

*St. Martin United Church of Christ
Sunday, March 12, 2017
Rev. Terry Minchow-Proffitt, Pastor
Dean Emmert, Music Director*

**All that are able please stand at asterisk*

Prelude

***Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 121)**

ONE: From where will our help come?

MANY: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

ONE: Who is our keeper?

MANY: The Lord is our keeper, by day and by night.

ONE: How long will God protect us?

MANY: God will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore.

***Hymn of Adoration “Holy, Holy, Holy!” #136 vs. 1,3,4**

Call to Confession (Based on Romans 4:4-5)

We cannot earn God’s grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God’s love for us, even when we are ungodly, we confess our sins in faith.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance (Based on John 3:16-17)

Friends, God is for us and not against us! For that very reason, God sent

the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Believe the good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

I am thankful for

Greetings and Extravagant Welcome

Children's Time **“Jesus Loves Me”**

Prayer Hymn **“Spirit of the Living God”** **#492**

Prayer of the People

Pastor: Lord in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer **(“Debtors”)**

Worshiping the Lord with Tithes and Offerings

*** Offering Response** **“Doxology”**

***Offertory Prayer**

Anthem **“Fill My Cup, Lord”** **St. Martin Choir**

The Written Word: **John 3:1-17**

The Spoken Word **“(Re)born by the Spirit”**
Rev. Terry Minchow-Proffitt

Silent Reflection

Consider a time in your life when you felt uncertain. Can you see how God was at work in your life at that time? What from Nicodemus's story is a help to you as you seek evidence of God's presence in your life?

Departing Hymn** ***“All the Way My Savior Leads Me” **#505**

Benediction

As you go forth, even into the darkest of nights, may you meet the Christ who wants only to love you, and may you know Christ's peace. Amen.

Threefold Amen

Postlude

In our Thoughts and Prayers -, Virginia Ahlvers-shut-in, Mary Ann Potthoff –health issues, Sheila Zagarri-healing and spiritual awareness, Judy Cope- cancer, Della Lang-cancer, Curtis Israel- cancer, Ruth Hart -broken leg and dementia, Virginia Smith- recovery from surgery, Debbie Schmieder-traveling abroad

	LEADERS TODAY	9:30 am
Ushers:	Marie Gates	
Reader: Shirley Miller		Greeter: Dee St. Clair
Nursery: Diana Ross		Children's Church: Meredith
Attendance for March 5, 2017 9:30 AM.		

The URL of the St. Martin's Website is <http://www.stmartin-ucc-hr.50webs.com>

(Churchline and Bulletins are available for viewing/download in PDF format.)

Please sign your name in the green folder, pass it down the pew for everyone to sign, tear off sheet and place the sheet in the offering plate. If you have a suggestion or a question for Council, please leave a note in the suggestion box located in the narthex.

TO MY ST. MARTIN CHURCH FAMILY—Words cannot express my gratitude for all the kind wishes, prayers, and concern in my recovery. Each and everyone of you hold a very special place in my heart. Thank you again for being such a blessed part of my life. From Kathleen Dishner.

THIS WEEK: March 12– March 18

Today	9:30AM	Worship with Children's Church
Monday	7:00 PM	Stewardship Meeting
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Lenten Prayer Service
Next Sunday	8:20 AM	Fellowship Hour
	9:30AM	Worship & Children's Church

SANCTUARY FLOWERS Happy Birthday to Aleena, Rhilynn, and Brooklynn from Great Grandma and Great Grandpa Grupe.

BULLETINS –In honor of Johnny Lewellen's kindness from Syble Self.

EVENING PRAYER SERVICE will continue Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

The Service will be held in our sanctuary. This quiet service of worship and prayer will explore a different way of praying each week. If you'd like a way to center yourself throughout Lent and learn new ways of experiencing God, come join us!

EASTER will be here soon. An order form for Easter lilies is included. Deadline to order is April 2nd. Cost will again be \$10.00 per Lily and may be taken home after the Easter Sunday services.

ALSO DURING LENT the Youth Group and SSK are collecting items for Easter baskets to be donated to Feed My People. All contributions will be greatly appreciated.

ON THE BULLETIN board is a sign-up for "The Church Basement Ladies"- a play at Westport Playhouse on a Sunday afternoon in July. Please sign up if you are interested.

IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT Pastor Terry—cell phone number is 314-304-6818. Email is thechickentrain@gmail.com

A WISH LIST for Preschool needs/wants is posted on bulletin board. All contributions will be appreciated. Thank you to all those who have already contributed.

NURSERY - Nursery is now available for children to go to immediately following children's time.

DONATION – You can donate to the church on our website <http://stmartin-ucc-hr.50webs.com> through the Paypal program. Click on "donation" tab and make your contribution to the current, or memorial, fund.

SCHNUCK'S SCRIPTS- are now available from Gary Malone. St. Martin receives 1-3% profit from this fundraising effort.

SHOP N' SAVE- scripts are available from Ginger. St. Martin receives 5% profit from this fundraising effort.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY 15) Frankie Small

ANNIVERSARIES 14) Wes & Brenda Phye