

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 4, 2026

10 AM



SAINT MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annapolis, Maryland

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please stand as you are able)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS - Pastor

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

1 John 1:8

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

O Word of God Incarnate

ELW 514

2 Corinthians
13:13-14

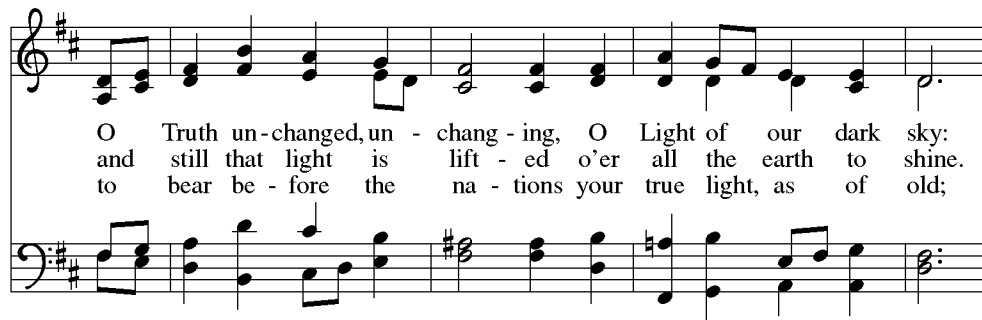
GREETING - Pastor

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

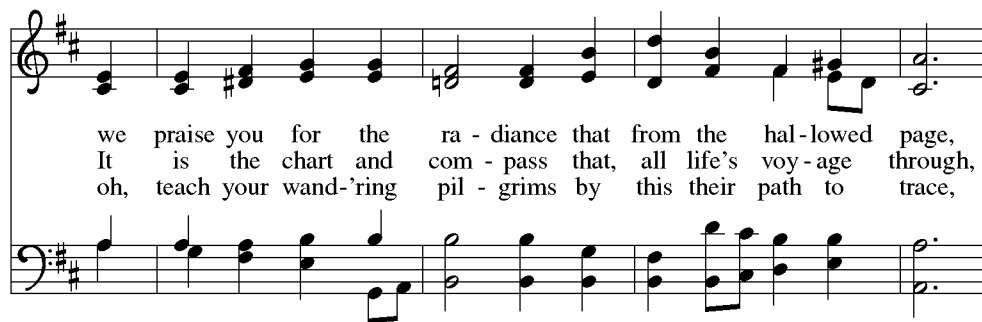
O Word of God Incarnate



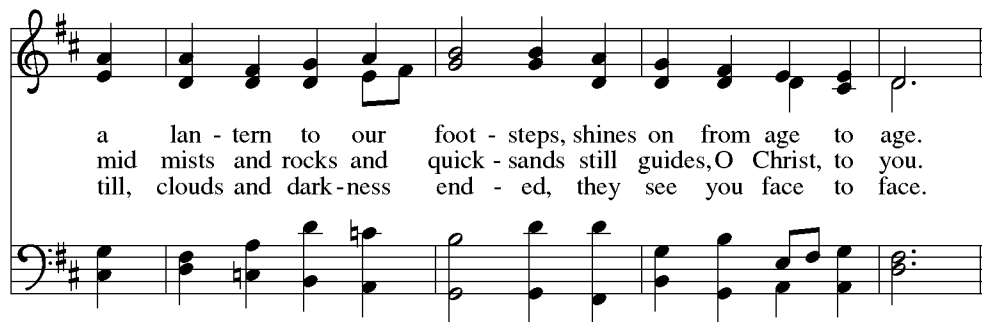
1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
 2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
 3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



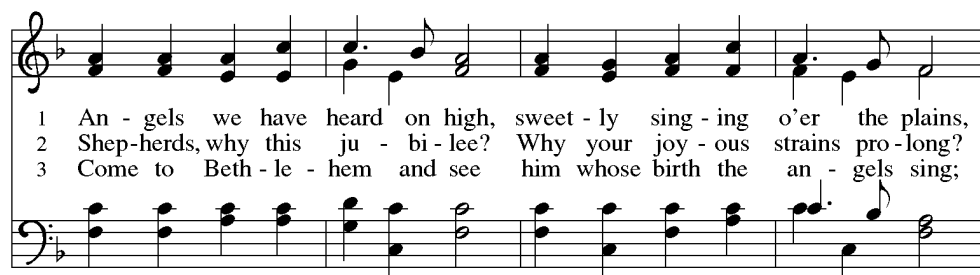
O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



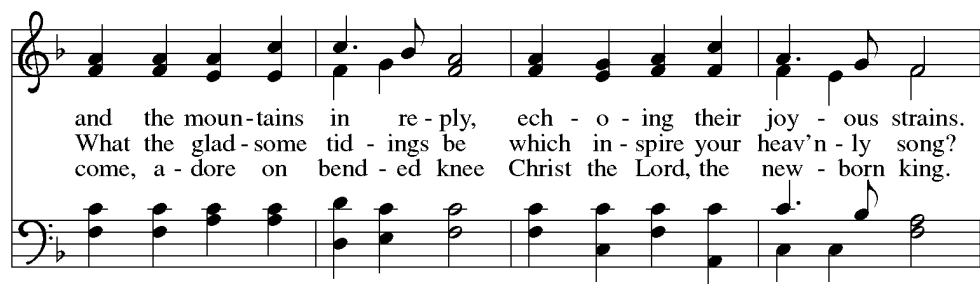
we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 oh, teach your wand - ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.



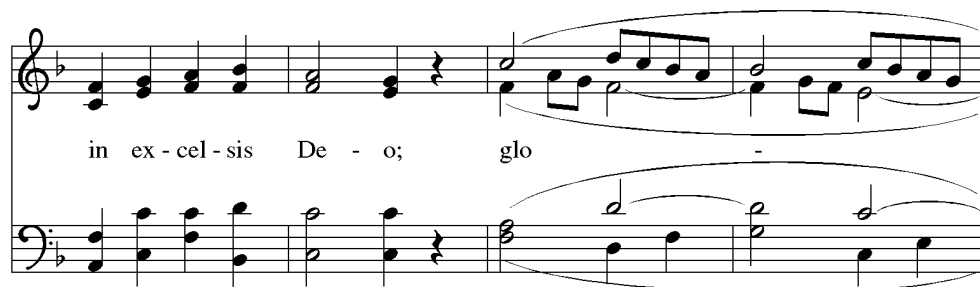
1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



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.

This prayer "collects" the theme of the day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY – *Assisting Minister*

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

This reading is typically from the Hebrew Scriptures, which Jesus often quoted.

THE FIRST LESSON - *Lector*

Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock." ¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. Psalms are the hymnbooks of the children of Israel

THE PSALM *(All Sing Together)*

Psalms 147:12-20



L = Ladies

M = Men

A = All

M ¹² Worship the LORD, ¹ O Jerusalem;
praise your ¹ God, O Zion,
A ¹³ who has strengthened the bars ¹ of your gates
and has blessed your chil- ¹ dren within you.
L ¹⁴ God has established peace ¹ on your borders
and satisfies you with the ¹ finest wheat.
A ¹⁵ God sends out a command ¹ to the earth,
a word that runs ¹ very swiftly. R
M ¹⁶ God gives ¹ snow like wool,
scattering ¹ frost like ashes.
A ¹⁷ God scatters ¹ hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand a- ¹ gainst God's cold?
L ¹⁸ The LORD sends forth the ¹ word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the ¹ waters flow.
A ¹⁹ God declares the ¹ word to Jacob,
statutes and judg- ¹ ments to Israel.
M ²⁰ The LORD has not done so to any ¹ other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. ¹ Hallelujah! R

This reading bears
witness to the early
church.

THE SECOND LESSON -Lector

Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We acclaim the living
Word, Jesus Christ,
present in the gospel
reading.

John 6:68

THE GOSPEL LESSON -Pastor

John 1:[1-9] 10-18

The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to John the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON - Pastor

"Viva Vox," the Living
Word of God
interpreted. (Romans
10:14-17)

HYMN OF THE DAY Of the Father's Love Begotten ELW 295 (vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5)

(Please stand as you are able)

*Ancient church
councils adopted the
summary of the
church's faith in the
Nicene, Apostles' and
Athanasian Creeds.*

CONFESSION OF FAITH - *Assisting Minister*

The Nicene Creed

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.

*We pray for ourselves
and particularly on
behalf of others.
(1 Timothy 2:1-2; 1
Thessalonians 5:17;
Acts 2:42)*

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - *Assisting Minister*

To the words "Hear us, O God," the congregation responds "your mercy is great."

*Extending God's word
of peace to others.
(Romans 16:16;
Matthew 5:23-24)*

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *Pastor*

*1 Corinthians 16:1-2
2 Corinthians 9:7-9*

THE OFFERING *(Please be seated)*

We thank you for your generosity and support! We are blessed to return thanks to God through our offerings to support the work of the Church in the world. Ushers will bring the plates to those worshipping in person this day. For those worshipping online you may give electronically or by way of US Mail. Your gifts enable our day to day operational budget, our missions, and the care of those in need. Please visit www.stmartinsannapolis.org/giving

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Luther's Christmas Carol (Sussex Carol)*

- Arr. by Austin C. Lovelace

Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -

have deem - been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

ev - er - more and ev - er - more,
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more,
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more,
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more,
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–413; tr. composite
 Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.

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!

OFFERING PRAYER - *Assisting Minister*

God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Before the Lord's
supper is shared, the
presiding minister leads
us into thanksgiving.
(Psalm 15:1)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Please stand as you are able*) - *Pastor*

The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

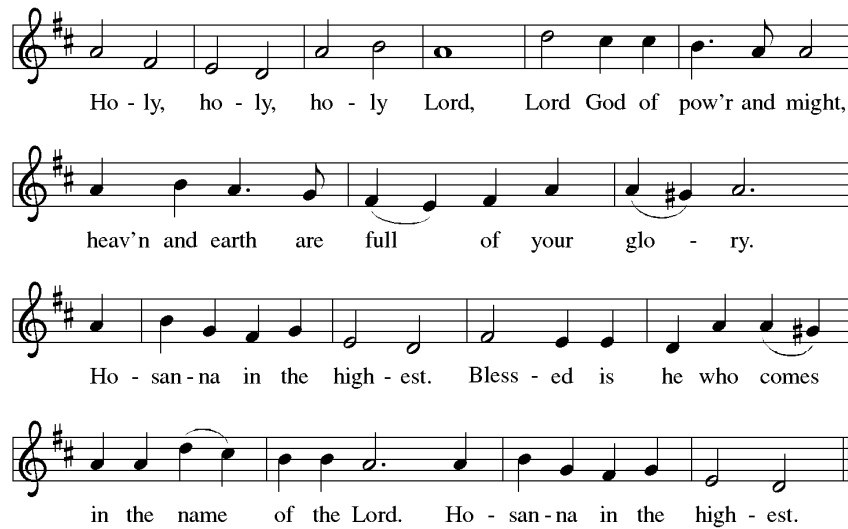
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE - *Pastor*

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

The Sanctus is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God. (Isaiah 6:3)

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

In these words—Jesus institutes the sacrament for the church

*Matthew 26:26-28;
Luke 22:19-20; 1
Corinthians 11:23-26*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - *Pastor*

*Jesus teaches his disciples to pray.
(Luke 11:24;
Matthew 6:9-13)*

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.

(Please be seated)

*Our invitation to Christ's Table
(adapted from Iona
Community, Scotland)*

INVITATION - *Pastor*

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.

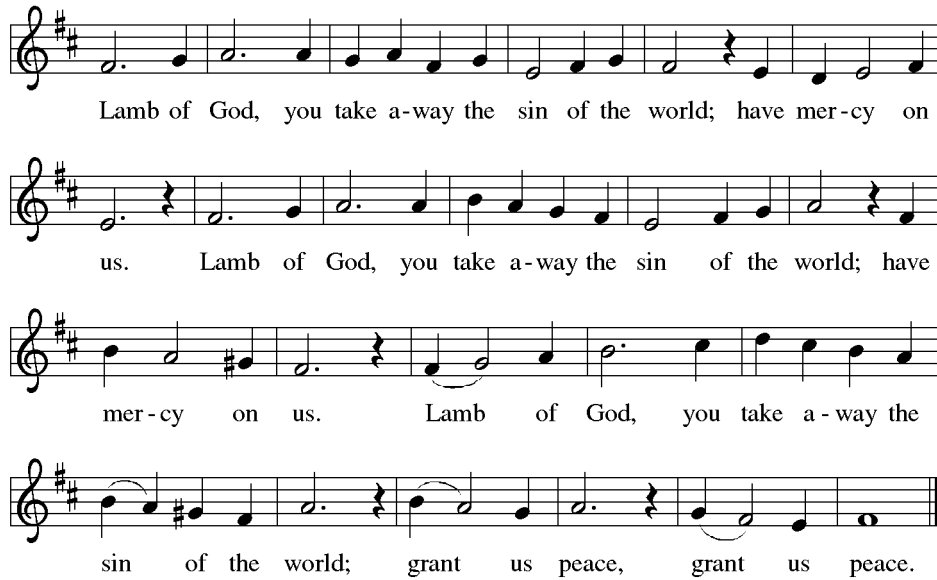
So, come those of you who have great faith and those of you who wish you had more.

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!

As John the Baptist
pointed to Jesus, he
said these words.
(John 1:29)

THE AGNUS DEI



***Blue Communion Cards– Please remember to fill in a blue communion card each week. You can hand your blue communion cards to an usher as you come up for communion.

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Peace Came to Earth
(No Image Due to Copyright)
Lord, I Lift Your Name on High
(No Image Due to Copyright)

ELW 285

ELW 857

POST COMMUNION PRAYER - *Pastor* (Please stand as you are able)

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION – *Assisting Minister*

Let us pray.

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

Amen.

BENEDICTION - *Pastor*

The triune God, glorious Mystery,
holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

Amen.

A personal blessing
from God in the name
of the Triune God.
(Numbers 6:24-26)

On our way rejoicing.
(Colossians 3:16;
Phillippians 4:4)

RECESSIONAL HYMN

He Came Down

ELW 253

We go forth to bless
the world

Luke 7:50;
Romans 10:12-13

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the final line of the first system and the first line of the second system. The third system contains the remaining lines of the second system. The lyrics are printed below the corresponding musical staves. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, key signatures, time signatures, and lyrics.

DISMISSAL - Assisting Minister

Go in peace. Christ is born!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Go Tell it On the Mountain

- Arr. by Noah Duncan IV

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Blood Drive

There will be another Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Martin's on Friday, January 16th from 12:30pm-5pm in the Fellowship Wing.

If you are able to donate, please scan the QR code below or contact Sara Wetz (slwetz@verizon.net, 410-271-6165).



If you are interested in assisting, please contact Sara as well.

Talent Show

Join us for the St. Martin's Got Talent!
Church and School Talent Show on
Saturday, January 24, 2026
4pm

All talents are welcome!

This includes, but is not limited to, singing, dancing, comedy, video presentation, etc. Please sign up below to let us know you want to participate, what your talent is, and anything needed to support your performance.



Don't have a talent to share? That's ok, please come and cheer everyone on. This will be a great afternoon of entertainment and fellowship. Light refreshments will be served.

Serving in Worship Today	
Preacher & Celebrant	Pastor Micah Krey
Director of Music Ministry	Adedotun Olayemi
Media Technician	Sara Wetz
Assisting Minister	Mel Tuckfield
Communion Assistants	Marlys McDevitt Glenn Hollenbeck
Lector	Chaplain Paula Thistle
Ushers	Tom and Barb Freeman Martha Hollenbeck Dave Mattingley
Communion Cleanup	Martha and Glenn Hollenbeck

Opportunities This Week

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

7:00 am Men's Bible Study
(Double T)

Thursday, January 8, 2026

9:00 am LMS Clothes Sorting
(Narthex)

11:30 am Mid-Day Bible Study
(Double T)

Sunday, January 11, 2026

8:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)

11:15 am Congregational Meeting
(Sanctuary)



Interested in Giving? Scan Here.



The new offering envelope donation sets for 2026 are in the Narthex.

Please pick-up your box today:)

Immediately following the 10am service next Sunday, Jan. 11th, there will be a Congregational Meeting held in the sanctuary.

Agenda items include 2026 budget approval, constitutional amendments approval, approval of new council members, and endowment fund news.

Please plan to come to this important meeting!

