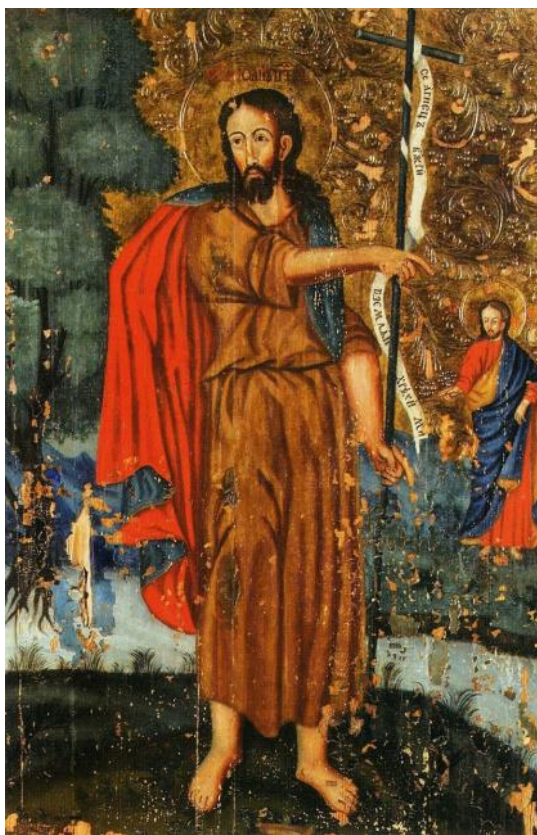


# BETHESDA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Washington Street near Broadway

Saratoga Springs, New York 12866



**THE EVE OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**3 DECEMBER 2016**

**3:00 p.m.**

## About this Service

In 1934, sixteen years after he had introduced to King's College, Cambridge, the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas Eve, the Dean, The Very Reverend Eric Milner-White, composed a similar service for Advent Sunday. His concern for more imaginative forms of worship appears in the Preface he wrote to that service. "In the old English liturgies, the Advent Offices made a preparation for the coming of our Lord to this earth far more evident than those of the Prayer Book." Intended to express "the desire of all nations and ages," this Advent Carol Service had as its purpose "not to celebrate Christmas, but to expect it."

This service of ancient precedent is a vivid expression of the Church's preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus both in the festival of Jesus' Nativity and in the consummation of the ages. In it we symbolize and express the loving bond that joins all within our fellowship and the peace within the whole Church, as well as the joy and worship of us all at the advent of the Son of Man.

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This afternoon's service also honors the 150th anniversary of the birth of Harry T. Burleigh, one of America's foremost composer-arrangers, who got his musical start at Bethesda Church in Saratoga Springs.

A special collaboration between Bethesda (Gordon Boyd, Dean Vang, Farrell Goehring, and Kathleen Slezak) and Skidmore College Music Department (Jeremy Day-O'Connell, chair) choral selections also feature the singing of internationally renowned opera baritone Stephen Salters.

We gratefully acknowledge your presence and participation.

# A Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent

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**Organ** – *Partita for Advent*

James Woodman (b. 1957)

*The congregation shall stand as the choir sings the following*

**Matin Responsory** – *Aspiciens a longe*

- V. I look from afar:  
R. And lo, I see the power of God coming,  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
V. Go ye out to meet him and say:  
R. Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?  
V. High and low, rich and poor, one with another,  
R. Go ye out to meet him and say:  
V. Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,  
R. Tell us, art thou he that should come?  
V. Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come  
R. To reign over thy people Israel.  
V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
R. I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming,  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
V. Go ye out to meet him and say:  
R. Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

Words: from the first Responsory of Advent Sunday, Office of Matins  
Music: adapted from a Magnificat by Giovanni P. dePalestrina (1525/6-1594)

*As the procession enters the church, all sing this*

## Hymn

1. Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth,  
And manifest Thy virgin birth:  
Let every age adoring fall;  
Such birth befits the God of all.
2. Begotten of no human will,  
But of the Spirit, Thou art still  
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,  
The promised Fruit to man displayed.
3. The virgin womb that burden gained  
With virgin honor all unstained;  
The banners there of virtue glow;  
God in His temple dwells below.
4. Forth from His chamber goeth He,  
That royal home of purity,  
A giant in twofold substance one,  
Rejoicing now His course to run.
5. From God the Father He proceeds,  
To God the Father back He speeds;  
His course He runs to death and hell,  
Returning on God's throne to dwell.
6. O equal to the Father, Thou!  
Gird on Thy fleshly mantle now;  
The weakness of our mortal state  
With deathless might invigorate.
7. Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,  
And darkness breathe a newer light,  
Where endless faith shall shine serene,  
And twilight never intervene.
8. All laud to God the Father be,  
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee;  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To God the Holy Paraclete.

Words: *Veni, Redemptor gentium* St. Ambrose of Milan (340-397)  
Translation J. M. Neale  
Music: *Puer nobis*, Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

*All then shall be bidden to prayer in these words*

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem his waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all men and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them.

But first, let us pray for the world which God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

*Officiant and People*

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 Officiant concludes*

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

*Then shall the congregation sit.*

*The choir now sings this*

**Carol** –*Somebody’s Knocking at Your Door*

Somebody’s knocking at your door.  
O sinner, Why don’t you answer  
Somebody’s knocking at your door.

Knocks like Jesus. Somebody’s knocking at your door.  
O sinner, Why don’t you answer  
Somebody’s knocking at your door.

Can’t you hear him. Somebody’s knocking at your door.  
O sinner, Why don’t you answer  
Somebody’s knocking at your door.

Words: Traditional Spiritual  
Music: R. Nathaniel Dett (b. 1882-1943)

**The First Lesson** – *Isaiah 40:1-8*

*Lector* A Choir Member

The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. Thanks be to God.

**Carol** – *Christ is Coming!*

Christ is coming! Let creation  
From her groan and travail cease;  
Let her glorious proclamation  
Hope restore and faith increase;  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!  
Come thou Blessed Prince of Peace.

Long thine exiles have been pining  
Far from rest, and home and thee:  
But, in heav'nly vestures shining,  
They their loving Lord shall see:  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!  
Haste the joyous jubilee.

Earth can now but tell the story  
Of thy birth and death and pain;  
She shall yet behold thy glory,  
When thou comest back to reign  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!  
Let each heart repeat the strain.

With that blessed hope before us,  
Let no harp remain unstrung;  
Let thy mighty advent chorus  
Onward roll from tongue to tongue:  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!  
Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come!

Words: John R. MacDuff

Music: Alston, Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

**The Second Lesson** – *Jeremiah 23:5-6*

*Lector* A Churchwarden

The Lord promises to send his people a righteous King.

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. Thanks be to God.

**Carol – Solo, *Ride on, King Jesus***

Ride on, King Jesus!  
No man can-a hinder me.  
Ride on King Jesus, ride on!  
No man can-a hinder me.

I was young when I begun;	King Jesus rides a milk white horse;
No man can-a hinder me.	No man can-a hinder me.
But now my race is almos' done;	De ribber of Jerdan did he cross;
No man can-a hinder me.	No man can-a hinder me.

Ride! Ride! Ride!

Words: Traditional Spiritual  
Music: Harry T. Burleigh

**The Third Lesson – *Zechariah 9:9-10***

*Lector* The Mayor

The Lord promises that the King will come to Israel in peace.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth. Thanks be to God.



**Carol - *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning***

Keep your Lamps trimmed and burning,  
The time is drawing nigh.

Sisters don't grow weary,  
brothers don't grow weary,  
children don't grow weary  
for the time is nigh.

Lo, the morning soon is breaking,  
The time is drawing nigh.

Words: Traditional Spiritual  
Music: Harry T. Burleigh

*The congregation shall stand. All now sing this.*

**Hymn [2]**

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice!*  
*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go.  
*Refrain*

3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.  
*Refrain*

4. O come, thou Rod of Jesse's stem,  
 from every foe deliver them  
 that trust thy mighty power to save,  
 and give them victory o'er the grave. *Refrain*
5. O come, thou Key of David, come,  
 our open wide our heav'nly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
6. O come, thou Dayspring from on high,  
 and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
*Refrain*
7. O come, Desire of nations, bind  
 in one the hearts of all mankind;  
 Bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
 And be thyself our King of Peace.  
*Refrain*

Words: Latin, twelfth century; trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), 1851

Music: *Veni Emmanuel* (fifteenth century plainsong)

*The congregation shall sit.*

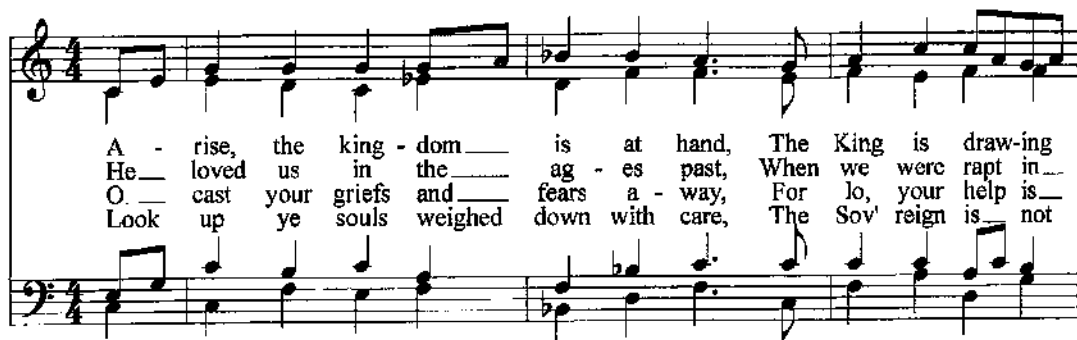
**The Fourth Lesson – Haggai 2:6-9**

*Lector* A Skidmore Professor

The Prophet foretells the advent of the desire of all nations.

For thus saith the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts. Thanks be to God.

The congregation shall stand. All now sing this.



A - rise, the king - dom is at hand, The King is draw-ing  
He - loved us in the ag - es past, When we were rapt in  
O - cast your griefs and fears a - way, For lo, your help is  
Look up ye souls weighed down with care, The Sov' reign is not



nigh; A - rise with joy thou faith - ful band, To meet the Lordmost high!  
night. Hope on, ye brok - en hearts, at last the King comes robed in might.  
here! Look up ye droop - ing hearts to - day, The King is ve - ry near.  
far; Look up, faint hearts, from your de - spair; Be - hold the Morn'g Star!

Words: Johann VonRist  
Music: McKee Harry T. Burleigh

**The Fifth Lesson – Isaiah 35:1-6**  
more College

*Lector* Chaplain of Skid-

The Prophet foretells the glory of the kingdom of God.

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing; the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. Thanks be to God.

**Carol – Solo** *Blind Man Stood On the Road and Cried*

The blind man stood on the road and cried. Cryin' O my Lord, save me.

Cried that he might receive his sight. Cryin' O my Lord, save me.

Cryin' what kind of shoes are those you wear? Cryin' O my Lord, save me.

These shoes I wear are the Gospel shoes. Cryin' O my Lord, save me.

Words Traditional Spiritual  
Music: Harry T. Burleigh

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. Thanks be to God.

**Carol** – *Mary Had a Baby*

Mary had a baby, My Lord!  
Where is he born?  
Born in a manger  
What did they call him?  
King Jesus!

Oh, Mary had a baby,  
He was called King Jesus,  
Mary had a baby, O yes!  
He is called King Jesus!  
Mighty Counselor!

King Emanuel!  
Mighty God!  
Everlasting Father!  
Prince of Peace!

Words Traditional Spiritual  
Music: Harry T. Burleigh

*The congregation shall stand.*

**The Seventh Lesson – Mark 1:1-15**

*Lector* The Interim Rector

Jesus proclaims the coming of the kingdom of God.

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey; And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost. And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And immediately the spirit driveth him into the wilderness. And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him. Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. Thanks be to God.

*All now sing this*

## **Hymn [9]**

1. Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding.  
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
"Cast away the works of darkness,  
O ye children of the day."
2. Wakened by the solemn warning,  
let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.
3. Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven;  
let us all, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven;
4. So when next he comes with glory,  
and the world is wrapped in fear,  
may he with his mercy shield us,  
and with words of love draw near.
5. Honor, glory, might, and blessing  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the everlasting Spirit,  
while unending ages run.

Words: Latin, sixth century; trans. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)  
Music: *Merton* (William Henry Monk, 1823-1889)

## **Solo – *Oh Wasn't That A Wide River?***

Oh, wasn't that a wide river?  
The river of Jordan, Lord,  
Wide river!  
There's one more river to cross!

I have some friends before me gone  
One more river to cross!  
By the grace of God I'll follow on;  
One more river to cross!

Oh, the river of Jordan is so wide,  
One more river to cross!  
I don't know how to get on the other side,  
One more river to cross!

Old Satan is like a snake in the grass,  
One more river to cross!  
If you don't mind, he'll get you at last.  
One more river to cross!

Words Traditional Spiritual  
Music: Harry T. Burleigh

## **The Collect**

*Officiant*                    We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord.  
*People*                        In the midst of thy temple.  
*Officiant*                    Let us pray.

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly expectation of thy coming: Grant that we, who with joy receive thy only-begotten Son as our Redeemer, may without fear behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, even thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*The congregation shall sit.*

## **Greetings**

*During the following, an offering will be received.*

### **Anthem – Behold That Star**

Behold that Star, Behold that star up yonder,  
behold that star, it is the star of Bethlehem.

There was no room found in the Inn,  
for him who was born free from sin,  
The wise men came on from the East,  
to worship Him the Prince of Peace,

A song burst forth upon the night,  
from angel hosts all robed in white,  
“Glory to God, world without end,  
and peace on earth, good will to men,”

Words: Thomas Washington Talley (1879-1952)  
Music: Harry T. Burleigh



*The congregation shall stand.*

**Vesper Responsory – Judea et Jerusalem**

- V. Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;  
R. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.  
V. Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.  
R. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.  
V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the holy Ghost.  
R. Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Words: Responsory from Sarum Matins for Christmastide

Music: Palestrina

**The Blessing**

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

*All now sing this*

### **Hymn [5]**

1. Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,  
once for our salvation slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!  
Christ the Lord returns to reign.
2. Every eye shall now behold him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.
3. Those dear tokens of his passion  
still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation  
to his ransomed worshipers;  
with what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture  
gaze we on those glorious scars!
4. Yea, amen! let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory;  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Words: John Cennick (1718-1755), 1752;  
as altered by Charles Wesley (1707-1788), 1758;  
Music: *Helmsley* (Martin Madan, 1726-1790)

**Organ** – *The King Shall Come* Southern Harmony Arr. David N. Johnson (1922-1987)



## **PARTICIPATING IN THIS AFTERNOON'S SERVICE**

### *Officiant*

The Very Reverend Marchall J. Vang  
*Schola Cantorum of Bethesda Church*  
Farrell Goehring, *Organist & Director of Music*  
Dr. Kathleen Slezak, *Choral Director*  
Stephen Salters, *Soloist*

### *Lectors*

Gordon Boyd, *Schola Cantorum & Vestry Member, Bethesda Church*  
Darren Miller, *Senior Churchwarden, Bethesda Church*  
Joanne Yepsen, *Mayor of Saratoga Springs*  
Denise Limoli, *Professor, Skidmore College*  
Parker Diggory, *Director of Religious & Spiritual Life, Skidmore College*  
The Reverend Paul Evans, *Bethesda Church*

## **THE PARISH STAFF**

The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang  
The Reverend Paul F. Evans  
Landon Moore  
Farrell Goehring  
Dr. Kathleen Slezak  
Mrs. Barbara Latzko  
Robert Bullock

*Interim Rector*  
*Priest Associate*  
*Postulate for Holy Orders*  
*Organist & Director of Music*  
*Choral Director*  
*Parish Administrative Assistant*  
*Verger*

*Parish Telephone: 518-584-5980*  
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