



Washington Street near Broadway

THE PARISH VESTRY

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www.bethesdachurch.org
<https://www.facebook.com/bethesdaepiscopalchurch>
(518) 584-5980

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST **25 December 2016**
CHRISTMAS DAY **9:00 am—Holy Eucharist with Hymns**

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 - *Walloon Christmas Rhapsody* Gustav Ferrari (1872-1948)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

HYMN 40 — *God Rest You Merry*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *Prayer Book, page 324*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY
Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, being regenerate and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. (52:7-10)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL — *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to
the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Words: Psalm 98:1-4

THE SECOND LESSON — *A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (1:1-4)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE: HYMN 17 — *Rosa Mystica*

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

December 26 - January 1

Monday <i>SAINT STEPHEN, DEACON & MARTYR</i>	<i>Parish Offices will be closed.</i>
Tuesday <i>SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST</i>	6:30 p.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>High Altar</i>
Wednesday <i>THE HOLY INNOCENTS</i>	12:10 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Healing <i>Tran-</i> <i>scept Altar</i>
Thursday <i>Thomas Becket</i>	
Friday <i>Christmas Weekday</i>	
Saturday <i>Sylvester, Bishop</i>	
Sunday <i>THE HOLY NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</i>	8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer <i>Transcept Altar</i> 9:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist with Hymns <i>High Altar</i>

Given By:

Anne Van Acker

Karen & Craig Walton

Harry Weinhagen

Nan & David Wilder

Mary Withington

In Loving Memory Of:

*Robert & Elizabeth Newbury
Alfred & Frances Phillips*

Michael Stockman

Margaret, Harry & Amanda Weinhagen

*Viriginia & David Wilder
Lillian & Edward O'Boyle*

*The Rev'd Robert & Kathleen Withington
Betty Withington, Diana Mobley
Frances & Dorothy Wendelglass
Philip & Doris Kautzman*

The people stand and turn to face the Book of Gospels

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (1:1-14)

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord. **People Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE HOMILY

Dean Vang

THE NICENE CREED
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Prayer Book, page

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant In peace let us pray to the Lord. [*The people kneel.*]

Rejoicing in the Birth of our Lord and Savior, we pray that the Church may be continually reborn ... Let us share the humility of the manger, the adoration of the shepherds, and the love of the Holy Family, in the light of him who is the Light of the world.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Pity and pardon this world of conflict, deaf to the message of peace ... Bring harmony where there is strife between nations and where people are divided by suspicion and bitterness ... Heal those who have no peace within themselves.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for the families and friends with whom we celebrate this happy time ... Give us true love, unselfish desires, and grateful hearts ... We pray especially for the children, for their unclouded joy at this time ... Create in us a pattern of human love that will lead them to the love of God who sent his Son as a little child.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who cannot feel the joy of Christmas, through the burden of sickness, bereavement, or other distress ... Comfort with your presence all who are separated at this time from those they love ... We pray for those serving in our nation's armed forces here and abroad ... Bring the light of Christ into their lives.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Have mercy on the departed who, having shared with Christ their human birth and infancy, have shared with him also the death of the body ... Make their joy complete, in the company of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and of all the saints, and in that kingdom where there is neither birth nor death, but abundant life without end.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant

Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant 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.

Given By:

Janet Longe

Marcia MacDonald

Audrey & Paul Parobeck

Lynne Priestley

Carol Simek

Holly & Robert Sofarelli

Eleanor & Cliff Stevens

Shauna M. Sutton

Barbara Tasso

In Loving Memory Of:

*Frederick Longe, Fanny Longe,
Beatrice Longe, Patrick Longe,
Ida Crawford, Percy Crawford
Sandra Miles, Michal Matthews*

Henry "Jerry" MacDonald

*Arthur & Dorothy Pfeiffer
Paul & Anna Parobeck*

*Ray Priestley
Madeline Stewart
John & Emilie Becher
Raymond & Anna Priestley
Tom Connor*

David J. Simek

*Joe & Francis Sofarelli
John & Wanda Walter*

*George & Helen Duval
Kenneth & Ethel Wilcox*

*William H. Sutton, Sr.
Cornelia May Sutton
Minna Jane Sutton
William H. Sutton, Jr.
Muriel Armer Sutton
George Hodgson, Sr.
May Sutton Hodgson
Fred H. Hodgson
Rod O. Sutton
Albert M. & Elizabeth M. Chandler*

*Anthony Tasso
Nell & Gene Tasso
Julia & Andrew Tykwinski*

CHRISTMAS COMMEMORATIONS 2016

In Thanksgiving for
The Incarnation of Our Lord
and for
The People of Bethesda Church
by The Very Rev'd Marshall J. Vang
Daryle Dinal

The Aumbrey Candle is given in memory of
Ray Priestley
and
Madeline Stewart
by Lynne Priestley

Given By:

Jane Agee

Kathleen & Mark Anspach

Audrey J. Ball

Sharon & Gordon Boyd

Helen & Lewis Bruce

Anita E. Harding

Nancy Hawthorne
David Hawthorne

Pam Houde

Jean Huber

In Loving Memory Of:

William Hugh Agee

Loved Ones

Edward Ball

Alfred & Etheldreda Boyd
Lewis Midgley Walker

Nickolas Sciartelli
Nellie B. Bruce

Margaret & Roy Funderburk

Grace & John Hawthorne

Gary Houde ,Clarence Pickard
Laura Pickard, Lance Pickard
James Norton

Adelaide Peters

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

HYMN 775 — *Antioch*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Eucharistic Prayer II *Prayer Book, page 340*

PREFACE OF THE INCARNATION

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT *Prayer Book, page 341*

OUR FATHER *Prayer Book, page 336*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD: PASCHA NOSTRUM
Prayer Book, page 337

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS *Prayer Book, page 337*

MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE CONCLUDING RITE

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER
339

Prayer Book, page

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

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

HYMN 31 – *In Dulci Jubilo*

ORGAN -- *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Robert J. Hughes (1916-1999)

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.

The Priests of Bethesda would be honored and privileged to bring the Blessed Sacrament to those unable to attend the liturgies of Our Lord's Nativity. Please telephone the Parish Office to make arrangements.

ASSISTING AT OUR LITURGY TODAY

9:00 am

Celebrant
Assisting Priest
Lay Eucharistic Minister[s]
Altar Guild

Bell Ringers
Lectors

Ushers & Greeters

Dean Vang
Father Evans
Landon M. Moore
Mary Withington
Anne Van Acker
Beth & Thomas Moeller
Tom Remington
Mary Withington
Kathleen & Mark Anspach
Karen & Craig Walton