

A Season of Advent

The One who is to come is near; have no anxiety,
but in everything make your requests known to God
in prayer and petition, with thanksgiving.

- *Philippians 4:5b-6 (OSH)*



The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined. - *Isaiah 9:2*

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
Yarmouth, ME**

**Service of the Word
The First Sunday of Advent - November 29, 2020**

Opening Anthem

*Dixit Maria
Hans Leo Hassler*

John Corrie & The St. Bart's Choir

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

Opening Acclamation

Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.

Psalm 80:3

Jesus said:

"The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel:
The Lord your God is the only Lord.
Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.
The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Colianni Family

Leader: In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1:78,79

If you are lighting candles at home, light one purple candle.

Leader: The light of Christ is coming into the world.
Response: **And darkness will never overcome it.**

The Collect of the Day

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

God be with you
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 64:1-9

Ian-Meredythe Lindsey

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil--
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.
Here ends the reading.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Ian-Meredythe Lindsey

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Hear ends the reading from the Gospel.

The Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Thomas James Brown, Bishop of Maine

Stewardship Moment

Alice Ingraham

Affirmation of Faith

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

The Nicene Creed

***This text of the Nicene Creed omits the phrase 'and the Son' in the third paragraph, recovering the original text of the First Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople, 325 and 381CE respectively.*

Let us affirm the faith of the Church, saying The Nicene Creed:

**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. **
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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.**

Prayers of the People

Jamie Michaud

Comfort, comfort your people, O God:
And hear the prayer of our hearts:

For the Church:

May we bear your love to the world.

For our bishops, Michael and Thomas; our rector, Nina; and the Diocese of Maine.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the congregation of The Episcopal Church of Saints Matthew and Barnabas, in Hallowell; and for all the children of the world.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Lusitanian Church.

For the reconciliation of this nation:

May we honor one another and serve the common good.

For the peace of the world:
And the wellbeing of all people.

For this planet, our home:
May we be healers of creation.

For the parish community of St. Bart's, and all those we love:

For those in need of our prayers: Steph; Bobby; Charles; Kellan; Pat; Mackenzie; Mimma; Scott; Marcella; David; Noreen; Tim; Sam; Kathie; Diane; Brittany; Arthur; Matthew; Jean; Lee; Jay; Sally; Linda; Zoe; Samantha; Jenni; Peter; and Betty.

For all who wander, who hunger, who suffer:
May we embody your love and care.

For those who have died:
Receive them into the arms of your mercy.
May we comfort those who mourn.

Fill our hearts with the joy of your saving grace:
that we may hold fast to your great goodness.

Concluding Collect

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

**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 our Savior Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name.
Amen.**

The Absolution

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

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering all our prayers into one, we now pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Peace

The Peace of Christ, Emmanuel, be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us share a sign of peace... while our Vestry Person of the Week shares some announcements.

Announcements *(listed at the end)*

Michele Johns

Concluding Prayer

Let us pray:

**Holy One,
you hold both heaven and earth in a single peace.
Let the design of your great love
shine on the waste of this world's anger and sorrow;
give peace to your Church,
peace among nations,
peace in our homes,
and peace in our hearts,
in Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

The St. Bart's Blessing

My friends, life is short
and we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us,
so be quick to love and make haste to be kind.
And rest assured that God is infinitely more concerned
with the promise of our future
than the mistakes of our past.
And the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all, now and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia.

Closing Hymn 61

"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us

The Hymnal 1982

John Corrie & The St. Bart's Choir

1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
 heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
 saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
 wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
 harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
 Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
 ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to

has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

Words: Philip Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) Copyright ©1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Music: *Wachet auf*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-730958. All rights reserved. Hymn permission used by Rite Song a onetime use reprint license for congregational use.

Thanks to our participants and technical crew for putting together today's service:

The Rev. Nina R. Pooley, *Rector*

John Corrie, *Choir Director*

St. Bart's Choir

Ian-Meredythe Lindsey, *Lesson & Psalm*

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Thomas James Brown, Bishop of Maine, *Sermon*

Alice Ingraham, *Stewardship Moment*

Jamie Michaud, *Prayers of the People*

Michele Johns, *Announcements*

Ken Pooley, *Videography and Editing*

Useful Resources During this Pandemic:

Pastoral Care Booklet: Words of Comfort

Nina and the Pastoral Care Committee have compiled a collection of prayers and psalms into a booklet titled, "Words of Comfort, for Times of Worry, Distress and Grief." The idea for the compilation arose as a means to support the community during the pandemic. As the name implies, it is intended to be a resource for comfort beyond just our current situation. For ease of printing portions of the booklet, we have created a Table of Contents in the Pastoral Care Booklet and we have made the Psalms/Canticles a separate booklet. There is now a Pastoral Care tab on the home page of the St. Bart's website, www.stbartsyarmouth.org, with links to the booklets.

Pastoral Care: Healing Prayers

The Pastoral Care Committee is available to offer healing prayers upon request via a phone call or video call. If you would like to arrange such a call, please contact Barbara Barhydt, jbml@gwi.net or Pam Hobson, pamhobson46@gmail.com and they will schedule a convenient time with one of the Committee members.

Pastoral Care Email

There is a **new e-mail address for the Pastoral Care Committee**, which will provide a centralized e-mail for parishioner questions, thoughts, and concerns; pastoralcare@stbartsyarmouth.org.

The Maine FrontLine WarmLine is now available to Maine's Educators. This free, confidential warm line for Front Line healthcare providers and First Responders and their families now includes teachers and all school personnel and their families. A team of trained volunteers is ready to support Front Line callers facing stressors due to COVID-19.

Those seeking support can call (207) 221-8196, seven days a week, from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM to speak confidentially with one of these trained volunteers. To be connected via text to a text "Frontline" to 898-211.

Maine Front Line Warm Line is a collaborative effort of the Maine Association of Psychiatric Physicians, Maine DHHS, The Opportunity Alliance, Maine Department of Public Safety including EMS and Law Enforcement, the Maine Psychological Association and the Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

Click [Daily Prayer](#) for the Forward Day by Day Daily Meditation.

Forward Day By Day Booklet - **The November, December, January edition is now available.** Daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's *Book of Common Prayer*. **We have left copies on the porch at St. Bart's. Stop by anytime to pick up a copy.**

From Leigh Kirchner, Yarmouth Aging in Place

If you need assistance with such things as grocery shopping (if you aren't comfortable going out) or other needs (including emotional first aid, because goodness knows we all need that right now), you can call the Yarmouth Help Line Mon-Sat from 10am-2pm at 846-4763.

And if you have specific questions that our senior Resource Specialist Michele Grivois can answer please call her at 835-9866. She is available on Tues and Thursdays but will return you call if you leave a message.

Announcements

Coffee Hour

Please join us for coffee hour after the service. See Nina's News and Notes email for the Zoom invitation.

PLEASE HELP US COMPLETE OUR ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN BY DECEMBER 1! We're at about 55% of household response just one week shy of that date. We'd be most grateful if you would count St. Bartholomew's among your blessings this Thanksgiving and make a pledge of financial support for 2021! Many thanks from the stewardship committee!

"Advent in a Bag" kits for Kids and Families are available for pick-up. These kits are for kids and families to participate in weekly and daily Advent activities until Christmas. Kits are available by the bench on the front porch to pick up at your convenience.

Advent in a Bag" kits for Adults are available for pickup. Kits include candles, and resources for you to use during the Advent season. Kits are in a bin on the front porch. You can stop by at your convenience and pick them up.

A Grateful Wall - We are keeping the Grateful Wall up for a couple more weeks. Come share with one another your Thanksgivings on the church porch. We have set up an easel, sticky pad poster paper, and plenty of markers. Stop by anytime and write in your thanksgivings. Let us fill the walls with how grateful we are for God's abundance in our lives!

Be Kind Project

A Collaboration with First Parish to promote kindness during these fraught days after the election. This effort includes:
1) Stickers (designs for which were posted on the Yarmouth Community Facebook page, and more than 150 people voted to choose one) Our stickers are on the bench in front of St. Bart's, in a box with a sticker on it :) Please feel free to come by and pick up a few to share.
2) Ecumenical Evening Prayer on Monday evenings in November at 7pm. Streamed to Facebook live, from zoom. (A quick 30 minutes of prayer for your week!) You can access that worship on the First Parish YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgjmIEVJwGPvfrovfga4dBA>

Wreaths, Frozen Foods, Amaryllis, and Altar Bread! Curbside Pick-up December 5th, 9 a.m. to noon

Thank you so much for your support of St. Bart's through your purchases of wreaths, frozen foods, and Amaryllis. Everything will be ready for curbside pick-up on December 5 from 9 a.m. to noon. Please pick up your orders and know we are smiling behind our masks!

We will be celebrating communion on Sunday, December 6, Second Sunday of Advent. Thanks to our bread bakers we will have altar bread available for curbside pickup on Saturday, December 5 from 9am - 12noon. We look forward to celebrating together virtually.

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT!

Calling all youth who want to participate in this year's virtual Christmas Eve pageant. Parishioners, if you know of families who normally attend on Christmas Eve, let them know we welcome and encourage their participation. Please pass along this information! We need narrators, angels, shepherds, kings, donkeys, singers, and more! **If you want to join the fun by having your family record a scene or a song for the pageant, please email Annie Davis at annedavis897@gmail.com as soon as possible.** We will be assigning scenes after that date and need recordings by Friday, December 18th. We can't wait for you to join in this creative new way of bringing the pageant to your living room!

Weekly St. Bart's Children's Homily!

All interested families and parishioners are invited to check out the weekly Sunday School videos posted to our YouTube page. To locate them, go to the main page of our website, hover over "Our Community," and then click on "Children and Youth." Or you can follow this link directly to our YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNo2ud6XfWf1Y33SzAxfPLQ?>

All St. Bart's kids are invited to **Children's Virtual Coffee Hour every Sunday at 10:30am!**

Join at this link every week to visit with your Sunday School friends: <https://maine.zoom.us/j/81664389210>

St. Bart's Youth Instagram page: [stbartsyouth_yarmouth](https://www.instagram.com/stbartsyouth_yarmouth) ! Encourage your older kids to follow our account and stay connected! Parents are welcome too!

Black Lives Matter Open Discussion

We continue our online forum on December 8, from 7-8:30pm, with a discussion on "How does race shape the lives of white people." This is a collaborative program with First Parish, co-facilitated by Rev. Kate Dalton and The Rev. Nina Pooley. It will use Microsoft Teams (a video conferencing platform similar to Zoom). You can either click on this link...[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) or call in # 207-352-3423. Conference ID: 214 715 005#.

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry

This past week the remainder of the boots were distributed as well as the basic supplies of toilet paper, etc. Children's hats and mittens were also handed out.

A special treat was a large of donation of brand new stuffed animals that have now found new homes.

Many thanks for what you do to support the work of St. Elizabeth's. Despite the cold weather, there are long lines outside as people wait patiently for the donations that are available.

Please check out the new Facebook page and website:

St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center: <https://stelizabethsmaine.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StElizabethsJubileeCenter/>.

We're heading into the giving season and **#GivingTuesday**. This year we are shining the light on our Jubilee Centers. Here are some examples of the impact your donation could make:

- A \$15 donation would provide 24 toothbrushes.
- A \$25 donation would provide laundry detergent for 60 families for one week.
- A \$50 donation would provide a case of toilet paper, the largest item in their annual budget. They distribute about 15,000 rolls of toilet paper each year.

You can support St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center by making a donation <https://bit.ly/EpiscopalMaineDonate>.

Giving Tuesday is a global day of generosity that will take place on December 1, 2020. Find out more at <https://www.givingtuesday.org/>

Hannaford Gift Cards a Big Winner!

Do you shop at Hannaford's or Bow Street Market? If you do you could earn \$5 for St. Bart's with every \$100 you spend buying groceries. So far this year thirty-three (33) St. Bart's households have earned \$6,000 for St. Bart's. Let's see... that's a LOT of grocery shopping at 5% donation to St. Bart's by Hannaford!

Many thanks to folks who are participating! It's an extra step in your grocery shopping process, but at the rate we are going we will earn \$8,000 for the St. Bart's education program this year.

Please contact John Duncan at 232-6743 or johnwduncan29@gmail.com if you want to learn more.

Friendship House

We are collecting donations of: **MEN'S WINTER CLOTHES, BLANKETS, pillows, razors, shaving cream, shampoo, toothpaste and body wash.** They can be dropped off in the plastic box labeled "Friendship House" under the wooden bench that sits below the overhang at the front of the church. Also, financial contributions are welcomed and can be mailed to: Friendship House, 390 Lincoln Street, South Portland, Maine 04106.

CLYNK Bags are available

We all still need to be recycling our bottle deposits correctly. CLYNK bags are available to help support St Bart's. We have placed a clear plastic container with CLYNK bags under the wooden bench that sits below the overhang at the front of St Bart's. Thanks for your continued support.

Join us for Zoom Handiwork every Monday!!

All handicrafts - we hope you will join us for our Monday handicrafts gathering on zoom. We have so much fun seeing each other, talking about our knitting, or other projects, and sharing recipes - really, you don't want to miss out! Check Nina's News and Notes for the invitation.

BOOK NOTES - November

Looking for something to read while you're staying safely at home? Or a gift for a friend? St. Bart's building may be closed, but that doesn't mean our book sale is inactive. We have been working to streamline the books on display so that all are either newly donated, or were donated last year. If you have business to conduct in the building and want to check out the book room, please do. Leave payment in the cash boxes on the shelf near the door. Paperbacks 50 cents to \$1.00. Hardcover: \$2.00. And yes, we are accepting new donations; If you have books to donate, please stop by the church office on Wednesdays between 9am and 3pm. Any questions, please contact, Margaret Betts (mmbetts@roadrunner.com), Linda Draper (ldraper347@gmail.com), or Jan Burson (janzimsu64@gmail.com).

Upcoming Lawn/Snow Care Schedule

NOV 29-DEC 5: John Duncan

DEC 6-12: Peter Sillin

DEC 13-19: Doug Reighley

DEC 20-26: Gregg Hoerr

DEC 27-JAN 2: **NEEDED**