

St. Martin's Episcopal Church + Bridgewater, NJ Sunday October 22, 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 Jesus Shall Reign vv 1-3

Blue Hymnal, 544

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

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Reading from Exodus

Please be seated.

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth." The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen." 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 99:1-2; 6-9 (The Cantor sings the antiphon, and the people repeat it)
Antiphon: Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God: He is the Holy One.

The Lord is King; let the people tremble; he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake. The Lord is great in Zion; he is high above all peoples. (Antiphon)

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, they called upon the Lord, and he answered them. He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them. (Antiphon)

O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; for the Lord our God is the Holy One. (Antiphon)

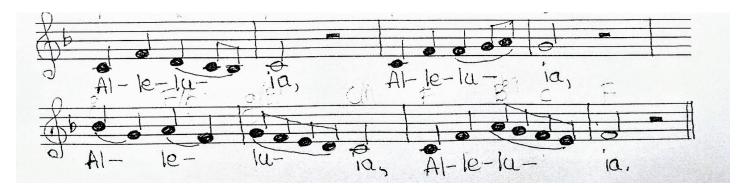
A Reading from 1 Thessalonians

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming. 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: Shine like lights in the World, as you hold on to the Word of Life. Alleluia...

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. Glory to you, Lord Christ. The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away. The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ*.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

Remain standing, or kneel

Confession and Absolution

The Peace and Welcome

Offertory Hymn I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (please stand)

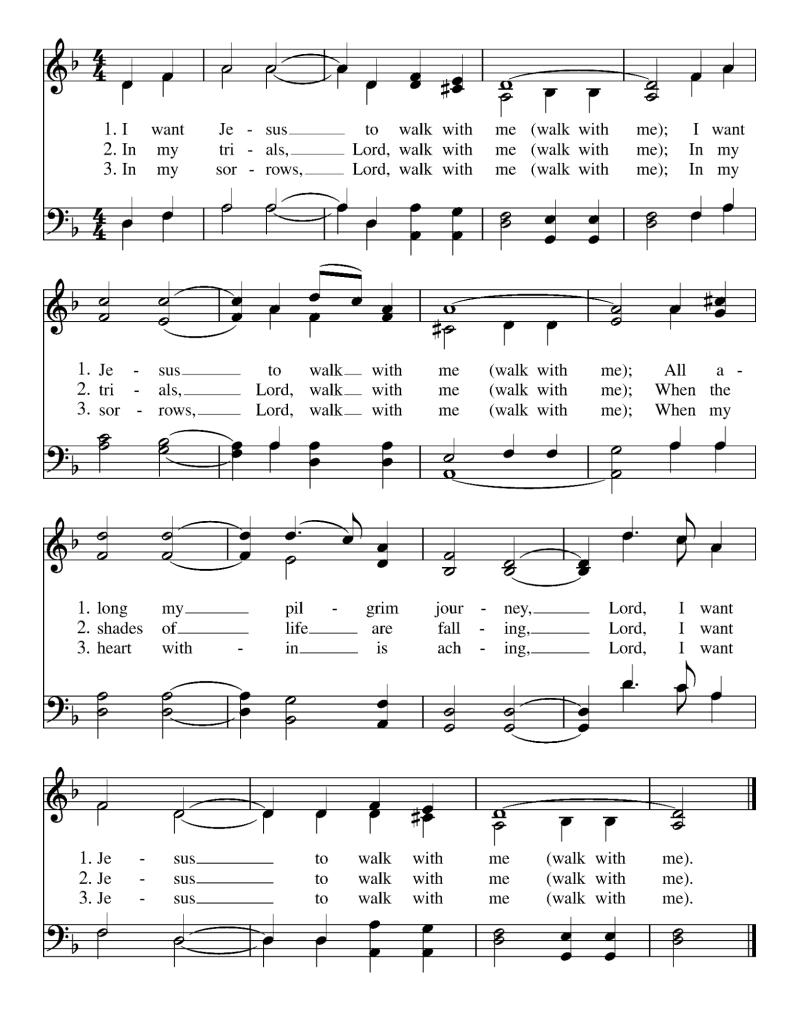
BCP, 358

BCP, 385

BCP, 360

Please be seated

LEVAS II, 70



The Holy Eucharist

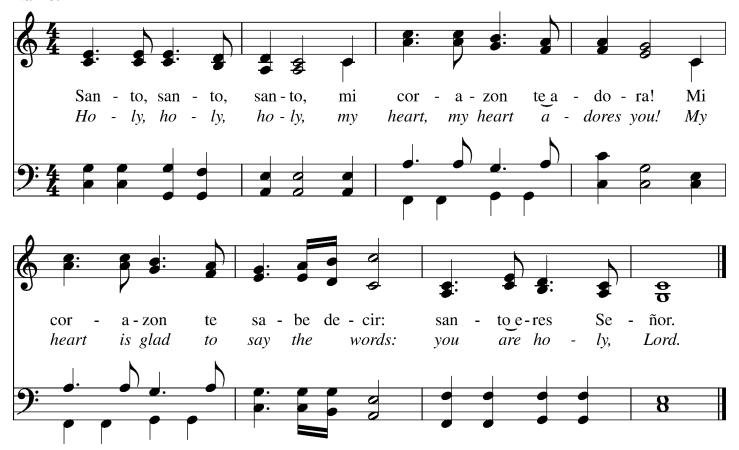
The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand

Sursum Corda

Blue Hymnal S 120

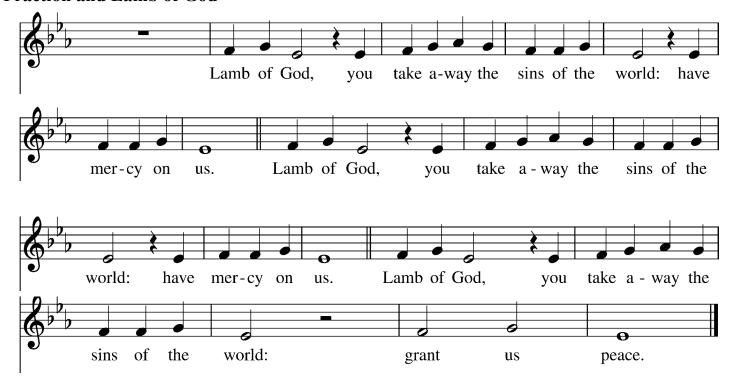
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



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



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)
O For a Closer Walk with God
Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Blue Hymnal, 683 LEVAS II, 72



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

Closing Hymn Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor vv. 1-3

Blue Hymnal, 596

Serving Today

Crucifer: Natalie Kellam Reader: Carl Picazio Euch. Min: Kathy Picazio

Choir: Alison Jandek, Beth Hixenbaugh, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon Ushers: Larry Ottenstroer, Ed

Farmer Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Fr. Rob Laws

The Altar Flowers have been donated to the glory of God by Karen Birkhead in memory of her mother, Mary Ayers.

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.

The Sanctuary Light is given by David and Jennifer Persson in memory of Suzanne S. Wood and The Rev. Deacon Robert Persson.

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.

TRUNK-R-TREAT HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL: October 28- mark your calendars

Martin's Church and School will be hosting a Fall Festival on October 28. This will be our first joint event! Trunk-r-treat, games, food and costumes. Alison Jandak will be giving more details and we hope many of you will volunteer to help make this a fun event for our community.

An Evening in Tuscany November 11 Details coming soon

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 Marianne.