

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
Sunday, October 3, 2021
The Third Sunday of Creation
A Service of the Word with Healing



Welcome

Imelda Schaefer

Opening Hymn
God the Omnipotent! King, who ordainest

John Corrie & The St. Bart's Virtual Choir
The Hymnal 1982, #569

Opening Acclamation

Pam Hobson

Creator of the universe, open our lips,
And we will praise you.

Sustainer of life, open our ears,
And we will hear you.

Redeemer of the world, open our hearts,
And we will love you.

The Collect of the Season, BCP

Pam Hobson

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

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Genesis 1:14-19

Pam Hobson

And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Hear ends the Reading.

Psalm 148

Paule French

- 1 Hallelujah!
Praise the LORD from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.
- 4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the LORD; *
for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the LORD, *
for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark 10:2-16

Paule French

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Here ends the Reading from the Gospel.

Reflection

Sarah Borgeson,
Executive Director, St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center & Essentials Pantry

The Affirmation of Faith, Earth Creed, *Liturgy for Earth Week 2021, Diocese of Maine*

Let us declare our faith in God.

Susannah White

**We have come to renew our covenant with God
and with one another in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

We have come to help protect God's creation.

**We have come as followers of Jesus
to commit ourselves anew to one another
and to heal injustice and poverty.**

We have come to stand together against all threats to life.

**We have come to discover some new beauty every day in God's creation:
the sunrise and sunset, birds, flowers and trees, rainbows in the sky, the stars,
the many forms of life in the forest.**

**We have come to listen to the "music of the universe"- water flowing over rocks, the wind,
trees bending in the wind, raindrops pattering the roof.**

**We will remember always that God speaks to us through the beauty of his creation,
and we will try our best to answer God's call to reverence all that he has created. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Susannah White

Eternal God:

We thank you for the beauty of the World:
for the teeming life of the seas,
the flight of birds, and the diversity of animal life.
Grant us grace to treat Creation with respect and care;
to protect endangered species,
to preserve the variety of habitats,
and to honor the delicate balance of nature.

God of life:

hear our prayer.

We thank you for the wealth of blessings from land and sea;
for the power of wind, and the warmth of sun.
We pray for the nations of the earth,
give us the will to cherish this planet and to use its resources sustainably for the welfare of all.

God of justice:

hear our prayer.

We pray for the faithful witness of the Church,
called to reconcile and heal:
For this parish and for Thomas our Bishop, and Michael our Presiding Bishop.

In Our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the congregation of Trinity, Castine; and for the ministry of the staff and volunteers who attend to the administrative needs of our churches.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church in Wales.

God of grace:

hear our prayer.

We pray for the human family.
We exult in our diversity and giftedness, we repent of our sins, divisions and violence.
By the power of your Spirit, restore your image within us.
As every human being is known and loved by you, may we care for one another with love and respect.
We pray for those you have commended to our care:

Bobby; Charles; Kellan; Pat; Mackenzie; Scott; Marcella; Tim; Sam; Matthew; Jean; Sally;
Zoe; Erin; Antonia; Al; Sarah; Lee; Ryan; Brook; Alex; Evan, Lizzy & Lochland; Olga; Henry;
Virginia & Jamil; Ed; Kathy; Cora; David; Lu; Peter; Hannah; Paul & Faith; and Susan.

God of compassion:

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 weep for the individuals lost this past month to gun violence.

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*

We pray for those who have died, whom we entrust to your eternal love;
may we support and comfort those who mourn.
God of peace:
hear our prayer.

Concluding Collect, *Liturgy for Earth Week 2021, Diocese of Maine*

Susannah White

Gracious God, open our eyes that we may see the abundance of your creative love in all that surrounds and sustains us. Enable us to become people of hope and life, who plant the seeds of your earthly garden for the benefit of all. Help us to be gardeners and caregivers for the earth that is home for all life. Fill us with your gentle love, that we may walk tenderly on the earth, cooperating with your intention of abundant love and life. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Imelda Schaefer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**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.**

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

Imelda Schaefer

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

Imelda Schaefer

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.

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

John Perkins

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.**

Concluding Benediction, *Liturgy for Earth Week 2021, Diocese of Maine*

John Perkins

God is before us.
God is behind us.
God is above us.
God is below us.
God's words shall come from our mouths.
For we are all God's essence, a sign of God's love.
All is finished in beauty.
All is finished in beauty.

The Blessing *

John Perkins

Go forth now to care for God's world.
Use resources wisely.
Share your knowledge.
Sacrifice where necessary.
Live in harmony with all creation.
Go out into all the world as prophets of a new way of living
and preach the good news to all.
And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son, and the Promised Holy Spirit
bless us that we might be a blessing to others today and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Father eternal, Ruler of creation

*John Corrie & The St. Bart's Virtual Choir
The Hymnal 1982, #573*

Announcements (*Listed at the end.*)

The Dismissal

John Perkins

Let us bless our God and all Creation. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia!

We ask that you remain in your seats until the ushers dismiss you row by row to exit the sanctuary. If you re-enter the church please remember to put your mask back on while in the building.

* Crafted from two sources: the first was a prayer included in the Creation materials published by Green Anglicans, Anglican Church of Southern African Environmental Network; the second source from *Prayers for the Planet, at a service at Hinde Street Methodist Church, London, before the Climate March, December 2005.*

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Announcements

Blessing of the Animals

All are welcome to join First Parish in bringing their pet(s) to **Royal River Park** for a Blessing in honor of St. Francis of Assisi this afternoon **from 4pm - 5pm**. Please wear a mask and keep your pet(s) on a leash. Thank you!

St. Bart's Blood Drive – Donors and Volunteers Needed

Please **do not delay in signing up to donate blood at St. Bart's on October 6** in the afternoon. We also need volunteers to make phone calls to encourage past donors to donate at our drive. Please email [Peter Chandler](mailto:Peter.Chandler@lordgeorgevv34@gmail.com), lordgeorgevv34@gmail.com, or call 207.232.7051; if you can spend an hour or two on the phone in the next few weeks. **Contributions of healthy snacks are also needed on the day of the drive.** Thank you.

Art Festival

Thanks to all who spread the word to Maine artists to enter this year's Yarmouth Art Festival! We have received 525 entries, an increase from 2020. The jury will select around 165 that will be displayed at St. Bart's during the event, Oct. 20-23 (with full Covid precautions), and online for two weeks afterward.

Jurors this year are Peggy Greenhut, founder and former owner of Greenhut Gallery in Portland; Anne Haas, retired art librarian at Bowdoin College; Wes LaFountain, freelance curator, most recently at Cove Street Arts in Portland and currently at Phillips Exeter Academy, NH.

The Vestry has decided that all net proceeds from entry fees and sales commissions will go to Yarmouth Food Pantry, St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center in Portland and Friendship House in South Portland.

If you're interested in helping with any aspect of the show -- publicity, setup, art intake and return, art hanging, staffing the show -- contact Joe Michaud, michaud.joe@gmail.com to be connected with the appropriate team.

Transition News

As you all know, we have three searches in process for our parish! The Education Committee reports that they are excited about a candidate they've interviewed, and hope to have an announcement for us soon. Peter Chandler reports that the search committee for our next music director has netted several excellent applicants and interviews are being scheduled. We are nearing the October 8 deadline for applicants in the search for our next priest. Canon Ambler has been in conversation with at least one serious contender, but must go through a vetting process before sending the name along to us. We are hopeful that we will have multiple applicants to consider when we meet next month. Jan Burson has picked up the baton from Sarah Covie (big shoes to fill) and she and the TWC continue to be absolutely amazing in their production of worship for us. Thank you all!

You've possibly noticed, or even heard, the work going on at the church. The renovation of the powder room off the Rector's office is well underway. Once that is complete, the carpenter will turn his attention to making the adjustments to the hall bathrooms, probably around 10/11 when Yarmouth Daycare is taking a day off. The new flooring in the Sacristy, Rector's office, and Meredith's office cannot be installed until after the Art Show, but the painting of those rooms will be completed before the old carpeting is torn up. We expect you will see transformed offices in the first week of November!

A special thank you to Meredith for her patience in working through all the chaos a renovation brings, and to Mary Calvin and Sarah Fisher who are playing key roles in choosing materials.

And thank you to all of you, who continue to be patient with our mask requirements when meeting for worship, or gathering in groups at the church. It's a challenging time in so many ways, but you all are rising to and above the situation!

Best,
Dennis and Michele

Gathering News and COVID Protocols

Friends, your Vestry has **decided to cancel coffee hour after services**. This will lessen the natural tendency to group too closely together.

We have a very important request of you. Because we will be worshiping together regularly, **we ask you to notify us if you come down with COVID. Your information will be confidential** and we will alert members that they may have been exposed. They could then pursue a course of action with their health care provider. Please contact only your Wardens, Dennis Fitzgibbons, fitz1of4@gmail.com or Michele Johns, michele49johns@gmail.com.

As always, our goal is to make sure that all are welcome to our worship community and that this may include some who aren't vaccinated including children age 12 and under. We believe that wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing work well, as do the other protocols we have established regarding communion and the exchange of peace, see the complete list below.

If you don't feel well, please stay home where you can view the live streaming of the service or watch the recorded service at your convenience. Your Wardens, Michele & Dennis

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.

Yard Sale Nets Nearly \$650

Many thanks to a great team of volunteers led by Sarah Fischer, who sorted and priced donations all day on Friday! All returned with others on Saturday to help with the sale itself. Still others joined them to haul away items that did not sell, leaving the sanctuary ready for worship on Sunday. Thanks, as well, to all who donated a diverse array of items! Volunteers included Lisa Fitzgibbons, Anne Jacobs, Debra Wathen-Finn, Pam Hobson, Joe Michaud, John Duncan, Linda Draper, Tom Hyndman, Nancy Gunzelmann, Jeremy Fischer (and sons!), and Jennifer Willard. We enjoyed introducing people to our unique space, a dress rehearsal of sorts for the Christmas Fair, to which the proceeds of the sale will be contributed.

Afternoon Handwork on Zoom

We welcome all to join us on zoom on **Monday, October 4 and 18 from 3-4:30pm** as we work on our craft projects and have friendly conversation. The link can be found in the e-bulletin.

Christmas Fair Crafts

Calling all crafters!! There's still plenty of time to make a craft before this year's Fair. You can make 6 of any item, or more if you think appropriate. Table decor/linens, scarves, pot holders, mittens, hats, face masks, coasters, soaps, candles, bath salts/bombs, wooden or metal crafts or whatever you would like to contribute. If you need suggestions or have questions, please contact Harriet Davis, harriet.davis@gmail.com. Also, if you have license plates, please let us know. Joe Michaud creates wonderful things from license plates.

Christmas Fair - Jewelry, Handbags, Scarves - Donations Needed!

Do you (or someone you know) have jewelry you no longer wear? The St. Bart's Jewelry elves await your donations to sort, organize, research, price, and/or polish! We accept all jewelry - necklaces, bracelets, rings, earrings, pins, cufflinks... real or costume...and broken items as we can repair. We welcome donations of handbags and scarves in very good condition. Designer items are best sellers. Please drop off at the St. Bart's office with a note on the bag or box for Anne Jacobs. If you have any questions, feel free to email Anne Jacobs, ajacobs207@gmail.com. Thank You!

Friendship House

Friendship House is currently looking for the following donations:

Paper towels / Bath tissue / 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 of the church.

For drop off of larger items or with questions, please contact Pam Hobson, pamhobson46@gmail.com.

Financial contributions are welcomed and can be mailed to: Friendship House, 390 Lincoln St, South Portland, ME 04106.

Yarmouth Community Food Pantry (YCFP)

YCFP is **always in need of nonperishable foods, paper products, and personal-care items.**

Items that are needed currently:

Boxed Mac and Cheese, Canned Pasta, Cereal, Laundry Soap & Dish Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner,

Kids small bag snacks such as Cheese-Its or Popcorn

Please, **NO** food that: – Needs refrigeration – Has been opened – Needs to be divided into family sized bags

Please place donations at the **rear of the First Parish Church, 116 Main Street, Yarmouth.**

(site of the *Yarmouth Community Food Pantry*) in the basket by the Food Pantry Door. Thanks for your donations!

Yarmouth Community Garden Harvest Dinner

Sign up to enjoy a harvest dinner for two at home for \$20. The meal includes YCG Marinara Sauce, Artisan Bread, One Box of Pasta and Parmesan Cheese. Ticket sales are now open. Reserve your meal for two at www.yarmouthcommunityservices.com or call YCS, 207-846-2406.

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry

It was St. Bart's turn to volunteer at St. Elizabeth's this week for the first day of winter coat distribution. We focused on just women's coats, nicely spaced on racks inside and limited to two customers at a time with the assistance of Anne Jacobs and Pam Hobson. Kathy Coughlan covered the outside distribution of essentials to the 94 people who came by. Linda Draper was the doorman for the 45 women came inside to try on coats and find one to take home. Jan Burson, Nancy Gunzelmann and Pamela Trudo were busy in the background measuring bedding, sizing coats, counting diapers, etc.

Donations always welcome and can be dropped off at St. Bart's in the large blue bins on the bench between the office entrance and side entrance.

Bedding (sheets & pillow cases) * Towels (bath & beach)

Kitchen items

Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant, Toothbrushes

Hand sanitizer * Masks (cotton or disposable)

To order these products from Amazon, visit our Amazon Wishlist: <http://bit.ly/StElizabethWishlist>.

Ship items to: St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center c/o St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 885 Shore Rd., Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

Learn more about St. Elizabeth's on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/StElizabethsJubileeCenter/>
or website, <https://stelizabethsmaine.org/donate/>

or contact Linda Draper, ldraper347@gmail.com or Anne Jacobs, ajacobs207@gmail.com.

More News from St. Elizabeth's

St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center is having a 20th Anniversary & Volunteer Appreciation Celebration on Wednesday, October 27, 4-5PM on ZOOM. *All are invited. Please mark your calendars ~ Details to follow.*

Not receiving our e-bulletins and newsletters?

If you would like to be on our email distribution list to receive weekly announcements and monthly newsletters, please go to our website, www.stbartsyarmouth.org. Scroll to the very bottom and you will see the following: "Click here to receive our weekly newsletter and monthly Mustard Seed publication via email." Please click on it, fill in your email address, as well as your first and last name, and then hit 'Subscribe'. Any questions, email the office, admin@stbartsyarmouth.org.

Online Giving Now Available!

For those interested in the security and ease of online payments, we have now set up a secure and confidential payment method that can be used with your credit/debit card, checking account, or savings account. Just go to the St. Bart's website homepage and scroll down to find the "Donate Online" section on the right-hand side bar. Clicking "Click here to get started" will take you to a secure site where you can make a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts. Click the down arrow on the Fund line to select options for giving: 2021 Pledge payment, General Fund gift or Flowers and Music Fund. Contact our Treasurer, annbdonaghy@gmail.com, if you have questions regarding this option for giving to St. Bart's.

WEEKLY DUTIES

October 3:

Altar Guild: Jamie Michaud, Paule French
Bread Baker: Mary Ann Hodsdon
Flower Arranger: Anne Jacobs
Lector: Morris Hancock
Chalice Bearer: Jan Burson
Ushers: Tom Hyndman, Nick Desiderio
Counters: Pam Hobson, Harriet Davis
Lawn Care: Ted Danforth
VPOW: Cecilia Guecia

October 10:

Guest Celebrant: The Rev. Anne C. Fowler
Altar Guild: Jamie Michaud, Paule French
Bread Baker: Nancy Gunzelmann
Flower Arranger: Chrystena Hahn
Lector: Morris Hancock
Chalice Bearer: Jan Burson
Ushers: **NEEDED**
Counters: **NEEDED**
Lawn Care: John Duncan
VPOW: Michele Johns

October 17:

Guest Celebrant: The Rev. Anne C. Fowler
Altar Guild: Jamie Michaud, Paule French
Bread Baker: Peter Sillin
Flower Arranger: Anne Jacobs
Lector: Elizabeth Ring
Chalice Bearer: John Perkins
Ushers: Nancy Gunzelmann, Linda Draper
Counters: Susie Soule, Dennis Fitzgibbons
Lawn Care: Ed Simmons
VPOW: **NEEDED**

October 24:

Guest Celebrant: The Rev. Anne C. Fowler
Altar Guild: Jamie Michaud, Paule French
Bread Baker: Susannah White
Flower Arranger: Carol Hayes
Lector: Ian-Meredythe Lindsey
Chalice Bearer: Peter Sillin
Ushers: Ann Donaghy, Pam Hobson
Counters: Morris Hancock, Tom Hyndman
Lawn Care: Peter Sillin
VPOW: Susie Soule