

*St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church is an inviting and inclusive community.
We celebrate our connections with one another and all of God's creation.
We strive to be leaders in the stewardship of the earth and social justice.
Through creative liturgy, life-long education and spiritual inquiry,
we seek to gain depth and energy for ourselves, our children,
and for our service in the wider world.*

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
Yarmouth, ME**

**The Second Sunday of Christmas - January 2, 2022
A Service of the Word with Healing**

Prelude

Pastorale (2 versets)
By Johann Sebastian Bach

Dr. Schuder

Welcome

Dennis Fitzgibbons

Opening Hymn

What child is this, who, laid to rest

*John Corrie & The St. Bart's Virtual Choir
The Hymnal 1982, #115*

The Liturgy of the Word

Paule French

Blessed be the One holy and living God.
Glory to God for ever and ever.

The Gloria *S-280, Powell*

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

God be with you
And also with you.
Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: The Book of Jeremiah 31:7-14

Pam Hobson

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Here ends the lesson.

Psalm 84: 1-8

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

The Second Lesson: The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

John Perkins

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Here ends the lesson.

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke 2: 41-52

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Here ends the reading from the Gospel.

A Reflection

Chrystena Hahn

Affirmation of Faith, The Nicene Creed

Imelda Schaefer

***This text of the Nicene Creed omits the phrase 'and the Son' in the third paragraph, recovering the original text of the First Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople, 325 and 381CE respectively.*

Let us say together in faith:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father. **
Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified.
Who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Lord God, we lift our prayers to you, those in our hearts, and those we speak aloud:

Our prayers for the Church:

For Thomas, our Bishop, and for Michael, our presiding Bishop; the Diocese of Maine; and our companion Diocese of Haiti.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the congregations of St. Columba's, Boothbay Harbor; And St. Anne's, Calais; and for the priests of the Diocese of Maine and Bishop Thomas Brown.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Province de L'Eglise Anglicane du Congo.
Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

Our prayers for the World:

We pray for all those who are poor, hungry and neglected all over the world.

May we to whom much has been given, be moved to works of compassion and mercy for others.
Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

Our prayers for the Nation:

That those in positions of authority might be moved to make wise decisions.

We pray for those who are struggling as the economic situation becomes increasingly serious, and for those who have lost their jobs or their homes.

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

Our prayers for those who are on our hearts and minds, especially:

Bobby; Charles; Kellan; Pat; Mackenzie; Scott; Marcella; Tim; Sam; Matthew; Jean; Sally; Antonia; Al; Lee; Ryan; Brook; Alex; Olga; Virginia & Jamil; Ed; Kathy; Cora; David; Peter; Hannah; Paul & Faith; Tom, Siobhan & James; Khenmo; Mike; Joan L; Sarah; Will; Erin; Paule; Michael; Mary Ann; Perrin; and Carol. *(Please add your own intercessions, silently.)*

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

Orange is the color the Episcopal Church has selected to represent the victims of gun violence.

As we light this candle, we mourn not only the individuals lost in our *nation* this past *month* to gun violence, but for the individuals who died by gun violence over the past year *just in the state of Maine*.

Gracious Lord who loves us so perfectly, help us to better love you and each other.

We weep for the gun violence that kills children and so many others, where guns replaced prayers and homes without you bred frustration.

May hearts be changed through your Holy Spirit that justice, mercy, money and, yes, even guns might be used rightly under Heaven, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.** ~ *Episcopal Diocese of Newark*

Our prayers for those who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

(Please add your own intercessions, silently.)

Loving God, **Hear our prayer.**

Concluding Collect *(BCP)*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession

Susannah White

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God,
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 our Savior 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.**

The Absolution

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

Laying on of Hands and Anointing, *Introduction to Healing*

The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. As we pray together for the healing of all, we proclaim the Good News that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ. In addition to those for whom we pray, we are invited to offer ourselves to God, whatever our illness of spirit, mind, or body, and ask for healing and wholeness in the Name of the holy and undivided Trinity.

Let us pray:

Heal us, O God, from all our afflictions and keep us steadfast in your love; bind up our wounds, raise us from death, and lead us to fullness of life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

May we and those for whom we pray find healing and peace, in the name of God, the holy and undivided Trinity. May Christ be present with us to comfort us, to guard and protect us, and to keep us in everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Pastoral Care Committee Members

The Peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Please stand in place and turn to face your neighbors to offer a greeting or sign of peace.

Offertory Sentence

Barbara Barhydt

Alleluia. 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

The Offering is brought forward.

Offertory Prayer

**All things come of Thee O Lord,
and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.**

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God

God of all power and love,
we give thanks for your unfailing presence
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn,
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.
Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Imelda Schaefer

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Concluding Prayer

Let us pray:

**May the God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace
in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. ~ Romans 15:13**

The Blessing, *Common Worship, Church of England*

Barbara Barhydt

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honor everyone;
love and serve our God,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all, now and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Angels we have heard on high

*John Corrie & The St. Bart's Virtual Choir
The Hymnal 1982, #96*

Announcements

VPOW

The Dismissal

Barbara Barhydt

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Postlude

Festive Gloria
By Aaron David Miller

Dr. Schuder

WEEKLY DUTIES

TODAY: 9AM, Christmas II w/ Healing

Altar Guild: Linda & John Perkins
Flower Arranger: Imelda Schaefer
A/V: **NEEDED**
Lector: Pam Hobson, John Perkins
Chalice Bearer: Imelda Schaefer
Ushers: Ann Donaghy, Pam Hobson
Counters: Pam Hobson, Pamela Trudo
Snow Removal: **NEEDED**
VPOW: **NEEDED**

January 9: 9AM, Epiphany w/ Eucharist

Altar Guild: Linda & John Perkins
Bread Baker: Susannah White
Flower Arranger: Barbara Barhydt
A/V: **NEEDED**
Lector: Elizabeth Ring
Chalice Bearer: Barbara Barhydt
Ushers: Pal & Sarah Covie
Counters: Dennis Fitzgibbons, Susie Soule
Snow Removal: Gregg Hoerr
VPOW: **NEEDED**

January 16: 9AM, Epiphany II w/ Eucharist

Altar Guild: Linda & John Perkins
Bread Baker: Mary Ann Hodsdon
Flower Arranger: Jay Reighley
A/V: Pal Covie
Lector: Morris Hancock
Chalice Bearer: Pal Covie
Ushers: Dennis & Lisa Fitzgibbons
Counters: Morris Hancock, Tom Hyndman
Snow Removal: Peter Chandler
VPOW: **NEEDED**

January 23: 9AM, Epiphany III w/ Eucharist

Altar Guild: Linda & John Perkins
Bread Baker: Nancy Gunzelmann
Flower Arranger: Chystena Hahn
A/V: **NEEDED**
Lector: Don Massey
Chalice Bearer: Joe Michaud
Ushers: Tom Hyndman, Nick Desiderio
Counters: Harriet Davis, Tom Hyndman
Snow Removal: Joe Michaud
VPOW: **NEEDED**

January 30: 9AM, Epiphany IV w/ Eucharist

Altar Guild: Linda & John Perkins
Bread Baker: Peter Sillin
Flower Arranger: Anne Jacobs
A/V: **NEEDED**
Lector: Laurie Hyndman
Chalice Bearer: Arthur Woolverton
Ushers: Nancy Gunzelmann, Linda Draper
Counters: Pam Hobson, Pamela Trudo
Snow Removal: Ed Simmons
VPOW: **NEEDED**

Announcements

Outreach Update

As many of you might remember, we gathered those interested and available in late November to help decide where the final Outreach monies along with the net Christmas Fair proceeds would be distributed. The top 6 areas of perceived community need to receive funding were as follows: affordable housing, asylum seekers/immigrants, environmental issues, food insecurity/food banks, homelessness and racial justice. These categories were previously determined by the parish survey results.

Below is a list of the chosen 501(c)3's:

- * Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland
- * Hope Acts
- * Cousins River Fields & Marsh Project - a collaboration of Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Royal River Conservation Trust & Freeport Conservation Trust
- * Growing to Give
- * Portland Opportunity Crew
- * Racial Equity and Justice of Bangor

We are thrilled to announce that each of the 6 organizations will receive \$3,225. This really is tremendous and will surely have a meaningful impact.

Thank you to the Vestry for choosing to allocate the Outreach funds in a unique and significant way this year. Thank you also to all who participated in the many aspects of helping to grow and re-imagine outreach. In the new year, we hope to further activate Outreach efforts. Please stay tuned for ways to engage.

Catherine Richards on behalf of the Re-Imagining Outreach committee

Adult Education Sessions for Epiphany 2022

During the season of Epiphany 2022, the Adult Education Committee will present four Sunday afternoon sessions on the topic **Something to Follow: Modern Poets and the Epiphany**.

The discussions will focus on prior readings of poems by modern poets and their response to the very simple biblical Epiphany narratives (Matt. 2.1-12 and 2.8-20) and a variety of cultural traditions that coalesce around the themes of the journey toward faith, the experience of precarious promise, and ongoing experience of mortality and transcendence implicit in those stories and traditions. Each session will open with a brief talk about the background of the writers and their poems, with related visual works, by Stephen Hahn, and follow with a discussion of questions and responses. One or more of the sessions will include a brief video sidelight to the discussion.

The calendar of sessions is:

—**January 9, 3:00 p.m.** Poems by W. H. Auden and William Carlos Williams, with pictures from Pieter Brueghel the elder and Stanley Spencer.

—**January 23, 3:00 p.m.** Poems by T.S. Eliot and Antonio Machado, with a poem by Ruben Dario and a video about a Guatemalan refugee artist and public health counselor Emilio Aponte-Siera.

—**February 6, 3:00 p.m.** A Family Program with poems by Langston Hughes, Lucille Clifton, and Ashley Bryan, including illustrations to Hughes's *Carol of the Brown King* by Ashley Bryan and Bryan's own *Who Built the Stable?*

—**February 20, 3:00 p.m.** Poems by Joseph Brodsky and Denise Levertov with Russian and Byzantine Icons.

Details to follow about how to access readings and images for this series.

Please contact [Stephen Hahn](mailto:hahns@wpunj.edu), hahns@wpunj.edu if you are interested.

About our Snow/Inclement Weather Policy:

The most difficult thing about deciding whether or not to hold services when there is a chance that the weather will be questionable is worrying that someone is going to get hurt trying to get to church. So when we decide to hold church even though winter is being winter, we depend on your good judgment. If you look out your door and have any concerns about being able to get to church safely because of weather, please stay home. We will raise prayers to God on behalf of the people of St. Bart's and we will know that you are safe.

Whenever possible that decision about cancellation is made as early as we can. **If we decide we need to cancel church services, we will post cancellation information on the outgoing phone message and on the website, and with Channels 6, 8 and 13, as well as send an email to the parish.** If you are scheduled for a particular duty every effort will be made to get in touch with you beyond the 'all parish' email.

Adult Education Sessions for Lent 2022

During the Season of Lent, for four weeks in March and early April (calendar forthcoming) Adult Education Sessions will explore the legacy of Clarence Jordan, a farmer and a New Testament Greek Scholar, and the founder of Koinonia Farm who played a principal role in the creation of Habitat for Humanity, and his interpretations of the New Testament Parables of Jesus. Rob Neal will lead these sessions.

Book Room Notes; How Do You Like Our New Look?

Open for business! St. Bart's unique Book Room is ready for a new era. It's now open whenever the church building is open, and ready for browsing.

We welcome donated books that are:

in **good condition (not musty, damaged, underlined, annotated)**

not **outdated** gardening books, cookbooks, travel guides, home decorating advice, reference books.

no self-help books, and no textbooks

New policy: any book that is on the New York Times bestseller list, or has been listed recently, will now be priced at \$10 each. So if you've just finished a recent bestseller and want to donate it, be assured it will sell for more than the usual rate of \$2.00 for hardcover books.

A sample of the books for sale in the Book Room can be found in the small bookcase in the hallway. Lots more upstairs. Priced as posted; good will donations in any amount are welcome; leave money in the cash boxes provided. For more information, contact [Margaret Betts](mailto:mmbetts@roadrunner.com), mmbetts@roadrunner.com, 784-5676 or [Linda Draper](mailto:ldraper347@gmail.com), ldraper347@gmail.com, 653-1666.

Friendship House

The current request for donations include the following:

- * Saran wrap and aluminum foil
- * 55 gallon trash bags
- * Disinfectant cleaners
- * Antibacterial hand soaps
- * Personal hygiene items
- * Laundry detergent
- * Dishes/Bowls/Cups
- * **Small End tables, Floor lamps, Bedside lamps** - please contact Pam re: drop off

Donations can be dropped off at St. Bart's in the plastic box labeled "Friendship House" on the front porch.

For drop off of larger items or with questions, please contact [Pam Hobson](mailto:pamhobson46@gmail.com), pamhobson46@gmail.com.

Financial contributions are welcomed. Please mail to: Friendship House, 390 Lincoln St, South Portland, ME 04106.

St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center & Essentials Pantry

As always, we appreciate donations of hats, gloves & mittens for the winter months ahead.

Our current needs include gloves, mittens and hats and large soup pots which we hope to be able to offer throughout the cold months ahead. Bedding, towels, pots, pans, dishware and utensils are always welcome.

Donations can be left in the blue bins outside between the office and side doors. Or check out the links below:

Amazon Wishlist: <http://bit.ly/StElizabethWishlist>

Or, donate \$ using this link: <https://bit.ly/3l2ZqC9>

Questions, contact [Linda Draper, ldraper347@gmail.com](mailto:ldraper347@gmail.com) or [Anne Jacobs, ajacobs207@gmail.com](mailto:ajacobs207@gmail.com).

Gathering For Worship & COVID Safety Protocols

Dear Friends,

The Regathering Committee and the Vestry continue to monitor the current increased spread of COVID-19 and the Delta & Omicron variants. If you are concerned or in a high risk group please remember that you have the option of streaming the service from home. If you attend in-person services please continue to follow the safety protocols that we have in place (see current list below). It is important to wear a mask and to maintain social distancing. Your Vestry & Regathering Committee.

COVID Safety Protocols

Communion (bread only)

Clergy will bring the bread to the front of the altar area and stand in the center, the congregation would come forward one at a time (using the ushers to go through the rows and let people know when to go up as usual). The clergy would use hand sanitizer at the beginning of the Great Thanksgiving and after finishing distribution.

Offering

The offertory basket will be on a small table next to the usher as people enter. People can place their offerings in the basket as they enter. One usher would bring forward the offering basket at the offertory point in the service.

Passing of the Peace

We ask that everyone stand in place at your chairs and turn to face your neighboring groups of chairs to offer a greeting/peace sign/bow. (no physical contact - handshakes/hugs).

Chalice Bearer

There will be one VESTED chalice bearer per service for prayers of the people and/or readings and to assist the clergy to prepare the altar before communion.

Masking for Clergy (Vaccinated)

Clergy may be unmasked while they are up on the altar area/platform and unmasked to preach. Clergy to be masked while distributing communion.



A Member of The Episcopal Church in Maine
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