



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN

Sunday, December 11, 2022 – Third 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 third Sunday 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 four weeks as a season of preparation.

On the first Sunday of Advent we remembered the prophets, who pointed the way to Bethlehem. On the second Sunday we remembered the Holy Family, who invite us to walk with them on their journey.

Today, the third Sunday of Advent, we remember the angels and the shepherds. The angels brought glad tidings of great joy to the humble, fearful shepherds. The candle today is the color of roses; it reminds us of the joyful song of the angels, and the joy of the shepherds as they heard about this child who would bring peace on earth and good will to all people.

We light three candles, ending with the rose-colored 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,

People Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Presider Let us pray. Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

FIRST READING *Please be seated for the readings.*

Isaiah 35:1-10

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

People Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE

Let us read Canticle 15 together.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

GOSPEL *Please stand, as you are able.*

Matthew 11:2-11

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

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

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Presider Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

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LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan
Deacon: The Ven. Margaret Grayden
Reader and Intercessor: Carla Harris
Eucharistic Minister: Karen Reiser
Advent Wreath: Jerry Hulbert and The Ven. Margaret Grayden
Usher: Bob Holm
Flowers: Susan Kauzlarich

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
Associate: The Rev. Ernest L. Lewis, ernie@churchofstmartin.org
Associate: The Rev. Deborah Hawkins, debbie@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

Worship (Joannie Cavanagh): worship@churchofstmartin.org
Christian Formation (Helen Campbell): formation@churchofstmartin.org
Church in the World (Lynn Zender): world@churchofstmartin.org
Sacred Grounds (Russ Gebhardt): sacredgrounds@churchofstmartin.org

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Abbreviated Announcements for the Week of December 11, 2022

For the full announcements, see our website www.churchofstmartin.org

Godly Play Today and for January and Beyond!

Today, December 11, will be our last regular Godly Play class for the year at 10am in Room 4. Beginning in January, we will hold **Godly Play three times a month – the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays – during the 10:00am service**, with the first Sunday of the month designated as a “First Sunday” intergenerational service. Sunday, January 8 will be the first intergenerational “first-Sunday” service of the year, and we’ll start up Godly Play again on **January 15**. If you haven’t yet joined us in Godly Play this year, we would love to see you. Contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org) or Sheri Reynolds with questions.

Our Nursery Is Open on Sunday Mornings!

We are excited to invite parents to bring infants through age 5 to our fully equipped nursery (Classroom 2) on Sundays between 9:30am and 11:30am. Our nursery care staff will welcome you and answer any questions you may have. Feel free 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!

Reader Discussion/Refresher Session Today after 10am Service

After the 10am service today, 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. Grab a cup of coffee and come back into the church. We are so grateful for our roster of readers and hope this will be an enriching experience for all!

Blue Christmas This Afternoon at 4pm (in person and online)

Join us today at 4:00pm for a beautiful service specially designed for those who might be experiencing grief or may not feel joyful during this Christmas season. We will hear readings, sing hymns, and light candles. A reflection will be offered by the clergy, with time for individual reflection too. This service will be both online and in person. For the Zoom link and more information:

<https://churchofstmartin.org/event/blue-christmas-service/>

Advent and Christmas Services and Events—Join Us!

- **Greening of the Church, Saturday, December 17 at 1:00pm**: Help us put up lights, wreaths, garlands, candles and other festive decorations in the church for Christmas. We have everything needed. Many hands make light work.
- **Advent Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 18 at 4:00pm**: Scripture readings interspersed with festive music and carol singing. Featuring music of Spain and the Colonial era in America, sung in Spanish, Quechua, Nahuatl, and Mono Paiute. In person and online.
- **Las Posadas, Sunday, December 18 at 5:00pm**: Traditional Latin American service commemorating the journey the Holy Family took from Nazareth to Bethlehem looking for shelter and a place for Jesus to be born. Walk around the church grounds going door-to-door. End with a celebration and caroling in the Parish Hall. In person only.
- **Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24 at 3:00pm Children’s Service**: A brief, interactive service for families with young children (or, yes, those who are young at heart!). In person only.
- **Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24 at 7:00pm and 10:00pm**: Festive Choral Eucharist with Christmas Carols. In person and online.

- **Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25 at 10:00am:** Contemporary Eucharist with Christmas Carols. One service, in person only.

Vestry Nominations

The Nominations Committee of the Vestry 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. If you wish to nominate yourself or another parishioner, please use the form <https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/Vestry2023>. We also have hard copies available at the Vestry table and in the church office. Please return any hard copies to the church office. **We request your nominations no later than December 12.** For questions or more information, you can talk to a Vestry Nominating Committee member (Julie Knudsen, Ann Liu, Beth Capell, Maria Acuna-Feldman) or Co-Sr. Warden Neil Willits.

Who Should Receive our Christmas Plate Offering? Last chance to help us decide!

St. Martin's tradition is to give away our Christmas plate offering to an organization that serves those in need. YOU are invited to nominate a recipient organization for 2022. Nonprofit organizations that serve the neediest among us are our highest priority. While we generally fund organizations in our community or diocese, there is no geographic restriction. If you would like to nominate an organization, please email the church office with the following: a) Name of the organization; b) Key contact (e.g., executive director) including contact information, website, other; c) A one paragraph rationale for why you are nominating this organization. **We need your recommendation no later than TODAY, December 11.** If you have questions contact Co-Senior Warden Kimo Kimokeo or the church office.

Rector's Office Hours - Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:00pm

Rev. Pamela holds office hours most weeks on Wednesday, 4:00 - 5:00 pm in the church library. **Her next office hours will be on Wednesday, December 14.** If you would like to meet with Pamela at a different time, just email her or contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org) to set something up.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Care for God's Creation: Monday, December 12 at 7:00pm

Caring Ministries: Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00pm

Choir Practice: Thursday, December 15 at 7:00pm (in the church)

Vestry: Monday, December 19 at 7:00pm

If you wish to schedule a meeting on our calendar, contact the office info@churchofstmartin.org.

Upcoming holiday office closures include Monday, December 26 (in observance of Christmas) and Monday, January 2 (in observance of New Year's Day).

Our regular office hours are Monday – Friday, 9am – 12pm.



**STATEMENT OF
COMMITMENT AND ACTION**



WEBSITE LINK



**TITHELY: GIVE
WITH A CLICK**