



Theotokos by John Filippakis. Icon, tempera on board; St. Paul Orthodox Christian Church, Naples, Florida.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

10:30 a.m.

St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church

The Reverend Matthew Hanisian, *Rector*

The Reverend Nathan Erdman, *Associate Rector and Chaplain*

The Reverend Dr. John Price, *Priest Associate*

The Reverend Kathleen Schotto, *Deacon and Seminarian*

Dr. HyeSung Hwang, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Our mission is to gather as a welcoming community of Christ called to love and serve God,
our neighbors and each other in joyful presence in the world.**

375 Benfield Road · Severna Park, Maryland 21146

www.stmartinsinthe field.com · email: parishadmin@stmartinsinthe field.org



**St. Martin's
in-the-Field**
Episcopal Church

What at St. Martin's facilitates and grows your relationship with God?

When I reflect on why I want to maintain my relationship with God through the Episcopal church, I think of my childhood. I remember attending St. James in Mt. Airy for preschool; moving to downtown Frederick and becoming a member at All Saints. I think about all the friends I made that I would've never met if it weren't for church. I cherish attending overnight camp at both Claggett and Peterkin in Romney, WV. I was pen pals with kids from those camps for years after and even happened to attend college with one. I was an acolyte and recall wanting to be asked to swing the thurible in figure eights down the aisle on Christmas. I remember the 250-mile bicycle trip organized by clergy at Claggett. During my years in college, we'd nearly rebuild entire homes for families in both the most rural and urban parts of Frederick. The foundation of much of my childhood is embedded in experiences organized by the church to help me walk in the Light of Christ.

When my family grew, we became anchored at St. Martin's. We took notice when Rev. Matthew was hired, and we started attending more regularly. The lessons in the sermon resonated with me. I started to realize how much having an affinity for the Rector played in my dedication to my life at church and my desire to want to do more. My daughter, Hannah, getting older helped too. As a child, it was the children around me that made those experiences memorable. As an adult, the call to God's work is much more complex. There are many draws to our attention as an adult. St. Martin's helps me remember to prioritize God first in my day. How can I make life better for all around me?

My experience with the Many Rivers Adult Formation Program solidified my interest in being a member of the church. Researching the needs of those within our greater community was very satisfying. Coalescing many voices to the mission of love and care for others makes life worth living. Our collective efforts to prioritize solutions for those suffering from the effects of Poverty, Affordable Housing and Homelessness, and Mental Illness flipped the script with my efforts at the church and in my faith. I sought to follow. I wanted to show up and give my input to the betterment of the cause. God didn't ask that I follow through. He asked me to lead. He asked me to become better friends with the congregation. He asked me to learn each other's strengths and where we fall short.

I'd flown above the radar, as my life with St. Martin's grew, and I was asked to serve on Vestry. I knew the word. My parents had both served on Vestry at All Saints. I had no clue about the work. As the church's largest mission was in the thralls of a construction project to enhance our campus and capacity to teach the children the love of God, Vestry was that long-keeled boat that ran our course straight through the squalls. As those doors opened for the first time late in 2019, we know what came next. We expected the wheels might fall off the bus when fear of COVID-19 wreaked havoc on our path to serve more. From one bout to the next, our Rector and clergy, our teachers and staff, and our congregation adapted. This church and my calling are unwavering. As I serve here, I receive here. I want our physical campus to be the meeting space where we're fed God's love to care for each other. I want my daughter to remember her upbringing here as I did at All Saints. In my typical fashion I'll throw out my dreams for this place:

- Heck Hall repurposed as a safe space for youth in our community to gather and learn afterhours.
- A poker run down the Severn in kayaks or the like to fundraise for the watershed. I know we can't use regular cards. We're going to have to use Bible cards.
- A Volunteer Group willing to work around the campus and enjoy fellowship.
- A revival of the Affordable Housing and Homelessness outreach committee.

What dreams does God put in your head?

~ **Jason Copeland**, Junior Warden

Welcome to St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church

Our worship services are taken from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and The Hymnal 1982 (H).
All are invited to participate fully in our worship of God today, congregational responses are in **bold italics**.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

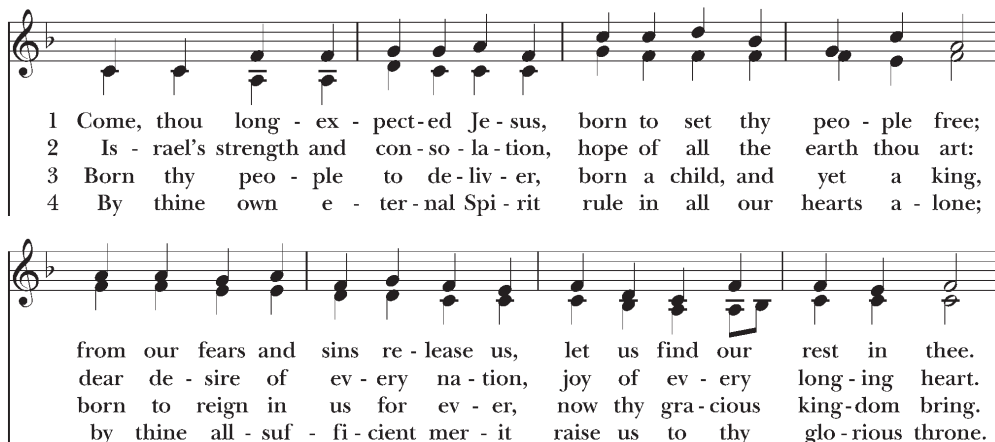
WELCOME

PRELUDE: *Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott*, BWV 602

Johann Sebastian Bach

OPENING HYMN: *Come, thou long expected Jesus*

H 66



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.

Our **Hymns** today feature words of hopeful expectation of the birth of Jesus into the world and the light and life that brings to all creation.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all 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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.*** Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

A READING FROM THE PROPHET MICAH

5:2-5A

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

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

The Collect of the Day "collects" our individual thoughts into unified prayer that we might respond to the lessons we are about to hear.

The Collects during the season of Advent have themes of repentance and preparation for our lives and souls as we await the coming of Jesus at Christmas

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A READING FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE 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.

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL

1:39-45

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Reverend Matthew Hanisian

One minute of silence.

*At the sound of the bell please pray for an additional minute answering the following question:
"What at St. Martin's facilitates and grows your relationship with God?"*

*The
congregation
stands for
proclamation
of the Holy
Gospel*

The Nicene Creed is the most ancient and important corporate confession of our faith. We are joining ourselves to the great heritage of the holy (of God) catholic (universal) and apostolic (witnessing to the resurrection) church down through the centuries.

The Prayers of the People remind us that in our worship we are connected to a larger fellowship - the Church - the Body of Christ, on whose heart lies the cares and concerns of the world.

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—FORM I

BCP p. 383

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, ***“Lord, have mercy.”***

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer this week we pray for The Church of Province of Central Africa; and in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for: St. Mark's, Highland; St. Mary's, Woodlawn; St. Paul's, Mount Airy; for the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our bishops; for Matthew, Nathan, and John our clergy; Kathleen our seminarian and deacon; and for all bishops and other ministers, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For Joseph, our President; the Congress and Supreme Court of the United States; for Larry, our governor; Steuart, our county executive; and for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School and Charlie, our Interim Head of School; for this city, Severna Park, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering especially: Clark; the Markey family, David Luke, Tim, Mildred and family, Peg, Joseph, Mamsook, Alison, and Donald as well as those in our parish family in need of our continued, long-term prayers as listed in our bulletin; let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died, especially those killed by the deadly storms this past week, in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For all the blessings of this life; for all in our parish family who celebrate birthdays this week: John, Terry, Alex and Trinity; and for Bob and Joyce Lee who celebrate their wedding anniversary.

In the communion of blessed Martin and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. ***To you, O Lord our God.***

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. ***And also with you.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GIVING

Give your offering electronically or using the plates at the back of the church, as we are unable to pass collection plates. You may text **Give2STM to 73256 to give via text messaging, or you may choose to give online via our secure online system by clicking here:**

<https://stmartinsinthefield.com/giving/give/>

In our parish family long term prayers are requested for:

George, Eileen, Stephen, Alison, Dwayne, Jeff, Barbara, Jim, Matt, Tina, Chris, Lois, Kyle, Katherine and Kenny.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Magnificat*

Helen Kemp

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

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

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

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

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.

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,

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

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 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.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.

FRACTION

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

INVITATION

The Sanctus, which begins, "Holy, holy, holy..." is a hymn of remembrance, consecration and praise where our voices echo the voices of the angels who eternally praise God with these words. Our worship also includes the Benedictus, "Blessed is he..." a Christological acclamation of the coming of Christ into the world, taken from Matthew's gospel.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

ALL are welcome to receive Holy Communion at St. Martin's. Please come forward to the standing station in the middle of the center aisle, following the instructions of the ushers. Tape marks on the main aisle indicate 6' of social distance.

In the Anglican Tradition, consuming either the Bread or Wine is the same as consuming both elements.

Families may come forward together as a group.

Gluten-Free wafers are available, please let your need be known to the Celebrant.

THE CONGREGATION JOINS IN THE SINGING OF THE COMMUNION HYMNS

COMMUNION HYMN: O come, O come, Emmanuel

H 56 v. 1, 4-6




(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
(Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som


1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
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
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.


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



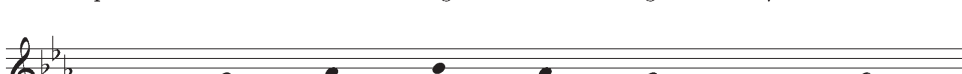
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In - sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
 * 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 365

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.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: *Blest be the King whose coming*

H 74



1 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose coming 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!

The Dismissal
 asserts the
 relationship
 between
 worship
 and living.
 It is a call to
 mission, a
 call to live the
 baptismal and
 Eucharistic life
 in the world.

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. ***Thanks be to God.***

POSTLUDE: Toccata on "O come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Matthew McConnell y

*The congregation is invited to sit and listen to the postlude,
 remaining in the sanctuary until the online broadcast concludes.*

*The members of our Choir are fully vaccinated and per the diocesan guidelines can sing
 while maintaining social distancing guidelines.*

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**St. Martin's
 in-the-Field**
 Episcopal Church

Visit us online at ST MARTINSINTHEFIELD.ORG

St. Martin's-in-the-Field

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

2022 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thank you to all who have given back to God this year to support the ministry and mission of St. Martin's in 2022. **So far we have received pledges from 94 households totaling \$624,000.** Last year we had 154 households pledge \$656,000. The average increase per household this year is over 22%. This is wonderful news. If you have not yet made your gift back to God, please do so now—every gift is vital as we come through the pandemic. **Pledge cards are in the Narthex or pledge online at stmartinsinthefield.com/giving/pledge/** Send your completed pledge cards to the Parish Office.



WE REACHED OUR 5K SERVICE TO SERVICE GOAL

During one of the toughest periods our community faced, the Covid pandemic, **we surpassed our goal of giving 5,000 hours of service to our community.** What an achievement. A huge thank you to our parish family for the many ways we give back to our community. While our goal has been met that doesn't mean we are done. There is always work that continues to need to be done using our hands, hearts, and selves through our ministries. How will you help us serve our world in Jesus' name this new year?



*Christmas
Worship
Services*

Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m.

Service of Holy Eucharist & Pageant

Christmas Eve 8:00 p.m.

Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Christmas Day 12:00 noon

Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

All services will be in-person and livestream.

TODAY IS YOUR LAST CHANCE FOR:

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS AND MEMORIALS

DEADLINE is Sunday, December 19. While worship is going to be different this Christmas season our altar flower dedications remain the same. To make a dedication or memorial for a loved one for Christmas please [complete this form \(https://forms.gle/gPQRbELB1imZEfF28\)](https://forms.gle/gPQRbELB1imZEfF28) \$35 minimum donation requested. Should you wish to be more generous please feel free to do so.



ADVENT-IN-A-BOX

Final Session TODAY December 19, 4:00-5:00 p.m. (Zoom)

Share the wonder of Advent with your St. Martin's family with our Advent-in-a-Box. **We still have boxes available. Cost \$10 per box. Contact the church office to get yours** just email parishadmin@stmartinsinthefield.org. Connect with us via Zoom Sundays at 4:00 p.m. each Sunday in Advent as we gather together virtually to discover the surprises within our box. (Zoom information provided with your box).

EYC: THE GREAT GINGERBREAD HOUSE BUILD-OFF

Sunday, December 19, 5:30 p.m. (Parish Hall)

Lots of great creations, but only one can be the 2021 winner! Join us for creative, tasty friendly competition.



EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is an opportunity for our young people, in grades 6-12, to come together. Friends are most welcome and invited to attend.

ADVENT ADULT FORMATION

Final session Tuesday December 21, 7:30-8:15 p.m. (Zoom)

We know all about Christmas, but what about Advent? So often we get excited about the coming of Christmas that we forget the preparation required for such an incredible event. Join us as we talk through the book "Light of the World" by Amy-Jill Levine on Tuesdays in Advent via Zoom from 7:30 - 8:15 p.m. Please RSVP by emailing Kathleen Schotto at seminarian@stmartinsinthefield.org.

St. Martin's-in-the-Field MINISTRY AND REMINDERS

ONE OF OUR MOST VITAL MINISTRIES

We give great and hearty thanks for the leadership and dedication Larry Sells has given as Outreach commissioner the last three years. Larry has been dedicated in ensuring that St. Martin's Outreach efforts spread far and wide despite the restrictions the pandemic has presented. We now invite you to look into your heart and discern if this could be your calling to help coordinate one of our most important and vital ministries at St. Martin's. To hear more about this role or to volunteer to be a part of this wonderful team that does some truly amazing ministry, please contact Rev. Matthew, rector@stmartinsinthefield.org.



NURSERY AND CHILDREN'S CHAPEL TO RESUME - JANUARY 9

January 9 we welcome back our Nursery and Children's Chapel. Our nursery will be available from 9:00-11:30 a.m. on Sundays for infants and children ages 3 and under. Children's Chapel happens during the 10:30 a.m. service, from before the reading of the Gospel to the Peace. Children from 3 years old to 2nd grade, are invited to experience an age appropriate Liturgy of the Word led by Children's Chapel adult leaders. **Adult volunteers needed.** Contact Rev. Nathan, associate@stmartinsinthefield.org for details and learn how you can help.



SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood. **If you think you or someone you know is suffering seek support today.** Online resources provided on St. Martin's website, <https://stmartinsinthefield.com/parish-life/mental-health/>. For immediate assistance call our office at (410) 647-6248 any time and follow the prompts for pastoral emergency.



WEEKLY PROGRAMMING

PARENTS' GROUP

Sundays, 9:15 a.m. (Parish Hall)

We meet every Sunday for fellowship, conversation, education, and hands-on projects that benefit St. Martin's and our community. Contact Rev. Matthew at rector@stmartinsinthefield.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Mondays, 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)

Thomas Merton-Mystic and Messenger will be a five-part series where we will explore the writings of this 20th century Trappist monk who, although he lived most of his life in a monastery in Kentucky was a prolific and influential writer. We will explore his words on Mysticism and Spirituality, Prayer and Contemplation, Love and Life's Purpose, and "Christ Consciousness." No prior familiarity with Merton's work is necessary. To sign up contact Bill Thomas, willyumsp@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE WORKBENCH

Sundays, 9:00 a.m. (via Zoom)

Explore the Scripture readings from our Sunday Eucharists and discuss how these spiritual themes shape our lives as Christians. Sign up at <https://stmartinsinthefield.com/events/>.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

Sundays, 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School (K-Grade 5): The back picnic tables, with the church or parish hall being utilized as a rain location.

Rite-13 (Grade 6-7): SMES Middle School Classrooms

J2A (Grade 8-9): Lower Heck Hall

Confirmation Class/YAC (Grade 10-11): SMES Middle School Classrooms

Senior YAC (Grade 12): SMES Teacher Workroom.

If you haven't already, be sure to register online at: <https://stmartinsinthefield.com/ministries/>.

SHEPHERD GROUP **Thursdays, 4:30 p.m. (via Zoom)**

Group discussion of the readings for the upcoming Sunday. All adults welcome. For zoom link and details contact Susan Griesmyer at sgriesmyer@verizon.net.

THE BOOK OF DANIEL - BIBLE CHALLENGE

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. (St. Martin's House)

A 12 week study on the Book of Daniel. To order the Book of Daniel study guide online visit <http://lamplightersusa.org>. Contact Cindy Neseth at cincysue1@aol.com.