

Bethesda



TOWARD A THIRD CENTURY

SARATOGA



SPRINGS

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

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

27 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

Variations on a Latvian Hymn

Searle Wright (1918-2004)

The Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

*Celebrant
People*

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
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, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running to obtain thy promises, may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

The people are seated

The First Lesson

Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? "As I live," says the Lord God, "this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways," says the Lord God. "Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone," says the Lord God. "Turn, then, and live."

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

Gradual

Psalm 25:1-8

The Cantor sings the refrain first after which the congregation repeats.



To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes [refrain].
Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long [refrain].
Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord [refrain].
Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly [refrain].

The Second Lesson

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death -- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand, if able.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

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.

Let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Let us pray for the peace of the world: that the Lord grant that we may live together in justice and faith.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for this country, and all in authority: that the Lord help them to serve all people according to his holy will.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for children and young people: that the Lord guide their growth and development.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who are condemned to exile, prison, or harsh treatment, for the sake of justice and truth: that the Lord will support them and keep them steadfast.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the sick, especially those who have asked for our prayers: that the Lord deliver them and keep them in his love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for those who have died in the faith of Jesus Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone: that they may have a place in God's eternal kingdom.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We remember the prophets, apostles, martyrs, and all who have borne witness to the gospel: that the Lord will direct our lives in the same spirit of service and sacrifice.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Silence

The Celebrant concludes with a prayer:

The Confession

The people say together

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

The Liturgy of The Eucharist

At The Offertory 8a.m. St. Michael's Bells Joseph Bertolozzi (b. 1959)
10a.m. Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord

Old 124th Genevan Psalter
Arr. Farrell Goehring (b. 1957)

*Draw nigh and take the body of the Lord, And drink the Holy blood for you out poured.
Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the Victim and Himself the Priest.*

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 *Sung by all*

Healey Willan

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
 Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
 - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes

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

Sung by all

Healey Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -

way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -

on us. O Lamb of God, that

ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have

mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the

world, grant us thy peace.

At The Communion 8a.m. Song of the Angels Unknown Author
10a.m. Thee We Adore, O Blessed Savior Thomas Aquinas, Adoro te
Arr. Farrell Goehring (b. 1957)

*Thee we adore, O Blessed Savior, Thee Who in Thy Sacrament dost deign to be;
Adoro te devote, latens Deitas,
Both flesh and spirit at Thy Presence fail, Yet here Thy presence we devoutly hail.
Quae sub his figuris vere latitas;
Hidden God, devoutly we adore Thee, tibi se cor meum totum subji cit,
quia te contemplan totum deficit.*

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

William Mathias (1934-1992)

NOTICES

The Flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of Almighty God in loving memory of Alfred Moses Sr., Barbara Moses, Alfred Moses Jr., Patricia & Edward Stiles, George Remington, Helen Remington, Charles Dehn and Jan Ago by Gail & Tom Remington.

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. 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

Albany Diocese

Our Parish

Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

For a widespread use of the Daily Office among our people

Thanksgiving for Dean Vang's ministry as Interim Rector

We welcome our former interim Rector, the Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang as our celebrant and preacher at both services this morning.

We thank Ann and Kate Bullock for their gift of music at the 10a.m. service this morning.

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

Emails. To receive our emails sign up on 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. To email the wardens (Darren Miller and Kate Berheide) at wardens@bethesdachurch.org. Parish office email (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](mailto:office@bethesdachurch.org) (office@bethesdachurch.org) or phone (518) 584-5980.

Lectio Divina: Fall Bible Study continues Thursday, 1 October following Mid Day prayers. This week we will read the chapters 9-12 of the Gospel according to Mark. We will meet in the church.

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 meet on three consecutive Saturdays: 17 October, 24 October, and 31 October. Details for each week will be announced soon. 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

The Blessing of Animals This year, we honor St Francis of Assisi, 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 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, midweek 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.

Guidelines for Attending Church

Welcome to Bethesda Church. Thank you for joining us for worship today.
For your safety, we ask you to follow the guidelines below when attending our services.

Social distancing protocols will be observed at all times. Please do not attend church if you are currently ill or have been in contact recently with someone who is ill.

1. A mask is required at all times. If you require a mask, an usher will provide one for you.
2. Upon entry, please use the provided hand sanitizer.
3. Bathrooms are currently off-limits.

At the exchange of the Peace, please do not leave your pew.

At the distribution of Communion, remain in your pew until an usher invites you to move to the chancel step.

At the end of the service, only move when directed to do so by an usher.
Take your bulletin home or place it in the wastebasket at the door.

Financial contributions for the ministry of Bethesda Church are gratefully received. Please place your donation in the collection plates at the rear of the church. We appreciate your support.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

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? _____