SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Celebration Sunday

Contemplative Eucharist at 5 pm

November 15, 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!
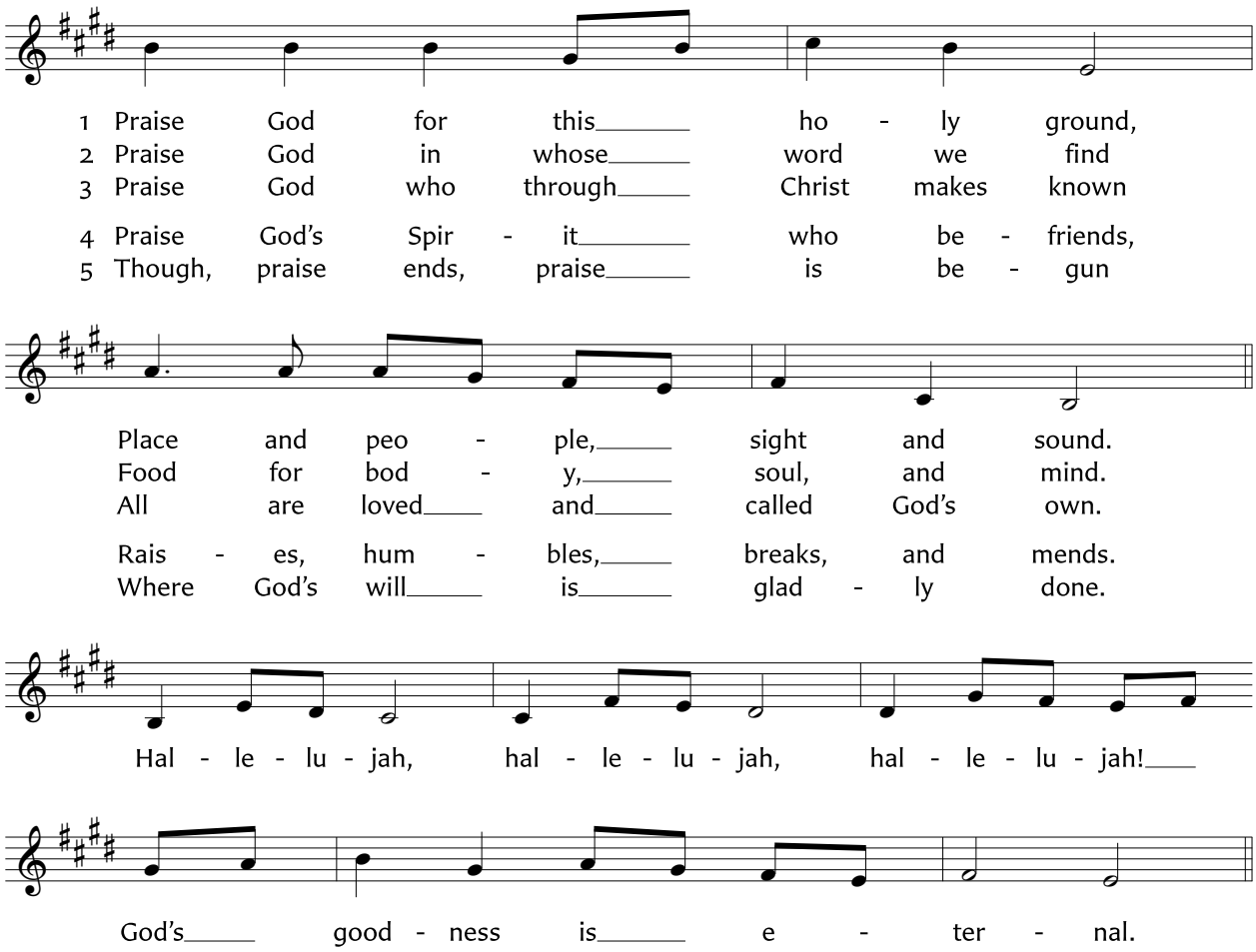
CONNECT WITH US

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 song.

Opening Song



Words and Music: *Heymonystraat*, John L. Bell (b. 1949).

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 **Everliving God, before the earth was formed, and even after it shall cease to be, you are God. Break into our short span of life and show us those things that are eternal, that we may serve your purpose in all we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The people sit.

The Lesson Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah.

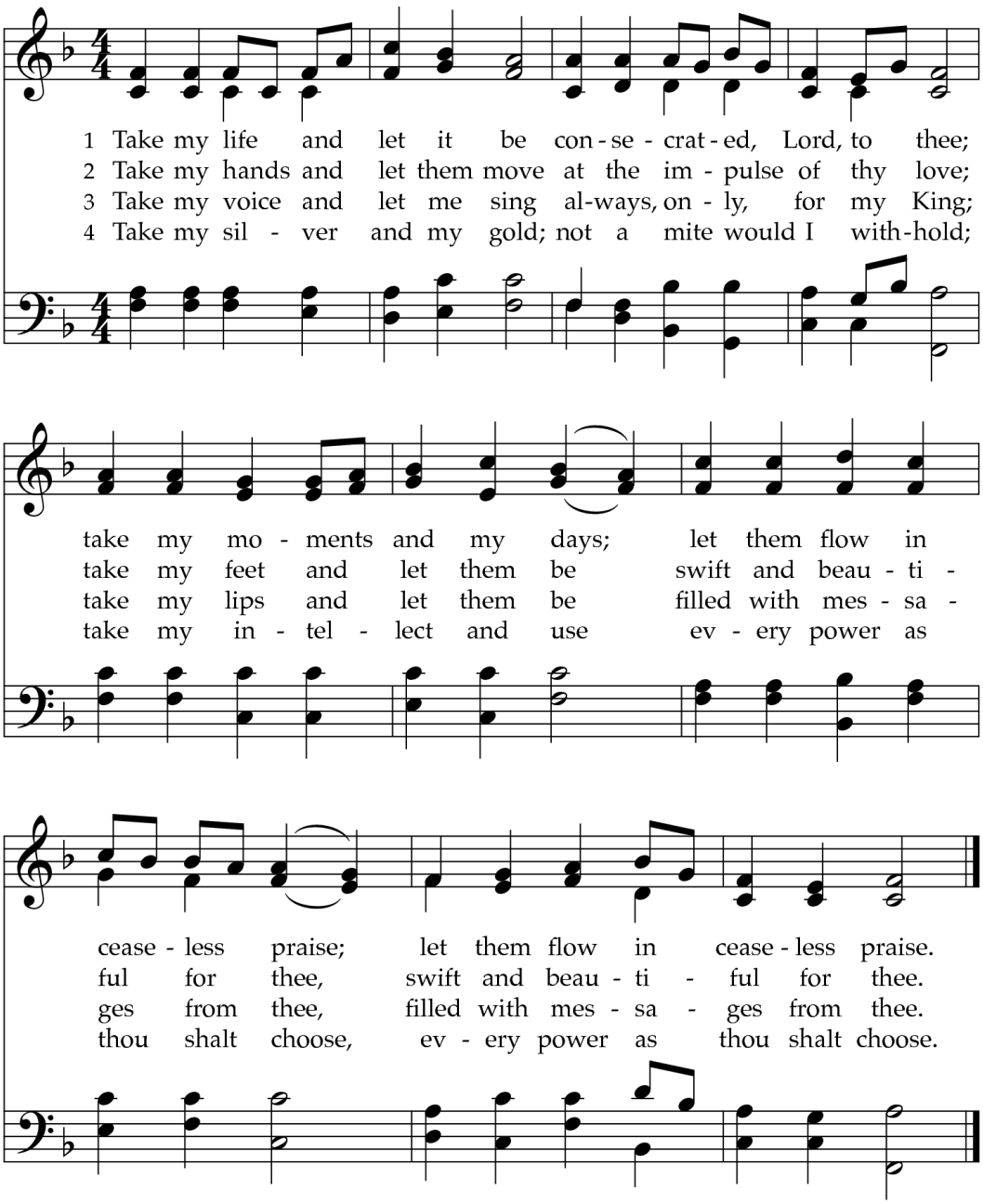
Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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



5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879).
Music: *Hendon*, H. A. César Malan (1787-1864).

The Holy Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

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

Presider Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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 Peter D. Thompson, Priest-in-Charge

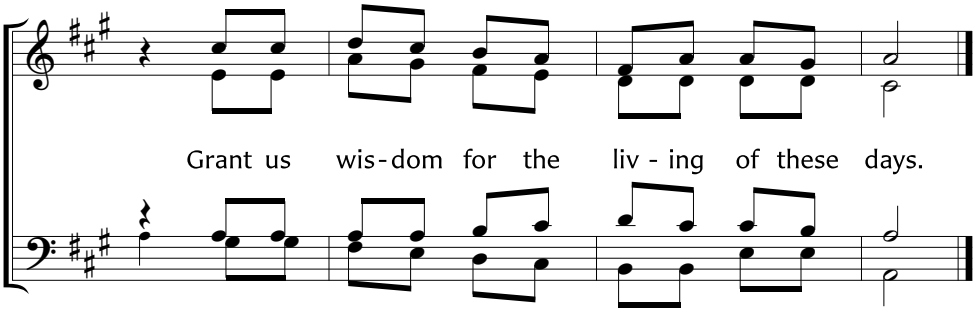
An extended period of silence is kept. The people stand.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor O God, you have been our refuge from one generation to another: hear the prayers we offer, and grant us wisdom for the living of these days.

We pray, O God, for our parish, St. Bartholomew's, and for the entire Body of the Church. Merge our personal interests into the community's needs. Mold us into faithful members who work tirelessly for the good of the whole.

People



Intercessor We pray for the leaders of our nation, our state, and our city, and for all who were recently elected to public office. Guide us in our efforts to be responsible citizens. Remind us also of our responsibilities to you.

People **Grant us wisdom for the living of these days.**

Intercessor We pray, O God, for those who suffer: the hungry, the thirsty, and the naked; the stranger, the prisoner, and the sick; the victims of violence and persecution. We include in our prayers those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Rouse us from complacency and indifference, that we may attend to their needs.

People **Grant us wisdom for the living of these days.**

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

The people may add their own petitions.

Bring them to that land where there is neither hunger nor thirst, neither sorrow nor crying, but the peace that passes all understanding.

People **Grant us wisdom for the living of these days.**

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

The people may add their own petitions.

Teach us to make prudent use of all you have provided. Inspire us to give generously from what we have received.

People **Grant us wisdom for the living of these days.**

Presider O God, from whose abundance all gifts and skills are lavishly bestowed: give us courage to use our talents as generously as you have given them, so that, being faithful to your purpose, we may share in your glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

All **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

All **We confess to you, O God, that we have done wrong to you and to our neighbor. We have put ourselves first and neglected the needs of the Body. We have lashed out in violence. We have hoarded our possessions. We have fallen asleep and failed to respond. Redirect our hearts. Turn evil into good. Help us serve you above all. Amen.**

Presider Rejoice, friends, for God's mercy is never-ending and all-encompassing. God forgives you and calls you to forgive the sins of others.

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.

We are many members of one body, and our individual financial commitments each year collectively make our life together possible. If you have not already declared your pledge to our 2027 campaign, "Meeting This Moment As One," please join us in doing so today by scanning the QR code or visiting **stbarts.org/2027pledge**.

Interlude

The people stand.

The Blessing of Pledges

Presider Generous God, you have graciously bestowed upon us all that we are and all that we have: we thank you for this parish church and those whose giving helps to sustain it. Bless these pledges, symbols of our devotion to you and to this community. Help us to give freely from the fruits of our labor in gratitude for all that you have given us. In the name of Christ we pray.

All **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

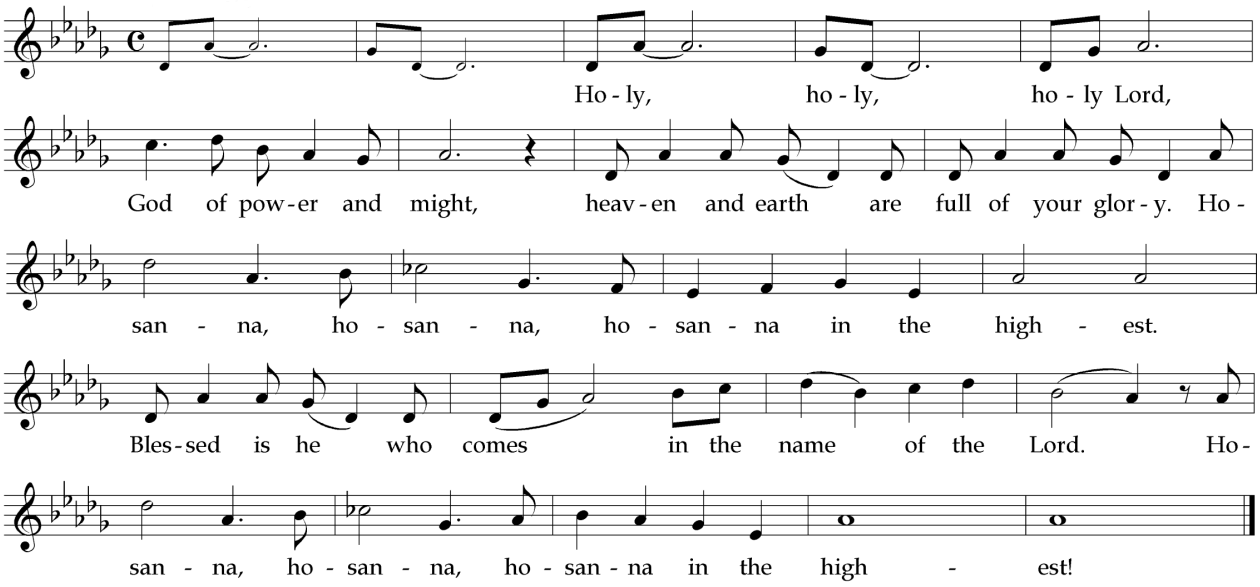
Presider May God be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our 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: the Good Samaritan, who tends the wounds of body and spirit with the oil of consolation and the wine of hope; the Sun of righteousness, who raises us to life on his healing wings. 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



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

Presider As the shadows lengthen, we bless you, sheltering God.

We glorify you for the endless, starlit sky, deep with the mystery of your creative labor through all time and space. We praise you for the fertile earth and for the life its darkness holds and births: plants of every variety, animals curled in sleep, humankind you shaped by your own hand. Stay with us, for it is evening.

People **Stay with us, for it is evening.**

Presider Through the night you led your people into freedom. At day's end you rained down manna in the wilderness. At sundown your Son brought healing to people in need. In the midday night when Jesus died on the cross, life came forth for all. Stay with us, for it is evening.

People **Stay with us, for it is evening.**

Presider 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Our hearts burn within us as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Presider Like a mother hen, hold us close through the coming night. Watch with those who labor, accompany those who long for peaceful sleep, welcome those whose waking will be only in you. Into our deepest night, come, Lord Jesus.

People **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Presider Come, Holy Spirit, make here the body of Christ: in the breaking of the bread, in justice for our broken world, in rest for the weary, come, Holy Spirit.

People **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Presider To you, O God, painter of both night and day, guiding star and healing sun, breath of peace and wind of change, be all glory, all honor, all praise this night unto the coming dawn, 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 God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.
People **Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**

The Invitation to Communion

Presider Come to the table for all is now ready; taste and see that God is good.

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
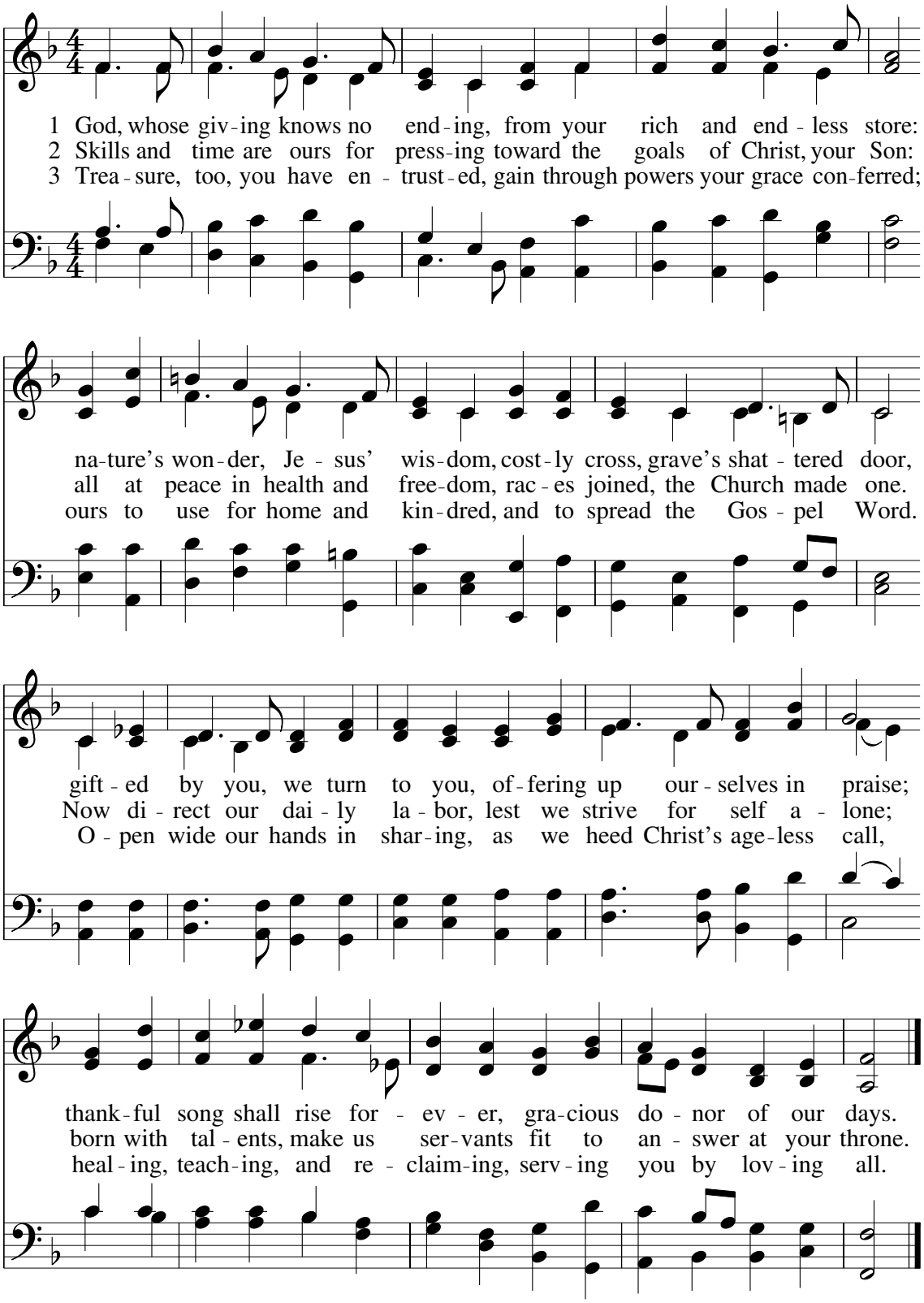
All **Guide us waking, O God, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.**

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



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

The Dismissal

Presider Go forth to serve Christ in others.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Service Participants

Presider and Preacher The Reverend Peter D. Thompson
Chalicer David Carson

Lector Adelaide Kent
Usher Sam Meyer
Altar Guild Megan Krasney

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Alexander Pattavina

Director, Operations & Facilities Charles Bryant
Facilities Anthony Thomas

We continue to hold in our prayers
Velvareth Family, Chris, Aurora, Ebony, Artemis, Tamara

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To make your own commitment to the 2027 pledge campaign, visit **stbarts.org/2027pledge**. A revised list of 2027 pledge campaign participants will be included in the 2026 annual report alongside a full list of 2026 donors.

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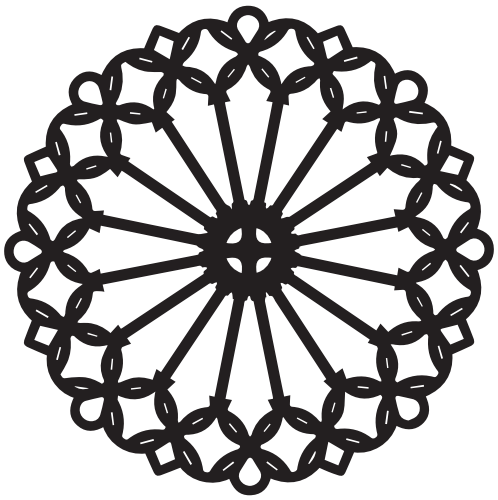
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Newcomers are welcome to all gatherings

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

- **Festive Coffee Hour**
  12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL
- **Guided Tour of St. Bart's**
  12:15 PM IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
- **Explore Class for Newcomers**
  12:30 PM IN ROOM 33
- **A History of Christianity: From Pentecost to the Reformation**
  1 PM IN ROOM 32
- **Living Christ Sangha**
  3 PM IN ROOM 32

MEETING THIS MOMENT AS ONE · 2027 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

The 2027 Pledge Campaign at St. Bart's

The 2026 Pledge Campaign at St. Bart's, "Meeting This Moment As One," concludes today with a celebration and blessing of all pledges at the 9 am, 11 am and 5 pm services. If you have not yet declared your pledge, we encourage you to join the campaign now as we reach our $1.6M goal (**stbarts.org/2027pledge**). Please contact Susannah Wade Lewis at **swadelewis@stbarts.org** with any questions.

NEXT SUNDAY AT ST. BART'S

November 22, 2026: The Last 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**
  Is Christ King? Inclusive Language Conundrums
  The Reverend Peter D. Thompson reflects on efforts to make the language of the Church more inclusive.
- **CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITY HOURS**
  9:45 am–12:45 pm: Nursery Care in Children's Playroom
  10 am: Kids' Club for Grades K-5 in Room 33
  10 am: Youth at the Center for Grades 6-12 in Room 32

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.

Explore Class for Newcomers

SUNDAYS, NOVEMBER 1–15 AT 12:30 PM, ROOM 33
WEDNESDAYS, NOVEMBER 4–18 AT 7 PM, VIA ZOOM
Explore is for anyone new to St. Bart's or The Episcopal Church and interested in learning more. This three-week series provides an overview of Christian belief and practice, through a progressive and open-minded lens. No question is off the table, and all are welcome. A light lunch is offered. Sign up at **stbarts.org/explore**.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 6 PM
CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE, 652 LEXINGTON AVENUE
St. Bart's joins neighboring congregations in gratitude and fellowship for an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Stay after the service for refreshments and connection. All are welcome. Please note that a separate Thanksgiving Eve service will not be held at St. Bart's this year. All are welcome: **stbarts.org/interfaith**.

Paolo Bordignon, harpsichordist, in recital

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 AT 7:30 PM
The harpsichord is not only the instrument epitomizing the High Baroque but also a vehicle for the refined expressiveness of the Rococo, the *Empfindsamer Stil* (sensitive style), and galant styles of the later eighteenth century. Join us for a program exploring some of this repertoire, including music of François Couperin, G.B. Martini, and a dazzling concerto by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach with an ensemble of strings. Tickets at **mmpaf.org**.

Trans Day of Remembrance

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20 AT 6 PM
Join St. Bart's and the Translatina Network for a multi-faith service honoring lives lost to violence and celebrating resilience, hope, and healing. Learn more and volunteer at **stbarts.org/tdor**.

Welcome Sunday

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22 AT 9 AM, 11 AM AND 5 PM
Anyone who has found their way to St. Bart's in the past year and considers it their spiritual home is invited to be recognized and blessed. A reception will be held in the Great Hall at 12:30 pm. You belong already. Let's make it official! Please, sign up at **stbarts.org/welcomesunday**.

Fare Share Friday

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Support our partners at Crossroads Community Services this holiday season as they work to ensure that everybody can eat. Visit **bit.ly/fareshare2026** to learn more.

Advent Lessons & Carols

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 AT 5 PM
Join us for one of the most beloved services of the season! Our combined choirs offer Advent carols and anthems interspersed with readings about the coming of Christ. A festive reception follows in the Great Hall. Eucharist in the chapel is offered after the service for those who wish to attend. Join us in person or via livestream.

Advent Lessons & Carols Reception

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE, IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
Our annual Advent Lessons & Carols Reception is a joyful St. Bart's tradition and an opportunity to come together as a parish to begin the Advent season. Whether you're a whiz in the kitchen or simply enjoy sharing good food, we'd be grateful for your contribution. Bring a treat to share or volunteer to help with setup and cleanup. Contact Paul Rodriguez at **prodriguez@stbarts.org** to learn more.

Tree of Gifts

St. Tabitha's Guild at St. Bart's is sponsoring a Tree of Gifts, offering their handmade needlecrafts for Advent and Christmas. Your donations of new hats, scarves, and gloves are welcome and can be placed on the tree. All items will be donated to Crossroads and Coalition for the Homeless. The Tree of Gifts will be in the narthex of the church from November 29 through January 3.

Our Advent & Christmas Schedule is Here!

Plan your holiday season with St. Bart's! Our full schedule of Advent and Christmas services, music, and celebrations is now available online. We look forward to sharing this joyful season with you. Explore the schedule at **stbarts.org/adventchristmas**.

St. Bart's Sermons and The Forum Now Available as Podcasts

You can now listen to sermons and The Forum on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and other podcast platforms. Subscribe to Sermons at St. Bart's and The Forum at St. Bart's on your favorite podcast app to receive new episodes each week.

Clergy and Staff

Priest-in-Charge The Reverend Peter D. Thompson (pthompson@stbarts.org)
Vicar The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector and Pastor of Imagine Worship The Reverend Zack Nyein (znyein@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 Community Engagement Ms. Loriel Merritt (lmerritt@stbarts.org)
Assistant for Community Engagement Ms. Kimberly Tellus (ktellus@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,
Ken 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.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

325 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022
INFO@STBARTS.ORG

@STBARTSNYC

STBARTS.ORG