



Two Angels Singing by Benjamin West, 1738-1820, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56063>.

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 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?

For the last few weeks we have taken an extra minute in our week to specifically reflect on "What at St. Martin's facilitates and grows your relationship with God?" In the beginning of this practice I had thought that each week I would focus on a different element of life at St. Martin's, but each week my mind kept coming back to the same element - YOU. Collectively and individually - it is the people, this community, that facilitates and grows my relationship with God.

Whether I have known you for 13 years from the first Advent we walked through these doors with a newborn, or we just met at the Parents' Group this fall or 2 weeks ago at Advent wreath making...

Whether you have taught my kids Sunday school for years, we served on vestry together or we once served a meal together as part of Winter Shelter...

Or maybe we don't know each other well. Perhaps I hear you sing in the choir, enjoy your beautiful flower arrangements each Sunday, or have watched your kids learn to take communion or receive a blessing for the first time...your presence here impacts me.

It is the people that make the place for me.

Most of you have heard me say it before but it bears repeating. I learn so much from all of you. Being surrounded by a community of people who in your daily work, your marriages, and especially in your parenting, are all striving to live a life centered in faith and are challenged to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our world, provides me with the kind of community that can't be found just anywhere.

To me the "Most Perfect Gift" is the community that is St Martin's in the Field. And while community can't be bought, it must be invested in. Giving can take many different forms. As someone who has spent much of my career in non-profit management - giving can be transactional or transformational. Our family giving includes a number of schools and causes and organizations that have importance to our family. In many cases we write a small check and send it to the organization in appreciation for their mission and work and hope that *they* go on to do good things with that gift.

To me giving to St. Martin's is different - giving to St. Martin's isn't simply writing a check and expecting someone else to do the work. Your gift to St. Martin's supports this community, the whole community, and it makes the community possible. We are that community and together with your gifts of time, treasure and talent we are the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. Is there anything more powerful than that? Giving to St. Martin's isn't just writing a check and sending it on its way. It is a financial commitment, coupled with showing up each week and leaning into our work and our world together. I literally can't put a number on the value I receive from being a part of this community. These are transformational gifts - the ones we give and the ones we receive in return.

~ Susan Shingledecker, Senior 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: *Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottessohn*, BWV 601

Johann Sebastian Bach

OPENING HYMN: *Rejoice, rejoice, believers*

H 68

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!

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.

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.***

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

A READING FROM THE PROPHET 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.

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

CANTICLE 9: THE FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH

BCP p. 86

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

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 exalted.

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 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

3:7-18

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. ***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."

*The
congregation
stands for
proclamation
of the Holy
Gospel*

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.

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

SERMON

The Reverend Kathleen Schotto

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?"*

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 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 Canada; and in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for: St. Barnabas', Sykesville; St. Christopher's, Linthicum Heights; St. John's, Ellicott City; 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.***

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.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering especially: the Markey family, David Luke, Tim, Mildred and family, Peg, Joseph, Mamsook, Alison, Adele, Jeanie, Donald, and George 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 Gerald Young and all who have died 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: Gus, Jeannie, Natalie, Nathan, George, Keira and Laura; and for Scott and Katie Collier 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:
Eileen, Stephen, Alison, Dwayne, Jeff, Barbara, Jim, Matt, Tina, Chris, Lois, Kyle, Katherine and Kenny.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *In Night's Dim Shadows Lying*

Kath, Gesangbuch arr. George Guest

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: *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*

H 324



1 Let all mo - rtal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with
trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man
on the way, as the Light of Light de -
sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the
mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,
Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
he will give to all the faith - ful
that the powers of hell may va - nish
"Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
our full hom - age to de - mand.
his own self for heaven - ly food.
as the dark - ness clears a - way.
Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

COMMUNION HYMN: *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing*

H 344

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
 3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the
 joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,
 tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
 glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,
 O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;
 may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

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: *Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding*

H 59

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.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE: Trumpet Tune in "Venez divin Messie"

David Lasky

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.

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.

St. Martin's-in-the-Field

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN UP

We are thrilled to announce that we will be able to offer a Christmas Pageant this year on Friday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m. *Here's all the information you need to sign up your family for a great Christmas pageant at St. Martin's:*

- **Sign-up by Wednesday, December 15 online at <https://form.jotform.com/213425963038053>**
- **Rehearsal on Sunday, December 19 at 11:45 a.m.**
- Arrival time for the cast is 3:15 p.m. on Christmas Eve.
- Kids ages 4 through Grade 5 can sign up to be Angels, or Shepherds.
- Children in Grade 4 and 5 can sign up to be considered for Mary, Joseph and reading roles.
- Parents can [sign-up](#) to help out with the fun!

The sooner everyone signs up the sooner we can have costumes ready for all of our angels and shepherds! For questions contact Rev. Nathan, associate@stmartinsinthe field.org

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.



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.

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 82 households totaling \$559,292.**



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 stmartinsinthe field.org/giving/pledge/** Send your completed pledge cards to the Parish Office.

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/gPQRbELB1imZEf28>) \$35 minimum donation requested. Should you wish to be more generous please feel free to do so.



ADVENT ADULT FORMATION

Tuesdays, through 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@stmartinsinthe field.org.

ADVENT-IN-A-BOX

Sundays, through 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@stmartinsinthe field.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).

St. Martin's-in-the-Field

MINISTRY AND REMINDERS

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SHARING

Join your St. Martin's family in helping to provide Christmas gifts and food to 23 families and 5 seniors citizens this year. **We welcome ALL parishioners to join us Sunday, December 19 from 9:00-10:00 a.m.** as we wrap presents and prepare food baskets.

Sign up for a food item: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054aadae28ab9-christmas>
Please have food in Kitchen before December 19 or drop off in back parking lot at 9:00 a.m. on December 19.

Sign up for a gift: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054aadae28ab9-gifts>
Please bring your gift (wrapped or unwrapped) with the Family # and Gift # clearly labeled to St. Martins on or before Sunday, December 19 between 9:00-10:00 a.m. Drive through drop off will be available on the playground parking lot behind the Parish Hall. Questions, contact Cindy Rott, cmroott@aol.com, (443) 336-6062.



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 is at the 10:30 a.m. service, during the Sequence Hymn. 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@stmartinsinthe field.org for details and to learn how you can help.

PARENTS' GROUP CLOTHING DRIVE

Sunday, December 12 (Final day of Collection)

Our Parents' Group is collecting new and gently used clothing: jackets, hats, gloves, scarves to be given to those in need in our community through our local partners in ministry. New and gently used children's books are also being collected. Drop off all items in the box located in the Narthex by Sunday, December 12. Thank you for your generosity in helping to keep our neighbors in need warm this Christmas season.

#ADVENTWORD

#AdventWord is a visual, global, online Advent calendar. Deepen your understanding of the coming of Jesus into the world through the practices of meditation and prayer using the #AdventWord of the day. Simply share a photo of what the daily word means to you on social media, such as Instagram or Facebook. **Be sure to tag your post with: #stmartinsinthe field, #adventword2021 and the word of the day** (ex: #shine). For details and to sign up to receive the 2021 word list visit <https://adventword.org/en/home/>

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@stmartinsinthe field.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://stmartinsinthe field.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://stmartinsinthe field.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.

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend Matthew Hanisian, Rector, rector@stmartinsinthefield.org

Lead pastor of our congregation, point of contact for baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Works with Vestry on budget, stewardship, property, and overall parish vision. Oversees our worship and parish events.

The Reverend Nathan Erdman, Associate Rector and School Chaplain, associate@stmartinsinthefield.org

Primarily responsible for supporting the continued growth of our vibrant Children's and Youth ministries within the church, and serves as the Chaplain for our St. Martin's Episcopal School.

The Reverend Dr. John Price, Priest Associate

Assists with parish pastoral care, preaching and leading the *Bible Workbench*, a weekly adult bible study on Sunday mornings.

Dr. HyeSung Hwang, Director of Music Ministries, music@stmartinsinthefield.org

Directs the adult and children's choirs, the hand bell ensemble, as well as organizes the music programs for all weekly and special services.

Anne Stewart, Administrative Assistant, parishadmin@stmartinsinthefield.org

Responsible for the running of the church office, the office volunteers, our parish calendar, outside group and space scheduling, and keeping our parish database of contact information updated and humming.

Amber Kaltz, Communications Coordinator, communications@stmartinsinthefield.org

Manages parish communications including, weekly E-Pistle, website, social media and local advertising. Produces worship bulletins, reports and booklets, and maintains office computers.

Jory Bender, Finance Manager, treasurer@stmartinsinthefield.org

Contact for questions about pledging and contributing to St. Martin's. Works with the treasurer to manage church finances.

Chris Mitzel, Facilities Manager, facilities@stmartinsinthefield.org

Responsible for keeping St. Martin's buildings and grounds clean and orderly in addition to performing routine maintenance and repairs as needed.

Reita Turro, Nursery Director

Provides planning, and smooth and safe operation of the St. Martin's nursery.

Sign Up to Receive the E-Pistle

The weekly E-Pistle parish newsletter is the primary method of communication to our parish family. We need you to keep informed about all of the wonderful ways we are an active and joyful congregation serving Christ in the world.

If you are not getting the *E-Pistle* then you are missing out on all the things you need to know here at St. Martin's.

Sign up today at www.stmartinsinthefield.com.

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

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