

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025
7 AND 9 PM



SAINT MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annapolis, Maryland

PRELUDE MUSIC

He Shall Feed His Flock - G. F. Handel
(Patsy Mattingley, flute; Adedotun Olayemi, piano)

Ave Maria - Franz Schubert
(Patsy Mattingley, flute; Adedotun Olayemi, organ)

Christians Awake! Salute the Happy Morn - John Wainwright
(Adedotun Olayemi, organ)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

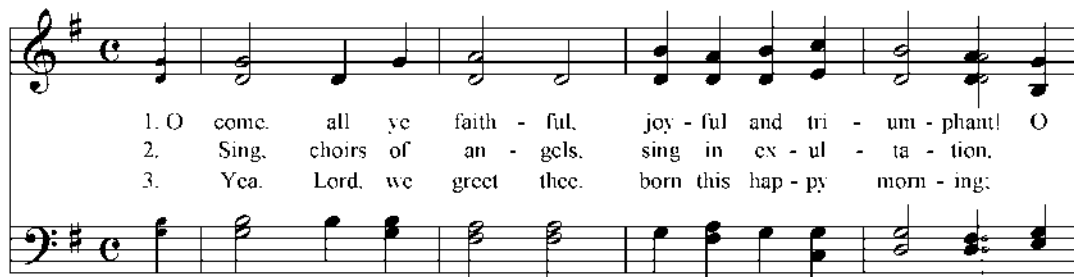
PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come All Ye Faithful

(Mary Rosekrans, trumpet)

ELW 283

The congregation stands and faces the processional cross



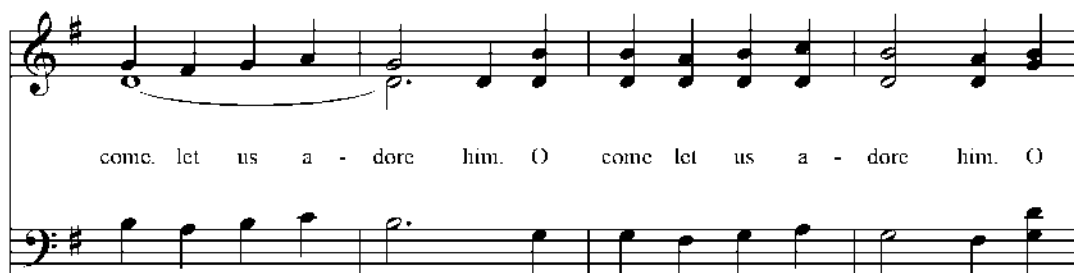
1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion.
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem:
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus to thee ... be ... glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels: O
Glo - ry to God ... In ... the ... high - est: O
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing: O



come, let us a - dore him, O come let us a - dore him, O



come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

GREETING

Pastor Good news and great joy to all the world: today our savior is born in Bethlehem.

Congregation **O come let us adore him!**

Pastor Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Congregation **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard On High *(Mary Rosekrans, trumpet)*

ELW 289

The congregation is invited to ring a bell when we sing "Gloria in excelsis Deo"

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain
Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

Pastor Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; wherewith you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

Congregation **Amen.**

▪ SERVICE OF THE WORD ▪

The congregation is seated at the invitation of the Minister.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL

O Holy Night

(Jack Shenk, guitar; Gary Shenk, drums; Adedotun Olayemi, organ)

THE SECOND LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Love Has Come

ELW 292

The congregation stands, as able, to sing the hymn and remain standing for the Reading of the Gospel.

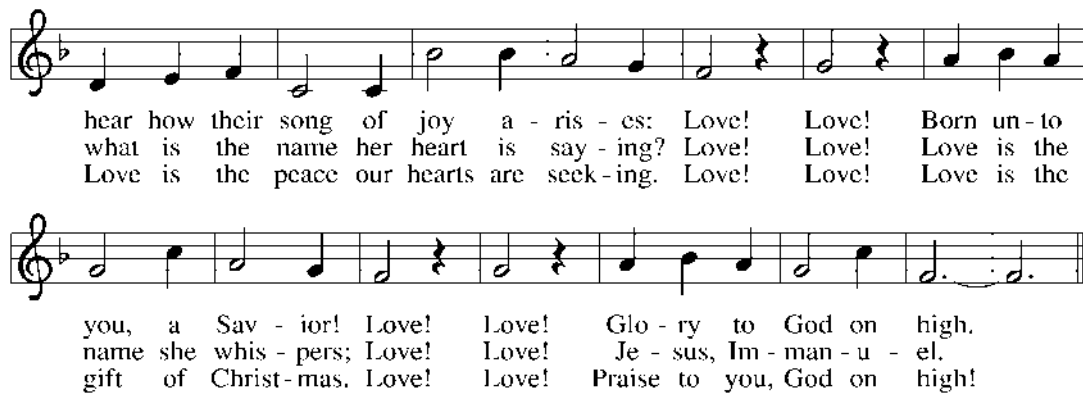
Please sing Verses 1-2 before the Gospel and Verse 3 following the Gospel.



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der, Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:1-20

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

Congregation **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room. ⁸Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

After the Reading

Pastor The Gospel of The Lord.

Congregation **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE HOMILY

Pastor Micah

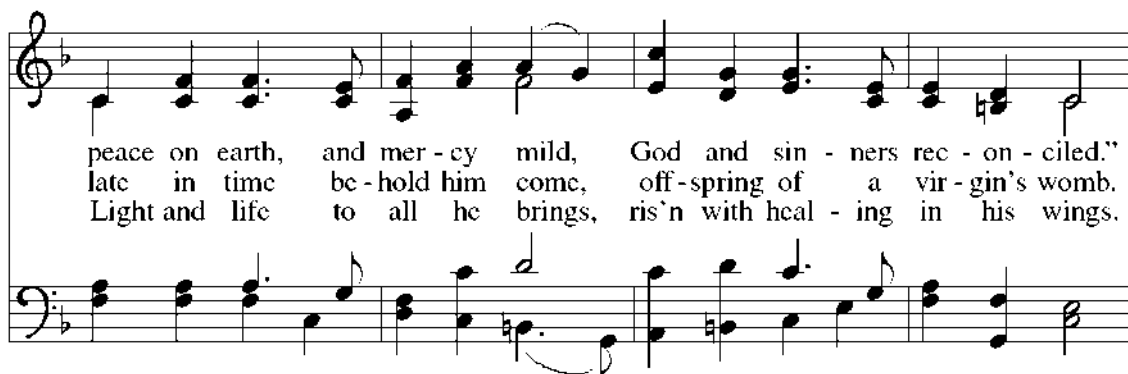
HYMN OF THE DAY

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
(Mary Rosekrans, trumpet)
(The Next Page)

ELW 270



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION -- *Assisting Minister*

To the words "Lord in your mercy," the congregation responds "Hear our prayer."

*THE PEACE

Pastor The peace of our Lord be with you always.

Congregation And also with you.

The congregation greets one another with a sign of God's peace.

THE OFFERTORY

The congregation is to remain seated while an offering is received to support St. Martin's work of sharing God's love.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

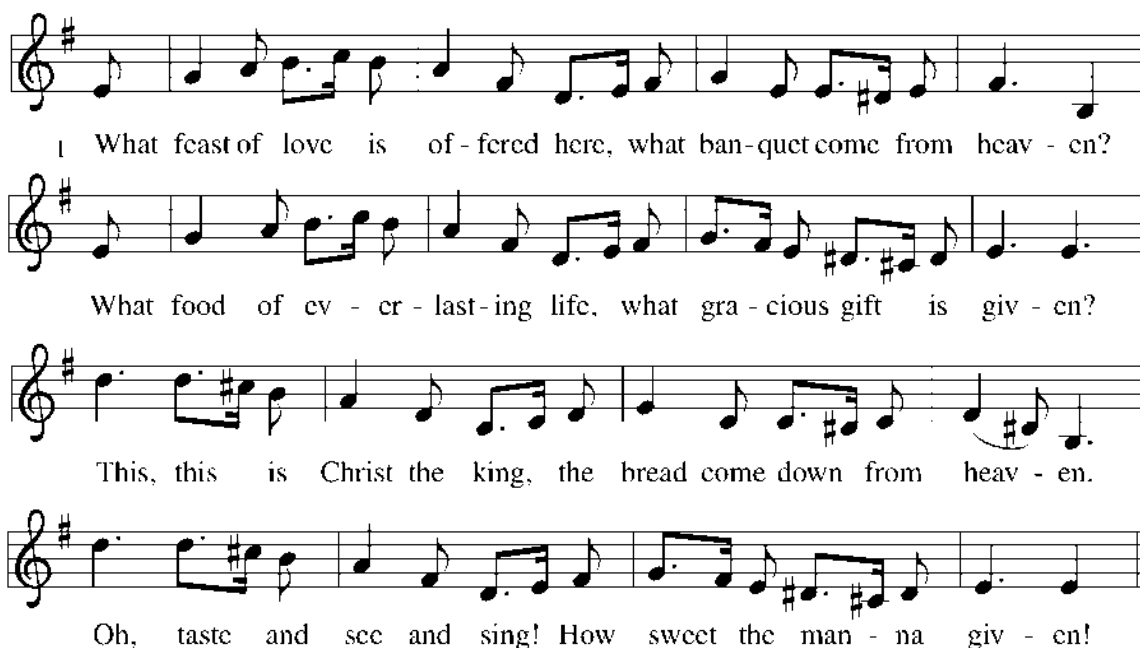
*Still a Bach Baby
(Choir, flute & Piano)*

- Arr. by Jean Anne Shafferman

THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE

What Feast of Love

ELW 487 (vs.1)



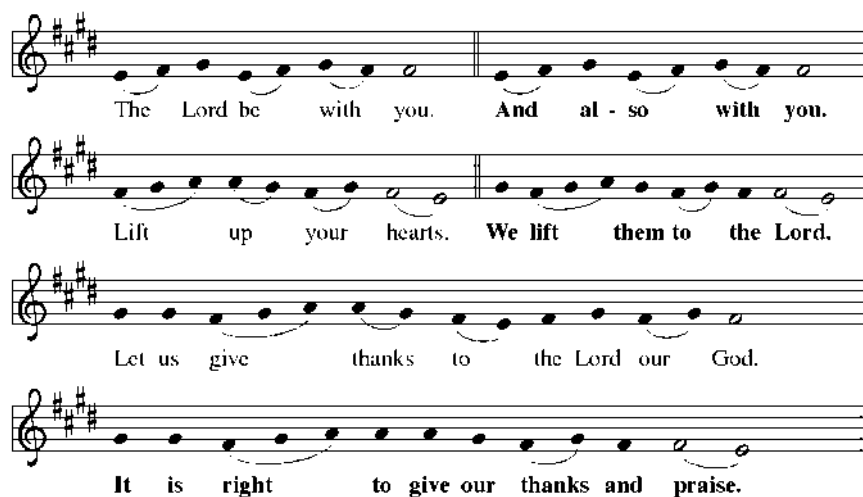
1 What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?

What food of ev-er-last-ing life, what gra-cious gift is giv-en?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav-en.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man-na giv-en!

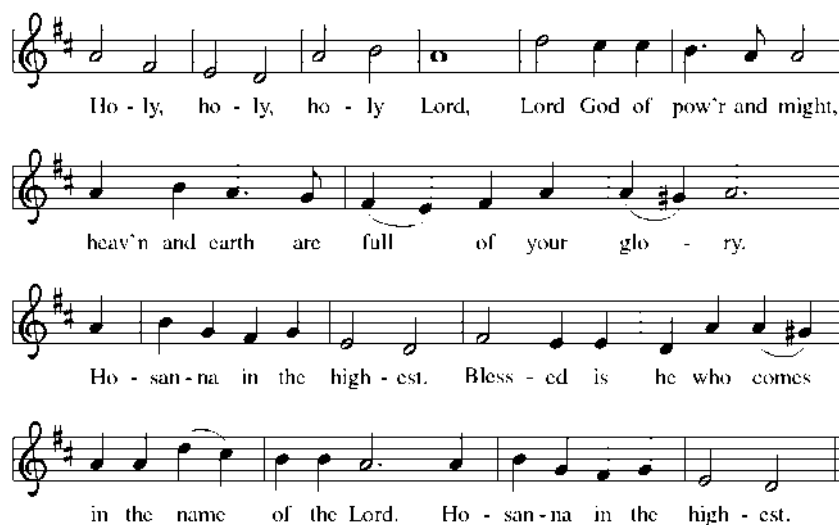
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

It is indeed right our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION

This is Christ's table. It is a table of love and welcome. It is a table of fellowship with the poor.
It is a table of communion with the earth.

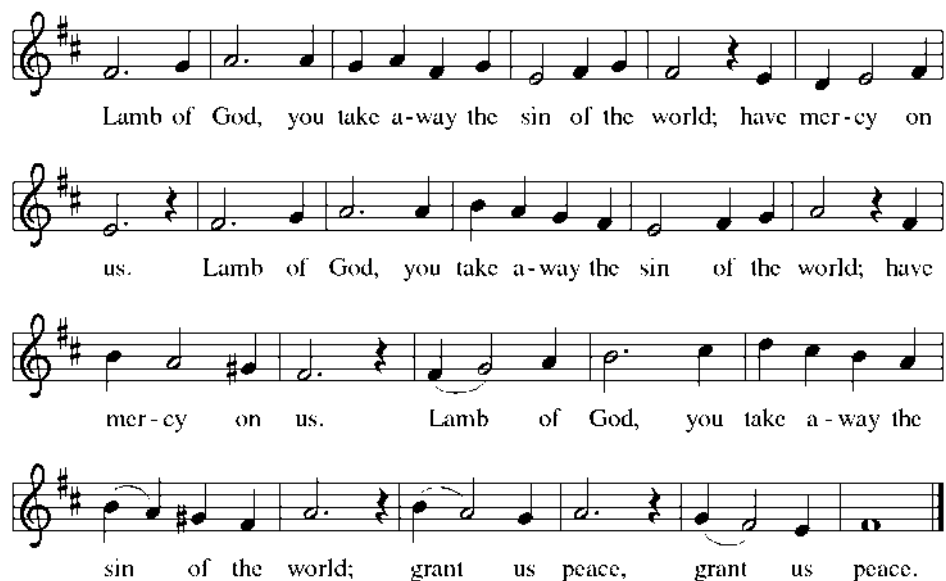
So, come those of you who have great faith and those of you who wish you had more.

Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus, and those of you who have failed.

Come, those of you who depend on this sacrament for your life, and those of you for whom it is a new and strange thing. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come!

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION - At the Lord's Table we share in the gift of Jesus' body and blood. Please bring an empty glass from the head of the aisle to receive wine from a pouring cup. Grape juice is available in the pre-filled glasses near the empty ones. If you need a gluten-free option for bread, please indicate that to the person with bread. Peel away communion kits are also available for any who so desire. Blessings will be given to those not yet communing.

THE AGNUS DEI

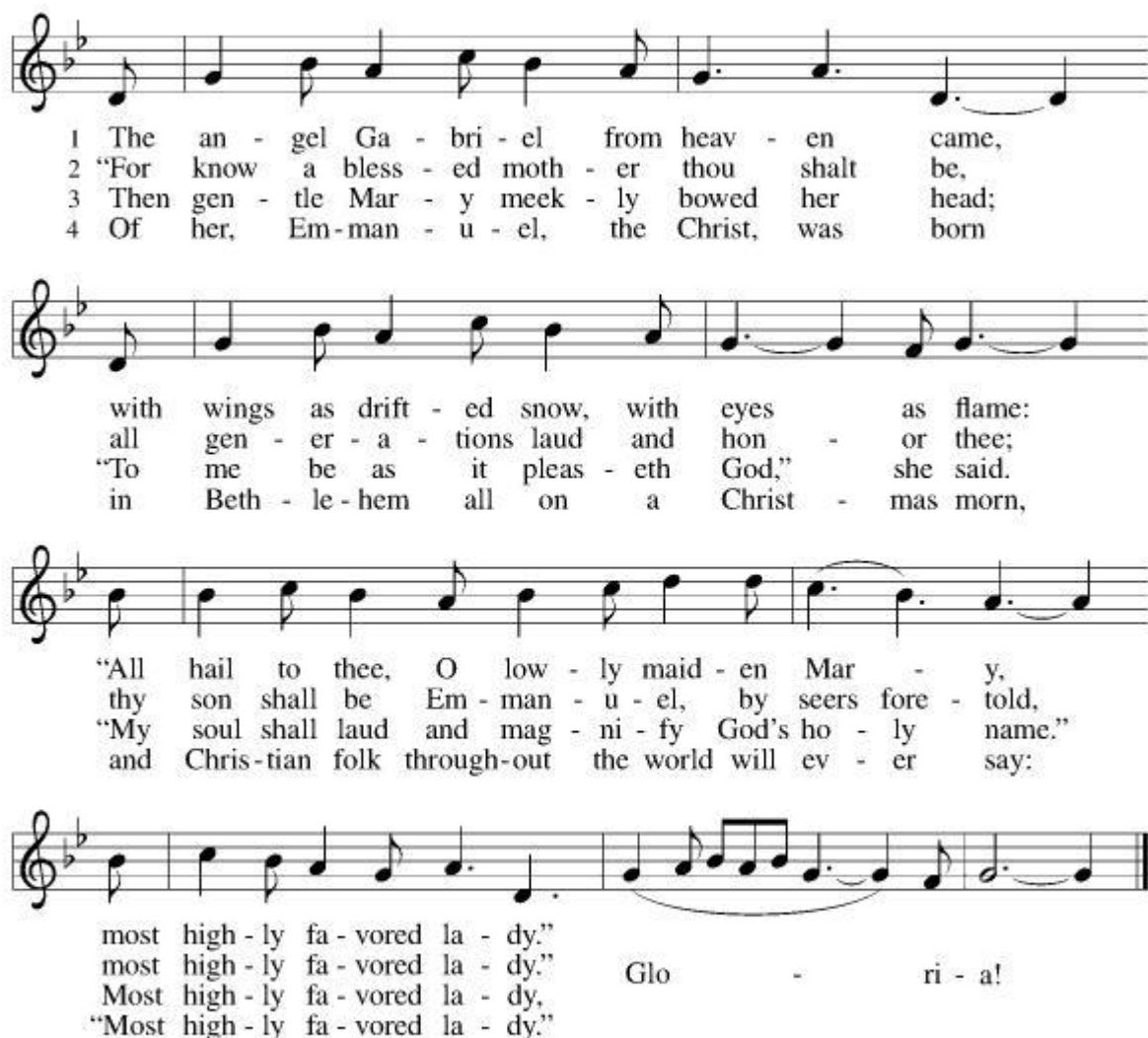


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

ELW 265



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born

with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris-tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

We Three Kings of Orient Are
(Choir and Doug Hole ,saxophone)

WOV 646

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - feet light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.
Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

Go Tell it on the Mountain
(Choir and Doug Hole ,saxophone)

ELW 290

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain: John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night
(Jack Shenk, guitar)

ELW 281

Sung by all, standing as able, as soon as everyone's candle is lit.

*Please tip **your** unlighted candle to light it from your neighbor's lighted candle.
During "Silent Night" we will sing the German verse first, then verses 1 - 3, as written.
Please raise candle during "sleep in heavenly peace."*

Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

BENEDICTION

As the lights are turned on you may extinguish your candles.

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

Joy to the World
Sung by all, standing as able.

ELW 267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing.

THE DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister Go in peace, Christ has come!

Congregation **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Antioch" - Douglas E. Wagner

Christmas Flower Dedications

To the glory of God and in
memory of loved ones
Larry and Patty Laubscher

-

To the glory of God and in loving
memory of Dean and Danny
Given by Andrea Titcomb & Family

-

In loving memory of Larry Ploor
Martha Ploor

-

In memory of your love, support
and memories
Connie Burkhardt
John Burkhardt
Herold Cloeter
Cam and Nancy Cloeter

-

To Jackie
Love, Bob

-

To the glory of God and with
thanksgiving for my friends at
St. Martin's
A Blessed Christmas!
Sandy Ourisson

-

In memory of Marie and Ted
Freeman
Howard, Joyce and Donna French
Tom and Barbara Freeman

-

In memory of our parents
Dave and Carole Ehemann

-

In remembrance to those we love
The Mattingleys

-

In memory of beloved husband
Doug Stazer
Linda Stazer

-

To the glory of God, and in loving
memory of Mick Thistle
Paula Thistle

-

In memory of our parents
Kirsten and Richard Jensen

-

In memory of Paul Gunther and
Arthur Lohsen
Jo Ann Lohsen

-

Fondly remembering Brother Bud
and Son-In-Law Ford
Anthony and Carolyn Anzalone

-

In loving memory of Rick, Carly
and Meredith Ruhf
Rosa and Davis Ruhf

-

With love and thanks for the
ministry of Pastor Micah and Ade
By Kim Rosekrans

-

In loving honor of Julie, Hannah,
Mary, and Ben
By Kim Rosekrans

-

With heartfelt thanks to our dear
friends at St. Martin's for being so
thoughtful and kind throughout
this past year

Gene and Anna Marie Humphrey

-

In memory of Betty Liller, my
grandmother. I will always miss you
and it is an honor to carry on your love
Mary Rosekrans

-

In loving memory of husband, father,
and grandfather, Karl Kamp
By Peg Kamp

-

In memory of my Dear Friend,
Beverly Fossum
Given by Edie

-

In honor and thankfulness of Martha
and
Glenn Hollenbeck
Given by Edie

-

Merry Christmas and love to our
grandparents, Gene and Anna Marie
Humphrey
With Love, Samantha and Alexandra

-





INSTAGRAM

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WEBSITE

www.stmartinsannapolis.org



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YOUTUBE

St. Martin's Lutheran
Church Annapolis

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

7:00 PM

Preacher and Celebrant: Pastor Micah Krey

Music Director: Adedotun Olayemi

Ushers: Youth

Assisting Minister: Linda Wetz

Communion Assistants: Youth

Lector: Youth

Altar Set-Up: Altar Guild

Communion Clean-up: Altar Guild

9:00 PM

Preacher and Celebrant: Pastor Micah Krey

Music Director: Adedotun Olayemi

Ushers: Martha Hollenbeck, Tom and Barb Freeman,
Dave Mattingley

Assisting Minister: Chaplain Paula Thistle

Communion Assistants: Cam Cloeter, Glenn Hollenbeck

Lector: Sandy Ourisson

Altar Set-Up: Altar Guild

Communion Clean-up: Altar Guild

We would like to thank the following musicians for their special music today:

The St. Martin's Chancel Choir

Patsy Mattingley, flute

Mary Rosekrans, trumpet

Jack Shenk, guitar

Gary Shenk, drums

Doug Hole, saxophone

Tonight, we celebrate a miracle. Once again, Christmas confirms that great things come from the least-expected places. God comes to us in human form out of the commonness of a stable, but surrounded with love and great possibilities. We at St. Martin's Lutheran Church pray that this night brings us closer to God who reaches out to us from the least-expected places. Our prayer is that God's light will shine forth from each of us, sharing this light to a hurting world and to each other.

St. Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

1120 Spa Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21403

Phone: 410-263-4723 • **Website:** StMartinsAnnapolis.org • **E-mail:** Church@StMartinsOnline.org