



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN

Sunday, November 27, 2022 – First Sunday of Advent The Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00am

SERVICE NOTES: *We are glad you have joined us this morning! Most of the service music can be found beginning on page 12, with the Sanctus and Fraction Anthem printed within the main text. **If you are online:** Closed captioning is available on Zoom. We encourage everyone to sing and pray actively from home. Feel free to add prayer requests, celebrations, and milestones in the chat box. Just remember not to share sensitive information online—please use first names only. **If you are in person:** We also encourage you to sing and pray actively. Just remember to please maintain a respectful silence when appropriate, especially during the prelude and postlude, so that others may listen to the music and pray. Thank you!*

PRELUDE “Ecce Dominus veniet...pour le premier Dimanche de l’Avent” M. Dupré
“Choral-Prélude pour le Temps de l’Avent” L. de Saint-Martin

Please stand, as you are able, for the Opening Hymn.

OPENING HYMN H 59 “Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding” (*Merton*)

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING

Reader

Today is the beginning of the season of Advent. The Church learned a long time ago that people need a way to get ready to come close to a mystery like the Incarnation, the mystery we call Christmas. So, the Church set aside the season of Advent as a time of preparation. During Advent, we are all on the way to Bethlehem, all getting ready to welcome the King who was coming and is coming still.

On the first Sunday of Advent we remember the prophets. The prophets are people who come so close to God, and God comes so close to them, that they know what is most important. The prophets pointed the way to Bethlehem. They didn’t know exactly what was going to happen there, but they knew this was the place.

We light the first Advent candle.

All **O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, desire of the world, Savior of all peoples, come and dwell among us.**

Presider

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare our hearts and minds for the mystery of the Incarnation and the coming of our Savior, who was and is and is to come. **Amen.**

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God’s kingdom now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY *The Presider says*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALL are invited to sing the song of praise, which can be found on page 13.

SONG OF PRAISE

H 487 "Come my Way, my Truth, my Life" (*The Call*)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING *Please be seated for the readings.*

Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge
between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into
ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Please join in singing Psalm 122.

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



- 1 I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of God."
- 2 Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



- 4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Holy One, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of God.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For my kindred and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.
- † 9 Because of the house of the Holy One our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able. ALL are invited to sing the sequence hymn!

SEQUENCE HYMN *Veni Emmanuel*

Choir Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Choir Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Silence is kept after the sermon.

THE CREED

Please stand, as you are able, for the Creed.

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and the People pray responsively.

Adapted from prayers written by Lynne Mallonee Schlimm.

Deacon God of the watching, God of the waiting: Be present with us.

Leader God of the watching, may the circle of the Advent wreath remind us of your infinite love, which has no beginning or end. Help us to set our minds on things eternal.

(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the waiting, we pray for all in authority in the church and in the world. We look forward to the day when the nations of the world walk in the light and your peace is experienced by all.

(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the watching, we pray for the city of Davis and for all of Yolo County, that we may be a community of hope and light in this world.

(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the waiting, we pray for all the people of your church that you may strengthen them for the ministry that you have set before them. For bishops, deacons, priests, and lay people, that all of us may heed your call on our lives and be committed to your service.

(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the watching, God of the waiting, we pray for the sick, the friendless, and the needy, that they may experience your healing presence. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list.

(The deacon will share prayer requests and then will invite the congregation to pray out loud.)

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of time and eternity and the source of comfort for all who mourn; we pray for all who have died, especially those we hold in our hearts and name before you now.

(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of abundance and hope, we are challenged in our worship to set our hearts and minds on the here and now, and to remember and be thankful for all you have given us.

(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)

Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom, and grant that we, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his advent in glorious majesty. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

You may stand or kneel, as you are able.

The Deacon says Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

The Presider stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please be sensitive to those who wish to maintain physical distance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see the announcements at the end of the bulletin (pp. 15-16). Feel free to take this bulletin home with you. In addition, an extended announcement sheet is on our website. If you do not currently receive an email from us with current news and events, please reach out to info@churchofstmartin.org so we can be in touch.

CELEBRATIONS AND MILESTONES

All may join in praying.

Watch over your children O Lord, as their days increase: bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERTORY NOTES

The ushers will pass collection plates. Online giving is also available; just look for the green “give” button on our website or the QR code near the back of this bulletin—or contact the office for more information. We are very grateful to those who have pledged and who give regularly, as well as for all plate offerings. Thank you and God bless you!

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “In the Stillness” Arlen Clarke *Sung by The Choir.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand, as you are able, for the Eucharistic Prayer.

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presider continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth, because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS EOM1 23 “Holy, holy, holy Lord” (*Crisafulli*)

Please join in singing.

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry; Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Blessed is the
 one who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: Peter Crisafulli, from **Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II**, © 2002 Peter Crisafulli.
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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Then the Presider continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, *(first in Spanish and then in English,)*

People and Presider

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu Nombre,
venga tu reino,
hágase tu voluntad,
en la tierra como en el cielo.

Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.

Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos a los
que nos ofenden.

No nos dejes caer en tentación
y líbranos del mal.

Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder,
y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre.

Amen.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.

Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION ANTHEM EOM1 27 "Lamb of God" *(Crisafulli)*

Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins of the world: ___ have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sins of the world: ___ grant us peace.

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The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

ABOUT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome at God's table, children included. Gluten-free Communion hosts are available; please ask. Wine is being served via intinction only; the priest will dip your host into the chalice of wine and then offer it to you. If you would prefer to receive bread only, you may simply say so. The customary response upon receiving Communion is "Amen." Crossing your arms over your chest indicates that you would like to receive a blessing instead of Communion.

***A note about Spiritual Communion:** The Book of Common Prayer reminds us that if one is unable to actually consume the consecrated bread and wine due to extreme sickness or disability, the desire is enough for God to grant all the benefits of communion (p. 457). When being present at a celebration of the Eucharistic is not possible, this act of prayer and meditation can provide the means by which you can associate yourself with the Eucharistic Action and open yourself to God's grace and blessing. Please consider using this Act of Reception during Communion time.*

***Act of Reception:** "In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly the people of the Church of St. Martin, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption of the world, and for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen".*

COMMUNION HYMN H 53 "Once he came in blessing" (*Gottes Sohn ist kommen*)
"Nun Komm' der Heiden Heiland" J. S. Bach

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING *The Presider offers a blessing and the People respond Amen.*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN H 73 "The King shall come" (*St. Stephen*)

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “The Standards of the King” M. Dupré

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LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Presider: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan
Preacher: The Rev. Ernie Lewis
Music Ministers: Jeffrey Jubenville and Dr. Suzanne Jubenville
Readers: Gwyneth Bruch, Helen Campbell
Intercessor: Helen Campbell
Advent Wreath: Libba and Mark Brothers
Eucharistic Minister: Bob Holm
Crucifer: Janet Lane
Ushers: Lynn Zender, Joan Cavanagh
Livestream Coordinator: Gabe Avila
Flowers: Rhody Vallejo

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the land on which we are gathered. For thousands of years, this land has been the home of Patwin people. Today, there are three federally-recognized Patwin tribes: Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan, pamela@churchofstmartin.org
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VESTRY (vestry@churchofstmartin.org)

Maria Acuna-Feldman (Jr. Warden), Diane Bamforth, Beth Capell, Colette Chabbott, Ben Guthrie, Kimo Kimokeo (Co-Senior Warden), Julie Knudsen, Ann Liu, David Martin, Chris Reynolds, Honna Steissberg, Neil Willits (Co-Senior Warden)

MINISTRY COUNCIL

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Christian Formation (Helen Campbell): formation@churchofstmartin.org
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STATEMENT OF
COMMITMENT AND ACTION



WEBSITE LINK



TITHELY: GIVE
WITH A CLICK

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H59 "Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding" (Merton)

Descant

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
 2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
 4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."
 2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
 4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
 5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

H 487 "Come my Way, my Truth, my Life" (*The Call*)



1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a
 2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a
 3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all
 light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in
 joy as none can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as kill - eth death.
 length; such a strength as makes his guest.
 part; such a heart as joys in love.

H 53 "Once he came in blessing" (*Gottes Sohn ist kommen*)



1 Once he came in bless - ing, all our ills re - dress - ing;
 2 Still he comes with - in us, still his voice would win us
 3 Thus, if thou canst name him, not a - shamed to claim him,
 4 One who thus en - dur - eth bright re - ward se - cur - eth.



came in like - ness low - ly, Son of God most ho - ly;
 from the sins that hurt us, would to Truth con - vert us:
 but wilt trust him bold - ly nor dost love him cold - ly,
 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, from our sins re - lease us;



bore the cross to save us, hope and free - dom gave us.
 not in tor - ment hold us, but in love en - fold us.
 he will then re - ceive thee, heal thee, and for - give thee.
 let us here con - fess thee till in heaven we bless thee.

H 73 "The King shall come" (St. Stephen)

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
 3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
 5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
 2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
 3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
 4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
 5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
 4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
 5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

ABBREVIATED ANNOUNCEMENTS—WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 2022

For the full announcements, visit www.churchofstmartin.org

A Message from the Vestry—with Gratitude

The Vestry of the Episcopal Church of St. Martin, as duly elected leaders of the congregation, have turned in their 2023 pledges, as have the clergy staff. As our fall stewardship campaign comes to a close, we encourage all members of the parish likewise to decide on their best estimate of financial support to the parish in 2023 and make their pledge.

We would like to extend a *heartfelt thank-you* to the 103 individuals and families who have already given us their pledge for 2023. **If you haven't pledged yet, you can still do so** by filling out a pledge card and mailing or bringing it to the church office, by putting it in the plate at church on Sunday, or by writing to our confidential stewardship e-mail (stewardship@churchofstmartin.org). Your pledge helps us plan as accurately as possible for next year's budget and ministries. For questions about stewardship and pledging, feel free to reach out to a Vestry member. Thank you and God bless you!

Thanksgiving Project Thanks

Thanks to your generosity, the 2022 Christine Blanchard Annual Thanksgiving Project has been a great success! We received \$8,192, which is allowing us to serve over 70 families with \$100 grocery gift cards, with the remainder applied to gift cards in smaller amounts for undocumented UC Davis students in need. Thank you all!

Vestry Nominations

The Vestry Nominations Committee is accepting nominations for the 2023 Vestry. Serving on Vestry gives you a role in ensuring that St. Martin's does its best to care for the parish, the larger church, and the community. To nominate yourself or another parishioner, please use the form [HERE](#). We also have hard copies available in the narthex and the church office. Please return any hard copies to the church office. **We request your nominations no later than December 12.** For questions, you can speak to a member of the Vestry Nominating Committee (Julie Knudsen, Ann Liu, Beth Capell, Maria Acuna-Feldman) or Co-Senior Warden Neil Willits.

Who Should Receive our Christmas Plate Offering? Help us decide!

"Christmas Plate" includes all the special donations given at our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. At St. Martin's, we give those away to an organization that serves the community instead of using them toward our operating expenses—the true spirit of Christmas in action.

YOU can help us decide who should receive this special offering by nominating a worthy nonprofit organization. We are targeting organizations that directly serve individuals and families that are dealing with food insecurity, housing insecurity, mental health issues, and similar needs.

To nominate an organization, email the church office with the following: a) Name of the organization; b) Key contact (e.g., executive director), website, flyer or other information; c) Your rationale for nominating this organization. **We need your recommendation no later than December 11.** For questions, contact Co-Senior Warden Kimo Kimokeo. Thank you so much for your consideration and generosity.

Accepting Christmas Flower Donations

You can donate Christmas flowers in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one. Send a check to St. Martin's with memo line "Christmas Flowers" **by December 15**, or give online using the green GIVE button on our website (select "Christmas Flowers"). Send to the office names of those you are giving in memory of or thanksgiving for and we will list them in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins.

Begins Today! Journeying the Way of Love: Advent Formation Opportunity

Join us in Room 6/7 after the 10:00am service to learn about our upcoming class on Journeying the Way of Love in Advent. We'll get acquainted with the curriculum and learn about the seven spiritual practices in the

Way of Love. Come to this first gathering as a stand-alone session and then decide if you want to participate in the four Wednesday night sessions that will follow. Either way, go home with a special Advent calendar!

Living Well in Advent—Three Tuesdays at 10am on Zoom

Join us for Living Well Through Advent, a Living Compass offering. This year the Advent theme is simplicity. We'll explore and reflect on scripture while considering how it affects our hearts, souls, strength, and minds. Anyone interested can drop in on three Tuesdays during Advent, **Nov. 29, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20, on Zoom from 10am to 11:30am.** (Note no meeting on Dec. 6). Advent Living Compass booklets can be picked up in the Narthex of the church on Sunday or from the church office on weekdays. For the meeting Zoom link, email Gabe at communications@churchofstmartin.org or contact the church office.

Betsy's Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate - December 3

Our seminarian Betsy McElroy will be ordained as a transitional deacon on December 3 at 2:00pm at St. Paul's Cathedral in Des Moines, Iowa. The event will be live-streamed and is posted on the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa's webpage (<https://www.iowaepiscopal.org/>) with the link for live-streaming. Betsy also has an online guest book here: <https://forms.gle/GPxk6i5Kn6wZ5RjDA>. *Blessings on your journey, Betsy!*

Our Nursery is Reopening—Beginning Sunday, December 4

We are excited to invite parents to bring infants through age 5 to our fully equipped nursery (Classroom 2) on Sundays anytime between 9:30am and 11:30am. Our nursery care staff will welcome you and answer any questions you may have. If you'd like to come take a look at the nursery anytime, let us know and we'd be happy to show it to you. Feel free also to talk to Rev. Pamela if you have questions about the nursery—and don't worry, children of all ages are always welcome in church, too!

Next Sunday, December 4, is a "First Sunday"—Join us for a more informal, interactive service!

On the first Sunday of every month, we experiment with a more informal worship style, including different music and other interactive elements that are "child friendly"—and "adult friendly," too! On December 4 we'll hear the Godly Play story of Advent, bless our new Nativity scene, and wonder and sing together about our journey to Bethlehem. The nursery will be open, the children's rug will be ready to welcome your wee ones, and the Family Choir (meaning EVERYBODY who wants to join in!) will gather at 9:30 to learn an easy anthem. We hope to see you there! Questions? Just ask Rev. Pamela for more information.

Next Spirituality in Nature Gathering on Saturday, December 10, from 10am to 12noon

Our next monthly Spirituality in Nature Gatherings (known as a SING!) will be right here at St. Martin's and will explore the theme of incarnation. For questions, contact Rev. Pamela, Alessa Johns, Rev. Debbie Hawkins, Stan Forbes, Jim Schaal, or the church office. Look for announcements on future monthly Nature Gatherings.

Reader Session on Sunday, December 11

After the 10am service on December 11 (11:30am), Charlie Bamforth will lead a discussion in the sanctuary on the reading of lessons and intercessions. **All current readers are asked to attend, if possible,** and those who would like to know more about this important ministry are also encouraged to attend. We are so grateful for our roster of readers and hope this will be a welcome and enriching experience for all!

Save the Dates for "Revive," February 24 - 25 and throughout Lent 2023!

"Revive," a small-group discipleship program was rescheduled from Fall and will be offered starting with a retreat on February 24 – 25. It will be held either at St. Martin's or nearby (no long drives or expensive overnight accommodations necessary!). After the retreat, the program meets on Wednesday evenings for six consecutive weeks. We'll provide sign-up information soon. If you have questions, please reach out to Rev. Pamela. She'd love to talk with you about it!

Upcoming Special Services and Events for Advent and Christmas

Grab one of our beautiful flyers or go online to find all the dates and times and mark your calendars. It's going to be a beautiful season at St. Martin's—you won't want to miss it.