

# *Season of Advent, First Sunday*

## *December 1, 2024, 9:30 am*

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church     Yarmouth, Maine

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Prelude                             "Sleepers Wake!" by Frank Speller

Welcome & Announcements     *Susie Peixotto*

Opening Hymn, #57                    Lo! He comes with clouds descending                             *The Hymnal 1982*

### Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant*            "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." (Luke 2:10)

*People*                    Holy One, as we prepare for the advent of Christ,  
**Give us your spirit of wisdom.**

*Intern*                    As we seek to embody your love in the world,  
*People*                    **Give us your spirit of good counsel.**

*Celebrant*            As we seek to be faithful,  
*People*                    **Give us your spirit of perseverance.**

*Intern*                    May we be instruments of your peace on earth  
*People*                    **May your good news reign in our hearts for ever more.**

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant*            God be with you.

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

*Celebrant*            Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Children's Message     *Mary Curlew, Pastoral Intern*

Lighting the Advent Candles    Like a candle flame (verses 1 & 2) *See last two pages of bulletin*

*The Advent Candles are lit as congregation sings.*

## The Lessons

### First Lesson, Jeremiah 33:14-16

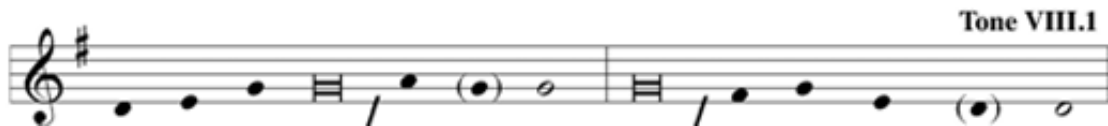
Mary Curlew

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

*Lector* Holy wisdom, holy Word.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 25:1-9, sung



<sup>1</sup> To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my / trust in you;\* let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies / triumph over me.

<sup>2</sup> Let none who look to you be / put to shame;\* let the treacherous be disap/pointed in their schemes.

<sup>3</sup> Show me your / ways, O LORD,\* and / teach me your paths.

<sup>4</sup> Lead me in your truth and / teach me,\*

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted / all the day long.

<sup>5</sup> Remember, O LORD, your compassion and / love,\* for they are from / everlasting.

<sup>6</sup> Remember not the sins of my youth and my trans/gressions;\* remember me according to your love and for the sake of your / goodness, O LORD.

<sup>7</sup> Gracious and upright is the / LORD;\* therefore he teaches / sinners in his way.

<sup>8</sup> He guides the humble in / doing right\* and teaches his way / to the lowly.

<sup>9</sup> All the paths of the LORD are love and / faithfulness\* to those who keep his covenant and his / testimonies.

### Second Lesson, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Mary Curlew

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Lector* Holy wisdom, holy Word.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Anthem,** "An Advent Responsory" by John Brooks

*I look from afar, and lo, I see the power of God coming,  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.*

*Go ye out to meet him and say:*

*Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel.*

*High and low, rich and poor, one with another.*

*Go ye out to meet him and say:*

*Hear O thou shepherd of Israel. Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep. Tell us, art thou he that should come?*

*Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*I look from afar, and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.*

*Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?*

**Gospel, Luke 21:25-36**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel, according to Luke.

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Hymn, #71

Hark! The glad sound

*The Hymnal 1982*

Affirmation of Faith

*Intern*

Let us affirm our faith as we say together:

*People*

We believe in God,  
creator and lover of the earth,  
origin and destiny of us all.

We believe in Jesus the Christ  
- God coming to us  
in the fragile promise  
of a baby yet unborn -  
who emerges as the herald of hope,  
God's laughter in the face of despair.  
Plunged into death,  
he broke free the captives,  
and is leading the way  
to the land of promise  
where justice and peace will flourish.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who implants the seed of truth,  
brings us to birth  
as the body of Christ,  
and empowers us  
to confront and transform  
all that is corrupt, degrading and deceitful.

We believe in the coming reign of God.  
Announced by the Baptist,  
it has drawn near to us in Jesus,  
and will be consummated  
in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven,  
when all who have passed through  
the world's deep sorrow  
will be raised from the waters,  
robed in righteousness,  
and gathered into the joyous fulfilment  
of God's desire.

For the coming of that day on this day,  
we work and pray:  
Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

*Leader* Kindred in Christ, may God strengthen our hearts in holiness. Trusting in God, let us pray, "O come, o come, Emmanuel; be our hope and our salvation."

*A brief silence for reflection.*

God our hope, increase in us love for one another that we may abound in your love. Keep your Church on the path of love and faithfulness.

*Silence*

O come, o come, Emmanuel;  
**Be our hope and our salvation.**

God our hope, usher in your reign of justice and righteousness. May all the world know your peace and safety.

*Silence*

O come, o come, Emmanuel;  
**Be our hope and our salvation.**

God our hope, you place signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars. Give us the insight to perceive you, the wisdom to prepare for you, and the faith to trust in you.

*Silence*

O come, o come, Emmanuel;  
**Be our hope and our salvation.**

God our hope, under your reign divisions are overcome, unity restored: bring the people of this region together in a spirit of love and respect.

*Silence*

O come, o come, Emmanuel;  
**Be our hope and our salvation.**

God our hope, remember your compassion and love. Heal and restore the sick and the suffering, the anxious and the grieving. We pray for those whose names have been entrusted to our St. Bart's Prayer List:

**Pat; Antonia; Al; Alex; Virginia & Jamil; Mike; David; Sarah; Jenny & Matt; Perry; Jim; Elaine; Sasha; Paige; Karl; Nathaniel; Will; Nancy A.; Karen; Debra; Haskell; Sue; Don; Matilda; Gregory; Andy; Ruth; Molly; Wes; Alison; Alice; Patrick, Jessie; Nova; Nate; Richard; Bill; Dave & Judy; Steven; Nina; Jen; Heather; Vance; Cheryl; Peter; Gary; and Ernie**

And we pray for those we name before you now, both aloud and silently.

*Silence*

O come, o come, Emmanuel;  
**Be our hope and our salvation.**

God our hope, keep us blameless before you that we may meet the coming of our Lord Jesus with joy. May we, and all who have died, rise to life immortal with all your saints.

*Silence*

O come, o come, Emmanuel;  
**Be our hope and our salvation.**

### Concluding Collect

*Celebrant* God, you shape our dreams.  
As we put our trust in you  
may your hopes and desires be ours,  
and we your expectant people.

*People* **Amen.**

### The Confession & Absolution

*Celebrant* Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
creator of the stars of night,  
companion at our table,  
breath over the deep waters.

*People* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Have mercy, O God,  
*People* **against you, you alone,  
we have sinned.**  
**In your compassion,  
cleanse us from our sin  
and take away our guilt.  
Create in us a new heart  
and give us a steadfast spirit.  
Do not cast us away,  
but fill us with your Holy Spirit  
and restore your joy within us.  
Amen.**

*Celebrant* As tender as parent to child,  
so deep is God's compassion for you.  
As high as heaven is above earth,  
so vast is God's love for you.  
As far as east is from west,  
so far God removes your sin from you,  
renewing your life through Jesus Christ.  
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

*People* **Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

### The Peace

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

*The congregation is invited to share a sign of peace with those around them.*

Offertory Sentence

*Celebrant* "O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." (Revelation 4:11)

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*At this time, the bread and wine are brought forward. The ushers will collect the offerings of our community gathered.*

Offertory Hymn, #59

Hark! A thrilling voice

*The Hymnal 1982*

*The offering is brought forward.*

Offertory Prayer

*Intern* Let us pray,  
*People* God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

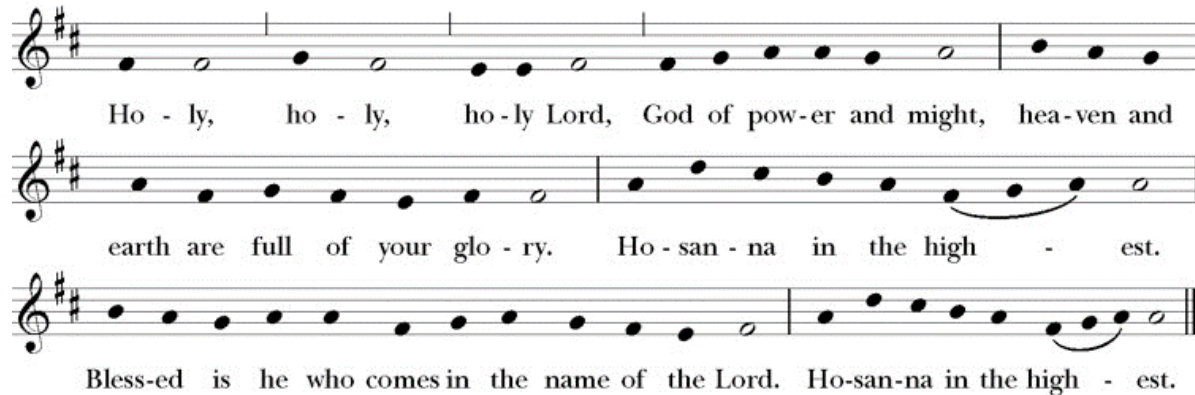
The Great Thanksgiving, S120, sung

The Great Thanksgiving, S120, sung. The notation consists of four staves of music on a G-clef with a key signature of one flat. The first staff shows the *Celebrant* singing "The Lord be with you." and the *People* singing "And al - so with you." The second staff shows the *Celebrant* singing "Lift up your hearts." and the *People* singing "We lift them to the Lord." The third staff shows the *Celebrant* singing "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff shows the *People* singing "It is right to give him thanks and praise." Musical notes are placed above the lyrics, with slurs and accents indicating phrasing and emphasis.

*Celebrant* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### Sanctus, S124



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.

### Eucharistic Prayer

*Celebrant*

All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you;  
all that is lovely, all who are loving point to you as their fulfillment.  
And grateful as we are for the world we know and the universe beyond our sight,  
we especially praise you, whom eternity cannot contain,  
for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus.  
For his life which informs our living,  
for his compassion which changes our hearts,  
for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities,  
for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying,  
his rising to life breathing forgiveness,  
we praise you and bless you.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

And now, lest we believe that our praise alone fulfills your purpose,  
we fall silent ...

and remember him who came because words weren't enough.

Setting our wisdom, our will, our words aside,  
emptying our hearts, and bringing nothing in our hands,  
we yearn for the healing, the holding, the accepting,  
the forgiving that Christ alone can offer.

Merciful God, send now, in kindness, your Holy Spirit



to settle on this bread and wine,  
and fill them with the fullness of Jesus  
that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ  
and his Blood of the new Covenant.  
And then let that same Spirit rest on us,  
converting us from the patterns of this passing world,  
until we conform to the shape of the one whose food we now share.  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant*  
*People*

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,  
forever and ever. Amen.

### The Fraction

*Celebrant*  
*People*

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.  
**We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

### Agnus Dei, S161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.



## WORSHIP RESOURCES

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Opening Acclamation: adapted from *Daily Prayer for all Seasons*.

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Affirmation of Faith: Copyright ©2001 Nathan Nettleton LaughingBird.net.

Prayers of the People: Rite Planning

Offertory Prayer, Great Thanksgiving Preface, & Post-Communion Prayer: *All Creation Sings*, Setting Twelve, Augsburg Fortress © 2024

Eucharistic Prayer: adapted from *A Wee Worship Book*, The Iona Community

Blessing: *Enriching Our Worship*

The values that guide our Worship & Music Committee's process for creating our liturgies are inclusive, grounded, challenging, and creative. At St. Bart's, we strive to use language and imagery that is both inclusive and expansive for God and humanity.

## SERVING TODAY

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**Celebrant** The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson  
**Music** Christina Edelen  
**Pastoral Intern** Mary Curlew  
**Musicians** The St. Barts Choir  
**Chalice Bearer** Jan Burson  
**Lector** Mary Curlew  
**Ushers** Ann Donaghy, Pam Hobson  
**Altar Guild** Beth LaSalle  
**Flower Arranger** Advent Wreath – Altar Guild  
**A/V** Joe Michaud  
**Bread Baker** Nancy Gunzelmann  
**Counters** Harriet Davis, Dennis Fitzgibbons  
**Snow Removal** Kevin Gillan  
**VPOW** Susie Peixotto  
**Coffee Hour** Susie Soule + Susan Garrett  
**Prayers in the Chapel** Imelda Schaefer

## ST BART'S VISION STATEMENT

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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 Maine

<b>Rector:</b>	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
<b>Rector Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:amanda@stbartsyarmouth.org">amanda@stbartsyarmouth.org</a>
<b>Music Director:</b>	Dr. Christina Edelen
<b>Pastoral Intern:</b>	Mary Curlew
<b>Sr. Warden:</b>	Laurie Hyndman
<b>Jr. Warden:</b>	Joe Michaud
<b>Pastoral Care:</b>	Imelda Schaefer, Barbara Barhydt
<b>Pastoral Care Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:pastoralcare@stbartsyarmouth.org">pastoralcare@stbartsyarmouth.org</a>
<b>Parish Administrator:</b>	Teri Coviello
<b>Office Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@stbartsyarmouth.org">admin@stbartsyarmouth.org</a>
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tue-Thur, 9-3
<b>Telephone:</b>	207.846.9244
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stbartsyarmouth.org">www.stbartsyarmouth.org</a>

## Like a candle flame

Words and music: Graham Kendrick  
 Music arranged: Christopher Norton

Gently

Am Em Am Em F G C

C Em7 F G C Am Dm G E7 F G

Like a can - dle flame, flick-'ring small in our dark-ness.

C Em7 F G C Am Dm G C

Un - cre - a - ted light shines through in - fant eyes.

Am Em F Am Em F

WOMEN God is with us, al - le -

MEN God is with us, al - le - lu - ia,

Am Em F Am Em F G

- lu - ia, come to save us, al - le - lu -

come to save us, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -

1.2. C Dm7 G 3. C D. 4. C

- ia! - ia! - ia!

2 Stars and angels sing,  
 yet the earth sleeps in the shadows;  
 can this tiny spark  
 set a world on fire?  
*God is with us . . .*