



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

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

18 October 2020

8:00 am - Holy Eucharist

7:20 am - Morning Prayer

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

Retrospection

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

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.**

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in Christ hast revealed thy glory among the nations: Preserve the works of thy mercy, that thy Church throughout the world may preserve with steadfast faith in the confession of thy Name; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and thy Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The people are seated

The First Lesson

Isaiah 45: 1-7

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him--and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

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

Gradual

Psalm 96:1-9



Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

The Second Lesson

Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand, if able.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:15-22

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

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

The Sermon

Fr Wallace

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.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and William, our bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence. The Celebrant offers a prayer for the Church.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence. The Celebrant offers a prayer for peace.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence. The Celebrant offers a prayer for those in any need or trouble.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence. The Celebrant offers a prayer for guidance and trust.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and those known to God alone. Pray that God may be glorified in all his saints.

Silence. The Celebrant offers a prayer for the departed.

Intercessor: For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Celebrant offers a concluding prayer

The people respond Amen.

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, 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 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.

At The Offertory Saraband Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)

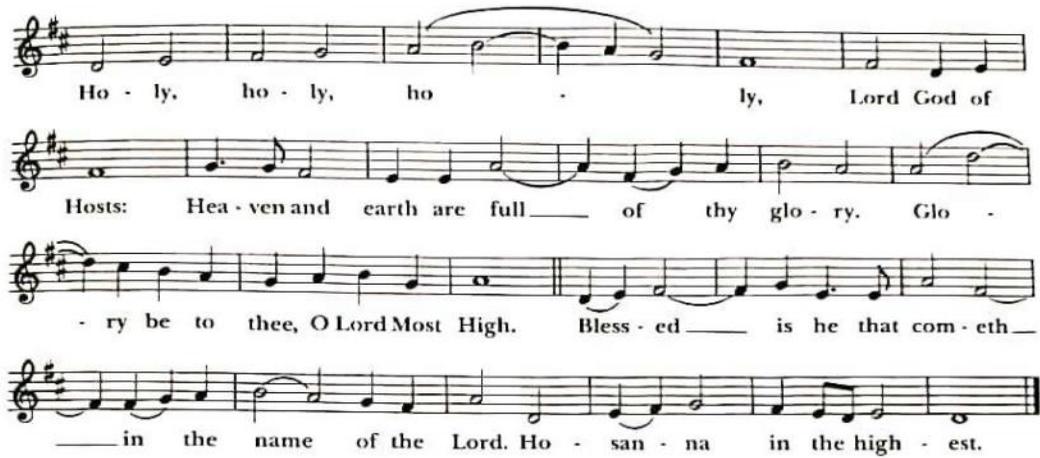
The Great Thanksgiving *Please stand, if you are able.*

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 Father

Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit *Sung by all*



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

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

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.

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

Paean

Ernest Tomlinson (1924-2015)

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

Rigaudon

André Campra - (1660-1744)

NOTICES

The Flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of Almighty God in celebration of the birthday of Dale Kavarovic given by Kate Kavarovic.

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 and Parish this week, we pray for

Anglican Communion	The Episcopal Church
Albany Diocese	Thanksgiving for God's mercy and love
Our Parish	For Physicians & Nurses

We remember with thanksgiving those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. We also pray for those who have died recently and those whose year's mind falls at this time.

Pastoral Care. Many of our members are not able to come to church at this time due to the pandemic or health conditions. To add a name to the parish prayer list, please ring the church office during office hours, or email Fr Wallace: frwallace@bethesdachurch.org

Parish 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.

Bethesda Walkers (aka Legs Misérables) will meet Saturday, 24 October, and 31 October. On October 24, weather permitting, Bethesda Walkers (aka Legs Misérables) will do an approximately two mile walk in Wilton Wildlife Preserve, meeting at the main (paved) parking lot on Scout Road at 10 am. The sign indicates it is parking lot number one. The trails we will take are relatively, although not completely, flat. Parts of them are sandy, others are dirt. In some places they are wide enough to allow for physical distancing across the width of the trail as well as along its length. Please register with the church office if you want to go on this walk (or the next one, which will be a three mile walk at Christ the King Conference Center in Greenwich on Oct. 31), via email (office@bethesdachurch.org) or phone (518) 584-5980. Please bring a water bottle, wear sturdy shoes, and a mask. This group is open to anyone interested in a walk in the woods and lively fellowship with fellow parishioners, friends and family. If you require transportation please let the office know.

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.

Help Needed: The vestry is hoping that you can make it for a socially distanced work day on Saturday October 24th. The following have been identified as priority issues for the upcoming work day. Other projects are possible as time and the number of volunteers allows. Your participation whatever your skills is greatly appreciated.

Clean up and organization of the undercroft, including removal of accumulated trash.

Painting of various areas in the nave.

Replacement of the current platform under the side altar with a smaller, more appropriately sized platform.

Refurbishment of some areas of woodwork especially wood paneling in the nave and narthex.

Cleaning of the courtyard at the back of the church, with removal of excess vegetation.

Various other small carpentry projects.

Upcoming Services

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.

All Souls' Vespers. On Sunday 8 November at 5pm, Bethesda Church will hold a service of Solemn Vespers to remember all those who have died during the past twelve months. This meditative liturgy, sung to Gregorian chant, will last 35-40 minutes. During the service, the names of those who have died since the beginning of the year will be read aloud. If you wish to add a name to this list, please email it to frwallace@bethesdachurch.org

Quiet Day at Bethesda. Mother Miriam, Superior of the Community of St Mary, Greenwich, New York, will offer a series of short talks at Bethesda on Saturday 21 November beginning at 9.30am. Plan to set aside some time for prayer and reflection before the busy holiday season is upon us. Please register with the church office if you wish to attend.

In the Community

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, deodorant, 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.

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? _____