



Church of Saint Martin-in-the-Fields

151 Glenlake Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6P 1E8

(416) 767-7491 | office@stmartininthefields.ca

 stmartininthefieldsTO |  stmartingarden

www.stmartininthefields.ca

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said)

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev'd Nicholas Hatt, Incumbent

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist (choral)

Celebrant: The Rev'd Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan, Honorary Assistant

Preacher: The Rev'd Nicholas Hatt, Incumbent

Welcome! We are glad to have you join us in worship today.

The order of service is printed below. The words of the service are found in the green *Book of Alternative Services*. The words of the hymns (omitted during the 8:30 a.m. service) are found in the blue *Book of Common Praise*.

Our Church School (for youth up to the age of 12) gathers downstairs in the Hall prior to the start of worship. They return to the church during the Offertory Hymn, in time for Communion. New children are always welcome.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader 1: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly.

Reader 2: A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough

places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." (Isaiah 40:3-5). We light this candle to help us remember that we need to prepare ourselves joyfully so that there will be room in our hearts for Jesus when he comes.

The third candle is lit.

Reader 1: Let us pray. Change our hearts, O Lord. Soften them and renew them. Help us make our hearts and minds ready to know you when you appear to us. Teach us to see your glory in every place, that we may praise your holy name. **Amen.**

Introit Hymn#105 (*Morning Song*)

The Gathering of the Communityp. 185

Kyrie/Trisagion

Sung by the choir

The Collect

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival." I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 3

Isaiah 12.2-6



Canticle 3 - Song of Thanksgiving

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence, *
and he will be my Saviour.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;
make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Pointing © 1986-87 Walter Deller

The Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Maranatha. Alleluia. Ring out your joy, for the Holy One of Israel is in your midst. **Maranatha. Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them,

"Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Deacon The Gospel of Christ.
People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon Father Nicholas Hatt, Incumbent

The Nicene Creed.....p. 188

Prayers of the People.....Advent Litany #12, p. 119

“In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, **“Lord Jesus, come soon!”**”

Parish Prayer Cycle

The Parish Choir; Carol Shepherd, Barbara Godden and
Timothy Secord, Lois Secord, Cyriline Taylor

Anglican Prayer Cycle

The Anglican Church in Tanzania

Diocesan Prayer Cycle

The Season of Spiritual Renewal

Those who have asked us for prayers

Huntly Andrea Wendy Margaret Timothy Debbie Lynda
Bill Sean Raymond Bob John Elizabeth Gordon Phil
Jonathan Mark Jill Ted Fr. Harold Bp. Victoria Janet
Marian Ashley Mary-Elaine Bp. Geoff Woodcroft
Bob Fr David Canon David Aubrey Erma Cole
MaryLane Joan Mlynarczyk

Faithful Departed

Rick Mlynarczyk

Confession, Absolution and the Peace..... pp. 191-192

Offertory Hymn #116 (Irish)



Please place your offering on the collection plate. E-transfers can be sent to cw-stmartininthefields@toronto.anglican.ca. Visit www.stmartininthefields.ca/donate or use the QR Code for more ways to give to our ongoing ministry.

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Timothy Collin by his mother Kathleen.*

*The flowers at the chancel steps are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Bruce Longmore on the 10th anniversary of his
death by daughter Anne and wife Elizabeth, and in thanksgiving for the
return of the light with the coming of the Winter solstice.*

Prayer over the Gifts

God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving.....Eucharistic Prayer #3, pp. 198-200

**The Lord’s Prayer, the Breaking of the Bread #5
and the Communion**pp. 211-212

Priest God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

People **Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

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.....#88 (*Halton Holgate*)

Prayer after Communion

Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We

ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever.
Amen.

The Doxology and Blessing.....p. 214

Announcements

Final Hymn..... #111 (*Neander*)

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Parish News and Announcements

ADVENT and CHRISTMAS NOTICES:

Advent Preachers

Our preacher next Sunday will be St Martin's parishioner and chorister, Dr Joseph Mangina, Professor of Systematic Theology at Wycliffe College. Thank you to Canon Alyson for bringing the Word to us last Sunday.

Advent Carol Service

Thank you to Jack Hattey, guest organist John Tuttle, and all our choristers and musicians who led the Advent Lessons and Carols service last Sunday, and to those who organized the reception following.

Christian Education during Advent

St Martin's has been joining with the rest of the Diocese for the Bishops' online Advent study called "Advent for Everyone" on Tuesday evenings. The final session is this coming Tuesday. To register please visit www.toronto.anglican.ca/events/advent-for-everyone.

Caroling in the Garden

Sunday, December 22nd at 4:00pm we will welcome the local community for Caroling in the Garden! Dress warmly and bring a flashlight along with your voices to welcome our visitors and to sing with enthusiasm! We will be roasting marshmallows and serving hot cider and hot chocolate. If you could help with any of this, please advise either Glen or Kathie. Should we experience rain like we did last year, we will hold the event inside – just no fire with marshmallows. We look forward to your participation in spreading our mission into the neighbourhood.

Christmas Flowers

Memorial donations for altar flowers at Christmas can be made using the designated envelopes located on the table at the back of the church or via e-transfer. Please email the names of loved ones you would like remembered in the bulletin to

office@stmartininthefields.ca.

Christmas Services at St Martin's during the Twelve Days

Tuesday, December 24th (Christmas Eve)

7 p.m. Children's Pageant and Sung Eucharist

10 p.m. Sung Eucharist

** please note that there will be no 10 a.m. Eucharist this day*

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)

Friday, December 27th (St John the Evangelist)

10 a.m. Said Eucharist (in the Chapel)

Saturday, December 28th (Innocents' Day)

10 a.m. Said Eucharist (in the Chapel)

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

FUNDRAISING Notices:

Boiler Campaign – Heat it Forward!

“Heat it Forward!” is the new name of our fundraising campaign to restore funds borrowed from our Memorial Endowment Fund to pay for the new church boiler. More information about the campaign will follow in January. In the meantime, however, donations can be made to the fund by placing a cheque or cash in the offering plate, or via e-transfer to the parish. Please note the offering is for the “Heat it Forward” campaign.

St. Martin’s 2025 Calendars

Our annual calendars are now for sale. Filled with beautiful pictures from around the parish and garden, they make a wonderful gift. Price is \$15 each, or 2 for \$25 and will be available at coffee hour after the 11 a.m. service or by contacting the parish office.

Christmas Market and Auction

Thank you to Tim _____ and everyone who helped make this year’s Christmas Market and Auction a success once again. More than \$10,000 (more than last year!) was raised to support our parish’s ongoing ministry.

From our MISSIONS COMMITTEE:

Blessing Box

As we are quickly approaching the Christmas season, please remember those in our community who may be in need. We serve these people with our Blessing Box which is continually in need of our input. The Box takes non-perishable food, as well as common personal and household items. In addition, in cold weather we need items of clothing to keep people warm – hats mitts, gloves, heavy socks, scarves, sweaters and hoodies. You can put these items directly into the Blessing Box or drop them into the bin

provided at the back of the Church. Please also remember the Library and Kids Library sections. We especially need children's books as these are very popular. Our local neighbors frequently put items in the Box, but this is not sufficient to satisfy the need in the community. We sincerely appreciate your contributions.

From our OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

**Single Bed with Frame Needed
for Grandmother at Romero House**

The Outreach Committee is putting together a Christmas basket filled with gifts for a refugee family at Romero House. On the grandmother's wish list was "a mattress and bed frame." We thought we would ask the congregation if there was anyone who had a single mattress and bed frame to give to our family's grandmother for Christmas. Please reach out to anyone on the Outreach Committee or Kathy
and we can arrange pick up.

Coat Drive – Thank you

Thank you so much to those who have contributed winter wear that we can share with those folk in need at both Romero House and PARC. Special thanks to Glen who got the clothing to the right place at the right times.

Advent Tree Decorations for The Redwood Shelter

Just a reminder that you have the opportunity of 'renting' an ornament and placing it on our Advent Tree located in the Narthex before or after worship today and next Sunday. Funds raised will be donated to The Redwood which offers safety, healing and opportunities for growth for women and their children fleeing abuse.

Christmas Cheer Fund

Every year at this time there are offering envelopes available for those who wish to contribute to the Christmas Cheer fund. These givings are used for gifts for parish shut ins and for a refugee family in need at Romero House. The envelopes are on the table at the back of the church.

Upcoming Chili-Fest

On Saturday, December 28th, the Outreach Committee, with support from Camp Bellaleo leaders, is hosting Chili-Fest in our Parish Hall from 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm. Camp Chef Phil Devine will serve up his chili and corn bread at 6:30 pm, and the Leaf game will be streamed at 7:00 pm. Enjoy a beer or glass of wine, along with door prizes, a bake sale, and a few auction items. Adults \$20, Children 12 and under \$15, children 6 and under free. Order tickets through _____ or buy them at the door! Proceeds will support Camp Bellaleo and St Martin's Outreach Committee projects.

UPCOMING CONCERTS at St Martin's:

Healey Willan Singers Concert "*Christmas Lullabies*"

An afternoon of soothing choral music to celebrate Advent and Christmas will be presented today, Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Martin's by Conductor Ron Cheung. Tickets are cash only, available at the door. \$25 for adults, \$20 for students/seniors.

Voices Chamber Choir Concert "*Joyeux Noël*"

Music of the season by Charpentier, Bruckner, Stopford, and others *plus* a Carol Sing-along will be presented Wednesday December 18 at 8:00 p.m. at St. Martin's by Director Ron Cheung. Tickets may be ordered at _____, or are available at the door. \$25 for adults, \$20 for students/seniors.

This Week at St Martin's

Sunday, December 15

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said)

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist (sung)

3 p.m. "Christmas Lullabies" Concert

Monday, December 16

7:30 p.m. Management Board (Guild Room)

Tuesday, December 17

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

7:30 p.m. Advent Series with Bishop Andrew (Online)

Wednesday, December 18

8 p.m. Voices Chamber Choir Concert "*Joyeux Noël*"

Thursday, December 19

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Pickleball (Hall)

8 p.m. Choir Practice (Church)

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Clergy

The Rev'd Nicholas Hatt.....*Incumbent*
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 *People's Warden*
Jack Hattey *Music Director*
Finn Keesmaat-Walsh *Children and Youth Pastoral Associate*
Andrea Zinn..... *Parish Office Administrator*
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.