

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF November 26, 2023

This Week

Music Notes for Sunday, November 26

For November 26, Jeffrey has chosen prelude and postlude music by English composer Henry Purcell (1659-1695) to complement Purcell's verse anthem "Rejoice in the Lord Always," known familiarly as "The Bell Anthem." This nickname comes from the introduction, which evokes change-ringers preparing for a peal. We will sing a shortened version of this lengthy work, leaving out most of the instrumental interludes. The musical form "verse anthem" is an Anglican convention, in which the text is divided between soloists and choir. There are three types of verse anthem, one of which treats the choir sections as an antiphon or refrain; this is the type to which our offertory belongs. We present this special work in honor of Christ the King. Our thanks to Mark Grote, baritone, who joins alto Elise Keddie and tenor Neil Willits in the solo trio.

Advent Living Compass Class

Helen Campbell is offering an Advent series using *Living Compass* materials on four Tuesdays at 10:30am in Advent—November 28, December 5, December 12, and December 19. The class meets on Zoom and lasts about an hour. You are welcome to attend all the sessions or drop in when you can. The focus of this Advent is on *wonder*. We have booklets in the Narthex, or Helen can send you a PDF version. If there is enough interest in a Tuesday evening group, she'll also offer that, so be sure to sign up with the church office at info@churchofstmartin.org if you are interested.

Rooted in Abundance Stewardship Season

Our stewardship season officially ended last Sunday and, as of now, we have received 84 pledges. The leaves on the two trees near the altar represent these pledges. If you have pledged, thank you. Pledges are an important tool in helping us plan our ministry budget for 2024, so if you have not pledged yet, it is not too late. As our treasurer Jessie Ann Owens mentioned, we are potentially facing a budget shortfall for 2024, so your generosity is more important and appreciated than ever. In order to pledge, just fill out the pledge card sent to you or write to our confidential stewardship email address to tell us your pledge amount (stewardship@churchofstmartin.org). We are very grateful for all pledges and donations given to the church.

Thank You for Your Generosity - Thanksgiving Gift Card Project

The Social Justice & Outreach Committee would like to thank all who donated to help raise \$8,463 for the Thanksgiving gift card project. The gift cards were given out on Monday and Tuesday of this past week to families in need in Yolo County, to students who use the AB540 Undocumented Student Center at UC Davis, to families in need identified by St. Martin's clergy and families identified by the Davis Joint Unified School District. Thank you all for your generosity!

Next Week

A Very Special First Sunday Advent Service on December 3

On Sunday, December 3 at our 10am service we will celebrate an Advent Lessons and Carols service with a focus on Our Lady of Guadalupe, who is considered by many the Patron Saint of the Americas. We'll enjoy extra special music, with guest musicians and the Pop-Up Choir. An

activity for young children will be offered during the service, so please bring your whole family and invite friends! The service will be followed immediately by *Las Posadas*, a re-enactment of Joseph and Mary's search for a place to stay. *Las Posadas* is a venerable Mexican custom, celebrating the journey of the Holy Family to Bethlehem. It is fun for all generations and will conclude with a special coffee hour/fiesta featuring pan dulce, hot chocolate, and an old-fashioned carol-sing.

Events for Children on December 3

Be sure your children are at church at 10am for the first Sunday of Advent. Children will have the option of gathering in the narthex with Godly Play teachers to make Christmas ornaments during the first half of the service. Parents may also participate, if they wish. Immediately after the service we will join in *Las Posadas* which ends in the parish hall with hot chocolate and other goodies. There we will be making Advent Wreaths just in time to begin the season.

Starting Next Week! St. Martin's Advent and Christmas Events

Sunday, December 3: Advent Lessons and Carols with Communion at 10am. *Las Posadas*, a reenactment of the Holy Family's search for lodging, after the 10am service.

Sunday, December 10: SING Community Walk, starting at 4pm in Sycamore Park

Sunday, December 17: Greening of the Church for Christmas after the 10am service.

Sunday, December 17: Blue Christmas Service at 4pm

Sunday, December 24: 8am Advent Eucharist; 3pm Christmas Eucharist with Pageant; 7pm and 10pm Festive Choral Christmas Eucharists.

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day Eucharist with Christmas Carols at 10am. One service.

Sunday, December 31: Holy Eucharist at 10am. One service.

SING Community Walk and Hot Cocoa on Sunday, December 10, at 4pm

Take a break from the pre-Christmas stress with a SING (Spirituality in Nature Gathering) neighborhood walk and some relaxed time with your parish family. We'll meet at Sycamore Park at 4pm, walk through the neighborhood—with a couple of stops for thought-provoking poetry and Bible passages—and end at St. Martin's for a cup of cocoa and conversation about nature and spirituality in the winter months. The event will wrap up with (optional) Evening Prayer at 5:30; you'll be done in time for dinner or whatever errands, parties, or other events your night holds! Please let us know if you're coming so we're sure not to start the walk without you. Contact Rev. Pamela or the office to let us know.

Volunteer Opportunities

St. Martin's Representatives at the DCMH Meals Needed

Would you like to do a little service for St. Martin's and for our larger community? St. Martin's has a representative at every DCMH meal (offered here at St. Martin's) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. If you are interested in serving once a month for an hour and a half at one of the meals, we need additional volunteers on Thursdays, 5 - 6:30pm and Saturdays, 11 - 12:30pm.

We will show you the ropes, but your role is mainly to see that all is going well and that all gets locked up properly at the end of the meal. If you are interested, contact Janet Lane or the church office.

St. Martin's Flower Guild Needs You

If you enjoy arranging flowers, we'd love to have you join the St. Martin's Flower Guild. We'll train you and reimburse you for flowers. For more information, please contact the flower guild chair, Carole Hom, or the church office.

Other Announcements and Updates

The Belfry Weekly Offerings - All Are Welcome!

On Tuesdays at 5:20pm, the Belfry offers Evening Prayer/Evensong. This service lasts 20 - 30 minutes. On Thursdays, the Belfry offers Holy Eucharist at 6:30pm followed by dinner, if you would like to stay. Address of the Belfry: 216 A Street in Davis.

Nursery Open

Our nursery is open on Sundays from 9:30 - 11:30am for infants through age 5. Children of all ages are also always welcome in church too!

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Social Justice and Outreach: Monday, November 27 at 5:15 on Zoom

Choir Practice: Monday, November 27 at 7pm and Thursday, November 30 in the church

Buildings and Grounds Meeting: Friday, December 1 at 4pm on Zoom

Vestry Meeting: Monday, Dec 4, at 7pm in the church library

Rev. Pamela's Office Hours

Rev. Pamela's office hours are on Wednesday, but she is taking some time off for Thanksgiving.

Her next office hours will be on Wednesday, December 6 from 4 - 5pm. If you would like to see or talk with Pamela at a different time, please contact the church office or Pamela directly (pamela@churchofstmartin.org).

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am to 12pm. Stop by in person or contact the office by calling 530-756-0444 or sending an email to info@churchofstmartin.org