



The  
Church of  
Bethesda-by-the-Sea  
*Love and Serve*

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 5, 2024

9:00 A.M.

*Welcome to the Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea!*

- Hymn numbers refer to *The Hymnal 1982* (blue).
- Childcare for children up to age three is available in the nursery.
  - Please ask an usher for details.



# HOLY EUCHARIST

## PRELUDE

*The congregation stands as the hymn is introduced. All join in singing.*

## HYMN 117

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning  
verses 1, 3, & 4

*Morning Star*

## ACCLAMATION

CELEBRANT

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE

*And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

*The Celebrant continues.*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*All sing.*

Hymnal 1982 S-278

William Matthias (1934-1992)



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -



might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we



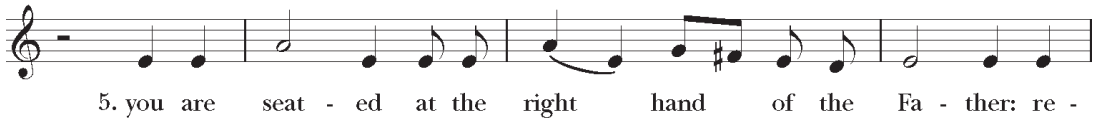
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



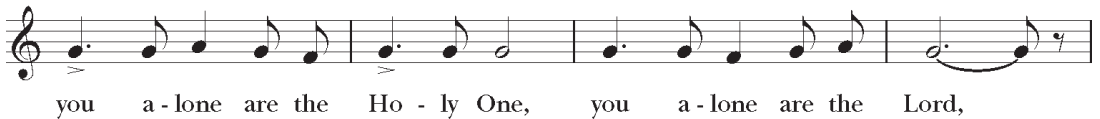
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



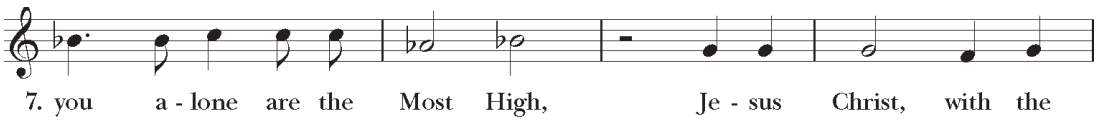
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -



ceive our prayer. 6. For



you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.  
 PEOPLE *And also with you.*  
 CELEBRANT Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*The congregation is seated.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### LESSON                    Jeremiah 31:7–14

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.” See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.” For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

READER    The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE    *Thanks be to God.*

*Please stand.*

### GOSPEL                    Matthew 2:1–12

DEACON                    The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

PEOPLE                    *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

DEACON    The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE    *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**THE SERMON**      The Rev. Tim Schenck

*A brief period of silence follows the Sermon.*

**NICENE CREED**

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: A CHRISTMAS LITANY**

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

As we gather to celebrate the birth of our Savior, let us pray for the peace, joy, and hope, freely offered through our Lord Jesus Christ.

For the holy Church of God: that it may faithfully and boldly proclaim to every human heart the Good News of Christ's salvation.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy.  
*Hear our prayer.*

For our nation, its leaders and people: that a spirit of compassion may rule in our hearts and bring us to paths of righteousness and goodwill.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy.  
*Hear our prayer.*

For peace in our troubled world: that war, injustice, persecution, and oppression may be cast out by the Light of Christ.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy.  
*Hear our prayer.*

For our families and loved ones, both far and near: that the bonds of love which unite us may be ever strengthened.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy.

*Hear our prayer.*

For those in any need or trouble this night: the homeless and the hungry, the sick and the lonely, those in prison, those caught by addiction, and those whose pain is known to you alone.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy.

*Hear our prayer.*

For all who have died and now live in the light of your presence: we remember especially those for whom we grieve this Christmas, and those in whose loving memory the church is adorned, that following their example we may live forever in the light of Christ's eternal glory.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy.

*Hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION** *(congregation kneeling)*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
*Amen.*

*Please stand.*

## **THE PEACE**

CELEBRANT

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE

*And also with you.*

*The Clergy and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

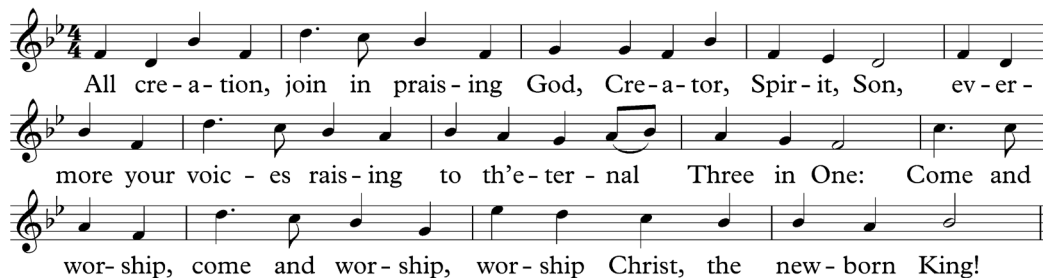
## OFFERTORY

*A collection is taken as the Altar is prepared for Communion. The ministry of Bethesda is funded exclusively by our parishioners and visitors. We encourage and deeply appreciate your generosity.*

*The congregation stands as the gifts are brought forward.*

## PRESENTATION AND DOXOLOGY

Regent Square



All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Son, ev - er -  
more your voic - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One: Come and  
wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King!

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Eucharistic Prayer B

- CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.  
PEOPLE *And also with you.*  
CELEBRANT Lift up your hearts.  
PEOPLE *We lift them to the Lord.*  
CELEBRANT Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
PEOPLE *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your 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.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven\_ and  
 earth\_\_ are full\_\_ of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the  
 high-est. Blessed is he who comes\_ in the name\_\_ of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.\_\_\_\_\_

*The congregation kneels, and the Celebrant continues.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*We remember his death,*

*We proclaim his resurrection,*

*We await his coming in glory;*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.



We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD** Christmas Fraction Anthem *Mendelssohn*, arr. Pysher

*Antiphon*



- CANTOR *Antiphon*
- PEOPLE *Antiphon*
- CHOIR The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us,  
full of grace and truth.
- PEOPLE *Antiphon*

CELEBRANT

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**COMMUNION**

*All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. We ask that you receive the bread in your hand and either help guide the chalice to your lips or dip the wafer into the wine as the chalice passes. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest as the Priest approaches. Gluten-free wafers are available by request from the priest. If you need communion brought to your pew, please inform an usher.*

## During the Communion

Hymn 491 Where is this stupendous stranger?

Ottery St. Mary



1. Where is this stu - pend - ous stran - ger? Pro - phets, shep - herds, kings, ad - vise.
2. O Most Might - y! O Most Ho - ly! Far be - yond the se - raph's thought:
3. O the mag - ni - tude of meek - ness! Worth from worth im - mor - tal sprung;
4. God all - boun - teous, all - cre - a - tive, whom no ills from good dis - suade,



Lead me to my Mas - ter's man - ger, show me where my Sa - vior lies.  
art thou then so weak and low - ly as un - heed - ed pro - phets taught?  
O the strength of in - fant weak - ness, if e - ter - nal is so young!  
is in - car - nate, and a na - tive of the ve - ry world he made.

*The congregation stands when the Celebrant returns to the altar.*

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

CELEBRANT Let us pray.

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

*Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## THE BLESSING

*All join in singing.*

**HYMN 119** As with gladness men of old  
verses 1, 2, & 3

*Dix*

## DISMISSAL

DEACON

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

PEOPLE

*Thanks be to God.*

## POSTLUDE



*Prayers for healing and wholeness have been asked for...* Abigail, Alan, Alston, Amy, Andrea, Anita, Angel, Annette, Annie, Aron, Baby Cove, Barbara, Barbara, Barbara, Betsy, Bill, Bill, Bo, Bradley, Brygida, Christian, Connor, David, Dawn, Denny, Dian, Diane, Diane, Elaine, Elle, Evan, Ezra, Glen, Grace, Hank, Henryka, Isabel, Ite, James, Jameson, Jasen, JeAnne, Jeffrey, Jessica, John, John, Joyce, Judy, Justin, Leslie, Kaki, Karen, Kathryn, Kelly Ann, Ken, Kerry, Kinga, Larry, Leslie, Linda, Linda, Linda, Louise, Lourdes, Marcia, Margot, Maria, Mary, Matthew, Mercedes, Michael, Mike, Mike, Neil, Rebekah, Regine, Raj, Sandra, Simone, Thais, The Mota Family, Valerie, Veronica, Vince, Vivian, Vladi, Yessennia, Zdzislaw, **and all those serving our country**, including Alex, Austin, Benjamin, Christian, Elizabeth, Eric, George, Harold, Herbert, John, Lee, Lorne, Luster, Michael, Mantis, Sean, Thomas, Tommy, and William

**BOAR'S HEAD & YULE LOG FESTIVAL**  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025, AT 2:00 P.M. & 4:30 P.M.

The holiday favorite returns! Bethesda's Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival is a cherished re-creation of an ancient Epiphany celebration. Join us as pipes and drums, Beefeaters, shepherds, jesters, and even King Wenceslas himself bring this dramatic pageant to life. Featuring a brass quintet, the mighty Bethesda organ, and the Bethesda Choir, this event is a true spectacle that is not to be missed! Tickets and more information available at [bbts.org/boars-head](http://bbts.org/boars-head).



**Give Now Online!**



You may "Give Now" electronically in one of three ways: (1) Scanning the QR code with your smartphone; (2) Visiting [bbts.org](http://bbts.org) and clicking the "Give" button; or (3) Texting BBTS and a dollar amount (example: BBTS \$x,xxx) to 73256 to give to Bethesda using text messaging.

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The  
Church of  
Bethesda-by-the-Sea  
*Love and Service*

*Bethesda's Mission is to experience the clear and strong presence of God and to understand and spread Christ's teachings through collective worship, learning, and service.*

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Tim Schenck, *Rector*

The Rev. Jeff Beebe  
*Assisting Priest*

The Rev. Susan Beebe  
*Associate Rector*

The Rev. Canon Elizabeth Rankin  
*Assisting Priest*

The Rev. Dr. Cecily Titcomb  
*Deacon*

The Rev. Clayton Waddell  
*Deacon*

Dr. Stuart Forster  
*Associate for Music & Liturgy*

Joseph Sanelli  
*Parish Administrator*

Ayana Piñeiro-Ilnicki, *Executive Assistant*  
Beth Glass, *Bookkeeper / Stewardship Assistant*  
Debra Meyer, *Parish Life Coordinator*  
Jennifer Symons, *Welcome Coordinator*

Carole Ann Vaughan, *Stewardship Director*  
Deb Strainge, *Sunday School Director*  
Keith Meyer, *Lead Sexton*  
Chris Irvin, *Sexton*  
John Ilnicki, *Sexton*

Marisa Holliday, *Marketing & Communications Coordinator*

THE CHURCH MOUSE STAFF

Laurie Kasprzyk, *Manager*  
Meedlyne Gedeon, *Lead Sales Associate*  
Rachel Sanelli, *Associate / Online Sales Coordinator*  
Johan Hernandez, *Warehouse Manager*

José Cartagena, *Receiving Specialist*  
Rosie Cartagena, *Receiving Specialist*  
Jesus Cartagena, *Acquisitions / Deliveries Coordinator*  
Marcos Guzman, *Acquisitions / Deliveries Coordinator*

WARDENS, OFFICERS, AND VESTRY

Beth Cole, *Senior Warden*  
John Brim, *Treasurer*

Suzanne Crawford, *Clerk*

Pam Miller, *Junior Warden*  
Robert Diffenderfer, *Chancellor*

Jim Bertles  
Jim Brodsky  
Barbara Callahan

Carlos Gabino  
Tom Glover  
Randall Gluss

Lisa Hastey  
Matthew Lorentzen  
Rachel Supple