



The Holy Eucharist

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

Welcome! If you are new to St. Martin's please drop us a line to let us know a little more about you and your household so we can find ways to include you in our life together.

We hope this service of worship will be a source of strength and inspiration for your spiritual journey.

[CLICK HERE OR USE THE QR CODE TO DROP US A LINE](#)



CHORAL PRELUDE

Cry out with joy

Blakesley

HYMN LEVAS 121

Baptized in Water, sealed by the Spirit

Bunessan

- 1 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praise we sing.
- 2 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with his rising, freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praise we sing.
- 3 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:
Born of one Father, we are his children,
Joyfully now God's praise we sing.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Page 355, Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**
Celebrant

Almighty God, to you our hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Christa and Magnolia Foss

SONG OF PRAISE HYMN 56 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 5-6)* Veni, Veni, Emmanuel



5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us



5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of

5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Page 212, Book of Common Prayer

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.**

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ZEPHANIAH

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
 shout, O Israel!
 Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
 O daughter Jerusalem!
 The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
 he has turned away your enemies.
 The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
 you shall fear disaster no more.
 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
 Do not fear, O Zion;
 do not let your hands grow weak.
 The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
 a warrior who gives victory;
 he will rejoice over you with gladness,
 he will renew you in his love;
 he will exult over you with loud singing
 as on a day of festival.
 I will remove disaster from you,
 so that you will not bear reproach for it.
 I will deal with all your oppressors
 at that time.
 And I will save the lame
 and gather the outcast,
 and I will change their shame into praise
 and renown in all the earth.
 At that time I will bring you home,
 at the time when I gather you;
 for I will make you renowned and praised
 among all the peoples of the earth,
 when I restore your fortunes
 before your eyes, says the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**



Surely, it is God who / saves me; *
 I will trust in him and not be a/fraid.
 For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure de/fense, *
 and he will be my / Savior.
 Therefore you shall draw water with re/joicing *
 from the springs of sal/vation.
 And on that day you shall / say, *
 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his / Name;
 Make his deeds known among the / peoples; *
 see that they remember that his Name is ex/alted.
 Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great / things, *
 and this is known in all the / world.
 Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your / joy, *
 for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of / Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy / Spirit: *
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. A/men

A READING FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 66

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Stuttgart

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

SERMON

The Rev. Gavin Tomlin

A period of silent reflection follows the Sermon

THE NICENE CREED

Page 358, Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant and People

**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 FOR ADVENT

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid, we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for the Anglican Church of Tanzania, St. Andrew's, St. Christopher's, and St. Francis' in Houston, the Chapel Assembly of God, the Mount Baptist Church, and the Well Church. Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for Joseph, Donald, Greg, and all leaders of our cities, state, and nation. Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Come to our community as light and life. We pray for all our neighbors who are working to build your Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. We pray especially for the students, teachers, and staff of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, Copper Creek Elementary, Magnolia Elementary, and Stephen F. Austin State University.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Come to the suffering as Savior and comforter. We pray especially for those we now name. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you forever.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember those who have died. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect. The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

Minister 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 your Son 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.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY

Please take a few moments to offer yourself - your time, your talents, your gifts, and your service to God with a prayer that your offering may be pleasing in God's sight, spread God's love, and make a difference in God's world. You may text 817-270-6880 with an amount + GENERAL or PLEDGE to give or you may scan this QR code to give online, or [click HERE](#).



OFFERTORY HYMN 68

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers

Llangloffan



1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark-ened sphere!



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION 380 ST. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Page 367 Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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 HYMN S130

Holy, Holy, Holy

Schubert

The Celebrant 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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord 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 he 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,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 [] and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM S 153

Christ Our Passover

Martens

THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN 300

Glory, love and praise, and honor

Benifold

1 Glo - ry, love, and praise, and hon - or for our food
 2 Thank - ful for our ev - ery bless - ing, let us sing
 3 He dis - pels our sin and sad - ness, life im - parts,
 now be - stowed ren - der we the Do - nor.
 Christ the Spring, nev - er, nev - er ceas - ing.
 cheers our hearts, fills with food and glad - ness.
 Boun - teous God, we now con - fess thee: God, who thus
 Source of all our gifts and gra - ces, Christ we own;
 Who him - self for all hath giv - en, us he feeds,
 bless - est us, right it is to bless thee.
 Christ a - lone calls for all our prais - es.
 us he leads to a feast in hea - ven.

SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

This week's visitor is John Wieden.

Eucharistic Visitors present themselves at the Altar to receive the Sacrament to take to those who are prevented from attending in person. The Celebrant then says,

In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood.

The People respond,

We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

Eucharistic Visitors remain until the Altar Party retires, then leave for their visits.

THE PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Page 365 Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant and People together standing


Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

HYMN 74

Blest be the King whose coming


Valet will ich dir geben



1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of



God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they



barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

Words: Federico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt. Copyright © 1974, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Ronald Arnatt. Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) alt.; harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930).

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

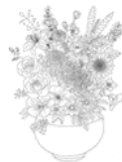
POSTLUDE

Concerto in D minor, Opus 3, #11: Largo e spiccato

Vivaldi

Altar Flower Dedications

The flowers on the altar have been dedicated this week by
 Melissa Kurkul in memory of her father,
 Raymond Tyburski, on the 10 year anniversary of his death,
 and from Julie Marrero in thanksgiving
 for all the blessings in my life and for finding y'all.
 Thank you for opening your doors to me.



Our Staff

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