



*Welcome to the Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea.
We encourage everyone to wear a mask; we require those who are not vaccinated to wear a mask.
Hymn numbers refer to The Hymnal 1982 (blue).
Child care is available for children up to three years of age. Please ask an usher for details.*

Holy Eucharist † 8:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent | December 5, 2021

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Gary Jones

THE WORD OF GOD

CELEBRANT Blessed are you, holy and living One.
PEOPLE *You come to set your people free.*

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.*

TRISAGION

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.
Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.
Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Merciful God, who sent your 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The congregation is seated.

LESSON Malachi 3:1–4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

READER The Word of the Lord. PEOPLE Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 16

The Song of Zechariah

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The congregation stands as the Gospel is introduced.

GOSPEL Luke 3:1–6
DEACON The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.
PEOPLE *Glory to you Lord Christ.*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

DEACON The Gospel of the Lord.
PEOPLE *Praise to you Lord Christ.*

HOMILY The Rev. Gary Jones

A brief period of silence follows the Homily.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: FORM VI

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

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 Celebrant pronounces absolution and then the congregation stands.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you. *And also with you.*

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

Members of the congregation will present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The congregation sits or remains standing, 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,

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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 the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and 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 forever. *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

CELEBRANT Our King and Savior now draws near.
PEOPLE *O come, let us adore him.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION

Everyone is invited to Communion. Because of current COVID protocols, we are only able to administer bread, which is a full Communion. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Our normal practice is to kneel at the rail, however, you may also stand. If you wish to receive a prayer blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest to indicate your preference. To receive a gluten-free wafer, please request one from the minister.

Following Communion, the congregation stands for the Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

O God, who bids us wait in this season of longing: as you have fed us with the body of Christ, make us hungry for Christ's justice in the world; As you have given us drink from the cup of salvation, make us thirsty for the fullness of your kingdom; In these days of expectation, stir our hearts and awaken hope that we may share the gifts of your reconciling love with all creation. Amen.

BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

DEACON Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
PEOPLE *Thanks be to God.*

Prayers for healing and wholeness have been asked for... Abby, Abigail, Angela, Bailey, Bettina, Bill, Bob, Bobby, Boone family, Borger family, Brygida, Carmen, Caroline, Caroline, Carter, Casey, Dan, Dyna, Ed, Edward, Edythe, Eleanor, Gloria, Gronlund family, Heidi, Irina, Izzy, Jacquie, Jane, Jodie, Joseph, John, Kathleen, Kathryn, Kemp family, Lane, Larry, Lee family, Lourdes, Lucas, Lynn Elaine, Marcia, Mariela, Mariette, Marilyn, Martie, Martin family, Mary Elizabeth, Maverick, Mireille, Missy, Myrna, Nicholas, Nita, Norma, Pat, Regine, Ricky, Sebastian, Shannon, Shawn, Sophie, Stephanie, Susan, Valerie, **and those serving our country...** Alex, Austin, Benjamin, Christian, Elizabeth, Eric, George, Harold, Herbert, John, Lorne, Luster, Michael, Mantis, Sean, Thomas, Tommy, and William.

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.

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The Rev. Canon Elizabeth R. Geitz, *Associate Priest* The Rev. Carol Barron, *Associate Priest* The Rev. Susan Beebe, *Associate Priest*

The Rev. Jeff Beebe, *Associate Priest* The Rev. Dr. Cecily J. Titcomb, *Deacon* The Rev. Clayton B. Waddell, *Deacon*

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