

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

10:00 am

Prelude *Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us* J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome The Reverend Florence Ledyard

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath The DeVale Family

"The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light; those who live in a land of deep shadow, on them a light has shined." — Isaiah 9:2

Leader Almighty God, grant that the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, may so light our whole lives that we need never again walk in darkness.

People **Amen.**

Opening Hymn *Lo, he comes with clouds descending* page 9

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Kyrie

Hymnal S-96

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, have mercy, have mercy.' It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes: 'Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.' The music is arranged for a single voice part with piano accompaniment.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)
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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Lesson

Isaiah 64:1-9 *read by Meg Schumacher*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence — as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil — to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**



T = *treble (higher) voices* **L** = *lower voice*

- T** Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph / like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- / on the cherubim.
- L** In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma- / nasseh, *
stir up your strength and / come to help us.
- All** Restore us, O / God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, / and we shall be saved.
- T** O LORD / God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers / of your people?
- L** You have fed them with the / bread of tears; *
you have given them / bowls of tears to drink.
- T** You have made us the derision of our / neighbors, *
and our enemies / laugh us to scorn.
- All** Restore us, O / God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, / and we shall be saved.
- L** Let your hand be upon the man of your / right hand, *
the son of man you have made so / strong for yourself.
- T** And so will we never turn a- / way from you; *
give us life, that we may / call upon your Name.
- All** Restore us, O / God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, / and we shall be saved.

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3-9, *read by Ray Zeigler*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus said, "But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Florence Ledyard

A time of silence is observed following the sermon

Nicene Creed

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. 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.

The Prayers of the People, *led by Robin Murray*

Intercessor Brothers and sisters, what I say to you I say to all: keep awake. Let us appeal to God.

Restore your holy-catholic Church, O Lord God of hosts. Give us eyes to see that together we are not lacking any Spiritual gift. Strengthen us that we may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Show the light of your countenance,

People **And we shall be saved.**

Intercessor Restore justice throughout the world, O Lord God of hosts. You work for those who wait for you. Come to the help of the oppressed and the needy. Show the light of your countenance,

People **And we shall be saved.**

Intercessor Restore your creation, O Lord God of hosts. Awesome are your deeds and wonderful are the works of your hands. We give thanks, remembering _____. Show the light of your countenance,

People **And we shall be saved.**

Intercessor Restore peace in the city. O Lord God of hosts. Make us mindful of our interdependence. Help us to respect the dignity of our neighbors. Show the light of your countenance,

People **And we shall be saved.**

Intercessor Restore the weak to strength, O Lord God of hosts. Come quickly with healing in your wings, remembering: _____. Show the light of your countenance,

People **And we shall be saved.**

Intercessor Restore our hope, O Lord God of hosts. Though we all fade like a leaf, still you are faithful. You have called your people into the fellowship of your Son forever, remembering: _____. Show the light of your countenance,

People **And we shall be saved.**

Intercessor Show your goodness, O Lord, and hear our prayers. Look past our selfish desires and remember your own faithfulness. In your great compassion, consider our petitions and in your mercy do in our lives that which is truly good. We pray in the name of your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit, reigns One God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

The Confession

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

All **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 Peace, *greet one another in the name of the Lord*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Comments

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Hymnal S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

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

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)
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Celebrant 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.

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

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant 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 Bartholomew and 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.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer, *contemporary*

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, *followed by silence*

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

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

Prayer Over the Bread (*said by all*)

Blessed are you, O Lord our God; you bring forth bread from the earth and make the risen Lord to be for us the Bread of life: Grant that we who daily seek the bread which sustains our bodies may also hunger for the food of everlasting life, Jesus Christ our Lord . Amen.

Prayer Over the Wine or Other Libation (*said by all*)

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator of the fruit of the vine: Grant that we who share this drink, which gladdens our hearts, may share for ever the new life of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Post Communion Prayer (*Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces 1988*)

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us

page 11

Dismissal

Deacon As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our commitment to our vision and mission as a congregation:

People **We will, with God's help, be a vibrant faith community that is a blazing beacon of God's transforming love in the world. God is calling us to take righteous risks. We accept this call, and will respond by seeking and serving Christ in ALL people.**

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us

Hugo Distler (1908-1942)



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

Harmony

My Lord, what a morn-ing, My Lord, what a morn-ing, O

my Lord, what a morn-ing, When the stars be-gin to fall.

Fine

Unison

1. You'll hear the trum - pet sound,
2. You'll hear the sin - ner mourn, To wake the
3. You'll hear the Chris - tian shout,

na - tions un - der - ground, Look - ing to my God's right

hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.

D.C.

Words: Traditional
Music: Negro Spiritual



1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the shout of ram-part
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her heart with joy - ful
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let saints and an - gels



guards sur-rounds us: "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
 hope is spring - ing, she wakes and hur - ries through the night.
 sing be - fore you, as harps and cym - bals swell the sound.



Mid - night's peace their cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum-mons
 Forth he comes, her Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in
 Twelve great pearls, the ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to



clear - ly spo - ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 truth vic - to - rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 join the im - mor - tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.



Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in sight.
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate Word,
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de - light:



Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and has - ten there,
 Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and heed your call
 Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to greet our King;



that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

Music: *Wachet auf*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); harm. Jakob Praetorius (1586-1651)

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Your prayers are requested for members and friends of St. B's ...

Lucy Marshall; Doris Haughey; Vince Marsiglia; Donna Cartwright; Janet Churchill; David Schneider; Shirley Nathan Pulliam; Wyvetta Dupree; Tony Creek; Mike Knudsen; Lib Shipley; Lillian Thomas; Celia Vismale; Ray Zeigler; Larry Brown; Sandra DeSilva; Peter Griffin; Jon Davis; Young Sam; Michelle Haynie Madison; Kate Henshall; Mary Warfield; Ayodele House; Tom Cover; Jim Wright; Kathleen DeVale; David McClellan; Dana Przybyszewski; Larry Bucher; John White; Steve Sprecher; Chris Bassett-Jellema; 40 West Assistance and Referral Center Clients; Hope Harbor partner families; Heidi; Theresa Thomas; Meg and Shaun; Kathy and Andy; Don and Angel; John and Jean; Sue Goodall; Amanda Ash Freeland; Kyle Yoder; Van Gardner; Scott Armentrout; John Mountain; Patricia Mountain; Diane McPhillips; Ron Blouin; Mary Warren; Michael Pizarro; those affected by the coronavirus; those in our midst who are un- or under-employed & the homeless; AND any others we name at this time.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. B'S

for the week beginning November 29, 2020



Sunday

Join us at 10:00 am when we “Zoom” into worship.

At 8:00 am, **Weed and Worship** takes place. Schedule your time and garden space with Celeste Thurston (Celeste_Thurston@cable.comcast.com) — or just show up!

At 1:00 pm, the **Choristers** gather via Zoom.

Children’s Word for Kangaroos! The Kangaroo Class (for children age 3 through 2nd grade) meets with Cyndy Compton on Zoom from 5:00 to 5:30 pm. If you have not yet received a Spark Story Bible for your child to use or the Zoom link for the Kangaroo Class, please contact Steve Miller (stmiller@umbc.edu) or Maggie Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org).

Youth Group, for those in grades 6—12, meets via Zoom on Sundays from 5:00 to 6:30 pm. We’re taking a break this week for the Thanksgiving holiday but we’ll be back next Sunday. Please contact Youth Group Leaders Kathie or Marty Clark (peaceclark1@gmail.com) for the link to join. Come for fun, fellowship, and faith. And invite a friend!

† **Monday through Saturday** at 12:00 noon, we hold a brief service of **Noonday Prayer** (at home). †
If you have specific prayer needs, please send them to Maggie Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org).

Monday

Episcopal 102 meets via Zoom on Mondays from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. We’re discussing the Top 100 Stories (more or less) in the Bible, story by story, and look at each story through the lenses of Relationship, Redemption, and Faithfulness. Sound intriguing? Everyone is welcome. Want more information? Contact Carol Burnside at shinyredtruck@msn.com or text/call at 410-440-7394.

At 7:00 pm a **Sankofa Circle** meets via Zoom.

Tuesday

A **Sankofa Circle** meets via Zoom at 11:45 am.

At 4:30 pm, youth from the Diocese of Maryland in grades 6—12 gather via Zoom for a weekly **Online Youth Group**. Information and a registration form are available at <http://episcopalmarylandyouth.weebly.com/events.html>.

Children’s Word for Elephants! The Elephant Class (for children in 3rd through 5th grade) meets with Miss Jo Anne on Zoom from 7:00 to 7:30 pm. If you have not yet received a Spark Bible NRSV for your child to use or the Zoom link for the Elephant Class, please contact Steve Miller (stmiller@umbc.edu) or Maggie Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org).

Wednesday

At 7:00 pm, two **Sankofa Circles** meet.

Also at 7:00 pm, the **Prayer Shawls and Sewing Bees** meet via Zoom. Please contact Jean Storrs at aandj@mindspring.com or 443-798-1439 if you would like to join this group.

Thursday

The **Pastoral Care Committee** meets via Zoom at 1:30 pm.

At 7:00 pm, a **Sankofa Circle** meets.

The **St. Bartholomew Choir (for older youth & adults)** gathers via Zoom at 7:30 pm. All are welcome! Please contact Ted Davis (ted@stbs-md.org) or the church office for more information.

Community Notes ...

We are grateful for all the **Pledges** made to St. B’s. If you have not yet sent in your Treasure or Time and Talent pledges, you may find copies of the pledge cards in your bulletin. They are also available on our website. Or contact Maggie (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org) or call the office (410-945-7263) and leave a message.

86% of adults who join congregations attend for the first time because someone invited them!
Invite A Friend or Neighbor to St. B's Zoom Worship.

“A Moment of Peace and Quiet,” a digital devotion, is now available on St. B’s website.

The 40 West Office is scheduled to be on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm for food and financial help on a first-come, first-serve basis. Tickets will be given out at the office door. Masks are required and there will be limited seating inside the office. The Center is also open on Wednesdays from 1:00 to 4:00 pm by appointment only for help with utility turn-off and evictions (for clients living in Zip Codes 21229 and 21207). Call 410-233-4357 to schedule an appointment.

St. B’s Christmas Mart — An Outreach Benefit — is open! The St. B’s Black Friday Sales Page is LIVE! Before you think of the mall, or even Amazon, think St. B’s! We have a variety of items - jewelry, clothing, books, movies - all kinds of gifts. We take Paypal and can arrange for pick-up and cash payment if necessary. https://www.facebook.com/St-Bs-Christmas-Mart-an-Outreach-Benefit-106215134643444/?view_public_for=106215134643444.

The **Choir School of West Baltimore**, a free music enrichment program for boys and girls in grade 3 and up, under the direction of Choirmaster Ted Davis, will be launching soon. Contact Ted for more information or to schedule an interview: ted@stbs-md.org or 410-945-7263.

In preparation for Advent, which begins on Sunday, November 29, a few **hand-carved Advent Wreaths** (that were donated to the Flea Market) are still available for sale for \$10 each. While the wreaths appear to be carved out of wood, they are actually Corian. They have candle holders that fit standard taper candles and say “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” on them. Please let Maggie Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org) know if you are interested in purchasing one.

A quick look at events in the coming weeks ...

December 13 FAITH FORUM gathers from **9:00 to 9:45 am** via Zoom. Join Virologist and Clergy Associate Ann Boyd for a discussion about “Coping with the Pandemic: Mentally, Physically, and Spiritually.” The Zoom link for Faith Forum will be included in Flo’s weekly email message and the Sunday morning email reminder. Faith Forum is scheduled on the second Sunday of the month. Please join us!

Join members and friends of the St. Bartholomew Choir for **Virtual Choral Evensong** at 4:30 pm. A traditional pattern of prayers, hymns, and choral music creates a moving and captivating experience of meditation and reflection. Check the church web page (www.stbs-md.com) for log-in information.

December 24 Christmas Eve

At 4:00 pm, the **Children’s Pageant (with Holy Eucharist)** takes place on Zoom.

Music for the Season begins on Zoom at 10:45 pm, prior to the **Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist** at 11:00 pm.

December 25 Christmas Day

At 10:30 am, **Christmas Day Holy Eucharist** will be offered.

December 27 On the First Sunday after Christmas join us on Zoom for a **Service of Christmas Lesson and Carols and Holy Eucharist** at 10:00 am.

A blazing beacon moment of the week: _____ !

Treasure Pledge for 2021

Generosity is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, both a gift and response to God's unbounded and unending grace. We invite you to download, print out, and complete this pledge card and return it to the Church. There is no one time to share your pledge with us, so feel free to put your completed card in the plate on Sunday morning or send your pledge to our Assistant Treasurer, John DeVale (Attn: Assistant Treasurer, 4711 Edmondson Avenue, Baltimore MD 21229).

Romans 8:38-39 *For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

\$ _____ (please check) each week each month this year

Name(s) _____

Address, City & Zip _____

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Worship		Community Formation		Commitment to Ministry		Mission	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Acolytes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Archives	<input type="checkbox"/>	Creation Caretakers (Green Team)	<input type="checkbox"/>	40 West Assistance & Referral
<input type="checkbox"/>	Altar Guild	<input type="checkbox"/>	Classics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Endowment Fund	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hope Harbor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Christian Meditation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daughters of the King	<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>	KIVA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Healing Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthcare Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jigsaw	<input type="checkbox"/>	Outreach Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	LEM	<input type="checkbox"/>	Men's Group	<input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	Outreach Grants
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lectors & Chalicists	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newcomers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Property	<input type="checkbox"/>	St. James-Irvington Peace Park
<input type="checkbox"/>	Memorials & Thanksgivings	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parish Life	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stewardship	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gospel Justice Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Choir / Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastoral Care		Tellers		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Noonday Prayer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer Shawls / Sewing Bees	Christian Formation			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stations of the Cross	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sankofa Circles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adult Formation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cribbery
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ushers			<input type="checkbox"/>	Children's Word	<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Formation

Library

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Here are some committees that are active during COVID and could always use your help, including some of the newer ministries.

- Join Creation Caretakers, a new "Green" committee. Focused on action. Contact: Leah Kulp (wakulp@comcast.net)
- Help Landscaping - they have been working on Sunday mornings before the 10:00 am service. That probably won't continue into the colder months, but they'll still need help thru then and I'm sure will be arranging for work to be done. Contact: Celeste (Celeste_Thurston@comcast.com) or John White (JFWhite58@gmail.com)
- Be a part of Dave's DIY "fix-it" team - he has a team of folks he calls on to help with projects around the campus. Contact: Dave Murray (drmur@verizon.net)
- Volunteer to help with 40 West's food drives and food distributions. They are doing them once a week. Contact: Susan Lundin (slundin@yahoo.com)
- Kid's Council is up and running. Contact: Kobey DeVale (kdevale@acm.org) or Steve Miller (stmiller@umbc.edu)
- Choir is also "on!" - all online, even rehearsal. It's working! Contact: Ted (ted@stbs-md.org) or any choir member
- Adult Ed/Faith Forum is meeting and planning two tracks – On-line Faith Forum sessions and a 2- year curriculum on Racism. Contact: Flo (fledyard@stbs-md.org) or Corinne (zencorinne@hotmail.com)
- Finance, Funds, and Stewardship Committees are all working and can always use volunteers. Contact Michael Haynie for Finance(mhaynie@parkwaymgt.com); Deirdre McElroy for Funds(didimcelroy@gmail.com) or Cynthia Wagner for Stewardship (crw21228@gmail.com)
- Gospel Justice Committee - exploring ways to work with our local police district to improve community relations. Contact: Charles Flexner (cflexner@gmail.com) or Amanda Harris (aharris1968@hotmail.com)
- Join the Altar Guild! Contact: Contact: Gay Warshaw (gay.warshaw@gmail.com)
- Join the Tech Verger IT Team - These are our tech gurus who help us connect and worship on Zoom. We could use a few more hands and the current team will train. We are also getting church-based IT equipment. Contact Michael Mountain (michael.mountain729@gmail.com)
- Help on a Parishioner Check-In Phone Tree - We'd like to get a team of 10 - 12 people who would check in with their assigned parishioners once a month, give updates, etc. Contact: The Wardens Corinne (zencorinne@hotmail.com) or Angel (towsonaka477@gmail.com)
- Reparations Fund - Planning is underway for a Reparations Fund initiative which would take the form of microloans to young entrepreneurs in our community. Contact: The Wardens Corinne (zencorinne@hotmail.com) or Angel (towsonaka477@gmail.com)

From the Outreach Committee: Spreading Christmas Joy

The Outreach Committee, along with the other 40 West member churches and friends, will once again be helping to support the children of clients of 40 West and Hope Harbor partner families at Christmas. However, due to COVID-19, our Angel Tree gift collection will have to look a little different, and we won't be able to watch the pile of gifts grow under the tree throughout the Advent season.



Instead, we are asking for donations of \$25.00 Walmart gift cards or cash cards like VISA cards that can be used at ANY store. The cards will be distributed in early December, for parents to be able to purchase gifts for their children or other needed items. Walmart is conveniently located on the bus line, and offers a range of products that will fit every need. Cash cards can be used at stores that may be geographically convenient to receiving families.

If you are not visiting stores these days and prefer to give a check, you may do so. Please make it out to 40 West Assistance and Referral, with "Angel Tree Gift Card" in the note line. Checks may be mailed or dropped off with gift cards. Our goal is 150 cards!

Please consider sharing some Christmas joy in this way. **Gift cards are due by December 1st!** Contact Glorius Sullivan (410-644-8110) to make arrangements to drop off your donation at the church or at her home.

The solemnity
and beauty of *Virtual*
Choral evensong

Sunday, December 13

4:30 p.m.

join us via YouTube Live



Led by members and
friends of the
St. Bartholomew Choir

St. Bartholomew's
Episcopal Church
Baltimore, Maryland

Check the church web page (www.stbs-md.com) for log-in information

READ IT

This week's Bible story is

Be Ready

from Mark 13:24-37.



Advent 1

God works for good, even in troubled times.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Sun
- Moon
- Stars
- Fig Tree
- Master
- Slave

Mark wrote his gospel primarily for a non-Jewish, Roman audience around 70 C.E. It includes many descriptions of Jewish customs, including the ways they had to wash themselves and how they celebrated holidays. These details helped the Roman people understand Jesus both as a person and as the one the Jews had been waiting for, the Son of God.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 346-347

Spark Bible page 1119

Family Prayer

Dear God, The world can be a scary place sometimes. Stay with us and help us remember that good will always follow the bad. We will trust you to lead us out of darkness. Amen.

TALK ABOUT IT

Family Conversations

- 1 Share a time of trouble in your own life. How did you see God working for good during this time?
- 2 When Mark wrote his gospel, Jerusalem was at war with Rome. How do you think his Roman audience would feel reading Mark 13:24-26? What would it remind them of?
- 3 No one knows when Jesus will return. What can we do to "keep awake" and prepare for that monumental event?
- 4 Today's passage contains some magnificent, and sometimes frightening, imagery: the sun will be darkened, and the stars will fall from heaven. What do these images remind you of? How do they show God's power?



Eye Spark

When you go outside, look up at the clouds and remember that Jesus will return through them someday "with great power and glory."



Ear Spark

During a storm, listen to the loud claps of thunder. The sounds may be scary, but remember that God is present, even in the darkness.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Plant a garden of perennial flowers (that re-bloom every year) in your yard or in a window box. Remember the sign of the blooming fig tree, and watch for signs of summer in your garden.

For younger kids

Keep a journal of scary things that happen to you. After you write about what happened, write about how God helped you through it. Remember that God works for good in everything.

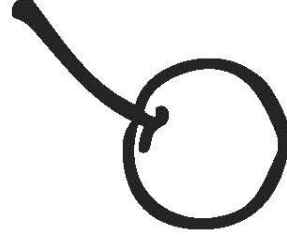
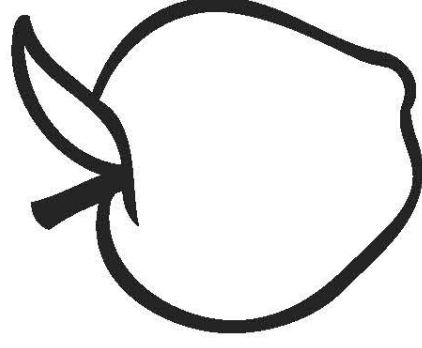
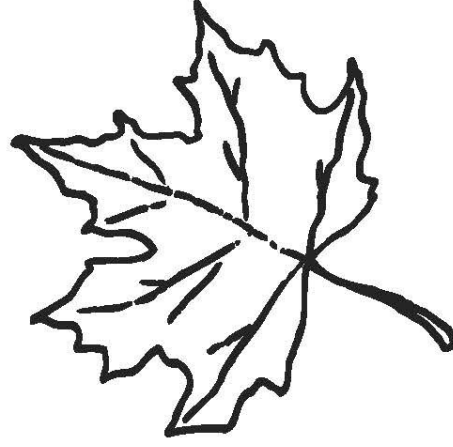
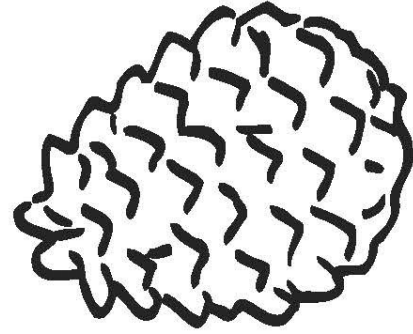
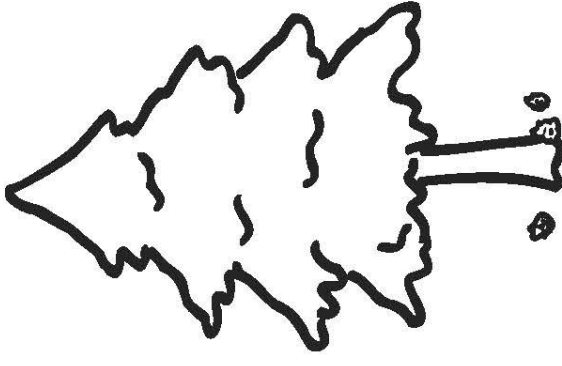
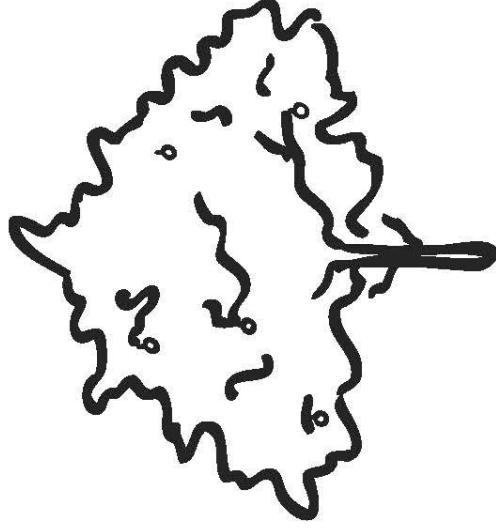
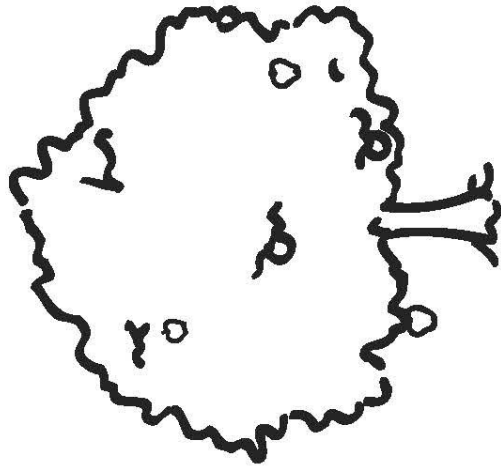
For older kids

Read newspaper articles and browse websites to find out about recent natural disasters in the world. Look for ways to offer support, such as donating money or collecting food and supplies to send to the people in need. How can we help God work for good even after terrible events?



Things Fall Down

Jesus reminds us that God will never fall down. But many things *do* fall down! Lots of things like fruit, seeds, and leaves fall down from trees. Color these things and match them to their trees.



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4711 Edmondson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21229-1440
phone 410-945-7263
fax 410-945-7745
email office@stbs-md.org
web <http://stbs-md.org/>

Sermons <http://stbs-md.org/index.php/worship/sermons/>
The Church Office is open M-Th from 8 am to 5 pm and F from 8 am to 1 pm.

STAFF

Florence Ledyard, Rector	Steven Johnson, Coordinator of Youth Education
Fred Bolling, Sexton	Jo Anne Kern, Children's Word Teacher
Neva Brown, Deacon	Bev Lohr, Office Volunteer
Ann Boyd, Clergy Associate	Dona McIntyre, Cribbery Caregiver
Maggie Caldwell, Parish and Communications Coordinator	Kathy Schultheis, Bookkeeper
Ted Davis, Organist and Choirmaster	Thelma Smullen, Clergy Associate
Ebony Ellard, Children's Word Teacher	Charles Sullivan, Verger
Maria "Mitch" Fedock, Deacon	Mary Warfield, Faith Community Nurse

OFFICERS

Angel Jackson, Senior Warden	Sarah Chard, Registrar
Michael Sarbanes, Junior Warden	John Schroeder, Treasurer
	John DeVale, Assistant Treasurer

VESTRY

Invite Task Force

Susan Goering
Angel Jackson
Dick Parker
Michael Sarbanes

Welcome Task Force

Mercedes Hill
Nicete Moodie
Ben Smith
Tim Wolf

Connect Task Force

Stephanie Brooks-Wiggins
Verna Harrison
Michael Mountain
Rachel Sangree
Celeste Thurston

Pledge Task Force

Bonnie Kutch
Gordon Piché



A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

