

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 1, 2026



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

[www.StBartsPewaukee.com](http://www.StBartsPewaukee.com)

# St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

## ABOUT US

We're so glad you're with us today. We're a **Christian Church**: we believe Jesus is our Lord & Savior and the Bible is God's Word for us. We're an **Episcopal Church** in the Episcopal Diocese of Wisconsin which is part of the **Anglican Communion** dating back to the first Christians in England in the 2nd century A.D.

Our Mission is *helping everyone become who God created them to be.*

## WELCOME

If this is your first time here we'd love to **say Thanks or answer any questions.** You can call/text our pastor, **Father Joel** at **(262) 725-2691** or email: **[pastor@stbarts pewaukee.com](mailto:pastor@stbarts pewaukee.com)**.

## OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

Everything you need today is in this bulletin. Our worship is a "liturgy" with two parts: **THE WORD OF GOD** and **THE HOLY COMMUNION** which all baptized Christians are welcome to receive, including children.

## KIDS

**Children are always welcome** in the Sanctuary for the entire service (we don't mind babies behaving like babies).

**Children's Chapel** is available for kids Pre-K through Elementary. They will follow the Teacher to the classroom in the south hallway at *The Collect of the Day*. They will return at *The Peace*.



## WHO'S WHO

### Pastor / Rector

the Rev'd Joel Allen Prather  
[pastor@stbarts pewaukee.com](mailto:pastor@stbarts pewaukee.com)

### Music Director

Ethan Tarvin  
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### Sr. Warden

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### Treasurer

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### Prayer Requests

[prayer@stbarts pewaukee.com](mailto:prayer@stbarts pewaukee.com)

## The Hymnal 1982

The blue hymnal found in the pew racks is the collection of hymns, tunes, and service music authorized for use in the Episcopal Church. The Hymnal is a companion for the Book of Common Prayer, supporting the Lectionary and the Calendar. It includes service music and 720 hymns. The Hymnal is strongly founded on congregational singing.

We are singing the hymns that are in the hymnal from the hymnal. All other music will continue to have the lyrics in the printed worship bulletin.

**If you are new to The Hymnal:** hymn numbers are found in bold in the hymnal. The first quarter of the book is service music, such as the Song of Praise and the Sanctus that we sing every Sunday. Service music has an “S” in front of the number. Hymns comprise the rest of the hymnal, bold numbers 1 - 720. There are not page numbers. **Look for the hymn by its number, not its name.**

### Opening Hymn: Lift Every Voice and Sing

Blue Hymnal 599

#### The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit .

**People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Glory to God in the Highest

Glory to God in the highest. Sing! Glory to God!

Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth!

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship You, we give you thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Glory to God in the highest. Sing! Glory to God!

Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth!

For You alone are the Holy One. You alone are the Lord, the most high Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God in the highest. Sing! Glory to God!

Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth!

## **The Collect of the Day**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

*\*A short prayer to unify, or “collect”, our intentions for worship. It typically indicates the theme of the day.*

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## ***Children’s Chapel***

*At this time kids Pre-K through Elementary are invited to come to the front for a blessing and then follow the Teacher to Children’s Chapel.*

## **The Lessons** *(please be seated)*

### **A reading from the Prophet Micah (6:1-8)**

Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 15

*The Psalms were originally written to be sung. These poems and prayers have been the foundation of worship for Jews and Christians for 3,000 years, and Jesus prayed and sang the psalms regularly.*

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \* who may abide upon your holy hill?  
Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \* who speaks the truth from his heart.  
There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; \* he does not heap contempt  
upon his neighbor.  
In his sight the wicked is rejected, \* but he honors those who fear the Lord.  
He has sworn to do no wrong, \* and does not take back his word.  
He does not give his money in hope of gain, \* nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.  
Whoever does these things, \* shall never be overthrown.

### A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (1:18-31)

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## The Gradual Hymn\*: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

(verse 1 before, verse 2 after)

*Please stand as you are able. \*This is a song to prepare us to hear Jesus' words. Its ancient name is from the Latin "gradus", the place it was sung in Church.*

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green.  
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

### The Gospel (means "Good News")

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel + of our Lord Jesus Christ + according to Matthew + (5:1-12)

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

+ *You may make a small + Cross with your thumb over your mind, lips, and heart.*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

His beauty doth all things excel by faith I know, but ne'er can tell.  
The glory which I now can see, tis found in Jesus Christ the Appletree.

### The Sermon

*Fr. Joel Prather*

### The Nicene Creed *(please stand and pray together)*

*The Nicene Creed in this bulletin is slightly different than what you may be used to. This is because the Episcopal Church restored the original language of the Nicene Creed which was shared by all Christians until the 6th Century.*

**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, *(you may bow down here)* was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. *(you may rise)*

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic Church. *(\* means universal)*

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.

+ *you may make the Sign of the Cross here to acknowledge the hope that you will be resurrected*

## **The Prayers of the People**

*The Reader and People pray responsively*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, let us pray to the Lord.

*Here and after every petition the People respond*

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Matthew our Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

For those in positions of public trust especially Donald our President, Tony our Governor, Paul our County Executive, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

For the first inhabitants of Pewaukee: we honor the Potawatomi people, as well as the Oneida

people who brought the Episcopal Church to Wisconsin. Help us to be instruments of your peace and justice, we pray to you, O Lord.

Let us pray for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, prisoners, the unemployed, and those in any need. Remembering especially those on our prayer list...

We also pray for our ministry partners:

- Arlo and Ashtyn's Hope (*Canavan's Disease*)
- Fr. Andrew and Amazing Grace AIDS Ministry (*Malawi*)
- Pastor David and Breaking The Chains Church (*Felmers O. Cheney Correctional Center, Milwaukee*)
- Joe and Family Promise of Waukesha County (*Homelessness*)
- Our Karén Families and their Beautiful Garden
- Dave, Judy, and the Pewaukee Food Pantry
- Bishop Daudi and Olivia in Tanzania
- Bill and our Veterans and Families Groups
- Sharon and our Waukesha County Affordable Housing Coalition

...we pray to you, O Lord.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Bartholomew and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

**To you, O Lord our God.**

*We will observe an extended moment of silent reflection before proceeding. Please feel free to relax and sit down if you prefer.*

Celebrant: For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Confession of Sin**

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

**The Absolution**



## **The Peace** *(All stand.)*

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Sharing “peace” with one another is an ancient Christian tradition, not only in the words of Jesus, but also in the practices of the Christian community. As you are comfortable, you are welcome to shake hands when we pass the peace. Please respect those that are not comfortable with hand shaking. A simple nod or the peace sign is also a meaningful way to share the peace of Christ.*

## **Announcements**

*Be sure to sign-up for our eNews using the Welcome! card in your pew rack or at our website. We also encourage you to follow us on our YouTube, Facebook and/or Instagram accounts to stay up-to-date and hit “Share” to let your friends see what’s happening.*

## **The Offertory**

*God tells us in the Bible, no one should feel pressured about giving (2 Corinthians 9:7). Please be at peace about what you choose to do or not to do. The most important offering God wants from us is our life & our hearts. You can place an offering in the basket passed by the ushers or in the wooden box marked Donations near the exit of the Church.*

**Offertory Hymn: Blessed Jesus At Thy Word Blue**

**Hymnal 440**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and says*

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

## Celebrant and People: Sanctus 3

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might,  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues:*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People pray together:*

**We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Bartholomew and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Together*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

**Celebrant:** Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People:** **Therefore let us keep the feast.\* Alleluia** (\*1 Corinthians 5:7-8)

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Invitation to Spiritual Communion for livestream worshippers** - a personal devotional that anyone can pray to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in circumstances which prevent them from actually receiving communion. The prayer will be displayed on the screen.

## ***About Communion at St. Bartholomew's***

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us, including children. If this doesn't describe where you're at, you are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing which you can indicate by crossing your hands over your heart. Or feel free to stay in your seat to pray or reflect.*

*Please come to the rail in front of the altar to receive the Bread and Wine. We have Gluten free Communion Bread for those who desire it. We use alcoholic wine. Bread will be served to you as you stand or kneel. Small cups of wine will be presented to you. Take a cup of wine. As you leave, place the empty cup in the bowl near the end of the first pew and return to your seat. Thank you.*

*If you need Communion brought to you just let one of our Ushers know.*

*Prayer Ministry is offered confidentially during the Eucharist in the side chapel. Let us pray for all those in need; for yourself, family, or friends. You may also be anointed with oil for healing as the Bible teaches (James 5:14). We do so by making a small sign of the Cross upon one's forehead. All are welcome.*

## **Communion Song 1: He Reigns**

It's the song of the redeemed, rising from the African plain.  
It's the song of the forgiven, drowning out the Amazon rain.  
The song of Asian believers filled with God's holy fire.  
It's every tribe, every tongue, every nation; a love song born of a grateful choir.

*[Chorus - sing 2 times]*

It's all God's children singing: "Glory, glory, hallelujah! He reigns! He reigns!

Let it rise above the four winds, caught up in the heavenly sound.  
Let praises echo from the towers of cathedrals, to the faithful gathered underground. Of all the songs sung from the dawn of creation, some were meant to persist. Of all the bells rung from a thousand steeples, none rings truer than this.

*[Chorus]*

It's all God's people singing: "Glory, glory, hallelujah! He reigns! He reigns! *(sing 2 times)*

It's all God's people singing: "Glory, glory, hallelujah! He reigns! He reigns! *(sing 2 times)*

And all the powers of darkness tremble at what they've just heard, 'cause all their powers of darkness can't drown out a single word.

## Communion Song 2: Goodness of God

I love You Lord, Oh Your mercy never fails me.  
All my days, I've been held in Your hands.  
From the moment that I wake up, until I lay my head,  
I will sing of the goodness of God.

*[Chorus]*

All my life You have been faithful.  
All my life You have been so so good.  
With every breath that I am able,  
I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire.  
In darkest night You are close like no other.  
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend.  
I have lived in the goodness of God.

*[Chorus]*

*[Bridge – sing 2 times]*

Your goodness is running after. It's running after me.  
Your goodness is running after. It's running after me.  
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now,  
I give You everything.  
Your goodness is running after. It's running after me.

*[Chorus – sing 2 times]*

I will sing of the goodness of God.

## Prayers After Communion

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant & People:* **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son 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 Lord. Amen.**

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing      Blue Hymnal 686**

## **The Dismissal**

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People:      Thanks be to God.

.....

*Thank you for worshipping with us today.*

**Please join us for coffee and refreshments in the Parish Hall.**

Please scan here to support the mission and ministry of St. Bart's.

We thank you for your generosity.



# Celebrating the Lives of Saints

Christians have, since ancient times, honored people whose lives represent heroic commitment to Christ and who have borne witness to their faith even at the cost of their lives. Such witnesses, by the grace of God, live in every age. It should encourage us to realize that the saints, like us, are first and foremost redeemed sinners in whom the risen Christ's words to St. Paul come to fulfillment, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

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This week, we celebrate:

## THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

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Today's feast is sometimes known as the Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin, and also as Candlemas. In the Orthodox Church it has also been called the Meeting of Christ with Simeon. Such a variety of names is ample testimony to the wealth of spiritual meaning that generations of Christians have discovered in this small incident.

The title "The Presentation" reminds us of the Jewish law (Exodus 13:2; 22:29) that every firstborn son had to be dedicated to God in memory of the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt, when the firstborn sons of the Egyptians died and those of Israel were spared.

When Mary placed her infant son into the arms of Simeon, it was the meeting of the Old and New Dispensations. The old sacrifices, the burnt offerings and oblations, were done away; a new and perfect offering had come into the temple. God had provided himself a lamb for the burnt-offering (Genesis 22:8), his only Son. The offering was to be made once for all on the cross. At every Eucharist those who are in Christ recall that sinless offering and unite "themselves, their souls and bodies" with the self-oblation of their Lord and Savior.

It is traditional that candles are blessed on this day, for use throughout the rest of the year, which is why the feast is also sometimes known as "Candlemas".

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Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

# **BECOMING A MEMBER AT ST. BART'S**

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You can become a Member any Sunday.

## **What does it mean to be a Member of the Church?**

1. Make it official.
2. Participate in worship, in-person and/or online, more often than you don't.
3. Connect with other Members.
4. Serve.
5. Give.

## **Membership Starts With Baptism**

If you, or your children, are not baptized you can do so any Sunday. Simply talk to Father Joel and he'd be glad to answer any questions and help you prepare for Baptism.

## **So How Do I Make It Official?**

- Talk to our pastor Father Joel.
- During Sunday worship you'll be invited up front to...
  - ◊ Renew your Baptismal Promises with two questions.
  - ◊ The congregation will then promise to "do all in their power to support you in your life in Christ."
  - ◊ We'll say a prayer for you.
  - ◊ We'll present you with a gift of Membership and a beautiful watercolor Membership Certificate by our own Dulcie Shupe.
  - ◊ Thunderous applause for you!
  - ◊ That's it...Congratulations!

## **So...Want To Make It Official?**