



**The Third Sunday of Advent
Sung Eucharist Rite One + 10:30 AM**

**St. Martin of Tours Episcopal Church
Bridgewater NJ**

BCP refers to the red prayer book in your pew.

Opening Hymn *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*
Opening Acclamation and Collect of Purity
Kyrie Eleison

Hymnal 1982, 68
BCP, 323
Hymnal 1982, S91

The Collect: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah *(Please be seated)*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their/ help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their/ God;
5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is/ in them; *
who keeps his promise for/ ever;
6 Who gives justice to those who are op/pressed, *
and food to those who/ hunger.
7 The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the/ blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed/ down;
8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the/ stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the/ wicked.
9 The Lord shall reign for/ ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Halle/lujah!

A Reading from James

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

Gospel Acclamation *(Please stand)*

Choir: Alleluia; People: Alleluia. Choir: Alleluia; People: Alleluia.

Verse: Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way before you.

Choir: Alleluia; People: Alleluia. Choir: Alleluia; People: Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” The Gospel of the Lord.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed (*Please stand*)

BCP, 326

The Prayers of the People

BCP, 328

The Peace and Announcements

Offertory Anthem *On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry*

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge, and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent sets thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.

Offertory Hymn *Prepare the Way O Zion*

Hymnal 1982, 65

The Liturgy of the Altar *(Remain standing if able)*



The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

The Eucharistic prayer continues on the Book of Common Prayer, on page 333

Sanctus

Hymnal 1982, 114

(Kneel or Stand. The prayers continue in the Book of Common Prayer on page 334)

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, 336

The Fraction

Agnus Dei

Hymnal 1982, 158

The Prayer of Humble Access

BCP, 337

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are they who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymns

Isaiah the Prophet has Written of Old (Choir) The words are not included in our license.

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

Voices Found, 117

1 My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My
 2 My God has done great things for me: yes,
 3 From age to age, to all who fear, such
 4 Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
 5 Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -

heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 ho - ly is this name. All peo - ple will de -
 mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 notes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spi - rits
 ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past

low - li - ness in man - y mar - vel - ous ways.
 clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
 far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

Post Communion Prayer (*Please kneel or stand*)

BCP, 339

Blessing and Dismissal

Closing Hymn *Thy Kingdom Come*

Hymnal 1982, 615

Serving Today

Crucifer: Delaney Swain

Lay Reader: Jason Swain Eucharistic Minister: Kathy Picazio

Choir: Beth Hixenbaugh, Alison Jandak, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon

Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Father Scott Russell

Christmas Appeal

Please remember St. Martin's in your Christmas giving. You can drop a check in the plate with Christmas in the memo, or you may make a contribution online on the parish website. Click the one time contribution banner, then choose Christmas in the drop dwn menu. Thank you for your generosity.