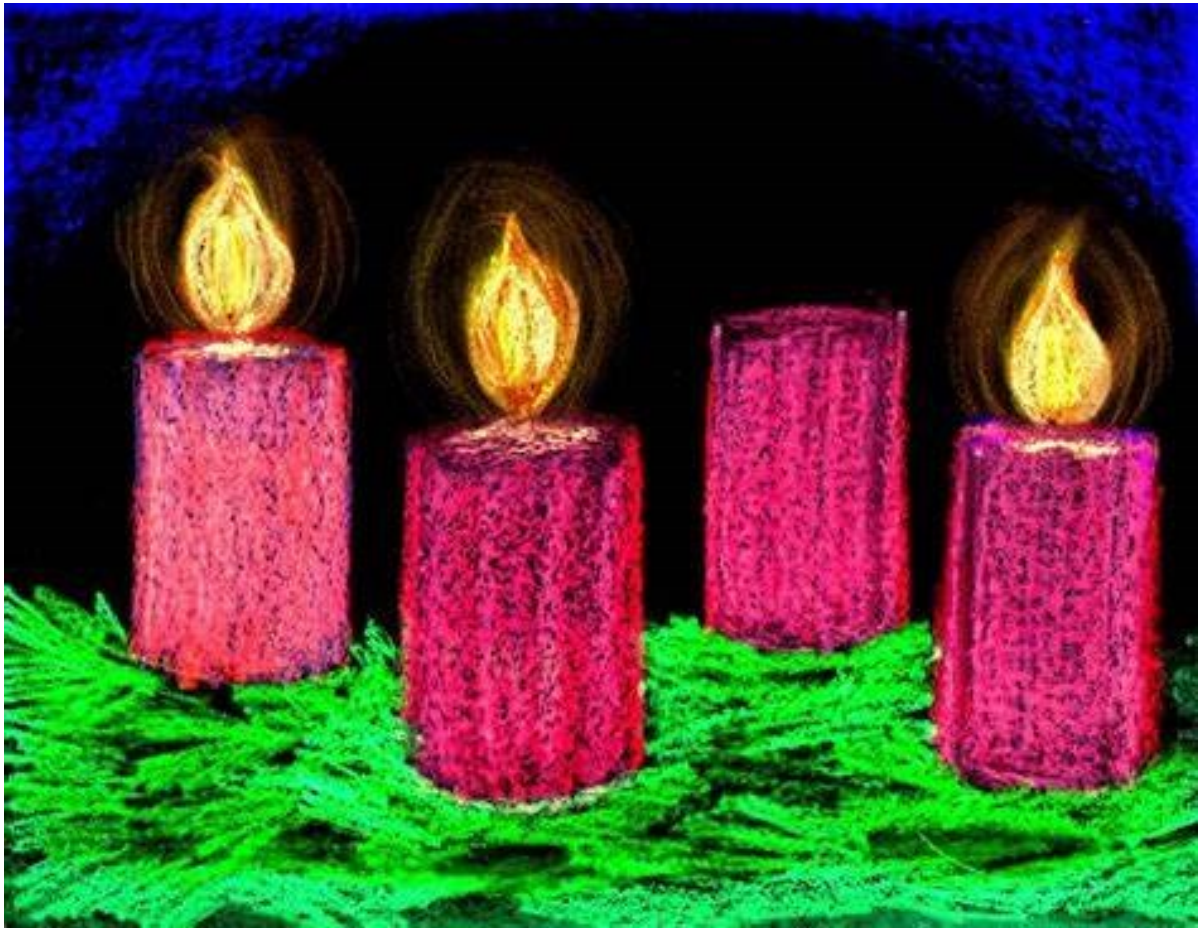


THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

10 AM



SAINT MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annapolis, Maryland

PRELUDE

Busoni: Elegy No. 4 "Turandots Frauengemach" (Greensleeves)
Junghoon Park, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Holy and gracious God,

we confess that we have sinned against you. Some of our sin we know – the thoughts and words and deeds of which we are ashamed – but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ we ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore us, that we may live and serve in peace. Amen.

God's compassion and mercy are beyond measure, As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Sisters and Brothers in name of Christ you are forgiven. Let us receive this gift humbly and joyfully and ever be thankful to God who crowns us with mercy and love. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hark, the Glad Sound!

ELW 239



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

GREETING

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.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.
Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH -

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW 240 vs.3

3 Light three candles to watch for Messiah:

let the light banish darkness.

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway

for the King of glory.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil. ²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:6-8, 19-28

The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to John, the first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." ²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

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

THE HOMILY

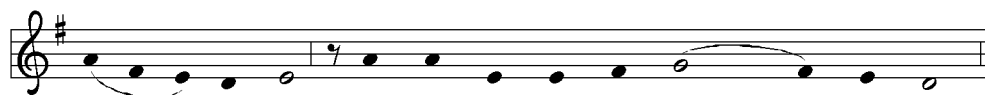
HYMN OF THE DAY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257 (vs. 1, 6, 7 & 8)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way.
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Congregation Responds ...Your mercy is great.)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

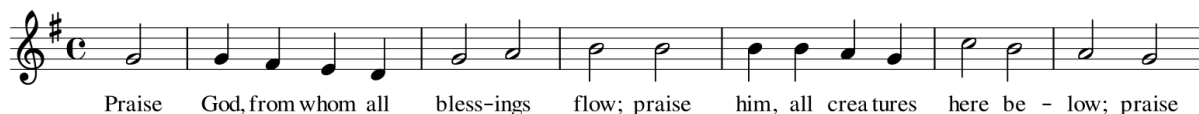
THE OFFERING

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 **Bach:** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland (Now Come, Savior of the Gentiles), BWV 659 (Arr. Busoni) Junghoon Park, Piano

OFFERTORY RESPONSE The Doxology



▪ SERVICE OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST ▪

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. **We give our thanks and praise.**

Father....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS

ELW 190

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung by the Choir)

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION **Mozart:** Clarinet Concerto, K. 622 - II. Adagio Junghoon Park, Organ

About 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.

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep Awake. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know
 (St. Martin's Handbell Choir)

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT IS GIVEN TODAY

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN HONOR OF OUR

GRANDMOTHER, ANNA MARIE HUMPHREY, ON THE CELEBRATION OF HER BIRTHDAY

WITH LOVE FROM HER GRANDDAUGHTERS, SAMANTHA ROSE AND ALEXANDRA CHARLOTTE

Serving in Worship Today	
Preacher & Celebrant	Pastor Dave Oravec
Director of Music Ministry	Junghoon Park
Altar Set Up	Altar Guild
Media Technician	Sara Wetz
Assisting Minister	Cam Cloeter
	Mel Tuckfield
Communion Assistants	Judy Houston
Lector	Sandy Ourisson
	Betty & John Knupp
Ushers	Barb & Tom Freeman
Communion Clean Up	Sarah & John Gatchel



Tis the season...to Carol!

After the 10 am service today, we'll gather in the narthex and then go caroling to our home-bound members (and others). Songbooks and carpooling

will be available. We hope you'll share your voice, smile, and Christmas cheer!



ELCA Good Gifts

Let's buy a farm! In addition to the Holiday Sharing Program, this year we would like to collect contributions

for the ELCA Good Gifts Campaign. If we work together, we can help purchase a family farm with chickens and goats, or a community garden and honeybees.

If you would like to contribute, please scan the QR code below then click the "ELCA Goodgifts" icon.



The **Bay WINDS** Band

Sunday December 17 @ 3pm
St. Martin's Lutheran Church
1120 Spa Road
Annapolis, MD 21403

ARTS COUNCIL
OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

This performance is supported in part by the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County (ACAAC)

Free!

Opportunities This Week

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

- 7:00 am** Men's Prayer Breakfast (Double T)
- 5:30 pm** Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6:45 pm** Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 21, 2023

- 11:30 am** Mid-day Bible Study (Double T)
- 6:30 pm** Good Night with God (Zoom)
- 7:00 pm** Service of the Longest Night (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 24, 2023 - Christmas Eve

- 10:00 am** Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 pm** Children's Service (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 pm** Traditional Service with Candles and Strings (Sanctuary)
- 9:00 pm** Traditional Service with Candles and Strings (Sanctuary)

Oh Come All Ye Faithful
Christmas Eve

St. Martin's Lutheran Church
1120 Spa Road, Annapolis, MD 21403
4 PM - Children's Service
7 PM and 9 PM - Traditional Service with Candles

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