

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

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Contemplative Eucharist at 5 pm
August 16, 2026

325 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022



You can find yours here.

Here is a place that is ancient and new, a faith that we hold going back to Jesus, back to his spiritual ancestors, back to those who walked the earth and found holy ground. And what we do is often based on really ancient patterns—worship and music; loving service to the poor, the hurting, the lonely; working for justice and peace; lively, fearless education and formation of minds and souls. And that faith is also completely contemporary, engaged in the culture and the needs of the moment.

What we are for

The dignity and worth of every person. An open-minded, passionate commitment to truth. The importance of everyone's own spiritual journey. God's friends wherever we find them. Seeking Christ in every person who comes through the door. The sacredness of life's rites of passage. The value of community. The hard work necessary to make sure that all are welcomed. Telling the truth about life's challenges. A "user-friendly" church experience. Children, youth and families.

What we are against

Claiming to have all the answers. Elitism and exclusivism, especially in church. Bigotry for any reason. Authoritarianism. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Certitude in the face of ambiguity and superficial answers to hard questions. Boring sermons, bad music and general cluelessness. (So, God help us, because we don't always avoid these!)

What we value

Community, open hearts, open minds, open arms. Faith. Fortitude. Staying current, but equally staying rooted in tradition. Reason and honesty. Civic responsibility as New Yorkers, Americans, and global citizens. Debate that allows for mutual respect. Music and beauty for their own sake. Joy in God's creation. Anyone who makes an effort to get to know and follow Jesus.

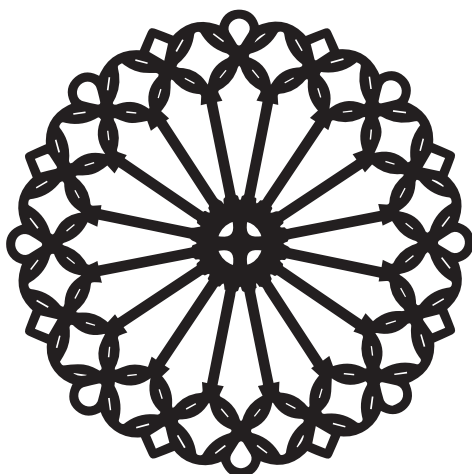
Welcome!

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 chant.

Chant

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

Words: Psalm 103.
Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

The people stand with the presider.

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.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Together, let us pray.

All **God of the foreigner and outcast, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of Christ so to love the world that your name may be known throughout the earth. Amen.**

The people sit.

The Lesson Isaiah 56:1-8

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. Happy is the mortal who does this, the one who holds it fast, who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it, and refrains from doing any evil. Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say, "The Lord will surely separate me from his people"; and do not let the eunuch say, "I am just a dry tree." For thus says the Lord: To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant, I will give, in my house and within my walls, a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

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

1 God of mer - cy, God of grace, show the bright - ness of thy
2 Let thy peo - ple praise thee, Lord; be by all that live a -

face. Shine up - on us, Sa - vior, shine, fill thy
dored. Let the na - tions shout and sing glo - ry

Church with light di - vine, and thy sav - ing health ex -
to their Sa - vior King; let all be, be - low, a -

tend un - to earth's re - mot - est end.
bove, one in joy, and light, and love.

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847), alt.
Music: *Lucerna Laudoniae*, David Evans (1874-1948).

The Holy Gospel Matthew 15:10-28

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Presider Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

After the preacher introduces the sermon, the people sit.

The Sermon The Reverend Meredith E. Ward, Senior Associate Rector

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

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor O God, in your kindness, hear the prayers we offer for ourselves and for the whole world.
We pray, O God, for the Church: for this parish, for our Diocese, and for Christians of every kind in every place. May we grow in faith as we work for your kingdom and joyfully spread your good news.

People



In your kind - ness, hear our prayer.

Intercessor We pray, O God, for our nation and our city, and for all the nations and cities of the earth. Save us from the storms of hate and division; end our doubts and our fears; soothe us with harmony and peace.

People **In your kindness, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray, O God, for the poor, the sick, and all who plead for healing and relief, including those we now name.

The people may offer their own petitions.

People May they obtain the wellness they seek.
In your kindness, hear our prayer.

Intercessor We pray, O God, for those who have died, including those we now name.

The people may offer their own petitions.

People In the gentle comfort of your embrace, may they find rest for their souls.

In your kindness, hear our prayer.

Intercessor We praise you, O God, for the blessings of our lives, including those we now name.

The people may offer their own petitions.

People May we always give thanks for every treasure, and, above all, for the Treasure that is you.

In your kindness, hear our prayer.

Presider Unclean God, braving defilement, inviting offense; you share your bread with vermin and outsiders; you let the Gentile woman subvert your plans: give us the faith that comes from the heart and walks beyond our boundary posts that we might be surprised by outrageous grace; through Jesus Christ, son of David and light of the world.

All **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Presider We pray to God also for the forgiveness of our sins.

People For failing to love others as you have loved us: God of grace,

forgive us.

Presider For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods: God of grace,

People **forgive us.**

Presider For plundering the earth and abusing the planet: God of grace,

People **forgive us.**

Presider For fearing those who are strange to us and ignoring those in need: God of grace,

People **forgive us.**

Presider For losing heart and abandoning hope: God of grace,

People **forgive us.**

Presider For all the ways we turn from you: God of grace,

People **forgive us.**

Presider We offer our prayers in the name of the One who saves us, Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Presider My friends, hear this good news: 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!
- ✦ St. Bart's relies upon the generosity of the living to sustain its vibrant ministry. Whether you are a member or a visitor, your support makes a real difference to our community. To contribute, visit stbarts.org/give, scan the adjacent QR code, or place your offering in the plate as it is passed. We are grateful for your support.



Interlude

The people stand.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider May God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to God.

Presider Let us give thanks to God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should, at all times and in all places, give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus and Benedictus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow'r and might,



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody.

Presider God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry, our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

People **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Presider Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

All **Amen.**

Presider Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

All **Amen.**

Presider Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of Christ, through whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
All **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 May Christ, the broken bread, mend our wounded world.

People **May Christ, the outpoured cup, heal our hurting souls.**

The Invitation to Communion

Presider Holy Food for Holy People: here at this table, all are fed; here at this table, God's reign comes.

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 **Gracious God, you have welcomed us to this table and nourished us with your love in bread and wine. May this food strengthen us to embrace all people as your children and empower us to bring wholeness and hope to the world. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. 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 from *Voices Found* #94

1. In bold - ness, look to God for help, like
 2. In bold - ness, lean on God for strength, and
 3. In bold - ness, learn of God the truth of
 4. In bold - ness, love, nor count the cost. Con -

wom - en folk who dared to
 heal - ing from dis - ease, of
 Ma - ry's bet - ter part: by
 front the world's harsh stare: like

ask that Je - sus heal a child, that
 mind and bo - dy, heart and will, whose
 fear and cen - sure un - de - terred, de -
 one who washed the feet of Christ, and

crumbs of grace be shared, that out - cast ones be
 bond - age Je - sus frees. Reach out and touch the
 ter - mined in her heart to kneel at Je - sus'
 wiped them with her hair, poured per - fume to a -

wel - comed to the feast God has pre - pared.
 hem of Christ, and ga - ther spir - it's ease.
 feet and learn the wis - dom he im - parts.
 noint her Lord, and left love's fra - grance there.

Words: Mary Louise Bringle (b. 1953).
 Music: *Morning Song*, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826).

The Dismissal

Presider Go forth: spread the good news, follow Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Service Participants

Presider and Preacher The Reverend Meredith E. Ward

Chalicer Adelaide Kent

Lector Miriam Schneider

Altar Guild Miriam Schneider

Usher Richard Rose

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Alexander Pattavina

Director, Operations & Facilities Charles Bryant

Facilities Anthony Thomas

We continue to hold in our prayers

Cathy, Francis, Serena, Cana, Josh, Henry, Patricia, Sharnice, Bettina, Ebony, Fatima, Emily, Walter, Ivan, Branko, Janet, Davey, Gloria, Marlen, Shelley, Maria, Jaime, James, Kate, Amit

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MEET US
AFTER
CHURCH

Newcomers are welcome to all gatherings

Learn more at stbarts.org/sunday.

- ✧ **Coffee Hour**
12:15 PM ON THE GREAT TERRACE
- ✧ **Guided Tour of St. Bart's**
12:15 PM IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
- ✧ **Living Christ Sangha**
3 PM VIA ZOOM

NEXT
SUNDAY
AT
ST. BART'S

August 23, 2026 The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- ✧ **JOIN US IN PERSON AT 9 AM, 11 AM, AND 5 PM.**
OR 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**
Faith of the Nation: Religious Imagery in American Art
The Reverend Meredith Ward explores how ideas about God, creation, spirituality, and scripture are represented in American art.

WEEKDAYS
AT
ST. BART'S

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

- HOLY EUCHARIST** • TUESDAY-THURSDAY 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.

Lead a Connects Group!

St. Bart's Connects brings people together through lay-led small groups that meet at various times and locations, in-person and on Zoom. Groups can be social, spiritual, or a little of both. Dreaming of a walking group, Bible study, board game night, or poetry circle? Now's your chance to lead one! Submit your proposal at stbarts.org/connectsproposals by August 23.

Caregivers Support Group

Are you or someone you know caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia? If so, there is a place for you at St. Bart's. This is a safe and confidential space to find support and navigate the challenges of caring for those with memory loss. The Caregivers Support Group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 4 pm on Zoom.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, August 26. Register at stbarts.org/caregivers. For more information, contact the Reverend Meredith Ward at mward@stbarts.org.

In Solemn Remembrance of September 11, 2001

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT 11 AM

On the twenty-fifth anniversary of September 11, 2001, St. Bart's will once again offer a service of Holy Eucharist in solemn remembrance of all who died on that day. The Reverend Jay Sidebotham, our former Vicar, will preach. Both in-person and online worshipers are welcome. Members of the New York City Fire Department will be in attendance.

Save the Date: St. Bart's Day

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Join us for a joyful celebration of the St. Bart's community as we launch a new program year. Following the 11 am service, stay for our annual St. Bart's Fair, complete with catered food, ice cream, a bouncy castle, and more!

The Wren Gala

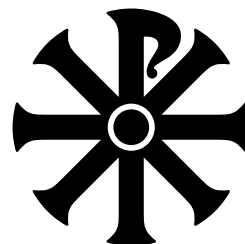
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 AT 6 PM IN THE CHURCH

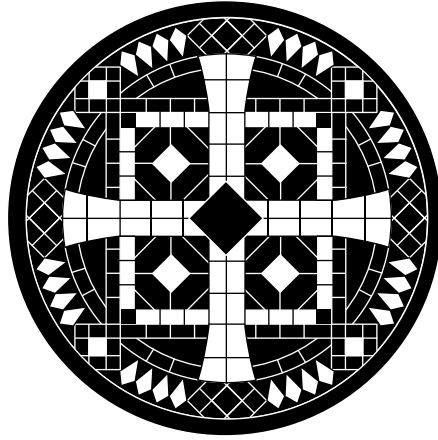
Join friends from our linked parish in London, St James's Piccadilly, for The Wren Gala in the transformed nave of St. Bart's. This extraordinary evening celebrates the enduring legacy of Sir Christopher Wren's 1684 church of St James's Piccadilly, where art, music and the spirit of service have converged for over three centuries. Guests will be transported into a world of candlelit grandeur, exquisite dining, and stirring performances, all in honor of a new generation of changemakers carrying this legacy forward. For tickets and information, please visit wrengala.org.

Imagine Worship at St. Bart's

THURSDAYS AT 7 PM IN THE CHAPEL

Pray your way into the weekend with Imagine Worship at St. Bart's. This joyful, relaxed, and intimate service of Holy Eucharist features original contemporary music and a warm community atmosphere. Come early to rehearse with the pickup choir at 6 pm, and stay afterward for refreshments and fellowship. All are welcome!





Clergy and Staff

Priest-in-Charge 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)
Assistant Rector The Reverend Canon Andrew J.W. Mullins (amullins@stbarts.org) *
Assisting Priest The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank (moneilfrank@stbarts.org) +
Deacon The Reverend Deacon John F. Wirenius (jwirenius@stbarts.org) *
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* Non-stipendiary + Part-time



The Vestry of St. Bart's

Wardens Miriam K. Schneider, Ray Vandenberg
Rachel Farrar, Dall Forsythe, Jennifer Fuller, David Hilder, Tim Hook,
Natalie Johnson, James Marion, Elizabeth Min, Caroline Naralasetty,
Kari Parks, Robert Radtke, Robert Sweeney, Mary Kate Wold
Chancellor Alice Yurke-Davis
Assistant Chancellors Patrick MacMurray, Anne Rabbino, Douglas Tanner
Honorary Wardens Fletcher Hodges III, Percy Preston, Jr.

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