# SAINT MARTIN LUTHERAN CHURCH



## Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
## October 11, 2026 at 10:30 am

***Welcome to the worship of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!***

***The Day**: The sad truth of today's gospel parable is summed up with the words "many are called but few are chosen." We don't want anything to do with a system of salvation that works by grace through faith. We want our merits, sleazy though they may be, to be rewarded and we want everybody else's obviously raunchy behavior punished. God won't play our game. God offers heaven to absolutely everybody: nothing down, no interest, no payments.*

## PRELUDE

*Please silence 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 assembly follows the ministers into the church. The Procession begins.*

## GATHERING HYMN — ELW #462

Now We Join in Celebration

## 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.
Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

*Sit*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON** **Bishop Eberhardt**

**FIRST LESSON** **Isaiah 25:1-9**
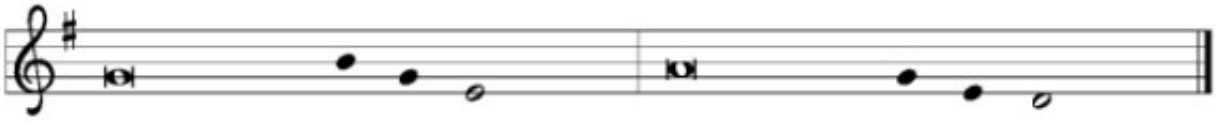
*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death — which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone — will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

L A reading from the book of Isaiah, the 25th chapter, beginning at the 1st verse.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALMODY** **Psalm 23**



1 The Lord | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

**2 The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures**
**and leads me be- | side still waters.**

3 You restore my | soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;**
**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

**6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,**
**and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.**

**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** **Philippians 4:1-9**

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the*

*circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

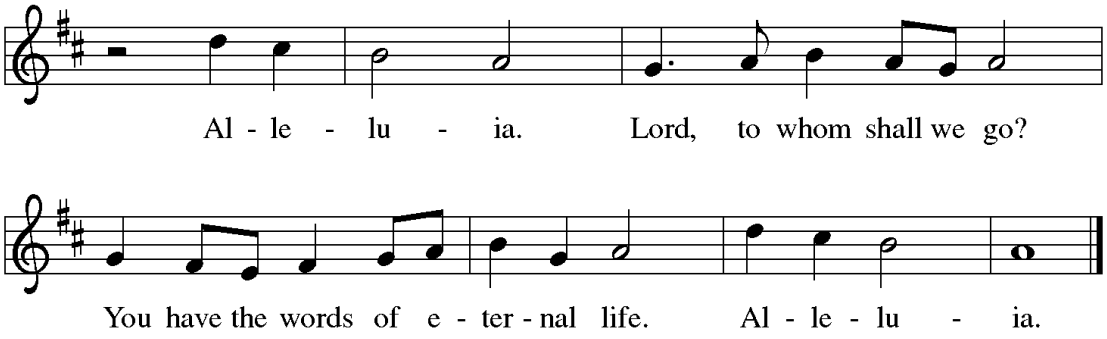
L A reading from the book of Philippians, the 4th chapter, beginning at the 1st verse.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA VERSE




## HOLY GOSPEL — Matthew 22:1-14

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

P The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter, beginning at the 1st verse.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## SERMON — Bishop Eberhardt

"Jesus Loves a Party"

*Stand*

## HYMN OF THE DAY — ELW #362

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing, vv. 1-4

℗ With one voice let us confess our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

## 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

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

℗/Ⓐ *Lord in your Mercy,* ℂ ***hear our prayer.***

℗ 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

℗ 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* ℝ ***Peace be with you***

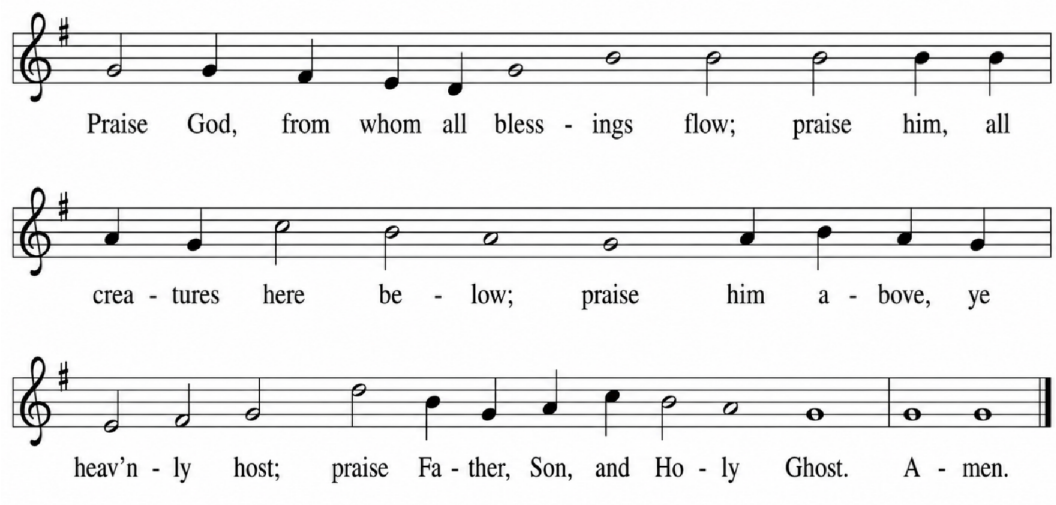
*Sit*

## OFFERING

*The ushers collect our gifts of tithes and offerings. The ministers make ready the bread and wine.*

*Stand as gifts are presented.*

## OFFERTORY




## OFFERTORY PRAYER

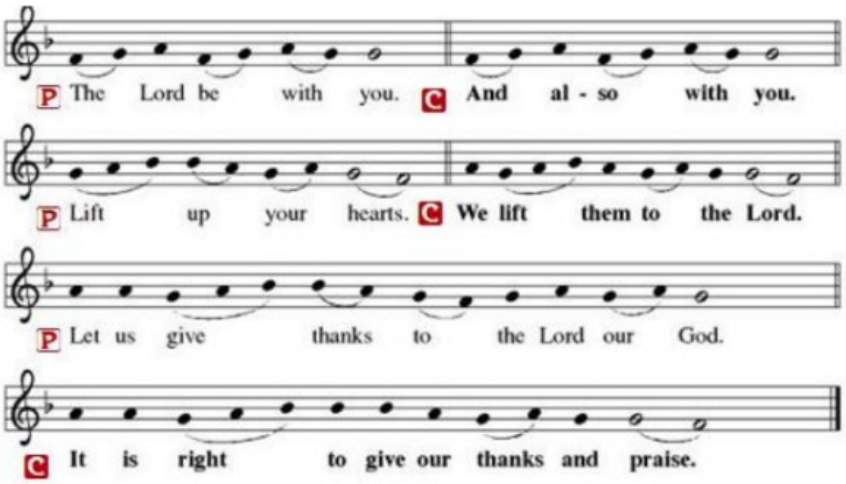
A The Lord be with you.

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.**

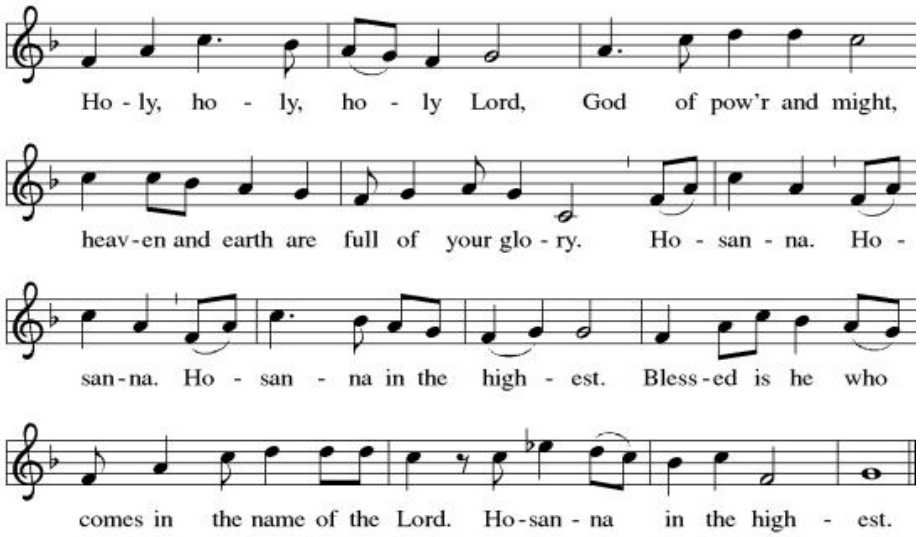
## GREAT THANKSGIVING



## PREFACE

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

## SANCTUS




## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

P You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness;
you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence……
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup…
We cry out for the resurrection of our lives,
when Christ will come again in beauty and power
to share with us the great and promised feast.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,…
and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

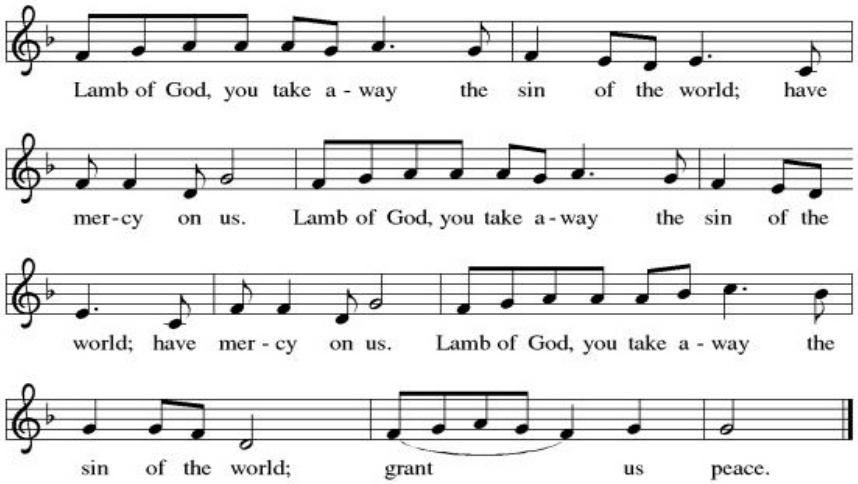
P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us together to pray:

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




## COMMUNION HYMNS

AROUND YOU, O LORD JESUS **ELW #468**

SING PRAISE TO GOD, THE HIGHEST GOOD **ELW #871**

*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
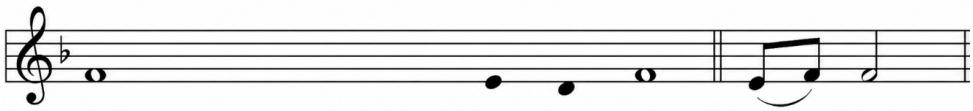
A The Lord be with you.

**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** The Lord bless you and keep you. **C** **A - men**
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace;
In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SENDING HYMN — ELW #826

THINE THE AMEN

## 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 rear of our Sanctuary. We invite visitors to join together with us in the Fellowship Hall after Worship and to consider Saint Martin as a new church home.**

## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION




By invitation of our Lord, all baptized Christians are welcome to the Lord's Table and need not 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

### Sunday School

Children and Adult classes: 9:30 am

### Bible Study

Mondays, 7:00 to 8:00 am

Please find details in the Weekly Calendar.

Come join us for a new Adult Catechumenate class this fall. It's essentially a Confirmation class for adults, except that it doesn't take the place of our New Member classes and is not a requirement for church membership. The purpose is for members and guests from different backgrounds other than Lutheran, as well as for long-term Lutherans, who are curious to go a little deeper into what we believe as Lutherans and why we live out various aspects of our faith the way we do. All are welcome! Classes are now back in session.

**Thinking about becoming a member here at Saint Martin?**




A New Class for potentially "New Members" began Sunday, October 4th, at 9:30 am, and continues today October 11th, and on 18th. Pastor Mark and Pastor Kollmeyer will teach this class for those who may want to join Saint Martin as members. So, if you have been worshiping here and would now be interested in possibly becoming a member, please come. Pastor Mark and Pastor Kollmeyer will cover information on topics such as the Bible, Jesus as Savior, Lutheran heritage, Lutheran beliefs, Holy Baptism, Holy Communion, Liturgical Worship, and Living the Christian Life in a non-Christian world.

**"New Member Sunday," at which time we will "receive" New Members, will be on Reformation Sunday, October 25th.**




Please make sure Pastor Mark or Pastor Kollmeyer knows if you are interested. Please note – we offer the "New Member Class" to give as much information as possible to those considering joining the church, but Lutherans who have been active in a previous congregation are also welcome to join by "Letter of Transfer." In addition, we also receive "Associate Members" if you need or want to maintain a membership in another congregation as well.

***COME AND JOIN this exciting and growing church!***

**Celebration of Tracy & Peter Roberts' 40th Wedding Anniversary**
**Sunday, October 25th**

A Fellowship Hour brunch on Reformation Sunday, October 25th, will be offered in celebration of new members and all of their church family by Tracy & Peter Roberts to the glory of God and in gratitude for their 40th wedding anniversary. They prayerfully hope that, for those so inclined, donations might be made to our Juberg Faith Fund in lieu of anniversary cards or gifts.



**Reformation Concert**
**Friday, October 30, 2026 7:30 pm**

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, ***731 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta*** will host Echoing Air, an Indianapolis-based vocal ensemble with Baroque instruments. "A Mighty Fortress" is an inspiring concert of music showcasing the music of 16th to early 18th century Lutheran composers. This program vividly portrays the Lutheran ideals of forging a personal connection with God and the growing prominence of the German vernacular language in sacred music. Join us as we bring to life the works of Heinrich Schütz, Johann Schein, Dieterich Buxtehude, Vincent Lübeck, Johann Rosenmüller, Johann Fischer, and Dietrich Becker in a harmonious celebration of this rich musical tradition. Admission and parking are free, and a reception will follow the concert.




https://www.facebook.com/events/1728055265189198

## Sisters in Christ
## Wednesday, November 4th

Meeting: Wednesday, November 4th, 10:30 am
Location: Home of Peggy Forsberg, 667 Bow Court, Lilburn
Study: Twelve Extraordinary Women, Chapter Four, "Ruth: Loyalty and Love," led by Carol Martin.
Includes: Study of chapter and Group Activity
All women of Saint Martin are invited to join Sisters in Christ for Bible Study, food, fun, and fellowship!
For a book or workbook, contact Peggy: peggyforsberg@gmail.com.
***We look forward to seeing you.***

## Stewardship News




Juberg Faith Fund was created to collect money for a down payment for our own church property, a place of our own. We are in our first year of a two-year capital campaign to raise $500,000. As of September 2026 the fund has over $282,000.

We are well on our way to reaching our goal of $500,000 by the end of October 2027. How can you give? You can give a one-time gift over and above your regular giving; you may also give weekly or monthly in addition to your regular offering. Just designate the money for the Juberg Faith Fund on your check or envelope.

***We give thanks for the gifts we receive!***

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."
Proverbs 3:5-6

## Fall Food Drive Success

Our congregation donated 418 shelf stable items to Toco Hills Community Alliance. Our Fall Food Drive will help THCA pack food boxes for daily distribution. Thanks to Tracy and Peter Roberts for ordering a Thrivent Action Team Gift Card as a contribution to our efforts. ***Thanks to our loving and giving congregation!***

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sundays

Choir Practice: 9:00 am
Children and Adult classes: 9:30 am
Worship with Holy Communion: 10:30 am
Fellowship Hour: immediately following Worship

### Mondays

Bible Study: 7:00 to 8:00 am
David Ott, Leader
https://tinyurl.com/SMLC-Zoom-BibleStudy
Or https://zoom.us/, Meeting ID: 869 4014 7627,

Passcode: 044251517
Please email Doug Neale at
dglsneale@gmail.com to request a recording of the class.

### Wednesdays

Bulletin Submissions due to Cyndy Baker at
clbaker2025@gmail.com: 12:00 Noon

***Pastor Beatty is available at mbeatty363@gmail.com and by voice or text at (404) 434-9806; his usual day off is Friday.***

### Preparation for next week

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**
Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-13
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22



## WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Please consider serving and visit our online SignUpGenius platform at https://tinyurl.com/SignUpGenius-SMLCVolunteers or ask an usher for assistance. We continuously plan in advance for our worship services. Volunteers bring our church family to life!

| Servers | October 11 | October 18 |
|---|---|---|
| Preacher and Celebrant | Bishop Eberhardt | Pastor Beatty |
| Altar Guild | Mitzi Eberhardt<br>Karen McIntyre | Sarah Kuester<br>Sandra Williams |
| Cantor/Assisting Minister | Melissa Freas | Bishop Eberhardt |
| Crucifer | John Martin | Wayne Burdette |
| Acolyte | Amanda Thomas | John Martin |
| Chalice Bearer | Doug Neale | Melissa Freas |
| Common Cup | Gary Brinker | Cathy Keene |
| Lector | Mitzi Eberhardt | Andrew Kollmeyer |
| Usher | *Needed* | *Needed* |
| Fellowship Hall Greeters | Alan Cole<br>Ed Forsberg | Alan Cole<br>Ed Forsberg |
| Tellers | Melissa Freas<br>Scott Jennings | Scott Jennings<br>Jack Kimmich |
| Sanctuary Greeters | Sandy McGaffigan | Ingrid Neale<br>Ann Otterness |
| Fellowship Hour Hosts | Debbie Atkins<br>Sandy McGaffigan | Dena Beatty<br>Sandy McGaffigan |

## LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, October 25th after Worship — Reformation Sunday and New Member Brunch

Sunday, November 1st after Worship — Sisters in Christ Baby Shower for Kathryn and Kevin Hagler

## 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…

- Wayne Burdette, approved for a kidney transplant, prayers that a suitable kidney becomes available soon
- Christine, successful treatment for and recovery from breast cancer (sister of Ingrid Neale)
- Linda, Larry, and family (sister and brother-in-law of Karen McIntyre)
- Shirley Kanour (friend of Barb and Jack Kimmich)
- Jack Kimmich, for continued healing
- Mike Mizell, healing from prostate cancer (Veteran whom Pastor Mark serves as Chaplain)
- Christina, breast cancer radiation treatments during the month of October (friend of Sarah Kuester)
- Eliza Morrill, as she fights pneumonia while recovering from a stem cell transplant for leukemia (family member of Ed and Peggy Forsberg)
- The Hoover family and friends, comfort following the death of Noah
- Karoline, successful cancer treatments
- Bill Howell, a Veteran in hospice care
- Jon Snyder, successful prostate cancer treatment
- Claire Sheppard, healing from breast cancer and successful chemotherapy (neighbor of the Neales)
- Pastor Rodney Eberhardt, continued recovery from cancer treatment, heart bypass, and a recent procedure
- Atlanta Mission and Toco Hills Community Alliance

Please send printed Prayer List requests no later than Wednesday at 12:00 Noon to Cyndy Baker at clbaker2025@gmail.com. Requests will remain on the List for two weeks unless otherwise specified.



## Serving Saint Martin Lutheran Church

The Reverend Mark S. Beatty, Pastor
Ms. Rita Mathsen, Organist
Ms. Cyndy Baker, Church Administrative Assistant
Ms. Karen Norrell, Media Mission Specialist

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

**Mailing Address**
**P.O. Box 15069**
**Atlanta, GA 30333**

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https://www.SaintMartinLutheranChurch.org
https://www.facebook.com/SaintMartinLutheranChurch
https://tinyurl.com/SignUpGenius-SMLCVolunteers