

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

June 7, 2026



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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@stbartspewaukee.com.**

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

This bulletin will guide you through everything you need to participate in the service. 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@stbartspewaukee.com

Music Director

Ethan Tarvin
music@stbartspewaukee.com

Parish Administration

Jan Watter
admin@stbartspewaukee.com

Rector's Assistance

Carol Cohen
office@stbartspewaukee.com

Sr. Warden

Dave Woods
davewoods2370@gmail.com

Jr. Warden

Jamie Thomson
jbthomson11@gmail.com

Treasurer

Mike Delmore
treasurer@stbartspewaukee.com

Prayer Requests

prayer@stbartspewaukee.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.**

The Opening Hymn: I Come With Joy (verses 1-3) Blue Hymnal 304

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.**

Song of Praise: 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.*

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; 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 Book of Genesis (12:1-9)

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 33: 1-12

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.

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; * it is good for the just to sing praises.

Praise the Lord with the harp; * play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.

Sing for him a new song; * sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

For the word of the Lord is right, * and all his works are sure.

He loves righteousness and justice; * the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, * by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.

He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin * and stores up the depths of the sea.

Let all the earth fear the Lord; * let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.

For he spoke, and it came to pass; * he commanded, and it stood fast.

The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught; * he thwarts the designs of the peoples.

But the Lord'S will stands fast for ever, * and the designs of his heart from age to age.

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! * happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans (4:13-25)

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual* Hymn: Indescribable

*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.*

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea, creations revealing Your majesty. From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring, every creature unique in the song that it sings. All exclaiming: indescribable, uncontainable, You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name. You are amazing, God; all powerful, untameable. Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim You are amazing, God. You are amazing, God.

The Gospel (means "Good News")

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel + of our Lord Jesus Christ + according to Matthew + (9:9-13, 18-26)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me."

And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

You are amazing, God. You are amazing, God.

The Sermon

The Rev'd 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

Let us pray for the Church and the world.

Let us pray for God's people throughout the world, for this gathering, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Matt our bishop, for Ann the bishop of the Armed Forces, and for all who minister in Christ's name.

Holy God, by your Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified. Receive our prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in our vocation and ministry we may truly and reverently serve you.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

Let us pray for the nations of the earth, for the well-being of all people, and for those in authority. 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.

God of compassion, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who govern the nations of the earth, that justice and peace may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

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

We also pray for our ministry partners:

- Arlo and Ashtyn's Hope
- Fr. Andrew and Amazing Grace AIDS Ministry
- Pastor David and Breaking the Chains Church
- Joe and Family Promise of Waukesha County
- Our Karén Families
- Dave, Judy, and the Pewaukee Food Pantry
- Bishop Daudi and Olivia in Tanzania
- and Bill and our Veterans and Families Group,

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer, hear the cry of those in misery and need. In their afflictions show them your mercy, and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them, for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered for us.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

Let us pray for the mission of the Church and for the coming of God's reign among all nations and peoples.

Loving God, you have made all races and nations to be one family, and you sent Jesus Christ to proclaim the good news of salvation to all people. Pour out your Spirit on the whole creation and hasten the coming of your reign of justice and love among the nations of the world.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

Let us remember with thanksgiving before God those who have died in Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone. Let us pray that God may be glorified in all the saints.

Life-giving God, we give you thanks and praise for the wonderful grace and love declared in all your saints. Grant to us, and to all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, a share in the fulness of your joy.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

Let us give thanks for all God's goodness.

You are worthy, O God, to receive honor and blessing and praise. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We will observe silent reflection

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

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

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

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: Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

[Chorus]

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me, I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

[Chorus]

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide 'til their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

[Chorus]

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

(The Celebrant reads a Preface of the Lord's Day - a variable portion of the text of our Eucharistic Prayer that plays an important role in aligning our worship with the theme of a particular occasion or season.)

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People: Mass of Ascent - Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People say together

We remember his death † We proclaim his resurrection † We await his coming in glory

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

Together

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

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 & Wine. Bread will be served to you as you stand or kneel. We have gluten free bread if you prefer it, simply let the minister know. We have two options for receiving the wine. You may take a sip of wine from the shared Chalice or you make take small cup of wine from the tray, and place the empty cup in the bowl near the end of the first pew as you return to your seat. We use alcoholic wine. 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: Great Are You Lord

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness.

You give hope. You restore every heart that is broken

And great are You, Lord.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only. *(Repeat)*

And all the earth will shout Your praise.

Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing,

"Great are You, Lord!" *(Repeat)*

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.

It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only. *(Repeat)*

Communion Song 2: Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,

Wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,

Wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.

Our God, You reign forever. Our hope, our strong deliverer.

[Chorus]

You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God.

You do not faint, You won't grow weary. You're the defender of the weak.

You comfort those in need. You lift us up on wings like eagles.

[REPEAT ABOVE ONE TIME]

Our God, You reign forever. Our hope, our strong deliverer.

[Chorus]

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,

Wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.

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

Go into the world in peace, be of good cheer, hold fast to that which is good, return to no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the poor, honor all people, love and serve our Lord Jesus, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, 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: 'Tis the Gift to be Simple

Blue Hymnal 554

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

.....
Thank you for worshiping 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.

Tomorrow, we celebrate the life of:

MELANIA THE ELDER, Monastic, 410

Melania was a part of the first generation of Roman aristocrats who were encouraged to embrace Christianity, and lived to see it become the official religion of the Roman Empire. She was born in 341 in Spain and moved to Rome following her marriage, where she was widowed at the age of 22. Only one of her children, a son, survived, and she gave him into the care of a guardian so that she might pursue a monastic vocation.

Leaving Rome, she went to Alexandria where she used her fortune to support monastics, teachers, and pilgrims. While in Egypt, Melania studied asceticism and theology with the desert fathers and mothers. During a purge of the monasteries by the Arian bishop of Alexandria, Melania traveled to Palestine where she would spend the majority of her life.

Arriving in Jerusalem sometime after 372, she founded two monasteries on the Mount of Olives. These communities practiced hospitality for the many pilgrims who came to the sites of Christ's passion and resurrection – all paid for by Melania. Her work of hospitality was especially significant for the many women making pilgrimage: the roads were not a safe place for travelers, and women were particularly vulnerable.

In an era when aristocratic Roman widows were expected to embrace the virtues of modesty and reserve, Melania was theologically outspoken and never shied away from expressing her passion for asceticism and for learning. She promoted theological tolerance and the unity of Christianity. A committed scholar, she studied the works of Origen, Basil the Great, and Gregory of Nazianzus. She was a teacher and spiritual director to many of the most prominent theologians and spiritual writers of her day, most notably Evagrius, whom she counseled through a spiritual crisis and then clothed as a monk. His Letter to Melania is one of his most profound works of ascetical and mystical theology.

Late in her life, on a visit to Rome to see her son, she inspired his daughter, also named Melania, to embrace the monastic life. Known as Melania the Younger, she followed her grandmother back to Jerusalem. Melania the Elder entered into eternal life in 410.

BECOMING A MEMBER AT ST. BART'S

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?