



St. Martin's Anglican Church

December 6, 2020

The Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist, 10:00 AM

Greeters/Sidespersons: Ellen Corbin, John Loftus

Prelude *Chorale-Prelude on "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland"* (BWV 661), J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Prayer for the Lighting of the Advent Candle

Sentence: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

All responses are to be whispered.

Opening Hymn Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, vs. 1 & 4

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

Come, thou long-expected Jesus.
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.

By thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit,
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

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 Almighty God,
who sent your servant John the Baptist
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,
inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,
that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,
we may stand with confidence before his glory;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 40.1-11

Lector: Elaine Watters

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah:

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter:

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass

away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel Reading Mark 1.1-8

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole

Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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: Elaine Watters

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) On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry, vs. 1 & 5

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God our strength,
we are nothing without you.
Receive all we offer you this day

as you sustain us with your mercy;
in the name 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 Faithful God,
we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet.
Help us always to hear the prophet's call
to turn our hearts to you;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **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! A Herald Voice Is Sounding, vs. 1 & 5

Hark, a herald voice is sounding:
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say.
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!"

Honour, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while eternal ages run.

Rev. Shelly Go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Prelude on "Song 24" (Lighten our Darkness)*, Healey Willan
(1880-1968)

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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 meditation, prayers and photos.

Continued on next page...

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.

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 – This Tuesday, December 8th at 7 pm, and again 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 8th service is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836626384>

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

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.

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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