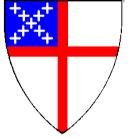


The Cloak



Love God, Love your Neighbor, Change the World

March 2026

Greetings

We began the Lenten period on Ash Wednesday with a communal confession, absolution, and the imposition of ashes. Lent is the 40-day period before Easter when Christians traditionally prepare through simplicity, reflection, and restraint. Lent, though rooted in Christian tradition, also reflects something deeply human: the instinct to slow down before renewal and to notice the turning of the year.

It unfolds during late winter and early spring, a time long associated with waiting, conservation, and readiness for what comes next. Even the name hints at its seasonal roots. The word *Lent* comes from the Old English word for spring, *lencten*, meaning the season of lengthening days.

The tradition developed in early Christian communities as a period of preparation and, over time, became a shared season on the calendar—one that shaped habits and expectations year after year. The traditions of Lent are meant to reflect their reflective nature. Many people choose to give something up—not as punishment, but as a way of paying attention. Others take on simple practices meant to quiet daily life. The intention is to create space. Less noise. Less excess. More awareness of time passing and the season's change.

Lent was never meant to be showy. Its traditions tend toward ordinary meals, routines, and choices made day by day. Consequently, Lent invites believers to enter their own wilderness experience — not as punishment, but as preparation. Just as Jesus emerged from the desert ready to fulfill His mission, Christians emerge from Lent ready to celebrate the resurrection with renewed hearts.

In Christ,

Mtr. Kim Roberts+

Prayer Requests * Prayer Chain

The Prayer List will be sent electronically weekly, along with an electronic copy of the bulletin and weekly notices. If you have new names to add, please notify Deacon Mark Kowalski at kowalskimjk@gmail.com or Mtr. Kim Roberts at bkeroberts@msn.com, or call the church phone at 402-733-8815. On Sundays, if you have someone for the Prayers of the People, please let Deacon Mark know before the service begins.

A prayer request list can be found on the table at the back of the church. If you have a name or special request, please add it to the list. The list will be read during the service.

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

St. Mart's News and Announcements



ALL ARE INVITED TO RECEIVE

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.



Daylight Savings: March 8th. Spring Forward

Be sure to set your clock before going to sleep on Saturday, March 7th. You don't want to oversleep and miss church.



Vestry Meeting

The Vestry of St. Martin of Tours will meet on **Sunday, March 8th** following Second Table.



Lenten Program:

We typically have bread and soup lunches at Second Table in Lent. I will lead a short discussion about the importance of funeral planning for anyone interested. We will also have open discussions during Second Table

Easter Flowers:



The Altar Guild of St. Martin's invites you to help adorn our church with lilies for Easter. Any offering, large or small will be helpful. Return by **Sunday, 29th**. If paying by check, please note that the offering is for Easter flowers. If you wish to include names in the Easter Memorial/Thanksgiving list, please complete the order form found on the information tables.



Palm Sunday: March 29th, 10:00 am: On Palm Sunday Christians celebrate the 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.



TENEBRAE

The name Tenebrae (the Latin word for "darkness" or "shadows") has for centuries been applied to the ancient monastic night and early morning services (Matins and Lauds) of the last three days of Holy Week. St. Martin of Tours will hold a Tenebrae service on **Wednesday, April 1st at 6:30 pm.**

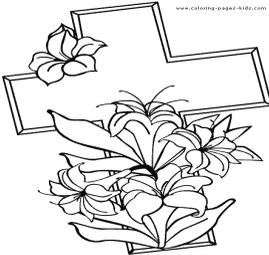


Maundy Thursday: Thursday April 2nd, 6:30 pm: Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. At St. Martins, we will share an Agape Meal before the stripping of the Altar.



Good Friday: Friday, April 3rd, at Noon and

6:30 pm: Good Friday commemorates the passion and death on the cross of Jesus Christ. We will walk the Stations of the Cross at Noon and observe the Good Friday liturgy at 6:30pm.



Easter Sunday, April 5th, 10:00 am: The celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Savior. This Eucharist Service will be followed by the annual Easter Breakfast.

Church Master Calendar

Ann Chambers takes care of the Master Calendar. Please send all meetings, church building use, etc. to Ann at stmartinomaha.org. She also keeps track of the Altar Guild lists, Lector Schedule and meetings.

The master calendar is on her desk. Your item will only show up on the calendar on the web site IF YOU REQUEST IT BE PUBLIC.

Contacts St. Martin of Tours Episcopal Church

- The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Barker, Diocesan Bishop of Nebraska
- Rev. Kim Roberts, Rector bkeroberts@msn.com
- Rev. Mark Kowalski, Deacon kowalskimjk@gmail.com
- Ann Chambers, Parish Administrator, Music Director achambers1954@gmail.com
- Jim Murphy, Senior Warden
- Conner Mowery, Junior Warden
- Beth Mincer, Treasurer
- Judy Metz, Altar Guild Director
- Office Hours: Wednesday and Friday 9:00 am-12 noon
LIKE US ON Facebook [/StMartinOfToursEpiscopalChurch/](https://www.facebook.com/StMartinOfToursEpiscopalChurch/)