



26 Washington Street

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7:30 am - Morning Prayer

8 December 2019
8:00 am - Holy Eucharist

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 - *Mystical*

Leon Boellmann (1862-1897)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

AT THE PROCESSION: HYMN 59 - *Merton*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Prayer Book, page 323

KYRIE ELEISON

at 10:00 a.m. - from Service in G

Prayer Book, page 324
Francis Jackson (b. 1917)

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, judicium*

- 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: 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 67 - Psalm 42

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)

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 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; Francis, the Bishop of Rome; Bartholomew, the

Ecumenical Patriarch; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; William, our Diocesan; Daniel, our Bishop retired, 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

Everliving God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the door of mercy through which we pass day by day. Bless this parish and its leaders as we expand to become a compassionate community among our neighbors. May the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and the work of our hands enable Mercy House to be a home where those in need may live together in the bond of peace and love; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, for ever and ever. 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 - *This is the Record of John*

This is the record of John,
when the Jews sent priests and Levites
from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou?
And he confessed, and denied not,
and said plainly, I am not the Christ.

And they asked him, what art thou then?
Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not.
Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No.
Then said they unto him,
What art thou?

That we may give an answer unto them that sent us.
What sayest thou of thyself?
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
Make straight the way of the Lord.

Words: *John 1:19-23*
Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

HYMN 76 - *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 S114*

Prayer Book, page 341

OUR FATHER

Prayer Book, page 336

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD: AGNUS DEI - *Hymnal S158*

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Prayer Book, page 337

MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

MOTET - *O Thou the Central Orb*

O thou, the central orb of righteous love,
pure beam of the most high,
eternal light of this our bleak world,
where 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 our sin,
our nature all shall feel eternal day,
in fellowship with thee,
transforming clay to souls erewhile unclean,
now pure within, now pure within. Amen

Words: Henry Ramsden Bramley
Music: Charles Wood (1866-1926)

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

Assisting Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

HYMN 65— *Bereden väg för Herran*

ORGAN - *Vivo Leggiero*

Leon Boellmann (1862-1897)

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

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|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | 8:00am | 10:00am |
| <i>Celebrant</i> | Dean Vang | Dean Vang |
| <i>Assisting Priest</i> | | Father Evans |
| <i>Lay Eucharistic Minister[s]</i> | Robert Bullock | Robert Bullock |
| | | Catherine Berheide |
| <i>Lay Eucharistic Visitor</i> | | Mark Griffin |

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| <i>Lectors</i> | Robert Bullock | Mark Claverie Anne Van Acker |
| <i>Altar Guild</i> <i>Bell Ringers</i> | Mary Withington | Anne Van Acker Diane Robinson Mark Claverie |
| <i>Ushers</i> | | Tom Moeller David Harper Mark Claverie Diane Robinson |
| <i>Hospitality</i> | | Betsy Cummins |

NOTICES

In our INTERCESSIONS FOR THE CHURCH today, we pray for
Anglican Communion Episcopal Church Women
Diocese of Albany For an Increase in the membership of the Daughters of the King
Our Parish Homes of the Good Shepherd

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.

A SERVICE OF ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS today, at 3:00 p.m. sung by the Schola Cantorum This liturgy will also serve as a memorial to Liz Hood, a Schola member and communicant of Bethesda Church. A reception will follow this service in the narthex. All are welcome.

HELP THOSE IN NEED THIS CHRISTMAS: Bethesda is collecting donated gift cards (e.g., Visa, Target, Walmart, etc.) today and the 15, for those in need in our community to help make their Christmas more joyful. Bethesda will collect donated gift cards for clients of Transitional Services Association (TSA). Your donated gift cards will be distributed to local homeless families so they can purchase presents to celebrate the Christmas holiday. "It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." (Mother Teresa).

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE: Transitional Services Association (TSA), one of Bethesda's and Mercy House's key housing partners, is selling Christmas trees at its main office at 127 Union Street (behind Saratoga National Bank, South Broadway). Supporting TSA is a wonderful way to support people with disabilities whom they serve and affirm our long term partnership with TSA. Look for a flyer at the back of the church, or visit TSA, 127 Union Street.

The RACE TRACK CHAPLAINCY is planning for this year's Christmas Party of local workers of the horse industry and their families. We want to make sure that each child receives an item of clothing, something to play with, a knick-knack of some sort, and that each family and single adult receives a gift card to a local store. Please help us! Monetary contributions may be made to the Race Track Chaplaincy of America - Saratoga Branch c/o The Reverend Alberto Matos. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA
December 9 - 15

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| Monday <i>Advent Weekday</i> | | |
| Tuesday <i>Advent Weekday</i> | 6:30 p.m. | Holy Eucharist, <i>High Altar</i> |
| Wednesday <i>Advent Weekday</i> | 12:10 p.m. | Holy Eucharist, <i>Transept Altar</i> |
| Thursday <i>Advent Weekday</i> | 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. | Morning Prayer, <i>Transept Altar</i> Holy Eucharist, <i>High Altar</i> |
| Friday <i>Lucy</i> | | |
| Saturday <i>Advent Weekday</i> | 7:00 p.m. | Orchestra of St. Luke Concert , <i>The Church</i> |
| Sunday THE THIRD SUN- DAY OF ADVENT: <i>Gaudete</i> | 7:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. | Morning Prayer, <i>Transept Altar</i> Holy Eucharist, <i>High Altar</i> Sung Eucharist, <i>High Altar</i> Refreshments, <i>The Narthex</i> |

The PARISH OFFICES are open from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. *Monday, Tuesday & Thursday*, 9 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. *Wednesday* and 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on *Friday*.

THE PARISH STAFF

The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang, *Interim Rector*
The Reverend Paul F. Evans, *Assisting Priest*
Mrs. Barbara Latzko, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
Mr. Farrell Goehring, *Organist/Director of Music*
Dr. Kathleen Slezak, *Choral Director*
Mr. Robert E. Bullock, *Verger*

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