



**The Second Sunday of Advent**  
**Sung Mass + Rite One + 8:15 am & 10:30 AM**

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

**Opening Hymn** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*  
**Opening Acclamation and Collect of Purity**  
***Kyrie Eleison***

*Hymnal 1982, 66*  
**BCP, 323**  
*Hymnal 1982, S-91*

**The Collect:** Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.     The Word of the Lord/ *Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13**    *Simplified Anglican Chant*

You have been gracious to your land, O **Lord**, \*  
you have restored the good fortune of **Jacob**.  
You have forgiven the iniquity of your **people** \*  
and blotted out all their **sins**.

I will listen to what the Lord God is **saying**, \*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to **him**.  
Truly, his salvation is very near to those who **fear him**, \*  
that his glory may dwell in our **land**.

Mercy and truth have met to/**gether**; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each **other**.  
Truth shall spring up from the **earth**, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from **heaven**.

The Lord will indeed grant pros/**perity**, \*  
and our land will yield its **increase**.  
Righteousness shall go be/**fore him**, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his **feet**.

**A Reading from First Peter**

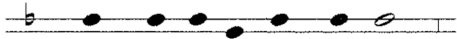
Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. The Word of the Lord/ *Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation** *(Please stand)*

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

**V: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths; all nations shall see the salvation of God. Choir: Alleluia; People: Alleluia. Choir: Alleluia; People: Alleluia.**

**The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark**



*Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord.*

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



*Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**The Homily**

**The Nicene Creed** *(Please stand)*

**BCP, 326**

**The Prayers of the People**

**BCP, 328**

**The Confession of Sin and Absolution**

**BCP, 331**

**The Peace and Announcements**

**Blessing of the Nativity Scenes- in Celebration of the 800th Anniversary**

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. You inspired your servant, Francis, to create the first manger scene, so that we might contemplate the mystery of the birth of your Son, who became poor so that we might enjoy the riches of your grace. Lord, bless all who look upon these mangers; may they remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen**

**Offertory Anthem     *The Manger***

*Written by Kathy Shanklin for the 800th Anniversary of St Francis' Nativity Scene in Greccio*

The manger, the manger; hay lying in the manger, sustenance for the cattle.  
Child lying in the manger, sustenance for God's people.  
The child, the child; Mary, Joseph, Wise Men, Shepherds, sheep, cattle, and the Child.  
The Child in the manger, God's gift to the world, in a humble place was born.  
Born in great love, as all children should be.  
Born of God's love for the world: born of God's love for all

**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, S 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, S 158*

**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  
The Desert Shall Rejoice*

*Choir*

The des - ert shall re - joice and blos - som as a rose:

1. It shall  
2. For the  
3. For the  
4. For the

blos - som a - bun - dant - ly and re - joice with praise and sing - ing.  
ears of the deaf shall hear And the blind, their eyes be o - pened.  
tongue of the mute shall sing and the lame will dance with glad - ness.  
ground will be - come a pool and the dry land springs of wa - ter.

5. The desert shall rejoice  
and blossom as a rose:  
as the ransomed return to God  
and come singing back to Zion.

6. The desert shall rejoice  
and blossom as a rose:  
unto Zion we come with joy,  
for our God has come to save us.

## **Post Communion Prayer (*Please kneel or stand*)**

*BCP, 339*

### **Prayer for Peace**

Merciful God, Father of All: we join our prayers to those of the people throughout the world who are trapped in war zones, who look to the heavens for peace and protection during this time of violence and oppression. We pray for the families, especially, the children living through the horrors of war and all the upheaval and tribulation it brings. We pray for the repose of those who have died. We ask for your mercy: that peace would be restored, that wars would cease, that the hearts and minds of those who have chosen the path of destruction may be transformed by your grace, and that all peoples may live freely in unity and tranquility. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our hope in times of trouble. Amen.

### **Blessing and Dismissal**

**Closing Hymn *Blest Be the King vv 1,3,4***

*Hymnal 1982, 74*

### **Serving Today**

Thurifer: Michael Maloney Crucifer: Natalie Kellam

Lay Reader: Marilyn O'Regan Eucharistic Minister: Larry Ottenstroer

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

Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Father Rob Laws

Usher: Paul Todoroff, Carl Picazio

### **800th Anniversary of St Francis First Nativity Scene**

**Open House Today 4-6 pm** Come enjoy refreshments, a time of fellowship and our collection of nativity scenes.

**Sunday Dec 17, Noon-** Women's Group Lunch and Cookie Exchange

Contact Alison Jandak for more information

### **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 down menu. Thank you for your generosity.

