

AND THE
WORD
BECAME
FLESH
AND LIVED
AMONG
US

J O H N 1 : 1 4

St. Martin's Lutheran Church
203 S. Defiance Street + Archbold, Ohio
Rev. Paul Reichert

Second Sunday of Christmas
January 3, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 3, 2021

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth. It is Christmas, still.

Regular text is spoken by the Pastor or Worship Leader

Bold text is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

"God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" – arr. J. Innes

BELL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

Blessed is he who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for personal reflection.

God of peace,

we confess that we are not at peace. We bring to you all that causes pain in our lives and the lives of others: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts.

In your mercy, restore us.

Reconnect us to one another and to you.

Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. Rise, shine, for our light has come.

Amen.

*OPENING SONG

“What Child is This?”



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



*GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

O God our redeemer, you created light that we might live, and you illumine our world with your beloved Son. By your Spirit comfort us in all darkness, and turn us toward the light of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Bring A Torch Jeanette Isabella” – arr. J. Raney
Abbie Short & Maddie Short, Bell Tree Duet

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 31:7-14

⁷Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.”

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:12-20

¹²Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion, ¹³who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.

¹⁴God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.

¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

¹⁷God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?

¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

¹⁹God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.

²⁰The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;

There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.

Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;

Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

*GOSPEL READING

JOHN 1:1-18

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

MESSAGE

"Staking the Tent"

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you. (*Please greet one another with words of peace*)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, Creator of all and source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your sons and daughters.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION

***BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

In this meal, O God, you have come to us and we are renewed in body and soul.

Strengthen us in our calling to proclaim the good news of your redeeming love to all who are in need. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi,
and the peace of the Christ child.

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

Amen

*CLOSING SONG

“Joy to the World”

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

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

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.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Thanks be to God!

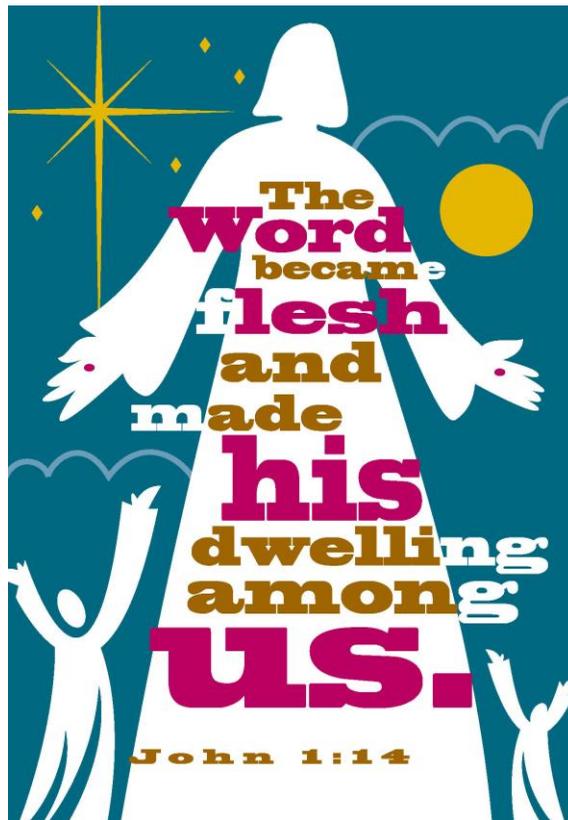
Please be seated and you will be dismissed by individual pews.

POSTLUDE

“We Wish You a Merry Christmas” – arr. F. Bock

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St. Martin's Lutheran Church

203 S. Defiance Street Archbold OH 43502

Phone Number: 419-445-4656 Fax: 419-445-2952

Web Site: www.the-welcome-place.org

Office Hours:

Pastor Paul Reichert

Deacon Steve Basselman

Brenda Shibler

Mon & Tues, by appt.

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. morning

Tues. – Fri. 8:00-12:30

Wed & Thurs, 9-3

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. afternoon

e-mail: pastorpaul@the-welcome-place.org

steveb@the-welcome-place.org

smartin@the-welcome-place.org

Worship Services: 9:00 am each Sunday

7:00 pm each Wednesday, Informal Service

-9:00 Sunday & 7:00 Wednesday live broadcast on Facebook and YouTube

Building The Welcome Place

Who Are We? We are The Welcome Place

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

- Romans 15:7

What Is Our Mission As A Church And As Members? WWW

We are...**Welcoming** friends and strangers with God's love.

Working to build deeper relationships with Jesus.

Witnessing to share God's love with everyone

What Is Our Vision Of Who God Wants Us To Be? ORG

People who are serving...**One Real God**,

living **One real faith**,

making **One real difference**.

How Do We Remind Ourselves?

www.the-welcome-place.org

Welcome to worship today and join us in building The Welcome Place Jesus calls us to be.

***We Welcome All** to St. Martin's Lutheran Church this Sunday as you join us in person and online to worship our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

St. Martin's Worship Servants . . .

Ministers of Worship	-Everyone Present both near and far
Organist/Pianist	-Steve Basselman
Lector	-Steve Basselman
Usher Team	-Jim Wyse
Sound System	-Tracy Ziegler
Offering Counters	-Jo Ann Liechty, Gwen Grisier

Roast Beef Dinner, January 10 at Ridgeville Legion Hall, east of Ridgeville, \$10.00 each, from 11:00 until gone.

2021 Annual Congregational Meeting, January 24, 2021 . .

As called for in St. Martin's Constitution, the Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 24, 2021

- All reports from Network Team Leaders, written and financial, must be submitted to the Church Office on or before January 10th.
- The Report will then be available, January 17th for the Congregation to review.

In short . . .

- Deadline for All Reports, January 10
- Report Available for Congregation, January 17
- Annual Meeting, January 24—format to be determined

This Week at St. Martin's

Today – January 3

Worship, 9:00 am, live broadcast, Holy Communion

Adult Sunday School, via Zoom, 10:30 am

Virtual Sunday School

Monday – January 4

Monday Night Bible Study, 7:30 pm, Zoom Meeting, check your email

Tuesday – January 5

Men's Breakfast Bible Study, 6:45, St. Martin's Fellowship Hall

Mutual Ministry Team, 4:30 pm

Wednesday – January 6 - Epiphany

Welcome Meal, 5:15 pm, drive through pick-up

Worship, 7:00 pm, live broadcast

Adult Circle, 7:30, via zoom

Catechism, 7:35, via zoom

Thursday – January 7

Women's Breakfast Bible Study, 7:00, Home Restaurant

Bulletin Deadline, 9:00 am

Next Sunday – January 10

Worship, 9:00 am, live broadcast,

Adult Sunday School, via Zoom, 10:30 am

Virtual Sunday School

Annual Report Deadline

Last Week at St. Martin's . . .

Receipts Week of December 27, 2020 Budget and Year to Date

Operating Contributions	\$8,829.00	Budgeted Weekly Operating Need	\$5,402.00
Benevolence Received	\$75.00	Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Need	\$538.71
Other Designated Income	\$1,094.00	As of 11/30/2020	
Total Income	\$9,998.00	YTD Operating Received	\$251,169.58
		YTD Operating Expenses	(\$245,872.21)
Attendance, 12-27: 29		Net Income/(Deficit)	\$5,297.37

St. Martin's Prayer Line

For our prayers in worship this morning and our daily devotions in the coming week, we remember:
All Believers as we look for the coming Messiah, may we be ready to see the Son of Man coming
in a cloud with power and great glory
All in Need both body & soul that we might know the joy we have in the presence of our Lord,
Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and King
Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, Synod Staff members and all the office staff, that they may be
supported in their ministry to the Church
The Bethel Parish of Dodoma, St. Martin's Companion Congregation, may they continue to carry
out God's ministry and mission in Tanzania
Mission Partner Congregation of Redeemer Lutheran, Toledo may they continue to carry out
God's ministry and mission in the Toledo Area
All First Responders, Hospital Staff, Caregivers who have been in harm's way since the outbreak
of the coronavirus, may we know the ever-present grace of God
All who have lost family members and friends to the corona virus, may we know the comforting
presence of our Lord Jesus Christ
For those who need healing, may they know the healing hand of God

Members of St. Martin's

John Breier
Jerry Geiger
Sharon Heckel
Dick Nagel
Al Siewert
Joe Wyse

Family & Friends of St. Martin's

Margaret Benecke, Dan & Jeff Benecke's aunt
Paul Bockelman, Deb Schmidt's father
Phillip Calvin, Tanya Howell's brother
Jeff Cook, Ann Ott's son
Steven DeNault, June Hayes' friend
Patricia Grover, friend of Melanie Nagel, ACT friends, cancer
Kirk Hummel, son-in-law of Carl & Becky Collins, cancer
Sue Hurst, Archbold area friend
Greg Jenkins, Pastor Paul's brother-in-law
Shelly Kammeyer, daughter in law of Sharon, Leukemia
Diana Kosier, sister of Connie Lauber, cancer treatments
Mary McLennen, friend of Pastor Paul's sister with Covid-19
Lois Mininger, June Hayes' cousin
Joan Mortenson, Pastor Paul's sister-in-law
Ana Perry, Andi Erbskorn's niece
Doug & April Saville, friends of Gene & Jan Delaney
Janice Siegel, Dustin Bailey's mother, cancer
Jennifer Smith, Bill Poston's daughter
Lu Wolf, Judy (Paul) Wyse's mother

All members, family &
friends who serve in
our military, Steve &
Sara (Delaney)
Adams, Patrick Cirenza
(June Hayes), Bradley
Nilsson (Pat Richards),
Christopher Goertz,
Brendon Johns, Kasyn
Schaffner, Christopher
Shirley, Spencer Short

Our Shut-ins Rex Detwiler, Dorothy Huner, Irene Liechty, Ada Thrasher, Louise Wyse
For those who need God's protection and the assurance that he is near
All St. Martin's Members as they prepare for Ministry
Our College students both close to home and far away

①① Prayer requests for the people of St. Martin's ①①
Please contact the church office by 9:00 am. Thursday
(Note, we include a person's name with permission.)