



Washington Street near Broadway

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT, *Laetare*

26 March 2017

7:30 am - Morning Prayer

8:00 am - Holy Eucharist

10:00 am - Solemn Eucharist

Please switch off all cellular telephones, Blackberries, 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 - *Our Father in Heaven*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

HYMN 158, 2nd *Tune* – *Puer Nobis*

KYRIE ELEISON *from Office of Holy Communion, sung by the choir*

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; 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 First Book of Samuel*

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. (16:1-13)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL - *Dominus regit me*

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those
 who trouble me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil,
 and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
 of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Text: *Psalm 23*

Music: Anglican Chant, John Goss (1800-1880)

THE SECOND LESSON - *A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians*

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light - for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." (5:8-14)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

TRACT: HYMN 258 – *St. Joan*

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.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the

man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains." (9:1-41)

Assisting Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Dean Vang

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant Let us ask our God to illumine us and all the world with the light of Christ in answer to these prayers.

Assisting Priest That the leaders of the Church and their ministry, especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Francis, the Bishop of Rome; Bartholomew, the Ecumenical Patriarch; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; William, our Diocesan; Daniel and David, our Assisting Bishops; and Marshall and Paul, our Priests, will be blessed and made fruitful, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all people will find lasting peace in God's will, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the blind and the ill, the infirm and the dying, will find abundant comfort in God's love,

let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all who worship here will find welcome refreshment in God's goodness, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who have died will find everlasting happiness in God's house, in communion with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all the Saints,

let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Lord God, unfailing light and Father of lights, by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, you have cast out the darkness of hatred and deceit, and have poured out on the human family the brightness of truth and love. Answer the prayers we have made to you. Help us to live as children of light, this day and every day, both now and for 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

Assisting Priest 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 - *Like as the hart*

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,
so longeth my soul after thee,
O God My soul is a-thirst for God
yea, even for the living God
When shall I come to appear
before the presence of God?
My tears have been my meat day and night,
while they daily say unto me
Where, where is now thy God?
My tears have been my meat day and night.

Words: *Psalm 42:1-3*

Music: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

HYMN 589 - *O Quanta Qualia*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, *Eucharistic Prayer I*

Prayer Book, page 333

PROPER PREFACE OF LENT

Who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by the Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT, *sung by all*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts,
Hea-ven and earth are full of thy glo-ry: Glo-ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Bless-ed is he that com-eth in the Name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the High-est.

OUR FATHER

Prayer Book, page 334

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Prayer Book, page 337

AGNUS DEI, sung by all



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

ACCESS, said by all

**PRAYER OF
HUMBLE**
Prayer Book, page 337

MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

MOTET - Alma Redemptoris Mater

Alma Redemptoris Mater,
quae pervia caeli porta manes, Et stella maris,
succurre cadenti, Surgere qui curat populo;
Tu quae genuisti,
natura mirante tuum sanctum Genitorem,
Virgo prius ac posterius,
Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud
Ave, peccatorum
Miserere.

*As the loving Mother of the Redeemer,
gate of heaven, and the star of the sea,
assist your people who have fallen yet strive.
You who bore
the wonderment of nature your Creator,
yet virgin first and last,
Gabriel was with you at those times.
Hail, we have sinned against thee,
have mercy on us.*

Words: Herman Contractus (1013-1054)
Music: Giovanni da Palestrina (1583-1625)

THE CONCLUDING RITE

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Prayer Book, page 339

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Assisting Priest Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel and the Celebrant says

Look down in mercy, O Lord, upon thy people who kneel before thee; and grant that those whom thou hast nourished by the Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

DISMISSAL

Assisting Priest Let us bless the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

HYMN 585, 1st Tune - *Land of Rest*

ORGAN - *Our Father in Heaven*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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 David Wilder
<i>Lay Eucharistic Visitor</i>		John Van der Veer
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Tom Remington	Anne Van Acker
<i>Bell Ringers</i>		Beth & Tom Moeller
<i>Lectors</i>	Michael Penfold	Kim Caughron David Wilder
<i>Ushers & Greeters</i>		Mark Claverie Diane Robinson Beth & Tom Moeller

NOTICES

During the month of March, the EUCHARISTIC ELEMENTS of bread and wine are given to the glory of Almighty God by Jane Agee in loving memory of William Hugh Agee. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

In our INTERCESSIONS FOR THE CHURCH today, we pray for

Anglican Communion

Diocese of Albany

Our Parish

The Church in Mexico

Christ Church, Gilbertsville

Lay Eucharistic Ministers & Visitors

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*.

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

FORWARD DAY BY DAY for February through April is available in the back of the Church.

THANK OFFERING OPPORTUNITY: If you would like to make an offering of flowers or Eucharistic Elements, 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!

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL envelopes are available in the back of the Church. Please return them to the office no later than Wednesday, April 5th.

SEMINARIAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND UPDATE: As of March 2, \$6,495 has been raised for Bethesda's Seminarian Scholarship Fund to assist Landon Moore at the Berkeley Divinity School at Yale. This means we have exceeded our goal of \$5,000. The Vestry thanks all those who have made an offering to this worthy outreach.

BUILDING COMMITTEE NEWS

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Bethesda's historic church is receiving renewed recognition, as we prepare to apply for restoration grants. Volunteers are needed to help us make the most of two opportunities. Please sign up in the Narthex and/or contact Sharon Boyd at 518-852-2348 if you are interested in helping on either date.

Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation's Historic House Tour. Bethesda is not only included this year, but featured. We will be the site of the Tour's special "Lunch and Learn" event, with a talk about the church's history and restoration plans. We need members to help with the event. Docents to guide visitors through the church, minders for the areas near the altar, gallery and bells, a sales table for CDs, set up, tidy up. We expect hundreds of visitors for this day-long event.

Saturday May 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday May 21 from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. New York Landmarks Conservancy Sacred Sites Open House. This event is organized by the New York City-based NYLC, and will be a wonderful opportunity for visitors who have never seen Bethesda to do so. Bethesda, quite literally, will be on the map! We are offering guided and self-guided tours, an informal talk, music and CD sales. The theme of this year's NYLC tour is stained glass, so our impending improvements to the North-facing windows will be a feature for the restoration-minded visitors. NYLC funded the condition assessment we commissioned and completed in 2015.

MORE NEWS!! Bethesda has recently corrected an oversight of years of yore. We have now been listed as a contributing element to the Saratoga Springs National Register Historic District. This recognition will greatly assist Bethesda in qualifying for restoration funding from New York State and other sources.

The VESTRY of the Parish will meet on Tuesday, immediately following the 6:30p.m. Eucharist.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

March 27-April 2

Monday <i>Lenten Weekday</i> <i>(Charles Henry Brent)</i>	
Tuesday <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	6:30 p.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>High Altar</i> Vestry Meeting, <i>Church CHancel</i>
Wednesday <i>Lenten Weekday</i> <i>(John Keble)</i>	9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>Home of the Good Shepherd, Wilton</i> 12:10 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Healing <i>Transcept Altar</i>
Thursday <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist <i>Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga Springs</i>
Friday <i>Lenten Weekday</i> <i>(John Donne)</i>	
Saturday <i>Lenten Weekday</i>	
Sunday <i>THE FIFTH SUNDAY</i> <i>IN LENT</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 <i>High Altar</i> <i>Church School rear of nave</i> <i>Coffee Hour Empire Room, former</i> <i>Van Dam Hotel</i>

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It is very exciting that Bethesda Episcopal Church is now a participant of AmazonSmile. What does this mean? It means that when you purchase something from Amazon using the AmazonSmile web address, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Bethesda! Here is how it works: when you are ready to make an Amazon purchase, do so by using this web address-

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-1364477> This will automatically take you to the AmazonSmile page which supports Bethesda. You then sign in and make your purchase.



THE PARISH VESTRY

Churchwardens

Class of 2018

Darren Miller, *Senior Churchwarden*

Class of 2017

Catherine Berheide, *Junior Churchwarden*

Vestry

Class of 2017

Jane Agee
Gordon Boyd
Mark Griffin

Class of 2018

Mark Claverie
Pamela Houde
Mayumi Kato

Class of 2019

Field Horne
Denise Limoli
Sara Manny

Geneva Henderson, *Clerk* John Van der Veer, *Treasurer*

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

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