St. Martin of Tours Episcopal Church * Omaha, Nebraska¶



April 2023

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Easter is *more than just one day*. Easter is an "every Sunday" celebration during which we come together to receive the fruit of the cross and resurrection of Jesus—the forgiveness of sins and the certainty of eternal life with God. Easter is also an "every day" celebration in which we live each day trusting in God through Christ, knowing that Jesus is "the resurrection and the life" for us.

So, what do we do now as we go forth from the empty tomb? Let us follow the example of the first witnesses of the empty tomb. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

So where do we go once we leave the empty tomb? Let us follow the example of Jesus' first disciples. After Jesus walked through locked doors to appear to the eleven disciples and to show himself to Thomas, seven of the eleven disciples went back to their fishing business. They went back to their vocations or stations in life and took the witness of the resurrection with them. They lived in the joy of the resurrection of Jesus while carrying out the daily, ordinary labor and responsibilities given to them.

Now, we go forth from Easter Sunday and the celebration of the empty tomb free as God's forgiven children in Christ. Now we go forth empowered by God's Spirit living and active within us to live in the joy of the resurrection as "every day" witnesses.

I wish you all a blessed Eastertide!!

Mtr.Kim+

Prayer Requests * Prayer Chain

You may make prayer request additions, deletions, and modifications via Vicar Kim Roberts at bkeroberts@msn.com, Rev. Mark Kowalski, Deacon at kowalskimjk@gmail.com or through the Parish Administrator Ann Chambers at stratum.com (402)-733-8815.

*Always confidential

- **PRAY FOR**: Stephanie, Steve, Lani, Benji, Becky, Rita, Gary, Bill, the people of Ukraine, the people of Turkey, Greg
- PRAY FOR victims of violence and war, victims of gun violence, victims of sex trafficking; people with HIV/AIDS; members of the armed forces and their families, immigrants and refugees,
- PRAY FOR: Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev Michael Curry; Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Scott Barker,
- **PRAY FOR:** the poor and the hungry; the unemployed; the uninsured and underinsured; prisoners and their families; the homeless and near homeless; shelters and food pantries; victims of natural disasters.
- **PRAY FOR** peace in the world and in our hearts.
- **PRAY FOR** those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month.
- **PRAY FOR** our church family, the growth of this baptismal community.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior.

St. Mart's News and Announcements



All are welcome.

All worshipping at St. Martin of Tours who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion at God's altar. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please fold your arms across your chest



LENTEN SECOND TABLE consists of light meals—soup, salads, and bread.

LENTEN PROGRAM. Beloved Community", which is offered by the Episcopal Church.

https://www.episcopalchurch.org/

Becoming Beloved Community Where You Are: A Resource for Individuals, Congregations and & Communities Seeking Racial Healing, Reconciliation and Justice

Guide to Holy Week



April 2nd PALM SUNDAY

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, **April 2nd at 10:00 am** with the Liturgy of the Palms. On Palm Sunday Christians celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the week before his death and resurrection. For many Christian churches, Palm Sunday often referred to as "Passion Sunday," marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday.



April 3rd MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK

Morning Prayer at 10:00 AM.

Led by Conner Mowery

Start Holy Week by communing with God in this ancient spiritual practice, using the beautiful language of the Book of Common Prayer



April 6th MAUNDY THURSDAY

Holy Week continues with the Maundy Thursday, **April 6**th **at 6:30 pm**. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. We will celebrate with **an Agape Meal**, an ancient tradition of table fellowship "Love Feasts" enjoyed a revival in the 18th century with the Wesley brothers partly because of a lack of ordained ministers to celebrate Holy Communion in the New World.

They usually include an opportunity to acknowledge our need for forgiveness, especially if some sort of reconciliation among members of the community is warranted. The meal is another way of living out Jesus' commandment that we love one another with the same self-emptying love, mercy and forgiveness with which he has loved and still loves us.



April 7th GOOD FRIDAY Stations of the Cross at Noon



April 7th GOOD FRIDAY

The solemn service of Good Friday will be held at **6:30 pm**. This commemorates the passion and death on the cross of Jesus Christ.



April 17th EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Sunday is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Savior and is celebrated this year on **April 9**th at **10:00** am.

Easter brunch to follow.

More News, Announcements and Volunteer Opportunities



April 8th CLEAN-UP DAY We will have a Clean-Up Day on Saturday, **April 16th**. Both inside and outside need a thorough cleaning----COVID and Weather permitting. We'll start at **10:00 am.** Please bring work gloves, rakes, brooms, dust rags and other cleaning and gardening implements.



April 8th DECORATE FOR EASTER

Join Ann and decorate the Altar for Easter.

Flowers will be delivered Friday between service.



April 16th

The April 2023 Vestry will meet on Sunday, **April 16**th after Second Table.

Guests are welcome.



February 22nd to May 28th (Day of Pentecost) UNITED THANK OFFERING

It seems impossible that we are almost through with winter. It seems even more so that Ash Wednesday is upon us. We are soon to begin the Lenten season which reminds us of the greatest gift ever given to humans: Jesus Christ. Therefore, this is a season for thanksgiving. Thanks for the breaking of winter's grasp; thanks for the flowers and trees budding with vibrant green and other colors; and thanks for God's

gift of His Son. The time for gathering in the Universal Thank Offering is upon us. So, starting with Ash Wednesday, the little blue boxes will be available in various places in the church. During this time of reflection, fill the box with thanks as you feel lead. The final ingathering will take place on Pentecost Sunday.

LOOK HER UP! Juana Inés de la Cruz, Monastic and Theologian, 1695



St. Martin of Tours Episcopal Church

- The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Barker, Diocesan Bishop of Nebraska
- Rev. Kim Roberts, Rector <u>bkeroberts@msn.com</u>
- Rev. Mark Kowalski, Deacon kowalskimjk@gmail.com
- Ann Chambers, Parish Administrator, Music Director achambers 1954@gmail.com
- Conner Mowery, Cantor, Musician and IT Assistant
- Jim Murphy, Senior Warden
- Steve Mincer, Junior Warden
- Beth Mincer, Treasurer
- Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am until Noon
- Web site <u>-https://stmartinomaha.org</u>
- LIKE US ON Facebook /StMartinOfToursEpiscopalChurch/

