with heav'n - ly Christ hosts to our king: sting! Al - le - lu - ia! to - day the grave has lost its After the final stanza lu Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. al le _ ia, 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard, 7 No longer Thomas then denied; that they had seen the risen Lord, he saw the feet, the hands, the side; he doubted the disciples' word. "You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia! Alleluia! 6 "My pierced side, O Thomas, see, 8 How blest are they who have not seen, and look upon my hands, my feet; and yet whose faith has constant been, not faithless, but believing be." for they eternal life shall win. Alleluia!

EASTER GREETING

We use the traditional Apostolic greeting, with our special Easter proclamation about Christ's resurrection, as we begin the service. This greeting was used by Paul in his letters to the earliest believers.

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

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.

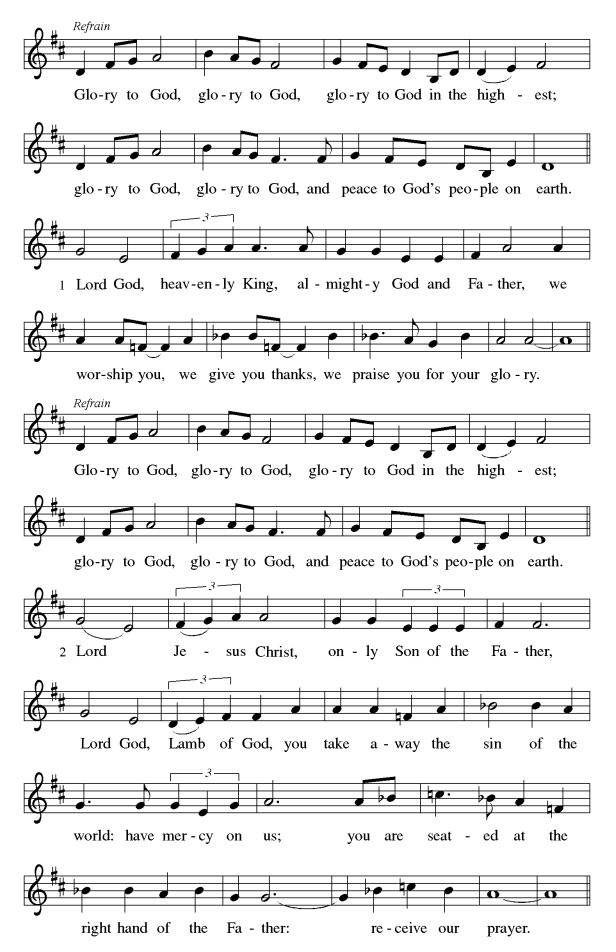
Alleluia!

O SONS AND DAUGHTERS, LET US SING Verses 1,5-8



ELW 386

GLORY TO GOD





PRAYER OF THE DAY

We continue with a prayer as we move from gathering to hearing the Word of God.

Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Through the sharing of scripture and poetry, we are reminded of God's presence throughout time and in our lives today.

The people are seated

REFLECTION

A poem is offered as the reading this morning to orient us to the unexpected presence of Christ in the midst of despair and grief as told in the gospel story.

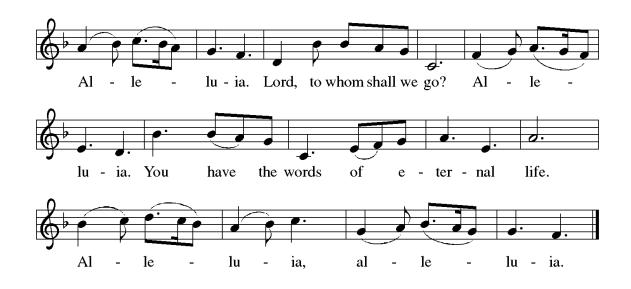
"PRAYER"

BY CHRISTIAN WIMAN

For all the pain	the nightfall neverness
passed down the genes	inking into me
the genes	even now,
or latent	my prayer
in the very grain	· • ·
	is that a mind
of being;	blurred
for the lordless	
	by anxiety
mornings,	or despair
the smear	
of spirit	might find
words intuit	here
and inter;	a trace
for all	of peace.

GOSPEL

We welcome the reading of the gospel by rising in body or spirit and joining in song. The people stand as they are able.



GOSPEL

JOHN 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel According to John. Glory to you, O Lord

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

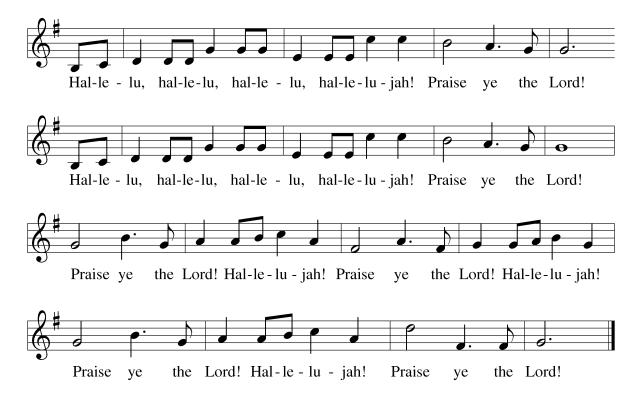
CHILDREN'S SONG

The people are seated.

We honor the presence of children worshiping in our midst and teach them about the sacred stories of our faith during the children's message. All children are invited forward at this time. Children may continue to worship with us in the pews, at the prayground in the narthex, or in the nursery.

HALLELIJAH! PRAISE YE THE LORD!

HALLELU, HALLELUJAH



CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

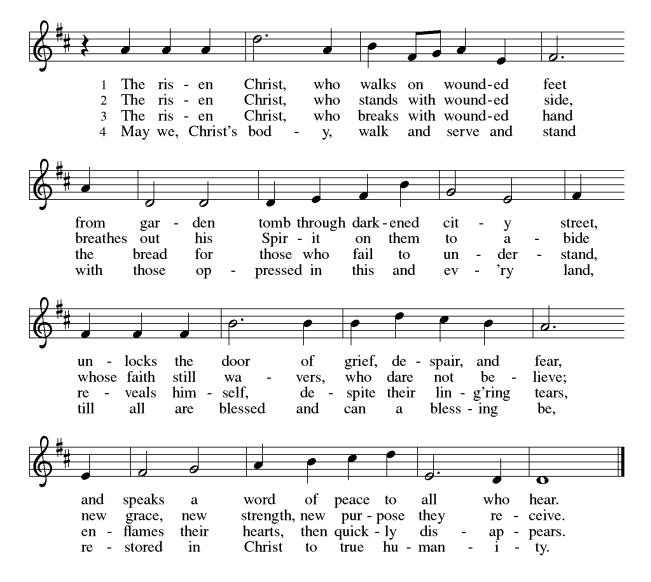
The sermon and Hymn of the Day help us connect God's word with our everyday lives.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The people stand to sing. Prayer cards are collected by the ushers during the hymn. Prayer requests may also be sent via email or text message to prayer@saintmartins.org.

THE RISEN CHRIST

ELW 390 WOODLANDS



CREED

We join with the faithful through the ages to name, claim, and proclaim the God in whom we believe through the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray together for the church, the world and all who are in need.

Respond to each petition with: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

PEACE

We share a sign of Christ's peace with one another.

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

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

THANKSGIVING

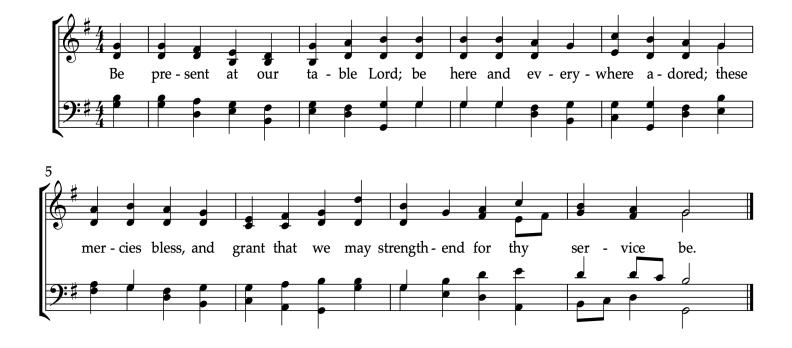
The Service of the Word includes a Thanksgiving section, where we collect an offering, sing of our thankfulness to God, honor the Word, and pray together.

AT THE TABLE

This year, St. Martin's is using "At the Table" as our stewardship theme. Members of our community have been invited to think of what "at the table" means to them. Before we share a brief reflection from one of our community members, we sing a well known table blessing together.

BE PRESENT AT OUR TABLE LORD

OLD HUNDREDTH



AT THE TABLE REFLECTION

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

At the table to me means being refreshed and laughing with the ones I love. At the table means to enjoy and spend quality time with my friends and family and eating a good meal.

By anonymous

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 or scan the QR code.



MUSICAL OFFERING THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

MACK WILLBERG

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together, God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

Amen.

SONG OF THANKSGIVING



THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

The people stand as they are able.

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your selfgiving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Together, we pray the prayer Jesus taught his first disciples. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus Taught us

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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.

SENDING

As we conclude our service, we are blessed and sent into the world. This portion of the liturgy empowers us to continue our worship in every moment of our lives.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The people are seated.

BLESSING

We are blessed in the name of the Triune God as we make the sign of the cross. The people stand as they are able.

The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

THINE IS THE GLORY

ELW 376 JUDAS MACCABAEUS



DISMISSAL

Blessed by God, we conclude our time together as we are sent into the world. Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed, alleluia! Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

SERVING TODAY

Vicar Cecie Suknaic Saulnier - *preaching/presiding* Linda Zander - *assisting minister* Mary Alexander - *lector* Seth Salmon, Thane Myers - *acolytes*

Tim O'Brien - Director of Music Austin Haller - Organist & Associate Director of Music

> Mike Kaase - *audio* Eddie Jennings - *video* Norm Hummell - *ushers*

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WELCOME TO ST. MARTIN'S!

For more than 130 years, St. Martin's has been dedicated to being the body of Christ in downtown Austin. We're a group of caring, loving people with open hearts and minds who gather for worship, education, fellowship and mutual encouragement

AT ST. MARTIN'S

We **worship** God and deepen relationships with one another through Lutheran faith traditions, including engaging liturgy, inspiring music, and lifelong faith formation.

We **extend** God's inclusive gift of welcome to all people, especially those historically excluded from traditional church communities.

We advocate for justice, righteousness, and mercy with our time,

property, and power.

We **rally** everyone to use our God-given gifts and talents to love, share, and serve all of God's creation boldly.

We are so happy that you were here to worship with us today!

We invite you to join us for Lunch and Fellowship on the mall after this service.