



St. Martin's Episcopal Church + Bridgewater, NJ
Sunday October 29, 2023

Low Mass 8:15 am
Sung Mass 10:30 am



YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

We are honored that you are worshiping with us this morning. Whether you have been attending Mass for 50 years, or whether this is your first Sunday- we are glad that you're here.

St. Martin's is a safe space for everyone and a place of prayer for all people.

Children are loved and welcome here. The sound of small voices is a joyful song of praise that reminds us of Christ's resurrection life. Sunday School is held during Mass. Please enter through the door near the crucifix and you will find the class to the right. Your children are always welcome to sit with you during Mass if you prefer, and if you need a "cry room" please feel free to sit in the Lady Chapel. Go through the door next to the crucifix and you will see the Lady Chapel immediately on your left. You are able to hear the Mass there. But please know you and your child are always welcome to remain in the main church to celebrate Mass with all of us.

St. Martin's is also a safe space for the LGBTQ+ community. We love, welcome, support and affirm you and your family. You and your children are welcome to fully participate in parish life and to receive all of the Sacraments. Let us know your pronouns and we will strive to name you as you wish to be named. (Please be patient with us: some of us are still learning).

Restrooms

If you need to use the facilities during Mass, you may enter the door next to the crucifix and find the restroom down the end of the hall on the left hand side. It is a single restroom that anyone may use. Alternatively, you can go back to the narthex (the entrance area), go down the stairs near the red doors, enter the white door on the left, and through the undercroft. You will find restrooms down the hallway.

Holy Communion

You are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood if you desire it. Jesus Christ offers grace to you in Holy Communion and we will not turn anyone away from Christ's healing grace. Most of us receive communion kneeling at the altar rail, but you may stand if you wish. To receive communion, place one hand over the other and the priest will place the precious body of Christ in your hand: you should consume it then. A Eucharistic Minister will follow with a chalice. If you wish to receive the precious blood of Christ, grasp the base and assist the chalice to your lips.

If you do not wish to receive from the chalice, cross your arms over your chest as the chalice approaches, or simply return to your seat after you consume the host. It is customary not to leave the altar until the person next to you has received communion. If you prefer a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest and the priest will give you a blessing.

Children may receive communion if the parents feel comfortable with that. If you would prefer that your child waits for "First Communion" that is fine as well.

The 8:15 Low Mass will use the following liturgy, however the sung parts will be said.

Opening Hymn *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name vv 1,2,6*

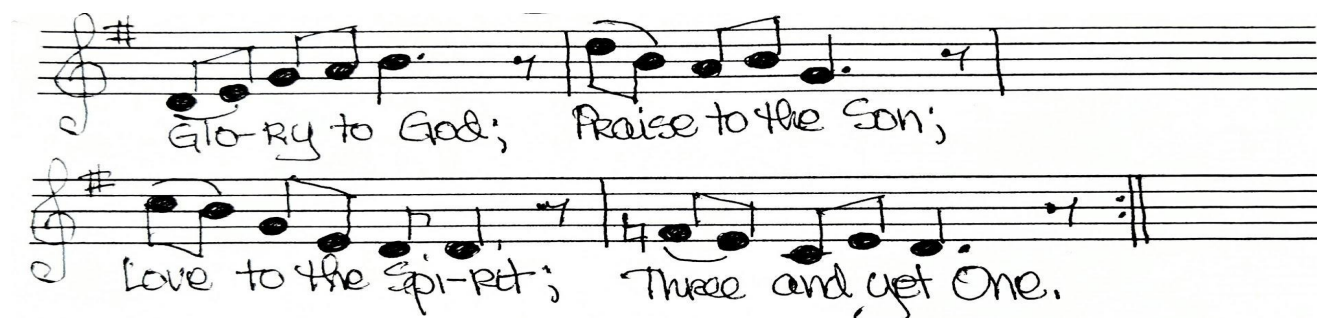
Blue Hymnal, 450

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom now and forever, amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria (10:30 Mass only)



The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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 Leviticus

Please be seated.

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord. The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

(The psalm is read in unison at 8:15 and sung by a cantor at 10:30)

Psalm 90:1-8 *(The Cantor sings the antiphon, and the people repeat it)*

Antiphon: *Teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.*

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God. **(Antiphon)**

You turn us back to the dust and say, "Go back, O child of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night. **(Antiphon)**

You sweep us away like a dream; we fade away suddenly like the grass.
In the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered. **(Antiphon)**

For we consume away in your displeasure; we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation
Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
(Antiphon)

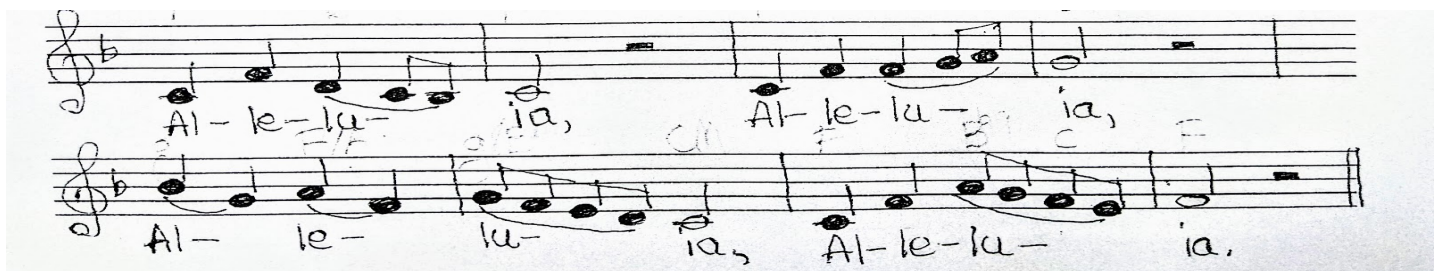
A Reading from 1 Thessalonians

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

The Gospel Acclamation

Please stand as able

The Alleluia is sung by a Cantor, then repeated by all.



V: Whoever loves me will keep my Words, says the Lord, and my Father will love them and will come to them, Alleluia...

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

BCP, 358

The Prayers of the People

Remain standing, or kneel

BCP, 385

Confession and Absolution

BCP, 360

The Peace and Welcome

Please be seated

Offertory Anthem *Unidos (Together)*

Benjamin Villanova

Together in your name we gather: Then we will have in this world peace and love around us.
 Together we're united; we hold hands as we struggle.
 We walk in the world singing God's song of love.
 The Glory of Jesus will ever shine in splendor;
 The whole world will be joyful with love and peace.

Offertory Hymn I Love to Tell the Story (please stand)

Victory Found, 125

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 4 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 than all the gold - en fan - cies of all our gold - en dreams.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, it did so much for me;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
and that is just the rea - son I tell it now to thee.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry, 'twill be my theme in glo - ry,

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

The Holy Eucharist

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand

Sursum Corda

Blue Hymnal S 120

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

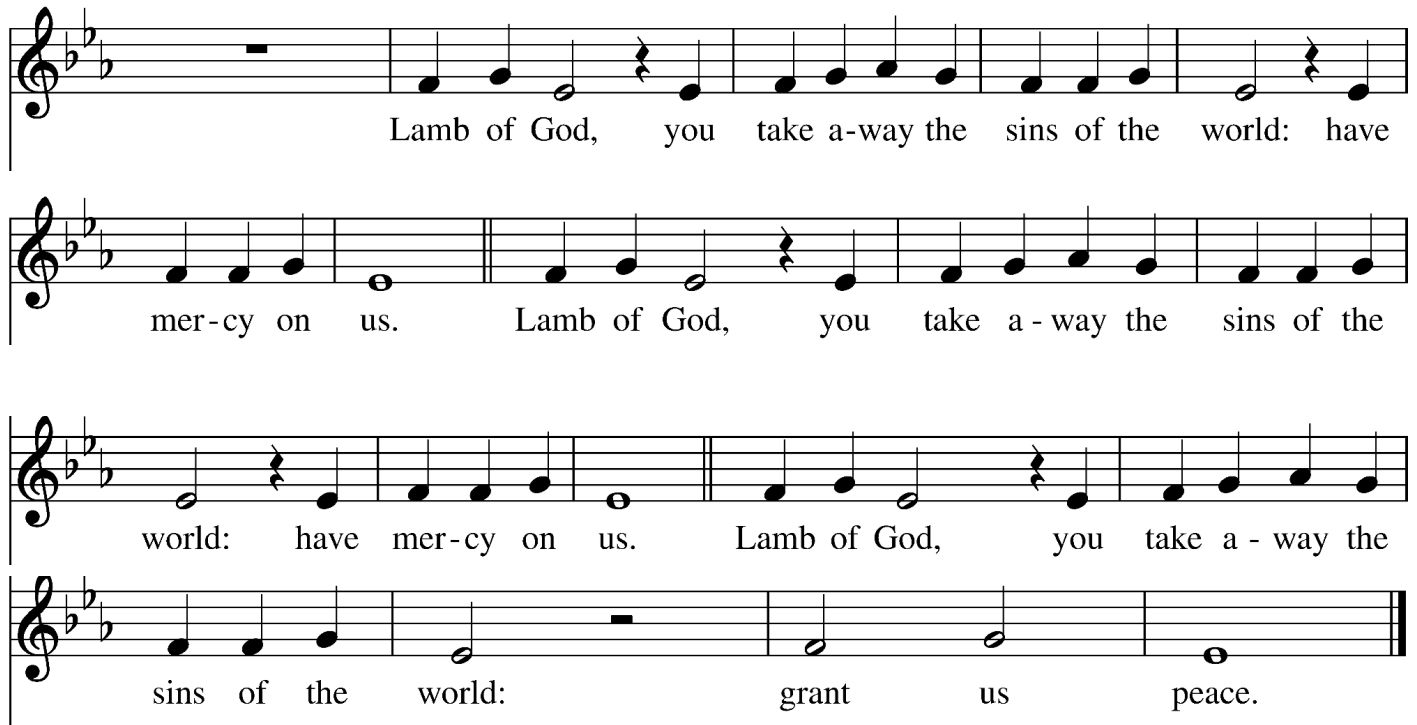


cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues in the *Book of Common Prayer*, page 362

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, (*Our Father... BCP, 364*)

Fraction and Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: grant us peace.

**Priest: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are they who are called to his Supper.**

The people may silently pray:

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Holy Communion

*Are are welcome to receive the Body and Blood of Christ in this most Blessed Sacrament.
Many of us kneel to receive Communion, but you may stand if you desire.*

Communion Hymns (10:30 Mass only)

What Does the Lord Require?

Blue Hymnal, 605

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Blue Hymnal, 609

Post-Communion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer, 365

A Prayer for Peace

Merciful God, Father of All: we join our prayers to those of the people throughout the world who are trapped in war zones, who look to the heavens for peace and protection during this time of violence and oppression. We pray for the families, especially, the children living through the horrors of war and all the upheaval and tribulation it brings. We pray for the repose of those who have died. We ask for your mercy: that peace would be restored, that wars would cease, that the hearts and minds of those who have chosen the path of destruction may be transformed by your grace, and that all peoples may live in unity and tranquility. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our hope in times of trouble. Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

Serving Today

Thurifer: Michael Maloney Crucifer: Delaney Swain Reader: Jason Swain

Euch. Min: Larry Ottenstroer Choir: Alison Jandek, Beth Hixenbaugh, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon

Ushers: Carl Picazio Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Fr. Rob Laws

The Altar Flowers have been donated to the glory of God by Yvonne and Richard Comeau in memory of Bill Herman.

If you would like to offer flowers on the altar in honor of someone or in memory of someone, please fill out the flower form (which may be found in the narthex) and place it in the offering plate. The cost is \$50. You may write a check with altar flowers in the memo line, or pay online.

You may also offer the Sanctuary Light with a special intention. The suggested offering is \$15.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**A Book Study *God Breathed: What It Really Means for the Bible to Be Divinely Inspired*
by Zack Hunt**

We will meet on Mondays from **October 2-November 20 at 7 pm.**

We will meet at the home of Juanita Hawkins in October,
and in the home of Laura Vernon in November.

800th Anniversary of the Nativity Creche

St Francis of Assisi created and erected the first nativity scene on December 15, 1223. This year marks the 800th anniversary of this special remembrance of our Lord's birth. In celebration, we will be filling the nave with nativity scenes from the Second Sunday of Advent until the Sunday after the Epiphany. If you have a small nativity scene that you would be willing to display in one of the window sills, please let Father Rob know. Alternatively, you may wish to create your own nativity scene to display. Small nativity scenes will be displayed in the windows: larger nativity scenes will be displayed on tables along the west wall. Both the Sunday School children and the St Martin's School children will be creating nativity scenes to display. I hope you all will participate in this special celebration.

During Advent there will be an Open House so that we can view and appreciate all of the nativity scenes on display. Information will be forthcoming.

An Evening in Tuscany November 11 Details coming soon

Coat Drive November 12

Patronal Feast of St Martin November 12- If you are new to the parish, we would like to introduce you to the congregation on this day. Please email Father Rob if you would like for you and your family to be introduced to the parish on this special day.

Prayer Intentions for this Mass

For healing: Jim, Bozeno, Helios, Sonia, Bob, Julia, Nicole, Dusty, Nory, Anthony, Jeff, Debbie, Ian, Pat, Dillon, Mary, Olivia, Evelyn, Paige, Maureen, Luis, Celeste, Joe, John, and Fausto

Contact Us

You can email Fr Rob at rectorstmartinsnj@gmail.com

You can email the parish office at smartinschurchnj@gmail.com