

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 Second Sunday of Advent - December 6, 2020
Eucharistic Service**

Opening Anthem

Ecce concipies
Jacob Handl

John Corrie & The St. Bart's Choir

Welcome & Opening Acclamation

Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved. *Psalm 80:3*

The glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together. *Isaiah 40:5*

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*

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

Lighting of the Advent Candle(s)

The Hunt 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 two purple candles.

Leader: The light of Christ is coming into the world.
Response: **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 hope, 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 40:1-11

Peter Sillin

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.
A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."
A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Here ends the reading.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Peter Sillin

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

The Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Mark.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

Stewardship Moment

*The Stewardship Committee
Michele Johns, Bill Macleod, Jamie Michaud, and Peter Sillin*

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 congregations of The Episcopal Church of St. Mary's, in Falmouth; and Christ Church in Gardiner; and for the work of Episcopal Relief and Development.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain.

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; Betty; June & Fred; and Tom, Laurie, Tommy, Grace and Peter.

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

For those who have died:
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 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 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

The Great Thanksgiving

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs of everlasting life; that when Christ 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, spoken

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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,

We remember Christ's death,

We proclaim Christ's resurrection,

We await Christ's coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Bartholomew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **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 Breaking of the Bread

The Living Bread,
given for the life of the world. *cf John 6:51*

The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

For those who picked up consecrated bread yesterday - let us receive communion 'together.'

*For those who were unable to pick up consecrated bread yesterday, **Spiritual communion** is a personal devotional that anyone can pray, expressing their desire to receive Holy Communion in this moment, when circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

Let us pray a prayer for **Spiritual Communion**:

**Christ, you invite us to your feast,
setting before us your heart's bread, and your life's wine.
We long to gather with one another around your table,
to taste and see your goodness today.
Since we cannot now find union at the table,
grant your presence spiritually.
We offer you our all;
hearts, lives and souls,
that we may become eternally one.
Amen.**

Together, let us all pray our **Post Communion Prayer**:

**Eternal God,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of 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 Savior.
Amen.**

The Blessing

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 67

Comfort, comfort ye my people

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

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 the 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.

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

Peter Sillin, *Lesson & Psalm*

The Stewardship Committee: Michele Johns, Bill Macleod, Jamie Michaud, Peter Sillin, *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 your call if you leave a message.

Announcements

Coffee Hour

Please join us for coffee hour after the service. Bill Macleod will be our host and he will talk about what St. Bart's means to him. See Nina's News and Notes email for the Zoom invitation.

"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!

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](#) ! 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 - *Check out the new Facebook page and website!!*

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

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

Cash Donations: If you would like to make a cash donation to St. Elizabeth's for the purchase of coats and boots in hard to find sizes or for the purchase of wool socks, please send checks payable to: St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center, Attn: Rev. Holly Hoffmann, PO Box 4036, Portland, ME 04101

In Kind Donations: Consider purchasing our high need items listed on our Amazon wishlist: <http://a.co/eV6rZyn>

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 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

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).

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 6-12: Peter Sillin

DEC 13-19: Doug Reighley

DEC 20-26: Gregg Hoerr

DEC 27-JAN 2: **NEEDED**