



St. Martin's Episcopal Church + Bridgewater, NJ
Sunday September 29, 2024

Michaelmas
The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels
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. 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. Please speak to one of the Sunday School teachers for information about "First Communion."

Opening Hymn *Praise to the Lord vv.1-3*

Blue Hymnal, 390

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

Glo - ry to God; Praise to the Son;
Glo - ry to God; Praise to the
Love to the Spi - rit; Three and yet One.
Son; Love to the Three and yet One.

The Collect of the Day

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals: Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your appointment they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from Genesis

Please be seated.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 1:1-6 (remain seated. The cantor sings the refrain; the congregation repeats it)

Refrain: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The LORD has set his throne in heaven, and his kingship has dominion over all. **(Refrain)**

Bless the LORD, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding,
and hearken to the voice of his word. **(Refrain)**

Bless the LORD, all you his hosts, you ministers of his who do his will. **(Refrain)**

Bless the LORD, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion;
bless the LORD, O my soul. **(Refrain)**

A Reading from Revelation

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,

“Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death. Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”

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.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

V: Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, you ministers of his who do his will. *Alleluia*

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

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

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

The Homily

The Nicene Creed *Please stand*

The Prayers of the People *Remain standing, or kneel*

Confession and Absolution

The Peace and Welcome

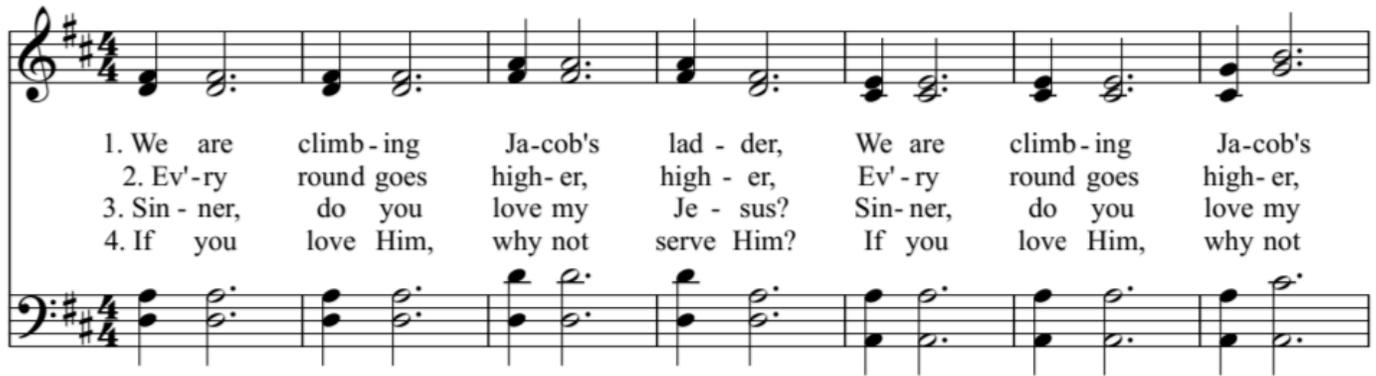
BCP, 358

BCP, 385

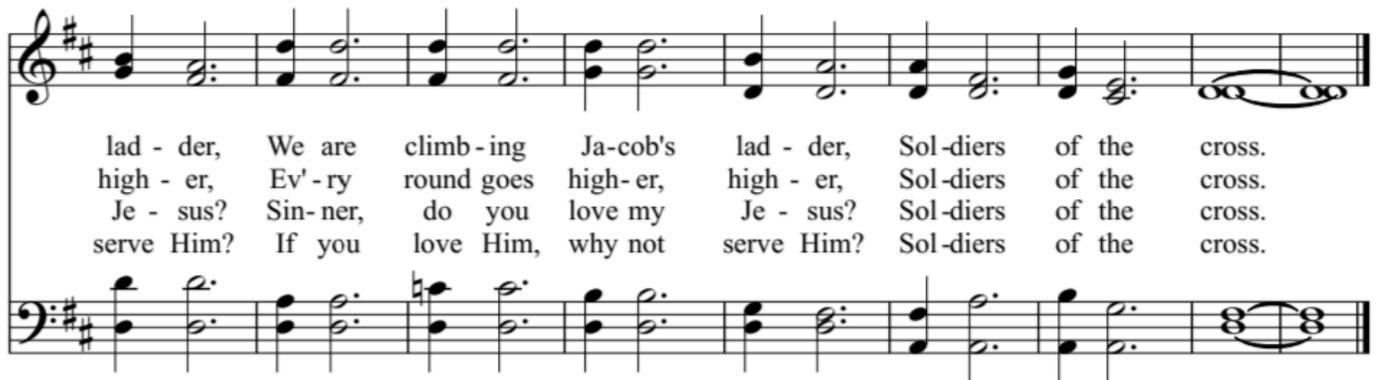
BCP, 360

Please be seated

Offertory Hymn *We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder*



1. We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, We are climb-ing Ja-cob's
 2. Ev'-ry round goes high-er, high-er, Ev'-ry round goes high-er,
 3. Sin-ner, do you love my Je-sus? Sin-ner, do you love my
 4. If you love Him, why not serve Him? If you love Him, why not



lad-der, We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, Sol-diers of the cross.
 high-er, Ev'-ry round goes high-er, high-er, Sol-diers of the cross.
 Je-sus? Sin-ner, do you love my Je-sus? Sol-diers of the cross.
 serve Him? If you love Him, why not serve Him? Sol-diers of the cross.

Prayer over the Offerings: God of glory, as you appointed angels to minister in your presence, so may all our worship bring you worthy praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving:

Sursum Corda

Blue Hymnal S 120

The Preface continues on Page 373 in the red *Book of Common Prayer*

... Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing

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
he 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 373

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: 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

All 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

I Will Kindle a Fire

Voices Found, 27



I will kin - dle my fire in the morn of the day, in the pres - ence of ho - ly



an - gels. With - out mal - ice or jeal - ous - y, en - vy or fear, with - out



ter - ror of an - y - one un - der the sun, but the Ho - ly Be - lov - ed to shield me.



O Ho - ly one, kin - dle thou here in my heart, a flame of pure love to my



neigh - bor, to my foe, to my friend, to my kin - dred all, to the



brave, to the knave, to the thrall. O child of the love - li - est Ma - ry, from the



low - li - est thing, to the Ho - ly Name, the be - lov - ed of all.

O Bread of Life

Blue Hymnal, 342

Post-Communion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer, 365

The Blessing and Dismissal

Closing Hymn *Ye Holy Angels Bright vv.1-3*

Blue Hymnal, 625

Serving Today

Thurifer: Fausto Beleno Crucifer: Colin Hawley Reader: Carl Picazio

Eucl. Min: Kathy Picazio Choir: Alison Jandek, Beth Hixenbaugh, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon

Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Fr. Rob Laws

Please keep in your prayers:

Evelyn, Michael, Adam, Brent M., Anna Rose, Joe, Jeff K., Pat, Brian, Pete, Laura, Susan

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ian.

Upcoming Events:

Blessing of the Animals, Sunday October 6 at 4 PM by the St Francis Pet Memorial Garden

Fall Festival Saturday October 26, 1-4 PM

See Alison Jandak to find out how you can help!