

The Second Sunday of Advent

Choral Eucharist at 11 am

December 7, 2025

325 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 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 above to fill out our online Connect Card.

Tour St. Bart's

Meet at the back of the church following the 11 am service for a 30-minute guided tour of our church, narthex, and chapel.



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.

After the second lesson, all children are invited to the chapel for Wonder Church for kids. They will return during the announcements, in time for Holy Communion. A professionally-staffed nursery is available in the Children's Playroom on the basement level. An usher would be glad to guide you. Register for 2025-2026 at stbarts.org/kids.

St. Bartholomew's Choristers

St. Bartholomew's Choristers sing at the 11 am service most Sundays from September to June. Through their prominent role in our worship, choristers grow and excel in leadership, teamwork, faith formation, confidence, commitment, and musicianship. Contact Alexander Pattavina (apattavina@stbarts.org) to learn more about being a chorister: no cost, no audition, and no experience needed!

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.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The people stand as the hymn begins.

Hymn 616



1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,
 4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;
 5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
 2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth:
 4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;
 5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:

1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
 2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
 3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;
 5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
 3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
 4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
 5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less Name of Love.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72
 Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm. *A Student's Hymnal*, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941).

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: Mass XVII, plainsong.

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 Isaiah 11:1-10

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 St. Bartholomew's Choir

Give the King your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people;
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish;
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever!
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Music: Plainsong.

The Second Lesson Romans 15:4-13

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

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

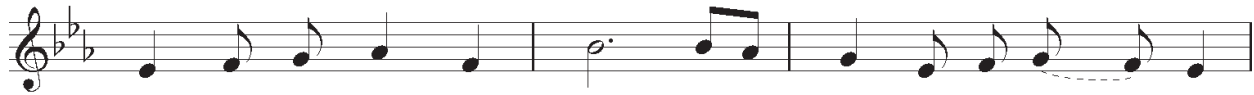
Children in grades K-5 are invited to follow the processional cross from the front of the church to the chapel for children's worship time. Adult family members are welcome to join.

The people stand as the hymn begins.

Hymn 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 Holy Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

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

Deacon In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

After the preacher introduces the sermon, the people sit.

The Sermon The Reverend Peter D. Thompson, Vicar and Interim 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 us as we call upon you. 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. Keep us from grumbling, and teach us to welcome others as you have welcomed us.

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

Intercessor Come and bless the nations with peace, that enemies may dwell together in harmony and wars may cease in every land.

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

Intercessor Come and deliver justice for the meek of the earth. 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 heal the sick, 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 raise the dead, 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 joy. Inspire our song of thanksgiving 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 God of all peoples, whose servant John came baptizing and calling for repentance: help us to hear his voice of judgement, that we may also rejoice in the word of promise, and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Newcomers seeking to be welcomed come forward to the chancel.

The Welcoming of Newcomers

Vicar 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;
a place to be joyful and a place to grieve;
a place to believe and a place to receive;
a place to give and a place to grow;
a place to connect and a place to know;
a place to ask and a place to doubt;
a place to learn and a place to turn;
a place to love and a place to be known;
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

- ✧ We extend a special welcome to all who are new to St. Bart's today. Please visit **stbarts.org/hello** to let us know who you are!
- ✧ Many are surprised to learn that St. Bart's does not have a large endowment. We rely on the generosity of members and visitors alike to sustain our ministries for the future. Visit **stbarts.org/give** or place your offering in the plate as it is passed. Thank you for your support!



Anthem St. Bartholomew's Choir

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together.
For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Words: Isaiah 40:5.

Music: from *Messiah*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759).

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



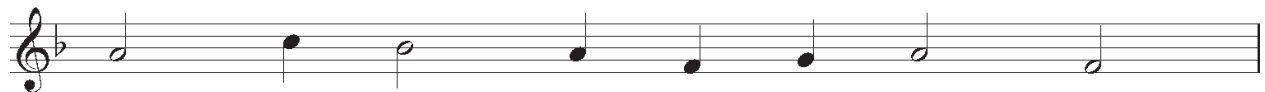
saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



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: *Psalms* 42, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572).

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

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Music: Mass XVII, plainsong.

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 all your children; 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, including children. Please follow the instructions of the ushers. Both bread and wine are offered. You may receive either or both, as you prefer. Wine is received by drinking from the common cup.*
- *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: Mass XVII, plainsong.

Anthem St. Bartholomew's Choir

A tender shoot has started
Up from a root of grace,
As ancient seeds imparted,
From Jesse's holy race,
It blooms without a blight,
Blooms in the cold, bleak winter,
Turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us
From Jesse's root should spring;
The virgin Mary brought us
The branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might
Gave her this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light.

Words: Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907), trans. William Bartholomew (1793-1867).
Music: Kerensa Briggs (b. 1991).

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.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999).

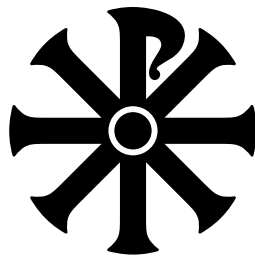
Music: Bereden väg för Herran, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; harm. *Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt.

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

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



Coffee and Refreshments in the Great Hall

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

Service Participants

Presider The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers

Preacher The Reverend Peter D. Thompson

Deacon The Reverend Zack Nyein

Subdeacon The Reverend Meredith E. Ward

Assisting Clergy The Reverend Canon Andrew J.W. Mullins

Lectors Henry Johnston, Ian Tucksmith

Intercessor Wil Yates

Verger Charlotte Lamb

Crucifers Henry Johnston, Barbara Neale

Acolytes Tivaun Cooper, Jack Hoekstra, Henry Leopando, Tim Martin

Altar Guild Mariel Glover, Miriam Schneider

Ushers Monica Tanjala, Holly Bellows, Daniele Campbell, Nicholas Cunningham, Natalie Johnson, Siobhan Kolker, Katy Nelson, Sompon Oerlemans, Vivian Roston, Luke Travis, Wil Yates

St. Bartholomew's Choir

St. Bartholomew's Choristers

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Alexander Pattavina

Director, Marketing & Communications Kara Flannery

Manager, Branding & Creative Design Ben Castellanos

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Livestream Producers Chloe Pitkoff, Thatcher Pitkoff, Charles White

Livestream Host Ken Alexander

Director, Operations & Facilities Charles Bryant

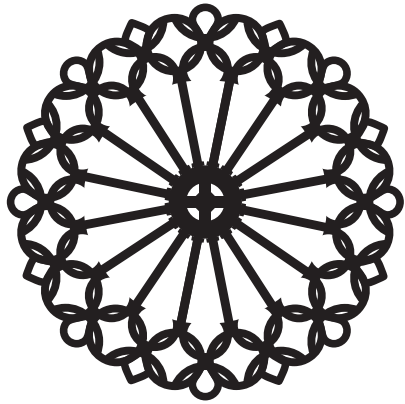
Facilities Anthony Thomas

We continue to hold in our prayers

Nadia, Daniel, John, Michael, Channing, Melissa, Chris, Alain, Mariana, Clark

Source and Copyright Information

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Newcomers are welcome to all gatherings

Learn more at stbarts.org/sunday.

- ✧ **Coffee Hour**
12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL
- ✧ **Children, Youth, and Families Lunch**
12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL
- ✧ **Living Christ Sangha**
3-4:30 PM VIA ZOOM



Tree of Gifts

St. Tabitha's Guild at St. Bart's is sponsoring a Tree of Gifts for the 2025 holiday season. The tree, located in the narthex through January 4, 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 Community Services, Inc. and the Coalition for the Homeless.



Christmas Flowers and Music

Christmas Flower and Music tributes at St. Bart's are a time-honored tradition for remembering loved ones and expressing gratitude for special people and blessings. Our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day service leaflets will include a listing of these tributes. To dedicate a gift of flowers and music, please visit stbarts.org/christmas, or contact Susannah Wade Lewis in the Development Office (swadelewis@stbarts.org). Please submit your tribute gift by December 14 to ensure inclusion in the leaflets.



December 14, 2025

The Third Sunday of Advent

- ✧ **JOIN US IN PERSON AT 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**
My Friends Call Me Mrs: A Chat With a Single Mrs. Claus in the Era of the Trad Wife—Parishioner Ann Votaw talks about claiming the role of Mrs. Claus as a single woman in New York. She invites us to consider how feminist imagination, humor, and Christian community can reshape traditional narratives in this cultural moment.



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

- AWAKE: 15 MINUTES OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION** TUESDAY-THURSDAY AT 8:15 AM IN THE CHURCH AND ONLINE
- HOLY EUCHARIST** • TUESDAY-THURSDAY 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 AND FRIDAY, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM AND TUESDAY - THURSDAY, 8 AM - 4:30 PM
FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION
THE BOOKSTORE IS ALSO OPEN DURING THESE HOURS.

Awake: 15 Minutes of Prayer and Reflection

TUESDAY-THURSDAY, DEC. 2 - DEC. 23 AT 8:15 AM

Start your day with 15 minutes of prayer, reflection, and beautiful music for the Advent season. Available in person and online. stbarts.org/awake.

Time and Waiting during Advent

WEDNESDAYS, 6-7 PM, VIA ZOOM, DURING ADVENT

This series is hosted by our Living Christ Sangha meditation community. It will explore a series of meditations on time from Thich Nhat Hanh's book *Inside the Now*, and will connect the meditations with the awakened waiting we are called to cultivate in Advent. More at stbarts.org/adventsangha.

LGBTQ+ Holiday Party

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8 FROM 6 - 9 PM IN THE CHAPEL

The LGBTQ+ Community at St. Bart's invites you to its annual holiday celebration in the chapel. Festive beverages and refreshments will be served, and all friends and allies are welcome! Suggested donation: \$25. RSVP at stbarts.org/lgbtqholidayparty.

Glory on Park: A Gospel-Inspirational Christmas Celebration

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11 AT 7 PM, IN THE CHAPEL

Artist in Residence Mark A. Miller and the Imagine Worship Choir lead us in celebrating the season with joy and exuberance. Join us for a festive Eucharist with a mix of traditional, contemporary, and gospel Christmas classics at 7 pm, followed by a festive reception. This service will be livestreamed. Learn more at stbarts.org/imagine.

20s/30s Advent Happy Hour

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12 AT 6:30 PM

Gather with St. Bart's young adults for a holiday happy hour. Anyone ages 20 through 39 is welcome to join us for a time of fellowship and good cheer. For event details, please email 20s30s@stbarts.org.

The Adoration of The Magi

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, AT 7:30 PM

Great Music at St. Bart's presents *Adoration of the Magi*, the annual recital by baritone Jeff Morrissey. The evening features carols from around the world, spirituals and cherished Christmas favorites, all presented in the intimate setting of the chapel. Tickets at mmpaf.org.

The Church Club Christmas Party

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 FROM 6 - 8 PM IN ROOM 33

Join The Church Club of New York at St. Bart's for our Annual Christmas Party following the 5 pm service. Enjoy a festive reception with caroling led by acclaimed pianist Tina deVaron, known for her performances at the Carlyle, the Waldorf-Astoria, and other NYC venues. Gather around the piano for Christmas favorites, good company, and sparkling wines and soft drinks. Non-members may register as guests of the Board of Trustees at stbarts.org/churchclub.

The Joyous Christmas Concert

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 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

Community Carols

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT NOON

St. Bartholomew's Choir leads a jubilant service of lessons and carols particularly tailored to those who work nearby. The service will last under an hour and will be livestreamed.

Light in the Darkness: A Service of Comfort and Peace

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 7 PM

Together we will hold space for contemplation, healing, and reflection, especially appropriate for those experiencing grief. Light a candle, be still, and find rest for your soul. Learn more at stbarts.org/imagine.

Candlelight Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, AT 5 PM

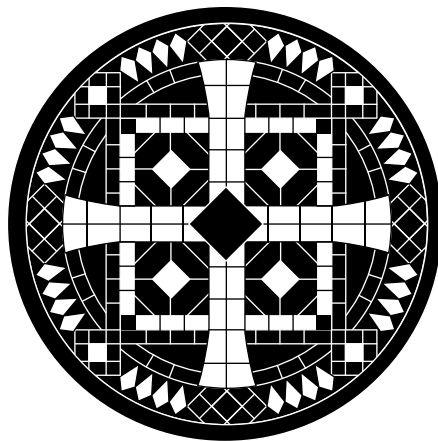
Hear the Christmas story and sing your favorite carols in this majestic service that includes music by our combined choirs and an awe-inspiring candlelit procession. This service will be livestreamed.

Casting Call: Come-As-You-Are Christmas Pageant

CHRISTMAS EVE AT 4 PM

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.

TO SEE OUR COMPLETE SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMASTIDE VISIT [STBARTS.ORG/ADVENTCHRISTMAS](https://stbarts.org/adventchristmas)



Clergy and Staff

Vicar and Interim Rector The Reverend Peter D. Thompson (pthompson@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector and Pastor of Imagine Worship The Reverend Zack Nyein (znyein@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@stbarts.org)
Canon in Residence The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers (sspellers@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) +
Deacon The Reverend Deacon John F. Wirenius (jwirenius@stbarts.org) *
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Associate for Parish Life and Events Mr. Paul Rodriguez (prodriguez@stbarts.org)
Associate for Community Engagement Mr. Curry Brinson (cbrinson@stbarts.org)
Associate for Next Generation Ministries Ms. Effie Diprenda (ediprenda@stbarts.org)
Director of Development Ms. Susannah Wade Lewis (swadelewis@stbarts.org)
Manager of Development Mr. Brian Van Steen (bvansteen@stbarts.org)
Head Verger Ms. Sarah Bessey (sbessey@stbarts.org) *

* Non-stipendiary + Part-time



The Vestry of St. Bart's

Wardens Miriam K. Schneider, Ray Vandenberg

Rachel Farrar, Dall Forsythe, Jennifer Fuller, David Hilder, Tim Hook,
Natalie Johnson, Mary Robin Jurkiewicz, James Marion, Lizzie Min,
Kari Parks, Robert Radtke, Robert Sweeney, Mary Kate Wold

Chancellor Patrick MacMurray

Assistant Chancellors Anne Rabbino, Douglas Tanner, Alice Yurke-Davis

Honorary Wardens Fletcher Hodges III, Percy Preston, Jr.

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