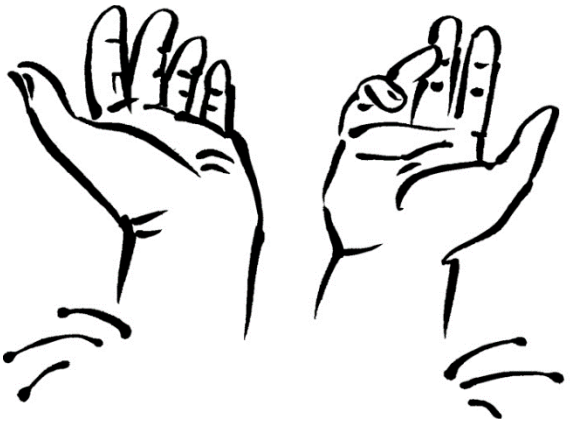

Ascribe to the LORD
*honor* and *power.*
Ascribe to the LORD
the *honor* due his *holy name…*
Psalm 96:7-8

# St. Martin's Lutheran Church

**203 S. Defiance Street + Archbold, OH 43502**
**Pastor Steve Basselman**

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026

## *Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost* *October 18, 2026*

*In today's gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. We offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.*

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Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader or Pastor
**Bold text is spoken by the Congregation**

**PRELUDE** ***"It Is Well with My Soul"***
*– arr. Miller*

## BELL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## *CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.
**Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *(1 John 1:8-9)* Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for personal reflection*

Generous and faithful God,
**we confess to you all the ways, known and unknown,**
**that we reject and undermine your steadfast love.**
**You embrace us as your people, yet we treat strangers with suspicion.**
**You forgive our sins, and we are quick to pass judgment on others.**
**Have mercy on us, O God, let your face shine upon us and renew our lives to serve in your holy name.**
**Amen.**

"I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more," declares the Lord. *(Jeremiah 31:34)* God's steadfast love never ceases and God's mercies never come to an end. Rejoice in the Lord and stand redeemed in the presence of God; our sins are forgiven.
**Amen**

***OPENING HYMN** ***"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"***
*Please sing Unison on Verse 4* ***ELW 858*** *(Red Hymnal)*

## *Greeting & Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Lord God, build your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

## We Hear God's Word

### First Reading — Isaiah 45:1–7

"This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:

I will go before you and will level the mountains;

I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron.

I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.

I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting everyone may know there is none besides me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 96:1–2, 7-10 – *read responsively*

1 Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**2 Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;**
**proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

**8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his holy name;**
**bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

**10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!**

## SECOND READING — 1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

Paul, Silas and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace and peace to you.

We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

The word of the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

## *GOSPEL ACCLAMATION — *"God's Word is Our Great Heritage"*

## *HOLY GOSPEL — Matthew 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 22nd chapter.
**Glory to you, O Lord!**

15Then the Pharisees went and plotted to trap Jesus in what he said. 16So they sent
their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you
are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference
to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. 17Tell us, then, what you think.
Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" 18But Jesus, aware of their malice,
said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19Show me the coin used
for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. 20Then he said to them, "Whose head
is this, and whose title?" 21They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them,
"Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things
that are God's." 22When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and
went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.
**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## MESSAGE — *"God Is Claiming You"*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## HYMN OF THE DAY — *"It Is Well with My Soul"*
**ELW 785** *(Red Hymnal)*

## *PROFESSION OF FAITH – *Apostles Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**
**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,**
**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,**
**He is seated at the right hand of the Father,**
**and he will come 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**

## *PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Each petition ends…*
Lord, in your mercy…**hear our prayer.**

## * SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you")*

## OFFERING OF GIFTS — "Simple Gifts"

**BELL CHOIR** — *- L. Larson*

## *OFFERTORY

## *Offertory Prayer

God of creation,

**you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

## We Share in the Meal

## *The Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them to the Lord.** *(Lamentations 3:41)*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.** *(2 Thessalonians 1:3)*

## *Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you. You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who came and lived among us pouring out his life for the world.

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Remembering, therefore, his life, death and resurrection, we await your salvation for this entire world. Pour out your Holy Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

## *The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

## *"My Worth Is Not in What I Own"*

***"Here Is Bread"*** **ELW 483** *(Red Hymnal)*

## WE ARE SENT TO SERVE

***BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

***PRAYER**

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

**Amen.**

*** BENEDICTION**

As you go on your way may Christ go with you.
Christ before you to lead you;
Christ behind you to encourage you;
Christ beside you to befriend you;
Christ above you to watch over you;
Christ within you to give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

***CLOSING HYMN** ***"God of Grace and God of Glory"***
***ELW 705*** *(Red Hymnal)*

*** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

***POSTLUDE**

+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+

| | |
|---|---|
| Lector | -Susan Short |
| Acolyte | -Jocelyn Thompson |
| Organist | -Steve Basselman |
| Usher Team Leader | -Mark Weaver |
| Sound System | -Bill Phelps |
| Altar Guild | -Robin Trudel & Michelle Collins |
| Offering Counters | -Janet Wyse & Diana Ziegler |

## Worship Matters

*Beginning today, our worship will include using the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal, or the "red hymnal" It was published in 2006 and includes a wide variety of worship music, from traditional hymnody to global songs, and even some contemporary classics. The music we sing here will not change, but we do hope that this shift will make our worship more sustainable - saving paper by no longer including every hymn in the bulletin.*
*These hymnals are dedicated in loving memory of Pat Basselman, whose family's generous gift, and the memorial contributions, made this possible.*

**The St. Martin's Webstore has some new items!** If you would like to order some apparel you can go to https://stmartinsarchbold.itemorder.com, click the link in your Friday email.

***The Nominating Team*** **(Cameron Thompson and Janet Wyse)** is seeking prayerful suggestions for two leadership positions on the **Congregation Council: Vice-President and Treasurer** as well as **one position on the Endowment Committee.** The Council positions terms of office are for two-year terms while the Endowment Committee member is a three-year term.
*Eligible candidates* must be voting members (confirmed members who have communed and made a contribution on record in the preceding calendar year), regularly attend worship and receive Holy Communion, have actively served in at least one ministry team, and are **not** paid staff members of the Congregation.
If you feel called to serve or would like to suggest names of potential candidates contact the Nominating Team (Cameron Thompson and Janet Wyse) as soon as possible.

**If you are out and about and see Halloween Candy on sale**, please consider buying to donate to our Parade of Lights Float in November. Please mark and leave for Jake on the stairway to the basement.

Pastor Steve's **Monday Night Bible Study** group this year we'll follow a series of Bible Studies and Topic Discussions. Each topic will last about 4 to 6 weeks. You can jump in or jump out at any time. Email Pastor Steve if you're interested. steveb@the-welcome-place.org **The first topic of Pastor Steve's Bible Study will be a series of 4 sessions as a "Bible 101" format: *"What is the Bible?"* October 5, 12, 19, & 26. *"We know we should read the Bible, and maybe even have tried, but somehow, we don't find ourselves pulled into its pages the way we have been by other books. So, what is it with this book, the Bible?"***

**The Online Church Directory** has been up and running for a few years now & many have found it a helpful resource for our congregation. As a reminder to all, please make sure you are keeping your information up to date. If you have had any changes that need updated, please do so yourself online, or contact the church office with the changes you would like made. You can email stmartin@the-welcome-place.org for any changes.

**Next Sunday is Reformation Sunday** when the church embraces its reforming heritage and commits itself to ongoing reform. Martin Luther spent a great deal of time trying to know who God was and to find ways of expressing what he came to know and believe so that others would know God too. He used coarse language, drank beer, and wrote hymns using tunes people knew and recognized. When he wrote his catechism, he used language his small son could understand. He even translated the Bible into the language people spoke. Truth about God and our faith, as complex as it is, should be something we can grasp, wrestle with and celebrate.

## This Week at St. Martin's

**TODAY- Sunday – October 18**
Worship, 9am
Sunday School, 10:15am
High School Youth, 10:30am
Middle School Youth, 6:00pm

**Monday- October 19**
Zoom Study-Bible 101, 7pm

**Tuesday – October 20**
Men's Breakfast, 7am McDonald's
Piano Tuning, 3:30pm
Community Meal @ St. Johns, 5pm
Boy Scouts, 6:30pm

**Wednesday- October 21**
After School Program, 3:15pm
Welcome Place Meal, 5pm
Worship, 6pm
Kids Club, 6pm
Chancel Choir, 6pm
Adult Circle, 6:30pm
Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:15pm
Catechism, 7:15pm

**Thursday-October 22**
Women's Breakfast, 7am The Home Restaurant
Bulletin Deadline, 8am

**Next Sunday – October 25 – Reformation Sunday**
Worship, 9am
Sunday School, 10:15am
High School Youth, 10:30am
Middle School Youth, 6:00pm

## St. Martin's Lutheran Church

203 S. Defiance Street Archbold OH 43502
Phone Number: 419-445-4656
Web Site: www.the-welcome-place.org
Email: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org

Office Hours:

**Pastor Steve Basselman**
steveb@the-welcome-place.org
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. morning
Tues, Wed, Thurs, afternoon
Cell Phone: 419-572-6091

**Matthew Wachtman, Music & Worship**
matthew@the-welcome-place.org
Mon, Tues, Thurs. All Day
Wed. PM

**Jake Keil**, **Youth**
jakek@the-welcome-place.org
Sun, Tues, Thurs. morning
Mon, Tues, Wed. afternoon & Sunday PM

**Whitney Wyse, Office Manager**
stmartin@the-welcome-place.org
Tues. AM & Fri. AM

Worship Services: 9:00 am each Sunday, live broadcast on Facebook
6:00 pm each Wednesday, Informal Service

**Online Giving - Mobile Access**

Mobile users can now access the giving page to set up recurring donations or make one-time donations directly from phones using this QR code.
To change or delete recurring donations you will still need to go to: **https://givingtools.com** and sign in to your account.

**Last Week at St. Martin's. . .**
Week of 10/11/2026 Budget and Year to Date

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Operating Contributions | $6,987.40 | Budgeted Weekly Operating Need | $7,848.00 |
| Other Designated Income | $1,841.00 | | |
| Total Income | $8,828.40 | **AS OF 8/31/2026** | |
| | | YTD Operating Received | $278,369.34 |
| | | YTD Operating Expenses | ($306,088.47) |
| Worship: Sun/Wed/Total | 108/21/129 | Net Income/(Deficit) | $(27,719.13) |

# St. Martin's Prayer Line

For our prayers in worship this morning and our daily devotions in the coming week, we remember:

- The Bethel Parish of Dodoma, Tanzania, and Mission Partner Congregation of Redeemer, Toledo, may they continue to carry out God's ministry in their areas of mission.
- Those caught in the fighting between Israel and Palestine, the Ukraine, Iran; those recovering from natural disasters and the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief and other relief agencies.

For those who need healing, may they know the healing hand of God:

Bob Alley, Louise Beldon's brother-in-law, health concerns
Tim Anderson, Bjorlin cousin, cancer
Shanté Armstrong, Jake's fiancée
Bonnie Badenhop, pancreatic cancer
Jeff Cook, Ann Ott's son
Laurie Fetzer, Greg Rupp's niece
Jim Hayes, brother of June Hayes, health concerns
Jeanise Hoeffel, Jane Sonnenberg's sister
Jayne Jewell, Diana Ziegler's cousin
Shelly Kammeyer, daughter in law of Sharon Blair, Leukemia
Colleen Kelly
Sue Keil, Jake's mom
Bill Knause, Jess Short's father, health issues
Bonnie R. Lauber
Ann Ott
Dorothy Gifford, Diane Parsons' sister, cancer
Conrad and Karen Perry, Andi Erbskorn's brother and sister-in-law
Bill Phelps
Linda Reinhart, friend of Jan Delaney, critical injury
Peg Roth
Chuck Rupp
Eric and Susan Rupp, Greg Rupp's brother and sister-in-law, health concerns
Mary Schwartz, Dianne Parsons' sister
Al & Lois Siewert
Joan Smith
Janette Trudel
Brad Welsh, brother-in-law of John & Chris Shafer, cancer
Joyce Winzeler
Paul Wyse, hospice care
Joe Wyse

Homebound – Milla Kohv, Jerry & Alice Geiger

All members, family & friends who serve in our military: Patrick Cirenza (June Hayes), Bradly & Victoria Nilsson, Kennedy Hartung, Brendon Johns

**Any prayer requests to add or remove can be sent to the Church Office by Thursday of each week:** stmartin@the-welcome-place.org **We include a person's name and details only with their permission.**

# All Saints Commemoration

## *Candles of Remembrance*

## Sunday, November 1

### *"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." - Rev. 14:13*

Within the Church Year, November 1, 2026, is All Saint's Day, a time to commemorate loved ones who have been received into the Church Triumphant during the past year, a time to claim the comfort of the Christian faith that trusts God's promise of eternal life in Christ.

During worship we remember those members of St. Martin's who have died in the preceding 12 months. In addition, anyone may request that a loved one who has died in the past 12 months be remembered.

For each name included, a *"Candle of Remembrance"* will be lit at the beginning of the Service.

In order that we may have an adequate number of candles, we ask that requests be made on or before Sunday, October 25th. Please fill out your request on the back of this sheet or email the church office.

# All Saints Commemoration

Please use this form to request commemoration of a loved one during our worship service on All Saints Sunday. Please return to the church office by October 25.

Loved One's Name/s:

_____

_____

Person Making Request:

_____

Relationship:

_____

_____

Date of Death:

_____

_____