

Christmas Eve



December 24th, 2025

**5:30 pm ~ Christmas Carols
6:00 pm ~ Festive Eucharist**

**St. Martin's Episcopal Church
Des Plaines, Illinois**

Welcome to St. Martin's!

Holiday Choir

Karl Dahlstrom

Kris Dahlstrom

Katie Eccles

Leslie Meyer

Gay Miezin

Gloria Wilberg

Mairin Wisnewski-Boswell

Holiday Instrumentalists

Linnea Erickson – violin

John Rich – pan flute, guitar

Karen Wilberg – organ, piano

St. Martin's Vestry

Bryan Coussens (Senior Warden)

Justin Cochran (Junior Warden)

Monica Brunson

Kris Dahlstrom

Amanda Vandervort

Jack Short, Certified Treasurer

St. Martin's Staff

The Very Rev. M.E. Eccles, Rector

Karen Wilberg, Music Director/Organist

Helayne Levin, Communications and Operations Mgr.

JB Enterprises West, Inc., Sextons

The Rev. Patrick Pierce, Priest Associate

cover image *Stary Angel*

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/563018698775295/>

Christmas Music and Hymns

Good Christian friends, rejoice

H107

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss;
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!

Once in royal David's city

H102

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 Savior 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 wait around.

O Holy Night

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
it is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night, O night divine!

Christ is the Lord! O ever, ever praise we!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

What child is this, who, laid to rest

H115

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate

Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Refrain

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him:
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Refrain

Jesus, Jesus rest your head

Choir anthem

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

H105

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay;
remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas Day,
to save us all from Satan's power
when we were gone astray.

Refrain

O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly Father
a blessed angel came
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name.

Refrain

“Fear not, then,” said the angel,
“Let noting you affright;
this day is born a Savior
of a pure virgin bright;
to free all those who trust in him
from Satan's power and might.

Refrain

Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
and with true love and charity
each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
doth bring redeeming grace.

Refrain

It's in Every One of Us

Denise Bozza & Choir

Congregation invited to join in the 2nd time:

It's in ev'ry one of us to be wise.
Find your heart; open up both your eyes.
We can all know ev'ry thing without ever knowing why.
It's in ev'ry one of us by and by.
It's in ev'ry one of us by and by.

O little town of Bethlehem

H79

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,

the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming

H81

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind,
with Mary we behold it,
the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

Go tell it on the mountain

H99

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth

rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

The first Nowell the angel did say

H109

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

In the bleak midwinter

H112

In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate,
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
throngéd the air;
but his mother only,
in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the belovéd
with a kiss.

What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—
give my heart.

Angels from the realms of glory

H93

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye, who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with you is now residing;

yonder shines the infant Light:

Refrain

Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:

Refrain

Away In a Manger, No Crib for His Bed

H101

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is night

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.



O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him,
born the King of angels;

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

God from God,
Light of Light,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created;

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God,
glory in the highest;

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

The Christmas Crèche

Celebrant: The word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
All: **And we beheld his glory.**

Celebrant:
Most merciful and loving God, you have made this night holy by the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, and by the child-bearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Grant that we your people may enter with joy

into the celebration of this night, and may also rejoice for ever as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.



Manger by Liz Valente

from *Art in the Christian Tradition*,

a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://digilib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59334>

[retrieved December 23, 2025]. Original source: Liz Valente, <https://www.instagram.com/donalizvalente/>.

The Word of God

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and
for ever. Amen.**

GLORIA

next page

GLORIA

S204

1. Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

2. We praise thee, we bless thee, we wor-ship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks

to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly King,

God the Father Al-might - y. 4. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther,

5. that taketh away the sins of the world, have mercy up - on us.

6. Thou that taketh away the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

7. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Fa-ther, have mercy up - on us.

8. For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord; 9. Thou only, O Christ,
 with the Ho-ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: 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; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

THE LESSONS *(please be seated)*

The First Reading ~ 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 the nation,
 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.
⁷His authority shall grow continually,
 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.

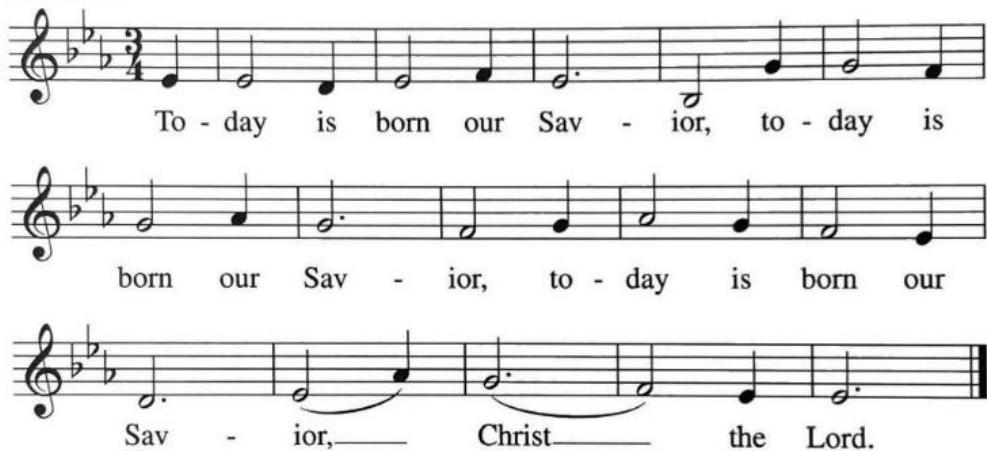
Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm ~ Today is Born our Savior

Congregation sings the refrain

REFRAIN



To - day is born our Sav - - ior, to - day is
born our Sav - - ior, to - day is born our
Sav - - ior, Christ the Lord.

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The Second Reading ~ Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Hark! the herald angels sing* **H87** *2 verses before the gospel; 1 verse after the gospel*

Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;

with the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Refrain

THE HOLY GOSPEL ~ Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor 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 for them in the inn.

⁸In that 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. ¹⁹But 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, as it had been told them.]

After the Gospel, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Hark! the herald angels sing*

H87

Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. M.E. Eccles

THE NICENE CREED (*Please stand as able.*)

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively. At the conclusion of each petition, the leader says:

Leader: Glorious Lord,
People: Grant us your peace.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of Christ be always with you.
People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presentation Hymn -- *Angels we have heard on high*

H96

Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

See him in a manger laid
whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while we raise our hearts in love.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.



The Light of the World by Frank Wesley

from Art in the Christian Tradition,
a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59168> [retrieved December 23, 2025].
Original source: Estate of Frank Wesley, http://www.frankwesleyart.com/main_page.htm

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The image shows musical notation for the Sanctus, divided into four staves. The first staff (Clef B-flat) has 'Celebrant' and 'People' parts. The second staff (Clef B-flat) has 'Celebrant' and 'People' parts. The third staff (Clef B-flat) has 'Celebrant' and 'People' parts. The fourth staff (Clef B-flat) has 'People' and 'Celebrant' parts. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And also 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 him thanks and praise.'

The Celebrant proceeds
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, ...

...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:

SANCTUS

Celebrant and People

S130

The musical score consists of two staves of music in G clef, B-flat key signature, and common time. The top staff is for the treble voice and the bottom staff is for the bass voice. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate sustained notes. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with several fermatas (dots over notes) and a bassoon-like sound effect indicated by a bassoon icon with a wavy line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

Celebrant:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary the Godbearer, Martin and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Celebrant and People

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei

next page



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.

INVITATION & DISTRIBUTION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Instructions for distribution will be given at the announcements; please follow the Usher's instructions. Please hold your hands out to receive the bread. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest.

All are welcome!

Communion Music:

Of the Father's love begotten

Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

O that birth for ever blessed,
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race;
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

Let the heights of heaven adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
and unwearied praises be;
honor, glory and dominion,
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore!

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER (*stand or kneel*)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: **God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people
in heaven and on earth.**

**Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,**

that we may proclaim
your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING (*stand or kneel*)

Celebrant: ...this night and always,
People: **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN *Joy to the World, the Lord is come!*

H100

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love.

THE DISMISSAL

After the dismissal, the people respond

Celebrant: ...Alleluia! Alleluia!
People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE



Merry Christmas
for unto us a child is born

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Closing the building

As we move toward our goal of cleaning and closing the building, we are aware that some of you might want something of St. Martin's as a tangible memory. Some have said they would like a prayer book or hymnal. Some have asked for other things. If you are interested in having something from the building, please email or call Helayne at the office. If we can make your wishes happen we will.

847-824-2043

saintmartinschurch1095@gmail.com

*St. Martin's
Final Worship and Dinner
Sunday, January 4, 2026*

A time to say thanks to God and to our friends

4:00 ~ Eucharist

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm ~ Catered Dinner

The dinner is currently full.

Call the office or email to reserve your spot(s) on the wait list.

Please include the number in your party and names of all guests as well as a phone number

847-824-2043 leave a message or

saintmartinschurch1095@gmail.com



St. Martin's Episcopal Church

**All are welcome
and fed with the love of God
pets too!**

**1095 Thacker St.
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016
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