



# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN

## Third Sunday of Advent The Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00am Sunday, December 17, 2023

**SERVICE NOTES:** *We are glad you have joined us! If you are online:* We have posted a hymn insert, which also has other helpful information about attending online. *If you are in person:* The hymns can be found in the hymn book in the pew rack in front of you, with some of the service music printed within the text. We encourage you to sing and pray actively. Thank you and welcome!

**PRELUDE** “Come now, Savior of the nations” J. S. Bach  
“Magnificat” Anonymous

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

**OPENING HYMN** H 66 “Come thou long expected Jesus” (Stuttgart) *In the Hymnal*

**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 God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*All are invited to sing the Song of Praise*

**SONG OF PRAISE** WLP 724 “People look east” (Besançon Carol)

*On page 10*

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** *Please be seated for the readings.*

**Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

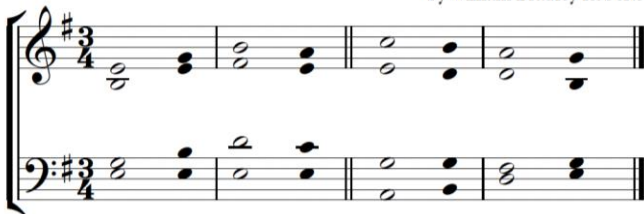
*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

**PSALM**

Please join in singing Psalm 126.

adapted from *Veni, veni Emmanuel*  
by William Bradley Roberts



- 1 When God restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
“God has done great things for them.”
- 4 God has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O God, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.

†7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

## SECOND READING

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Veni Emmanuel* Please stand, as you are able.

*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

**John 1:6-8, 19-28**

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

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

**THE NICENE CREED** *Please stand as you are able and join in saying 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. We pray for the people of your church that you may strengthen us for the ministry you have set before us. 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.)*

*People*    Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*    God of the waiting, we pray for all in positions of authority 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.)*

*People*    Lord, in your mercy  
**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.)*

*People*    Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*    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 add their own prayers.)*

*People*    Lord, in your mercy  
**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.)*

*People*    Lord, in your mercy  
**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** *Please stand or kneel as you are able.*

*The Deacon says* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (*We pause for silent reflection.*)

*Presider and People*

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love, and serve only your will. 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 Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.** *We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please see the announcement insert, and feel free to take this bulletin home with you. If you do not currently receive an email from us with current news and events, please reach out to [info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org).*

**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.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** “The grain is ripe,” Phillip Nunn and Shirley Arena Murray *Sung by the Choir*

The grain is ripe: the harvest comes! Good seed of hope, your time is now.

Justice will stream from hill and river, More than you dream, and running over.

The righteous God gives this and more: Grace is the mode, mercy the key.

God comes in truth, the sharpest laser, To scan the earth, to take our measure.

The work of peace is all for all, Face turned to face in open trust,

All famine gone and thirst and bleeding, The harvest comes from love’s good seeding.

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE** (*Franconia*)

*Please join in singing*

**We give thee but thine own, / Whate'er the gift may be;**

**All that we have is thine alone, / A trust, O God, from thee.** —William Walsham Howe

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

*Presider* The Lord 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.**

*Presider*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of pow'r and might.

Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Opt. des.*

Blessed is he, is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

*molto rit.*

Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

*The Presider continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus, the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with Martin and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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

organ Be known to us, Lord Je - sus Christ, —  
in the break - ing of the bread. — God of hope and  
God of pro - mise, you have pre - pared a ban - quet for us;  
Come, Lord Je - sus, come and cheer, Come and make thine Ad - vent here.

*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. 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.*

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

H 75 "There's a voice in the wilderness crying" (*Ascension*)  
VF 117 "My soul gives glory to my God" (*Morning Song*)  
"Elevation on the Christmas Carol: *Now We Sing to Mary*"

*In the Hymnal  
On page 11  
A. Guilmant*

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Presider* Let us pray:

*Presider and People*

**Loving God,**

**we give you thanks for restoring us in your image**

**and nourishing us with spiritual food**

**in the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.**

**Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed;**

**that we may proclaim your love to the world**

**and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**BLESSING FOR ADVENT** *Presider*

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.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

H 57 "Lo, he comes with clouds descending" (*Helmsley*)

*In the Hymnal*

**DISMISSAL**

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

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

**POSTLUDE**

"Postlude on *Come thousand long expected Jesus*"

B. Cabena

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**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

Preacher & Presider: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan

Assisting Priest: The Rev. Ernie Lewis

Deacon: The Ven. Margaret Grayden

Music Ministers: Jeffrey and Dr. Suzanne Jubenville

Readers: Charles Bamforth, Diane Bamforth

Intercessor: Diane Bamforth

Eucharistic Ministers: Janet Lane, Bob Holm

Eucharistic Visitors: Frank Wagner, Jessie Ann Owens

Advent Wreath Lighting: Joan and Jim Jordan

Crucifer: Joe Bender

Ushers: Ben Eustis-Guthrie, Jim Jordan

Flowers: Rhody Vallejo

Livestream Coordinator: Gabe Avila



## 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.*

## NOTICE OF PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO RECORDING

*Our church services may involve photography and/or video recordings which may contain your likeness. By attending, you consent to the photography, recording, distribution, or any other lawful use of the materials and waive any and all rights you may have in connection with such materials. Any such images and recordings will be the property of The Episcopal Church of St. Martin (the "Church") and may be used by the Church or its agents for further distribution or marketing on its website, streamed to those off-site, or in printed materials to share our programs and activities. You also hereby release the Church and its leadership, staff, or agents from any liability that may arise from the use of such materials. Your consent, waiver, and release shall extend to any individual who is under your care, guardianship, or agency. **If you do not consent to being photographed or videotaped during this service, please sit in the back five rows on either side.***

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Anthony Amato (Clerk), Diane Bamforth, Beth Capell (Jr. Warden), Colette Chabbott, Ben Eustis-Guthrie, Kimo Kimokeo (Co-Sr. Warden), David Martin, Chris Reynolds, Honna Steissberg, Susan Stone, Neil Willits (Co-Sr. Warden), Tom Young.



STATEMENT OF  
COMMITMENT AND ACTION



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SONG OF PRAISE

WLP 724 "People look east" (*Besançon Carol*)



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to



1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may
3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has
4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -
5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is



1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.
2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.
3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.
4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.
5. com-ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

**Voices Found 117 “My soul gives glory to my God” (Morning Song)**

1 My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My  
 2 My God has done great things for me: yes,  
 3 From age to age, to all who fear, such  
 4 Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -  
 5 Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -

heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my  
 ho - ly is this name. All peo - ple will de -  
 mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice  
 motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spi - rits  
 ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past

low - li - ness in man - y mar - vel - ous ways.  
 clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.  
 far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.  
 sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.  
 prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

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 Music: *Morning Song*, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782–1826); harm. Charles H. Webb  
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