

# St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

Poway, California

A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition  
for the Season of Advent: Waiting and Listening for God  
Saturday, December 1, 2018  
5:00 p.m.



## **Our Mission:**

We are called to be disciples of Christ,  
revealing His Life, Love and Light to the World.

## **Our Vision:**

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church is a radically welcoming,  
inclusive faith family – sharing and teaching the love of Jesus Christ  
through our worship, actions and outreach:  
transforming ourselves and the world.

**Welcome!** We're glad you're here! If you are a newcomer, please introduce yourself, ask questions, and participate fully in today's worship. We invite you to sign the guest book located at the entrance to the church. May this time be filled with blessings for you!

## **Celtic Christianity<sup>1</sup>**

The early Christian tradition in the British Isles developed separately from the rest of Europe. The peoples known as the Celts came to these islands from the continent with their own form of pagan religion and over the first through fifth centuries were converted to Christianity first through Roman conquest of southern England and then through gradual expansion into Scotland and Ireland. As in many places, local pagan practices were assimilated into Christian worship, but the geographic isolation of the islands and the strong and independent monastic presence preserved many distinct traditions for a longer time both in religious observance and through poetry and song even after the official suppression of Celtic ritual in the late seventh century.

The late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries saw a revival of interest in early forms of Christian practice and theology. The Celtic tradition, for one, is distinct for its special attention to the presence of the divine in the physical world. It recognizes the goodness and holiness of all creation, from the human to the material, and also places special emphasis on holy geography, "thin places" in the natural world, where the border between the spiritual and the physical is particularly fine.

Our liturgy draws on texts from different sources infused with this tradition, highlighting the balance in creation between light and darkness, silence and sound, word and song, listening and response. This contemplative service explores prayers and simple music that acknowledge our rootedness in the earth and the inherent goodness of our own creation as well as the Spirit's prophetic voice calling us.

This liturgy has been authorized for use at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Poway, California for Saturday evening worship during the Season of Advent by the Bishop of San Diego.

*Please silence your mobile phone. Thank you.*

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Elizabeth Lovett Grover, *A Celtic Liturgy for Every Season*. (West Conshohocken, PA: Infinity Publishing, 2013)

## PRELUDE

*Please stand as able.*

## OPENING WORDS

*Presider* The God of love is with us.

***People* The Spirit of love is in us.**

*Presider* Blessed be the one God, whose prophets foretold the coming of the Light;

***People* And blessed be the Son, whose coming we await.**

## CEREMONY OF LIGHT<sup>2</sup>

*Presider* Thy Word is a lantern unto my feet,

***People* And a light unto my path**

*Presider* At eventide there shall be light.

### *Lighting of the torches*

*Reader* Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, at your word you bring on the evening twilight. You create day and night, you roll away light before the darkness, and the darkness before the light; you make the day to pass, and the night to approach, and divide the day from the night. Blessed are you, O Lord, for you bring on the evening twilight.

*Presider* Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord, and by your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Reader* Daylight has ended, night is upon us. Yet unto Thee, sustainer of all things, Darkness and Light, all times and all seasons, all are as one, O Lord of Creation.

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<sup>2</sup> From *A Celtic Primer*, compiled by Brendan O'Malley (London: Morehouse Publishing, 2002), "A Ceremony of Light," pp. 218-220

## PHOS HILARON (O GRACIOUS LIGHT)

*Cantor sings first, all repeat several times. The Advent Wreath is lit.*

Bm Em<sup>7</sup>/B A Bm/A

Kin - dle a flame to light - en the dark, and

G/A G C<sup>#</sup>m<sup>7</sup>(b5) F<sup>#</sup>

take all fear a - way.

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## OPENING PRAYER

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, to you our hearts are open and our inmost desires known. We cannot hide our most intimate secrets from you. We ask you to be present at all times in our thoughts and our hearts, and to purify them, so that we may love you with the love of the Spirit and praise your name with humility and joy; through Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

## ADVENT GATHERING SONG

*During the season, a verse is added each week.*

*Advent 1:* 1. Hope is a star that shines in the night, lead-ing us on 'till the morn-ing is  
*Advent 2:* 2. Peace is a rib-bon that cir - cles the earth, giv - ing a prom - ise of safe - ty and  
*Advent 3:* 3. Joy is a song that wel-comes the dawn, tell - ing the world that the Sav - ior is  
*Advent 4:* 4. Love is a flame that burns in our heart, Je - sus has come and will ne - ver de-

bright. When God is a child, there's joy in our song. The last shall be worth. born. part.

first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be a - fraid.

© 1989, Hope Publishing Company

## COLLECT FOR THE DAY

*Please remain standing as able.*

*Presider* Almighty God, who didst wonderfully create man in thine own image, we pray for strength to cast away the works of darkness and put upon us the armor of light; that we, being ever mindful of our spiritual heritage, may hasten the coming of thy kingdom upon earth; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Please be seated for the readings.*

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### First Lesson

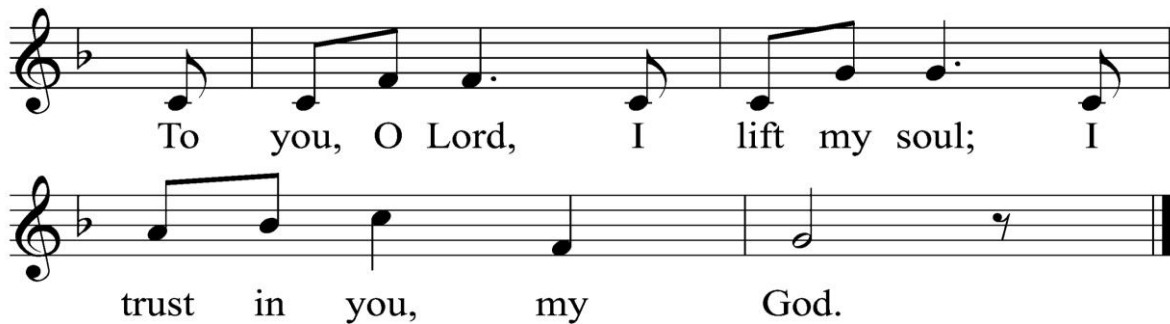
Jeremiah 33: 14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 25:1-9** (*Refrain sung first by cantor, then by all*)



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; I  
trust in you, my God.

Music and text from *Psallite*, © 2005, The Collegeville Composers Group. All rights reserved.  
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### The Epistle

1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

*Please stand as able for the reading of the gospel.*

## The Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

Em C Am<sup>6</sup> B

Wait for the Lord, God's day is near.

Em D G Em Am B Em

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

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*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Em C Am<sup>6</sup> B

Wait for the Lord, God's day is near.

Em D G Em Am B Em

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

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*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

The Reverend Mark McKone-Sweet

*Please stand as able.*



## AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Presider* Let us join in affirming our faith in God.

*People* **We believe in God above us,  
maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon, of water and earth,  
of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ  
the Word made flesh,  
born of a woman, servant of the poor,  
tortured and nailed to a tree.**

**A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.**

**He descended into the earth to take the place of death.**

**On the third day he rose again from the tomb.**

**He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,  
and his kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,  
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,  
life-giving breath of the Church,  
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please remain standing or kneel as able.*

*Presider* With prayers for a world waiting in hope, let us turn to the Lord, and we shall be saved.

*Intercessor* For the Church, still waiting for unity, still hoping for renewal. May all the faithful be blessed by the sound of the Gospel proclaimed to the ends of the earth.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* For all nations, still waiting for peace, still hoping for an end to war, still searching for common ground. May all peoples be blessed by the sound of understanding between clans and tribes, rulers and races.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* For those who have lost hope, still waiting for a job, still hoping for a cure, still searching for a place to call home. May those without joy this season be blessed by the sound of God's promise for them fulfilled.

**People** **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* For travelers and visitors, families and friends, still waiting for welcome, still hoping for reconciliation, still searching for a way to mend what has been broken. May everyone we encounter this season be blessed by greetings of peace, compassion, and hospitality.

**People** **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* For the sick and the dying and those who care for them, still waiting for results, still hoping for a miracle, still searching for courage and comfort, including those we now name, either silently or aloud.

*We invite you to add your intercessions.*

*Intercessor* May all the sick be blessed by the sound of God's healing word and the strength of our prayers.

**People** **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* For loved ones whom we miss this season, forgotten ones who died alone, innocent ones caught in the crossfire of violence, including those we now name either silently or aloud.

*We invite you to add your intercessions.*

*Intercessor* May all who have died be blessed by the sound of God welcoming them home.

**People** **Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

*Presider* You are near to us, Lord, as close to us as the child in the womb of her mother. And yet we wait in expectant hope for your coming. Attune our ears to hear your voice in all those we meet, and open our eyes to see your abiding presence in our world. Hear our prayers and make us turn to you, that we may leap for joy at the sound of your saving Word, Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, for ever and ever.

**People** **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Please remain standing or kneel as able.*

*Presider* As we await the coming of Jesus, so we often wait for others to forgive us. Our sin separates us from God and from one another. Let us forgive our brothers and sisters and confess our own sin together.

*Silence*

*Presider* God of all people,

*People* As we await once again the birth of your love into our hearts, we confess that we have lost sight of that love. In this busy season we turn away from pain and poverty, we avoid the sick and the lonely, and we ignore the outcast and the oppressed.

Have mercy on us and give us the strength to truly welcome Christ into our hearts and to live our lives according to your will. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Presider* The Lord enrich us with grace, and further us with heavenly blessing. The Lord defend us in adversity and keep us from all evil. The Lord receive our prayers and graciously absolve us from our offenses. In God's name we pray.

*People* Amen.

## SHARING THE PEACE

*Please stand as able.*

*Presider* God makes peace within us.

*People* Let us claim it.

*Presider* God makes peace between us.

*People* Let us share it.

*After sharing the peace with one another, please be seated.*

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## Offertory Music

*Please stand as able.*

### Doxology:

So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, pea - sant king to own him. The

King of Kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry.

Text: William Chatterton Dix, ca. 1865, Music: English melody, 16th c., harm. attrib. John Stainer 1871.

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Presider* We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, O God, who is Father of all life and of all sound. Though our days vanish like mist, and the sounds of the earth fade away in the distance, still your Spirit is within all life, and every human soul is born in your likeness. And so with the whole created order, with the stars that silently glisten with life's glory, with the wind that howls and the gentle breeze that whispers, with the trumpets of heaven's messengers and the echo of the saints, we join in the song of your unending greatness:

## Sanctus

The musical score is written in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, with chords C, G, C(sus4), C, F, and C above the notes. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics, with chords F, G/F, F, C, C/B, Am, F, G, and C above the notes. The lyrics are: "San - to, San - to, San - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! My heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord."

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Blessed are you, O God, whose wisdom from above has inspired men and women through the ages to fulfill on earth your purposes – to hear the cry of the poor, to act with mercy, and to live together in gentleness and peace. We bless you for the coming of Christ, who in life and in death embodied the law of love. By his rising again, he has saved our souls from despair, and by the gift of the Holy Spirit, he has given us courage and hope to face the forces of evil and death that rage around and within us.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and having blessed it, he broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took wine, and having given thanks for it, he shared it with his disciples saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

***People* Remembering his eternal self-giving, we proclaim the mystery of Christ among us. Made one with him, and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy living sacrifice.**

O God, whose generosity is unbounded and who wills that we should lack no good thing, bless this bread and this wine with your Holy Spirit, that in receiving them into ourselves we may be made whole again, strengthened not merely to hear the truth, but to do it, and be blessed in our doing; through Christ, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, world without end. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Presider* And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray:

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

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Presider* The Spirit we await is with us in this bread.

***All* The voice of the Holy One speaks to us in this cup.**

*Following the Presider's invitation to communion, please be seated.*

Communion Hymn:

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

Verses

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And  
 2. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who  
 3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who  
 4. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se's stem, From  
 5. O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And  
 6. O come, Thou Day - spring from on high And  
 7. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In

1. ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in  
 2. or - d'rest all things might - i - ly; To us the  
 3. to thy tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient  
 4. ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them That trust thy  
 5. o - pen wide our heav - 'nly home; Make safe the  
 6. cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the  
 7. one the hearts of all hu - man - kind; Bid thou our

1. lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of  
 2. path of knowl - edge show, And teach us in her  
 3. times didst give the law, In cloud and maj - es -  
 4. might - y pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry  
 5. way that leads on high, And close the path to  
 6. gloom - y clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ow  
 7. sad di - vi - sions cease, And be thy - self our

Refrain

1. God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u -  
 2. ways to go.  
 3. ty and awe.  
 4. o'er the grave.  
 5. mis - er - y.  
 6. put to flight.  
 7. Prince of Peace.

el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## Prayer after Communion

*Please remain seated or kneel as able.*

*Presider* Let us join in thanking God for this holy meal.

***All*** O God, we have heard your call to us, and we have responded by gathering in your name to await your voice. Help us to listen to your presence in silence and in sound—the voices of your people, the noises of your animals, the music of creation—that, reconnected with you and one another through this holy meal, we may hear the voice which call us home to you: our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSINGS OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

***All*** Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand as able.*

## CLOSING PRAYER

*Presider* Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish the lights that here represent the presence of the Holy in our midst,

***All*** But we will carry the light in our hearts, and we pray that as we go about our work in the world, we will shine with the love of God. Amen.



## THE BLESSING

*Presider* May the Wonderful Counselor guide you, the Mighty God protect you, the Everlasting Father be with you, and the Prince of Peace comfort you. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you now and ever more.

*All* Amen.

**Closing Hymn:** "People Look East" (*see next page*)

### Dismissal

*Presider* Let us go forth with joy to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*The congregation is invited to remain in prayer during the postlude, or leave in silence.*





1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the  
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed  
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be  
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall  
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to



year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the  
there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may  
filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has  
brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -  
earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum-ming with the word, the Lord is



ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.  
flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.  
cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.  
geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.  
com-ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.





# *Advent & Christmas*

**At St. Bartholomew's**

*Contemplative Celtic Eucharist*

**Saturdays December 1, 8, 15 and 22 at 5:00 pm**

*Blue Christmas*

**Wednesday, December 19 at noon and 7:00 pm**

*Christmas Eve*

**Monday, December 24**

**4:00 pm Pageant**

**7:00 pm Eucharist**

**9:30 pm Eucharist**

*Christmas Day*

**Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00 am**