



*Please review the guidelines to attend services on the back page of this service sheet.*

**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**6 September 2020**

**7:20 am - Morning Prayer**

**8:00 am - Holy Eucharist**

**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**

Trio

Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

### **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.**

*The Celebrant may say The Summary of the Law*

#### **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.

Grant us, O Lord, we pray thee, to trust in thee with all our heart; seeing that, as thou dost alway resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so thou dost not forsake those who make their boast of thy mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The people are seated*

### **The First Lesson**

Ezekiel 33:7-11

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

**Gradual***Said by all*

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, \*  
 and I shall keep it to the end.  
 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \*  
 I shall keep it with all my heart.  
 Make me go in the path of your commandments, \*  
 for that is my desire.  
 Incline my heart to your decrees \*  
 and not to unjust gain.  
 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \*  
 give me life in your ways.  
 Fulfill your promise to your servant, \*  
 which you make to those who fear you.  
 Turn away the reproach which I dread, \*  
 because your judgments are good.  
 Behold, I long for your commandments; \*  
 in your righteousness preserve my life.

**The Second Lesson**

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, 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.

*The Lector concludes*  
*The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.

*The people stand, if able.*

**The Holy Gospel**

Matthew 18:15-20

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

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heav-

en, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

## **The Sermon**

Fr Richard Russo

**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.*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for William our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For those in positions of public trust that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*To you, O Lord our God.*

Silence

*The Celebrant concludes with a prayer.*

*The people respond Amen.*

*Celebrant and People say together*

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*

Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins  
and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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, par-

don 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 Celebrant may say The Comfortable Words*

**The Peace** *Please stand, if you are able.*

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

## **The Liturgy of The Eucharist**

**At The Offertory** *Andante - Georg Böhm (1661-1733)*

**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*

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*

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*

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** Communion Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

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

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

**Voluntary**

Postlude

Henry Smart (1813-1879)

**The Parish Staff**

The Reverend Charles Wallace, *Priest in Charge*  
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*

[www.bethesdachurch.org](http://www.bethesdachurch.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/bethesdaepiscopalchurch>  
(518) 584-5980

## NOTICES

The Flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of Almighty God in loving memory of Emily & John Capano by Laurie Brenenstuhl and in loving memory of Robert Mathiot Harper, given by his family.

If you would like to make an offering of flowers or Eucharistic Elements, please contact the Parish Office by phone (518-584-5980) or email [barbara@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:barbara@bethesdachurch.org). Your offering of flowers or elements can not only include memorials for loved ones, but offerings in honor of loved ones or of thanksgiving for special events. Your gift is appreciated by all.

In our Intercessions for the Church today, we pray for

Anglican Communion	Church of Southern Africa
Albany Diocese	St. Mark's Church, Malone
Our Parish	All returning to school, teachers and pupils.

Our preacher at services this weekend is the Reverend Richard Russo. Fr Russo has been a friend of the parish for a number of years and joins us regularly for worship on Sundays. Please welcome Fr Russo to Bethesda's pulpit today.

**Pastoral Care.** Many of our members are not able to come to church at this time due to the pandemic or health conditions. If you or someone you know would like a visit please contact the church office (518-584-5980). To add a name to the parish prayer list, please ring the church office during office hours, or email Fr Wallace: [frwallace@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:frwallace@bethesdachurch.org)

**Prayer List.** If you wish to add the name of a currently ill family member or friend, or a recently deceased person, to the parish prayer list, please ring the church office during office hours, or email Fr Wallace: [frwallace@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:frwallace@bethesdachurch.org). Names will be remembered at mid-day services.

**Emails.** To receive our emails sign up on [bethesdachurch.org](http://bethesdachurch.org) or call the office (518) 584-5980. To receive communications by US mail, please let the office know. To contact Father Wallace please call the church office, or you may email him directly at [frwallace@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:frwallace@bethesdachurch.org). To email the wardens (Darren Miller and Kate Berheide) at [wardens@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:wardens@bethesdachurch.org). Parish office email ([office@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:office@bethesdachurch.org)). Office hours - 9am until 2pm Monday and Thursday; 9am until 3pm Tuesday and Wednesday; and 9am until 12:30pm on Friday.

### Activities for September and October

*As fall approaches there are many new opportunities for learning, fun and fellowship with your fellow Bethesda parishioners:*

**Activities:** please register with the church office for the activities below, via email ([barbara@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:barbara@bethesdachurch.org)) or phone (518) 584-5980.

**Lectio Divina: Fall Bible Study** This weekly class meets after Midday prayers on four consecutive Thursdays: 17 September, 24 September, 1 October, and 8 October. We will be reading the Gospel according to Mark.

**Sunday School** Beginning the first Sunday in October, our children's program will take place during the 10am service. Contact the church office if you need additional information.

**Bethesda Walkers** (aka Legs Misérables) will gather on three Saturdays: 17 October, 24 October and 31 October. Details for each week will be announced in September. The group is open to anyone interested in a brisk walk and lively fellowship with fellow parishioners, friends and family.

**Bethesda Book Club** The Bethesda Book Club will meet periodically throughout the year. Our first meeting is scheduled for Thursday 22 October at 7pm when we will discuss *The Plague*, by Albert Camus.

**Services**

**Service with Father Vang** On 27 September, we welcome our former interim Rector, the Very Reverend Marshall Vang. Fr Vang will be celebrant and preacher at both morning services.

**The Blessing of Animals** This year, we honor St Francis, the patron saint of animals, on Sunday 4 October. You are invited to bring your pets to Bethesda between 9.00am and 9.45am for a blessing.

**Weekly Services** Services on Sunday are 7:20am (Mattins) and Eucharist at 8am and 10am. Midday Prayers are offered in the church Monday-Friday at noon. On Wednesdays, mid-week prayers will be followed by the Eucharist. Saturday at 5pm there is a Rite II Eucharist in the chapel. Please see our [website](#) for service times and for on-line worship resources.

**If you are a visitor...**

Welcome to Bethesda Episcopal Church! We are glad you came, and would like to stay in touch. Please complete the following information and put this form in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be added to the parish list? \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be contacted by the clergy? \_\_\_\_\_

## **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 and can be provided if you do not have one.  
Hand sanitizer is required and will be provided 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.  
Hand sanitizer is required and will be provided before communion.  
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.