



# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN

## First Sunday of Advent: Holy Eucharist Rite I Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 8:00am

### ADVENT WREATH 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 *Please stand as you are able.*

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

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

### COLLECT FOR PURITY AND GREAT COMMANDMENTS *All standing, 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.

### THE GLORIA *The Presider and People say together:*

**Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee,  
we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,**

**O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy;**

**thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**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.*

**Isaiah 64:1-9**

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil--  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Please join in reading from Psalm 80.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, \*  
the one you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you, \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

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

**Mark: 13:24-37**

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

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*Gospeller*     The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*         **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**THE SERMON**      *Silence is kept after the sermon.*

**THE NICENE 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**      *.BCP, Form VI      The Leader and the People pray responsively.*

*Deacon*      In peace, we pray to you, O God.

*Silence*

*Leader*      For all people in their daily life and work.

*All*      **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*Leader*      For this community, the nation, and the world.

*All*      **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Leader*      For the just and proper use of your creation.

*All*      **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Leader*      For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble.

*All*      **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Leader*      For the peace and unity of the Church of God.

*All*      **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Leader*      For Michael, our presiding bishop, and Megan, our bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers.

*All*      **For all who serve God in the church.**

*Leader*      For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The deacon will add prayer requests and then invite the people to add their own petitions.*

*Leader*      Hear us, O God;

*All*      **For your mercy is great.**

*Leader* We thank you, O God, for all the blessings of this life.  
*The people may add their own thanksgivings.*

*Leader* We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*All* **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Leader* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.  
*Silence*  
*The people may add their own petitions.*

*Leader* O God, let your loving kindness be upon them.  
*All* **Who put their trust in you.**

*Presider* Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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, as we greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*

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

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

**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 SENTENCE**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*Offertory notes:* The ushers will pass collection plates. You may also give online using the blue “give” button on our website or the QR code near the back of this bulletin--or contact the office for more information. We are grateful to those who have pledged and who give regularly, as well as for all plate offerings.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Please stand, as you are able.*

*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

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

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

*Presider and People*

**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.**

*Presider*

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. Please come forward down the center aisle for Communion. Choose the station on the left for intinction by the priest. Choose the station on the right to drink from the common cup. The customary response upon receiving Communion is "Amen." Crossing your arms over your chest indicates you would like a blessing instead of Communion.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*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 FOR ADVENT** *Presider*

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

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

## **DISMISSAL**

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

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## **LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan

Assisting Priests: The Rev. Ernie Lewis, The Rev. Deborah Hawkins

Reader: Steve Reynolds

Intercessor: Janet Lane

Eucharistic Minister: Bob Holm

Advent Wreath Lighting: Frank Wagner, Jessie Ann Owens

Usher: Maria Acuna-Feldman

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](mailto:pamela@churchofstmartin.org)

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

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STATEMENT OF  
COMMITMENT AND ACTION



WEBSITE LINK



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