



Washington Street near Broadway

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:30 am - Morning Prayer

24 December 2017
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: *Creator of the Stars of Night*

David Maxwell (1944-2015)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

AT THE PROCESSION: HYMN 56 - *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

KYRIE ELEISON

Prayer Book, page 324

COLLECT OF THE DAY

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON - *A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel*

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever. (7:1-11,16)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL - *Misericordias Domini*

- 1 Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
"I have set the crown upon a warrior
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.

- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, *
 nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him *
 and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
 and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- 25 I shall make his dominion extend *
 from the Great Sea to the River.
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
 my God, and the rock of my salvation.'"

Words: *Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26*

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

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen. (16:25-27)

Lector The Word of the Lord. ***People Thanks be to God.***

SEQUENCE HYMN 267 - Julian

The people turn to face the Book of Gospels

THE HOLY GOSPEL of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel de-

parted from her.

(1:26-38)

Assisting Priest 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, we know that all things are possible with God, and so we confidently ask the Lord to hear our prayers.

Assisting Priest

The Father made Mary to be highly favored. Let us ask that the Church will share in Mary's holiness and humility.

For this, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Father promised that Mary's Son would have great dignity. Let us ask that the leaders of nations will promote the human dignity of their people, especially Donald, our President.

For this, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Father revealed to Mary in many ways that God was close to her. Let us ask that people in every need, especially travelers, will know the saving presence of God.

For this, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Father welcomed the angel's greeting that Mary is the servant of the Lord. Let us ask her intercession upon the Vestry as it seeks to find a servant and priest for this parish.

For this, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Father made Mary the most blessed of women. Let us ask the blessings of her faith and obedience for this congregation.

For this, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Father promised Mary that her Son would sit upon the throne of David. Let us ask that those who have died, will rejoice around his throne for ever.

For this, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Father most holy, we ask you to answer these prayers, for we pray only that your will be done in us. To you who alone are wise, may glory be given through your Son, Jesus, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

Assisting Priest 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.

Assisting Priest and People

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 PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And with thy spirit.*

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

HYMN 60 - *Conditor alme siderum*

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

Prayer Book, page 334

OUR FATHER

Prayer Book, page 334

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD: AGNUS DEI

Prayer Book, page 337

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Prayer Book, page 337

MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE CONCLUDING RITE

POST COMMUNION 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

Assisting Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 66 - Stuttgart

ORGAN: *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

David Maxwell (1944-2015)

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 REFRESHMENTS in the Narthex, immediately following the ten o'clock liturgy.

ASSISTING AT OUR LITURGIES TODAY

	<u>9:00am</u>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Dean Vang
<i>Assisting Priest</i>	Father Evans
<i>Lay Eucharistic Minister[s]</i>	David Wilder
<i>Lay Eucharistic Visitor</i>	David Wilder
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Pamela Houde
<i>Bell Ringers</i>	Beth Moeller
	Tom Moeller
<i>Lectors</i>	Mary Withington
	Ed Peticolas
<i>Ushers</i>	Beth Moeller
	Tom Moeller
	Diane Robinson
	Mark Claverie

NOTICES

In our INTERCESSIONS FOR THE CHURCH today, we pray for

<i>Anglican Communion</i>	Yola - (Jos, Nigeria)
<i>Diocese of Albany</i>	That the Christ Child will be birthed in our hearts
<i>Our Parish</i>	Those who travel

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS are needed. Please email Sara Manny saramanny@gmail.com, or call the church office at 518-584-5980.

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.

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE We are taking donations of winter coats, hats, gloves, scarfs, sweaters, etc. for the cold winter ahead. The youth group will be donating these items to a local shelter for those in need. The box is located in the vestibule if you would like to contribute. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

EMAIL NOTICES FOR BULLETIN: Please send all notices for the church bulletin to office@bethesdachurch.org

Office Hours: The PARISH OFFICES are open from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. *Monday through Thursday*, and 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on *Friday*. *The Parish Office will be closed on December 25 and 26.*

IS YOUR PLEDGE UP TO DATE: It is important that we honor our commitments in a timely manner. Our ministries continue, and so do the expenses that support them. Thank you.

Bethesda Episcopal Church is a participant of PAYPAL! You can make your gift to Bethesda by going to [paypal.com](https://www.paypal.com) and choosing bethesdaepiscopalchurch@gmail.com as the payee.

SMILE.AMAZON.COM Bethesda Episcopal Church is a participant of **AmazonSmile**. When you are ready to make a purchase use this web address: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-1364477> and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Bethesda.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 24

“Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given” ...

4:00 P.M.	FAMILY EUCHARIST <i>with the Blessing of the Creche</i>
10:00 P.M.	MUSIC OF THE NATIVITY
10:30 P.M.	SOLEMN EUCHARIST <i>with The Great Procession</i>

*Music by
John Rutter, Joseph Haydn,
Harold Darke, George F. Handel*

**THE VESTRY REPORTS:
CONGREGATION MEETINGS REGARDING THE RECTOR SEARCH PROCESS**

Sunday, January 21, 2018, 9:00 am, in the Church Nave
Tuesday, January 23, 2018, 7:00 pm, in the Church Nave
Sunday, January 28, 2018, 11:30 am, in the Church Nave

Please make every effort to attend one of these offerings.

ANNUAL ELECTION INFORMATION

Churchwardens

Class of 2018

Darren Miller, Senior Churchwarden

Class of 2017

Catherine Berheide, Junior Churchwarden, Eligible for re-election

Vestry Persons

Class of 2017

Jane Agee, Eligible for re-election

Gordon Boyd, Ineligible for re-election

Mark Griffin, Ineligible for re-election

Geneva Henderson, Clerk, Vacancy

Class of 2018

Mark Claverie, Vacancy

Pamela Houde

Mayumi Kato

Class of 2019

Field Horne

Sara Manny

Steven Rucker

John Van der Veer, Treasurer

Please recommend below Bethesda communicants to serve on the Vestry.

EPIPHANY POT LUCK SUPPER
*Saturday, January 6, 4:30 pm, at
The First Baptist Church on Washington Street*

A sign-up list is posted in the narthex of the church.
Please indicate what you will bring and how many
Will be attending. Rides are available for those
Who require it.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA
December 25-31

Monday <i>THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</i>	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist with Hymns, <i>High Altar</i> <i>The Parish Office is closed today.</i>
Tuesday <i>SAINT STEPHEN</i>	6:30 p.m.	Holy Eucharist, <i>High Altar</i> <i>The Parish Office is closed today.</i>
Wednesday <i>SAINT JOHN APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST</i>	12:10 p.m.	Holy Eucharist with Healing, <i>Transcept Altar</i>
Thursday <i>THE HOLY INNOCENTS</i>	9:30 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, <i>Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga</i> Holy Eucharist, <i>Memory Care Facility, Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga</i>
Friday <i>Saint Thomas of Canterbury</i>		
Saturday <i>Christmas Weekday</i>		
Sunday <i>FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</i>	7:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, <i>Transcept Altar</i> Holy Eucharist, <i>High Altar</i> Sung Eucharist, <i>High Altar</i> Refreshments, <i>The Narthex</i>



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

Geneva Henderson, *Clerk*

Class of 2018

Mark Claverie

Pamela Houde

Mayumi Kato

Class of 2019

Field Horne

Sara Manny

Steven Rucker

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*

Mr. Sean Byrnes, *Sacristan*

www.bethesdachurch.org

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

(518) 584-5980