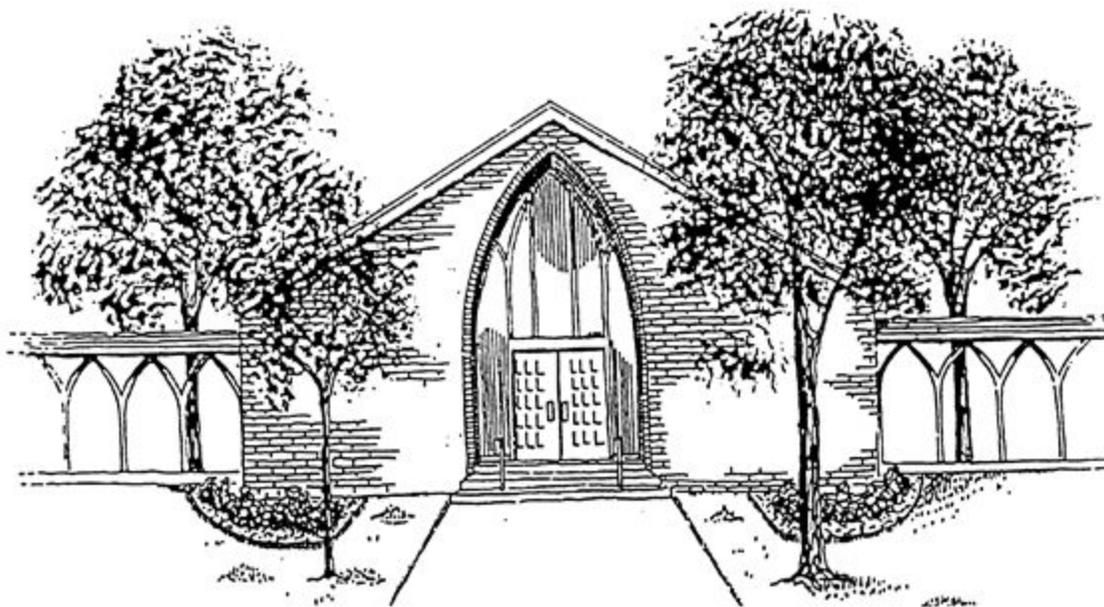


St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost



Sunday, August 23, 2020

10:30 A.M. - Morning Prayer - Rite Two

Thank YOU for worshipping with us today.

We welcome the participation of children in our worship.

Please sign our guest registry.

Child Care area is in the back of the Nave

The Right Reverend Larry Benfield, Bishop of Arkansas

The Reverend Michael Briggs, Rector

Organist, Susan Mason

Office Administrator: Becky Ibison

Church Office: (479) 783-2101

2701 Old Greenwood Road, Fort Smith, AR 72903

Website: stbartsfs.org Email: stbartsfs.stbartsfs@outlook.com

Facebook: St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church and Facebook Live

Twitter: St. Bart's Church@stbartschurch1

Daily Morning Prayer - Rite Two

Prelude

“Merifield”

By Janet Correll

Opening Hymn

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Habakkuk 2:20

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

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 Officiant alone stands and says

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 Invitatory and Psalter *All stand*

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

**and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Let Us Pray Together Psalm 124

**1 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;
2 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;
3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;
4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;
5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.
6 Blessed be the Lord! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.**

The Lessons

A Reading from Exodus. (please sit)

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they

were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

A Reading from Romans.

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel:

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed

in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily: Rev. Rhonda Monroe

Solo by Scott Monroe “A Mother Lined a Basket” By Mary Keithahn and John Horman

18 A Song to the Lamb *Revelation 4:11, 5:9-10, 13*

**Splendor and honor and kingly power *
are yours by right, O Lord our God,
For you created everything that is, *
and by your will they were created and have their being;
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, *
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people, and nation, *
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.
And so, to him who sits upon the throne, *
and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, *
for ever and for evermore.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers *The People stand or kneel.*

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

**Our Father, who are 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.**

Prayers of the People: (please kneel, sit or stand)

Let us lift our voices in prayer, joining with the faithful throughout the world who offer their intercessions this day, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Give your grace to those who care for children in foster homes, sustain them with patience, and encourage them to provide a family of love and respect; *Silence*
let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open our eyes to behold your hand in the work of creation, that we may marvel at your intricate craftsmanship and tend the beauty that we behold; *Silence*
let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pour your knowledge into the minds of those who are returning to school in the next few weeks, and for those attending for the first time, still their hearts by your loving presence; *Silence*
let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant us the grace to honor the many gifts that you have given, not coveting what our neighbor has received, but grateful for what you have entrusted to our care;

Silence

let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Reveal yourself to every nation and people, that we may know you to be the Christ, the Messiah, the one who saves our souls from the pit of darkness, and who comes carrying the lamp of charity that leads us to the divine life;

Silence

let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Hear our prayer and supplication for all who are in need, especially Tim, Jeannie, Tom, Sherry, William, Denna, Katia, Reid, Susan, Bill, Fred, Elaine, Daniel, Paul, all teachers, students and parents, all sick with COVID-19 and their families, all First Responders, Healthcare Workers and those serving the public;

Silence

let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Give life to those in the tombs, opening the gates of heaven to all who desire eternal life;

Silence

let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

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;

Silence

let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel, especially, Mark, Timothy, Fr. Michael, surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord;

Silence

let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us continue our prayers to God, who cares for the lowly and guards us in the midst of trouble.

Concluding Collect (together)

Lord, you have called us to serve you. Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those things, good Lord, that your servants have prayed for, give us grace to work for; and in the purpose of your love answer our prayers and fulfil our hopes for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

The Officiant then says one or more of the following Collects

Let us pray

The Collect of the Day

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our
common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved
Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the
midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for
us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life
everlasting. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

We Will Extol You, Everblessed Lord

Then may be said

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Praise the Lord, God’s Glories Show”

By David Evans

The Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God

Announcements:

- Father Michael will be on vacation from Friday, August 21 until Friday, August 28. If you have an emergency during that time, please call the office at 479-783-2101 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If the emergency is after hours, please call Donna Goldstein at 713-515-0075.
- Since Fr. Michael is on vacation, there will be no Lord's Prayer online during the week of Monday, August 24.
- Father Michael has been very creative in finding new ways for us to worship and serve the community in these challenging times. We have also been searching for new ways to have fellowship with one another. We now have a way to re-connect. We have created a fun private group on Facebook. Only St. Barts parishioners can participate. Drop by and share photos and comments and let everyone know what's going on in your life. Hope to see you there. You can join the group by following this link and selecting "Join Group:"
<https://m.facebook.com/groups/314786736339613?view=permalink&id=314797029671917>
- We will begin having Holy Eucharist services at the 5:30 p.m. service on Saturday, August 29, and Sunday at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. It will be bread only. The services have to be limited to 10 people. In that regard, if you want to attend in person you need to let Becky know by either calling the office or sending an email by no later than Thursday. If we have more than ten (10) people that want to attend in person, we will begin doing an additional service at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays.
- The Police are asking for help with one of their projects, which is to give out sack lunches. We have been asked to make sack lunches once a month. This project is to build trust between the Police and the Community. If you are willing to help with making sandwiches, call Bella at 479-567-9520.
- To get notified of new videos and when we go live, subscribe to our YouTube Channel:
<https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCNGrepZQ-z3qw9Ha-eMrlMg>. If you have any questions, talk to Fr. Michael or Will Leeper.

- **August 19, 2020 Vestry Meeting Summary:**

Those present at the August 19 Vestry Meeting included: Father Michael, Joel Goldstein, Donna Goldstein, Caroline Cross, Cindy Cunningham, Michael Morton, Chris Allen and Becky Ward. Silvia Balsara participated via Zoom.

Treasurer Joel reported continued healthy finances, with substantial gains in the Foundation Trust. Plate (the weekly collection) is done markedly.

Parishioners and those who view are reminded that the Tithely button on the website is a way to make a donation of any amount.

Senior Warden Donna discussed the creation of a new private Facebook group for parishioners only. Members will receive a link to the page in the newsletter. While it won't replace fellowship in our physical church, this private group provides a fun way for us to stay in touch and share photos and experiences.

Father Michael shared that we now have a private micro-kindergarten in the educational wing of the building. A certified teacher, paid by participating families, will be educating five children. There is no cost to the parish.

Junior Warden Steve Hill is installing an electronic door switch that allows them emergency exit from the building.

Also discussed were plans to expand in- person worship, to include a modified Eucharist, effective August 30. You must make a reservation to attend the 5:30 PM, 8 AM or 10:30 AM services. We are limited to ten persons per service and will add an additional service, if needed.

Our fall Stewardship campaign was discussed. The next meeting will be October 21.

- **Vestry Members:**

- Donna Goldstein-Senior Warden; Steven Hill-Junior Warden; Caroline Cross-Secretary; Chris Allen; Cindy Cunningham; Michael Morton; Silvia Balsara; Jo Carson; Rebecca Ward.

- **Remember to keep the Prayers of the People updated.** These are the people presently on our prayer list: Children and staff at the El Hogar Orphanage in Guatemala; Jeannie (McCabe); Ervin (Selbach); Julie (Speer); Chase (Negley); Liam (Joy); Earl (Terry); Peter and Suzanne (Jones); Linda (Lambertson); Jim and Barbara (Lambertson); Mike and Marie; Hazel, Jim; Dickie (Foster); Doug (Neely); Myra (Dyer); Sylvia (Burks); Claire (Person); Amber (Johnson); Morgan; Kay (Lyon); Halox (Hern); Jim (Cearley); Janean (Saunders); Martha (Boyd); Monti (Putnam); Teresa (Zolnik); Tim (Hess); Elvin (Frick); Debbie (Whittington); Tom (Harper); Sherry (Coleman); Rob (Dornburg); Mark, Jane and Mary (Huskison); Katia (Higgins); William (Woodward); Denna (Bond); Reid (Maddox); Susan (Martin); Bill (Huskison); Fred (Peters); Elaine (Averette); Daniel (Brewer); Paul (McCormick); all teachers, students and parents; all sick with COVID-19 and their families; all First Responders, Healthcare Workers; and those serving the public.

The Week of August 23 through August 30

Sunday, August 23

10:30 A.M. Morning Prayer on Facebook Live - Scott

Wednesday, August 26

10:30 A.M. Sack Lunch

Friday, August 28

7:00 P.M. AA/Al-Anon

Saturday, August 29

5:30 P.M. Holy Eucharist - Silvia

Sunday, August 30

8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist -

10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist - Donna