



St. Martin's Anglican Church

December 19, 2021

10:00 AM

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Greeters/Sidespersons: June Hall, Art Slade

It is a great privilege to gather, share stories of faith and worship God on this beautiful territory, which we now know as Pickering, but which has been the site of human activity – and therefore storytelling and worship – for many thousands of years. We wish to honour the ancestral guardians of this land and its waterways: the Wendat, the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of Scugog, Hiawatha and Alderville First Nations. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today many Indigenous peoples, including the Métis Nation, continue to call this land home and act as its stewards, and this responsibility extends to all peoples, to share and care for this land for generations to come.

Celebrant: The Rev. Richard Newland

Prelude *Aus Meines Herzens Grunde, Op. 65 (My inmost heart now raises)*, Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

Prayer for the Lighting of the Advent Candle

Sentence: I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to his word.

Opening Hymn #114 vs. 1, 3, 4 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand, thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train:

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
God appears on earth to reign.

Now redemption, long expected,
See in solemn pomp appear;
All his saints, on earth rejected,
Thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
See the day of God appear!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and the glory;
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

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

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace,
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour,
now fill us with your grace,
that we in all things may embrace your will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading Micah 5.2-5a

Reader: Don Henderson

A Reading from the Book of Micah:

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

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80.1-7

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading Hebrews 10.5-10

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews:

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See,

God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Reading Luke 1.39-55

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by

the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

The Rev. Shelly Pollard

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 Sentence

Celebrant I invite you, my brothers and sisters, to offer yourselves, your lives in their brokenness and incompleteness, as a sacrifice which is holy and acceptable unto God. Asking God to take your lives, and through this holy Eucharist to transform them, making them whole, infused with the life of Christ, and then to give them back to you, so that you may go forth from this place to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

Offertory Hymn #123 Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high,
when, like stars, his children crowned
all in white shall gather round.

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Gracious God,

by the power of the Spirit
who sanctified the mother of your Son,
make holy all we offer you this day.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer 3

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 Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh,
and opened to us the way of salvation.
Now we watch for the day when he will come again
in power and great triumph to judge this world,
that we, without shame or fear,
may 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.

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 We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling 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 Saviour 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 he was handed over
to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
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."

All Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving
to you, 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, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.
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 5

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.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Spiritual Communion (*for those who choose not to receive
Communion, or are following the service online*)

Celebrant Those wishing to do so may make their spiritual communion
by joining in this prayer with me now:

**My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I
love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come
spiritually into my heart. As though you have already**

**come, I embrace you, and unite myself entirely to you;
never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

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

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Faithful God,
in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation.
May we, like the Virgin Mary,
be obedient to your will.
We ask this 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 #362, vs. 1, 3, 4 Tell Out, My Soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and forevermore!

Celebrant Go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Sarabande (Suite in Classic Style)*, Charles Callahan (b. 1950)

Announcements

Important reminders – We are grateful to continue in-person worship together. We will continue to follow Diocesan guidelines during our services: screening, masks, and physical distancing are mandatory. We will continue to have our virtual coffee hour on Zoom (see link below.) **Please note that as COVID-19 numbers change, we may have to return to online services.

TODAY: Christmas Social on Zoom – Please join us today, **Sunday, December 19th at 4 PM** to enjoy an hour of Christmas cheer with your friends from St. Martin's! The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87996588217>, or you may call **647-374-4685** or **647-558-0588** if you wish to participate by phone.
Meeting ID: 879 9658 8217

Registration for Christmas Services is open – Please check your email for registration links, or call or email the office to register. Spaces are limited and first come, first served. Please note that we will also livestream our services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day on our YouTube channel!

Christmas Wish Tree – Final Day! St. Martin's Social Justice Group has teamed up with **Dar's Gifts from the Heart** to help a few people in our local community who are experiencing increased needs this Christmas season. We will be participating in the "Adopt-a-Family" and the "Adopt-a-Friend" initiative, **supporting people who belong to the age groups that are most often overlooked during the holidays**. Darlene has provided profiles of one family and two individuals. There will be a Gift Card Tree set up at the back of the church beginning on Sunday, December 5. If you wish to participate, please select a tag, shop for the gift card and then drop your purchase, including a gift receipt and the tag off at the church, no later than **Sunday, December 19**. If you find shopping difficult, you may consider a monetary donation to this initiative. Please join us as we help make this season a bit brighter for others in the community. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Mackay.

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.
Meeting ID: 822 8791 3027

**There will be no midweek service on December 29th.

Coffee Hour on Hiatus – Please note that there will be no coffee hour on December 19th or December 26th.

Vestry Meeting and deadline – Our annual Vestry Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 6th**. Vestry reports are due no later than January 17th. More information to come.

Advent and Christmas at St. Martin's, 2021

Sunday, December 19th	4 PM	Christmas Social (on Zoom)
Friday, December 24th	7 PM	Christmas Eve service (in person)
Saturday, December 25th	10 AM	Christmas Day service (in person)
Sunday, December 26th	10 AM	First Sunday after Christmas service (in person)

St. Martin's Anglican Church

The Rev. Shelly Pollard, Incumbent

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Richard Newland
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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