

*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

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

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Prayers of the People from The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer

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SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

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

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

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!

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



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

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Priest-in-Charge: | The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson |
| Priest-in-Charge Email: | amanda@stbartsyarmouth.org |
| Music Director: | Dr. Christina Edelen |
| Deacon: | The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer |
| Intern: | Mary Curlew |
| Sr. Warden: | Michele Johns |
| Jr. Warden: | Laurie Hyndman |
| Pastoral Care: | Imelda Schaefer, Barbara Barhydt |
| Pastoral Care Email: | pastoralcare@stbartsyarmouth.org |
| Parish Administrator: | Teri Coviello |
| Office Email: | admin@stbartsyarmouth.org |
| Office Hours: | Tue-Thur, 9-3 |
| Telephone: | 207.846.9244 |
| Website: | www.stbartsyarmouth.org |

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.8 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 . . .