

Season of Gratitude

November 12, 2023



Autumn Woods, Frederic Edwin Church

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

Yarmouth, ME

Prelude

"Let All Mortal Flesh" by L. Sowerby

Welcome & Announcements

Michele Johns

Opening Hymn

The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy – sung to the tune “Hanover”

1 The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

2 The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
And hope is awakened in place of despair.

3 The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
God's love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

4 God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant This is the day that our God has made;
People **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Celebrant Rejoice, people of God!
Celebrate the life within you,
and Christ's presence in your midst!
People **Our eyes shall be opened!**
The presence will have new meaning,
and the future will be bright with hope.

Deacon Rejoice, people of God!
Bow your heads before the One
who is our wisdom and our strength.
People **We place ourselves before our God,**
that we may be touched and cleansed
by the power of God's Spirit.

Celebrant This is the day that our God has made;
People **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

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.

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The Collect of the Day

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

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The First Lesson, Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Laurie Hyndman

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve

foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Lector The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78:1-7

Mary Curlew

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
 incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
 I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
 and what our forefathers have told us, *
 we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
 the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
 and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
 and established a law for Israel, *
 which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know,
 and the children yet unborn; *
 that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
 and not forget the deeds of God,
 but keep his commandments;

The Second Lesson, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Laurie Hyndman

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Lector The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel, Matthew 25:1-13

The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson

Celebrant The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, O God.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

Sermon

Mary Curlew

Anthem

"How Shall I Fitly Meet Thee" by J.S. Bach

*How shall I fitly meet thee,
 And give thee welcome due?
 The nations long to greet thee,
 And i would greet thee too.
 O Fount of Light, shine brightly
 Upon my darkened heart,
 That I may serve thee rightly,
 And know thee as thou art.*

Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith as we say together:
People **We believe in God, the creator of all life and beauty,
 who blesses our journey.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
 who lived as a friend and savior to all he met as he traveled,
 and who ate and laughed,
 wept and celebrated with them in love.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
 who rides on the gentle breeze,**

who strengthens our bonds, and
who offers hope eternal.

We believe in the church,
which stands open to all travelers,
and bears witness to the everlasting love of God.

The Prayers of the People

Mary Curlew

Leader As we celebrate this season of gratitude, we are reminded that we have been called into relationship with God and are God's beloved children. With grateful hearts, we offer our prayers for the world, our loved ones, and ourselves. All that we have is yours, O God, give us also grateful hearts.

God in our midst, you love us and call us your children: We thank you for the gift of this gathered community of faithful disciples at St Bart's. Bless us as we live out your call to love one another as you have loved us. All that we have is yours, O God,

People **Give us also grateful hearts.**

God of all people, you love us and call us your children: In a world of violence, political upheaval, and war, you bless the peacemakers and walk alongside those who are victims of destruction. We remember before you all in positions of public trust. May they, and we, too, be instruments of your healing and peace. All that we have is yours, O God,

Give us also grateful hearts.

God of the poor, the homeless, the immigrant and the addict, you love us and call us your children: Help us to remember that in serving the least of these, we are serving you. May we follow your example and love as you love. All that we have is yours, O God,

Give us also grateful hearts.

God of creation, you love us and call us your children; you have given this earth into our care. May our steps be gentle and leave a small footprint on our earth. As it has been handed on to us, may we carefully preserve this creation for future generations. All that we have is yours, O God,

Give us also grateful hearts.

God of the mournful and suffering, you love us and call us your children: comfort and heal those in need. Hear them in their affliction and send them the comfort of your Holy Spirit. We pray for those on the St. Bart's prayer list...

Charles; Pat; Matthew; Antonia; Al; Alex; Virginia & Jamil; Ed; Hannah; Mike; David; Sarah; Jenny & Matt; Rich, Nancy & Jonathan; Perry; Jim; Elaine; Sasha; Paige; Anne & Richard; Courtney; Diane; Karl; Sudon; Aunt Niki; Ron; Nathaniel; Will; Tom & Laurel; Nancy A.; Dennis; Robert & Mary; Karen; Marshall; Samantha; Sam; Dianne; Meghan; Hutch; Debra; Pat; Haskell; Hannah; and Jonathan.

Are there others we wish to name now, either silently or aloud? (pause for additional intercessions) All that we have is yours, O God,

Give us also grateful hearts.

God of the Church at rest, you love us and call us your children: we praise you for the faith and witness of all who have gone before.

Are there others we wish to name now, either silently or aloud?

Pause for additional intercessions

Bless all those who rest from their labors as they continue to grow into fullness of life in you. All that we have is yours, O God,

Give us also grateful hearts.

God, the giver of all good gifts, we give you thanks and praise for another day of life, the chance to breathe, sing, love, and help. Empower us to use this gift of life in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

All that we have is yours, O God, Give us also grateful hearts.

Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

People

Most loving God,
we confess that we have not loved
in thought, word, or deed.
We have not loved you
or our neighbors
or ourselves.
We are sorry.
Remind us that you love us unconditionally
and help us to rest in your love.

Celebrant Loving God, have mercy on us, forgive us for forgetting to love, and renew our ability to give and receive love in all that we do.
People **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of God be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

You are invited to greet one another sharing God's peace!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant In gratitude for all of the blessings God has bestowed upon us, let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to our God.

Bread and wine are brought forward while the ushers pass the offering plates.

Offertory Hymn, #454

Jesus came adored by angels

The Hymnal 1982

Ushers bring the offering plates forward as the congregation sings

The Doxology, sung

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Sing praise all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray,
People **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

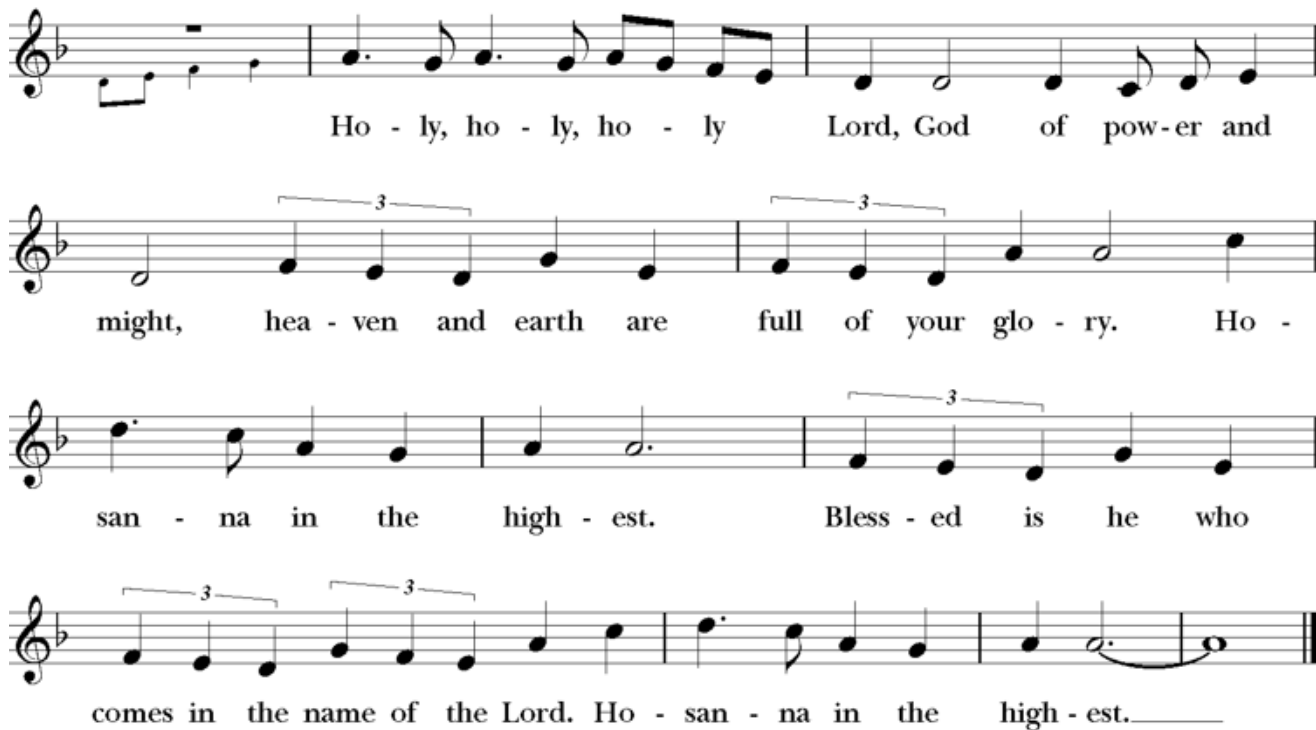
Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to our God.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Holy One.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing
and fed us with your constant love;

you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ
and knit us into one body.
Through your Spirit you replenish us
and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels
and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus, S129



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

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of several phrases, with the words 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly' and 'san - na in the high - est.' appearing twice. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above a bracket) over the notes for 'heaven and earth', 'Bless - ed is he who', and 'comes in the name of the Lord'. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image
and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care
that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image
in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation,
abused one another,
and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah
you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery,
sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets
to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time,
you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family,
and dwelling among us,
he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross,
he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us,
Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:
“Take, eat:
This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

People Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation
this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts
may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ’s Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your children,

that with all your saints,
past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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.**

The Fraction

Celebrant

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Invitation

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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.

Gratitude Chain

After receiving communion, you are invited to create a link in our gratitude chain by writing on a slip of paper the things for which you are grateful at the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Music at Communion, #324 Let all mortal flesh

The Hymnal 1982

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray:

People God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

The Blessing

Celebrant The Wisdom of God
the Love of God
and the Grace of God
strengthen you
to be Christ's hands and heart in this world,
in the name of the Holy Trinity.

People Amen.

Testimony of Gratitude

Sarah Covie

Closing Hymn, #690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

The Hymnal 1982

The Dismissal

Rev. Amanda will dismiss us, to which the congregation replies:

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" by H. Hopson

Need Hearing Assistance?

We have earpieces that receive audio from the sound system. You can find them in charging stations in the entryway. Simply slip the earpiece over your ear, turn it on with the volume switch, and adjust volume. Please return to the charging stations when you are done.

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Opening Acclamation, Affirmation of Faith, Confession: *Daily Prayers for all Seasons*. © 2014
Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel readings: New Revised Standard Version Bible, ©
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Offertory Prayer: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006

Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer, Post-Communion Prayer, Blessing: *Enriching Our
Worship* © 1998

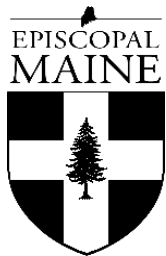
Cover Image: Autumn Woods by Frederic Edwin Church. Courtesy of the Smithsonian Museum

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
Preacher, Chalice Bearer	Mary Curlew
Music	Christina Edelen
Musicians	The St. Bart's Choir
Lector	Laurie Hyndman
Ushers	Dennis & Lisa Fitzgibbons
Altar Guild	Jan Burson, Mary Louise Chin
Flower Arranger	Carol Hayes
A/V	Arthur Woolverton
Bread Baker	Peter Sillin
Counters	Pamela Trudo, Harriet Davis
Lawn Care	Peter Sillin
VPOW	Michele Johns
Coffee Hour	Pam Hobson + Susan Garrett

ST BART'S VISION STATEMENT

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Yarmouth, Maine is a place to explore and deepen one's faith through worship, music, education, and open dialogue to help each of us and our community faithfully navigate today's ever-changing world. We are an open, inclusive, creative, and welcoming community. Building on the vision of those who established St. Bart's 50 years ago, we continue to strengthen and grow our community by grounding our ministries in the love of Jesus Christ, telling our story joyfully, and caring for the needs of our congregation and the greater Yarmouth and surrounding communities. St. Bart's is a great landing place for those seeking a welcoming and inclusive faith experience.



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Yarmouth, ME *A Congregation of The Episcopal Diocese of Maine*

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Music Director:	Dr. Christina Edelen
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer
Intern:	Mary Curlew
Sr. Warden:	Michele Johns
Jr. Warden:	Laurie Hyndman
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