



Sunday 19 December 2021, 10.00am
Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Eucharist

President
Revd Richard Carter

Organist
Richard Tanner

Preacher
Revd Harry Ching

⊕ Common Worship

Thank you for joining us today, whether you are in the building or worshipping online.

Please note the following guidelines for worship in the building. These are gestures of the care we have for one another.

- Wear face coverings indoors unless you are medically exempt. This is particularly important now we have reintroduced congregational hymn singing.
- Be respectful of those who wish to maintain social distancing.
- Make use of hand sanitiser stations as needed.
- At the Peace you are invited to shake hands with neighbours, but please be respectful of those who would rather share the peace in non-physical ways.
- Receive communion in one kind – the bread – only.
- Leave contact information to be kept securely for 30 days for Test and Trace.
- Take a lateral flow test before coming to church. Tests are available from the stewards.

Filming

This service is being streamed live to our public Facebook page. The camera focuses on the clergy and other contributors only for most of the service but turns to face the congregation at times, in the central block of seating between the pillars. If you wish to avoid being on camera, please sit in one of the side areas and let a steward know if you would like to receive communion. We will be filming the reading of the Gospel from halfway down the central aisle. Please note people sitting in pews immediately around this may be caught on camera at this point.

Supporting St Martin's

In line with health advice we have reintroduced cash offerings as part of our worship. You are also invited to give in other ways:

online at <https://stmartininthefields.myknowchurch.co.uk/giving>

by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message)



The Gathering

Welcome

Please stand. Silence is kept.

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Visit us Lord, by your Holy Spirit.

All **Though in many places, we are united as one body.
Though from many backgrounds, we share one hope.**

Opening Hymn

- 1 **A great and mighty wonder,
a full and holy cure!
The Virgin bears the Infant
with virgin-honour pure:
*Repeat the hymn again:
'To God on high be glory,
and peace on earth to men.'***
- 2 **The Word becomes incarnate,
and yet remains on high:
and cherubim sing anthems
to shepherds from the sky.
*Chorus***
- 3 **While thus they sing your Monarch,
those bright angelic bands,
rejoice, ye vales and mountains,
ye oceans clap your hands.
*Chorus***
- 4 **Since all he comes to ransom,
by all be he adored,
the Infant born in Beth'lem,
the Saviour and the Lord.
*Chorus***

Mega Kai paradoxon thauma Germanus (c.634-c.732) translated John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

Please sit.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Please remain seated or kneel.

Confession

God comes to meet us in the gift of Jesus, yet we turn away from God. Let us therefore confess the ways that we've rejected God's goodness.

Silence is kept.

O God, you draw close to us in the events and struggles of our lives, but we don't listen to your voice assuring us that we are loved and favoured.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

O God, you invite us to magnify your love but often we have turned away from those in need.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

O God, you say that nothing is impossible with you, but we lose faith and avoid trusting you.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

**1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

continued...

- 2 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.**
- 3 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**
- 4 **Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!**

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b 1926) from Luke 1: 46-55

Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Micah 5: 2-5a *read by Will de Renzy-Martin*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Hear the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Hebrews 10: 5-10 *read by Anna Warbrick*

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).' When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hear the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Hymn

- 1 **The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail', said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favoured lady.'
*Gloria!***

- 2 **'For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;
most highly favoured lady.'
*Gloria!***

- 3 **Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
'To me be as it pleaseth God', she said,
'My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name':
most highly favoured lady.
*Gloria!***

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading Luke 1: 39-45

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn (continued)

**4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,
'Most highly favoured lady.'
Gloria!**

*Birjina gastettobat zegoen (Basque Carol), Charles Bordes (Collector) (1863-1909),
Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)*

Please sit.

Sermon Revd Harry Ching

A reflective piece of organ music will be played.

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

All **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 from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped 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.**

Please sit or kneel.

The Prayers of Intercession *led by Neil MacGregor*

The response to the prayers is:
Come, Lord Jesus.

All **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

And, at the end:
Merciful Father,
**All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace either in person through a handshake or a non-physical gesture, or through writing a comment in the Facebook feed.

You are welcome to donate in the following ways:

- cash in the collection bags filling in a Gift Aid envelope if applicable,
- select amount and tap the card machines brought by the stewards,
- online at stmartininthefields.myknowchurch.co.uk/giving,
- by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message).

Offertory Hymn

- 1 **O come, O come Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.***
- 2 **O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.
*Refrain***

continued...

**3 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Refrain

**4 O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.**

Refrain

**5 O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.**

Refrain

Latin 13th century translated by John M Neale (1818-1866)

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is a good and joyful thing to give thanks to you, Lord God of hosts, O ancient of days, for from of old you have called forth life. You brought into being every detail of creation and gave birth to your covenant people. When the time drew near, you called upon Bethlehem to bear the hope you promised, and summoned Mary to bear your holy child. By your grace the child grew to be the one to bear not only our sins but the sins of the world. In his dying and rising you gave birth to everlasting life for all your children. And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we sing your praise and join the unending hymn.

Sanctus and Benedictus Mass of St Thomas *Thorne*

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord, God of po-wer and might, Hea-ven and earth are
 full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high -
 est. Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

God of Mary, whose womb bore the sacred fruit of our salvation, bring forth from this fruit of the vine your cup of blessing. As we remember around this table your Son's saving passion poured out for us, send your Holy Spirit upon your church to make us bearers of your Christ, your mercy, and your hope. Sanctify this bread and cup that they may be for us the body and blood of Jesus our Lord. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith:

- All* **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

God of holy expectation, let your face shine upon us and your dawn break upon us that we may be saved. Make your church expectant in faith as we labour for what we cannot yet see. Come and dwell with your people who yearn to be restored, to be forgiven, to belong. Let the warmth of your face shine upon those who seek the peace long promised for Bethlehem, for Jerusalem, and for all your waiting world. Bring us, with the saints who have looked for your coming, to the day when we and all your children shall celebrate and leap for joy in your holy presence, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray each in our own first language

All **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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The Giving of Communion

The living bread of God, given and broken for the life of the world.

All **Merciful Lord, unite us in this sign.**

Silence is kept.

The Prayer after Communion

All Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

Blessing

May God, who does not hold back but who gives all in the Son, Jesus Christ, give you yet one more thing, a thankful heart; and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Thanksgiving Hymn

- 1 Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
Come to make all things new;
Bear his People's burden,
Freely love and pardon.
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
when he comes,
*who will make him welcome?***
- 2 God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
he will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human.
*Chorus***

continued...

3 Mary hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed.
in her womb, God is laid:
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected,
Chorus

4 Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes!
Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Organ Voluntary

Dudley Green RIP It is with sadness that we would like to let you know that Dudley Green passed peacefully away on Thursday morning at Charterhouse. He will be greatly missed by all of us at St Martin's especially the archives team. Please keep Stephen, his brother, in your prayers. Stephen has cared for Dudley with great dedication through his cancer and looked after him with great devotion during his final days.

For live-stream services please use our [Facebook](#) page or [St Martin's Digital](#).

THANK YOU to Alex Maltby, who has served as a verger at St Martin's for two years and is leaving to serve in St Stephen's Rochester Row and to develop his musical career. Alex has brought dedication, compassion, and kindness to facilitating our welcome and worship throughout a challenging time and will be greatly missed by those who have worked with him and benefitted from his service. We wish him well and God's blessing. There will be an opportunity to say goodbye and show our appreciation today at the 10am service.

Children's & Youth Church/12-12.45pm in the Ho Ming Wah Centre. For primary school children (4-10) and secondary school children (11-16). For more information email [Sally](#).

Tots Chillout Zone/as Anna-Rose is unwell this will not be available today.

Thank you to those who faithfully lead online Compline each evening (except Sunday) and for those who join for our time of reflection and prayer. We will be taking a break from Friday 24/12 – Tuesday 28/12 and again from Friday 31/12 – Monday 3/1. If anyone would like to join the rota to lead Compline once every two weeks then please could you contact Jeff Claxton (Jeff Reader on Facebook).

Being With Courses/January Would you or a friend like to explore the basics of the Christian faith? No prior religious knowledge needed. Open to those who are not regular members of our church too. For more details contact [Siân](#).

Thank you to all those who have responded to the request for stewarding over Christmas.

Michael Boyle has tried to articulate what, in his life, he has most prized about the Christian faith, in his book '*When Fishes Flew? Reconnecting with the Jesus Stories*' which the St Martin's Bookshop have agreed to take some copies of, also available on Amazon, paperback or e-book.

I wonder what is the heart of life?

BEING WITH

A new course for those wishing to explore faith and friendship within a positive and inclusive environment.

No special knowledge or religious language needed - just what you have learned in life so far.

TO JOIN CONTACT: beingwith@smitf.org / 02077661131

Advent and Christmas at St Martin's

Please join us in the church or online for...

Friday 24 December, Christmas Eve

1.00pm Crib Service

3.00pm Parish Carol Service

5.00pm Parish Carol Service

11.00pm Midnight Mass

Saturday 25 December, Christmas Day

10.30am Christmas Day Eucharist

Sunday 26 December, St Stephen's Day

10am Eucharist

Some material in this service is copyright:

© The Archbishops' Council 2000. Eucharistic Prayer from *Joining the Angels' Song* © Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher, Canterbury 2016

Copyright: Hymns reproduced using CCL 284612 and Calamus 1744, Music using MRL811779. *Tell out my soul*, © administered by Oxford University Press in Europe (including UK and Ireland) and Africa, and by Hope Publishing Company in all other territories (including USA); *Long ago, prophets knew*, © 1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd

St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London, WC2N 4JJ

0 7766 1100

www.smitf.org

December 2021