



St. Martin's Episcopal Church + Bridgewater, NJ
Sunday October 08, 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 *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* vv. 1-4

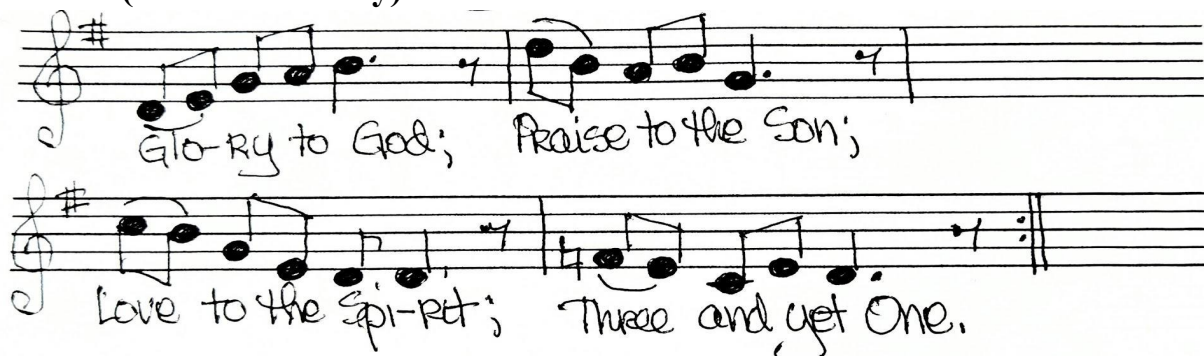
Blue Hymnal, 518

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gloria (10:30 Mass only)



The Collect of the Day

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 Exodus

Please be seated.

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You 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. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You 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.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin." 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 19:7-14 *(The Cantor sings the refrain, and the people repeat it)*

Refrain: The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
The commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes. **(Refrain)**
The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. **(Refrain)**
By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults. **(Refrain)**
Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. (Refrain)

A Reading from Philippians

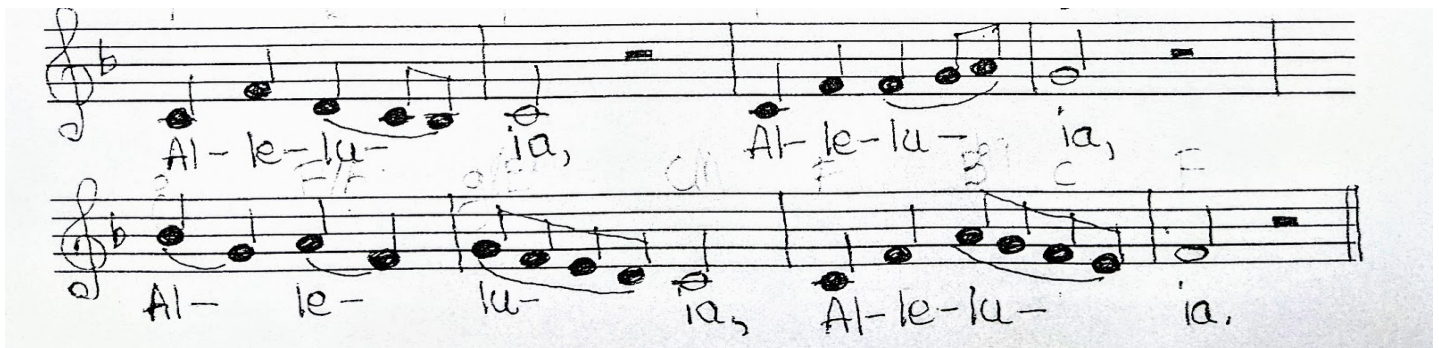
If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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: My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. *Alleluia...*

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

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet. 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 *If Ye Love Me*, Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he will give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever- ev'n the spirit of truth.



1. When from bond - age
2. When our God names
3. Through all stag - es
4. We must not lose
5. See the prize our



we are sum - moned out of dark - ness in - to light, we must
 us a peo - ple, Je - sus leads us by the hand through a
 of the jour - ney Christ is with us, night and day, with com -
 sight of Je - sus, who ac - cept - ed pain and loss, who, for
 God has prom - ised: end - less life with Christ our Lord. Now we



go in hope and pa - tience, walk by faith and not by sight.
 lone - ly, bar - ren de - sert to a great and glo - rious land.
 pas - sion for our weak - ness ev' - ry step a - long the way. Let us
 joy of love un - meas - ured, dared em - brace the shame - ful cross.
 fix our eyes on Je - sus, walk by faith in Je - sus' word.



throw off all that hin - ders; let us run the race to win! Let us



has - ten to our home - land and, re - joic - ing, en - ter in. in.

The Holy Eucharist

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand

Sursum Corda

Blue Hymnal S 120

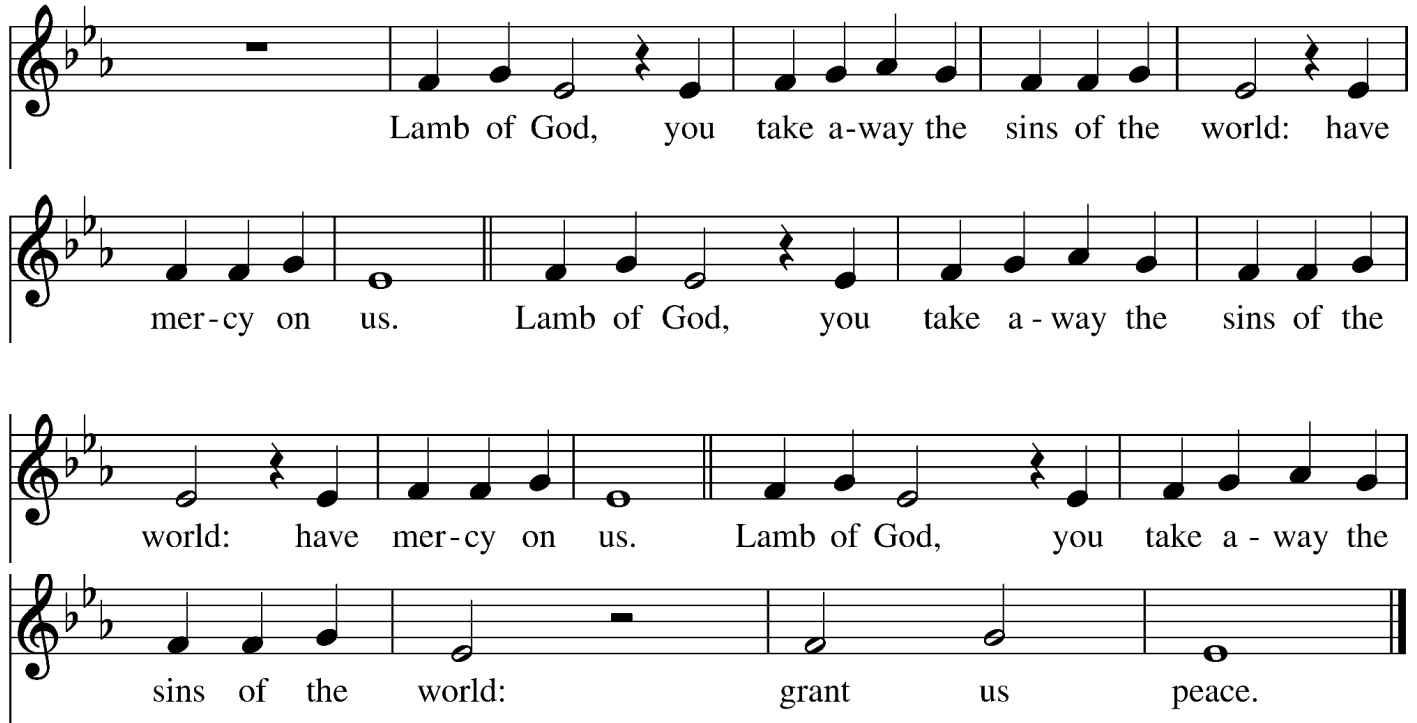
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow - er and might, Heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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)

The Stars Declare His Glory

Blue Hymnal, 431

And now, O Father, Mindful of the Love

Blue Hymnal, 337

Post-Communion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer, 365

The Blessing and Dismissal

Closing Hymn *The Head that Once Was Crowned* vv. 1-3

Blue Hymnal, 483

Serving Today

Thurifer: Michael Maloney Crucifer: Alex Kellam Reader: Anne Marie Verdiramo

Euch. Min: Br Philip Muniz Choir: Alison Jandek, Beth Hixenbaugh, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon

Ushers: Paul Todoroff Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Fr. Rob Laws

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.

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.

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