



The Second Sunday of Advent

Choral Eucharist at 11 am

December 8, 2024

325 PARK AVENUE AT 51ST STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022



EVERYBODY NEEDS A PLACE

**We invite you to make
this place yours.**

Here is a place that is ancient and new, a faith that we hold going back to Jesus, back to his spiritual ancestors, back to those who walked the earth and found holy ground. And what we do is often based on really ancient patterns—worship and music; loving service to the poor, the hurting, the lonely; working for justice and peace; lively, fearless education and formation of minds and souls. And that faith is also completely contemporary, engaged in the culture and the needs of the moment.

What we are for

The dignity and worth of every person. An open minded, passionate commitment to truth. The importance of everyone's own spiritual journey. God's friends wherever we find them. Seeking Christ in every person who comes through the door. The sacredness of life's rites of passage. The value of community. The hard work necessary to make sure that all are welcomed. Telling the truth about life's challenges. A "user-friendly" church experience. Children, youth and families.

What we are against

Claiming to have all the answers. Elitism and exclusivism, especially in church. Bigotry for any reason. Authoritarianism. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Certitude in the face of ambiguity and superficial answers to hard questions. Boring sermons, bad music and general cluelessness. (So, God help us, because we don't always avoid these!)

What we value

Community, open hearts, open minds, open arms. Faith. Fortitude. Staying current, but equally staying rooted in tradition. Reason and honesty. Civic responsibility as New Yorkers, Americans and global citizens. Debate that allows for mutual respect. Music and beauty for their own sake. Joy in God's creation. Anyone who makes an effort to get to know and follow Jesus.

We are so glad you are here!

CONNECT WITH US



- ❖ **Thank you for joining us today.** If you are new to St. Bart's, please visit stbarts.org/hello or scan the QR code to the left to fill out our online Connect Card.
- ❖ **To learn more about our upcoming events** and to register for classes, please visit stbarts.org/calendar.
- ❖ **To make a prayer request** please visit stbarts.org/prayers.
- ❖ **To make an appointment with the clergy**, please call 212-378-0222 or visit stbarts.org/connect/clergy-and-staff.
- ❖ **Tour St. Bart's this Sunday:** Meet at the back of the church following the 11 am service for a 30-minute guided tour of our church, narthex, and chapel.
- ❖ **Going Paperless!** Please help us save time, money and the planet. Our new **Virtual Plate Donation** system (*tiptap*) is now available in the back of the church. (Just ask an usher to show you how).
Online gifts may be made at stbarts.org/givenow. All contributions are tax-deductible.
- ❖ **Free Parking** is available for all Sunday services at the garage located at 136-166 East 51st Street. Request a parking voucher from an usher or someone at St. Bart's Central.

St. Bart's Kids

Kids' Activity Bags and PRAYground

A carpeted play area with supply bags, leaflets, and activities for children is provided under the front-right balcony of the church.

Rocking chairs are available for pregnant women and parents of infants.

We encourage you to take advantage of this space during the worship service.

St. Bartholomew's Choristers

From September to June, the Choristers sing at the 11 am service alongside St. Bartholomew's Choir.

Contact Alexander Pattavina (apattavina@stbarts.org), the director of the Choristers, to arrange for an introductory session. Rolling admission is offered throughout the year.

Sacramental Participation

All children are welcome to participate in Holy Communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. Those not receiving are invited forward to receive a blessing from a member of the clergy. Additionally, the baptism of infants and young children is customary in the Episcopal Church. Should you wish to explore Holy Baptism, please speak with a member of the clergy.

Casting Call

Come-As-You-Are Christmas Pageant and Angel Choir

December 24 at 4 pm
Christmas Eve

All children and youth are welcome to participate in this treasured New York holiday tradition. You don't have to be a member of the church or even a resident of the city or state to join the fun!

Join our Come-As-You-Are Cast and Angel Choir!

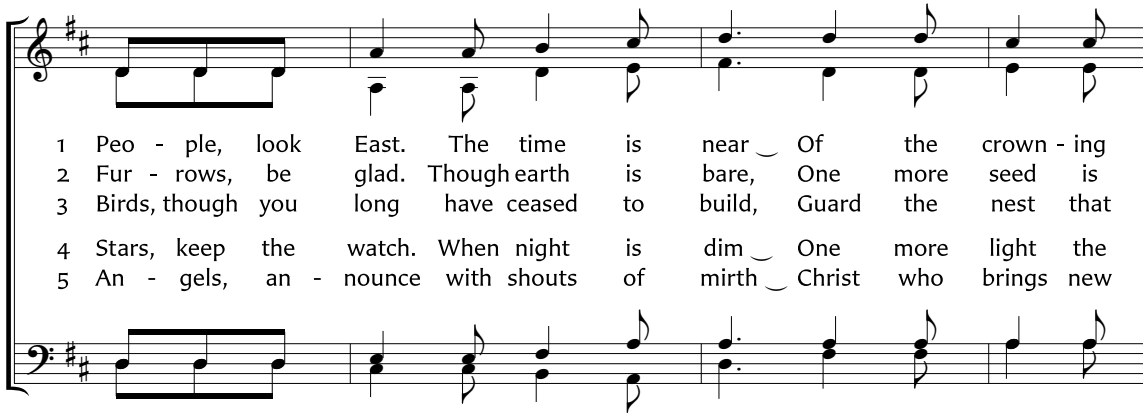
Wear a costume provided on-site, or bring your own from home. Shepherds, angels, and animals (anything from sheep to dinosaurs!) are welcome at the manger. Speaking roles are available for children ages 8 and up and all children are invited to join the Angel Choir, singing alongside the choristers. Learn more and RSVP at stbarts.org/pageant.

Prelude Praeludium in E Minor, "The Little," Nicolaus Bruhns (1665-1697)

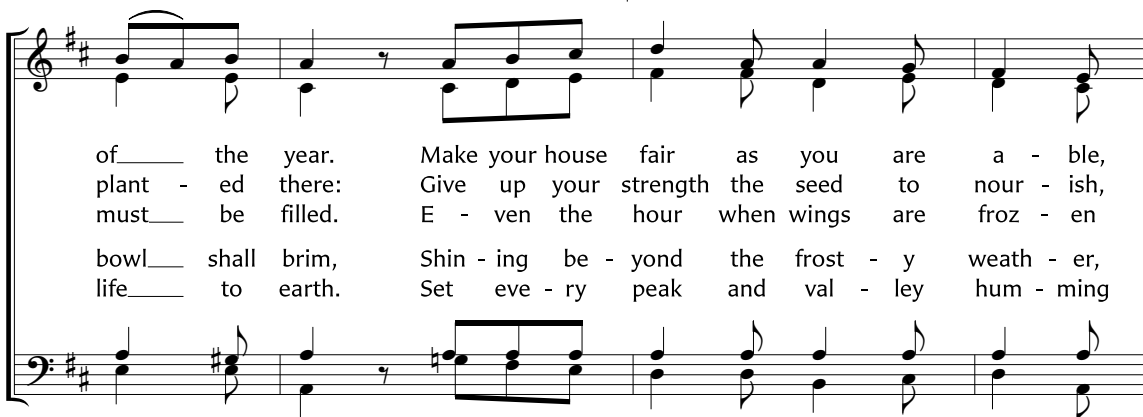
The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The people stand as the hymn begins.

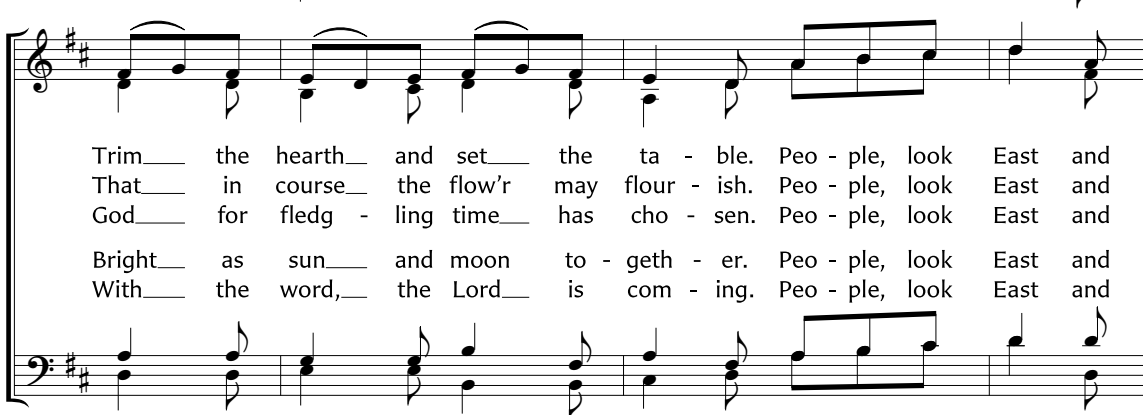
Hymn from *Wonder, Love, and Praise* #724



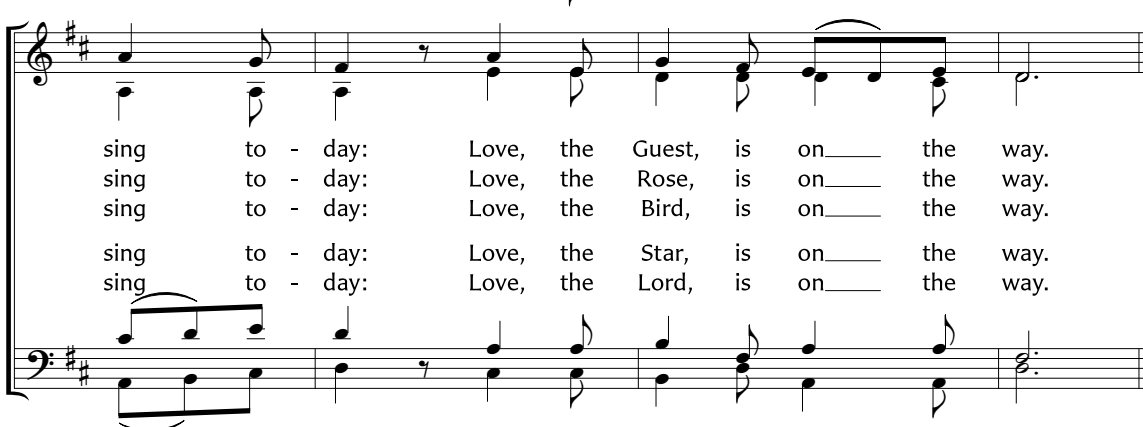
1 Peo - ple, look East. The time is near — Of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is
3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that
4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim — One more light the
5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth — Christ who brings new



of — the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there: Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
must — be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are froz - en
bowl — shall brim, Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
life — to earth. Set eve - ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



Trim — the hearth — and set — the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look East and
That — in course — the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look East and
God — for fledg - ling time — has cho - sen. Peo - ple, look East and
Bright — as sun — and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look East and
With — the word, — the Lord — is com - ing. Peo - ple, look East and



sing to - day: Love, the Guest, is on — the way.
sing to - day: Love, the Rose, is on — the way.
sing to - day: Love, the Bird, is on — the way.
sing to - day: Love, the Star, is on — the way.
sing to - day: Love, the Lord, is on — the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965).
Music: *Besançon Carol*, traditional French.

The Opening Acclamation

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

The Opening Sentence

Presider If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

All **Most merciful God, 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 your Son 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.**

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

All **Amen.**

Kyrie St. Bartholomew's Choir

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Music: Plainsong, Mass XVII.

The Ministry of the Word

The Collect for the Second Sunday of Advent

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The people sit.

The First Lesson Baruch 5:1-9

Lector A reading from the Book of Baruch.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: The Song of Zechariah St. Bartholomew's Choir

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Words: Luke 1:68-79.

Music: Plainsong, Tonus Peregrinus; adapt. Bruce E. Ford (b. 1947).

The Second Lesson Philippians 1:3-11

Lector A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Children in grades K-5 are invited to follow the processional cross from the front of the church to the chapel for children's worship time. Adult family members are welcome to join.

The people stand as the hymn begins.

Hymn 67



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er

saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry

ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken

and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.
Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

The Holy Gospel Luke 3:1-6

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Deacon In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

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

After the preacher introduces the sermon, the people sit.

The Sermon The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe, Rector

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor Come, O Long-Expected Jesus. Hear the requests we now make known. Fill us with Advent hope as we watch and wait.

Intercessor Come, O Long-Expected Jesus.
People **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Intercessor Come and strengthen your Church. Grant us insight and knowledge. Increase in us our love for one another and our love for you.

Intercessor Come, O Long-Expected Jesus.
People **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Intercessor Come and bless us with peace, that wars may cease in every land and all the nations may live secure.

Intercessor Come, O Long-Expected Jesus.
People **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Intercessor Come and execute justice in our midst. Bring down the powerful, lift up the lowly, and fill the hungry with good things.

Intercessor Come, O Long-Expected Jesus.
People **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Intercessor Come and relieve the afflicted, including...and those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Intercessor Come, O Long-Expected Jesus.
People **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Intercessor Come and shine the light of heaven on all who have died, including...and those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Intercessor Come, O Long-Expected Jesus.
People **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Intercessor Come and give us grateful hearts. How can we thank you enough for all the joy we feel? Accept our appreciation for every blessing you have bestowed, including...and those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Intercessor Come, O Long-Expected Jesus.
People **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Presider Out of the embrace of mercy and righteousness, you have brought forth joy and dignity for your people, O Holy One of Israel. Remember now your ancient promise: make straight the paths that lead to you, and smooth the rough ways, that in our day we might bring forth your compassion for all humanity.

All **Amen.**

Newcomers seeking to be welcomed come forward to the chancel.

The Welcoming of Newcomers

Rector Dear People of God, today we welcome new sojourners into this community of St. Bart's. We celebrate and honor their unique gifts and stories as together we seek to join the Holy Spirit in the work of transforming lives, transforming the church, and transforming the world.

Presenters I present these persons to be welcomed fully into the life of this parish.

Priest Do you desire to continue your journey into Christ in the fellowship of Saint Bartholomew's Church in the City of New York?

Newcomers I do.

Priest Will you commit yourself to seek and serve Christ in this community of faith and pledge to serve, pray, and give to build up our common life?

Newcomers I will, with God's help.

Priest Will you now help to welcome others as Christ has welcomed each of us?

Newcomers I will, with God's help.

Priest Will you who witness these promises, do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Presider Let us pray.
God of welcome and embrace, you make your home among mortals, and in you, we all have a place:
A place to belong and a place to become;
a place to pray and a place to play;

People

Presider a place to be joyful and a place to grieve;

People **a place to believe and a place to receive;**

Presider a place to give and a place to grow;

People **a place to connect and a place to know;**

Presider a place to ask and a place to doubt;

People **a place to learn and a place to turn;**

Presider a place to love and a place to be known;

People **a place to be fed and a place to call home.**

Presider Give us grace, O God, to become what we proclaim and embody what we believe; in the name of the One who is Love Incarnate, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

All **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

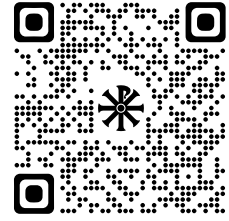
The people exchange a sign of God's peace with one another and then sit.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

- ❖ Please place your offering in one of the plates as it is passed. Offering Envelopes are available at the table in the back of the church. Ushers can assist you.
- ❖ You may also give by scanning the QR code to the right with your mobile device or visit stbarts.org/givenow. Use the same link to set up a monthly, recurring gift.
- ❖ To make an instant donation with your credit card, Apple Pay, or Google Pay, use one of the tap devices found in the back of the church.



Anthem St. Bartholomew's Choir

This is the record of John,
when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him,
Who art thou?
And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly,
I am not the Christ.

And they asked him, What art thou then?
Art thou Elias?
And he said, I am not.
Art thou the prophet?
And he answered, No.

Then said they unto him,
What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us.
What sayest thou of thyself?
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
Make straight the way of the Lord.

Words: John 1:19-23.
Music: Grayston Ives (b. 1948).

The people stand as the hymn begins.

Hymn 75



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a____
2 O_____ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee
3 but the word of our God_____ en - du - reth, the____



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst_____ of



high - way, a high - way for our God! The____
peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the
na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
flowers of the field they_____ per - ish, like
feed his_____ flock like a shep - herd, the



lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll



pla - ces where the Lord our_____ God_____ may go!
na - tions shall_____ pass like a dream_____ a - way;
lead them, and_____ bring them_____ safe to his fold.

Words: James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt.
Music: *Ascension*, Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988).

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 and Benedictus St. Bartholomew's Choir

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory,
Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Music: Plainsong, Mass XVII.

Presider We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **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 Anthem

The presider breaks the bread. Silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Invitation to Communion

Presider 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.

The people sit.

At the Communion

- *All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the instructions of the ushers. Both bread and wine are offered. After receiving the bread, please wait for the chalice of wine if you would like to receive it.*
- *Wine is received by drinking from the common cup. Those who do not choose to drink from the common cup may cross their arms to indicate that they would prefer not to receive wine. They are also invited to touch the chalice should they wish.*
- *In the interests of public health, St. Bart's discourages intinction (dipping the bread into the wine). The Episcopal Church teaches that the Sacrament is fully present even when received in only one kind. If you do not wish to drink from the cup, please be assured that you are still a full partaker in the Eucharistic feast.*
- *If you require a gluten-free wafer, simply request one from the communion minister when the bread is offered to you.*
- *Those who do not wish to receive communion are still invited to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would like a blessing.*
- *If you are unable to travel to a communion station, please alert an usher so that communion can be brought to you.*

Agnus Dei St. Bartholomew's Choir

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

Music: Plainsong, Mass XVII.

Motet St. Bartholomew's Choir

Fuit homo missus a Deo,
cui nomen erat Joannes.
Hic venit in testimonium,
ut testimonium perhiberet de lumine,
et pararet Domino plebem perfectam.

There was a man sent from God,
whose name was John.
This man came as a witness,
to give testimony about the light,
and to prepare for the Lord a perfect people.

Words: John 1: 6-8.
Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594).

Anthem St. Bartholomew's Choristers

Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would make all things new.
God on earth, Savior true;
Bear his People's burden,
Freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?

God in time, God in man,
This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, among man,
Born himself of woman,
God divinely human.

Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlehem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Savior, do not tarry!

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt.
Music: *Personent Hodie (Pie Cantiones, 1582)*, arr. Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934).

The people stand.

The Prayer After Communion

Presider Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn 65



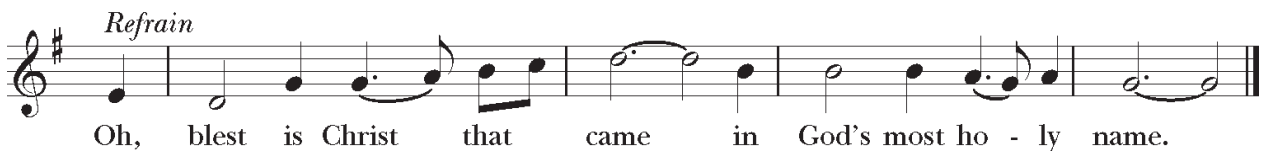
1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999).
Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; harm. *Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt.

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Praeludium in F-sharp Minor, BuxWV 146, Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707).

Coffee Hour in the Great Hall

Join us immediately after the service for coffee and other refreshments.



Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by St. Tabitha's Guild, a community group whose ministry serves Crossroads, Jamaica Hospital, and the Seamen's Institute. Together, we create hats, blankets, sweaters and scarves for newborns and adults. Our commitment to the communities we serve has grown and we need your help. All are welcome to join, and any skill level is welcome. Please contact Maureen McGuckin at maureen1125@gmail.com if you wish to join the group. We meet in-person and virtually.

Our **Giving Tree** is located in the Narthex (Lobby) of the Church. Aside from our own handmade pieces, we welcome your contributions of store bought items. Everything on the tree will be to benefit Crossroads Community Services, Inc. and Coalition for the Homeless.

If you or your group would like to sponsor a Coffee Hour, please contact Veronica Shea at vshea@stbarts.org.

Service Participants

Presider The Reverend Meredith E. Ward

Preacher The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe

Deacon The Reverend John F. Wirenius

Subdeacon The Reverend Peter D. Thompson

Assisting Clergy The Reverend Canon Andrew J. W. Mullins, The Reverend Zack Nyein, The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank, The Reverend Margaret Rose, The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers

Lectors Elizabeth Kelley, Karen Schadow

Intercessor Bob Kiely

Altar Guild Sarah Bessey, Anne Rudder

Verger Charlotte Lamb

Crucifers Henry Johnston, Kari Parks

Acolytes Henry Leopando, Daniel Nikolov, Nathan Peace, Mary Thompson

Ushers Monica Tanjala, Ron Bagden, Marianthe Colakis, Steve Dohnalek, William Fulton, Brooks Ishler, Allison May, Steve Sakson, Linda Tejpaul, Mary Trudel, Wil Yates

St. Bartholomew's Choir

St. Bartholomew's Choristers

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Alexander Pattavina

Director of Communications Kara Flannery

Assistant Communications Director Ben Castellanos

Livestream Producers Leo da Silva, Chloe Pitkoff, Charles White

Director of Facilities Charles Bryant

Director of Maintenance Willie Gonzalez

Facilities Anthony Thomas

We continue to hold in our prayers

Penny, Gavin, Brett, Linda, Clifton, Diana, Gina, Lauren, Michelle, Jose, Sandy, Michael, Gabrielle, Vladzimir, Marlen, Will

Source and Copyright Information

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Newcomers are welcome to all gatherings.

Learn more at stbarts.org/sunday.



❖ **Coffee Hour** *Sponsored by St. Tabitha’s Guild*

12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

Join us immediately after the service for coffee and other refreshments sponsored by St. Tabitha’s Guild.

❖ **Peace Book Club**

1:30 PM VIA ZOOM

Discuss the book *The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and Death on a Scorched Planet* by Jeff Goodell.

❖ **Living Christ Sangha**

3-4:30 PM VIA ZOOM

Weekly meditation practice with sitting and walking meditation, reading and sharing.



The 2025 Pledge Campaign at St. Bart’s – Update

The 2025 Pledge Campaign, Planting Seeds of Love, continues to be a huge success! We currently have over 185 donors, and every day we get closer and closer to our goal. Every pledge counts, and every pledge matters. Our pledge page remains open until December 31, 2024—so it’s never too late to join us and make a difference.

Pledges are prayerfully and gratefully accepted for 2025. To pledge, please visit stbarts.org/pledge.

The Christmas Music and Flowers campaign is underway and will continue through December 15. To make a gift in memory, honor or in gratitude, please visit stbarts.org/christmas.



December 15, 2024: The Third Sunday of Advent

❖ **JOIN US IN PERSON AT 8 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, AND 5 PM.**

YOU MAY ALSO JOIN OUR SUNDAY MORNING LIVESTREAM SERVICE AT 11 AM

on our website (stbarts.org/worship/livestream), via YouTube or Facebook Live (@[stbartsnyc](https://www.facebook.com/stbartsnyc)).

❖ **THE FORUM AT 10 AM**

Uncertainty

The Reverend Dr. Serene Jones, President of Union Theological Seminary, speaks to the challenge of living in times of social uncertainty and points to the Christian tradition as a source of hope and strength.



Weekday offerings to recenter your soul in God’s grace and goodness.

❖ **HOLY EUCHARIST** • TUESDAY-THURSDAYS AT 12:05 PM IN THE CHAPEL

❖ **NIGHT PRAYER** • MONDAY-FRIDAY AT 8:30 PM VIA ZOOM

❖ **BIBLE STUDY** • WEDNESDAYS AT 1 PM VIA ZOOM

❖ **IMAGINE WORSHIP NYC** • THURSDAYS AT 7 PM IN THE CHAPEL

❖ **CENTERING PRAYER** • FRIDAYS AT 9 AM VIA ZOOM

ONGOING AND UPCOMING

THE CHURCH IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 9 AM–5 PM FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION.

THE BOOKSTORE IS ALSO OPEN DURING THESE HOURS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT [STBARTS.ORG/CALENDAR](https://stbarts.org/calendar).



Christmas Music & Flowers

At Christmas, we remember loved ones and express gratitude for special people and blessings through gifts of flowers and music to the church. Our Christmas

Eve and Christmas Day service leaflets will list these tributes—those remembered, honored, or celebrated in gratitude. Please submit your gifts online at stbarts.org/christmas by December 15 to ensure inclusion in the leaflets.

Christmas Parties

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, AT 5-7 PM

All **LGBTQ+ friends and allies** are invited to our annual holiday celebration. This year's event will be held immediately preceding the Joyous Christmas Concert (tickets sold separately). Join us for an evening of food, refreshments, and music! RSVP stbarts.org/lgbtqparty.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 5 PM

Adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to join the **20s/30s Group** for their annual Advent Party in Room 33 immediately following the 5 pm service. RSVP stbarts.org/20s30sParty.

The Joyous Christmas Concert

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, AT 7:30 PM

Hear St. Bartholomew's Choir as we celebrate the holiday season in our beautiful sanctuary with beloved traditional carols as well as festive new arrangements of Christmas favorites, all accompanied on our famed pipe organ. Tickets and more information at mmpaf.org

Art for Advent

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, AT 2 PM VIA ZOOM

Join the Reverend Meredith Ward, Associate Rector for Pastoral Care, and the Reverend Dr. Ayla Lepine, Associate Rector of St James's Church, Piccadilly, in London, for Art in Advent. This virtual-only event will feature conversation and meditations on Advent themes using four objects from the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. Register at stbarts.org/artforadvent.

Adoration of the Magi

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, AT 7:30 PM

Jeff Morrissey and William Trafka offer their popular Christmas program inspired by the beautiful 1919 Chapel and medallions depicting the Adoration of the Magi and scenes of the Nativity of Christ. Enjoy traditional carols, carols from around the world, spirituals and popular Christmas favorites. Tickets at mmpaf.org.

Light in the Darkness —A Service of Hope

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 6 PM

The days leading up to Christmas can be some of the most joyous ones in the year. But they can also be especially difficult for those who are grieving or struggling. On this longest night of the year, come and celebrate the Light that shines through every kind of darkness in this contemplative and hopeful service.

Candlelight Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, AT 5 PM

Hear the Christmas story and sing your favorite carols in this majestic service that includes music by our combined choirs and an awe-inspiring candlelit procession.

Casting Call: Come-You-Are Christmas Pageant

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 AT 4PM

All children and youth are welcome to participate in this treasured New York holiday tradition. You don't have to be a member of the church, or even a resident of the city or state to join the fun! Learn more and sign up at stbarts.org/pageant.

Christmas at St. Bart's

CHRISTMAS EVE — TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

12:05 pm • A Quiet Christmas Eucharist
4 pm • Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist
7 pm • Festival Choral Eucharist
11 pm • Festival Choral Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY — WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

11 am • Choral Eucharist

Tree of Gifts

THROUGH JANUARY 5

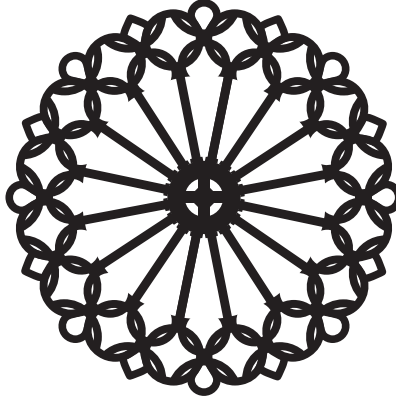
St. Tabitha's Guild is sponsoring a Tree of Gifts for the 2024 holiday season, located in the narthex. The tree features their handmade needlecrafts for Advent and Christmas. Your donations of new hats, scarves, and gloves are also welcome and can be placed on the tree. All items will be donated to Crossroads and Coalition for the Homeless.

Faith in Action: Dinner Service

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 4:30-6:30 PM

Caring for our community is of vital importance at St. Bart's—this fast-paced and fun volunteer opportunity is the perfect place to start as we hand out pre-made takeaway meals to our neighbors who line up around our church each evening. Learn more and register: stbarts.org/faithinaction.

▶▶ To see our complete schedule for Advent and
▶▶ Christmastide visit stbarts.org/adventchristmas. ▶▶



Clergy and Staff

Rector The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe, D.D. (dwolfe@stbarts.org)

Vicar The Reverend Peter D. Thompson (pthompson@stbarts.org)

Senior Associate Rector The Reverend Zack Nyein (znyein@stbarts.org)

Associate Rector for Pastoral Care The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@stbarts.org)

Assistant Rector The Reverend Canon Andrew J.W. Mullins * (amullins@stbarts.org)

Assisting Priest The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank + (moneilfrank@stbarts.org)

Assisting Priest The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers +

Deacon The Reverend Deacon John F. Wirenius *

* Non-stipendiary + Part-time

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon (pbordignon@stbarts.org)

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Mr. Alexander Pattavina (apattavina@stbarts.org)

Administrative Associate for Music Ms. Olivia Greene (ogreene@stbarts.org)

Associate For Parish Life Ms. Veronica Shea (vshea@stbarts.org)

Associate Manager of Social Outreach Mr. Teagan Sage (tsage@stbarts.org)

Seminarian Mr. Nathan Peace (npeace@stbarts.org)



The Vestry of St. Bart's

Wardens Miriam K. Schneider, Ray Vandenberg

David Carson, Rachel Farrar, James Ferrara, Dall Forsythe,
Jennifer Fuller, David Hilder, Tim Hook, Natalie Johnson,
Mary Robin Jurkiewicz, James Marion, Robert McKinney, Kari Parks

Chancellor Patrick MacMurray

Assistant Chancellors Anne Rabbino, Peter Sullivan, Douglas Tanner

Honorary Wardens Fletcher Hodges III, Percy Preston, Jr.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

TRANSFORMING LIVES :: TRANSFORMING THE CHURCH :: TRANSFORMING THE WORLD

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