

The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

**Contemplative Eucharist at 5 pm** 

September 21, 2025



## 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.

## We are so glad you are here!

## **CONNECT** WITH US



**Thank you for joining us today.** If you are new to St. Bart's, please visit **stbarts.org/hello** or scan the QR code above to fill out our online Connect Card.



#### **Prelude**

The people remain seated for the opening song.

#### Hymn



Words: *Phos hilaron*, Greek (3rd cent.), para. Marty Haugen (b. 1950). Music: *Joyous Light*, Marty Haugen (b. 1950).

The people stand with the presider.

#### **The Opening Acclamation**

Presider Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, creator of the stars of night, companion at the

evening table, breath over the deep waters.

All Amen.

#### The Prayer for the Evening

Presider Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the

brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of

your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

## The Ministry of the Word

#### **The Collect**

Presider May God be with you.
Presider And also with you.

Together, let us pray.

All O God, you call us to embrace both you and the children of this world with

unconditional love. Give us grace to discern what your love demands of us, that, being faithful in things both great and small, we may serve you with an undivided heart.

Amen.

The people sit.

#### **The Lesson** Amos 8:4-7

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos.

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely

I will never forget any of their deeds.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

An extended period of silence is kept. The people stand as the music begins.

#### Hymn 469



Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: *St. Helena*, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984).

The Holy Gospel Luke 16:1-13

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Presider Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were

brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to

the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

After the preacher introduces the sermon, the people sit.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon** The Reverend Peter D. Thompson, Vicar and Interim Rector

An extended period of silence is kept. The people stand.

#### The Prayers of the People

Intercessor

People

Good and Gracious God, you have promised to hear those who cry to you day and night. Hear now our fervent prayers.

Protector of the persecuted, you call us to work for justice and to care for the oppressed. Open our eyes to the reality of suffering within this city and throughout the globe. Make us attentive to others' needs. Guide us as we hold the powerful to account and plead for the liberation of the poor.



Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

Intercessor Healer of brokenness and disease, you wash away our sadness and our pain. Bind the

wounds of all who are injured in body, mind, or spirit, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Heal, too, the wounds of our world: end violence, soothe bitterness, and make us well.

All O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

Intercessor Keeper of Paradise, no one is ever fully dead to you. Send your angels to those who are

dying and to those who have died, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Receive them into your glorious inheritance, and comfort those who mourn.

All O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

Intercessor Source of all blessings, you have entrusted us with gifts beyond measure. We thank you

for the Church of God throughout the world, for this remarkable community, in which we have each found a place, for food and shelter, for our family and our friends, and for

every one of your gifts, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Help us as we strive to be good stewards of St. Bartholomew's, our church home. In this time of transition, grant us the strength and perseverance to move forward together in

faith, confident in what the future holds.

All O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

Presider God of unexpected judgement, finding grace in the devious and compromised: free us

from the certainty of having you in our grip that a better wealth may flow through our

open hands; through Jesus Christ, the Currency of Life.

All Amen.

#### **The Confession of Sin**

Presider Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

All We need your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance. Some sins are plain to us;

some escape us; some we cannot face. Forgive us; set us free to hear your word to us;

set us free to serve you. Amen.

Presider Through Christ, God has put away your sin. God forgives you: forgive others; forgive

yourself.

All Amen.

#### **The Peace**

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people exchange a sign of God's peace with one another and then sit.

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

## **The Holy Communion**

#### **The Offertory**

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



#### Interlude

The people stand.

#### The Great Thanksgiving

PresiderThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.PresiderLift up your hearts.PeopleWe lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

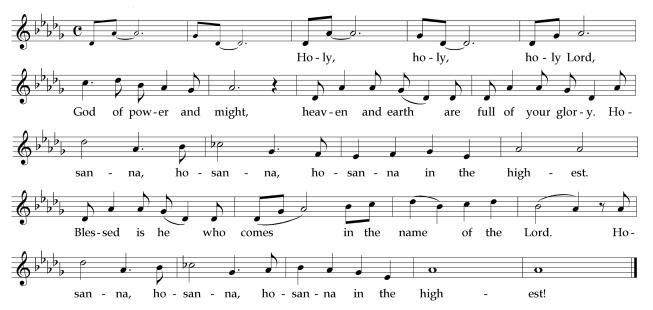
Presider It is truly right to give you thanks and praise, Relentless and Stubborn God, for you never

give up on any of us. When one sheep wanders off, you follow resolutely after. When one coin goes missing, you sweep the whole house until you have reason to rejoice. You welcome young and old, rich and poor, the arrogant and the humble, the greatest and the least. Sinners and doubters, complainers and fools—all alike have a place at your table.

You are only fully satisfied when everyone is present.

And so, grateful for your love—generous and extravagant, uncompromising and allencompassing—we bow before you and exclaim:

#### **Sanctus and Benedictus**



Music: from Mass for St. Bartholomew's, William K. Trafka (b. 1956).

Presider

Blessed indeed is Jesus, the Christ, who comes in your name. While we are still on the way, he heals us, delivering us from exclusion and shame. Frustrated by our petty divisions, he dares us to fight evil with good and urges us to treat others as we would like to be treated. In a tense and conflict-ridden world, strengthen us to be his disciples: to learn from his teachings; to emulate his example; to take up our cross and follow him.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider

God of the living, Attentive and Compassionate One: we cry to you day and night for Christ's return, for the manifestation of your reign on earth. Do not delay long in hearing us: fill the hungry; grant justice to the oppressed; bridge the chasms that are fixed between us.

May this meal we now share be a foretaste of Paradise, of perfect unity with one another and with you. Send your Spirit upon this bread and this wine and upon all of us gathered here, that we may partake in Christ's Body and Blood and be Christ's Body in all that we say and do. Make this community a haven for the burdened and despairing and a beacon of your love and peace. Keep us longing for an end to falsehood and violence, and bless us with the endurance of the saints, who faced every kind of trial and still persevered.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the One who laid down his life for us, and who abides with you and the Spirit, Three in One and One in Three, forever and forevermore.

All AMEN.

#### The Lord's Prayer

Presider All As our Savior Christ has taught us, 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 Fraction Anthem**

The presider breaks the bread. Silence is kept.

Presider We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

#### **The Invitation to Communion**

Presider

Here is Bread and here is Wine, Heavenly Food and Saving Drink: nourishment alike for tax collectors and sinners, for enemies and friends, for you and for me.

The people sit.

#### At the Communion

- All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, including children. Please follow the instructions of the ushers. Both bread and wine are offered. After receiving the bread, please proceed to the chalice of wine if you would like to receive it. Wine is received by drinking from the common cup.
- If you require a gluten-free wafer, simply request one from the communion minister when the bread is offered to you.
- Those who do not wish to receive communion are still invited to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would like a blessing.
- If you are unable to travel to a communion station, please alert an usher so that communion can be brought to you.

The people stand.

#### **The Prayer after Communion**

Presider Let us pray.

All We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of

life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love

kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. Amen.

#### The Evening Canticle and Antiphon

All Guide us waking, O God, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ,

and asleep we may rest in peace.

Presider Praise be to God, we have lived to see this day. God's promise is fulfilled, and our duty is

done. At last you have given us peace, for we have seen with our own eyes the salvation you have prepared for all nations, a light to the world in its darkness, and the glory of

your people Israel.

All Guide us waking, O God, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ,

and asleep we may rest in peace.

#### The Blessing

## **Hymn** 1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end - less store: 2 Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: 3 Trea-sure, too, you have en - trust-ed, gain through powers your grace con-ferred; wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat - tered door, na-ture's won-der, Je - sus' at peace in health and free-dom, rac - es joined, the Church made one. use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the Gos - pel gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of-fering up our - selves in praise; Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a lone; O - pen wide our hands in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,



thank-ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra-cious do - nor of our days. born with tal - ents, make us ser-vants fit to an - swer at your throne. heal-ing, teach-ing, and re - claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.



Words: Robert L. Edwards (1915-2006). Music: *Rustington*, C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918).

#### **The Dismissal**

Presider Go on your way. Be grateful. Love boldly. Persevere.

People Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**

## **Service Participants**

Presider and Preacher The Reverend Peter D. Thompson

**Lector** Sarah Bessey **Altar Guild** Luke Failla **Usher** Richard Rose

**Organist and Choirmaster** Dr. Paolo Bordignon **Director, Operations & Facilities** Charles Bryant **Facilities** Anthony Thomas

#### We continue to hold in our prayers

Drayer family, John, Cullen, Henry, Lyubov, Cara, Joan, Celeste

Collect of the Day: from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, © 2002 Consultation on Common Texts, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Hymn at the Sequence: words © 1995 Patricia B. Clark. Concluding Collect at the Prayers of the People: from Prayers for an Inclusive Church, © 2009 Steven Shakespeare. The Great Thanksgiving: *The Book of Common Worship*, © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. Prayer after Communion: from All Creation Sings, © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709111 when applicable.



#### Newcomers are welcome to all gatherings.

Learn more at **stbarts.org/sunday.** 

- Coffee Hour
  12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL
- ⇔ Children, Youth, and Families Lunch 12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL
- **Theology Odyssey: Wrestling with the Core Questions of Christian Faith**12:30 PM IN THE VESTRY ROOM
- Living Christ Sangha
  3-4:30 PM VIA ZOOM
  Weekly meditation practice with sitting and walking meditation, reading and sharing.



## Rector Search Update

**Please sign up soon for a Rector Search Roundtable.** These small group conversations invite you to reflect on life at St. Bart's and the qualities we seek in our next rector. Capacity is limited, but spaces are still available in Roundtables through October 8. **Sign up for in-person roundtables at St. Bart's through stbarts.org/rectorsearch.** Zoom roundtables are still reserved for online members who live far away.

On the same page, you will also find a link to the Parish Survey, which remains open through October 2. Thank you to all who have already completed the survey! Apologies to all who've faced technology glitches with the survey app and our website. **If you haven't yet completed your Parish Survey, please do so soon.** Your anonymous responses will help shape the Parish Profile and Community Ministry Portfolio, key documents that guide candidates as they discern a possible call to St. Bart's. All members—adults and youth, in person and online—are encouraged to participate. Questions? Contact **rectorsearch@stbarts.org**.



September 28, 2025

## **The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

- \$\text{\$\text{JOIN US IN PERSON AT 9 AM, 11 AM, AND 5 PM.}}\$
  YOU MAY ALSO JOIN OUR SUNDAY MORNING LIVESTREAM SERVICE AT 11 AM on our website (stbarts.org/worship/livestream), via YouTube or Facebook Live (@stbartsnyc).
- ☆ THE FORUM AT 10 AM

**Encountering the World Church: Re-thinking Global Mission** 

The Reverend Canon Dr. Duncan Dormor, General Secretary of the United Society Partners in the Gospel, unpacks the complex connection between imperialism and mission work and imagines how the Church can more productively connect across cultures and contexts today.



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

HOLY EUCHARIST • TUESDAY-THURSDAYS AT 12:05 PM IN THE CHAPEL NIGHT PRAYER • MONDAY-FRIDAY AT 8:30 PM VIA ZOOM BIBLE STUDY • WEDNESDAYS AT 1 PM VIA ZOOM IMAGINE WORSHIP NYC • THURSDAYS AT 7 PM IN THE CHAPEL

**CENTERING PRAYER • FRIDAYS AT 9 AM VIA ZOOM** 

### ONGOING AND UPCOMING

THE CHURCH IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION.
THE BOOKSTORE IS ALSO OPEN DURING THESE HOURS.

SEE OUR COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF FALL PROGRAMMING AT STBARTS.ORG/FALL

## **Imagine Worship this Fall**

#### **THURSDAYS AT 7 PM**

Pray your way into the weekend with an informal service of Holy Eucharist including soulful music and timely preaching in a warm community atmosphere. Stay afterward for food, conversation, and connection. Learn more at **stbarts.org/imagine.** 

## Theology Odyssey: Wrestling with the Core Questions of Christian Faith

**SUNDAYS, SEPT. 14-NOV. 16, 1-2:30 PM, IN PERSON**Who is God? Who is Jesus? Why does evil exist?
St. Bart's parishioner and university professor Dr.
Brooks Ishler leads a ten-week journey through some of the most fundamental questions addressed by the Christian faith, exploring their theological significance and introducing the historic discourse surrounding them. Register at **stbarts.org/odyssey**.

#### We Believe

#### TUESDAYS, SEPT. 16-OCT. 28, 7-8 PM, VIA ZOOM

This year marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, when a group of bishops gathered to codify what Christians believe. Today, the Nicene Creed remains the central statement of our faith. In this series of classes, the Reverend Meredith Ward facilitates discussion on Luke Timothy Johnson's book *The Creed: What Christian's Believe and Why it Matters* (available in the bookstore) to explore what the Nicene Creed says and what it means for us today. Register at **stbarts.org/webelieve.** 

## **Caregivers Support Group**

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, AT 4 PM, VIA ZOOM

The Caregivers Support Group will meet on on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 4 pm on Zoom beginning on Wednesday, September 24. This group is for people who are caring for someone with Alzheimer's or dementia. It is a safe and confidential space to find support and navigate the challenges of caring for those with memory loss. Registration is required at **stbarts.org/caregivers.** 

## Installation of the XII Dean of the Cathedral

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 AT 10:30 AM, THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Celebrate the installation of the 12th Dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the Very Reverend Winnie Varghese. The service is offered in person and over livestream. The service will begin on September 27 at 10:30am. Learn more and RSVP at **stjohndivine.org**.

## The Island Club (LGBTQ+ and Allies)

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 6-9 PM

Kick off fall with St. Bart's LGBTQ+ Community and the Island Club! Join friends and allies for a festive happy hour at the Inside Park Restaurant at St. Bart's (the church, not the Island!) People of all faiths and none are welcome to participate in this inclusive event. RSVP at **stbarts.org/islandclub.** 

## The Blessing of the Animals

#### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, AT 11 AM**

We recognize St. Francis of Assisi and the whole of God's good creation with the Blessing of the Animals at our 11 am service of Holy Eucharist. Bring your pet (or a photo) to be blessed by the clergy.

## **Roosevelt Island Outing**

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 10:30 AM, ROOSEVELT ISLAND VISITOR'S CENTER

Join Scott Willick and Karen Jennemann on a tour of Roosevelt Island, led by a local historian, visiting the Cornell Tech Campus, Southpoint Park, FDR Hope Memorial, the eerie Smallpox Hospital, FDR Four Freedoms Park, and the Strecker Laboratory. The tour will last 1.5 hours and is complimentary. If time permits, stay for lunch at a local reasonable restaurant and to further explore the northern "sights" of the island with Scott and Karen. Limited to 18 people. Register at **stbarts.org/rooseveltisland**.

## **Music Opportunities for Children**

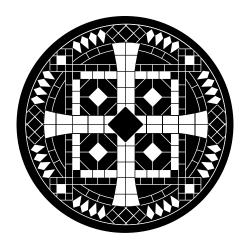
St. Bart's is proud to offer two free programs that help children grow through music:

**St. Bartholomew's Choristers** (ages 8+): A free musical education that teaches lifelong skills and values such as self-confidence, leadership, teamwork, dedication, and spirituality—all through singing at the Sunday 11 am service.

**Little Voices** (ages 5–8): A fun, playful introduction to music where kids sing songs, play games, explore instruments, and create art, all while developing an appreciation for sacred music.

Learn more at **stbarts.org/choristers**.





### **Clergy and Staff**

Vicar and Interim Rector The Reverend Peter D. Thompson (pthompson@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector and Pastor of Imagine Worship The Reverend Zack Nyein (znyein@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@stbarts.org)
Canon in Residence The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers (sspellers@stbarts.org) +
Assistant Rector The Reverend Canon Andrew J.W. Mullins (amullins@stbarts.org) \*
Assisting Priest The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank (moneilfrank@stbarts.org) +
Deacon The Reverend Deacon John F. Wirenius (jwirenius@stbarts.org) \*

**Organist and Choirmaster** Dr. Paolo Bordignon (pbordignon@stbarts.org) **Associate Organist and Choirmaster** Mr. Alexander Pattavina (apattavina@stbarts.org) **Administrative Associate for Music** Mr. Ian Anderson (ianderson@stbarts.org)

Director of Parish Life and Events Ms. Veronica Shea (vshea@stbarts.org)
Associate for Parish Life and Events Mr. Paul Rodriguez (prodriguez@stbarts.org)
Associate for Next Generation Ministries Ms. Effie Diprenda (ediprenda@stbarts.org)
Director of Development Ms. Susannah Wade Lewis (swadelewis@stbarts.org)
Manager of Development Mr. Brian Van Steen (bvansteen@stbarts.org)
Head Verger Ms. Sarah Bessey (sbessey@stbarts.org) \*

\* Non-stipendiary + Part-time



## The Vestry of St. Bart's

Wardens Miriam K. Schneider, Ray Vandenberg

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

Chancellor Patrick MacMurray

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

Honorary Wardens Fletcher Hodges III, Percy Preston, Jr.

#### ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

325 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022
212-378-0222 # CENTRAL@STBARTS.ORG



@STBARTSNYC STBARTS.ORG