



# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN



## Christmas Day The Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00am Monday, December 25, 2023

**SERVICE NOTES:** *We are glad you have joined us! We encourage you to sing and pray actively. 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. Thank you and welcome!*

**PRELUDE**                      In dulci jubilo BuxWV 197    Dietrich Buxtehude

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

**OPENING HYMN**    H 83 “O Come All Ye Faithful” (*Adeste fideles*)    *In the Hymnal*

### CHRISTMAS CANDLE LIGHTING

*Reader*    This is Christmas morning, a time when our longing for God’s presence among us is fulfilled.  
(*We light all four Advent candles*)

*Reader*    Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. The hope, peace, joy and love of the entire world are fully realized in this tiny baby, sent to live among us as a human being and to walk with us on the paths of our lives.

(*We light the white Christ candle*)

*People*    **O Emmanuel, God with us, as you let your light shine before all, help us be a light to the world.**

*Presider*    Beloved in God, as we celebrate the birth of the Holy Child, let the light of Christ so enter our hearts and minds, that with simple faith and true hope, we may at this time hasten to Bethlehem to see the Baby lying in a manger. **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**                      H 96 “Angels we have heard on high” (*Gloria*)

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* God be with you.

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

*Presider* Let us pray. Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

**Isaiah 52:7-10**

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

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

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

## PSALM

Please join in reading Psalm 98.

- 1 Sing a new song to God, \*  
who has done marvelous things.**
- 2 With your right hand, O God, and your holy arm, \*  
you have won for yourself the victory.**
- 3 You have made known your victory; \*  
your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of the nations.**
- 4 You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**
- 5 Shout with joy to God, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.**
- 6 Sing to God with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.**

- 7 **With trumpets and the sound of the horn, \***  
**shout with joy before our God who reigns in majesty.**
- 8 **Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \***  
**the lands and those who dwell therein.**
- 9 **Let the rivers clap their hands, \***  
**and let the hills ring out with joy before God,**  
**who will come to judge the earth;**
- 10 **God shall judge the world in righteousness \***  
**and the peoples with equity.**

**SECOND READING**

**Hebrews 1:1-4**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN** H 87 "Hark, the herald angels sing" (*Mendelssohn*)

*In the Hymnal*

**GOSPEL**

**John 1:1-14**

*Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*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.*

*Deacon*      Let us pray for God's holy church and for the world, which God made and loves.

*Leader*      Lord God, ruler of the universe, we thank you that you hear us when we pray. We are grateful for all your gifts to us, especially the gift of your son who came to live a human life with us. As you guided the Magi to Bethlehem by a star, guide us to come worshipfully to you.  
*(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)*

*Leader*      Glory to God in the highest  
*People*      **And peace to all people on Earth!**

*Leader*      We pray on this Christmas Day for our world. We pray for those who govern and hold positions of authority among the nations. Lord, you sent your news of peace and goodwill to shepherds and sent them to see the babe lying in a manger. Let your good news be fulfilled everywhere on earth, for all people. *(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)*

*Leader*      Glory to God in the highest  
*People*      **And peace to all people on Earth!**

*Leader*      We pray for your church; we pray especially for our Presiding Bishop, Michael, our Bishop, Megan, and for all who serve Christ and build up the Beloved Community. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their work and ministry. As you sent your angels to share the good news, send us to show your light to the world.  
*(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)*

*Leader*      Glory to God in the highest  
*People*      **And peace to all people on Earth!**

*Leader*      We pray for one another, for our grandparents, parents, children, and all family and friends, through whom we learn to love and be loved. We thank you for all who care for us as Joseph cared for his family, and we ask you to help us love one another as you first loved us.  
*(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)*

*Leader*      Glory to God in the highest  
*People*      **And peace to all people on Earth!**

*Leader*      We pray for those who are sorrowful, distressed or lonely. We pray for all people who have to be separated from loved ones on this holy day. We ask you to comfort us as Mary comforted the

Baby Jesus, when we are afraid. We ask you for the grace to serve you as we find you in the poor, the hungry, the homeless, and the sick.

*(We pause, making space for prayer to be said, either silently or aloud.)*

*Leader*            Glory to God in the highest  
*People*            **And peace to all people on Earth!**

*Presider*        O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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 a moment of 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 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 very grateful to those who have pledged and who give regularly, as well as for all plate offerings.*

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

**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.*

*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:

**SANCTUS**  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**  
**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**  
**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

*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 Presider breaks the consecrated bread or host, saying*

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

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

*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 indicates you would like a blessing instead of Communion.*

**COMMUNION MUSIC** H 81 "Lo, how a rose e'er blooming" (*Es ist ein Ros*)  
H 115 "What child is this" (*Greensleeves*)

*In the Hymnal*  
*In the Hymnal*

## **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.**

**A CHRISTMAS BLESSING** *The Presider blesses the people, saying*

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **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.**

**CLOSING HYMN** H107 "Good Christian friends, rejoice" (*In dulci jubilo*)

*In the Hymnal*

## DISMISSAL

*Leader* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

**POSTLUDE** In dulci jubilo BWV 729

J.S. Bach

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Preacher & Presider: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan

Assisting Priest: The Rev. Ernie Lewis

Deacon: The Ven. Margaret Grayden

Organist: Oliver Steissberg

Readers: Gwyneth Bruch, Janet Lane

Intercessor: Janet Lane

Crucifer: Bob Holm

Eucharistic Minister: Alessa Johns

Christmas Candle Lighting: Evelyn, Emiliano, Magdalena, Bartolomé, Juan, and Manuela Mateo

Usher: Jessie Ann Owens

Flowers: Carole Hom

## CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS (*Gifts have been made to the Memorials Fund*)

### In loving memory of

The Domingos and Stivers *by Ginny Stivers*

Ron Holm *by Janet Lane and Bob Holm*

Russ and Rachael Bruch, and Dee Cary *by Gwyneth Bruch*

Jerry Lawo, Guy Gregg, and Jim and Nancy Lang *by John and Pamela Dolan*

### In thanksgiving for

Family and dear friends *by Jerry Hulbert*

Andrew, Lindsay and Jack Bruch; Jann Murray-Garcia and Jorge and Gabi Garcia; and Canela, Ian, Sarah, and new-born Moses Yohanan Roper *by Gwyneth Bruch*

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## 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

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STATEMENT OF  
COMMITMENT AND ACTION



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