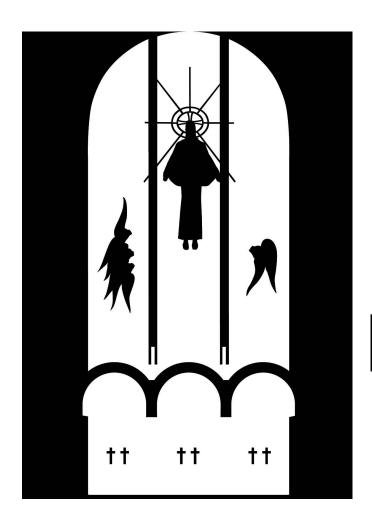
ST. MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 606 W 15TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS | WWW.SAINTMARTINS.ORG

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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!

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 0-4 years. The joyful noise of our young ones is always welcome in this space.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex, or you can listen through your smartphone. The ushers are available to help you.

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

PRELUDE
OPENING FROM "GLASSWORKS"

PHILIP GLASS

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.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters ...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... making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

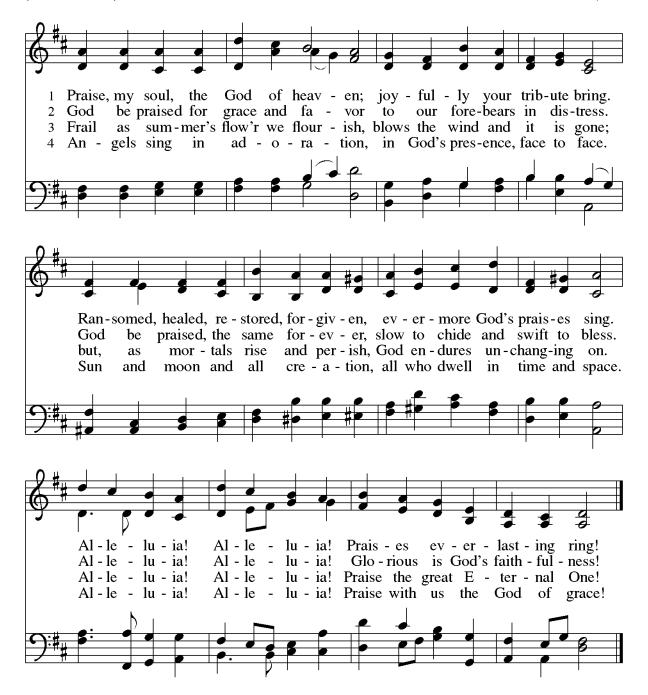
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

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

Amen.

PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE GOD OF HEAVEN

PRAISE, MY SOUL



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

The people stand as they are able.

Let us pray. O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

The people are seated

FIRST READING

GENESIS 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they

stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

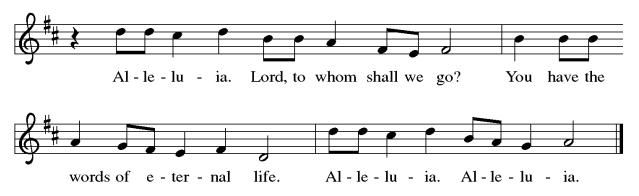
"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The people stand as they are able.



The holy gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

[21Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' 29Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." 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.

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING

CHILDREN PRAYING





Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

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.

FORGIVE OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE

ELW 605



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

Please be seated.

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

UBI CARITAS MAURICE DURUFLÉ

Where charity and love are, God is there. Love of Christ has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice in Him and be glad. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And from a sincere heart let us love one. Where charity and love are, God is there.

OFFERING HYMN

The people stand as they are able.

SPIRIT, OPEN MY HEART (VERSE 3 ONLY)

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

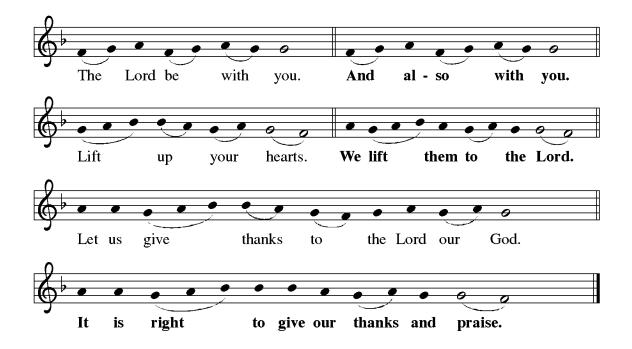


OFFERING PRAYER

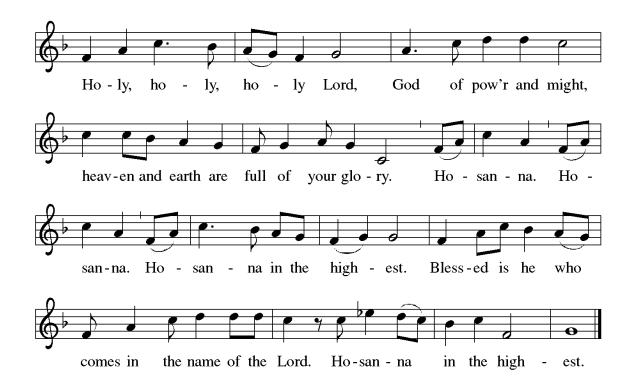
Let us pray together,

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



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, ...
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

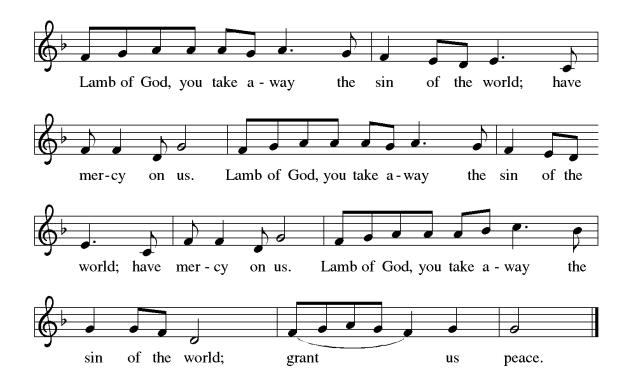
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

AGNUS DEL



HOLY COMMUNION

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 wine. Gluten free wafers are available if requested. If you prefer to remain in your seat, please pick up a communion cup in the narthex or ask an usher to let the communion assistants know. A Stephen Minister will be in front near the pulpit to offer healing prayer during communion. You are invited to light a prayer candle on the table in the front left corner of the Apse.

COMMUNION HYMN

ACS 1049

BEFORE THE WATERS NOURISHED EARTH

ST COLUMBA



TABLE BLESSING

The people stand as they are able.

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

NUNC DIMITTIS



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. 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 of glory,

+ Jesus Christ, name above all names,

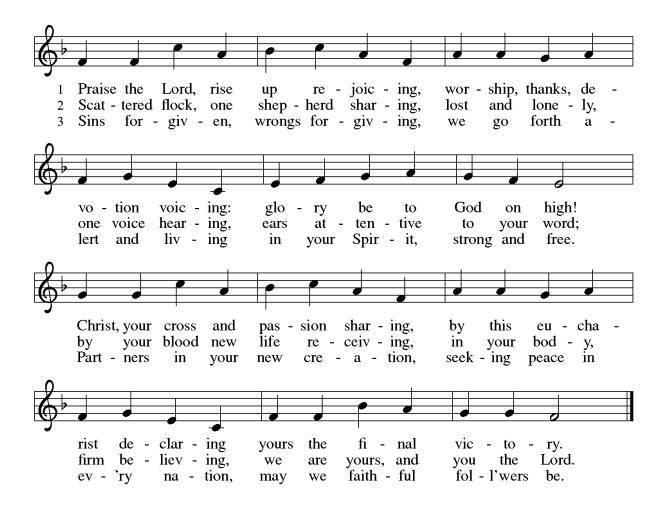
and the Spirit who lives in you,

bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE ETUDE NO. 9

PHILIP GLASS

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Ellen Williams - preaching/presiding

Laura Raun Carroll - assisting minister

Abby Adams - lector

Anna Bergstrom - communion assistant

acolytes

Michelle Widmer - Stephen Minister

Tim O'Brien - *Director of Music*Andrew Fuhrman - *Organ*St. Martin's Choir
Jenny Ohrstrom, *soprano*Katherine Altobello O'Brien, *mezzo-soprano*Jameson James, *tenor*Gil Zilkha, *bass*

Mike Kaase - sound Norm Hummell - ushers Michelle Widmer - Welcome Center