

*Welcome to*  
*St. Martin's Anglican Church*  
*Renewing Our Hope*  
*December 19, 2011 ~ 7:30 pm*

♪ **Prelude**    *O Night of Nights*                      arr. Robert C. Lau/Kenneth C. Stewart  
Eric MacKeracher & Cliff Hope

*Fit for a King*    *Joseph M. Martin*  
Cliff Hope

***Lighting of the Paschal Candle***

**Officiant**    We light this Paschal Candle, the candle for Easter, at this time of Christ's birth. We remember His death and resurrection. We affirm new life. We light this candle to remember those whom we love but see no longer. We pray that nothing good in their lives will be lost. Grant eternal rest to them, O Lord.

**People**            And let light perpetual shine upon them.

♪ **Hymn**            **89 vs. 1, 2 & 5**                      *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

**Officiant**    God our Comforter, the Christmas season invites us to respond to the "Good News of Great Joy", to the "Glad Tidings" that Christ is born again in our hearts and to rejoice that we who "walk in darkness have seen a great light." As people who have suffered losses in our lives, it is difficult to find this joy, this light, this good news, that the Christmas season celebrates. We pray that your love, comfort and peace will fill our lives and renew our hope, so that we too may share in the joy of the birth of your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.    **Amen**

Reading            Romans 15.4-6, 13                      God's word, to give us hope.

♪ **Hymn**            **108 vs. 1 & 4**                      *Hark a Herald Voice is Sounding*

Reading            Luke 1.26-38                              Do not be afraid.

**Homily**

♪ **Solo**              *O Holy Night*                              *Adolphe Adam/Craig Courtney*  
Eric MacKeracher

*Lighting of the Candles in the Advent Wreath*

**Officiant**    We light this first candle, the candle of **Hope**. As with the people of old, we call out to God in our times of joy and our times of sadness. This candle is a sign of the gift of Hope offered to us through the Birth of Jesus Christ, who enters the joy and the pain in our life.

**People**            Let us remember the one who shows the way, who offers hope, who shares our humanity. Our hope is in your word, O Lord.

**Officiant**    We light this second candle, the candle of **Peace**. We feel pain through the loss of relationships, of jobs, of health and of loved ones. This candle is a sign of God's gift of Peace.

**People**            Refresh, restore, renew us, O God, and lead us in the way of peace, the peace only you can give.

**Officiant**    We light this third candle, the candle of **Joy**. Sometimes we struggle as we remember past Christmases; good times with loved ones and all that is remembered at this time. This candle is a sign of Joy, found in a simple manger. Joy born at Christmas.

**People**            Let us remember God's promise that dawn lights up the darkness; that joy comes in the morning.

**Officiant**    We light this fourth candle, the candle of **Love**. We remember that God is Love and in this season we recall the Gift of Love, born in Jesus the Christ.

**People**            Renew us with your Love, O Lord. Through your love born in your Son at Christmas, renew our hope. Amen.

**The Prayers of the People**

**Officiant**    Lord of all compassion

**People**            Renew our hope.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray ...Our Father...

Light is taken from the Paschal candle and passed from one to another. During the lighting of the candles, the organist will play "Silent Night." Once all the candles are lit, we will sing:

Silent Night, Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, Holy night!  
Shepherds quake, at the sight:  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ, the Saviour is born,  
Christ, the Saviour is born.

Silent night, Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus Lord at thy birth,  
Jesus Lord at thy birth.

### The Blessing

*Our candles are extinguished as we go in the light of Christ.*



Incumbent  
Music Director

The Rev. Millie Hope  
Ms. Elizabeth Lambert



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