

St. Martin's parishioners submitted these images as part of AdventWord, the global online Advent Calendar. See what others around the world are envisioning as we prepare ourselves for Jesus' birth this Christmas. Visit www.adventword.org for additional daily images, words and meditations.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

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*

Dr. HyeSung Hwang, *Director of Music Ministries*

Ms. Kathleen Schotto, *Seminarian*

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.stmartinsinthefield.com · email: parishadmin@stmartinsinthefield.org

CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS and MEMORIALS

While worship is going to be different this Christmas season our altar flower dedications remain the same. We encourage our



St. Martin's community to sign up to dedicate Christmas altar flowers this year. To dedicate flowers please [complete this form](#). You can also visit <https://stmartinsinthefield.com/parish-life/parishioner-services/>

Be sure to indicate if your flowers are "In Memory Of," and/or "In Thanksgiving For," or other message. \$35 minimum donation requested. Should you wish to be more generous please feel free to do so. **DEADLINE for dedications is this Sunday, December 20.**

CANDLES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Stop by St. Martin's next week and pick up candles and the paper holders for our traditional candle-lit singing of *Silent Night* during our Christmas Eve services. The



candles will be on the front porch of the church in a sealed tote, please take only the number you need so that everyone can have one. Thanks to our wonderful Altar Guild for making this possible for us.

#ADVENTWORD DATES STILL AVAILABLE

Represent St. Martin's in this global, online Advent calendar by signing up to post an image about each day's word. On your day, simply share a photo of what the daily word means to you on social media, and tag your post with: **#stmartinsinthefield**, **#adventword** and the **word of the day**. For details on how it works and to **SIGN UP** visit stmartinsinthefield.com/parish-life/events/

HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS TO SUPPORT J2A

Our J2A Youth Group is again selling gift cards for their upcoming pilgrimage this summer. Even though we are not selling at church, you can still buy gift cards, which make wonderful gifts for the holidays. To place an order or find out how to set up an account and order online please contact *Meg Stott*, mcstott65@yahoo.com.



Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m.

Family Style Worship

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 livestreamed.

Join us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/stmartinsinthefield/>

SPECIAL FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY SERVICE

St. Martin's will host several Episcopal churches for a special livestreamed service on January 6, exact time will be determined shortly. Epiphany is one of the holiest days of the church year and we are excited to offer this service to our parish and the wider diocese. For more information contact Rev. Matthew: rector@stmartinsinthefield.org.

EPIPHANY TAKE-HOME BLESSINGS

Due to COVID we've modified our tradition of a priest coming to bless and inscribe your entry way to keep this wonderful



tradition alive. Starting on January 10 we will have all the ingredients ready for you to pick up from the front porch of the church for YOUR OWN **Chalking of the Door**. We will furnish the pre-blessed chalk, real Holy Water, and a simple short service bulletin for you, while supplies last. Contact Rev. Matthew with questions or for more information: rector@stmartinsinthefield.org and send us your photos of your chalked door to: communications@stmartinsinthefield.org.

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.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II - 10:30 A.M.

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME

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

Johann Sebastian Bach

OPENING HYMN: *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

H 56, v. 1 & 5



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

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.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

The Collect for Purity entreats almighty God to prepare our hearts for worship. This prayer dates back to the 10th century and has appeared in almost every Anglican Prayer Book in the world since Thomas Cranmer's original translation in the 1549 Prayer Book.

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

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 SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL

7:1-11, 16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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

THE SONG OF MARY, MAGNIFICAT

BCP p. 91

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.

A READING FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS

16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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

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

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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

SERMON

Reverend Matthew Hanisian

MUSICAL REFLECTION: *Ave Maria*

Franz Schubert

NICENE CREED

BCP p. 358

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 VI

BCP p. 392

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For our St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School, for Jamey, our head of school, and for all people in their daily life and work; ***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

For Donald, our President; for Joseph, our president-elect; the Congress and Supreme Court of the United States; for Larry, our governor; and Steuart, our county executive and for this community, the nation, and the world. ***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

For the just and proper use of your creation; ***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

We pray for the needs of our parish family; for Marin, Wamahdri, Raejean, Steven, Jackie, the Hider family, Wilma, Chris, Dan, Lois, Matt, the Eveleth family, Kyle, Andrew, Cole, and Katherine. For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; ***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

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.

This week in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union around the world; in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for: Resurrection, Baltimore; St. Mary the Virgin, Baltimore; and St. Paul's, Baltimore; and for the peace and unity of the Church of God; **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert our Bishops; for Matthew, Nathan, and John our clergy; for Kathleen our seminarian and for all bishops and other ministers; **For all who serve God in his Church.**

We continue to pray for those affected by the COVID-19 virus and all health care providers, as they tend to those who have been infected; for those affected by natural disasters; for those whose lives have been forever altered by racial violence and for those who have seen their neighborhood host terrifying violence and astonishing destruction; for those who live in fear, remembering especially our Black brothers and sisters who have for decades cried out against injustice and not been heard by those with the power to make change; and for all those serving in our military and law enforcement communities.

Hear us, Lord: **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you Lord for all the blessings of this life; this week we pray for all those in our parish family who celebrate their birthday: Terry, Alex, Trinity and Meg. And we pray for Bob and Joyce Lee who celebrate their anniversary this week.

Your own prayers of thanksgiving are invited now, either silently or aloud.

We will exalt you, O God our King; **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, especially Mark Askren and Gary Burdette, and for those we name aloud now or remember in the stillness of our hearts—that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; **Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

In thanksgiving for the many blessings God has given you, joyfully giveback to God to enable the mission and ministry of St. Martin's as we continue to serve our neighborhood, community and the world in the name of the risen Christ.

Please click the link in the livestream video to give, or visit stmartinsinthefield.com/giving.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY: *People, Look East*

Sondra Tucker
Handbell Choir

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.**

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.

The Post-communion Prayer comes from the prayer book for the Armed Forces and speaks to Spiritual Communion whereby the assembled congregation spiritually partakes of the bread and wine while only the celebrant consumes the elements.

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.

INVITATION

Bishop Sutton has permitted the Celebrant ONLY, on behalf of the congregation, to consume the consecrated elements of the Eucharist.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: Savior of the nations, come!

H 54, v. 1 & 2



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's
 2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the
 3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing
 4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both
 Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and
 his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and
 sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
 Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
 hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.
 king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE: Postlude on "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Robert M. Thompson

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Visit us online at SMARTINSINTHEFIELD.ORG

St. Martin's-in-the-Field

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

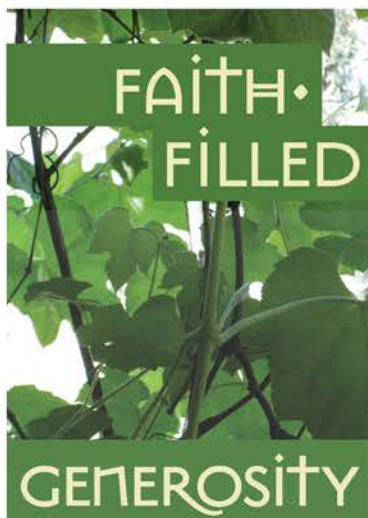
STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

THANK YOU to all who have made their gift back to God. At this time 102 households have pledged out of 146 last year. In terms of treasure pledged, we have received pledges totaling \$511K, which puts us about \$209K of last year's pledge total and what we need to continue delivering St. Martin's mission and ministry, without any increase to cover fixed costs or additional outreach efforts in the new year.

The Vestry will continue making calls this week to the households who have yet to give back to God with a pledge. It's critical for the Vestry to know what resources St. Martin's has in order to make responsible judgments about funding for ministries and missions in 2021 and respond to God's call.

Now is the time to make your pledge. Thank you again to all who have already answered the call.

~ Tim George and Jamie Stott
2020 Stewardship co-chairs



THE NUMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 12:

102 household pledges vs. 146 last year.

\$511,857 pledged vs. \$720,000 last year.

Average increase this year of **5.38%** from pledging households.

14 households are giving LESS back to God than last year.

26 households are giving the SAME back to God as last year.

58 households are giving MORE back to God than last year. *The average increase is 15.56% more--AWESOME!*

If you have not pledged, please prayerfully consider your gift back to God and make your pledge today. If you are able to give more this year or you would like to adjust your pledge, contact our Treasurer, treasurer@stmartinsinthe.org.

Pledging online or download a printable version of the pledge card at: <https://stmartinsinthe.org/giving/pledge/> Send your completed pledge cards to the Parish Office.

CONSTRUCTION IN THE SANCTUARY

The beautiful new sanctuary flooring has been installed. The pews and altar rail will undergo repair and restoration work returning back to church at some point after the New Year. Until the pews return we will use chairs only in the sanctuary.



START TIME FOR 10:30 A.M. LIVESTREAMED SUNDAY WORSHIP

Starting this Sunday, we will begin our livestream worship on Sunday morning with a **welcome and Prelude starting at 10:25 a.m.** As when we had in-person worship, the opening hymn begins promptly at our published **service start time, 10:30 a.m.** So, if like to hear the beautiful music and center yourself for worship, please remember to log in five minutes ahead of 10:30 a.m. For more information or with questions contact Rev. Matthew: rector@stmartinsinthe.org.

DIOCESE OF MARYLAND SUSPENDS IN-PERSON WORSHIP FOR REMAINDER OF 2020

In response to rising COVID-19 positivity rates the diocese has suspended in-person worship service through the end of the 2020 year. We will let you know when the diocese will allow us to resume. Join us for our Sunday 10:30 a.m. livestream services.