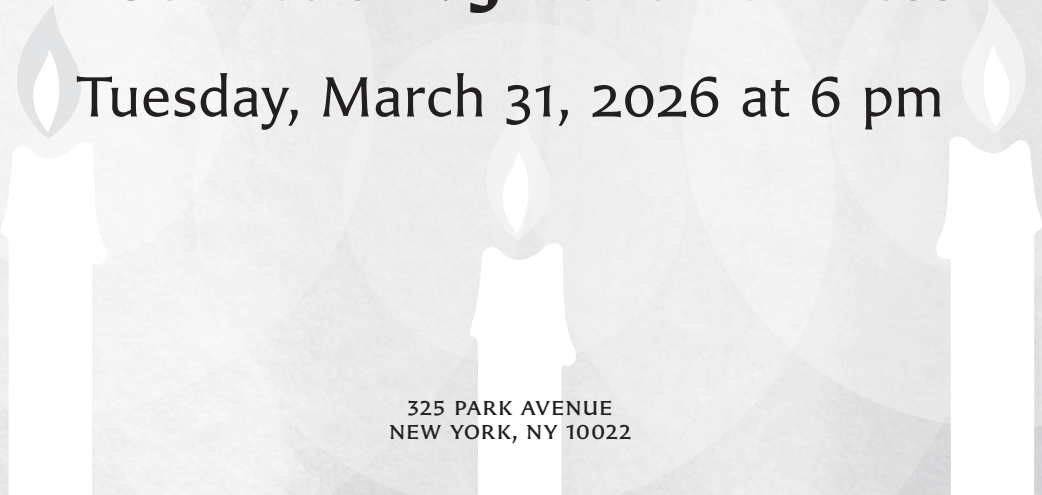


***SAINT*
BARTHOLOMEW'S
CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF
*NEW YORK***

**Tenebrae:
A Service of Light and Darkness**

Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 6 pm



325 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022



You can find yours here.

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.

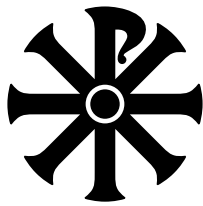
What we are against

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.

Welcome!



About this Service

The name Tenebrae (the Latin word for “darkness” or “shadows”) has for centuries been applied to the ancient monastic night and early morning services (Matins and Lauds) of the last three days of Holy Week, which in medieval times came to be celebrated on the preceding evenings.

In tonight’s service, elements of the original six services have been combined together into one single meditation on the Passion of Christ. Tonight’s liturgy is held earlier in Holy Week so as to not distract from the main liturgies of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

The most conspicuous feature of the service is the gradual extinguishing of candles until only a single candle, considered a symbol of our Lord, remains. Toward the end of the service this candle is hidden, typifying the apparent victory of the forces of evil. At the very end, a loud noise is made, symbolizing the earthquake at the time of the resurrection (Matthew 28:2), the hidden candle is restored to its place, and by its light all depart in silence.

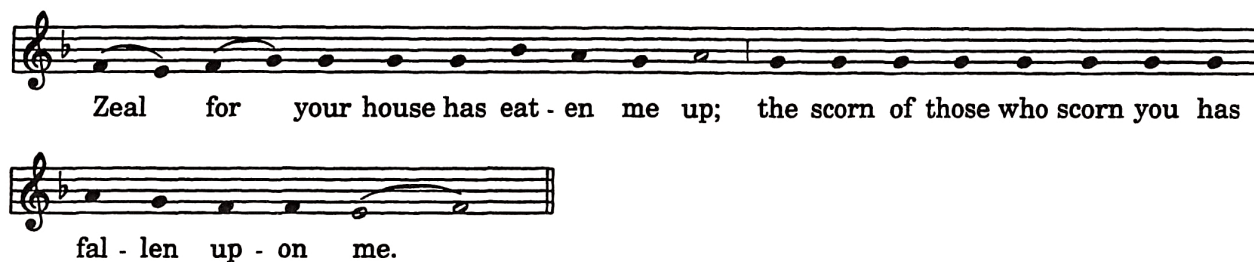
Adapted from The Book of Occasional Services 2018

The people stand at the entrance of the clergy and then sit with them.

Nocturn (Evening Prayer)

Antiphon

The cantor sings the antiphon once before all sing the antiphon together.



Music: Plainsong, Tone VII.2.

Psalm 69:1-4, 9-12, 21-22 *Salvum me fac*

Save me, O God,
for the waters have risen up to my neck.

I am sinking in deep mire,
and there is no firm ground for my feet.

I have come into deep waters,
and the torrent washes over me.

I have grown weary with my crying; my throat is inflamed;
my eyes have failed from looking for my God.

I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.

Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.

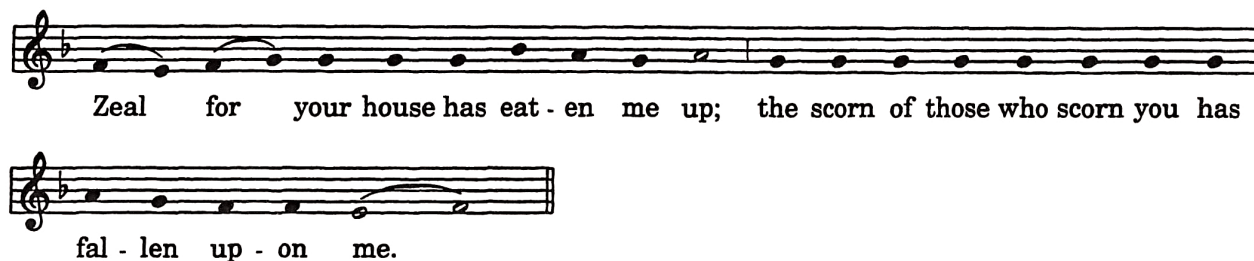
I put on sack-cloth also,
and became a byword among them.

You know my reproach, my shame, and my dishonor;
my adversaries are all in your sight.

Reproach has broken my heart, and it cannot be healed;
I looked for sympathy, but there was none,
for comforters, but I could find no one.

Antiphon

All sing together.



The people stand.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray.
O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

A candle is extinguished. The people sit.

Antiphon

The cantor sings the antiphon once before all sing the antiphon together.



Music: Plainsong, Tone III.8.

Motet

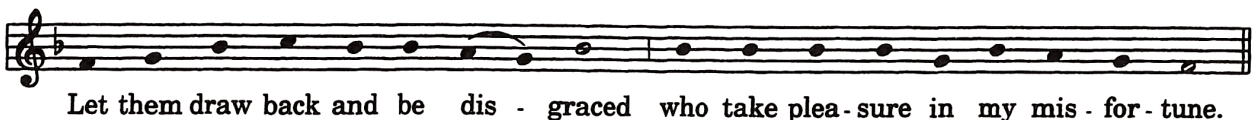
Deus, in adiutorium meum intende:
Domine, ad adiuvandam me festina.
Confundantur et reverantur,
qui quaerunt animam meam.
Avertantur retrorsum,
et erubescant qui volunt mihi mala.
Avertantur statim erubescences
qui dicunt mihi: Euge, euge.

Haste thee, O God, to deliver me:
make haste to help me, O Lord.
Let them be ashamed and confounded
that seek after my soul:
let them be turned backward
and put to confusion that wish me evil.
Let them for their reward be soon brought to
shame: that cry over me, There, there.

Words: Psalm 70:1-3.
Music: Ludwig Senfl (c. 1486-c. 1542).

Antiphon

All sing together.



The people stand.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray.
Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

A candle is extinguished. The people sit.

Antiphon

The cantor sings the antiphon once before all sing the antiphon together.



Music: Plainsong, Tone IV.

Psalm 74:1-6, 11, 15, 21-22 *Ut quid, Deus?*

O God, why have you utterly cast us off?
why is your wrath so hot against the sheep of your pasture?

Remember your congregation that you purchased long ago,
the tribe you redeemed to be your inheritance,
and Mount Zion where you dwell.

Turn your steps toward the endless ruins;
the enemy has laid waste everything in your sanctuary.

Your adversaries roared in your holy place;
they set up their banners as tokens of victory.

They were like men coming up with axes to a grove of trees;
they broke down all your carved work with hatchets and hammers.

They set fire to your holy place;
they defiled the dwelling-place of your Name
and razed it to the ground.

Yet God is my King from ancient times,
victorious in the midst of the earth.

Yours is the day, yours also the night;
you established the moon and the sun.

Arise, O God, maintain your cause;
remember how fools revile you all day long.

Forget not the clamor of your adversaries,
the unending tumult of those who rise up against you.

Antiphon

All sing together.



The people stand.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray.

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us
from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your
good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

A candle is extinguished. The people sit.

Lesson Lamentations 1:1-5

Lector How solitary lies the city, once so full of people! How like a widow has she become, she that was great among the nations! She that was queen among the cities has now become a vassal. She weeps bitterly in the night, tears run down her cheeks; among all her lovers she has none to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her; they have become her enemies. Judah has gone into the misery of exile and of hard servitude; she dwells now among the nations, but finds no resting place; all her pursuers overtook her in the midst of her anguish. The roads to Zion mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan and sigh; her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness. Her adversaries have become her masters, her enemies prosper; because the Lord has punished her for the multitude of her rebellions; her children are gone, driven away as captives by the enemy. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

Responsory *In monte Oliveti*

Presider On the mount of Olives Jesus prayed to the Father:

People **Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me.
The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**

Presider Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation.

People **The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**

Lesson Lamentations 1:6-9

Lector And from Daughter Zion all her majesty has departed; her princes have become like stags that can find no pasture, and that run without strength before the hunter. Jerusalem remembers in the days of her affliction and bitterness all the precious things that were hers from the days of old; when her people fell into the hand of the foe, and there was none to help her; the adversary saw her, and mocked at her downfall. Jerusalem has sinned greatly, therefore she has become a thing unclean; all who honored her despise her, for they have seen her nakedness; and now she sighs, and turns her face away. Uncleanliness clung to her skirts, she took no thought of her doom; therefore her fall is terrible, she has no comforter. "O Lord, behold my affliction, for the enemy has triumphed." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

Responsory *Tristis est anima mea*

Presider My soul is very sorrowful, even to the point of death;
remain here and watch with me.

People **Now you shall see the crowd who will surround me;
you will flee, and I will go to be offered up for you.**

Presider Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

People **You will flee, and I will go to be offered up for you.**

Lesson Lamentations 1:10-14

Lector The adversary has stretched out his hand to seize all her precious things; she has seen the Gentiles invade her sanctuary, those whom you had forbidden to enter your congregation. All her people groan as they search for bread; they sell their own children for food to revive their strength. "Behold, O Lord, and consider, for I am now beneath contempt!" Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted, on the day of his burning anger. From on high he sent fire, into my bones it descended; he spread a net for my feet, and turned me back; he has left me desolate and faint all the day long. My transgressions were bound into a yoke; by his hand they were fastened together; their yoke is upon my neck; he has caused my strength to fail. The Lord has delivered me into their hands, against whom I am not able to stand up. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

Responsory *Ecce vidimus eum*

Presider Lo, we have seen him without beauty or majesty,

People **with no looks to attract our eyes.
He bore our sins and grieved for us,
He was wounded for our transgressions,
and by his scourging we are healed.**

Presider Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows:

People **And by his scourging we are healed.**

Lauds (Daybreak Prayers)

Antiphon

The cantor sings the antiphon once before all sing the antiphon together.



Music: Plainsong, Tone III.4.

Psalm 63:1-8 *Deus, Deus meus*

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

When I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

Antiphon

All sing together.



The people stand.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray.
Vulnerable God, you challenge the powers that rule this world through the needy, the
compassionate, and those filled with longing. Make us hunger and thirst to see right prevail,
and single-minded in seeking peace; that we may see your face and be satisfied in you,
through Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

A candle is extinguished. The people sit.

The cantor sings the antiphon once before all sing the antiphon together.

Music: Plainsong, Tone II.2.

Lamb of God,
who take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

A candle is extinguished. The people sit.

The cantor sings the antiphon once before all sing the antiphon together.

Music: Plainsong, Tone I.4.

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

All sing together.

The people stand.

All **Amen.**

A candle is extinguished. The people sit.

Antiphon

The cantor sings the antiphon once before all sing the antiphon together.



Now the wom-en sit - ting at the tomb made la-men-ta-tion, weep - ing for the Lord.

Music: Plainsong, Tone II.2.

Motet Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir

Ecce quomodo moritur justus
et nemo percipit corde.
Viri justi tolluntur
et nemo considerat.
A facie iniquitatis sublatus est justus
et erit in pace memoria eius:
Tamquam agnus coram tondente se obmutuit,
et non aperuit os suum:
de angustia, et de judicio sublatus est.
Et erit in pace memoria ejus.

Behold how the righteous man dies
And no one understands.
Righteous men are taken away
And no one considers: The righteous man has been
taken away from present iniquity
And his memory shall be in peace.
As a sheep before her shearers is dumb,
so he opened not his mouth:
he was taken from prison and from judgement.
And his memory shall be in peace.

Words: Isaiah 57: 1-2.
Music: Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611).

Antiphon

All sing together.



Now the wom-en sit - ting at the tomb made la-men-ta-tion, weep - ing for the Lord.

The people stand. As the motet is sung, the remaining candle is taken from the stand and hidden.

Motet

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens
usque ad mortem autem crucis.
Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum
et dedit illi nomen,
quod est super omne nomen.

Christ for us became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross;
therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the Name
which is above every name.

Words: Philippians 2: 8-9.
Music: Felice Anerio (c. 1560-1614).

A brief silence is observed.

The following psalm is then said quietly by all.

Psalm 51

All Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.

Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.

Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Be favorable and gracious to Zion,
and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Then you will be pleased with the appointed sacrifices,
with burnt-offerings and oblations;
then shall they offer young bullocks upon your altar.

The Final Collect

Presider Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross.

Nothing further is said, but a loud noise is made, and the remaining candle is brought from its hiding place and replaced on the stand.

The clergy and people depart in silence.

Service Participants

Presider The Reverend Meredith E. Ward

Assisting Clergy The Reverend Zack Nyein, The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank,
The Reverend Peter D. Thompson,

Lectors Wil Yates, Mark Zeisler, Leslie McCullough Jeffries

Ushers Steve Dohnalek, Wendi Nichols, Paul Tollefson, Susanne Vorster

Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir Raphael Biran, Wendy Gilles, Layke Jones, Holly Thomas

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Alexander Pattavina

Director, Marketing & Communications Kara Flannery

Manager, Branding & Creative Design Ben Castellanos

Manager, Broadcast & Production Studio Niko Bakulich

Livestream Producers Chloe Pitkoff, Thatcher Pitkoff, Charles White

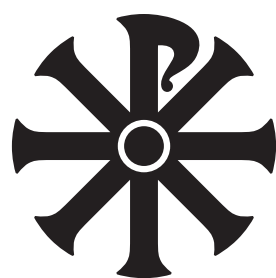
Livestream Host Patricia Claggett

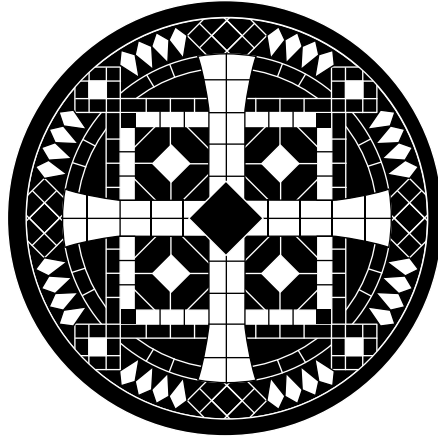
Director, Operations & Facilities Charles Bryant

Facilities Anthony Thomas

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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 Community Engagement Mr. Curry Brinson (cbrinson@stbarts.org)
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* 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, James Marion, Elizabeth Min, Caroline Naralasetty,
Kari Parks, Robert Radtke, Robert Sweeney, Mary Kate Wold
Chancellor Alice Yurke-Davis
Assistant Chancellors Patrick MacMurray, Anne Rabbino, Douglas Tanner
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