



St. Martin's Anglican Church

December 13, 2020

The Third Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist, 10:00 AM

Greeters/Sidespersons: David Bowen, Peter Davidson

Prelude *Pastorale, BWV 590*, J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Prayer for the Lighting of the Advent Candle

Sentence: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.

All responses are to be whispered.

Opening Hymn Hail to the Lord's Anointed, vs. 1 & 4

Organ only. No congregational singing is permitted at this time. We provide text for your reference.

Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove.
His name shall stand for ever:
that name to us is Love.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,

People **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

The Collect

Celebrant God of power and mercy,
you call us once again
to celebrate the coming of your Son.

Remove those things which hinder love of you,
that when he comes,
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading **Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11**

Lector: Don Henderson

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah:

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a

bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 18

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; for he has looked with favour 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 forever.

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

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel Reading John 1.6-8, 19-28

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from

Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

Moment of Silent Reflection

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All **I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Intercessor: Don Henderson

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,

All **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 neighbours 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.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn (organ only) O Come, Divine Messiah, vs, 1 & 3

O come, Divine Messiah,
the world in silence waits the day
when hope shall sing its triumph,
and sadness flee away.
Dear Saviour, haste! Come, come to earth.
Dispel the night and show your face,
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.
O come, Divine Messiah,
the world in silence waits the day
when hope shall sing its triumph,
and sadness flee away.

You come in peace and meekness
and lowly will your cradle be;
all clothed in human weakness
shall we your Godhead see.
Dear Saviour, haste! Come, come to earth.
Dispel the night and show your face,
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.
O come, Divine Messiah,
the world in silence waits the day
when hope shall sing its triumph,
and sadness flee away.

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God of hope,
renew in us the joy of your salvation
and make us a living sacrifice to you,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer 2

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,

through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.

He is your living Word,
through whom you have created all things.
By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.

He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.
He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.
By his resurrection
he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

All **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.

Celebrant Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, "Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you."
In the same way he took the cup,
saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you.
When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one
all who share in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory

through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

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

All **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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Silence

Breaking of Bread 3

Celebrant God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All: **Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

The Communion

Agnus Dei (whispered quietly)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

You are free to leave after receiving the Sacrament if you wish. Go forth with God's grace and blessing. We will continue with the service for those who wish to remain.

Instrumental Hymn during Communion

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Merciful God,
may this eucharist free us from our sins,
fill us with unending joy,
and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
who is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

Doxology & Blessing

Celebrant Glory to God,
All **whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
In the Church and in Christ Jesus,**

For ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant The peace of God which passes all understanding
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge
and love of God and of his Son,
Jesus Christ the Lord.
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
remain with you and the ones you love
now and forevermore. **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn (organ) Hark the Glad Sound, vs. 1 & 4

Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with thy beloved name.

Rev. Shelly Go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Ave Maria*, Max Reger (1873-1916)

Announcements

Advent Word - For the seventh year in a row, St. Martin's is participating in the online global initiative #AdventWord as they gather prayers via an online Advent calendar. Virginia Theological Seminary is offering meditations and images during this holy season which can be experienced via the #AdventWord website <https://adventword.org/en/home/>, as well on our own St. Martin's Facebook page daily for our contribution of mediation, prayers and photos.

Important Reminders - When you arrive at church, remember to **refrain from socializing** before and after the service. Please go straight to your seat, and leave the church immediately following the service. Please also remember to **whisper all responses** in the service. We appreciate your flexibility and patience as we do our best to worship together safely and according to Diocesan protocols.

A Service of Comfort and Hope – Thursday, December 17th, 7:00 pm, in person. A service of prayer and reflection for those who are having difficulty experiencing the joys of the season. Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/a-service-of-comfort-and-hope-tickets-131883411835> or by calling the church office and leaving a message.

Christmas Get Together on December 20th at 7 PM - You are invited to **St. Martin's Virtual Christmas Get together** on Zoom hosted by the Social Committee. Don some Christmas apparel, pour a glass of your favourite Christmas cheer, and settle in for an hour of festive fun! It's a time to catch up with your St. Martin's family, sing a few songs and wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

****CORRECTION TO THE INFORMATION ON THE MAILED INVITATION: PLEASE USE THIS LINK****

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86015878785?pwd=b1lhTStydDgwRTIsTWkESGE0RTJlOdz09>

Meeting ID: 860 1587 8785

Passcode: 015122

One tap mobile

+16473744685,,86015878785#,,,,,0#,,015122# Canada

+16475580588,,86015878785#,,,,,0#,,015122# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Wednesday Service on Zoom – Our midweek service will take place on Zoom on Wednesday at 10:15 am. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82287913027>, or you may call **647-374-4685** or **647-558-0588** if you wish to participate by phone.

Virtual Coffee Hour – Our Virtual Coffee Hour is back at 12:30 pm today.

How to Connect to Virtual Coffee Hour by Phone:

1. Call our dedicated conference call number at **647-484-1598**.
2. When prompted, enter the meeting ID which is: **791 258 661**.
3. Then press # in lieu of a participant ID.

Compline for Advent – On December 22nd, we will be offering Compline, a service of prayer for the close of the day. These services will be held **online** via Zoom. The link to the December 22nd service is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81990495714>

2021 Church Calendars - are available at the back of the church for \$7.

Christmas Services at St. Martin's

Tuesday, December 17, 7 PM: A Service of Comfort and Hope

Thursday, December 24, 7 PM: Christmas Eve, Holy Eucharist

Friday, December 25, 10 AM: Christmas Day, Holy Eucharist

****Pre-registration is required. All services subject to change or cancellation.**

St. Martin's Anglican Church

The Rev. Shelly Pollard, Incumbent

Rector's Warden: Michelle Loftus
People's Warden: Brent Levy
Deputy Wardens: Eugene Farrugia
Erna Haller

Mr. Edward Moroney, Music Director
Ms. Gillian Howard, Office Administrator
Ms. Janis Lynch, Sunday School Leader
Ms. Moyah Morgan, Youth Leader

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