



Saint Martin's Episcopal Church



Dear Friends,

Hope springs eternal. Yet, it's good to remind ourselves that our hope flows from the deep well-spring of resilience that emerges only in the face of adversity.

It is well-recognized that having a religious faith greatly enhances our resilience and coping abilities. Studies show that people with a robust faith tend to have a more hopeful life orientation. Members of faith communities tend also to be better supported within caring social networks. In dealing with life's stresses, we are comforted to know that there is a power greater than us – reminding us that in the face of uncertainty, we are not alone.

This Easter, given events in the wider world and those closer to home, we remind ourselves of the poignancy of Easter's central message. Easter is the Christian celebration of the triumph of life over death, of love over hate, of the solidarity of community over individual isolation. Episcopalians commemorate the dramatic events of Jesus' final week through active participation in the liturgy of the Triduum or Great Three Days.

I say liturgy rather than liturgies because the Great Three Days from Maundy Thursday, through Good Friday to Easter Day form one participatory experience divided into three parts. If a novel is divided into three parts, none of us would be content to have read it, by only reading the final section. No. It makes little sense to us to read the conclusion of the story without having begun at the beginning.

You will find the Holy Week & Easter schedule of service times on the reverse of this letter. You can also visit the Holy Week and Easter page on the website here. For ease of return, we've also enclosed the donation envelope for Easter gifts and flowers given in memory of a loved one.

Please accept my invitation to join with the rest of our community in the commemoration of Holy Week leading us into a joyous celebration of Easter.

Mark +

Holy Week and Easter 2023

Palm Sunday, April 2

Celebration of Palm Sunday

8:00 am Spoken Eucharist (in-person only)

10:00 am KidZone

10:00 am with Adult and Children's Choirs (in-person and livestream)

Tuesday, April 4

9:00 am Morning Prayer (in-person and Zoom)

5:30 pm Sung Evensong, Rite 1 (in-person and livestream)

Wednesday, April 5

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (in-person only)

9:00 am Morning Prayer (in-person and Zoom)

Triduum or Great Three Days of Easter

Maundy Thursday, April 6

9:00 am Morning Prayer (in-person and Zoom)

7:00 pm Commemoration of the Last Supper with the St. Martin's Chapel Consort
to be followed by The Gethsemane Watch (in-person and livestream)

Good Friday, April 7

9:00 am Morning Prayer (in-person and Zoom)

11:30am - 1pm Stations of the Cross, self-guided audio

7:00 pm Liturgy of Good Friday (in-person and livestream)

with special guest musicians Cheryl Bishkoff, oboe and Aurea string trio members:
Alexey Shabalin, violin, Consuelo Sherba, viola, and Emmanuel Feldman, cello

Holy Saturday, April 8

7:00 pm Blessing of the new fire, the Paschal Candle,
and the recalling of The Story of Salvation in the Great Hall

Easter Day, April 9

Solemn Celebration of the Resurrection

8:00 am (in-person only)

10:00 am (in-person and livestream)

featuring guest musicians

Cheryl Bishkoff, oboe and Matthew Vezey, trombone