Holy Eucharist ♩ 9:00 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Advent | December 22, 2019

Prelude
At the sound of bells, the congregation stands.
The Celebrant begins from the west end of the church.

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 we are not 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.

Hymn 66
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect For Welcome (in unison)
Light within all light, soul behind all souls, guide our hearts and minds as we welcome those who worship today at Bethesda-by-the-Sea. Give us discerning wisdom and open hearts to embrace all who are present.

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, begotten from the Father before all ages, 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 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 is with us, ever one God.

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
O come, O come, Emmanuel.
O come, thou Wisdom from on high. Fill your Church with watchfulness and hope.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel! Amen.

Confession of Sin and Absolution
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (congregation kneeling)
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.

The Holy Communion

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

Organ Voluntary
Presentation and Advent Doxology

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

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

The Celebrant adds a Proper Preface then continues
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
Robert Powell

The congregation stands as the hymn is introduced.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
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 this Lord’s Table, in remembrance of your love for us, we come to you with thanksgiving. We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory; O come, O come, Emmanuel, in our need, to free us from error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

The congreation stands when the Celebrant returns to the altar.

**Postcommunion Prayer**

Almighty and everlasting 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.

**Advent Blessing**

HYMN 56—Stanthorpe

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

**The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

RESPONSE

Thanks be to God.

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

Toby Penn

Mildred L. Smysrer

PARKING: Persons attending Sunday services and/or events today at Bethesda will be allowed to park on all of Barton Avenue and on South County Road without receiving a ticket until 1:30 p.m.


You may “Give Now” electronically by one of two ways: 1. Scanning the QR code with your smartphone; or 2. Visiting bbs.org and clicking the red “Give Online” button.