



**Washington Street near Broadway**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Gaudete** ————— **11 December 2016**  
**8:00 am—Holy Eucharist** **10:00 am—Solemn Eucharist**

*Please switch off all cellular telephones and other electronic devices before the Liturgy begins. Also, kindly refrain from audible conversation to respect those wishing to pray and listen to the organ prelude. Thank you.*

**ORGAN - Prelude** Hermann Schroeder (1904-1984)

**THE ENTRANCE RITE**

**HYMN 440, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tune** — *Aberystwyth*

**COLLECT FOR PURITY** *Prayer Book, pages 323-324*

**KYRIE ELEISON** *Prayer Book, page 324*  
*at 10:00 a.m. - from Missa Secunda* Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE FIRST LESSON — *A Reading from the Book of Isaiah*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. (35:1-10)

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### GRADUAL — *Beatus cuius Deus Jacob*

- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!\*  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.
- 7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The Lord loves the righteous;  
the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- 9 The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

*Psalm 146:4-9*

Music: Anglican Chant, Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

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- 9 The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

*Psalm 146:4-9*

Music: Anglican Chant, Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

**THE SECOND LESSON** — *A Reading from the Letter of James*

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*(5:7-10)*

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

**SEQUENCE: HYMN** - *Bereden väg för Herran*



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



*Refrain*  
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772–1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (b. 1920)

Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; harm. *Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt.

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*The people stand and turn to face the Book of Gospels*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** *of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew*  
**People Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out

to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” (3:1-12)

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

## THE SERMON

Dean Vang

## THE NICENE CREED

*Prayer Book, page 327*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Celebrant* My brothers and sisters, let us rejoice heartily in the Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world was made in the beginning and through whom it will be renewed at the end of time. Filled with confidence in God’s promised salvation, let us present these petitions to the Giver of every blessing.

*Deacon* For Christian Churches and communities, that the Lord’s glad tidings will renew them in their words and deeds of discipleship. We pray especially for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, William, our Diocesan, Daniel and David, our Assisting Bishops, and Marshall and Paul, our Priests,

Let us pray to the Lord:

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For leaders of governments, that the Lord’s glad tidings will guide them in the ways of justice and peace,

Let us pray to the Lord:

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For the sick, that the Lord’s glad tidings will heal them in mind and body,

Let us pray to the Lord:

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For babies about to be born, that the Lord’s glad tidings will bring them to the fullness of their humanity,

Let us pray to the Lord:

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For this assembly of God's people, that the Lord's glad tidings will make us a source of spiritual joy for each other,  
Let us pray to the Lord:  
***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For those who have died, that the Lord's glad tidings will be their everlasting joy,  
Let us pray to the Lord:  
***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Celebrant* Lord God, you have promised to renew all creation: the world of nature and the world of the spirit. Answer our prayers for enduring joy and gladness in Christ Jesus, for he is near us now, and will be with us in the world to come, for ever and ever.  
***Amen.***

*Celebrant and People*

**Lord Jesus Christ, when you come among us, you proclaim the Kingdom of God in this and every place: Grant that your presence and power will make this parish church a home of spiritual refreshment and healing. We acknowledge our thankfulness to you for the generosity of those who have and continue to support our Capital Campaign. Open our loving hearts so that our mission may prosper and your Name be glorified. This we ask through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*Deacon* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God

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

*The Celebrant concludes with an Absolution.*

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* ***And with thy spirit.***

# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## ANTHEM

Rejoice in the Lord always,  
and again I say rejoice.  
Let your moderation be known unto all men.  
The Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing;  
but in every thing by prayer  
and supplication with thanksgiving,  
let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God,  
which passeth all understanding,  
shall keep your hearts and minds  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Words: *Philippians 4:4-7*  
Music: Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

## HYMN 7 — *Bristol*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, *Eucharistic Prayer I*                *Prayer Book, page 333***

## PROPER PREFACE OF ADVENT

Because thou didst send thy 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.

**SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT (*Hymnal 797*)                *Prayer Book, page 341***

**OUR FATHER    *Prayer Book, page 336***

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD: AGNUS DEI (*Hymnal 712*)                *Prayer Book, page 337***

**PRAAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS    *Prayer Book, page 337***

## MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### MOTET

People look East.  
The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People look East, and sing today:  
Love the Guest is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength to nourish,  
That in course the flow'r may flourish.  
People look East, and sing today:  
Love the Rose is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch.  
When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People look East, and sing today:  
Love the Star is on the way.

Angels,  
Announce to man and beast  
Him who cometh from the East.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the Word, the Lord is coming.  
People look East and sing today:  
Love the Lord is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

Music: Bescançon Carol arr. Barry Ferguson (b.1942)

## THE CONCLUDING RITE

### POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*Prayer Book, page 339*

### ADVENT BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

### DISMISSAL

*Deacon*            Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

### HYMN 11 — *St. Stephen*

ORGAN — *Fanfare*

Hermann Schroeder (1904-1984)



## WORSHIPING THIS MORNING

We welcome all visitors to Bethesda. Please identify yourself to the clergy and sign the Register in the narthex, located next to the vestibule door.

Large print copies of the service leaflet are available. An usher would be happy to assist you.

A wheelchair, located near the handicap lift in the vestibule, is available to those who require it.

Please join us for COFFEE HOUR at the Empire Room, of the former Van Dam Hotel, immediately following the ten o'clock liturgy.

## ASSISTING AT OUR LITURGIES TODAY

	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Dean Vang	Dean Vang
<i>Assisting Priest</i>		Father Evans
<i>Lay Eucharistic Minister[s]</i>	Robert Bullock	David Wilder Robert Bullock
<i>Lay Eucharistic Visitor[s]</i>		Laurie Brenenstuhl
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Pam Houde	Anne Van Acker
<i>Bell Ringers</i>		Diane Robinson Mark Claverie
<i>Lectors</i>	Lynne Priestley	Kim Caughron David Wilder
<i>Ushers &amp; Greeters</i>		Thomas Moeller Richard Wissler Diane Robinson Mark Claverie
<i>Hospitality Hosts</i>		Betsy Cummins Kim Caughron

## NOTICES

In our INTERCESSIONS FOR THE CHURCH today, we pray for  
*Anglican Communion* Church of Kenya  
*Diocese of Albany* For all who minister to the poor  
*Our Parish* The Vestry

A basket in the vestibule awaits your contributions of hygiene products to Economic Opportunity Council (EOC). These are taken monthly to assist those in need. Your assistance in gratefully appreciated.

Office Hours: The PARISH OFFICES are open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., *Monday through Thursday*, and 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on *Friday*.

The DEADLINE for submitting notices for each Sunday's bulletin is noon on Wednesday. Your cooperation will be gratefully appreciated.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION at BETHESDA, 2016-2017, is available at the rear of the nave.

FORWARD DAY BY DAY for November through January is available in the back of the Church.

ADVENT CALENDARS are available in the back of the Church and are \$5 each.  
2017 ORDO CALENDARS are \$3 each.

Please pick up your 2017 GIVING ENVELOPES, which are currently available in the back of the church opposite the Baptismal Font.

The VESTRY meets on Wednesday evening, December 14, at 7 p.m. in the Parish House.

Envelopes for CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS are in the rear of the church. Your gifts will help with the expense of Christmas trees, greens and poinsettias. Please include the names of those in whose memory donations are given. All memorials must be in the office no later than December 19th.

THANK OFFERING OPPORTUNITY: Did you know you have the opportunity weekly to have flowers placed on the Altar in Memory or in Honor of someone? If you would like to make such an offering, please contact the Parish Office by phone (584-5980) or email ([barbara@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:barbara@bethesdachurch.org)). Your gift is appreciated by all.

Anyone interested in being a COFFEE HOUR HOST can either email Sara Manny [saramanny@gmail.com](mailto:saramanny@gmail.com) or call the church office. In addition, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex of the church. Thank you in advance to all who can help!

Bethesda's and Skidmore College's historic observance of HARRY BURLEIGH'S 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary was enhanced by the presence and voice of baritone Stephen Salters. For those desiring a recording of Mr. Salters singing works by Burleigh and others, we have a number of CD's available at \$15 each. Please contact Gordon Boyd or Farrell Goehring.

### **BETHESDA CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

The annual Bethesda Christmas Pageant will be presented in the church after the 10:00 a.m. liturgy on December 18th. Rehearsal is on December 17th from 9:00 am – 11:30 am in the church.

*Participants:* Please complete a sign-up form (available from church school teachers or from the office) before December 4th.

*Volunteers:* We are looking for adults to help with costuming (fitting and organization) and for supervising / coaching children. If you are interested, please contact Diane Robinson (584-1921 evenings) for more information.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Sunday, Dec. 18, to DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS. We will be gathering in the sanctuary after the children's Christmas Pageant that follows the 10:00 a.m. worship service. (Approximately 1:00 p.m.) Help is needed to erect the tall trees, place garland, greens, flowers and arrange the beautifully newly restored crèche. Special thanks go to Betsy Cummins and Lewis Bruce for their work on this project. Bruce Solenski will be coordinating the decorating and has asked people to bring donations of evergreens to the church on the 18th. If you are able to join us please bring your pruners and contact Mark Anspach at [manspach@nycap.rr.com](mailto:manspach@nycap.rr.com) to volunteer your services.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR TREASURER & TWO NEW MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

Bethesda Church needs two new vestry members, one for a three-year term and the other for a two-year term. Vestry members are now term-limited to a maximum of two three-year terms. According to canon law, a vestry member must be a communicant in good standing, someone who attends church regularly and pledges to support the mission and ministry of the church. The vestry meets once a month, usually on the third Wednesday of the month, from 7-8:30.

Are you interested in serving on the vestry? If so, please write your name below and put it in the collection plate. Or let Dean Vang or a member of the nominating committee know.

Do you have suggestions of people you think would make good members of the vestry. If so, please write their names below and put them in the collection plate. Or let Dean Vang or a member of the nominating committee know.

In addition, Anne Van Acker is stepping down from her role as Treasurer of Bethesda Episcopal Church after five years of service. We are looking for someone to take her place. We are looking for volunteers or suggestions of people who can become our next Treasurer. We have a bookkeeper and we use a CPA to audit our books, so the Treasurer's job is one of presenting the financial records they provide to the vestry and helping to set the budget. Anne will work with the new Treasurer until he or she is comfortable with the position. We would like the new Treasurer to serve for three years if possible.

Are you interested in serving as treasurer or do you have suggestions of people who might make a good treasurer? If so, please write your name or their names below and put them in the collection plate. Or let Dean Vang or a member of the nominating committee know.

Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your help with the important process of identifying parishioners to serve the parish in these important roles.

### Nominating Committee

Catherine White Berheide, *Junior Warden, Chair*  
Geneva Henderson, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Mary Withington, *Outgoing Vestry Member*

Mark Griffin, *Vestry Member*  
Virginia McMorris, *Communicant*

## **ADOPT A GRANDPARENT AT CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR!**

*Sponsored by Anne Van Acker*

We always remember the children when it comes to Christmas gifts, but often we forget about the elderly in our community. Paying it forward and blessing our elders is a wonderful way to give this season. Given Bethesda's close ties with the Home of the Good Shepherd, I am organizing an Adopt-a-Grandparent program this year. I will be assembling gifts of hand lotions and body wash, which I will be wrapping and delivering to each of the 4 HGS locations (Volunteers for wrapping and delivering will be greatly appreciated - this would be a great way to see the inside of our beautiful facilities and bring incredible joy to the residents!). For 20.00, you can adopt a grandparent - but you're not limited to just one! We currently have close to 250 residents at our 4 locations. I would like to deliver gifts to ALL of our residents, so please consider adopting more than one! Checks can be made out to me and mailed to 8 Bingham St., Saratoga Springs. All donations are greatly appreciated; thank you in advance for remembering our elderly who are often alone and forgotten during the holiday season. Due to the overwhelmingly positive response to this, for which I am very grateful, I am going to extend the time for accepting donations to December 17th.

## **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS**

If you are visiting for the first time, or are new to Bethesda, here is your chance to learn about our building plans and capital campaign.

Child care and community-based services will be the theme of Bethesda's New Parish House and Community Center, planned for the lot adjacent to the church immediately to the west. The services housed will provide early childhood education to children from low income families, day care for working parents (fee based on ability to pay) and other community focused services. If any parishioners are aware of a regional non-profit agency seeking new office space, please contact Gordon Boyd.

For those seeking more information, architectural renderings are on an easel in the Narthex. Pledge and donation packages are available at the back of the church. Questions may be directed to Dean Vang, or to Mary Withington and Gordon Boyd, co-chairs of the Capital Campaign.



**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA**  
*December 12 - 18*

Monday <i>Advent Weekday</i>	
Tuesday <i>Advent Weekday</i>	6:30 p.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>High Altar</i>
Wednesday <i>Advent Weekday</i> <i>Ember Day</i>	12:10 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Healing <i>Transcept Altar</i> 7:00 p.m. - Meeting of the Vestry <i>Parish House</i>
Thursday <i>Advent Weekday</i>	9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga Springs</i>
Friday <i>Advent Weekday</i> <i>Ember Day</i>	
Saturday <i>Advent Weekday</i> <i>Ember Day</i>	
Sunday <i>THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	7:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer <i>Transcept Altar</i> 8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>High Altar</i> 9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal <i>Choir Room</i> 10:00 a.m. - Sung Eucharist Christmas Pageant Refreshments following 1:00 p.m. - Decorating of the Church



## THE PARISH VESTRY

### Churchwardens

*Class of 2016*

Darren Miller, *Senior Churchwarden*

*Class of 2017*

Catherine Berheide, *Junior Churchwarden*

### Vestry

*Class of 2016*

Denise Limoli

Sara Manny

Mary Withington

*Class of 2017*

Jane Agee

Gordon Boyd

Mark Griffin

Anne Van Acker, *Treasurer*

*Class of 2018*

Mark Claverie

Geneva Henderson

The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang, *Interim Rector*

The Reverend Paul F. Evans, *Assisting Priest*

Mr. Landon M. Moore, *Postulant for Holy Orders*

Mrs. Barbara Latzko, *Parish Administrative Assistant*

Mr. Farrell Goehring, *Organist/Director of Music*

Dr. Kathleen Slezak, *Choral Director*

Mr. Robert E. Bullock, *Vergar*

[www.bethesdachurch.org](http://www.bethesdachurch.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/bethesdaepiscopalchurch>

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