

PARISH LIFE

Our Vision: Transforming lives through a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Our Mission: To share Christ's love and His Word with our community and the world through Christ-centered outreach, worship, prayer, and biblical study.

Our Values: Belong- Equip- Reach!

1) Persecuted Church: It has been over three years since Malaysian pastor Raymond Koh disappeared without a trace. Pray for his wife Susanna and their children during this time of uncertainty.

WELCOME TO ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S!

If you are a first time guest, we're glad you are joining us today and hope you find our worship uplifting. Whether you are looking for a new church or searching for answers to life's most profound questions, St. Bartholomew's is a church family where you can belong. After service everyone is invited to our coffee hour in Fr. Amend Hall just behind the sanctuary. There you can enjoy refreshments and stop by our guest hospitality booth for a free gift. We'd love to meet you!

ABOUT OUR LITURGY

Anglican worship is defined by two commitments: (1) to the authority of the Holy Scripture, and (2) to the Holy Sacraments. Together Word and Sacrament point us to Jesus Christ and, in doing so, work to shape us into a faithful Christ-centered community. The way we express this worship is known as the Liturgy.

Far from empty ritualism, Anglican worship involves the active participation of the whole person: our spirit, soul, and body. Everything you will see and experience in the service – the prayers, the symbols, and the actions – all invite us to share in the good news of God's salvation. The reading and teaching of the Holy Scriptures (the Ministry of the Word) prepare us for the culmination of our service, which is the receiving of Holy Communion (also referred to as the Lord's Supper).

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion with us. If you would like to receive but are not able to come forward please tell an usher. The priest would be happy to bring communion to your pew. If you are not baptized, or would prefer not to receive the sacrament, we warmly invite you to still come forward and receive a blessing. You may indicate this to the priest by crossing your arms across your chest. As our valued guest your only obligation during the service is to keep an open heart to what God may desire to do in you!

CHRIST TOGETHER CYCLE OF PRAYER: Grace Baptist Church, Tonawanda; Kenmore Alliance Church; Kenmore Baptist Church; Knox Presbyterian Church, Kenmore

WNY ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP CYCLE OF PRAYER: St. Luke's, East Aurora; St. Peter's, Forestville; St. Nicholas', West Seneca; St. Stephen's, Amherst

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: Resurrection Anglican Fellowship, Centennial, CO Clergy: The Rev, Archdeacon Philip Eberhart (Val); The Rev. Ethel LeResche (John); The Rev. Dr. Margie McCaslin (Glenn); The Rev. Barbara Russo; The Rev. David Mbelu

If you are VISITING for the FIRST TIME please see one of our Greeters or Ushers. We have a gift at our Information Center that we would like to give to you.

If you would like an Assisted Hearing Device to use during the service please see an Usher.

Please notify the Church Office of any address, phone number, or email changes so that we may keep our records current.

Also, please notify the Church Office if you are or will be hospitalized so one of our clergy may visit you.

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Serving as the Pro-Cathedral of the International Diocese of the ACNA
2368 Eggert Road Tonawanda, NY 14150
(716) 831-1777 www.stbartston.org

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Saturday March 28, 2020 4:30pm HE

Sunday March 29, 2020 8, 9:15 & 11am HE

Sacring Bell

All stand when the bell rings

Opening Hymn 9:15am
11am

Hymnal

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures forever.

Collect for Purity, Summary of the Law, Kyrie

Pr.Bk.p.

124

Fifth Sunday in Lent: *Passion Sunday* Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Introduction: Jesus is the Lord of life. Everything He touches lives anew. Last Sunday, He made a blind man see. Today, He raises the dead. In this lesson, Ezekiel, a 6th century BC prophet, in exile in a concentration camp in Babylon, predicts that the Jewish state will be restored and become a nation once more. Jews saw Jerusalem as a Holy Land. Gentile lands, however, were seen as "polluted" (Amos 7:17) or unclean, like a grave. With their nation destroyed, the Jews thought their hopes for a new nation were dead. They lived in the "graves" of Gentile nations. But God speaks to Ezekiel, and promises a resurrection of the Jewish State in the End Times. The Jewish people "will be raised from their graves" and come "home into their own land." This prophecy was fulfilled in May of 1948, when Israel once again became a nation state among the family of Gentile nations.

Ezekiel 37:1-14: The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. He caused me to pass among them round about, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley; and lo, they were very dry. He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, You know." Again He said to me, "Prophesy over these bones and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.'" "Thus says the Lord God to these bones, 'Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life. 'I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin and put breath in you that you may come alive; and you will know that I am the Lord.'" So I prophesied as I was

commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and flesh grew and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord God, "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they come to life.'"" So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they came to life and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel; behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope has perished. We are completely cut off.' "Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God, "Behold, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, My people; and I will bring you into the land of Israel. "Then you will know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves and caused you to come up out of your graves, My people. "I will put My Spirit within you and you will come to life, and I will place you on your own land. Then you will know that I, the Lord, have spoken and done it," declares the LORD.'"

PSALM 130 *De profundis*

- 1 Out of the deep have I called unto you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice.
- 2 ***O let your ears consider well the voice of my supplications.***
- 3 If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who could abide it?
- 4 ***For there is mercy with you; therefore you shall be feared.***
- 5 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; in his word is my trust.
- 6 ***My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.***
- 7 O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption;
- 8 ***And he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.***

SECOND READING

Introduction: While the first reading predicts the ultimate resurrection of a (Jewish) nation state 2,600 years ago; this reading declares that spiritual and physical death occurs as a result of following the base cravings of our fallen human nature. Such desires lead to "impurity and...iniquity." In order to be set free from our sinful human nature, Christ presents us with the path of "sanctification." Sanctification is the process in which God, through the power and grace of His Holy Spirit, helps us overcome our natural inclinations which lead to death.

Romans 6:15-23: What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? May it never be! Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone *as* slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. Therefore what benefit were you then deriving from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of those things is death. But now having been freed

from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

HOLY GOSPEL

Introduction: God in Christ has the power not only to "resurrect" a conquered and "dead" nation state, not only the power to raise a sinner to new "life" by "sanctification", but He can also literally raise a dead body from the grave after its interment there for four days. Lazarus was dead, but Jesus raised him back to life. At the Lord's return, we shall be raised (in the first resurrection) not with a mortal body, but one identical to Christ's resurrected body (c.f. 2 Pet.1:4.)

St. John 11:18-44: Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off; and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, to console them concerning their brother. Martha therefore, when she heard that Jesus was coming, went to meet Him, but Mary stayed at the house. Martha then said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. Even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, even He who comes into the world." When she had said this, she went away and called Mary her sister, saying secretly, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and was coming to Him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha met Him. Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and consoling her, when they saw that Mary got up quickly and went out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus was, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. So the Jews were saying, "See how He loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?" So Jesus, again being deeply moved within, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Remove the stone." Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me." When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

**Sermon Hymn 9:15am
11am Hymnal**

The Sermon

Nicene Creed, Prayers of the People, Confession Pr Bk.pp. 127-129

Exchange of the 'Peace,' Announcements

**Offertory 9:15am
11:00am**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

****During the 11am Holy Communion there will be prayer intercessors available to pray with anyone who would appreciate it.*

Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B) Pr.Bk.p. 132

**Communion Hymns 9:15am
11am Hymnal**

Thanksgiving and Priest's Blessing

Closing Collect Pr.Bk.p. 137

**Closing Hymn 9:15am
11am Hymnal**

The Dismissal CLERGY: "Let us bless the Lord."
PEOPLE: "Thanks be to God"

Our Leadership & Staff

**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Bill Atwood, Bishop
The Very Rev. Arthur W. Ward, Jr., Dean and Rector
The Rev. Andrew J. Thebeau, Curate**

Dn. John Reitz, Dn. Gary Wisniewski, Dn. Jacob Bush
Mrs. Elizabeth Burkett: Director of Children's & Youth Ministries
Mrs. Eileen Arnold: Junior & Contemporary Choir Director
Mr. James Kibby: Sexton/Contemporary Music Ministry
JoAn Beddome, Karen Wheaton, Cathy Reitz & Debbie Geis: Secretaries