

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
A Healing Service with
Holy Communion

July 30, 2023, 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, whereby 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

Songs Without Words #4, "Confidence" by Mendelssohn

Welcome & Announcements

Laurie Hyndman

Opening Hymn, #8

Morning has broken

The Hymnal 1982

The Opening Litany

Celebrant Spirit of the Living God.

People Fall fresh on me.
melt me, mold me,
fill me, use me.

Celebrant Spirit of the Living God.

People Fall fresh on me.

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 - might - y 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, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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, 1 Kings 3:5-12

Paule French

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:129-136

John Perkins

- 129 Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
- 130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
- 131 I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
- 132 Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
- 133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- 134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
- 135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
- 136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

The Second Lesson, Romans 8:26-39

Paule French

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of

God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn, #615

Thy Kingdom Come!

The Hymnal 1982

The Gospel, Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

The Rev. Kit Wang

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

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

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Healing Liturgy

Celebrant The worship service on the 5th Sundays in our calendar year is set apart as focused 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

Pam Hobson

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 **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; Diane; Karl; Sudon, Aunt Niki; Ron; Nathaniel; Terry; Will; Tom & Laurel; Caia; Nancy A.; Dennis; Robert & Mary; Karen; Marshall; Samantha; and Victoria.**

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

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. I invite your prayers, either silently or aloud...
Pause for offered prayers

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."
As we prepare to confess our sins, I invite you into a time of reflection where you are invited to light a candle of healing.

At this time, 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...

Hymn, #825

Bless the Lord, my soul (Taize)

Wonder, Love, and Praise

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 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, #534 God is working his purpose out *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.

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

Music at Communion

Piano Selections

Sarah Covie

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, #530

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

The Hymnal 1982

The Dismissal

Celebrant
People

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

Postlude

"Sonata No. 23 in F Major, mvmt I" by Haydn

RESOURCES

Opening Litany: "Spirit of the Living God." by Daniel Iverson. #115 Lift Every Voice and Sing.

The Old Testament, New Testament and Gospels readings are from the New Revised Standard

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The Collects, Psalms, and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

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

The Confession: A New Zealand Book of Common Prayer.

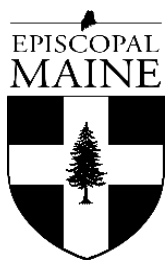
The Great Thanksgiving: ©2001 Nathan Nettleton LaughingBird.net and Book of Common Prayer

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. Kit Wang
Music	Sarah Covie
Chalice Bearer	*John Perkins
Prayers	*Pam Hobson
Lector	*Paule French
Ushers	Dennis & Lisa Fitzgibbons
Altar Guild	Jamie Michaud, Paule French
Flower Arranger	Carla Hunt
A/V	Pal Covie
Counters	Pam Hobson, Susie Soule
Lawn Care	Tom Hyndman
VPOW	Laurie Hyndman
Coffee Hour	Mary Calvin
Prayers in the Chapel	*Imelda Schaefer *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
Priest-in-Charge Email:	amanda@stbartsyarmouth.org
Music Director:	Dr. Christina Edelen
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer
Intern:	Mary Curlew
Sr. Warden:	Michele Johns
Jr. Warden:	Laurie Hyndman
Pastoral Care:	Imelda Schaefer, Barbara Barhydt
Pastoral Care Email:	pastoralcare@stbartsyarmouth.org
Parish Administrator:	Teri Coviello
Office Email:	admin@stbartsyarmouth.org
Office Hours:	Tue-Thur, 9-3
Telephone:	207.846.9244
Website:	www.stbartsyarmouth.org



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