

LESSONS AND CAROLS



DECEMBER 29, 2024

10:00 AM

ST. MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
606 W 15TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS | WWW.SAINTMARTINS.ORG

LOVE, SHARE, & SERVE BOLDLY.

*No matter where you find yourself on your faith journey—join us!
Here you have found a church home where believers congregate to encourage each other and grow spiritually in an abundant relationship with the Lord. At St. Martin's, we promote and value an inclusive fellowship. Whether you are young, old, gay, straight, single, married, partnered—from all walks of life, backgrounds, and cultures—we welcome you!*

In worship, the Holy Spirit gathers us around the means of grace—the saving Word of God and the sacraments. From the table of communion where Jesus Christ comes with forgiveness, life, and salvation, God sends us out to share the good news and to care for those in need.

*Notes in italics offer directions about the service. **The people's responses are in bold.***

PRELUDE

CHORALE PRELUDE ON *DIVINUM MYSTERIUM* (OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN)

WILBUR HELD

The service begins with a piece of music, during which the congregation prepares for worship.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME

The people stand as they are able.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 282

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

CAROL

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!

BIDDING PRAYER

Sisters and brothers, in this Christmas season, let us hear again the message of the Angels, and journey to Bethlehem to see and hear the wonderful things that have taken place there: The birth of a child, the coming of the savior.

Let us read from our Holy Scriptures and hear the tale of God's loving purposes from the beginning of time through our redemption, and let us sing our praises to God the most high.

But first, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all those who have need.

Let us pray for the needs of all creation; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; and for the mission and unity of the Church.

Let us pray for those who hold a special place in God's heart: the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the elderly and the little children; and all who have been lost or rejected.

And let us remember Mary, the mother of Jesus, and all the saints who rejoice with us on another shore in a greater light, whose hope was in the Word made flesh and with whom we are one for evermore.

May Almighty God bless us with grace; may Christ give us the joy of everlasting life; and may the Holy Spirit sustain us until we are joined together in God's light, love and truth.

Amen.

The people are seated

FIRST READING

LUKE 1:26-35,38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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

The people stand as they are able.

CAROL
LOVE HAS COME

ELW 292
UN FLAMBEAU



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

The people are seated.

SECOND LESSON

MATTHEW 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

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

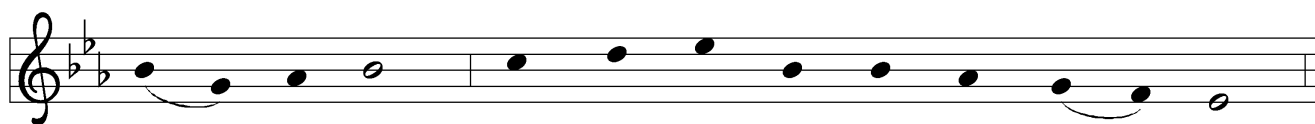
The people stand as they are able.

CAROL
OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN

ELW 295
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM



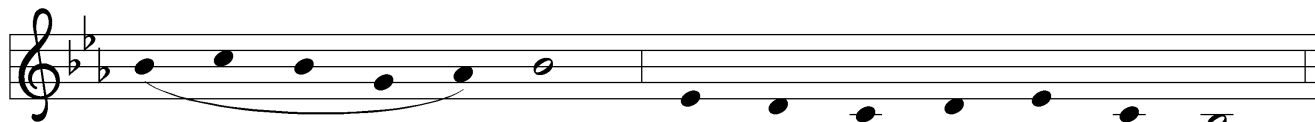
All 1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
Treble Voices 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
Lower Voices 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
All 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
All 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

THIRD LESSON

LUKE 39-45, 56

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."
⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

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

The people stand as they are able.

CAROL
WHAT CHILD IS THIS

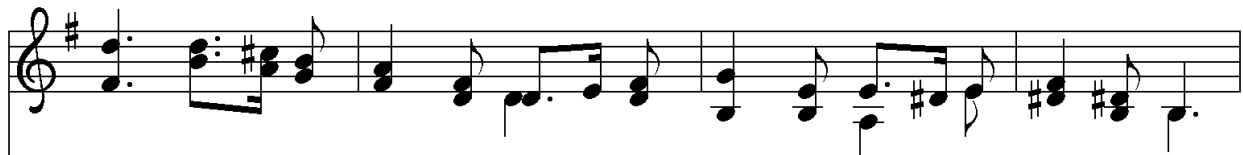
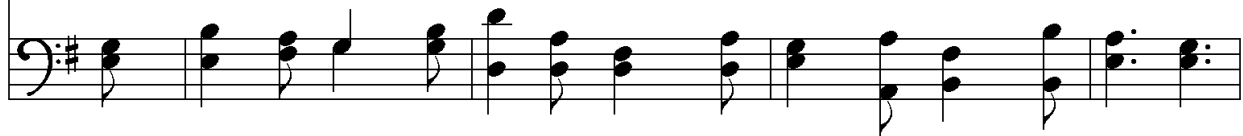
ELW 296
GREENSLEEVES



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!



The people are seated

FOURTH LESSON

LUKE 2:1-7

² In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

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

The people stand as they are able.

CAROL
AWAY IN A MANGER

ELW 277
AWAY IN A MANGER

1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

FIFTH LESSON

LUKE 2:8-16

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.

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

The people stand as they are able.

CAROL
ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

ELW 275
REGENT SQUARE

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The people are seated

SIXTH LESSON

JOHN 1:1-4

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

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

The people stand as they are able.

CAROL

ELW 510

WORD OF GOD, COME DOWN ON EARTH

LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER

1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -

heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove

faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to

we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

The people are seated

OFFERING

St. Martin's and its ministries are supported by our offerings of ourselves, our time and our possessions. Now we give as God has so graciously given to us. To donate electronically, go to saintmartins.org/giving or scan the QR code.



MUSICAL OFFERING

UNTO US IS BORN A SON

ARR. DAVID WILLCOCKS

Unto us is born a Son, King of quires supernal
See on earth his life begun, of lords the Lord eternal
Christ, from heaven descending low, comes on earth a stranger
Ox and ass their owner know, becradled in the manger
This did Herod sore affray, and grievously bewilder
So he gave the word to slay, and slew the little childer
Of his love and mercy mild this the Christmas story
And O that Mary's gentle child might lead us up to glory
O and A, and A and O, *Cum cantibus in choro*
Let our merry organ go, *Benedicamus Domino*

The people stand as they are able.

OFFERING HYMN

GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

ELW 288

IN DULCI JUBILO

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice 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!

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.

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

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God with us, you came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. 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.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 267

JOY TO THE WORLD

ANTIOCH

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

Glory to God in the highest!

Peace to God's people on earth!

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

VOLUNTARY ON *IN DULCI JUBILO* (GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE)

NORMAN DELLO JOIO

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Ellen Williams - *presiding*

Syringa Bilberry, Norm Hummell, Linda Zander - *lectors*

Tim O'Brien - *Director of Music*

Austin Haller - *Organist & Associate Director of Music*
St. Martin's Choir

Jenny Ohrstrom, *soprano*; June Julian, *mezzo-soprano*;
Evan Brown, *tenor*; Mark Istratie, *tenor*; Gil Zilkha, *bass*

Mike Kaase - *sound*

Bill Grosskopf, Connie Grosskopf,

Mike Bruemmer - *ushers*

Tom Blomquist - *Altar Guild*

Pat Larson - *Welcome Center*

Nora Friedrich - *Fellowship Snacks*

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