

Saint Martin Lutheran Church

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026, 10:30 am

The Day *In the gospel of John, it is John the Baptist who testifies before anyone else about the personhood of Jesus, revealing him to John's own disciples and by way of the gospel revealing Christ to us, making manifest the truth that Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. So much of the truth and personhood of Jesus hangs on the light of this one phrase, which we are blessed to have John the Baptist discern and proclaim to the world. Some of John's disciples, on hearing this revelation, followed Jesus that very day. What will we do with this good news?*

PRELUDE

Please silence electronic devices during this quiet time of preparing our hearts for worship.

Stand

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the **☩** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The Procession begins.

GATHERING HYMN

CHRIST WHOSE GLORY FILLS THE SKIES

ELW #553

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Beatty

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

L A reading from the book of Isaiah, the 49th chapter, beginning at the 1st verse.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 40:1-11



¹ I waited patiently up- | on the Lord,
who stooped to me and | heard my cry.

² The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.

³ The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust | in the Lord.

4 Happy are they who trust | in the Lord!

They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies.

**5 Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your
plans for us, none can be com- | pared with you!**

**Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are
more than | I can count.**

**6 Sacrifice and offering you do | not desire;
you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you
have | not required.**

7 And so I said, “Here I | am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:

**8 I love to do your will, | O my God;
your law is | deep within me.”**

**9 I proclaimed righteousness in the | great assembly;
I have not restrained my lips, O | Lord, you know.**

**10 I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken
of your faithfulness and | your deliverance;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the |
great assembly.**

**11 You are the Lord; do not withhold your compas- | sion from me;
may your steadfast love and your truth continually | keep me safe.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forev- | er. Amen**

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

L A reading from 1st Corinthians, the 1st chapter, beginning at the 1st verse.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:29-42

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

- P** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, the 1st chapter, beginning at the 29th verse.
- C** Glory to you, O Lord.
- P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

“John’s Epiphany”

Pastor Beatty

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

ELW #715

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

P/A Lord in Your Mercy, C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you.  **Peace be with you.**

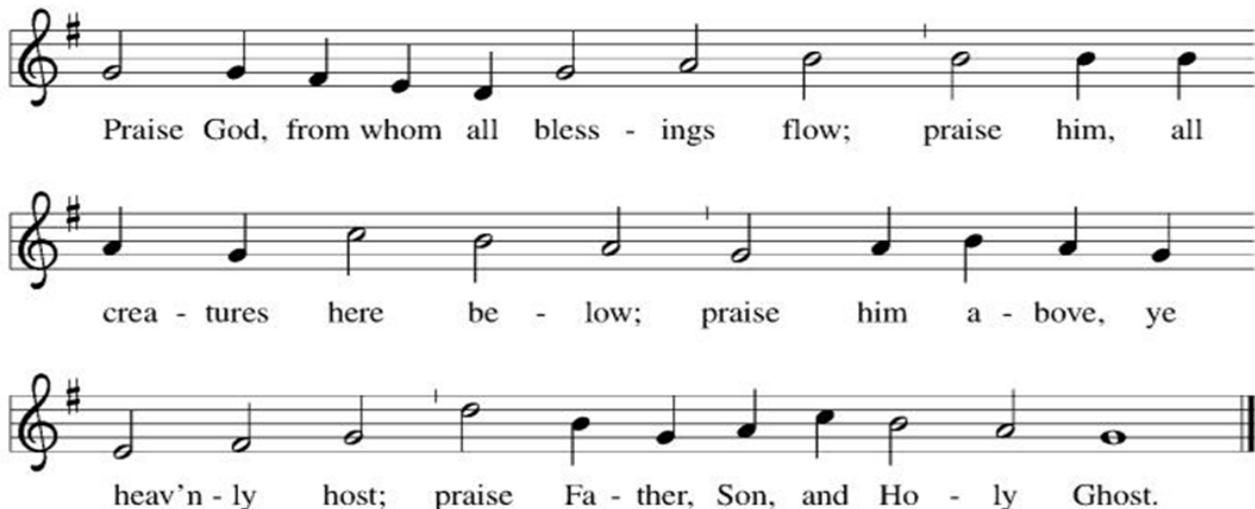
Sit

OFFERING

The Ushers collect our gifts of tithes and offerings, the ministers make ready the bread and wine.

Stand

OFFERTORY



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

PREFACE

A The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

A Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

A Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, ..., we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us together to pray.
C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Sit

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI

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

COMMUNION HYMNS

HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA

ELW #612
ELW #592

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen **†** you and keep you in God's grace.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

A Let us pray: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION



P Almighty God, Father, + Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever.
C A - men

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT!

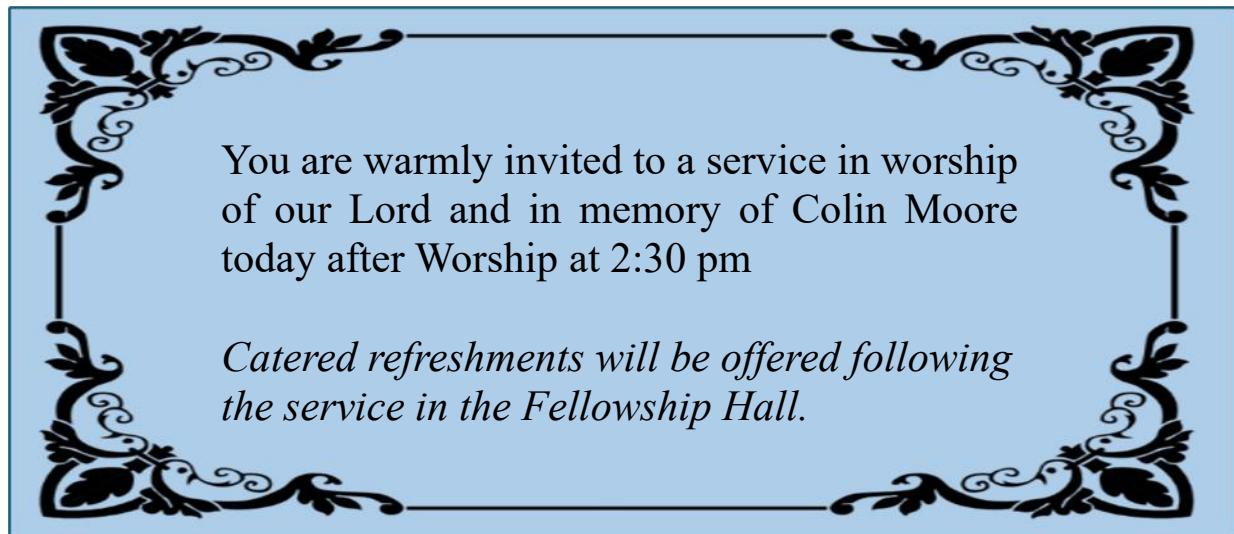
ELW #308

DISMISSAL

- A** Love The Lord!
- C** Live The Mission!
Together!

POSTLUDE

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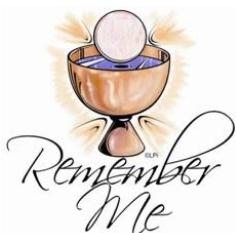
WELCOME TO ALL

We are grateful that you chose to worship with us today. Our values are those of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). We are *Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, and Congregationally Focused*. Learn more about the NALC at <https://thenalc.org/>.

We extend a special welcome to visitors. Before you leave, please fill out a blue visitor card and be sure to take one of our Saint Martin brochures – both are available on the ushers' table at the back of the sanctuary. We invite visitors to join together with us in the ground floor Fellowship Hall and Courtyard areas and to consider Saint Martin as a new church home.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

By invitation of our Lord, all baptized Christians are welcome at His Table and do not need to be a member of Saint Martin in order to receive the Holy Sacrament. Unbaptized adults and children not yet communing are invited forward with crossed arms for Pastor to offer a special blessing.



We believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. In his body and blood we are forgiven, we are strengthened and nourished, and we are assured of his promise of everlasting life. This meal is a foretaste of the feast to come in heaven. Come, let us eat together.

Our ushers will invite you forward. The host (bread) will be placed in your hand. A gluten-free option is available upon request. Intinct (dip) the host in the first chalice held by the worship assistant or receive the wine by Common Cup from the second chalice.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 am

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 am

A Focus on the Holy Spirit

We often think of God our Father, and of course as Christians we believe and follow God the Son. But how often are we mindful of the Holy Spirit? As we begin Epiphany and the revealing of the light of Christ in the world, let's also explore the revealing of the Holy Spirit in our education together.



MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

7:00 to 8:00 am

Teacher: David Ott

Offered live and recorded via Zoom. Please email Doug Neale at dglneale@gmail.com to request the weekly recording link.

A NOTE FROM STEWARDSHIP

Boxes of offering envelopes for 2026 are available on the ushers' table at the back of the sanctuary. Pick up your box for the year. If you are new to Saint Martin Lutheran Church and would like a box of envelopes, please notify an usher or Sandy McGaffigan at mcgaffigansp@comcast.net.

We also accept offerings through the automatic draft feature of your bank account. Please remember to renew your automatic draft giving for 2026 if that is how you like to give.

CONGREGATIONAL LUNCHEON

Sunday, January 25th



All members and visitors are invited to a buffet-style lunch catered by Nakato Japanese restaurant. The Luncheon will be held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following Worship and our Annual Congregational Meeting. We will highlight the impact of SMLC's stewardship and offerings for our local community. Social Ministry partners will attend the Luncheon to describe the work they do and be recognized for helping us to heed God's calling. Please join us!

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

February 8th

(Benefitting Toco Hills Community Alliance)



Get ready for our 2nd Annual Souper Bowl! On Super Bowl Sunday, we will collect soup cans for THCA. This project is a single-Sunday collection and is sponsored by the Social Ministry Team. The Team will have soups ready to enjoy at a potluck lunch. Please bring a potluck dish and cans (preferably pop-top) of soup for THCA and join our Souper Bowl Sunday lunch.

CALLING ALL FUTURE CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERS



We are prayerfully seeking members who feel called to help guide Saint Martin Lutheran Church's ministry by serving on the Church Council. The commitment is for a three-year term, meeting once monthly. The Congregation will vote on a slate of candidates at our Annual Congregational Meeting on January 25, 2026. No prior experience is required. Please contact John Martin at ja62cs@aol.com, if you or someone you know is willing to serve.

2026 YOUNG ADULT MISSION TRIP!

Our amazing [NALC Young Adult Mission Trip](#) in Winnipeg, Canada



returns this May 23-30, 2026 for all young adults ages 18-28ish. It's a week of mission, discipleship, and spiritual growth with a variety of events and mission contexts throughout the week. Sponsored and supported by the Canada District, the cost is only \$50 per person which includes the entire program plus food and lodging. The only remaining cost is transportation to and from the event. As with our youth, Saint Martin loves our young adults and is looking to offer assistance in helping them get to Canada for this great event.

The deadline for signing up is February 15, 2026, though there is likely some flexibility if needed. For more information and to sign up, visit thenalc.org website. Also, our NALC staff point of contact for the event is Pastor Teresa Peters.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Constitution of Saint Martin Lutheran Church for Annual Meetings, this is the second of two notices that the Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2026, following the worship service. Below is the Agenda for the Annual Meeting.

**Saint Martin Lutheran Church –
Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda
January 25, 2026**

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer2. Determination of a Quorum3. Approval of Agenda4. Approval of the January 26, 2025, Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes <p>New Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. NALC Ratification Vote<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Amendment One: The movement of some language in the Constitution to Bylaws, clean up Scrivener's errors.b. Amendment Two: Addition of Article on the North American Lutheran Seminaryc. Amendment Three: Addition to current Article 16 entitled "Indemnification" to be renamed, "Legal and Financial Matters."	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Vote on Proposed 2026 Budget7. Appoint Tally Team for Elections8. Council Member Elections9. Nominating Committee Member Elections10. Clergy and Congregational Representative at the 2026 NALC Online Meeting11. Informational Item: 2025 Annual Report12. Announcements, if needed13. Motion to Adjourn and Closing Prayer
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WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sundays

Choir practice: 9:00 am
Children's and Adult Sunday School: 9:30 am
Worship with Holy Communion: 10:30 am
Fellowship Hour, immediately following Worship

Mondays

Bible Study: 7:00 to 8:00 am
Leader: David Ott

<https://tinyurl.com/SMLC-Zoom-BibleStudy>

Or <https://zoom.us/> Meeting ID: 869 4014 7627 Passcode: 2044251517

Wednesdays

Deadline for Bulletin and printed Prayer List;
Please send submissions to Cyndy Baker at clbaker2025@gmail.com.

*You can reach Pastor Beatty by email, text, or phone at
mbeatty363@gmail.com or (404) 434-9806.*

Please note that Pastor's usual day off is Friday.

**PREPARATION FOR NEXT SUNDAY
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1; 4-9
1st Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23

LOOKING AHEAD

January 18th, at 2:30 pm	Colin Moore Memorial
January 25th, following Worship	Annual Congregational Meeting with Election
Jan. 25th, following Meeting	Congregational Luncheon
February 8th, following Worship	Souper Bowl Potluck and Canned Soup Drive

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS



We continuously plan in advance for our worship services. Please consider serving and visit our online **SignUpGenius** platform at <https://tinyurl.com/smlc-sunday-volunteers> or ask an usher for assistance.

Volunteers bring our church family to life!

Servers	January 18th	January 25th
Preacher and Celebrant	Pastor Beatty	Pastor Beatty
Altar Guild	Sarah Kuester and Kwoineh Haba	Barbara Kimmich and Jill Baska
Cantor/Assisting Minister	Pastor Eberhardt	Wayne Burdette
Crucifer	Wayne Burdette	John Martin
Acolyte	John Martin	Jack Kimmich
Chalice Bearer	Melissa Freas	Mitzi Eberhardt
Common Cup	Cathy Keene	Matthew Williams
Lector	Melissa Freas	Mitzi Eberhardt
Usher	** Needed **	** Needed **
Fellowship Hall Greeters	Alan Cole and Ed Forsberg	Alan Cole and Ed Forsberg
Tellers	Scott Jennings and Melissa Freas	Sandra Williams and John Martin
Sanctuary Greeters	Ann Otterness and Ingrid Neale	Marie Cole
Fellowship Hour Hosts	** Needed **	** Needed **

The Borchers Family humbly invites you to join us in fellowship at a memorial service honoring Mary Virginia Borchers (Jenny).

January 31, 2026, at 11:00 am
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
731 Peachtree St, NE, Atlanta, GA 30308

For more info call or text Jeff Borchers at (770) 652-3076.

PRAYER LIST



For the homeless, the unemployed, the underemployed and their families; all advocates who intercede for others; the suffering and their caregivers; and for the weak in body, mind, and spirit.

We especially remember before you and pray for...

- Donn and Joni W., fighting cancer (friends of Sandra Williams)
- Family and friends of Nikki Houston, following her death on January 10th (Sandra Williams' daughter Natalie's older half-sister)
- Kristie Parker, oxygen dependent and in process to be added to the list for double lung transplant (Ron Keene's cousin)
- Neal, January 22nd lung cancer surgery (friend of the Kuesters)
- Janet, healing from breast cancer radiation treatment (friend of Sarah Kuester)
- Family and friends of Jenny Borchers, following her death on January 8th
- Rodney and Elizabeth Brannon, on the death of Elizabeth's father, Byers Coleman (neighbors of Matt and Jill Williams)
- Kate, recovery from second thyroid cancer surgery on January 5th (friend of Sarah Kuester)
- Doris, healing following a stroke (sister of Grace Crary)
- Family of Noah Daniel, peace and comfort
- Craig Poston, healing and full recovery (friend of Pastor Beatty)
- Tony Myers and his wife, healing from the flu
- Family and loved ones of Colin Moore, peace and comfort (our beloved organist who died December 18th)
- Cynthia McAllister, again hospitalized with pneumonia (Sandra Williams' sister)
- Karen Osborne, success of ongoing breast cancer treatment
- Mike Mizell, healing from prostate cancer
- David Burt, healing from recently-diagnosed prostate cancer
- Nick, for New Life
- Billy, continued healing while fighting cancer (Diane Guest's former student)
- Pastor Rodney Eberhardt, continued recovery from cancer treatment and from heart bypass
- Ken, healing from cancer (former Rock Spring pastor and friend of Diane Guest)
- Bruce Koshkin, cancer recovery (former student of Diane Guest)
- Rainbow House and Toco Hills Community Alliance

Please send printed prayer requests no later than Wednesday to Cyndy Baker at clbaker2025@gmail.com. Specific printed prayer requests will stay on the list for two weeks unless otherwise requested.



Serving Saint Martin Lutheran Church

The Reverend Mark S. Beatty, Pastor

Ms. Rita Mathsen, Interim Organist

Ms. Cyndy Baker, Church Administrative Assistant



Worship Address

1824 Piedmont Avenue, NE
Atlanta, GA 30324
(Heritage Preparatory School)

Mailing Address

PO Box 15069
Atlanta, GA 30333



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<https://www.facebook.com/SaintMartinLutheranChurch> VolunteeratSignUpGenius