



# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN

## Sunday, November 27, 2022 – First Sunday of Advent The Holy Eucharist Rite I at 8:00am

**ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING** *Please stand as you are able.*

*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 his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

*The Presider says*

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

### TRISAGION

*Presider* Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
*People* Have mercy upon us.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Presider* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, 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 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

Let us read Psalm 122.

- 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;

- 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."

**GOSPEL**     *Please stand, as you are able.*

**Matthew 24:36-44**

*Gospeller*     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*         Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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 be to thee, O Christ.

**THE SERMON**

*Silence is kept after the sermon.*

**THE CREED**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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 and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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**

*The Deacon says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Presider and People*

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

*The Presider stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **THE PEACE**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, 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!*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them up unto the Lord.

*Presider* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* It is meet and right so to do.

### *The Presider continues*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God; because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

## SANCTUS

### *Presider and People*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Please kneel or stand, as you are able.*

### *The Presider continues*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ. And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.

Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

#### *People and Presider*

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.

### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

#### **FRACTION ANTHEM**

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

#### **AGNUS DEI** *Presider and People*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

### **INVITATION AND DISTRIBUTION**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament and then deliver it to the people.*



## **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.*

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*After Communion, the Presider says* Let us pray.

### *Presider and People*

Almighty and everliving God,  
we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries,  
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us;  
and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son,  
the blessed company of all faithful people;  
and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.  
And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father,  
so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship,  
and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## **BLESSING**

### *The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

## **DISMISSAL**

*Presider* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

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*The Advent Candle Lighting reading is adapted from the Godly Play Advent Lessons © Church Publishing.*

## **LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

Presider: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan

Preacher: The Rev. Ernie Lewis

Reader: Carla Harris

Intercessor: Janet Lane

Advent Wreath Lighting: Carla and Craig Harris

Eucharistic Minister: Bob Polkinghorn

Usher: Maria Acuna-Feldman

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](mailto:pamela@churchofstmartin.org)

Associate: The Rev. Ernest L. Lewis, [ernie@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:ernie@churchofstmartin.org)

Associate: The Rev. Deborah Hawkins, [debbie@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:debbie@churchofstmartin.org)

Deacon: The Ven. Margaret Grayden, [margaret@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:margaret@churchofstmartin.org)

Seminarian Intern: Betsy McElroy, [betsy@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:betsy@churchofstmartin.org)

Music Ministers: Jeffrey and Dr. Suzanne Jubenville, [jubenvilles@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:jubenvilles@churchofstmartin.org)

Church Operations Director: Gabe Avila, [communications@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:communications@churchofstmartin.org)

Administrative Assistant: Janet Lane, [info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)

Treasurer: Julie Knudsen, [treasurer@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:treasurer@churchofstmartin.org)

## VESTRY ([vestry@churchofstmartin.org](mailto: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

Worship (Joannie Cavanagh): [worship@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:worship@churchofstmartin.org)

Christian Formation (Helen Campbell): [formation@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:formation@churchofstmartin.org)

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Sacred Grounds (Russ Gebhardt): [sacredgrounds@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:sacredgrounds@churchofstmartin.org)

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STATEMENT OF  
COMMITMENT AND ACTION



WEBSITE LINK



TITHELY: GIVE  
WITH A CLICK

## ABBREVIATED ANNOUNCEMENTS—WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 2022

For the full announcements, visit [www.churchofstmartin.org](http://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](mailto: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 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 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).

### 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 Zoom link, email Gabe at [communications@churchofstmartin.org](mailto: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/GPxx6i5Kn6wZ5RjDA>. *Blessings, 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 have 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**

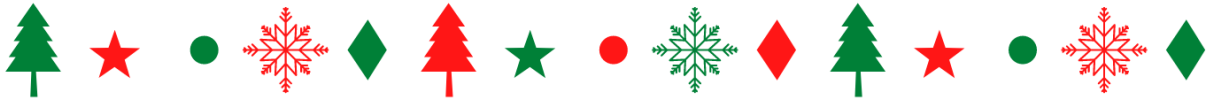
Our next monthly Spirituality in Nature Gatherings (known as a SING!) will be right here at St. Martin's and will explore the theme of incarnation. For questions, contact Rev. Pamela, Alessa Johns, Rev. Debbie Hawkins, Stan Forbes, Jim Schaal, or the church office. See announcements on future Nature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



The Episcopal Church of St. Martin Invites You To  
**CELEBRATE WITH US**

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**DECEMBER 11**

**BLUE CHRISTMAS AND CANDLE  
LIGHTING AT 4PM**

**In person and online**

A contemplative service with readings  
and music

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**CHILDREN'S SERVICE  
DECEMBER 24 AT 3PM**

**In person only**

A brief interactive service for families  
and young children

**DECEMBER 18**

**LESSONS AND CAROLS AT 4PM  
LAS POSADAS AT 5PM**

**In person only**

A song-filled Eucharist followed by a  
reenactment of the Holy Family's  
search for safe refuge

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**DECEMBER 24  
AT 7PM AND 10PM**

**In person and online**

Festive Choral Eucharist  
with Christmas Carols

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

**DECEMBER 25 AT 10AM**

**In person**

Contemporary Eucharist with  
Christmas Carols

**FORMATION OFFERING:**

**Journeying the Way of Love**

Beginning Nov 27th in person after the 10am service, followed by four Wednesday  
night sessions. Learn about the seven spiritual practices in the Way of Love.

**Spirituality in Nature Gathering**

On Dec 10th, 10am-12pm, walk the beautiful natural setting of our own church  
campus, draw on scripture and poetry to ponder the themes of Incarnation, Solstice,  
and the Gifts of Winter. After the program, enjoy fellowship and some warm apple  
cider to close our Advent gathering. Bring a sack lunch!

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All are welcome!

For more information visit our website.

[www.churchofstmartin.org](http://www.churchofstmartin.org)

