

Christmas Day

✠ Nativity of Our Lord ✠

As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore...Savior, Christ, Lord.

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

PRELUDE

Christmas Carols

We'll sing the First and Last Verse of each of these Carols from the Green LBW hymnal:

#39 Joy to the World

#41 O Little Town of Bethlehem

#50 Angels from the Realms of Glory

#71 Angels We Have Heard on High

BELL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

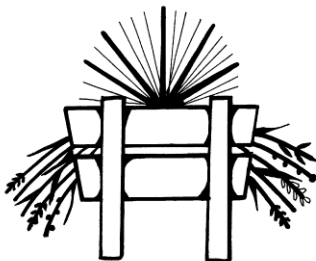
*CALL TO WORSHIP

The angel said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:

to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord" (*Luke 2:10-11*).

As we gather, we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem's manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns in love.

Oh come, let us adore him, Savior, Christ, and Lord.



***OPENING HYMN**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

*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. (*2 Corinthians 13:13*)

And also with you.

God of all ages, in the birth of Christ your boundless love for your people shattered the power of darkness. Be born in us with that same love and light, that our song may blend with all the choir of heaven and earth to the glory of your holy name.

Amen

I. SAVIOR

“For unto you is born a SAVIOR, who is Christ, the Lord”

OLD TESTAMENT READING: ISAIAH 12:2

“See, *God has come to save me*. I will trust in him and not be afraid.

The LORD GOD is my strength and my song; he has given me victory.”

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 1:18-21

¹⁸This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

²⁰As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for *he will save his people from their sins.*”

Word of God come down to us.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

RESPONSE (sung) **Oh, come, let us adore Him. Oh, come, let us adore Him. Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.**

II. CHRIST

“For unto you is born a Savior, who is CHRIST, the Lord”

OLD TESTAMENT READING: ISAIAH 61:1

The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for the LORD *has anointed me*
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 1:29-34

²⁹The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰He is the one I was talking about when I said, ‘A man is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.’ ³¹I did not recognize him as the Messiah, but I have been baptizing with water so that he might be revealed to Israel.”

³²Then John testified, “I saw the Holy Spirit descending like a dove from heaven and resting upon him. ³³I didn’t know he was the one, but when God sent me to baptize with water, he told me, ‘The one on whom you see the Spirit descend and rest is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴I saw this happen to Jesus, so I testify that he is the *Chosen One* of God.”

Word of God come down to us.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

RESPONSE (sung) **Oh, come, let us adore Him. Oh, come, let us adore Him. Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.**

III. LORD

“For unto you is born a Savior, who is Christ, the LORD”

OLD TESTAMENT READING: ISAIAH 52:9-10

The LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

And all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 1:1-5, 14

In 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.

¹⁴ And 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.

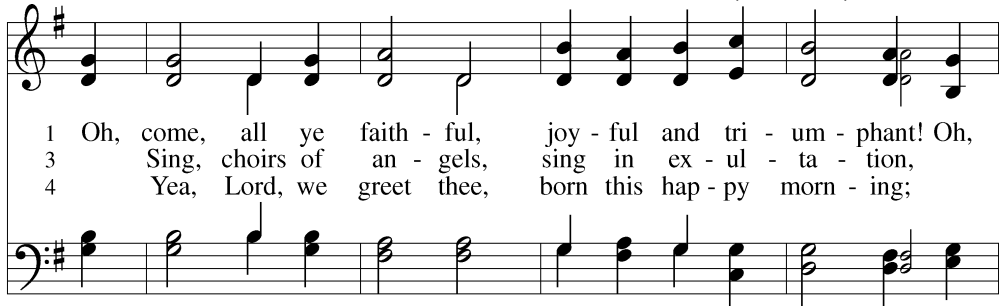
Word of God come down to us.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! Oh,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Glo - ry to God in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain

Oh, come, let us a - dore him, oh, come, let us a - dore him,

oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

***PROFESSION OF FAITH** – *Nicene Creed*

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

Have mercy on those who struggle, and all who suffer this day.

Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may share your light to all the world.

Additional prayer petitions are offered here...concluding with:

By your grace, transform our prayers from words to deeds. With Mary and Joseph, teach us to treasure in our hearts the birth of Jesus, and with shepherds and angels, lead us to praise his holy name.

Amen

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. (*We share God's peace with the words "Peace be with you"*)

OFFERING HYMN

"He is Born"

Refrain (Unison)

He is born, the di-vine Christ child, play the o-boe and bag-pipes mer-ri-ly!

He is born, the ho-ly child, sing we all of the Sav-ior mild.

1 Through long a-ges of the past proph-ets have fore-told his com-ing;
2 Oh, how love-ly, oh, how pure is this per-fect child of heav-en;
3 Je-sus, Lord of all the world, com-ing as a child a-mong us;

to Refrain
through long a-ges of the past, now the time has come at last!
oh, how love-ly, oh, how pure, gra-cious gift of God sent down.
Je-sus, Lord of all the world, grant to us your heav-en-ly peace.

***THANKSGIVING**

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.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy God, Creator of all and source of life, at the birth of time your Word brought light into the world. On this day, 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 for the 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 for the 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.

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.

All praise and glory are 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

O Lord our God, with Mary and Joseph, angels and shepherds, and the animals in the stable, we gather around your Son, born for us. Bless us with your holy presence, and inspire us to help those who have no place to dwell. Strengthened by this sacrament, send us from this place so that we might share Christ's love with the entire world, for he is our light and salvation. Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever.

Amen

*BENEDICTION

Let us go from this place proclaiming that we have seen the glory of God.

**Believing that there is a light that shines in the darkness
which the darkness cannot overcome.**

May the God of the angels, who heralded Christ's birth,

bring joy to our hearts this day and always.

May the God of love, who gave his only Son to be born for us,

fill our lives with love and peace.

May Emmanuel, God with us, be with us in all of our celebrations,

until he brings us into his eternal kingdom.

And may almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and
forever.

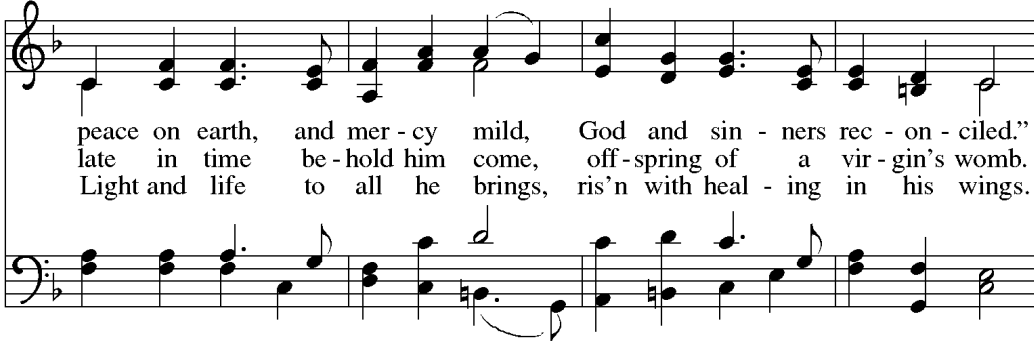
Amen

*CLOSING HYMN

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”



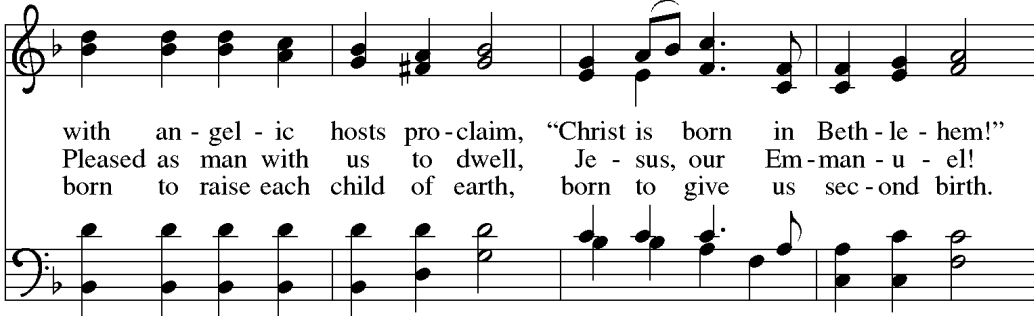
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav’n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled.”
late in time, be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin’s womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

The image shows a musical score for a refrain. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and a steady rhythm.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"Gloria" – arr. Jason Payne

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St. Martin's Worship Servants . . .

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Preaching | -Deacon Steve Basselman |
| Lectors | -Jerry Rohrs, Cecily Rohrs |
| Acolyte | -Maddox Schneider |
| Organist | -Deacon Steve Basselman |
| Usher | -Mark Weaver |
| Sound System | -Bill Phelps |
| Altar Guild | -Sandy Thatcher, Janet Wyse |
| Offering Counters | -Jo Ann Liechty, Butch Blankenship |

Worship includes the celebration of Communion today. We will be distributing communion in a continuous fashion. As you come forward you will receive the bread and then you can move to the side to receive the wine. Please pick up your own glass from the wine tray unless you need assistance. The center light-colored glasses are grape juice. Please place your empty wine glass in the basket as you return to your seat by the side aisle.

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

203 S. Defiance Street Archbold OH 43502

Phone Number: 419-445-4656

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

Office Hours:

Deacon Steve Basselman

Brenda Shibler

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. morning

Tues. – Fri. 8:00-12:30

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. afternoon

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

steveb@the-welcome-place.org

Worship Services: 9:00 am each Sunday

6:00 pm each Wednesday

-9:00 Sunday – live broadcast on Facebook and YouTube

We welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. – Romans 15:7 ESV

Welcome Place Support Group will start the 8th season January 3rd at 1:00 pm, St. Martin's Fellowship Hall. Facilitator-Bonnie Lauber. Merry Christmas to all.

Community Meal for January 3rd Only . . . St John's Christian fellowship hall will be in use January 3rd, so St Martin's will be both cooking the meal and hosting. We will need people to help serve and if there are baked goods left from Christmas you want to get rid of, please bring to church in the morning Jan 3. See Joyce Winzeler if you can provide food, help cook, serve and/or clean-up.

Bloodmobile, January 3, Ruihley Park Pavilion . . . 11–5:00. To schedule an appointment call 1-800-RedCross or visit redcrossblood.org and enter RUIHLEYPARK. See poster on the desk for more details. .

This Week at St. Martin's

Today – December 25 – Christmas Day

Worship, 9:00 am, Holy Communion

Tuesday – December 27

Men's Breakfast Fellowship, 6:30 am at McDonald's
No Community Meal this week

Wednesday – December 28

Welcome Meal, 5:15 pm
Welcome Place Worship, 6:00 pm
Adult Circle, 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Thursday – December 29

Women's Breakfast Bible Study, 7:00 am, at Home Restaurant
Bulletin Deadline, 9:00 am

Next Sunday – January 1

Worship, 9:00 am, Holy Communion

Last Week at St. Martin's. . .

Receipts Week of date, , Budget and Year to Date

Operating Contributions	\$5,755.00	Budgeted Weekly Operating Need	\$6,230.00
Benevolence Received	\$115.00	Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Need	\$570.00
Other Designated Income	\$535.00	As of November 30, 2022	
Total Income	\$6,405.00	YTD Operating Received	\$237,005.42
Worship: Sun./Wed./Total	132/ /	YTD Operating Expenses	(\$175,587.52)
Sunday School	48	Net Income/(Deficit)	\$61,417.90

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
People of Ukraine during this time of unrest, may they know the presence of our Lord Jesus
All First Responders, Hospital Staff, and Caregivers
For those who need healing, may they know the healing hand of God
Richelle Avers
Clare Badenhop
Jeff Cook, Ann Ott's son
Jerry Geiger
Jessica Harris
Sharon Heckel
Steve & Sue Hurst, Health Concerns
Amy Johns
Shelly Kammeyer, daughter in law of Sharon, Leukemia
Amanda Karduck, friend of Sara Adams & Jan Delaney
Michael, friend of Melanie & Dick Nagel
Bonnie R. Lauber
Stephene Medaugh, Hospice Care
Heather Nehls Witten, daughter of Marie Nehls & Tarry Nehls, cancer
Eva Pahl, Pat Basselman's niece, health concerns
Janice Siegel, Dustin Bailey's mother, cancer
Al Siewert
Jonathan Siewert
Joe Wyse
Kelsy Wyse
Homebound – Louise Wyse, Steward 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
All members, family & friends who serve in our military, Steve & Sara (Delaney) Adams,
Patrick Cirenza (June Hayes), Bradly & Victoria Nilsson, Kennedy Hartung, Ashtyn
Frederick, Christopher Goertz, Brendon Johns, Kasyn Schaffner, Spencer Short
①① Prayer requests for the people of St. Martin's ①①
(Note, we include a person's name with permission.)