

# The Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete Sunday

## Sung Eucharist + 10:30 AM

St. Martin of Tours Episcopal Church  
Bridgewater NJ



Opening Hymn *Rejoice! Rejoice Believers*

Blue Hymnal 68

Priest: Bless the Lord who forgives our sins. *God's mercy endures forever.*

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.



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 forever. Amen.

## **A Reading from Zephaniah**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord. The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

## **Canticle: The First Song of Isaiah (Simplified Anglican Chant)**

Surely, it is God who saves **me**; \* I will trust in him and not be a-**fra**id.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure de-**fense**, \*  
and he will be my **Savior**.

Therefore you shall draw water with re-**joicing** \* from the springs of sal-**vation**.  
And on that day you shall **say**, \* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his **Name**;

Make his deeds known among the **peoples**; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is ex-**alted**.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great **things**, \*  
and this is known in all the **world**.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of **Zion**, ring out your **joy**, \*  
for the great one in the **midst of you** is the Holy One of **Israel**.

Glory to the Father, and to the **Son**, and to the Holy **Spirit**: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is **now**, and will be for ever. **A-men**.

## **A Reading from Philippians**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 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 Luke**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **The Homily**

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

*BCP, 358*

## **The Prayers of the People**

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, kindle within us the desire to remain on guard; that we might be ready for your coming, and eager to pray.

O God, the days are surely coming when all your promises will be fulfilled to your faithful children. We pray for the Church scattered throughout the world, that we might fulfill our promises to you, and be forgiven for all our failures.

*Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.*

In your time, O Lord, a righteous branch sprang up and you brought justice and righteousness in every land. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth.

*Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.*

In your Kingdom, O Lord, you bring your people safety and comfort. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind, especially Evelyn, Michael, Brent, Anna Rose, Joe, Jeff, Pat, Brian, Pete, Laura, Amy and Jeffrey; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

*Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.*

Your great works of redemption, O God, span the ages. We pray for those who rejoice this week(as they celebrate their birthdays and anniversaries, that they might be filled with joy and gladness.

*Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.*

In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer. Embrace them as they grow from glory to glory in your love and light.

*Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.*

***The Priest concludes the prayers, saying***

Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Son Jesus comes among with great power and might, we might adore him as our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

## **The Peace and Announcements**

### **Offertory Sentence**

#### **Offertory Anthem** *Come Quickly, Lord Jesus*

O come now Lord Jesus, our Dayspring, our Cheer,  
And lift up our spirits by your Advent here.  
The herald is calling, his cry we obey,  
In deserts and valleys, "Prepare God a way."

O come, Root of Jesse, O come now and free  
Your people, Your children, from death's tyranny.  
The poor and the needy who suffer great wrong  
Give strength and give justice and bid them be strong.

O come Key of David, our hearts open wide.  
Our path, guard with safety and lead us on high.  
Make straight what was crooked and rough places plain,  
Make hard hearts be humble for God's holy reign.

Come quickly Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night,  
Creator, Redeemer, the people's true light,  
Let all things on earth and in heaven adore,  
And own you as Savior and King evermore.

#### **Offertory Hymn** *Soon and Very Soon*

*LEVAS II, 14*

Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!

No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,  
No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,  
No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!

No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King, (and so on)

Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, (and so on)  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

## Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below, gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and Praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy Son of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friend. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of Me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
*Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with the Ever Blessed Virgin Mary, St Joseph her Spouse, St Martin of Tours, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

## The Fraction and Fraction Anthem Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sins of the world: \_\_\_\_\_ have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a-way the sins of the world: \_\_\_\_\_ grant us peace.

*slower*

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
Blessed are they who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

*Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.*

## Holy Communion Communion Hymn



Isaiah the prophet has written of old  
how God's earthly kingdom shall come.  
Instead of the thorn tree the fir tree shall grow;  
the wolf shall lie down with the lamb.  
The mountains and hills shall break forth into song,  
The peoples be led forth in peace.  
For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of God  
as the waters cover the seas.

Yet nations still prey on the meek of the world.  
And conflict turns parent from child.  
Your people despoil all the sweetness of earth;  
the brier and the thorn grow wild.  
Lord, hasten to bring in your kingdom on earth,  
when no one shall hurt or destroy.  
When wisdom and justice shall reign in the land  
and your people shall go forth in joy.

***Hark a Thrilling Sound***

**Blue Hymnal, 59**

**Post Communion Prayer**

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Blessing and Dismissal**

**Closing Hymn**    *Blest Be the King Whose Coming*    vv1,4

**Blue Hymnal 74**

**Serving Today**

Thurifer: Michael Maloney Crucifer: Val Montrone Lay Reader: Jason Swain  
Eucharistic Minister: Kathy Picazio Usher: Larry Ottenstroer  
Choir: Beth Hixenbaugh, Alison Jandak, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon  
Organist: Kathy Shanklin    Celebrant: Father Rob Laws

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**The Food Bank** is in great need of food items, paper goods, and toiletries for our neighbors in Somerset County. We especially want to focus on personal items and cleaning products, such as toothpaste, feminine products, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, etc. Cash and checks are also greatly appreciated. There is always a container on the stairs leading up to the choir loft where you can leave your donations.

**Recycle/Reuse** We are always collecting the following items:

Styrofoam

Unusable pens/markers/pencils

Kitchen items (no furniture)

Books. Any questions, please contact Kathy Shanklin.

**White Christmas at the Papermill**, followed by Dinner (coming in Dec.)

Please email Alison for more information.

**Wednesday Mass will resume on December 11** at 6 pm in the Lady Chapel.

### **Christmas Worship**

**Christmas Eve Children's Pageant with Communion 4 pm**

**Sung Mass with incense 9 pm**

**Christmas Day Low Mass with Carols 10 am**

**Sunday after Christmas Lessons and Carols: A Victorian Christmas 10:30 am**  
**(one joint service on December 29)**

**January 5 The Feast of the Epiphany 8:15 am and 10:30 am**

### **Christmas Appeal**

You should be receiving a Christmas Letter soon. Please consider making a special year end gift to St Martin's. We are always grateful for your generosity,