

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

9:00 AM

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



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 Family Worship, a casual and reflective service of togetherness. 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 Playground 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 happy to help you.*

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

LENTEN INTRODUCTION

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

PRELUDE

The tower bell rings as we begin worship.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

Please take a moment to say hello to those near you.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

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

ELEANOR RIGBY

JOHN LENNON & PAUL MCCARTNEY

We hear a lot these days about a growing "Loneliness Epidemic," and recent studies suggest that for all our technological interconnectedness, we feel an unparalleled sense of isolation. Lennon and McCartney's "Eleanor Rigby" is a potent depiction of two people in the same church, living and working concurrently yet making no connection and remaining lonely. Eleanor and Father MacKenzie both go hollowly about their business, remaining disconnected and isolated, even as they come together in an uncannily intimate way for Eleanor's death and burial. This Lent, we may feel lonely, even in church. How can our gathering in worship and our investment in one another help to ease the "Loneliness Epidemic"? Can we hear hope of connection and community in God's extraordinary promise to Abraham and Sarah?

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Please stand as you are able.

1 All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, all to him I free - ly give;
 2 All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, hum-bly at his feet I bow;
 3 All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, Lord, I give my - self to thee;

I will ev - er love and trust him, in his pres-ence dai - ly live.
 world-ly plea-sures all for-sak - en, take me, Jes - sus, take me now.
 fill me with thy love and pow - er, let thy bless-ings fall on me.

Refrain

I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all,
 I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all,

all to thee, my bless-ed Sav-ior, I sur-ren-der all.

PRAYER

Let us pray together. **O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

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

READING

GENESIS 17:1-7,15-16

A reading from Genesis

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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.

LET THE CHILDREN COME

TIM O'BRIEN

58 F C/E Dm C F
Let the chil-dren come to me. Don't turn them a - way. Let the chil-dren

63 C Bb G Bb C Bb Am
come to me and lis-ten when I say that when you see a child of God, you

70 Dm C/E F C Dm C/E F C
see God's King-dom to - day.

CHILDREN'S TIME

MESSAGE

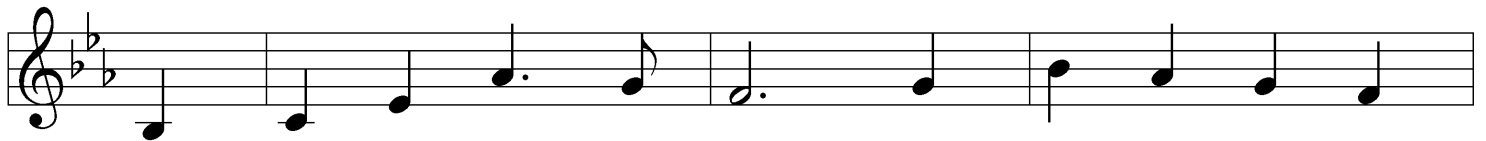
SONG

Please stand 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.

RESTORE IN US, O GOD

CATECHUMEN



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your
4 Three per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your



love; re - new your im - age in our hearts,
pow'r; from fruit - less fear un - furl our lives
joy; bap - tize us in the ris - en life
grace, that we, when all our search - ing ends,



and all our sins re - move.
like spring-time bud and flow'r.
that death can - not de - stroy.
may see you face to face.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

*Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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

COVENANT SONG

CAEDMON'S CALL

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray. together

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. 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.

Holy God ... pouring out his life for the world.

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.

Remembering ... Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both now and forever.

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

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 at the Prayer Station to offer healing prayer during communion. You are invited to light a prayer candle on the table near the altar.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

YOU WILL BE FOUND FROM *DEAR EVAN HANSEN*

BENJ PASEK & JUSTIN PAUL

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 together.

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

The children are dismissed at 9:45am to go to the Chapel.

BLESSING

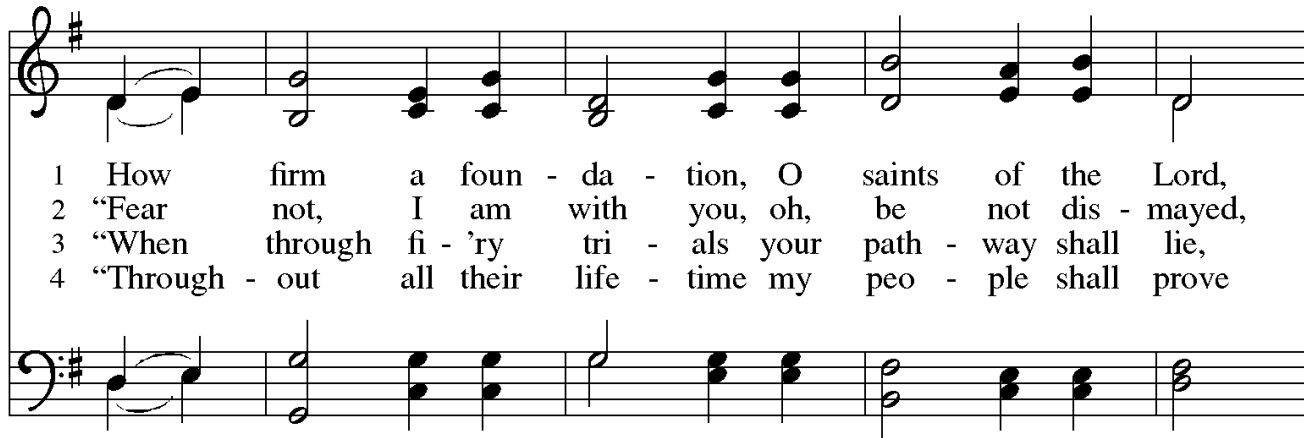
Please stand as you are able.

Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

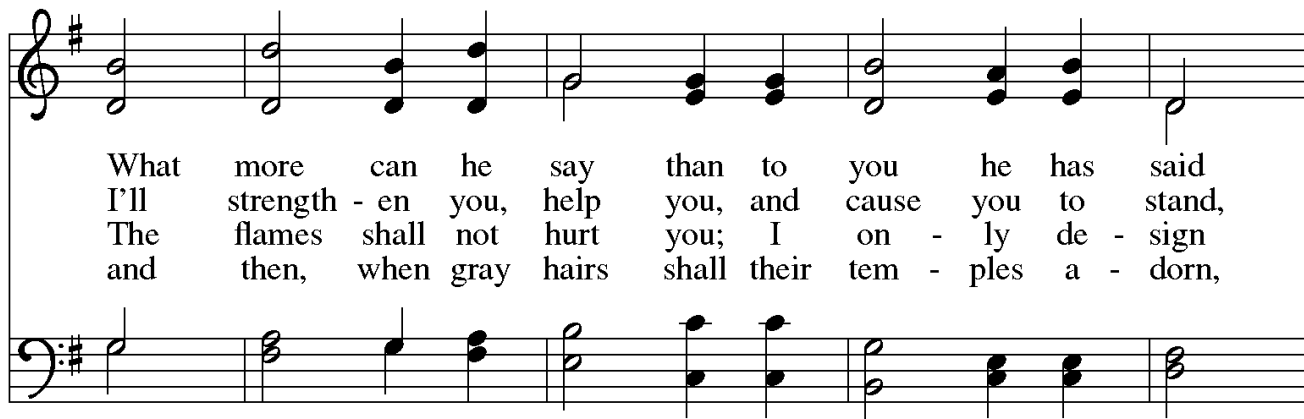
FOUNDATION



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Ellen Williams - *preaching/presiding*

Ann Howard - *assisting minister*

Debbie Alkire - *communion assistant*

Tim Fackler - *Prayer Station*

Tim O'Brien - *Director of Music*

Austin Haller - *Associate Director of Music*

Katherine Altobello O'Brien, vocals; Andrew Fuhrman, drums;

Darin Layne, guitar; Jay Clement, bass - *musicians*

Mike Kaase - *sound*

Bill Grosskopf, Connie Grosskopf,

Mike Bruemmer - *ushers*

Dina Ortiz, Tom Blomquist,

Nancy Schroeder - *Altar Guild*

Virginia Haas, Mamie Hickerson - *Welcome Center*

Sally Gavin - *fellowship snacks*