JULY 23, 2023 10:00 AM

SUMMER WORSHIP



ST. MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
606 W 15TH 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!

We welcome you to our Summer 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 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 assist devices are available. Ask an usher for help.

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

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

REFLECTION

We share a piece to invite us into consideration of scripture and worship through different voices.

NAMES MATTER

It said, "I am a flower."
I said, "You are a weed."
It asked, "But are you positive?"
I said, "I am indeed."

It sighed, "If what you say is true I beg you now. I plead.
Please never breathe a word
Of this sad matter to my seed."

AMY LUDWIG VANDERWATER

I promised, "I will never tell. But why do you seem sad?" It said, "Flowers are beautiful. Weeds make people mad."

I said, "Your family fills my yard with coins of golden grace." She smiled and blew a tiny seed Into my grateful face.

DRAW US IN THE SPIRIT'S TETHER

UNION SEMINARY



GREETING

May God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be with us as we worship today. **Amen**

PRAYER

Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

PSALM 86:II-I7

- ¹¹Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
- ¹²I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.
- ¹³For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.
- ¹⁴The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.
- ¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- ¹⁶Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.
- ¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

Amen

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

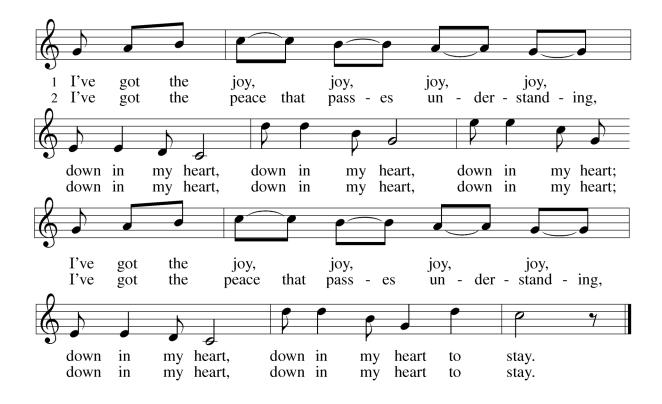
Word of God, word of Life. Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SONG

Please be seated. Children are invited to come forward for the children's time with the Pastor.

I'VE GOT THE JOY, JOY, JOY

DOWN IN MY HEART



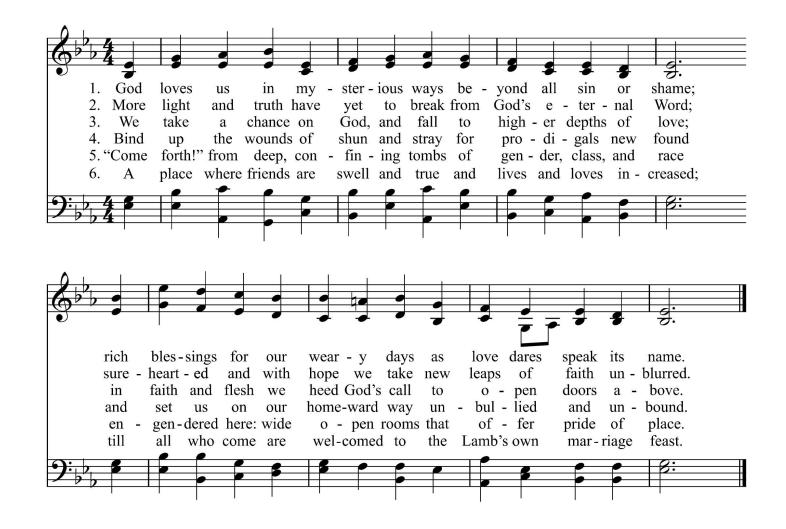
CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Please stand to sing as you are able.

Prayer cards, which can be found 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.



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 THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends with: God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

PEACE

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

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE

IN BABILONE



AT THE TABLE REFLECTION

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

One evening in college I joined an advertised free meal, grabbing a seat near friends. 47 of the 50 tables were then served small amounts of rice and beans – akin to what most of the world's population survives on. Two tables were served boxed meals. One was served an elaborate multi-course meal while the rest of us looked on, long after our plates were empty.

This experience reshaped my view of the table, who sits at it, and what sits on it. Most of the world subsists on what we consider unacceptable, while nearly all Americans dine at a figurative multi-course table. Walking away with a belly viscerally attesting to this gap raised questions and responsibilities that I wrestle with to this day.

Anita Salmon

OFFERING

St. Martin's and its ministries are supported by our offerings of ourselves, our time and our possessions. Now we give as God has so graciously given to us. To donate electronically, go to saintmartins.org/giving or scan the QR code.



MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

God of the harvest, receive these gifts of the earth and human labor with the offering of our hearts. Feed us with your bread and cup, that we may be signs of your gracious life made known in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God triune, how majestic...
The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.... we mortals sing our song:
The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds,... to praise you again:
The earth is full of your glory.
The earth is full of your glory.

Amen, and amen. Amen, and amen.

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,

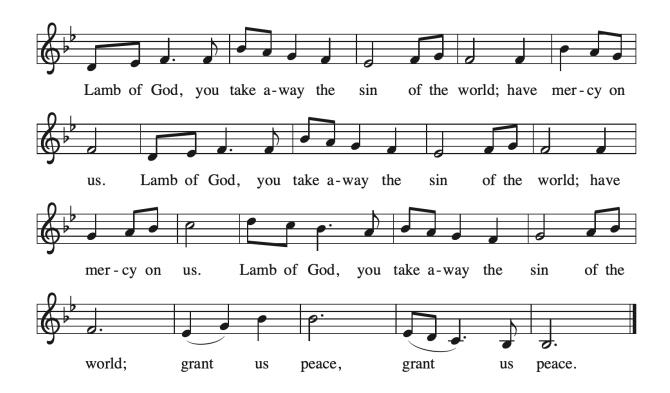
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The people are seated.

Our communion table is open to all. Everyone is welcome to receive communion regardless of age or denomination. You will receive the bread in your hands, please consume and then pick up a plastic cup to receive the wine. Grape juice cups are in the center of each tray. Gluten free bread is available. If you prefer to remain in your seat, please pick up a communion cup in the narthex or ask an usher to let the minister know to bring communion to you.

A Stephen Minister will be in front near the pulpit to offer healing prayer during communion. You are welcome to light a prayer candle in the north transept (left front).



MUSIC AT COMMUNION

TABLE BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

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

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Let us pray. We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.
The peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and your minds
in + Christ Jesus. **Amen.**



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Ellen Williams - presiding
Pastor Katy Miles-Wallace - preaching/co-presiding
Virginia Haas - communion assistants
- acolytes
Mamie Hickerson - Stephen Minister

Tim O'Brien - *Director of Music*Andrew Fuhrman, organ
Darin Layne, David Pulkingham - guitars

Viera Buzgova - *video*Mike Kaase - *sound*Norm Hummell - *ushers*