

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

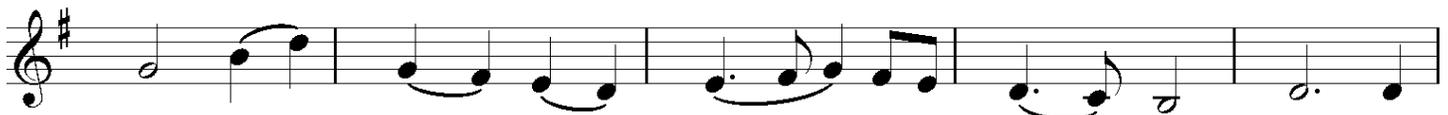
The Third Sunday of Advent - December 13, 2020
Service of the Word with Healing

Opening Hymn 57

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

The Hymnal 1982

John Corrie & The St. Bart's Choir



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Helmsley*, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

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Welcome & Opening Acclamation

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

The LORD has done great things for us
and we are glad indeed. - *Psalm 126:4*

Jesus said: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." - *Matthew 11:28-30*

Lighting of the Advent Candle(s)

The Sylvester Family

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 two purple candles and the pink candle.

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

A Collect of the Season

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

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

God of joy, with your good news of restoration you call us from our exile of sin, isolation and fear; you build a highway through the wilderness; you come to us to bring us home. Comfort us with the expectation of your saving power, made known to us in Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Susannah White

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
 because the LORD has anointed me;
 he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
 to bind up the brokenhearted,
 to proclaim liberty to the captives,
 and release to the prisoners;
 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
 and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;
 to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
 to give them a garland instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Here ends the reading.

Psalm 126

Susie Peixotto

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

A Reading from the Gospel of John 1:6-8, 19-28

Paule French

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Here ends the reading from the Gospel.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Nina. R. Pooley

Anthem

Never weather-beaten sail
Charles Wood

John Corrie & The St. Bart's Choir

Affirmation of Faith

Barbara Barhydt

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

Pam Hobson

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 St. Barnabas' of Rumford; and for all immigrants and refugees and the ministries that serve them.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Falkland Islands.

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; Scott; Marcella; David; Tim; Sam; Kathie; Diane; Arthur; Matthew; Jean; Lee; Sally; Zoe; Samantha; Jenni; Peter; Betty; June & Fred; Tom, Laurie, Tommy, Grace and Peter; and Bob and Susie.

For all who wander, who hunger, who suffer:

May we embody your love and care.

For those who have died:

Catherine Peixotto (Bob's mother)

Thomas M. Hyndman, Jr. (Tom's father)

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 Lord's Prayer

Imelda Schaefer

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.

Laying on of Hands and Anointing

Heather Sylvester

Introduction to Healing

The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. As we pray together for the healing of all, we proclaim the Good News that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ. In addition to those for whom you pray, you are invited to offer yourself to God, whatever your illness of spirit, mind, or body, and ask for healing and wholeness in the Name of the holy and undivided Trinity.

Let us pray:

**Heal us, O God, from all our afflictions
and keep us steadfast in your love;
bind up our wounds,
raise us from death,
and lead us to fullness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen. - Common Worship**

May we and those for whom we pray find healing and peace, in the name of God, the holy and undivided Trinity. May Christ be present with us to comfort us, to guard and protect us, and to keep us in everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Heather Sylvester

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)*

John Colianni

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God

Pam Hobson

God of all power and love,
we give thanks for your unfailing presence
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn,
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.
Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Concluding Prayer

Susie Peixotto

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.**

The Dismissal

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

Closing Hymn 265
The angel Gabriel from heaven came

The Hymnal 1982
 John Corrie & The St. Bart's Choir

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

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Thanks to our Pastoral Care Committee members and Technical Crew for putting together today's service:

The Rev. Nina R. Pooley, *Rector*

John Corrie, *Choir Director*

St. Bart's Choir

The Sylvester Family, *Lighting of the Advent Candles*

Susannah White, *Old Testament Lesson*

Susie Peixotto, *Psalms & Concluding Prayer*

Paule French, *Gospel Lesson*

Barbara Barhydt, *Affirmation of Faith*

Pam Hobson, *Prayers of the People & A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God*

Imelda Schaefer, *The Lord's Prayer*

Heather Sylvester, *Laying on of Hands and Anointing & The Peace*

John Colianni, *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@zwi.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

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

Christmas Eve Services

We will offer both a Christmas Pageant and our Traditional Christmas Service with hymns on Christmas Eve. Please log onto the website to access the services or click on the links in Nina's News and Notes/Worship Links e-bulletins.

Christmas I Service

Join us on Sunday, December 27 for a diocesan-wide service at 9AM. The service will be available on our website, www.stbartsyarmouth.org.

YCHI Virtual Giving Tree

Thanks to those of you who have donated to the virtual giving tree for Yarmouth's New Mainers.

There are still lots of people left on the tree, so if you haven't had a chance to sign up yet, please consider doing so.

Details can be found in the email messages sent recently, on the home page of the church website, and in the bulletin.

Gift cards or checks should be dropped off in the bin outside the church by December 18.

Thank you for helping make the Christmas spirit felt by these New Mainers in our community!

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!

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry

NEW Toothbrush Drive - St. Bart's is collecting toothbrushes to distribute at the Pantry in January and hope you'll help us reach our goal of 200 toothbrushes! We welcome individual toothbrushes and family packs (of 4-5).

Other In Kind Donations: We are currently seeking donations of sheets (please label the size with masking tape), tablecloths, cloth napkins, towels, winter hats, scarves, mittens and gloves. We no longer accept clothing.

Donations can be dropped off in the large blue bins outside of St. Bart's office.

Or, consider purchasing our high need items listed on our Amazon wishlist: <http://a.co/eV6rZyn>.

Online: Learn more about St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center and ways to give at the new website: <https://stelizabethsmaine.org/> and on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/StElizabethsJubileeCenter/>.

FMI: Contact Linda Draper (ldraper347@gmail.com) or Anne Jacobs (ajacobs207@gmail.com)

Hannaford Gift Card Program Needs You!

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. Many thanks to folks who are participating! Please contact John Duncan at johnwduncan29@gmail.com or 232-6743 if you want to learn more.

Friendship House - We are currently collecting the following donations:

****New or used twin sheets**

****New or used pillowcases**

Men's Winter Clothes

Blankets

Pillows,

Razors, Shaving cream, Shampoo, Toothpaste and Body wash.

Items can be dropped off in the plastic box labeled "Friendship House" 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, ME 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.

Mask sewing continues!

We are looking for more people to help us out. We have kits with very simple patterns and fabric to give to you. Pick-up and drop-off of masks is available from the porch at 3 Church Street. If you don't want to go out, Leigh Kirchner, Yarmouth Aging in Place and CV Task Force member, will pickup and deliver them to/from your home, leighmk2050@gmail.com. FMI: Contact Mary Calvin, 713-385-4708, maryecalvin@gmail.com.

Upcoming Lawn/Snow Care Schedule

DEC 13-19: Doug Reighley

DEC 20-26: Gregg Hoerr

DEC 27-JAN 2: **NEEDED**

BOOK NOTES: Winter 2020/2021 – The Bookstore That Never Closes

St. Bart's bookstore is surely unique as bookstores go. For one thing, it's always open for browsing and shopping. If you have the opportunity to be in the church building, take some time to check out the book room upstairs. Most books have been shelved in categories (Pets, Memoir, Fiction, Maine, Cooking etc.), but browsing is definitely worthwhile. In general, hardcover books are \$2 each; paperbacks 50 cents to \$1.00. Cash boxes near the door. It's well worth the trip upstairs, and you can't beat the prices! Any questions, please contact, Margaret Betts (mmbetts@roadrunner.com), Linda Draper (ldraper347@gmail.com), or Jan Burson (janzimsu64@gmail.com).