



Washington Street near Broadway

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00 am—Holy Eucharist

4 December 2016
10:00 am—Sung 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 - *Come Now, Redeemer of Our Race*

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

HYMN 9 - *Merton*

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Prayer Book, pages 323

KYRIE ELEISON

at 10:00 a.m. - from Missa Secunda

Prayer Book, page 324

Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. (11:1-10)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL — *Deus, iudicium*

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Words: *Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19*

Music: Anglican Chant, Stephen Elvey (1805-1860)

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

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (15:4-13)

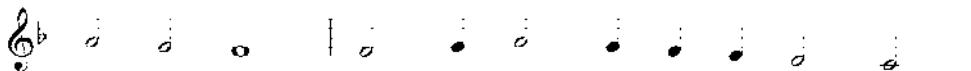
Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

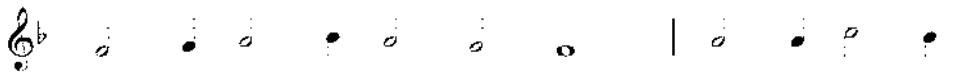
SEQUENCE: HYMN - *Psalm 42*



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
 as he - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
 let the val - leys rise to meet him
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver,
 and the hills bow down to greet him.
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611–1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878), alt.
 Music: melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514–1572)
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 CCLI License # 3148949; 1982 Hymnal

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.*

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” (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 The Lord Jesus is always near to us, always coming into our hearts. As we await the revelation of Christ’s glory at the end of the ages, let us ask the Father to hear and answer the prayers we make in the Name of the beloved Son.

Assisting Priest That the Lord will give wisdom to those who shepherd and teach the Church, especially 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.

That the Lord will give comfort to those who live in the agony of warfare and violence,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

That the Lord will give healing to those who are weakened by sickness,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

That the Lord will give perseverance to those who are persecuted for their witness to the truth,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

That the Lord will give salvation to those who have died,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Lord God, ruler of all times and seasons, we ask you to fill these days of waiting with your saving love. Help us grow in our love for you and for each other, and be at peace in your sight. Bring us to glory with Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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

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.

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

Let Thine example,
Holy John remind us,
Ere we can meetly
Sing Thy deeds of wonder,
Hearts must be chastened,
and the bonds that bind us
broken usunder.

But when he doubted
what the Angel told him,
came to him dumbness
to confirm the story;
At thine appearing
healed again behold him
Chanting thy glory!

Lo! A swift herald
From the sky descending,
Bears to thy father
Promise of thy greatness.
How he shall name thee,
What thy future story,
Duly revealing.

Witness thou bearrest
in the womb yet hidden,
Unto thy monarch,
Shrined within his chamber,
Thus thy two parents,
through their offerings merits,
mysteries uttered.

Angels in orders
Everlasting praise thee,
God in thy Triune
Majesty tremendous;
Hark to the prayers
We penitents upraise thee;
Save and defend us.

Words: Noël Akchoté
Music: Guillaume Dufay (1397-1474)

HYMN 10 - *Winchester New*

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

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Prayer Book, page 337

MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEM

O Thou, the central orb of righteous love,
Pure beam of the most High, eternal Light
Of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright
Awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays Divine.

Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
Of God's ordaining counsel, as Thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, Thy power to prove.

Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,
Our nature all shall feel eternal day
In fellowship with thee, transforming day
To souls erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

Words: Henry Ramsden Bramley
Music: Charles Wood (1886-1926)

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 286 – *Leoni*

ORGAN — *Benedictus*

Max Reger (1873-1916)

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>	Sean Byrnes Robert Bullock	Robert Bullock
<i>Lay Eucharistic Visitor[s]</i>		Mark Griffin
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Sherryl Moore	Christine Miller
<i>Bell Ringers</i>		Kathleen Anspach Steve Rucker
<i>Lectors</i>	Michael Penfold	Katie Hooper Ed Peticolas
<i>Ushers & Greeters</i>		Craig & Karen Walton Mark & Kathleen Anspach

NOTICES

In our INTERCESSIONS FOR THE CHURCH today, we pray for

<i>Anglican Communion</i>	Church of South India
<i>Diocese of Albany</i>	Thanksgiving for the Holy Men and Women of the Past
<i>Our Parish</i>	The Homeless of our community and Code Blue

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 is 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 narthex of the church,

MANY THANKS to those Bethesda members who helped orchestrate Harry Burleigh events this past Friday and Saturday: Gordon Boyd [Coordinator], Farrell Goehring, Kathleen Slezak, our Schola Cantorum, Field Horne, and Dean Vang.

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). Your gift is appreciated by all.

Anyone interested in being a COFFEE HOUR HOST can either email Sara Manny 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!

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! If you would like to participate, please respond by December 5th; 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.

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 to volunteer your services.

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.

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*

Mark Griffin, *Vestry Member*

Mary Withington, *Outgoing Vestry Member*

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

December 5 - 11

Monday <i>Advent Weekday</i>	
Tuesday <i>Advent Weekday</i>	11:00 a.m. - Requiem Eucharist, <i>High Altar</i> 6:30 p.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>High Altar</i>
Wednesday <i>Advent Weekday</i>	12:10 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Healing <i>Transcept Altar</i>
Thursday <i>Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga Springs</i>
Friday <i>Advent Weekday</i>	
Saturday <i>Advent Weekday</i>	
Sunday <i>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Gaudete</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. - Solemn Eucharist <i>Church School rear of nave</i> <i>Coffee Hour Empire Room, former Van Dam Hotel</i>



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, *Verger*

www.bethesdachurch.org

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

(518) 584-5980