

Church of Saint Martin-in-the-Fields

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The Virgin Adoring the Host, Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, 1852

Holy Eucharist on the Eve of the Nativity of our Lord

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024, 10 p.m.

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Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024, 10 p.m. *Celebrant and Preacher:* The Rev'd Nicholas Hatt, Incumbent *Assisting:* The Rev'd Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan, Honorary Assistant *Music Director:* Jack Hattey *Trumpeter:* Paul Sanvidotti

Mass Setting

Mass of the Crèche, George Malcolm (1917-1997)

Prelude

La Grâce, Georg Phillip Telemann (1681-1767)

Please stand as the choir and sanctuary party enter.

Processional Hymn #118

Adeste Fideles

| Deacon People | Let us go forth in peace. In the Name of Christ. Amen. |
|---|---|
| | 1. 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; | |
| Come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, | |
| O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord. | |
| | 2. God of God, Light of Light, |
| | lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb; |
| | very God, begotten not created: |

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,

O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Please turn to the back of the church to face the crèche.

| Priest | Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. | |
|-----------|---|--|
| People | God is the Lord who has shown us light. | |
| Celebrant | Almighty and everliving God, you have made this night holy | |
| | by the birth of Jesus Christ. Bless and hallow this manger scene, | |
| | that we who look upon it may enter with joy into the celebration | |
| | of this holy feast, and rejoice forever as your children; | |
| | through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns | |
| | with you and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen. | |

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; glory to God in the highest:O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

4. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear; we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

5. Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given;Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

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, | |
| All | 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 Christ our Lord. Amen. | |

Glory to God (sung by the choir)

William Mathias (1934-1992)

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Priest Let us pray.

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please sit.

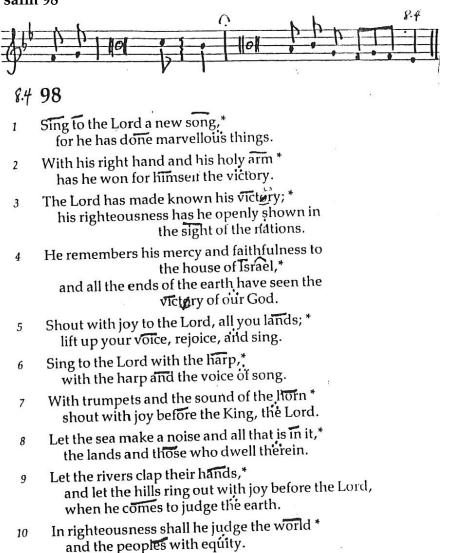
Old Testament Reading

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices; together they shout for joy, for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth; shout together for joy, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.AllThanks be to God.

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 98



Epistle Reading

All

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel procession

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-14

| - | 8 |
|--------|---|
| Deacon | The Lord be with you. |
| All | And also with you. |
| Deacon | The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. |
| All | Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ |

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. 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.

Sermon

The Rev'd Nicholas Hatt, Incumbent

Nicene Creed

Please stand.

| Celebrant All | Let us confess our faith, as we sing, 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. |

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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.

Prayers of the People

| Leader | In times past, God spoke to us through the Prophets: today he speaks to us through his Son, the Word made flesh, born of the Virgin Mary. In our joy, let us turn to him offer up our prayers for one another for the world, saying: " Lord , hear our prayer ". |
|--------|--|
| Leader | For the Church throughout the world and this parish of Saint Martin: that by meditating on the mystery of Christ's birth he might reveal his presence to us and to those who still seek the Saviour, and become sources of peace and joy in our communities. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| People | Lord, hear our prayer. |
| Leader | For our political leaders: that they might see in the Holy Child of Bethlehem the source of their true strength, and like him, protect and defend the dignity of all of God's children. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| People | Lord, hear our prayer. |
| Leader | For the poor, lonely, rejected, and homeless: that Jesus, who was born into poverty and lowliness, might bring hope to those who still dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| People | Lord, hear our prayer. |
| Leader | For those who suffer in any way: that they might draw strength from Christ who is no stranger to our human weakness; and that all who have died might enjoy the vision of God's glory in that greater light with the Blessed Virgin Mary his mother, Saint Joseph her spouse, Saint Martin our patron, and all the faithful who have served him in every age. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| People | Lord, hear our prayer. |
| Leader | God of love, the darkness that covered the earth has given way to the bright dawn of your Son's light. Make us people of that light, so that we may bring your hope to the waiting world. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. |
| | |

Confession and Absolution

PriestDear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
God welcomes sinners and invites them to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

| Priest All | Most merciful God, 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. |
|---------------|--|
| Priest | 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. Amen. |

Please stand.

The Peace

| Priest | The peace of the Lord be always with you. |
|--------|---|
| People | And also with you. |

Please greet one another with a sign of the peace of Christ.

Offertory Hymn #148

See Amid the Winter's Snow

1. See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below, See the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years!

Refrain Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn! Sing through all Jerusalem: Christ is born in Bethlehem.

2. Lo, within a manger lies he who built the earth and skies, who enthroned in height sublime sits amid the cherubim. *Refrain*

3. Say, ye holy shepherds, say what your joyful news today; Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?

Refrain

Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn! Sing through all Jerusalem: Christ is born in Bethlehem.

4. "As we watched at dead of night, lo, we saw a wondrous light; angels, singing 'Peace on earth' told us of the Saviour's birth." *Refrain* 5. Sacred infant, all divine, what a mighty love was thine, Thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this! *Refrain*

Prayer over the Gifts

Priest

Let us pray. Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

| Priest | The Lord be with you. |
|--------|---|
| People | And also with you. |
| Priest | Lift up your hearts. |
| People | We lift them to the Lord. |
| Priest | Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. |
| People | It is right to give our thanks and praise. |
| Priest | Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory. Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name. |
| Choir | 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. |

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

PriestWe 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."

| drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." |
|---|
| Therefore, Father, according to his command, we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory; |
| 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 children; 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. |
| As our Saviour taught us, let us pray, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen. |
| |

The Breaking of the Bread

| Priest | We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world. |
|--------|--|
| People | God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life. |
| Priest | The gifts of God for the people of God. |
| People | Thanks be to God. |

Agnus Dei (sung by the choir)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Communion

The Anglican Church of Canada welcomes all Christians who have been baptised in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to come forward to the altar to receive the Blessed Sacrament. If you wish to receive only a blessing,

please cross your arms over your chest while at the altar. Please let a sidesperson know if you require assistance. The Sacrament can be brought to you in your pew.

Communion Hymn #121

Forest Green

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.

2. For Christ is born of Mary;and, gathered all above,while mortals sleep, the angels keeptheir watch of wondering love.O morning stars, togetherproclaim the holy birth,and praises sing to God the King,and peace to all the earth.

3. How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
As love imparts to human hearts the blessings of God's 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.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Carol (sung by the choir)

On this Day Earth Shall Ring, H.C. Stewart (1868-1942)

Prayer after Communion

PriestLet us pray.Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven
in sending your Son to take our human nature.May we who have tasted heavenly things share
in the life of his eternal kingdom.We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Doxology and Blessing

All

Priest Glory to God,

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.

PriestThe peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in
the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son, Jesus Christ; and the blessing
of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and
remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn #138

 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 th'angelic hosts proclaim,
 "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" 2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb: veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity, pleased as one of us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

Mendelssohn

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

> 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

The Dismissal

| Deacon | Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. |
|--------|---|
| All | Thanks be to God. |

Postlude

La Réjouissance, Georg Phillip Telemann (1681-1767)

Christmas Services at Saint Martin's during the Twelve Days

Let us keep vigil with the Christchild at the Manger this Christmas.

Tuesday, December 24th (Christmas Eve) 7 p.m. Children's Pageant and Sung Eucharist 10 p.m. Sung Eucharist

Wednesday, December 25th (Christmas Day) 11 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Thursday, December 26th (St Stephen's Day) 10 a.m. Said Eucharist (in the Chapel) with meditation by Bishop Victoria Matthews

Friday, December 27th (St John the Evangelist) 10 a.m. Said Eucharist (in the Chapel) with meditation by Fr Hatt

Saturday, December 28th (Innocents' Day) 10 a.m. Said Eucharist (in the Chapel) with meditation by Finn Keesmaat-Walsh

Sunday, December 29th (Christmas I) 8:30 a.m. Said Eucharist 11 a.m. Sung Eucharist with Carols

Sunday, January 5 (Feast of the Epiphany) 8:30 a.m. Said Eucharist 11 a.m. Sung Eucharist



We are grateful for all contributions towards our ongoing ministry. Financial offerings can be placed on the collection plate. E-transfers can be sent to <u>cw-stmartininthefields</u> <u>@toronto.anglican.ca</u>. Please use the QR Code or visit <u>www.stmartininthefields.ca/donate</u> for more information about how to give.

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Clergy

| The Rev'd Nicholas Hatt | Incumbent |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | priest@stmartininthefields.ca |
| The Rev'd Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan | Honorary Assistant |
| The Rev'd Canon Harold Nahabedian | Honorary Assistant |
| The Rev'd Canon David Luxton | Honorary Assistant |

Parish Officers and Staff

| Jay Haddad | Rector's Warden |
|---------------------|---|
| Nadine Barmania | |
| Jack Hattey | |
| | jhattey@stmartininthefields.ca |
| Finn Keesmaat-Walsh | Children and Youth Pastoral Associate |
| | childyouthministry@stmartininthefields.ca |
| Andrea Zinn | Parish Office Administrator |
| | office@stmartininthefields.ca |
| Bernard Sanders | Sexton |

Weekly Worship Schedule

| Sundays | 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said) | |
|----------|---------------------------------|--|
| | 11 a.m. Holy Eucharist (choral) | |
| Tuesdays | 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said) | |

Feast days and special services as announced.