



*Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God, saying,
"Now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation..."*

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

Sunday after Christmas + December 27, 2020

At the turn of the year we meditate on endings and beginnings, knowing that all the world's time begins and ends in God. Simeon and Anna know something about endings. In their old life, they are blessed to see God's salvation.

Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader
Bold text is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

Variations on "I Saw Three Ships"

– arr. by Jason Payne

BELL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING HYMN

"On Christmas Night All Christians Sing"



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the
2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re-deem-er
3 When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then life and health come
4 All out of dark-ness we have light, which made the an-gels



an-gels bring. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to
made us glad? Then why should we on earth be sad, since
in its place. When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then
sing this night. All out of dark-ness we have light, which



hear the news the an-gels bring: news of great joy, news of great
our re-deem-er made us glad, when from our sin he set us
life and health come in its place. An-gels re-joice with us and
made the an-gels sing this night: "Glo-ry to God in high-est



mirth, news of our mer-ci-ful king's birth.
free, all for to gain our lib-er-ty?
sing, all for to see the new-born king.
heav'n; peace on earth, and good-will. A-men."

*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 your light has come.

Amen.

*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.

Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in the new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever—the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, whom with you and the Holy Spirit we worship and praise, one God, now and forever.

Amen

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 61:10—62:3

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.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

GALATIANS 4:4-7

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 2:21-40

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they [Mary and Joseph] brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty- four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

“The Game of Life”

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing: shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings of the Gos - pel true.



Swift are wing - ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing greet the mor - row:



Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.



***PROFESSION OF FAITH** – *a Christmas Creed*

I believe in Jesus Christ

and the power of the gospel that began in Bethlehem.

I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a small village,

and for whom there was no room at the inn.

I believe in the one who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand;

and whose life was among common people of the world.

I believe in the one to whom the oppressed, the discouraged, the afflicted, the sick, the blind, the injured gave welcome,

and profess him as Lord and Savior.

I believe in the one who, with love, changed the heart of the proud and with his life showed that it is better to serve than to be served,

and that the greatest joy is giving your life in service to others.

I believe in the one who died for my sins and rose again;

and I believe in the transforming power of the gospel.

I believe in Jesus, the son of the living God,

born in Bethlehem, for me and for the world. Amen

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(We share God's peace with each other with the words "Peace be with you")

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Adore" — by Martin Chalk, Graham Kendrick, arr. D. Clydesdale

Will Collins, Melanie Nagel, Deb Schnitkey

You stepped down from heaven, humbly You came. God of all creation here with us.

In a starlit manger, Emmanuel, Light of the world here to save.

Adore, come let us adore. O come, let us adore Him!

The Lord, worship Christ the Lord. Let all that is within us adore.

Wise men bring their treasures. Shepherds bow low. Angel voices sing of peace on earth.

What have I to offer to heaven's King? I will bring my life, my love, my all.

Angels sing, praises ring to the newborn King. Peace on earth here with us, joy awakening.

At Your feet may fall.

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*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.

*BENEDICTION

May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry us into new and abundant life.
May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold us with love and strength.
May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.
And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us now and always.

Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Please sing unison Verses 3 & 5

"The First Noel"

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin-ing
3 And by the light of that . . same star three .
4 This star drew near to the . . north west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

cer-tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
wise . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain

night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Thanks be to God!

Please be seated and you will be ushered from your pew.

POSTLUDE

“Gloria” – arr. by John Behnke

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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 . . .

- Preaching -Deacon Steve Basselman
- Ministers of Worship -Everyone Present both near and far
- Organist/Pianist -Steve Basselman
- Vocalist -Will Collins, Melanie Nagel, Deb Schnitkey
- Lector -Will Collins
- Usher Team -Mark Weaver
- Sound System -Darren Sonnenberg
- Offering Counters -Jo Ann Liechty, Yanira Reyes



Jesus
Presented
in the Temple

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: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org pastorpaul@the-welcome-place.org

steveb@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.

This Week at St. Martin's

Today – December 27

Worship, 9:00 am, live broadcast

Monday – December 28

No Monday Night Bible Study

Tuesday – December 29

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

Wednesday – December 30

Bulletin Deadline, 9:00 am

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

Worship, 7:00 pm, live broadcast

Adult Circle, 7:30, via zoom

Thursday – December 31

Have a safe New Year's Eve

Next Sunday – January 3

Worship, 9:00 am, live broadcast,

Adult Sunday School, via Zoom, 10:30 am

Virtual Sunday School

Last Week at St. Martin's . . .

Receipts Week of December 20, 2020 Budget and Year to Date

Operating Contributions	\$4,965.90	Budgeted Weekly Operating Need	\$5,402.00
Benevolence Received	\$150.00	Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Need	\$538.71
Other Designated Income	\$1,724.00	As of 11/30/2020	
Total Income	\$6,839.90	YTD Operating Received	\$251,169.58
		YTD Operating Expenses	(\$245,872.21)
Attendance 55		Net Income/(Deficit)	\$5,297.37

Thank you to all who shared your Poinsettias with us this Christmas. Please pick them up this morning . . .

Clare Badenhop in memory of Elden Badenhop

Pat Basselman in honor of Pastor Paul, Deacon Steve and all others who gave a special effort to help St. Martin's through this pandemic



Steve & Jen Basselman in appreciation to all those who served in the music and worship ministries the last 9 months

Jeff & Jo Ann Benecke in memory of Dexter, Janis & Melissa Benecke; Joseph & Juanita Goubeaux and in honor of Pastor Paul

Dick & Melanie Nagel in memory of Karl & Mildred Nagel and Fred & Virginia Witte

Steve & Bonnie Meyer in memory of Wayne & Mabel Wyse and Bob & Buzzy Meyer

Tim & Debbie Smith in memory of Fred & Ginnie Witte and Harold & Marilyn Smith and in honor of the Ken & Michelle Collins Family, the Paul & Toni Thiel Family and the Tyson & Katie Smith Family

Sheryl McCarthy & Scott Spohler in memory of Sandie Spohler, Esther & Paul Greene, and Anna & Art Spohler and in honor of Don Spohler, Kate & Ellie McCarthy and Anna & Sarah Spohler

Jim & Jane Stevens in honor of their grandchildren

Tim & Chris Ziegler in memory of Alexa Pinter, Junior & Harriette Eicher and Jim & Willie Ziegler and in honor of their children and grandchildren

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
Family & Friends of Larry Fent, Shelly Conway's father, who went to his heavenly home
December 23, many we know the comforting presence of our Lord Jesus Christ
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

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

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

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
(Note, we include a person's name with permission.)