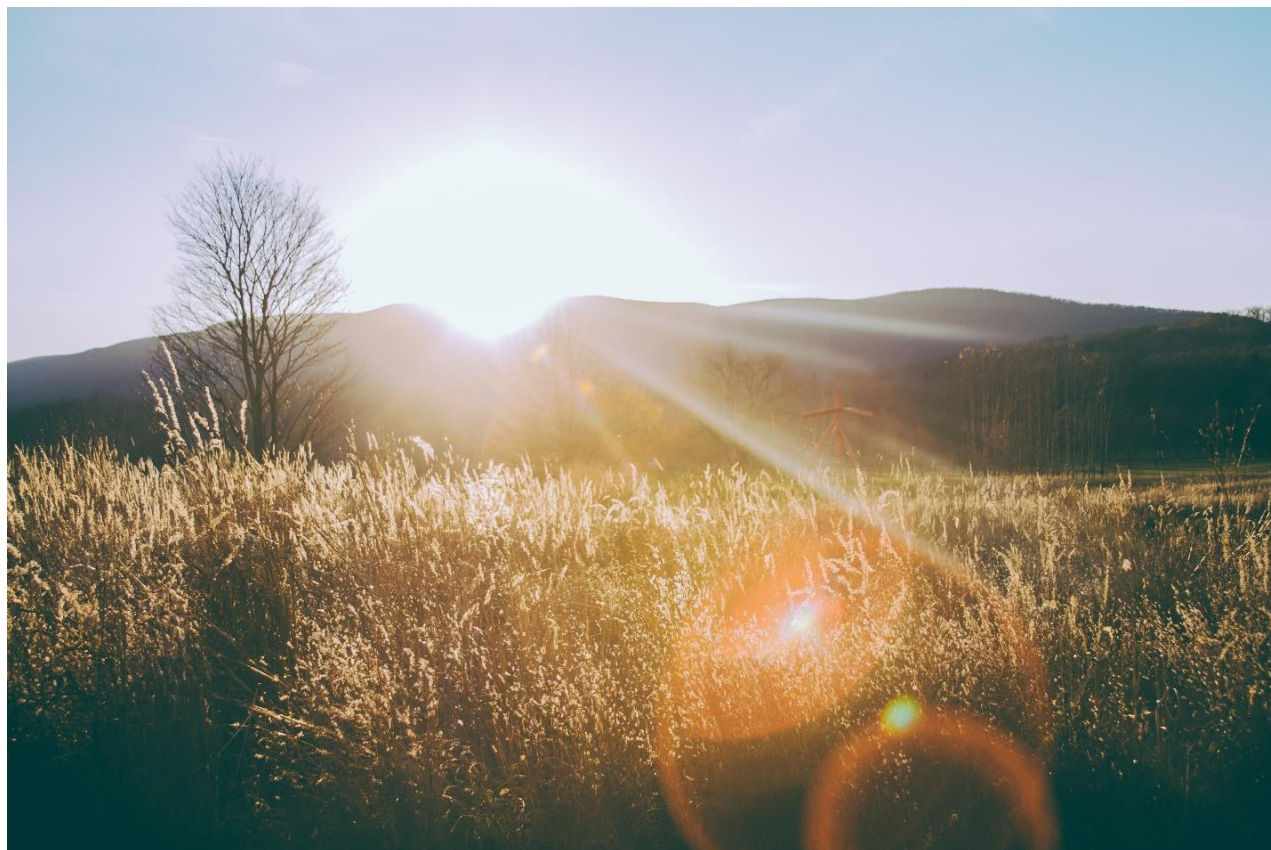


# *Morning Prayer* *September 3, 2023, 9:30 am*



*Photo by Dapo Oni on Unsplash*

## **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church    Yarmouth, Maine**

<b>Prelude</b>	"Fantasy" by J. Pachelbel	
<b>Welcome &amp; Announcements</b>		<i>Ann Donaghy</i>
<b>Opening Hymn, #450</b>	All hail the power of Jesus' name	<i>The Hymnal 1982</i>
<b>Opening Words</b>		
<i>Officiant</i>	Grace to you and peace from God our Creator and Jesus Christ, our Savior.	
<i>People</i>	<b>Amen</b>	<i>(Philippians 1:2)</i>
<b>Confession of Sin</b>		
<i>Officiant</i>	Dear friends, we have come together in the presence of God to set forth our praise, to hear God's holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our wholeness. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship without reservation, let us take a moment in silence, and with honesty and vulnerability confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy.	

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant* Most merciful God,  
*People* 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.

*Officiant* Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Savior Jesus  
Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us  
in eternal life.  
*People* Amen.

*Officiant* God, open our lips.  
*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*All* 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. Amen. Alleluia.

*Officiant* The mercy of our God is everlasting: Come let us adore them.

#### Venite Psalm 95:1-7

*People* Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to God with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.  
In God's hand are the caverns of the earth,  
and the heights of the hills are God's also.  
The sea is God's, for God made it,  
and God's hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For so is our God,  
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.  
Oh, that today you would hearken to God's voice!

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 23 Israel came into Egypt, \*  
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- 24 The LORD made his people exceedingly fruitful; \*  
he made them stronger than their enemies;
- 25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, \*  
and dealt unjustly with his servants.
- 26 He sent Moses his servant, \*  
and Aaron whom he had chosen.
- 45 Hallelujah!

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. Amen.

## The Lessons

### First Lesson: Exodus 3:1-15

Linda Perkins

A Reading from Exodus

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to

me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.” But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

*Lector*            Holy wisdom, holy word.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*A moment of silence is held for reflection and meditation.*

## **Second Lesson: Romans 12:9-21**

*Linda Perkins*

A Reading from Romans

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

*Lector*            Holy wisdom, holy word.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## **Hymn, #675**

Take up your cross

*The Hymnal 1982*

## **Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28**

*The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer*

A Reading from Matthew

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

*Deacon* Holy wisdom, holy word  
*People* Thanks be to God

## Sermon

*The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson*

## Hymn, #593

Lord, make us servants of your peace

*The Hymnal 1982*

## The Apostles' Creed

*Officiant* Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed

*People* I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Prayers

*Officiant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*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.

Leader  
People

Show us your mercy, O God;  
**And grant us your salvation.**

*Jan Burson*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
**Let your people sing with joy.**

Give peace, O God, in all the world;  
**For only in you can we live in safety.**

God, keep this nation under your care;  
**And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Let your way be known upon earth;  
**Your saving health among all nations.**

Let not the needy, O God, be forgotten;  
**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
**And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

### A Collect for Grace

Leader

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Guidance (said together)

People

**Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### Prayers for the Sick

Leader

Gracious God; we commend those on our St. Bart's prayer list who are in need of healing, strength or comfort:

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; Nancy A.; Dennis; Robert & Mary; Karen; Marshall; Samantha; John; Jeremy; and Dianne.**

I invite you to offer your own intercessions, either silently or aloud. (*pause for congregational intercessions*). May they find holy consolation through your abiding presence. **Amen.**

### Prayers for Those who have Died

Leader

God of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will. I invite your intercessions for those who have died, either silently or aloud. (*pause for intercessions*). We pray in the name of Jesus, our hope. **Amen.**

## Concluding Collect

*Officiant*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Officiant*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

*Officiant*

Let us show to each other a sign of Christ's Peace.

## Offertory Sentence

*Officiant*

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works, and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)  
Let us, then, with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*The people are seated. At this time, the ushers will collect the offering.*

## Offertory Music

Folk Songs, by R. Vaughan Williams

*Michael Perfetti, clarinet*

## Offertory Prayer

*Officiant*

Let us pray,

*People*

**All things come of thee, O Lord; And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

## The General Thanksgiving

*Officiant*

Having been gathered by the Spirit, fed by the Word, and transformed by God's vast grace, let us pray together:

*People*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

*Officiant* Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O God, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting.

*People* **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *(Corinthians 13:14)*

*People* **Amen**

**Closing Hymn, #477**

All praise to Thee

*The Hymnal 1982*

### **The Dismissal**

*Deacon* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia!**

### **Postlude**

“Prelude and Fugue in C” by J S Bach

*Many in our community choose to be seated during the Postlude to listen and give thanks for this musical offering. However, you do not have to remain seated but are invited to join us for coffee hour or depart as your schedule allows.*

## **Orange Candle for Gun Violence Victims**

The Worship & Music Committee decided at their spring retreat to light the orange candle in remembrance of victims of gun violence each week as a prayerful vigil rather than lighting the candle only at the 5th Sunday Healing Services. The Worship & Music Committee hopes that by lighting this candle each week, our community will not allow itself to forget about the severity of this issue and of our need as a community to remember and to engage in meaningful change. For more information about the Orange Candle and the "Wear Orange" movement, visit <https://wearorange.org/>

## **Serving in Worship Today**

<b>Officiant</b>	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
<b>Deacon</b>	The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer
<b>Music</b>	Dr. Christina Edelen
<b>Soloist</b>	Michael Perfetti
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Jan Burson
<b>Lector</b>	Linda Perkins
<b>Ushers</b>	Dennis & Lisa Fitzgibbons
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Mary Ann Hodsdon, Beth LaSalle
<b>Flower Arranger</b>	Imelda Schaefer
<b>A/V</b>	Joe Michaud
<b>Counters</b>	Pal Covie, Pam Hobson
<b>Lawn Care</b>	Ben Redfield
<b>VPOW</b>	Ann Donaghy
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Nancy Gunzelmann & Linda Draper