THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN

ROOTED IN FAITH · GROWING IN HOPE · REACHING OUT IN LOVE



Christmas Day The Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:00am Wednesday, December 25, 2024

SERVICE NOTES: We are glad you have joined us! All the hymns can be found in this bulletin, with some of the service music printed within the text and some printed at the back of the bulletin. **If you are online**: We have posted an online insert, which has helpful information about participating in Communion online. We encourage you to sing and pray actively. Welcome! Merry Christmas! Bienvenidos! Feliz Navidad!

PRELUDE

Prelude VI in D minor – Well-Tempered Clavier Book II (J.S. Bach) "The First Nowell" – English Christmas Carol arr. by David Willcocks

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

OPENING HYMN H 87 "Hark! The herald angels sing" (*Mendelssohn*)

On page 9

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 100 "Joy to the World" (*Antioch*), v. 1, 4

On page 10

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 107 "Good Christian friends, rejoice" (In dulci jubilo) On page 11

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, Sean, 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. We ask 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.*

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

Presider and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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.

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 "The call from Scotland," Pierre Gianferrara

OFFERTORY RESPONSE (Franconia) Please stand, as you are able, and 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

The Lord be with you. Presider 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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth, because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfectly human of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember Christ's death, We proclaim Christ's resurrection, We await Christ's coming in glory.

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with blessed Martin

and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for 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. All the Communion bread is gluten-free and vegan. 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 89 "It came upon a midnight clear" (Carol)
H 101 "Away in a manger" (Cradle Song)

On page 12 On page 13

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray:

Presider and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. 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 105 "God rest you merry, Gentlemen" (God Rest You Merry) On page 14

DISMISSAL

Leader Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Il est né le Divin Enfant" – French Christmas carol (Anon/Fauré) arr. by Jean Claudric

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Preacher and Presider: The Very Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan

Deacon: The Ven. Margaret Grayden

Pianist: Pierre Gianferrara

Readers: Bob Holm, Maria Acuna-Feldman

Intercessor: Maria Acuna-Feldman

Crucifer: Janet Lane

Eucharistic Ministers: Janet Lane, Kimo Kimokeo Christmas Candle Lighting: Janet Lane and Bob Holm

Usher: Jessie Ann Owens, Bob Holm

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.

Hymnal 87 "Hark! The herald angels sing" (Mendelssohn)





Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).



Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: In dulci jubilo, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).



Words: Edmund II. Sears (1810-1876), alt. Music: Carol, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900).

Hymnal 101 "Away in a manger" (Cradle Song)



Words: Traditional carol. Music: Cradle Song, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

Hymnal 105 "God rest you merry, Gentlemen" (God Rest You Merry)



Words: London carol, 18th cent. Music: *God Rest You Merry*, melody from *Little Book of Christmas Carols*, ca. 1850; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

This year, Christmas donations in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for loved ones go to the Altar Guild. The Altar Guild provides all the bread and wine for Communion as well as the linens, candles, candle oil, and silver you see on and around the altar at every service.

In loving memory of

Jim Anderson and David Shelton by Nancy Anderson

Ron Holm, Mary Holm, and Steve Holm by Janet Lane and Bob Holm

George and Charlotte Dugan and Harry Borchers by Alice and Jim Borchers

Maria De Los Angeles Barrera Diaz de Vazquez and Antonio Vazquez by Aiden and Chris Chen-Malloy Jennifer Elizabeth Guy by Brenda and James Guy

Gail Gong by Michael Hannon

Sean Duffey and Emily Murdock by Anne Duffey

Barbara Lee Bondonno and Patricia and Leroy Quaas by Thad and Marianne Quaas

Emma Yayoi Granett by Sandy Granett

Walter A. (Walt) Woodard, by Judy Woodard

Domingo and Mercedes Mastache, Charles and Sonia Mastache, and Veona Jacobs, by Marcia and Robert Jacobs

Ruth and James Humphrey by Joy Humphrey

Evelyn and Harold Miller by Tony Miller

Our dear parents by Diane and Charlie Bamforth

Frank Snow, Michael Quinn, and Darrell Marshall by Diane Snow

Kathleen McCarthy by Molly McCarthy

Dale Hall, by Marianne and Dennis Wilcox

In thanksgiving for

Loving family and friends by Jerry Hulbert

Loving family, especially Annabel and Kathleen by John and Pamela Dolan

Our children and grandchildren by Diane and Charlie Bamforth

Family and friends, by Marianne and Dennis Wilcox

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. We do not photograph or videorecord during Communion.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Diane Bamforth, Beth Capell (Jr. Warden), Ben Eustis-Guthrie, Eric Jordan, Jim Jordan, Elise Keddie, Anthony Miller, Susan Stone, Neil Willits (Sr. Warden), Tom Young.



STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT AND ACTION



WEBSITE LINK



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