

THE SEASON OF EASTER WITH ST. MARTIN'S  
THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 17, 2020

Welcome to this virtual gathering of the people of St. Martin's. During this time of global health pandemic, we seek to look out for and to care for one another, most especially by staying home. The time before our liturgy begins is a good time to check-in with one another. Once the service begins all participants will be muted except those speaking to lead us. You are invited to sing along with the hymns and join in speaking the responses just as we would if we were actually together. If anyone is in pastoral need during this time, do not hesitate to write: [rectorstmartinsnj@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstmartinsnj@gmail.com) or call Fr. Mulder at: 908-672-8695.

**The Opening Acclamation of Easter**

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
People The Lord is risen. Alleluia!

**Hymn of Praise** – *Our opening hymn today is a slightly different arrangement than you will find in our hymnal, but sing along and enjoy.*

Hymn 416, *For the beauty of the earth* - *Lucerna Laudoniae*  
(sung by the Cambridge Singers, John Rutter, director)

**The Collect of the Day**

Officiant The Lord be with you.  
People And also with you.  
Officiant Let us pray. O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**A Reading from 1 Peter (3:13-22)**

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and

made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying.  
People *Thanks be to God!*

**Anthem** *Take Me to the Water* -Spiritual  
(Rollo Dilworth Gospel Choir – Good News)

*Take me to the water  
To be baptized  
None but the righteous  
Shall be saved  
So take me to the water  
Take me to the water  
To be, to be baptized  
I'm going back home, going back home  
Gonna stay here no longer  
I'm going back home, going back home  
To be baptized*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (14:1-14)**

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.  
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ!*

**Homily**

## The Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## The Prayers of the People *(adapted from the New Zealand Prayer Book)*

*Christ, you are risen from the dead. We are risen with you.  
May our life never deny this eternal life, this peace and hope and joy.  
Praise and glory to the God of life who is stronger than all kinds of death. Alleluia.*

*Christ, you are risen with the sun; you are light in our darkness, warmth in our cold.  
You are peace and hope and joy, for you went willingly to death.*

You turned defeat and failure to victory for all.  
*You live eternally, with all the living and the dead, who trust in you.*

May we who in baptism die to sin, rise again to new life and find our true place in your living body.  
May the new covenant in you bring healing and reconciliation to this hurting world.  
*Alleluia. You are risen. We are risen with you. Praise and glory to the living God.*

Today, O Lord, we lift to you our college graduates. As Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, so they have grown since that day so long ago when they were brought forward for baptism. We thank you for their minds, their hearts, their future. Continue to guide, to use and to bless them we ask. Receive our thanks for them and for all the teachers, coaches and friends who have helped them along the way.  
*Lord, thank you for our graduates.*

O God, we pray for your world and all we hold dear.  
Grant healing to the sick, courage to the fearful, vision to our leaders and compassion by all, for all and to all.  
We offer prayers of gratitude and debt to all who serve others during this time.  
Grant them energy, health and resolve for their ministry among us.  
And for your Church, may the day come soon when we can feast again at your Table.  
Until that great day, keep us steadfast in care for one another, regular in prayer and faithful in worship, in fellowship with our ancestors from the book of Acts.

Hear us now as we pray as Jesus taught his disciples, saying:

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.*

### **The Peace**

Officiant	The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.
People	<i>And also with you.</i>

### **Hymn 511**

*Holy Spirit, ever living* *-Abbot's Leigh*  
*(sung by the Choir of All Saints Episcopal Church, Beverley Hills)*

### **Blessing and Dismissal**

Officiant	Go into this new week to share the joy and power of Easter. Alleluia.
People	<i>Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!</i>

**Hymn 416:**

For the beauty of the earth  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies  
'Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
This our joyful hymn of praise.  
For the beauty of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r  
Sun and Moon and stars of light  
For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child.  
Friends on earth and friends above  
For all gentle thoughts and mild.  
For each perfect gift of Thine  
To our race so freely given.  
Graces human and divine  
Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n.  
Alternative last verse:  
For thy church that evermore  
Lifteth holy hands above,  
Offering up on every shore  
Her pure sacrifice of love.

**Hymn 511**

1 Holy Spirit, ever living  
as the Church's very life;  
Holy Spirit, ever striving  
through her in a ceaseless strife;  
Holy Spirit, ever forming  
in the Church the mind of Christ;  
thee we praise with endless worship  
for thy fruits and gifts unpriced.  
2 Holy Spirit, ever working  
through the Church's ministry;  
quickening, strengthening and absolving,  
setting captive sinners free;  
Holy Spirit, ever binding  
age to age, and soul to soul,  
in a fellowship unending  
thee we worship and extol.