



The  
Church of  
Bethesda-by-the-Sea

*Love and Serve*

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**April 28, 2024**

**8:00 A.M.**

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



141 S. County Road, Palm Beach, FL 33480 | (561) 655-4554 | [bbts.org](http://bbts.org)

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## HOLY EUCHARIST

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### EASTER ACCLAMATION

CELEBRANT Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
PEOPLE *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

### THE GLORIA

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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 Acts 8:26—40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When

they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

**PSALM 22:24—30**

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*  
“May your heart live for ever!”
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*  
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the Lord’s for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL**        John 15:1—8  
DEACON        The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
PEOPLE        *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to his disciples, “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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.*

## 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.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

*Silence. The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*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

### 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.*

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

*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 People kneel.*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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,

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

*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**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

CELEBRANT Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

PEOPLE *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

### **THE INVITATION**

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.*

### **POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

*Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

## THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## THE DISMISSAL

DEACON Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

PEOPLE *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

*Prayers for healing and wholeness have been asked for...* Abby, Allie, Andy, Anne, Annette, Becky, Berry, Bill, Bobby, Bruce, Byron, Carolyn, Charles, Courtney, Daniel, David, Debbi, Dee, Denny, Donna, Ellie, Erik John, George and Scootch, Isabel, Jack, Jane, Janet, Jasen, Joan, John, Judy, Justin, Kathryn, Kelly Ann, Ken, Kerry, Kimmie, Landon, Larry, Lillian, Lizz, Malcom, Marcia, Margot, Mariette, Martie, Mary, Matthew, Maureen, Nancy, Nicholas, Nicole, Oliver, Pam, Patrick, Regine, Robert, Robin, Ruth, Scott, Steve, Steve, the Lawson family, the Nesselhauf family, the Rohe family, Theresa, Tim, Tony, Uma, Vince, Wendy, Whitney, **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

### 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 Serve*

*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  
*Assisting Priest*

The Rev. Canon Elizabeth Rankin  
*Assisting Priest*

Dr. Stuart Forster  
*Associate for Music & Liturgy*

Greg Knight  
*Director, Bethesda Center for Spirituality*

Joseph Sanelli  
*Parish Administrator*

The Rev. Dr. Cecily Titcomb  
*Deacon*

The Rev. Clayton Waddell  
*Deacon*

Ayana Piñeiro-Ilnicki, *Executive Assistant*  
April Lawrence, *Fellowship & Membership Coordinator*  
Beth Glass, *Bookkeeper / Stewardship Assistant*  
Jennifer Symons, *Receptionist / Administrative Assistant*

Marisa Holliday, *Marketing & Communications Coordinator*  
Carole Ann Vaughan, *Stewardship Director*  
Jonathan Rivera, *Sexton for Hospitality*  
Byron Barraza, *Interim Sexton*

## THE CHURCH MOUSE STAFF

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

Jonathan Goodine, *Driver / On-Site Acquisition*  
Laurie Kasprzyk, *Retail Associate*

## 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

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