

*Season of Advent, Fourth Sunday  
December 18, 2022, 9 am*



*Waiting for the Revealing* by Jan Richardson

“I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.” – Isaiah 43:19

**St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church    Yarmouth, Maine**

Prelude "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" by Paul Manz

Welcome & Announcements *Ann Donaghy*

Opening Hymn, #56 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 1,2,3,4,8) *The Hymnal 1982*

### Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* In this Advent of anticipation  
draw us together in unity,

*People* **that our praise and worship  
might echo in these walls  
and also through our lives.**

*Celebrant* In this Advent of anticipation  
draw us together in mission,

*People* **that the hope within  
might be the song we sing,  
and the melody of our lives.**

*Celebrant* In this Advent of anticipation  
draw us together in service,

*People* **that the path we follow  
might lead us from a stable  
to a glimpse of eternity.**

### Lighting the Advent Candles

*Celebrant* People of God: prepare!  
God, above all, maker of all,  
is one with us in Christ.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus!**

*Celebrant* God, the mighty,  
bends down in love to earth.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus!**

*Celebrant* God with us, God beside us,  
comes soon to the world that God has made.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus!**

*Celebrant* We are God's children,  
we seek the coming Christ.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus!**

*The Advent Candles are lit as the congregation sings.*

Candle-lighting Song "Like a Candle Flame" by G. Kendrick (last two pages of the bulletin)

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* God be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Lessons

### First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16

*Don Massey*

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

*Lector*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people  
*People*            **Thanks be to God**

### Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

*Carla Hunt*

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O LORD God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

### Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7

*Don Massey*

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's churches

*People* **Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Hymn, #66**

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

*The Hymnal 1982*

**Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25**

*The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer*

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*Deacon* The Gospel of our Lord.

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

**Sermon**

*The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson*

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Celebrant* 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!

## Prayers of the People

*Carla Hunt*

*Leader* Siblings in Christ, during this Advent season, we are invited to pay attention, to watch and to prepare for the coming of Christ in our lives and in this world. As we make our prayers, let us join with all in heaven and on earth as we pray: *Come Lord Jesus.*

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for the church throughout the world, remembering especially our Palestinian siblings, and all who work to build up the body of Christ. We pray for your St. Bart's family gathered here today, that we may live into your mission for us at this time. Come Lord Jesus:

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for this nation and for all the nations of the world, remembering especially those who are victims of political or social injustice. We pray for those whom we have elected to public office, remembering particularly Joe, our President, Janet, our Governor, and for political leaders everywhere, that they may administer the tasks of government with courage and equity. Come Lord Jesus:

*People* **Hear our prayer**

*Leader* We pray for those who are hungry, homeless, or struggle with addiction. We pray for the sick, the elderly and for those who find this time of year painful, remembering, at this time, those on our St. Bart's prayer list:

Bobby, Charles, Kellan, Pat, Marcella, Tim, Sam, Matthew, Antonia, Al, Alex, Virginia & Jamil, Ed, Hannah, Mike, David, Sarah, Erin, Jenny & Matt, Adam, Rich, Nancy & Jonathan, Joan L and Elizabeth, Perry, Jim, Matt & Shannon, Evan and family, Elaine, Peter, Jan, Sasha, Katie, Paige, Dale, Dave K and family, Bob, and Anne, Richard and family, Courtney, Dianne, Diane, and Karl.

*People* Please add your own intercessions, either silently or aloud. Come Lord Jesus:  
**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for this fragile earth. May we be faithful stewards of your gift and administer its bounty with wisdom for the good of all your creation. Come Lord Jesus:

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for those who have died and those who mourn, that they may grow in their knowledge and love of you. Please add your own intercessions, either silently or aloud: Come Lord Jesus:

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We thank you for all that makes our hearts glad this day: Please add your own thanks, either silently or aloud: Come Lord Jesus:

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

### **Concluding Collect**

*Celebrant* We thank you that you have called us to be your people. Give us patience as we await your coming and help us to see your abiding presence already in our midst. Come Lord Jesus:

*People* **Even so, Lord, quickly come. Amen.**

### **The Confession & Absolution**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Most merciful God,  
*People* **we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of 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.

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

*People* **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, #265** The Angel Gabriel

The Hymnal 1982

*The offering is brought forward.*

### Offertory Prayer

*Celebrant* Let us pray,

*People* **All things come of Thee, O God, and of Thine own have we given Thee.**

### The Great Thanksgiving & Eucharistic Prayer

*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 Christ our Sovereign.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is our joy to bless you, Creator of all, for you made us, and before us, you made the world we inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Sanctus

Peter Christian Lutkin

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of hosts. Heav'n and

10  
earth are full of thy glo-ry: Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. A -

*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*

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.**

**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: S163**

The Hymnal 1982

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.

**The Invitation**

*Celebrant  
 People*

Come! For all is now ready. The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## Holy 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 — with some space between families — to receive the bread, hands facing upward for bread with gluten, hands facing down will indicate you'd like gluten free bread. The Chalice Bearer will follow the Priest with the cup of wine. At this time, 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 and abstain from sipping. 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.*

**Music at Communion**            “Noels” by Claude Daquin

## Post Communion Prayer

*Celebrant*     Let us pray together,  
*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,  
                  as we anticipate his coming in love,  
                  in the name of the Holy Trinity.  
*People*         **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**                    A Great and Mighty Wonder (to tune “Lo How a Rose”)

1. A great and mighty wonder  
A full and holy cure!  
The Virgin bears the Infant  
With virgin-honour pure.

***Refrain: Repeat the hymn again, “To God on high be glory, and peace on earth to men”***

2. The Word becomes Incarnate,  
And yet remains on high:  
And Cherubim sing anthems  
To shepherds from the sky;  
***Refrain***

3. While thus they sing your Monarch,  
Those bright angelic bands,  
Rejoice, ye vales and mountains,  
Ye oceans, clap your hands.

**Refrain**

4. Since all he comes to ransom,  
By all be he adored,  
The Infant born in Beth'lem,  
The Saviour and the Lord.

**Refrain**

### The Dismissal

*Deacon*            Let us go forth in the name of Christ  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” by Frank Speller

## WORSHIP RESOURCES

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Cover Image: *Waiting for the Revealing* by Jan Richardson

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## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

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Celebrant: The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson

Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer

Music Director: Dr. Christina Edelen

Chalice Bearer: Carla Hunt

Lector: Don Massey

Ushers: Ann Donaghy, Pam Hobson

Altar Guild: Beth LaSalle, Mary Ann Hodsdon

Flower Arranger: Mary Ann Hodsdon

A/V: Pal Covie

Bread Baker: Barbara Barhydt

Counters: Pamela Trudo, Tom Hyndman

Snow Removal: Peter Chandler

VPOW: Ann Donaghy

Coffee Hour: Imelda Schaefer & Susie Soule

## UPCOMING DUTIES

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### December 24, 4:30 pm, Family Service

Celebrant: The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson  
Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer  
Music Director: Dr. Christina Edelen  
Chalice Bearer: Michele Johns, Mary Curlew  
Lector: Laurie Hyndman  
Ushers: Ann Donaghy, Nancy Gunzelmann  
Altar Guild: Beth LaSalle, Mary Ann Hodsdon  
Flower Arranger: Imelda Schaefer  
A/V: Laurie Hyndman  
Bread Baker: Mary Ann Hodsdon  
Counter: Pamela Trudo

### December 24, 9 pm, Candlelight Service

Celebrant: The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson  
Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer  
Music Director: Dr. Christina Edelen  
Chalice Bearer: Lisa Fitzgibbons  
Lector: Harriet Davis  
Ushers: Dennis & Lisa Fitzgibbons  
Altar Guild: Beth LaSalle, Mary Ann Hodsdon  
Flower Arranger: Imelda Schaefer  
A/V: Joe Michaud  
Bread Baker: Mary Ann Hodsdon  
Counter: Pamela Trudo

### January 8, 9 am, New Member Sunday

Celebrant: The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson  
Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer  
Music Director: Dr. Christina Edelen  
Chalice Bearer: Jan Burson  
Lector: Michele Johns  
Ushers: Ann Donaghy, Pam Hobson  
Altar Guild: Linda Perkins, Jennifer Willard  
Flower Arranger: Chrystena Hahn  
A/V: Peter Sillin  
Bread Baker: Peter Sillin  
Counters: Pam Hobson, Pamela Trudo  
Snow Removal: John Duncan  
VPOW: Susie Peixotto  
Coffee Hour: **NEEDED**

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

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### Mid-Week Advent Evening Service

*Wednesdays at 5:30 pm*

Nov 30, Dec 7, 14, 21

Held in partnership with Emmaus Lutheran Church (Falmouth), this service is a time to take a breath and to share in the anticipation of the renewal of the world at Christmas.

### Christmas Eve Family Service

*December 24, 4:30 pm*

This festive, family-oriented service will feature treasured Christmas carols and a special story time for children with Rev. Amanda. Join us for Holy Eucharist and celebrate the warmth of the season.

### Lessons and Carols

*December 18, 4 pm*

The story of Christmas, as told through music, poetry and scripture; a family service for all ages, with the St Bart's Choir, Children's choir, and congregational singing.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

*December 24, 9:00 pm*

As night draws near, this candlelit service reminds us of the hope and wonder of that baby born in a manger. Join the St. Bart's choir in singing familiar hymns as we celebrate the Eucharist and cherish the joy of God's love come to earth!

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**There will be no Sunday morning services on December 25 and January 1.  
The next Sunday morning service will be January 8.**

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

<b>Priest-in-Charge:</b>	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
<b>Priest-in-Charge Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:amanda@stbartsyarmouth.org">amanda@stbartsyarmouth.org</a>
<b>Music Director:</b>	Dr. Christina Edelen
<b>Deacon:</b>	The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer
<b>Intern:</b>	Mary Curlew
<b>Sr. Warden:</b>	Michele Johns
<b>Jr. Warden:</b>	Laurie Hyndman
<b>Pastoral Care:</b>	Imelda Schaefer, Barbara Barhydt
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## 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!

- 1 Like a candle flame,  
flick'ring small in our darkness.  
Uncreated light  
shines through infant eyes.  
MEN *God is with us, alleluia,*  
WOMEN *God is with us, alleluia,*  
MEN *come to save us, alleluia,*  
WOMEN *come to save us,*  
ALL *alleluia!*
- 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 . . .*
- 3 Yet His light shall shine  
from our lives, Spirit blazing,  
as we touch the flame  
of His holy fire.  
*God is with us . . .*