First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022
11:00 A.M.

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

- Hymn numbers refer to *The Hymnal 1982* (blue).
- Children (ages 3—10 years old) are welcome to join our Sunday School in the Sunday School Hall. They will return to the church during the exchanging of the Peace.
  - Child care is available for children up to three years of age. Please ask an usher for details.
Prelude
Rhapsody on Helmsley
William Lloyd Webber (1914–1982)

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

The congregation stands as the hymn is introduced.

Hymn 54
Savior of the nations, come!
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

The Word of God

Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People: You come to set your people free.

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.

Trisagion
Hymnal S–102 (sung three times)
Alexander Archangelsky (1846–1924)

Trisagion

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.
Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Lesson
Isaiah 2:1—5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.’ For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122 Sung by the choir.

Anglican chant by Richard Woodward (1714–1777)

1 I was glad when they said to me, *
   “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”
2 Now our feet are standing *
   within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
   that is at unity with itself;
4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, *
   the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.
5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
   the thrones of the house of David.
6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
   “May they prosper who love you.
7 Peace be within your walls *
   and quietness within your towers.
8 For my brethren and companions’ sake, *
   I pray for your prosperity.
9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, *
   I will seek to do you good.”
LESSON Romans 13:11–14
You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

The congregation stands as the hymn is introduced.

Hymn 61 “Sleepers, wake!” A voice astounds us Wacht auf

Gospel Matthew 24:36–44
Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon The Rev. Susan Beebe
A brief period of silence follows the Homily. Please stand when the Celebrant stands for the Creed.

The 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 concludes the prayers.*
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.

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People 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.

Anthem

An Advent Carol

Ellen Voth (b. 1972)

This Advent moon shines cold and clear, These Advent nights are long; Our lamps have burned year after year and still their flame is strong. “Watchman, what of the night?” we cry, Heartsick with hope deferred: “No speaking signs are in the sky,” Is still the watchman’s word. One to another hear them speak, The patient virgins wise: “Surely He is not far to seek, All night we watch and rise.” “The days are evil, looking back, The coming days are dim; Yet count we not His promise slack But watch and wait for Him.” Weeping, we hold Him fast tonight; We will not let Him go till daybreak smite our wearied sight and summer smite the snow: Weeping, we hold Him fast tonight; We will not let Him go till daybreak smite our wearied sight and summer smite the snow: Then figs shall bud, and dove with dove shall coo the livelong day; Then He shall say, “Arise My love, My fair one, come away.” Christina Rossetti (1830–1894)

The congregation stands as the gifts are brought forward.

Presentation and Doxology

Winchester New

All praise eternal Son, to thee, whose advent doth thy people free; whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore. Amen.
The congregation kneels 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, 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

Stuart Forster (b. 1971)

Come, Holy Child of light and be known: be known in broken bread and offered lives; be known in this house as Lord and King; be known in our hearts today and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant
The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Communion

Everyone is invited to 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 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.

During the Communion

Hymn 454 Jesus came, adored by angels  
Anthem Laetentur coeli

William Byrd (1540—1623)

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad.  
Let the mountains offer up praise

because our Lord will come  
and he will show mercy on his poor.

On your days let justice  
and plenty arise for the select.

He will have mercy on his poor.

After Communion, please stand when the Celebrant returns to the altar.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

The Blessing

Hymn 57 Lo! he comes, with clouds descending  
[descant by Stuart Forster]

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Toccata on Helmsley

Stuart Forster (b. 1971)

Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of

Shannon Sadler-Hull
Robert Hobart Hull
William Joseph Smyser
Prayers for healing and wholeness have been asked for... Abby, Adalina, Agata, Amnesty, Ann, Anna, Andrew, Bill, Bob, Brygida, Carol, Carolyn, Chris, Clara, Coy, Craig, Daniel, David, Dayana, Dennis, Donald, Donna, Ed, Edward, Elaine, Ellie, Eric, Evan, Foster, Frank, Galina Natalya, Gary, Heidi, Hunter, Isabel, Jack, Jeanne, Jerry, Joan, John, Kathryn, Kelly Ann, Kinga, Larry, Laurie, Lillian, Linda, Lynn, Maggie, Malcom, Marcia, Mariela, Marilyn, Martie, Maury, McNerney family, Michael, Mike, Mireille, Nanci, Nancy, Ned, Noah, Noreen, Pam, Pamela, Pat, Philip, Richard, Ron, Sally, Samantha, Samuel, Sean, Sebastian, Shawn, Susan, Tico, Tony, Veronica, Vince, Vladi, Wendy, Will, William, Zdzislaw and those serving our country... Alex, Austin, Benjamin, Christian, Clara, Elizabeth, Eric, George, Harold, Herbert, John, Lee, Lorne, Luster, Michael, Mantis, Sean, Thomas, Tommy, and William.

Music at Bethesda

Christmas Concert and Community Carol Sing
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.

Join us at one of our area’s most popular seasonal concerts. The Bethesda Choir performs with some of the finest instrumentalists around, and the audience sings many favorite Christmas carols with orchestra accompaniment. There is a $25 requested donation at the door (no advance tickets available).

Stuart Forster, conductor

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Sunday, January 1, 2023 • 11:00 a.m.

The Bethesda Choir leads this traditional Christmas service, made famous by the recordings and annual live broadcast from King’s College, Cambridge, England. A free-will offering will be received.

Boar’s Head and Yule Log Festival
“One of the ten best things to do in Palm Beach”
Saturday, January 7, 2023 • 3:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 8, 2023 • 2:00 and 4:30 p.m.

The Palm Beach Pipes and Drums, Beefeaters, Sprites, Shepherds, the Three Kings and their Pages, Mary and Joseph, Flag Bearers, Jesters, the Herald, King Wenceslas and his Page, a Brass Quintet, the mighty Austin organ, and the Bethesda Choir... all will be in place once again for this year’s festival! There is a $25 requested donation at the door (no advance tickets available).
Christmas Altar Flowers

We invite you to make a contribution in memory of or in honor of your loved ones during this Christmas season. Your gift provides for the special flowers and altar adornments during this season and throughout the year.

Please complete the reverse side of this card and return it with your check made payable to Bethesda-by-the-Sea. Your loved ones’ names will be printed in the Christmas service leaflets as long as they are received by December 12. A minimum $35 contribution is suggested per name. Please complete the form below and mail it with your check (payable to Bethesda-by-the-Sea Church) to 141 South County Road, Palm Beach, FL 33480. You may also visit bbts.org and give online.

Please print clearly FULL NAME (first and last)
Also specify by circling below in memory, in honor, or in thanksgiving for:

1. In (memory; honor) of...

2. In (memory; honor) of...

Contributor Information:
Given by ________________________________ ________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________
City ______________________________ State _______ Zip ________________
Phone ______________________________ E-mail ________________________________

Suggested contribution is $35 per name.
☐ Additional contributions (Any amount you care to give will be appreciated)

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 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.
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. Susan Beebe
Associate Priest

The Rev. Jeff Beebe
Associate Priest

The Rev. Canon Elizabeth Geitz
Associate Priest

Dr. Stuart Forster
Associate for Music & Liturgy

Greg Knight
Associate for Christian Formation

The Rev. Dr. Cecily Titcomb
Deacon

The Rev. Clayton Waddell
Deacon

Coordinators

Douglas Kwoka, Communications Coordinator
April Lawrence, Fellowship & Membership Coordinator
Ayana Piñeiro-Ilnicki, Worship & Pastoral Care Coordinator
Laura Manley, Outreach & Stewardship Coordinator

Sextons

Robert Mancuso, Sexton for Liturgical Support
Keith Risley, Sexton for Grounds
Jonathan Rivera, Sexton for Hospitality
William Thompson III, Sexton for Building Preservation & Lead Sexton

The Church Mouse Staff

Daisy Alvarez, General Manager for Retail Operations
José Cartagena, Receiving Specialist

Jonathan Goodine, Receiving Specialist
Laurie Kasprzyk, Retail Associate

Wardens, Officers, and Vestry

John Sory, Senior Warden

Robert Diffenderfer, Chancellor
John Brim
Randall Gluss
Sebastian Kent

Katie Wandoff, Clerk
Barbara Callahan
Lisa Hastey
Edythe Gordon

Gene Carter, Junior Warden
Matthew Lorentzen, Treasurer
Suzanne Crawford
Sara Griffen
Chuck Zettler

The Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea
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