

Feast of the Ascension

May 12, 2024, 9:30 am

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

Organ Prelude	"Our Father in Heaven" by Paul Manz	
Welcome & Announcements		<i>Laurie Hyndman</i>
Opening Hymn, #214	Hail the day that sees him rise	<i>The Hymnal 1982</i>
Opening Acclamation		
<i>Celebrant</i>	In the leaving, in the letting go, let there be this to hold onto at the last:	
<i>Left Side</i>	the enduring of love, the persisting of hope, the remembering of joy,	
<i>Right Side</i>	the offering of gratitude, the receiving of grace, the blessing of peace.	
<i>Celebrant</i> <i>All</i>	Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!	
Gloria, Hymn #217	A Hymn of Glory, v. 1 only (see next page)	<i>The Hymnal 1982</i>

1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing, new hymns through -
 2 You are a pre - sent joy, O Lord; you will be
 3 O ris - en Christ, a - scend - ed Lord, all praise to

out the world shall ring; by a new way none
 ev - er our re - ward; and great the light in
 you let earth ac - cord, who are, while end - less

ev - er trod Christ takes his place— the throne of God!
 you we see to guide us to e - ter - ni - ty.
 a - ges run, with Fa - ther and with Spi - rit, One.

The Collect

Celebrant God be with you.
People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.
 Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

People Amen.

THE LESSONS

First Lesson: Acts 1:1-11

Harriet Davis

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward

heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

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

Psalm 47

Nancy Gunzelmann

- 1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.
- 2 For the LORD Most High is to be feared; *
he is the great King over all the earth.
- 3 He subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.
- 4 He chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
- 5 God has gone up with a shout, *
the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn.
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- 7 For God is King of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.
- 8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon his holy throne.
- 9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *
with the people of the God of Abraham.
- 10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and he is highly exalted.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

Harriet Davis

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer

Deacon The Holy Gospel according to Luke
People **Glory to you, O God.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson

Anthem

"Exultate Justi" by Lodovico da Viadana

(Psalm 33, v. 1-3)

- 1 Exultate, justi, in Domino; rectos decet collaudatio.*
- 2 Confitemini Domino in cithara; in psalterio decem chordarum psallite illi.*
- 3 Cantate ei canticum novum; bene psallite ei in vociferatione.*

English translation:

- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for it becometh well the just to be thankful.*
- 2 Praise the Lord with harp: sing praises unto him with the lute, and instrument of ten strings.*
- 3 Sing unto the Lord a new song: sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage.*

Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:
People **I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Prayers of the People

Nancy Gunzelmann

Leader Risen and Ascended Lord, you have promised to be with us always; teach us to be aware of your presence and to abide in your love as we bring to you all our petitions and intercessions. Christ, the King of Glory:

People **Lift our hearts and minds.**

Give to your church a vision of your presence, that we may proclaim your peace and your love. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Anglican Church of Burundi. In the Diocese of Maine, we pray for the ministry of St. Patrick, Brewer, St. George, York Harbor, and for postulants and candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Maine. Christ, the King of Glory:

Lift our hearts and minds.

We pray that your Shalom, the peace that you offer, may be accepted by us and by our leaders, that all in authority may rule with integrity, honesty, and humility. We pray for peace in Ukraine, Sudan, Palestine, and Israel and we pray for protection and courage for service personnel and their families. Christ, the King of Glory:

Lift our hearts and minds.

We give thanks that you are with us always: your presence transforms our homes and our relationships. We bring before you the needs of our families and friends, ever mindful of how fragile our lives are and how much we need one another. We offer our thanksgivings (*pause for intercessions*). Christ, the King of Glory:

Lift our hearts and minds.

We pray for all who have lost vision, for those whose lives are clouded with doubt and fear. May they find new hope and strength in you. We pray for those who are ill or with special needs who have been entrusted to our parish prayer list:

Pat; Antonia; Al; Alex; Virginia & Jamil; Mike; David; Sarah; Jenny & Matt; Perry; Jim; Elaine; Sasha; Paige; Diane; Karl; Nathaniel; Will; Tom & Laurel; Nancy A.; Robert & Mary; Karen; Debra; Haskell; Sue; Deb; Don; Matilda; Gregory; Michael Curry; Curt; Bethany; Zach; Andy; Mark; Sally; Ruth; Molly; Wes; Alison; Alice; the family and friends of Jim Henry; the family and friends of Doris Paul; Susan & Camille; Liv; and Patrick.

And we pray for all those we name before you now either aloud or silently (*pause for intercessions*). Christ, the King of Glory:

Lift our hearts and minds.

We rejoice that you have ascended into glory and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. As you came to lift us out of darkness into eternal light, we pray for all who are dying today and for those who mourn. We also pray for our loved ones whom you have lifted into your eternal presence, especially Jim Henry; Doris Paul, aunt of Susan Garrett; and Dan Pierce, friend of Elizabeth and Thornton Ring. We remember, also, those we name before you now either aloud or silently (*pause for intercessions*). Christ, the King of Glory:

Lift our hearts and minds.

Celebrant Gracious God, whose Son Jesus has lifted all our hopes and prayers to your presence, keep us constant in your love and service that in all that we do and say we may proclaim God's name with joy and blessing. We pray in Christ's name.

People **Amen.**

Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ is always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please greet one another with the sign of peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant As Jesus so freely gave himself for us, let us consider the offerings we make to God. For the scriptures say: "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God." (*Ephesians 5:2*) Let us, now, share the offerings and oblations of our lives and labor to the glory of God.

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

Offertory Hymn, #603

When Christ was lifted from the earth

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. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant May 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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,
for you have called us to a rich hope
and a glorious inheritance among the saints.

You fixed the world in place
and rule over all from your sacred throne.
You formed a people for yourself
and through Moses and the prophets you spoke to them
of the Christ who fills all in all.

As it was written, he suffered and was killed,
but you raised him from the dead
and he walked again with his chosen ones,
speaking to them of your glorious kingdom.
You carried him into heaven on the clouds
and made him head over all things for the church,
seating him at your right hand
far above all rule and authority, power and dominion,
and above every name that is named,
not only in this age but also in the age to come.

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

Sanctus, S128

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven 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

O God most mighty,
O God most merciful,
O God our rock and our salvation,
hear us as we praise,
call us to your table,
grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void,
you formed order and beauty.
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,
you sent them a child;
When the Israelites were enslaved,
you led them to freedom.
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,
and the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among the poor,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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, 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

Amen.

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

Amen.

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

Amen.

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.
Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,
life in you, now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant
People

Gathered into one as the family of God, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction

Celebrant
People

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Invitation

Celebrant
People

Come, for all is now ready! The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

The 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 Bearer will follow the Priest with the cup 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.

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 God's Blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always.
People Amen.

Closing Hymn, #477

All praise to Thee

The Hymnal 1982

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in our Risen Savior. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude

"Our Father in Heaven" by F. W. Zachau

RESOURCES

Opening Acclamation: Richardson, Jan. "In the Leaving: A Blessing," *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*. Wanton Gospeller Press, 2015.

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The Collects, Psalms, and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

Prayers of the People: written by The Rev. Stephen White.

Great Thanksgiving: ©2002 Nathan Nettleton LaughingBird.net

Eucharistic Prayer: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Augsburg Fortress ©2006

Post-Communion Prayer & Blessing: *Enriching Our Worship*

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
Music	Christina Edelen
Musicians	The St. Bart's Choir
Chalice Bearer	Nancy Gunzelmann
Nonvested Chalice Bearer	Corey Walmer
Lector	Harriet Davis
Ushers	Pal Covie, Ann Donaghy
Altar Guild	Jamie Michaud, Paule French
Flower Arranger	Susan Soule
A/V	Arthur Woolverton
Bread Baker	John Perkins
Counters	Susie Soule, Tom Hyndman
Lawn Care	John Duncan
VPOW	Laurie Hyndman
Coffee Hour	Sarah Covie + Jordan Henshaw & Alison Gibraski
Nursery Care	Jennifer Weiderman



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

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, Jr. Warden:	Laurie Hyndman, Joe Michaud
Pastoral Care:	Imelda Schaefer, Barbara Barhydt
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