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

FEBRUARY 4, 2024



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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
CHORALE PRELUDE ON NETTLETON

(PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS)

AARON DAVID MILLER

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME

The people stand as they are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity,

+ one God,

the fountain of living water,

the rock who gave us birth,

our light and our salvation.

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 you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

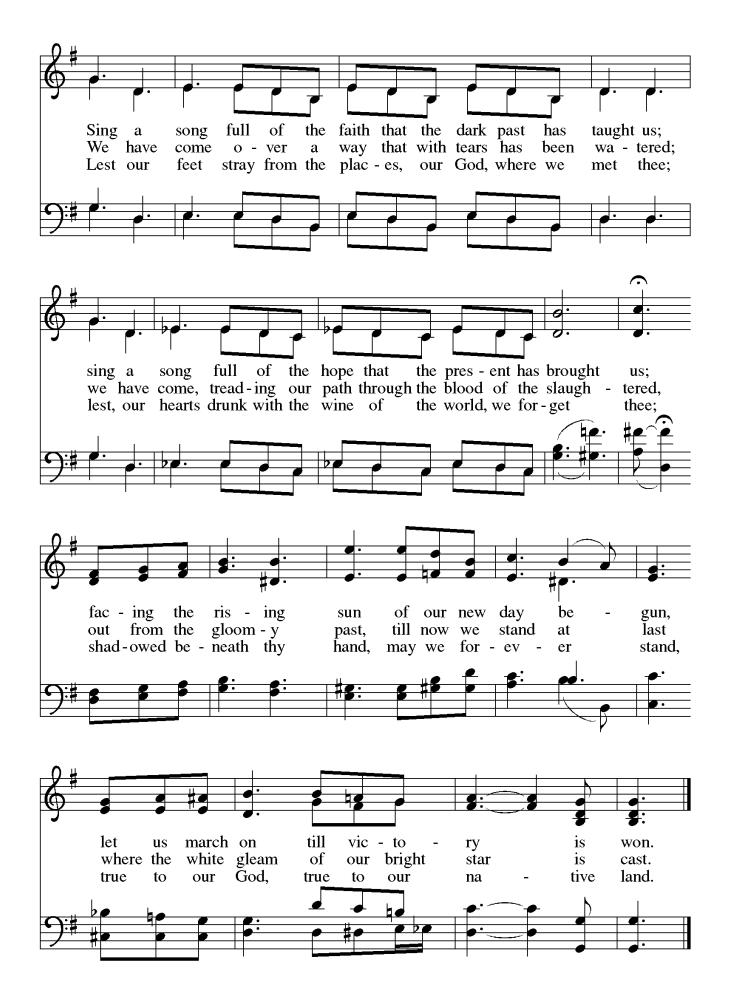
We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

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

Amen.





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 together. Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, 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

ISAIAH 40:21-31

A reading from Isaiah

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

22It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

23who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

24Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

29 He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

30 Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

31 but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,

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

they shall walk and not faint.

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 9:16-23

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The people stand as they are able.



GOSPEL MARK 1:29-39

The holy gospel according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The gospel of the Lord.

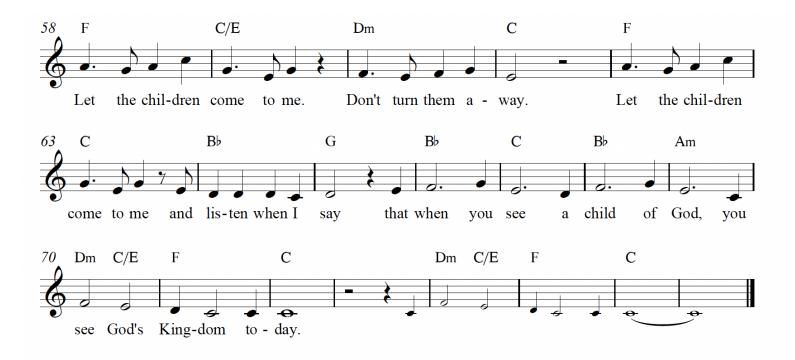
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

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

LET THE CHILDREN COME

TIM O'BRIEN



SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

The people stand to sing. Prayer cards are collected by the ushers during the sermon song. 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.

INSTALLATION OF 2024 CONGREGATION LEADERS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Respond to each petition with: God of grace, 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

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

PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND

THOMAS DORSEY (ARR. ROY RINGWALD)



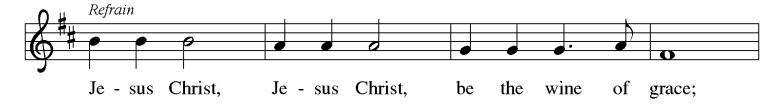
ELW 466 BREAD OF PEACE

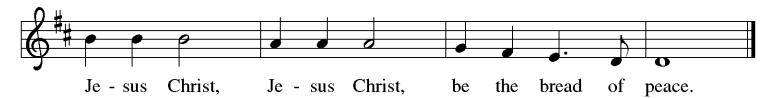


1 In the sing-ing, in the si-lence, in the hands ex-pect-ant, o-pen, 2 In the ques-tion, in the an-swer, in the mo-ment of ac-cept-ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break-ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble, in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,





OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together,

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

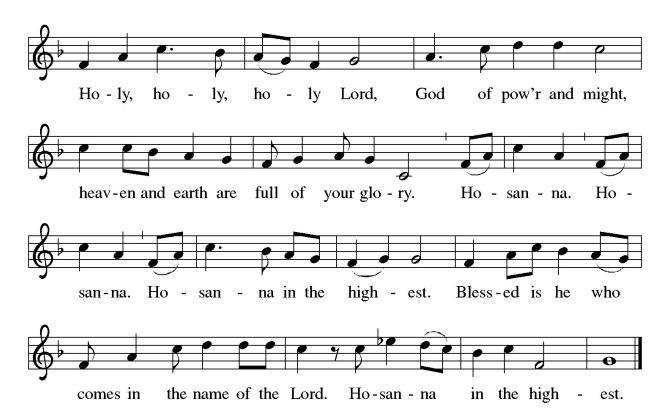
We lift them to the Lord.

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, ... and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: ...

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup ... We look with hope for his coming. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Bring the gift of peace on earth. Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, ... one God, now and forever.

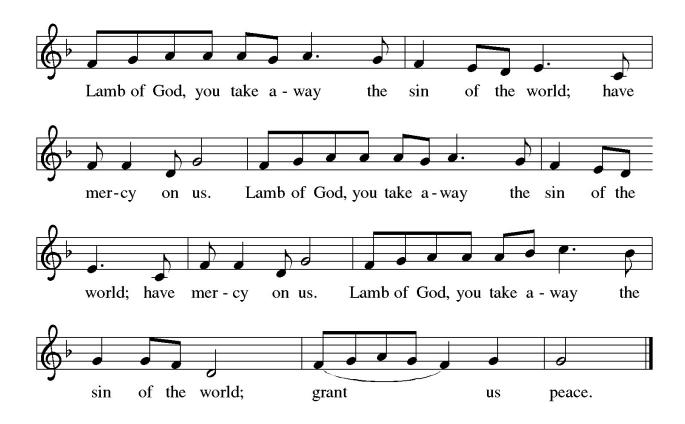
Amen.

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.



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 near the altar.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

O REST IN THE LORD FROM *ELIJAH*

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

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.

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

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

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick or homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The people are seated.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to you
To Jesus be true
May God bless you always
Happy Birthday to you!

BLESSING

The people stand as they are able.

God who names you,

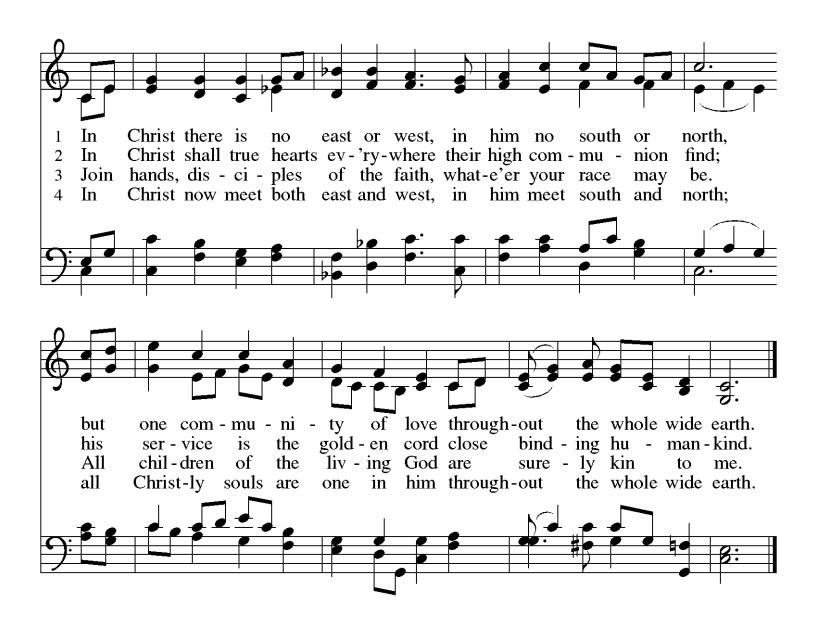
Christ who claims you,

and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

+ bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

MCKEE



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ORGAN SONATA NO. 1 IN F MINOR: ALLEGRO ASSAI VIVACE

FELIX MENDELSSOHN, OP. 65

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Ellen Williams - preaching/presiding
Tom Blomquist - assisting minister
Linda Zander - lector
- communion assistant
Linda Zander - Stephen Minister

Tim O'Brien - Director of Music

Austin Haller - Organist and Associate Director of Music

St. Martin's Choir

Jenny Ohrstrom, June Julian - soprano

Katherine Altobello O'Brien, mezzo-soprano

Evan Brown - tenor

Anthony Ashley, Gil Zilkha, bass

Mike Kaase - sound

Chris Reddy, Scot Salmon, Grant Salmon - ushers

Carey Henderson, Joan O'Mara - Altar Guild

Joan O'Mara - Welcome Center

Connections Committee - fellowship snacks