

*The Fifth Sunday of Lent
A Healing Service with
Holy Communion*

March 17, 2024 9:30 am



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church Yarmouth, ME

A note about St. Bart's Healing Service

Throughout scripture, we read stories of healing and restoration. From Genesis to Revelation, individuals with afflictions of body, mind, and spirit and communities torn apart by greed and hatred are healed by prayer or, in one instance, by Jesus' spit and a little bit of mud (John 9:6). The ministry of healing is one of the oldest offerings of our Judeo-Christian faith and one of the most essential.

In church settings, when we hear the word "healing" we may think of the miracles of Jesus, where by a touch or a word Jesus was able to renew sight to the blind, agility to the lame, and life to the dead. Certainly, there are times when we all pray for miracles – for God to drastically intervene and make whole or make well a loved one.

Most often, however, "healing" is not just one experience of becoming well after being sick. It is a myriad of experiences of wholeness and being held, known, and loved just as we are. It is a sense of being buoyed when the waters of life are rough. It's a deep sense of embodiment when life is swirling around us. It's a cry for justice in a world still so deeply oppressed. It's knowing we do not journey through life alone but with God and God's people by our side.

St. Bart's Healing Services are times when we center this ministry of our tradition and make space for all of these aspirations for healing. Our prayers, our songs, our silence turn our attention to our healing as individuals and as a community. Lighting candles – the flames of hope, endurance, love, and peace – and anointing – oils that bless the living and those close to death – are centuries-old practices that connect us to God's healing ministry in our midst.

We invite you, this morning, into this space of healing – for you, for those you love, and for our community.

Prelude "What Shall I, a Sinner Do?" by J. Pachelbel

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn, #441 In the cross of Christ *The Hymnal 1982*

Opening Litany

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation.
People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Celebrant Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

People Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation.
People Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Kyrie, #835

Wonder, Love and Praise

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer cy.

The Confession & Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

silence for reflection

Celebrant Have mercy, O God,
People **against you, you alone,
we have sinned.**
In your compassion,
cleanse us from our sin
and take away our guilt.
Create in us a new heart
and give us a steadfast spirit.
Do not cast us away,
but fill us with your Holy Spirit
and restore your joy within us.
Amen.

Celebrant As tender as parent to child,
so deep is God's compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth,
so vast is God's love for you.
As far as east is from west,
so far God removes your sin from you,
renewing your life through Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

People **Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34

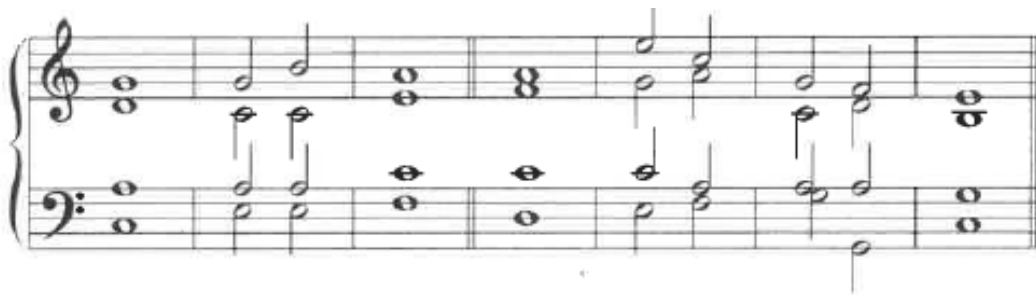
Susannah White

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Lector Holy wisdom, holy word.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51:1-13 (chanted)



1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your ' loving ' kindness; *
in your great compassion ' blot out ' my of- ' fenses.

2. Wash me through and through ' from my ' wickedness*
and ' cleanse me ' from my ' sin.

3. For I ' know my trans- ' gressions,*
and my ' sin is ' ever be- ' fore me.

4. Against you only ' have I ' sinned*
and done what is ' evil ' in your ' sight.

5. And so you are justified ' when you ' speak*
and ' upright ' in your ' judgment.
6. Indeed, I have been wicked ' from my ' birth,*
a sinner ' from my ' mother's ' womb.
7. For behold, you look for ' truth deep with- ' in me,*
and will make me ' understand ' wisdom ' secretly.
8. Purge me from my sin, and ' I shall be ' pure;*
wash me, and ' I shall be ' clean in-' deed.
9. Make me hear of ' joy and ' gladness,*
that the body you have ' broken ' may re-' joice.
10. Hide your face ' from my ' sins*
and ' blot out ' all in- ' iquities.
11. Create in me a clean ' heart, O ' God,*
and ' renew a right ' spirit with-' in me.
12. Cast me not a- ' way from your ' presence*
and take not your ' holy ' Spirit ' from me.
13. Give me the joy of your saving ' help a- ' gain*
and sustain me ' with your ' bountiful ' Spirit.

The Second Lesson, Hebrews 5:5-10

Susannah White

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Lector Holy wisdom, holy word.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel: John 12:20-33

The Rev. David Heald

Celebrant The Holy Gospel according to John.
People **Glory to you, O God.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Homily

Pal Covie

Hymn, #439

What wondrous Love

*The Hymnal 1982*Healing Liturgy

Celebrant Every few months, St. Bart's sets apart a Sunday service to focus on the theme of healing. As we move into prayers for the healing of our loved ones, our world and ourselves, let us take a moment to collect our thoughts and prayers.

Silence

A Litany of Healing

Paule French

Leader God the Parent, your will for all people is health and salvation;
 People **We praise you and thank you, O God.**
 Leader God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;
 People **We praise you and thank you, O God.**
 Leader God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;
 People **We praise you and thank you, O God.**

Leader Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;
People **We praise you and thank you, O God.**

Leader God, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or in need, that they
may be made whole; Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or
despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence; Christ,
our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness
of mind and serenity of spirit; Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting
them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience; Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We remember those who have called upon us for prayer:

People **Pat; Antonia; Al; Alex; Virginia & Jamil; Hannah; Mike; David; Sarah; Jenny &
Matt; Perry; Jim; Elaine; Sasha; Paige; Diane; Karl; Nathaniel; Will; Tom &
Laurel; Nancy A.; Dennis; Robert & Mary; Karen; Debra; Haskell; Sue; Deb; Don;
Hazel; Matilda; Gregory; Mary Jane; Michael Curry; Curt; Bethany; Zach; Andy;
Mark; and Sally.**

Leader Friends, are there others we wish to commend to God at this time? Please offer
your prayers, either silently or aloud... *Pause for intercessions.*

Leader Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and
consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved. We pray for those in our
community who have recently died, especially John Martin "Marty" Doggett,
brother-in-law of Tom and Laurie Hyndman; and Charles "Cal" Calvin, husband of
Mary Calvin. I invite your prayers, either silently or aloud... *Pause for intercessions.*

Leader Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for our fragile earth, that we may be good stewards of your creation:
Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Our orange candle is lit as a vigil each week in remembrance of victims of gun violence. God of Justice, help us, your church, to find our voice. Empower us to change this broken world and to protest the needless deaths caused by gun violence. Give us power to rise above our fear that nothing can be done, and grant us the conviction to advocate for change.

Christ, our healer,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader You are the God who does wonders:
People **You have declared your power among the peoples.**

Leader With you, O God, is the well of life:
People **And by your illumination we perceive.**

Leader Hear us, O God of life:
People **Heal us, and make us whole.**

Celebrant At this time, we will bless prayer shawls that have been prepared by our St. Bart's knitters and which will be given to members of our community who would like to be wrapped in prayer.

We invite the congregation to say the following Prayer of Blessing together:

People **May God's grace be upon these shawls
warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing.
May this mantle be a safe haven,
a sacred place of security and well-being,
sustaining and embracing
in good times as well as difficult ones.
May the one who receives these shawls
be cradled in hope, kept in joy,
graced with peace,
and wrapped in love.**

After the above prayer is said, the shawls will be placed on the table. As you come forward to light a candle, you are invited to add your own blessing to the shawls through touch or silent prayer.

Celebrant Jesus said: "Come to me all you who are weary and I will give you rest."
At this time, I invite you into a time of reflection where you are invited to light a candle of healing.

The congregation is invited forward to light a candle as a symbol of the healing light of Christ illuminating our path. As individuals light candles, we sing...

1. Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin; from
 2. Lord Je - sus, think on me, with care and woe op - pressed; let
 3. Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray; through
 4. Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past, I

earth-born pas - sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.
 me thy lov - ing ser - vant be, and taste thy prom - ised rest.
 dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point thou the heav' - nly way.
 may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see, and share thy joy at last.

Once everyone has returned to their seats, the service continues.

Celebrant Let us pray

People Open us to your healing power, O God. We entrust ourselves to your care, knowing that you are doing for us and for all the world far better things than we can ask or imagine. With you as our Shepherd and guide, strengthen us to hope for all that is good and to fear no evil. For your love is stronger than death, and your faithfulness reaches to the heavens. To you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and to the ages of ages. Amen

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ is always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant God's blessings are offered to us in great abundance. Let us, then, with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to God.

Bread and wine are brought forward, and ushers pass offering plates.

Offertory Anthem "The Road Home" by Stephen Paulus

*Tell me where is the road I can call my own,
That I left, that I lost, So long ago?
All these years I have wandered, Oh when will I know
There's a way, there's a road that will lead me home.*

*After wind, after rain, When the dark is done,
As I wake from a dream in the gold of day,
Through the air there's a calling from far away.
There's a voice I can hear that will elad me home.*

*Rise up, Follow me, Come away is the call.
With the love in your heart as the only song.
There is no such beauty as where you belong.
Rise up, Follow me, I will lead you home.*

Ushers bring the offering plates forward.

Offertory Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray,
People **All things come of Thee, O God, and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to our God.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to Christ our Sovereign.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
Celebrant We praise and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
source of life abundant.
From before time you made ready the creation.
Your Spirit moved over the deep
and brought all things into being:
sun, moon, and stars;
earth, winds, and waters;
and every living thing.
You made us in your image,
and taught us to walk in your ways.
But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;
and yet, as a mother cares for her children,

you would not forget us.
 Time and again you called us
 to live in the fullness of your love.
 And so this day we join with Saints and Angels
 in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,
 lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Peter Christian Lutkin

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of hosts. Heav'n and

10
 earth are full of thy glo-ry: Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. A - men

Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant

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 child 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 friends.
 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.”
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 all your saints,
from every place 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

Celebrant

Gathered into one as the family of God,
let us pray as our Savior Christ has taught us,

People

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Fraction

Celebrant

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Invitation

Celebrant

Come, for all is now ready. The gifts of God for the people of God.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Communion

Everyone is welcome to receive communion at St. Bart's! The ushers will invite you to come forward through the center aisle, individuals and families are invited to stand along the rounded edge of the chancel to receive the bread, hands facing upward for bread with gluten, hands facing down will indicate you'd like gluten free bread. The Chalice Bearers will follow the Priest with the chalice of wine. If you would prefer not to sip from the cup, you may place your hands across your chest to receive the blessing of the words. If you would prefer to receive neither the bread nor the wine but would like to come forward for a blessing, please come forward as described above and simply cross your arms at your chest and the Priest will offer a blessing. Hand sanitizer is available in the aisle. Please use the side aisles to return to your seat once you have received.

During Communion, healing prayers will be offered in the Chapel by a member of the Pastoral Care Committee.

Communion Hymn, #314

Humbly I adore thee

Wonder, Love & Praise

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray together,
People **God of abundance,**
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people
in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant Live without fear:
your Creator has made you holy,
has always protected you,
and loves you as a mother.
Go in peace to follow the good road
and may God's blessing be with you always.

People **Amen.**

Closing Hymn, #495

Hail Thou once despised Jesus

The Hymnal 1982

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"Ricercare" by A. Gabrielli

RESOURCES

Liturgy: The Holy Eucharist from *Enriching our Worship 1*

Opening Litany: *Isaiah 58:6-7*

Confession & Absolution: *All Creation Sings*, Augsburg Fortress © 2024

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SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. David Heald
Preaching	Pal Covie
Music	Christina Edelen
Musicians	The St. Bart's Choir
Chalice Bearer	*Barbara Barhydt
Nonvested Chalice Bearer	Michele Johns
Prayer Leader	*Paule French
Lector	*Susannah White
Prayers in the Chapel	*John Perkins
Ushers	Dennis & Lisa Fitzgibbons
Altar Guild	Beth LaSalle
A/V	Pal Covie
Bread Baker	Barbara Barhydt
Counters	Pamela Trudo, Harriet Davis
Snow Removal	Peter Sillin
VPOW	Mike Perfetti
Coffee Hour	Nancy Gunzelmann + Carol Hayes
Nursery Care	Jennifer Weiderman

*Member of St. Bart's Pastoral Care Team



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Yarmouth, ME
A Congregation of The Episcopal Diocese of Maine

Priest-in-Charge:	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
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Music Director:	Dr. Christina Edelen
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer
Intern:	Mary Curlew
Sr. Warden:	Michele Johns
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