



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN

First Sunday after Christmas The Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00am Sunday, December 31, 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 in within the text. encourage you to sing and pray actively. Thank you and welcome!

PRELUDE Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen Johannes Bach

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

OPENING HYMN H 109 "The first Nowell the angel did say" (*The First Nowell*) *In the Hymnal*

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*) *In the Hymnal*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING *Please be seated for the readings.*

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

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.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

PSALM

Please join in reading from Psalm 147.

- 13 Jerusalem will worship you, O God, *
and Zion will praise your name.**
- 14 For you have strengthened the bars of your gates *
and have blest our children within us.**
- 15 You have established peace on our borders *
and satisfied us with the finest wheat.**
- 16 You send out your command to the earth, *
and your word runs very swiftly.**
- 17 You give snow like wool *
and scatter hoarfrost like ashes.**
- 18 You scatter your hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against your cold?**
- 19 You send forth your word and melt them; *
you blow with your wind, and the waters flow.**
- 20 You declare your word to Jacob, *
your statutes and your judgments to Israel.**
- 21 You have not done so to any other nation; *
to them you have not revealed your judgments. Alleluia!**

SECOND READING

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4

A reading from the letter to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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 1:1-18

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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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 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. 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.
(The deacon will add prayer requests and then invite the congregation to add their prayers, 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.

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.

*Come forward down the center aisle for Communion. **Choose the station on the left for intinction by the priest or 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 82 "Of the Father's love begotten" (*Divinum mysterium*) *In the Hymnal*
H 98 "Unto us a boy is born" (*Puer nobis natus*) *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 H 99 "Go tell it on the mountain" (*Go Tell It on the Mountain*) *In the Hymnal*

DISMISSAL

Leader Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Praeambulum in E Vincent Lübeck

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan

Presider: The Rev. Ernie Lewis

Deacon: The Ven. Margaret Grayden

Organist: Oliver Steissberg

Readers & Intercessor: Alessa Johns, Chris Reynolds

Crucifer: Janet Lane

Eucharistic Ministers: Alessa Johns, Maria Acuna-Feldman

Usher: Bob Holm

Livestream Coordinator: Gabe Avila

Flowers: Carole Hom

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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.

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.**

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Associate: The Rev. Deborah Hawkins, debbie@churchofstmartin.org

Deacon: The Ven. Margaret Grayden, margaret@churchofstmartin.org

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Treasurer: Jessie Ann Owens, treasurer@churchofstmartin.org



STATEMENT OF
COMMITMENT AND ACTION



WEBSITE LINK



TITHELY: GIVE
WITH A CLICK

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