

MARCH 3, 2024

9:00 AM

THIRD 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 third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

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.

PRAYER FROM *NIGHTSONGS*

H. LESLIE ADAMS

Today's reading details the face to face conversation God has with Moses and Aaron in which the Ten Commandments are given. Sometimes we wish it could be this clear cut, that God would just appear and tell *us* exactly what to do. This Lenten season some of us may feel "decision fatigue" with all of the small, medium, and large things about which we have to make choices. Langston Hughes eloquently expressed this spiritual situation in a poem titled "Prayer" here set beautifully by Leslie Adams.

I ask you this:
Which way to go?
I ask you this:
Which sin to bear?
Which crown to put
Upon my hair?
I do not know,
Lord God,
I do not know.
-Langston Hughes

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Please stand as you are able.

BE THOU MY VISION

SLANE



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

PRAYER

Let us pray together. **Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through 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

EXODUS 20:1-17

A reading from Exodus

¹Then God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work — you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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.

WHAT A FELLOWSHIP, WHAT A JOY DIVINE

SHOWALTER



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
Refrain
Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;
lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

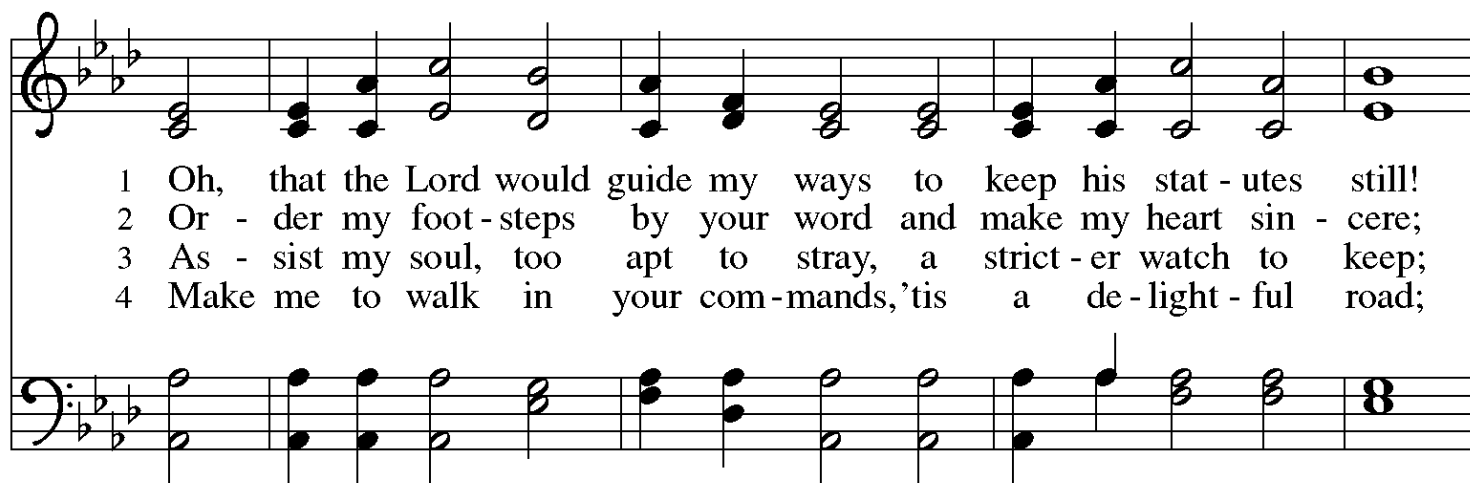
CHILDREN'S TIME

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.



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
 4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
 let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

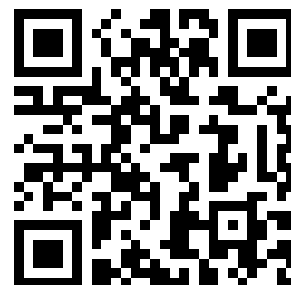
Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

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

SHOW THE WAY

DAVID WILCOX

You say you see no hope
You say you see no reason we should dream
That the world would ever change
You say the love is foolish to believe
'Cause they'll always be some crazy
With an army or a knife
To wake you from your daydream
Put the fear back in your life

It is love who mixed the mortar
And it's love who stacked these stones
And it's love who made the stage here
Although it looks like we're alone
In this scene, set in shadows,
Like the night is here to stay
There is evil cast around us
But it's love that wrote the play
For in this darkness love can show the way

Look
If someone wrote a play
To just to glorify what's stronger than hate
Would they not arrange the stage
To look as if the hero came too late?
He's almost in defeat
It's looking like the evil side will win
So on the edge of every seat
From the moment that the whole thing be-
gins

Now the stage is set
You can feel your own heart beating in your
chest
This life's not over yet
So we get up on our feet and do our best
We play against the fear
We play against the reasons not to try
We're playing for the tears
Burning in the happy angel's eyes

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

COME MY WAY, MY TRUTH, MY LIFE

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life;
Such a Way as gives us breath,
Such a Truth as ends all strife,
Such a Life as killeth death.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart;
Such a Joy as none can move,
Such a Love as none can part,
Such a Heart as joys in love.

George Herbert

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength;
Such a Light as shows a Feast,
Such a Feast as mends in length,
Such a Strength as makes his guest.

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.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

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

BLESSING

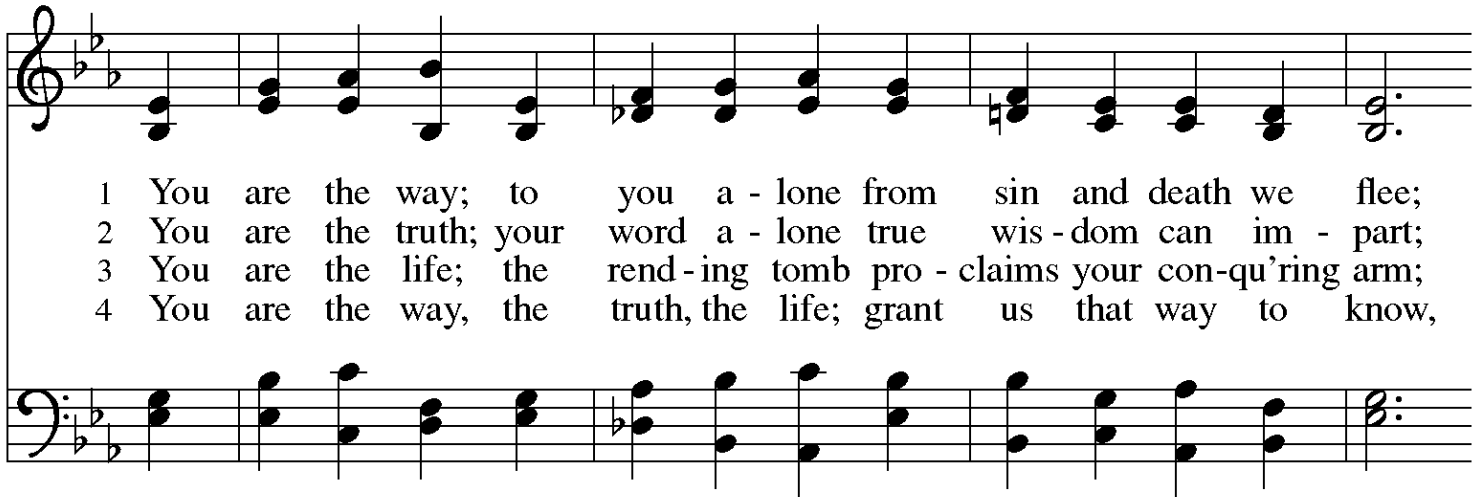
Please stand as you are able.

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.**

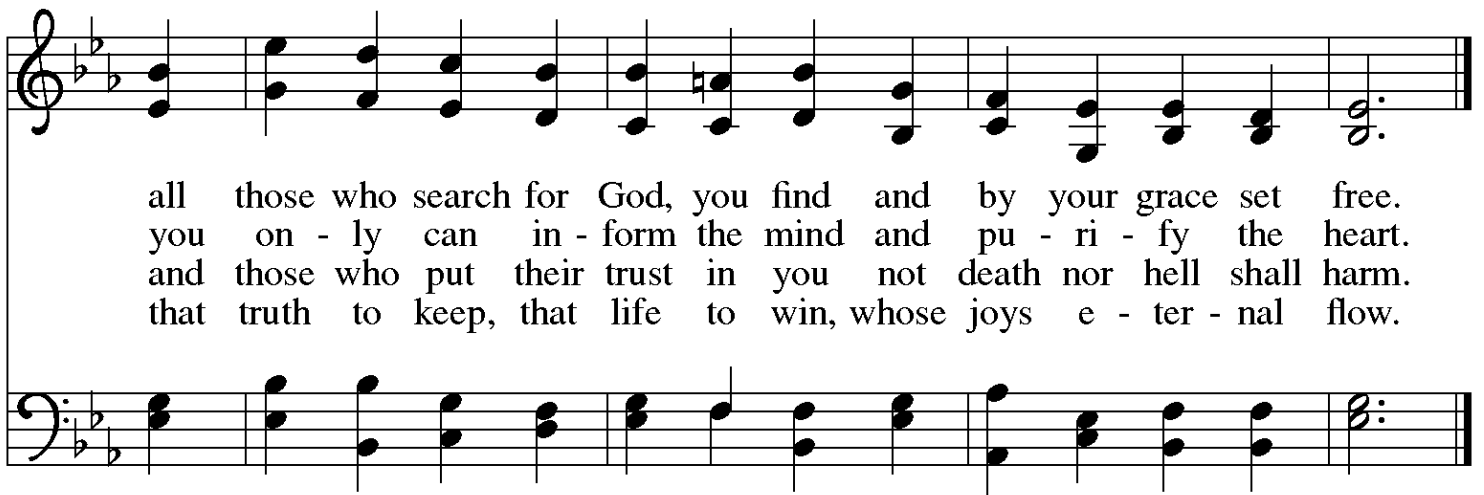
SENDING SONG

YOU ARE THE WAY

DUNDEE



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Ellen Williams - *preaching/presiding*

Hope Badeusz, Harper Badeusz - *acolytes*

Kathy Edgar - *assisting minister*

Nora Friedrich, Mamie Hickerson - *communion assistants*

Fred Aus - *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 & vocals - *musicians*

Eddie Jennings - *video*

Mike Kaase - *sound*

Richard Buerger, Garry Flandermeyer,

Tom Hoelzel - *ushers*

Tom Blomquist, Nancy Schroeder, Virginia Haas,

Mamie Hickerson, Donna Gunter - *Altar Guild*

Sandra Chavez - *Welcome Center*

Connections Committee - *fellowship snacks*