

Pilgrimage of Prayer and Hope

Bishop Martin and any members of the church community meet and gather at the entrance of the church.

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Blessing of the Church and Community

Bishop Martin blesses the church with holy water.

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C + M + B
2021

Christus, Mansionem, Benedicat
Christ Bless this House

Almighty God, healer and redeemer, bless and protect this place of sanctuary, worship and service.

May all who come here find welcome, grace and love.

Bless this community as together we share the good news of your Son,

Jesus Christ and invite many to come and discover more of your Way.

May all those who cross the threshold of your house find fresh hope and joy and peace through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The pilgrims and church community enter the church to continue in pray together.

Praise

A hymn, song, canticle, extempore praise or

Psalm 23

Refrain: I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Refrain: I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The Word of God

Readings

Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there, water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple towards the east.

Going on eastwards with a cord in his hand, the man measured one thousand cubits, and then led me through the water; and it was ankle-deep. Again he measured one thousand, and led me through the water; and it was knee-deep. Again he measured one thousand, and led me through the water; and it was up to the waist. Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross, for the water had risen; it was deep enough to swim in, a river that could not be crossed. He said to me, 'Mortal, have you seen this?' Then he led me back along the bank of the river.

He said to me, 'This water flows towards the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah; and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes.

On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.'

Ezekiel 47 1,3-6, 8-9,12

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now he said this about the Spirit.

John 7.37,38

Reflection from Bishop Martin

Prayers

This is a time of open prayer; please feel free to pray aloud or in silence.

At the end of each prayer spoken,

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The Prayers conclude with this Collect,

God of our pilgrimage,
we are a thirsty people in a dry and weary land.
Strike our stony hearts afresh,
restore your springs of life within us.
Renew us by your Holy Spirit.
Let streams of living water
flow through all your Church for the healing of the nations,
for the blessing of the earth
and to the glory of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Conclusion

May Christ our Saviour give us peace. **Amen.**