

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 2023, 9:30 am



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church Yarmouth, ME

Prelude

“Hyfrydol” by Healey Willan

Welcome & Announcements

Pal Covie

Opening Hymn, #11

Awake, my soul

The Hymnal 1982

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Spirit of life
People Fill our emptiness with your fullness
Celebrant Spirit of power
People Stir our hearts afresh
Celebrant Spirit of love
People Touch us, and through us, our neighbor
Celebrant Spirit of Creativity
People Enable and empower the gifts you have given
Celebrant Spirit of Eternity
People Draw us ever deeper into your Kingdom

Gloria, S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson, Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Michele Johns

The servant said to Laban, "I am Abraham's servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" —let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.'

“Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.” Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Mary Curlew

The voice of my beloved!
 Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
 bounding over the hills.
My beloved is like a gazelle
 or a young stag.
Look, there he stands
 behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
 looking through the lattice.
My beloved speaks and says to me:
"Arise, my love, my fair one,
 and come away;
for now the winter is past,
 the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth;
 the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
 is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away."

The Second Lesson, Romans 7:15-25a

Michele Johns

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn, #644

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

The Hymnal 1982

The Gospel, Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, O God.**

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson

Hymn, #457

Thou art the way

The Hymnal 1982

The Affirmation Of Faith

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith as we say together:

People

You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.

your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the
world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.

Prayers of the People

Mary Curlew

Leader O God, you have empowered us through the gift of the Holy Spirit to be your hands and feet in the world; hear us as we offer our prayers for your world. Send forth your Spirit, Great Healer, and renew the face of the earth.

My siblings, I bid your prayers for our witness as Christ's body, the Church. I ask your prayers for this congregation and all churches who strive to be your witnesses in the world. Pray, beloved, for the mission of God's church (*pause as intercessions are offered*).

People Send forth your Spirit, Great Healer;
And renew the face of the earth.

Leader I bid your prayers for those places where there is war and strife and for leaders charged with ordering others' lives.
We remember today, Joe, our President and Janet, our Governor. We pray for the political climate in our country, that integrity and compassion may be the rule.
Pray for our world's leaders. (*pause as intercessions are offered*).

Send forth your Spirit, Great Healer;
And renew the face of the earth.

I bid your prayers for those who are hurting, ill, hungry, or alone, remembering today those who suffer as a result of war, domestic violence or addiction and those commended to our St. Bart's prayer list:

Charles; Pat; Marcella; Tim; Sam; Matthew; Antonia; Al; Alex; Virginia & Jamil; Ed; Hannah; Mike; David; Sarah; Jenny & Matt; Rich, Nancy & Jonathan; Perry; Jim; Matt & Shannon; Elaine; Sasha; Paige; Anne & Richard; Courtney; Dianne; Diane;

Karl; Sudon, Aunt Niki; Ron; Nathaniel; Boyd; Terry; Will; Tom & Laurel; Caia; Ramsey; Nancy A.; Dennis; Robert & Mary; Karen; Marshall; and Samantha.
Are there others you wish to add, either silently or aloud? (*pause as intercessions are offered*).

Send forth your Spirit, Great Healer;
And renew the face of the earth.

I bid your prayers for those who have died and for those who grieve; may light perpetual shine upon them. Beloved, are there others you wish to add, either silently or aloud? (*pause as intercessions are offered*).

Send forth your Spirit, Great Healer;
And renew the face of the earth.

I bid your prayers for this fragile earth, marvelously made and in our keeping. We pray especially for all those suffering from poisoned air and water and for those whose homes are threatened by the rising sea. Friends, pray for our earthly home: (*pause as intercessions are offered*).

Send forth your Spirit, Great Healer;
And renew the face of the earth.
I bid your thanksgivings for all that makes our hearts glad on this sabbath day. Please share your thanks either silently or aloud: (*pause as intercessions are offered*)

Send forth your Spirit, Great Healer;
And renew the face of the earth.

Send forth your Spirit, Great Healer, and renew us, your body in this place. Empower us to be your hands and feet in the world and lead us in the way of love, for Jesus' sake. So shall your new creation come and your will be done.
Amen.

The Confession

Celebrant Hear these words of scripture:
"If we claim to be sinless, we are self-deceived and strangers to the truth. If we confess our sins, God is just and may be trusted to forgive our sins and cleanse us from every kind of wrong." (1 John 1:8-9)

People **Spirit of God, search our hearts.**
Celebrant In silence, remember our need for God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

People **God of mercy,
we have sinned against you and against others.
We have sinned in what we have done,**

and in what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for our sins,
forgive us all that is past
and raise us to newness of life.
Amen.

The Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God,
who pardons all who truly repent,
forgive us our sins,
strengthen us by the Holy Spirit,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.
People **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 The scriptures say: "See what love has been given to us, that we should be called children of God; for indeed so we are. Alleluia." (1 John 3:1)

As children of God, let us then, out of the abundance of blessings bestowed upon us by our Creator, offer our gifts to the glory of God.

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

Offertory Hymn, #304 I Come with Joy *The Hymnal 1982*

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 the Holy One.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you pour your Spirit upon us, arousing us with visions and dreams and intoxicating us with an uncontainable fervor to proclaim your truth in the language of praise. You sent forth your Spirit to create the universe and fill it with your wonders. You breathed into us, and we rose from the dust, the face of the earth came alive.

In these last days your child, Jesus Christ, came speaking your words and doing your works; revealing the truth of who you are. He was crucified, but you raised him to glory by your life-giving power. Having enveloped us in your love, and commissioned us to continue his works, he poured out your Holy Spirit on us, setting our hearts ablaze with a passion for peace, and firing our tongues with everlasting songs of joy.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus, S125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for 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

This is the feast of liberation in our God.

People

Alleluia!

The Invitation

Celebrant Come, 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. You are invited to sip from the cup but not to dip. 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.

Music at Communion Cello Selections

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.
People **Almighty God,
you provide the true bread from heaven,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Grant that we who have received
the sacrament of his body and blood
may abide in him and he in us,
that we may be filled
with the power of his endless life,
now and forever.
Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant May God, the great Hope of the World and Breath of Life,
breathe on you once again,
awaken your conscience to God's tender inspiration,
and increase your hunger for the life-changing power that the Holy Spirit brings.
May your lives exemplify the fruits of the Spirit:
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and restraint.
May you use the gifts of the Spirit that God has given you to bless the church
and build God's Kin-dom on earth.
And may Almighty God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
bless you now and forever.
People **Amen.**

Closing Hymn, #657

Love Divine

The Hymnal 1982

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Hyfrydol” by R. Vaughan Williams

*The altar flowers today are in memory
of Brook Taliaferro.*

RESOURCES

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Affirmation of Faith & The Confession: A New Zealand Book of Common Prayer.

Prayers of the People: written by the Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer.

The Great Thanksgiving: ©2001 Nathan Nettleton LaughingBird.net and Book of Common Prayer

The Fraction: “This is the Feast” by John W. Arthur

The Blessing: adapted from a commonly used prayer called “Prayer for Life-Changing Power”

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
Deacon	The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer
Music Director	Dr. Christina Edelen
Cellist	Fred Edelen
Chalice Bearer	Mary Curlew
Lector	Michele Johns
Ushers	Nick Desiderio, Tom Hyndman
Altar Guild	Jamie Michaud, Paule French
Flower Arranger	Imelda Schaefer
A/V	Pal Covie
Bread Baker	Chrystena Hahn
Counters	Susie Soule, Tom Hyndman
Lawn Care	John Duncan
VPOW	Pal Covie
Coffee Hour	Sarah Covie