



We welcome you to Bethesda Episcopal Church. We are pleased that you are joining us for worship this morning and ask that you adhere to the guidelines below.

Guidelines for Attending Church

Entry

Do not enter if you are ill or have been in contact with someone who is ill.
A mask is required at all times.
An usher will sanitize your hands upon entry.
We require your name and contact information.
Sorry, no bathrooms available.

Offering

Collection plates are at the rear of the church; thanks for dropping your envelope there!

Bulletins

Are in the pews.

Seating

8 am – sit in pews with **blue** tape.
10 am – sit in pews with **purple** tape.

Peace

6' apart - No touching – bow, sign, wave.

Communion

Please follow ushers' instructions.
Begins with people at the rear of the church. Distinct households remain 6' apart.
An usher will sanitize your hands as you leave your pew.
Only host will be distributed (sorry no wine).
For communion, hold out your hands.
For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest.
Return to your seat via the side aisle on the left (the Gospel side).

Leaving

Wait until the usher signals that it's your turn to leave.
Place your bulletin in the wastebasket or take it home to recycle.

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 am - Holy Eucharist

26 July 2020
10:00 am - Holy Eucharist

Please switch off all cellular telephones and other electronic devices before the Liturgy begins. Also, kindly refrain from audible conversation to respect those wishing to pray and listen to the organ prelude. Thank you.

Prelude

Prelude & Fugue in C

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Entrance Rite

The Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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

Gloria In Excelsis

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of The Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy, that thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and thy Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of The Word

The First Lesson

1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Lector concludes The Word of the Lord.
The People respond Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Said by all

Psalm 86:11-17

Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
Steady my footsteps in your word; *

let no iniquity have dominion over me.
Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

The Second Lesson

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand, if able.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea

and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Father Scott

The Nicene Creed *Said by all, standing if you are able.*

I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of his Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God;
 begotten, not made;
 being of one substance with the Father;
 by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
 came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried:
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life,
 who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of The People

Please kneel, if you are able.

Lector 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 Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and William our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

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

Silence

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

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

Celebrant Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever.

The people respond Amen.

Celebrant and People

Everliving God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the door of mercy through which we pass day by day, bless this parish and its leaders as we expand to become a compassionate community among our neighbors. May the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and the work of our hands enable Mercy House to be a home where those in need may live together in the bond of peace and love; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Confession

The Celebrant introduces the Confession

The people say

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

The Absolution

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand, if you are able.

*Celebrant
People*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

The Liturgy of The Eucharist

At The Offertory

Preludium in C

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand, if you are able.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface Of The Lord's Day Of God the Son

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit *Said by all, standing if you are able.*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Eucharistic Prayer *Please kneel, if you are able.*

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

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

People and Celebrant

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 Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei *Said by all, kneeling, if you are able.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access *Said by all, kneeling if you are able.*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

At The Communion Fugue in C J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Concluding Rite

The Post Communion Prayer *Said by all, kneeling if you are able.*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant

The Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Dismissal

*Celebrant
People*

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

Please stand as the celebrant departs, if you are able.

Voluntary

Fugue in C Minor

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

NOTICES

We welcome all visitors to Bethesda. Please identify yourself to the clergy.

Large print copies of the service leaflet are available. An usher would be happy to assist you.

A wheelchair, located near the handicap lift in the vestibule, is available to those who require it.

In our Intercessions for the Church today, we pray for

Anglican Communion

Lambeth Conference

Diocese of Albany

St. Philip's Church, Norwood

Our Parish

Our Lectors

If you would like to make an offering of flowers or Eucharistic Elements, please contact the Parish Office by phone (584-5980) or email barbara@bethesdachurch.org. Your gift is appreciated by all.

We welcome Father John Scott, Albany Hospital Chaplain, to serve as our Celebrant and Preacher for his last Sunday at Bethesda during this interim period. Father Wallace will officially begin his ministry at Bethesda next Sunday. Please take this opportunity to thank Father Scott for his ministry with us.

Finance Update Offerings for the first six months of 2020 (January – June) were approximately \$15,000 lower than last year. Our expenses are up about \$7,000. For the remaining 6 months of 2020, we expect that our expenses will be higher. We are predicting a year-end deficit and we are asking those who are able to increase their giving.

EOC Collection. Thank you to all those who have already donated items. At this time EOC is in serious need of diapers (size 4 & 5), baby wipes, baby care products, soap, shampoo, deodor-

ant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, hygiene products, razors and shaving cream. At this time they cannot collect clothing items. We will be delivering the donations to the Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council (EOC) for distribution to those who need them in our community, and we will continue this collection drive during the pandemic. Thanks again for your generosity.

Emails. We stay in touch and communicate key parish news by email, particularly during this pandemic. If you would like to receive our emails, please sign up on our website bethesdachurch.org or call the office (518) 584- 5980. If you have signed up but are not seeing an email from Bethesda Episcopal Church at least once a week, please let the office know and you will be contacted to correct the problem. If you do not use email and would like to receive communications by US mail, please let the office know.

Sunday Videos with Father Moore continue with guest appearances by the wardens and two choir members. They cover today and next Sunday. The videos continue to be available on our website <https://bethesdachurch.org/> , on Facebook www.facebook.com/bethesdaepiscopalchurch , and on Look TV.

Offerings. You may mail your Offerings to the Church office at 96 Ballston Avenue, Saratoga Springs NY 12866. or by using PayPal. You can make your gift to Bethesda by going to <https://www.paypal.com/us/home> and choosing bethesdaepiscopalchurch@gmail.com as the payee. You may also use your credit card. There is a link on the Bethesda website, bethesdachurch.org on the right hand side about halfway down. Your gifts are deeply appreciated.

Sunday Virtual Coffee Hour. Now that Sunday services have resumed, we are going to stop holding virtual coffee hours on Sundays - 12:30 is not convenient for most people, particularly in the summer, and an earlier time would conflict with services. Therefore we are looking for a better day of the week and time to hold a virtual fellowship session on Zoom. If you are interested in participating, please send an email to gather@bethesdachurch.org and let us know what is a convenient time for you. Once we find a new day and time, we will send an email to the parish list. That email will contain instructions on how to request the Zoom link. Unfortunately, we cannot post the Zoom link on our website or social media given the well-publicized issues with ‘open’ meetings, so you need to request a link. If you have never used Zoom and would like help setting it up, please put that request in your note.

Amazon Smile Helps. If you are shopping online remember to use AMAZONSMILE and designate Bethesda Episcopal Church as the charity to which you want Amazon to donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-1364477> .

Staying in Touch. Our Parish Administrative Assistant, Barbara Latzko, is working from home and is available for calls (518-584-5980) and emails (office@bethesdachurch.org) from 9am until 2pm Monday and Thursday; 9am until 3pm Tuesday and Wednesday; and 9am until 12:30pm on Friday. You can also email the wardens (Darren Miller and Kate Berheide) at wardens@bethesdachurch.org with questions or concerns.



The Parish Vestry

Churchwardens

Class of 2020
Darren Miller, *Senior Churchwarden*

Class of 2021
Catherine Berheide, *Junior Churchwarden*

Vestry

Class of 2020
Ann Bullock, *Clerk*
Marcia MacDonald
David Wilder

Class of 2021
Pamela Houde
John Huppuch
John Van der Veer
Sara Manny, *Treasurer*

Class of 2022
Field Horne
Steven Rucker
Karen Finkbeiner

The Parish Staff

The Reverend Paul F. Evans, *Assisting Priest*
Mrs. Barbara Latzko, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
Mr. Farrell Goehring, *Organist/Director of Music*
Dr. Kathleen Slezak, *Choral Director*
Mr. Robert E. Bullock, *Verger*

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