



The Holy Eucharist

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

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


Your light will come, Jerusalem

Hurd

HYMN 76

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Winchester New



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Music: Winchester New, melody from *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

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

The Barron Family

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.
 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 ISAIAH

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
 the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
 like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
 and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
 the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
 They shall see the glory of the Lord,
 the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
 and make firm the feeble knees.
 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
 "Be strong, do not fear!
 Here is your God.
 He will come with vengeance,
 with terrible recompense.
 He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
 then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 146:4-9, Lauda, anima mea

BCP page 803

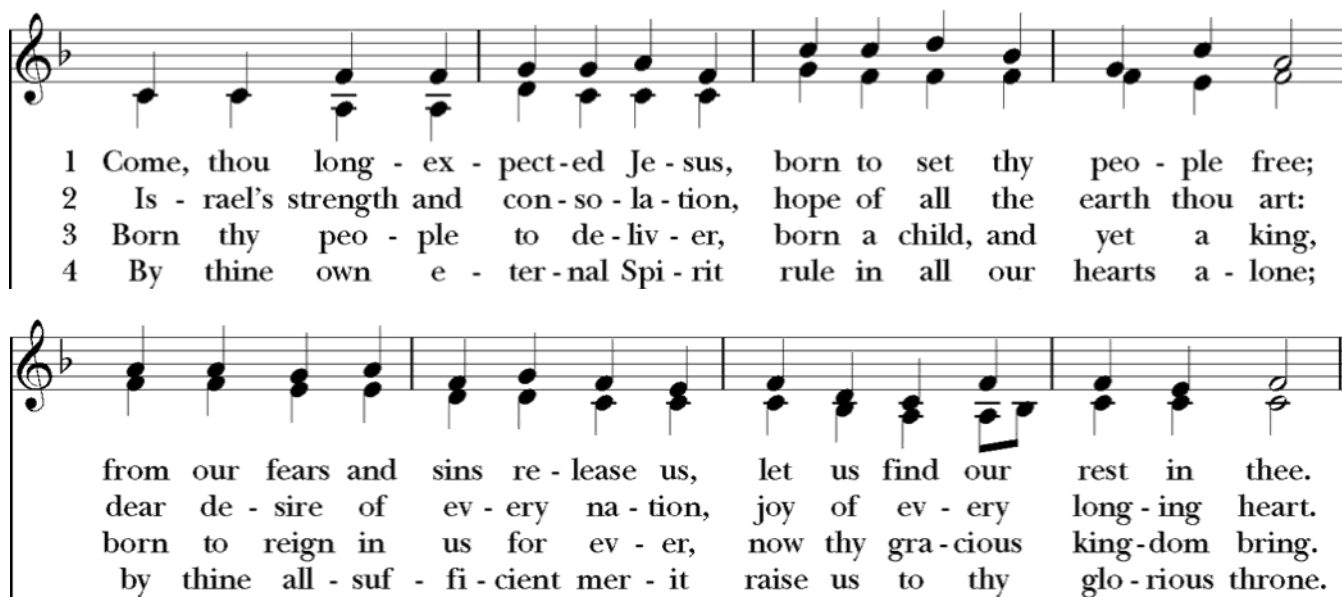
4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their / help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their / God;
5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is / in them; *
who keeps his promise for/ ever;
6 Who gives justice to those who are o/ppressed, *
and food to those who / hunger.
7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the / blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed / down;
8 The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the / stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the / wicked.
9 The Lord shall reign for/ ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Halle/lujah!

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF JAMES

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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



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 *Psalmody Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
 who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

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

SERMON

The Rev. Mark Odieny

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 OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon or other leader

Let us pray to the Lord who draws near in joy.

Strengthen your Church to watch for your coming and to shine with the light of Christ. We pray especially for the Anglican Diocese of Garissa, Kenya, Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil, Santa Maria Virgen, St. Andrew's and St. Christopher's in Houston, and World Reformers International Church.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Guide the leaders of the nations in the ways of justice and peace. We pray for Donald our president, Greg our Governor, and all our state and local leaders.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Bless this community, that we may welcome you in friend and stranger alike. We pray especially for Walnut Grove Elementary, Walter P. Carter Elementary, Washington Technology Magnet School, Wekiva High, and Wellborn Middle.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Watch over those who travel, protect the vulnerable, and shelter all who are without a home.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Bring healing to the sick, hope to the weary, and comfort to all who suffer. We pray especially for

those we now name.

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Receive those who have died into your eternal light and keep us steadfast as we await your kingdom.
[We pray especially for N..]

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 ABSOLUTION

the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

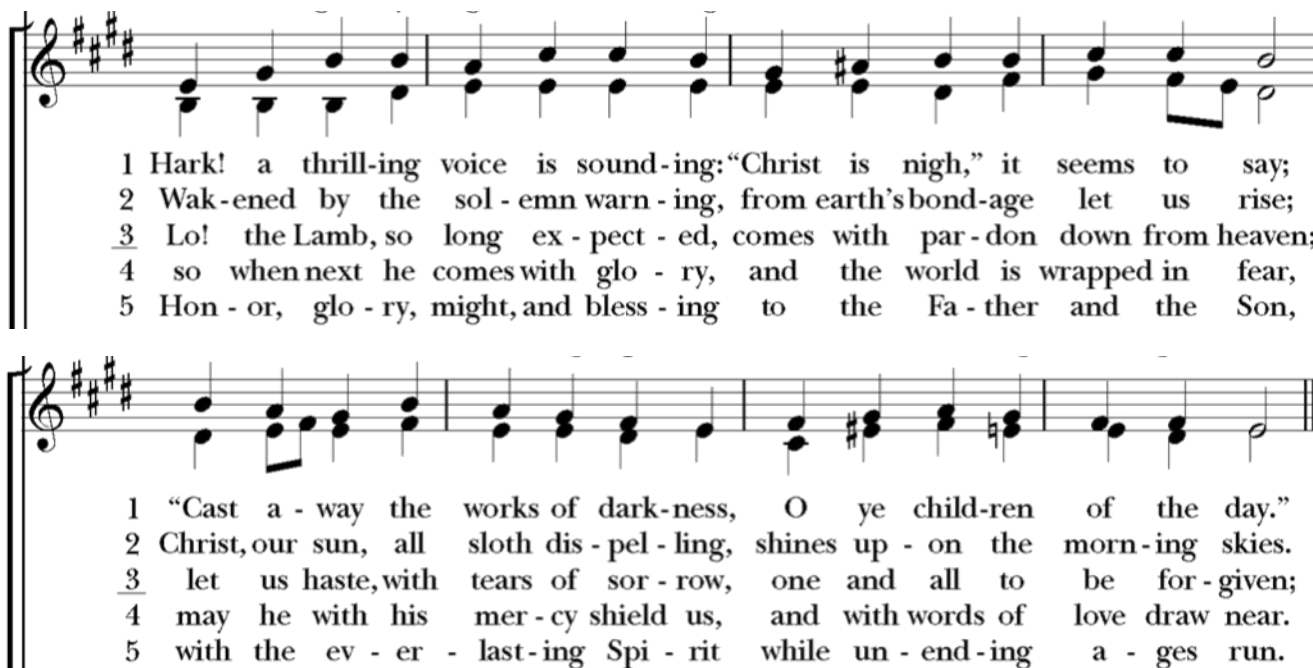
THE PEACE

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](#).





1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
 2 Wak-ened by the sol-emn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex-pect-ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;
 4 so when next he comes with glo-ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
 5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son,

1 "Cast a-way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."
 2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis-pel-ling, shines up-on the morn-ing skies.
 3 let us haste, with tears of sor-row, one and all to be for-given;
 4 may he with his mer-cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
 5 with the ev-er-last-ing Spi-rit while un-end-ing a-ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)
 Copyright © by permission of Cambridge University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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

Page 364 Book of Common Prayer

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM S 153

Christ Our Passover

Martens

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN 338

Wherefore, O Father

Lobet den Herren

Unison or harmony



1 Where-fore, O Fa - ther, we thy hum - ble ser - vants here bring be -
2 See now thy chil - dren, mak - ing in - ter - ces - sion through him our

fore thee Christ thy well - be - lov - ed. All - per - fect Of - fering,
Sa - vior, Son of God in - car - nate, for all thy peo - ple,

sac - ri - fice im - mor - tal, spot - less ob - la - tion.
liv - ing and de - part - ed, plead - ing be - fore thee.

Words: William Henry Hammond Jervois (1852-1905). Music: *Lobet den Herren*, melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); harm. Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859).

CHOIR ANTHEM

Come, Emmanuel

Price / Besig

SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

The Celebrant 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



1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise
 2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -
 3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -
 scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its
 dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray
 course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone
 are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

ought of joy or that hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it
 gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges
 hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
 are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
 Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: *Aberystwyth*, Joseph Parry (1841-1903).

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon
People

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

POSTLUDE

Concerto in D minor, Opus 3, #11: Fuga

Vivaldi

Our Staff

The Rev. Alan Bentrup, Rector
alan.bentrup@stmartininthefields.org

The Rev. Ayo Omoniyi, Deacon
ayo.omoniyi@stmartininthefields.org

The Rev. Mark Odieny, Priest Assistant
markodieny@gmail.com

Liza Goodner, Director of Children & Family Ministries
liza.goodner@stmartininthefields.org

Bob Duquesnel, Organist & Choir Master
bob.duquesnel@stmartininthefields.org

Sue Mitchell, Financial Manager
sue.mitchell@stmartininthefields.org

Anika Rinker, Parish Administrator
stmartin@stmartininthefields.org

Mary Beth Butler, Senior Warden
marybethbutler@gmail.com

More ways to connect!
Just click on the links for more information

Want to stay informed about all our news & events?
[Subscribe to our weekly email!](#)

Or visit our website anytime:
stmartininthefields.org



St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church
223 South Pearson Lane • P.O. Box 1149 (76244)
Keller, Texas 76248
Ph) 817•431•2396
Txt) 682•338•4485