



**Bethesda Episcopal Church  
26 Washington Street  
Saratoga Springs**

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

**Feast of Christ The King**

**22 November 2020**

**8:00am and 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**

Praise to the Lord Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

**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.

*The People Kneel*

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*

Hymn

"We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing

Anonymous Dutch

1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
 2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
 3. We all do ex - tol Thee, Thou lead - er in bat - tle,

He chas - tens and has - tens His will to make known;  
 Or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing His king - dom di - vine;  
 And pray that Thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

The wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing:  
 So from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning:  
 Let Thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:

Sing prais - es to His name, He for - gets not His own.  
 Thou, Lord, wast at our side— all glo - ry be Thine!  
 Thy name be ev - er praised; O Lord, make us free!

### The Collect of The Day

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



## **The Second Lesson**

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*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: 31-46

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

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

## The Sermon

Mother Miriam, CSM

### **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* With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."  
For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*  
For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*  
For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

For this city, Saratoga Springs, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

*To thee, O Lord our God.*

Silence.

*The Celebrant concludes with a 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** Wunderbarer König David Cherwien (b.1957)

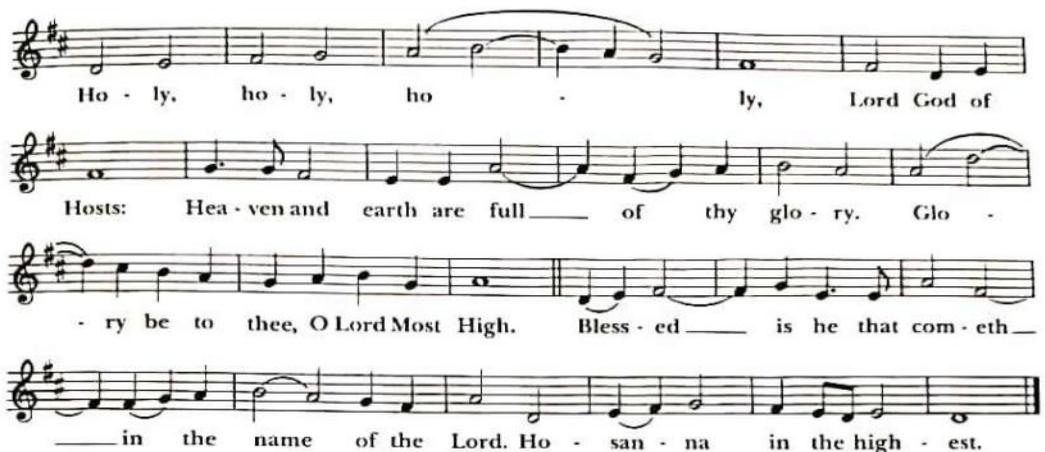
**The Great Thanksgiving** *Please stand, if you are able.*

*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

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord thou hast received us as thy sons and daughters, made us citizens of thy kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

**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.

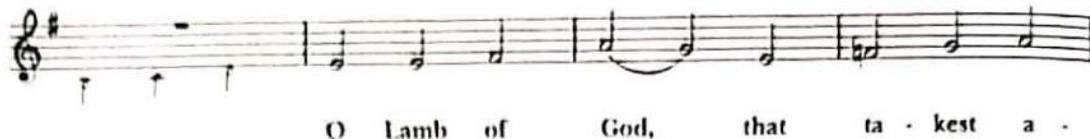
**Prayer of Humble Access**    *Said by all*

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.

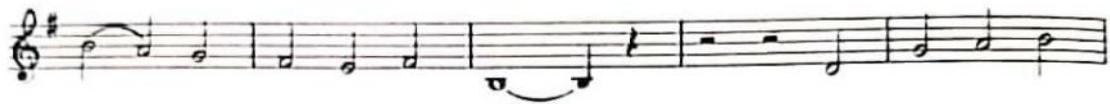
**Agnus Dei**

*Sung by all*

*Healey Wil-*



*lan*



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



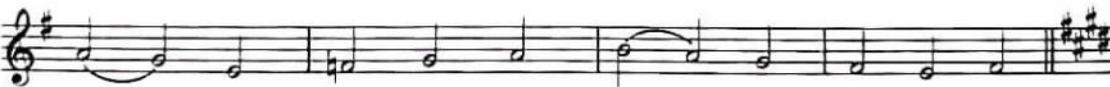
on us. O Lamb of God, that



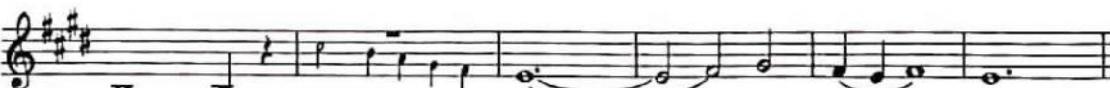
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have



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**

Reverie

William Harris (1883-1973)

**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**                      Praise My Soul the King of Heaven                      Lani Smith (1934-2015)

## **NOTICES**

The Flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of Almighty God in loving memory of Vestry member John Huppuch by the Vestry.

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 also 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 Church of Bermuda
Albany Diocese	For the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, and Trustees
Our Parish	Church Musicians; Community of St Mary, Greenwich, NY

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](mailto:frwallace@bethesdachurch.org)

**Needed.** We are making every effort to have our church open for prayer and service as much as possible. With this comes the need for additional disinfecting. If you are out and about and see a can or two of Lysol Disinfecting Spray, it would be most appreciated if you would get one for the church. Thank you.

**Many thanks** to Kathleen & Mark Anspach for all of their hard work in the church. Kathleen has spent many hours polishing pews, cleaning, as well as helping Mark replace countless floor tiles. The church is looking a bit brighter because of their hard work & dedication.

### **Parish Activities for December**

*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 ([office@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:office@bethesdachurch.org)) or phone (518) 584-5980.

**Bible Study on Infancy Narratives.** Following midday prayers at noon on Wednesday 9th and 16th December, Fr Wallace will lead a discussion on the story of Jesus's birth as told by the evangelists, Matthew and Luke. Please register with the church office.

The BBC (**Bethesda Book Club**) will meet on Monday 21 December at 7pm to discuss four short stories: The Gift of the Magi (O. Henry); The Saint and the Goblin (Saki/H.H. Munro); The Christmas Goblins (Dickens) and Between the Lights (E.F. Benson)

### **Special Services**

**Thanksgiving.** There will be a Eucharist at the High Altar to celebrate Thanksgiving on Wednesday, 25 November at noon. Midday prayers will be said at 12pm on Thanksgiving Day. All welcome.

**Organ Music.** Midday prayers on **Thursday 3, 10 and 17<sup>th</sup> December**, will include a series of organ meditations based on Advent – Christmas themes, played by Owen Reid, the Lloyd Cast Organ Fellow at the Cathedral of All Saints, Albany. Owen studied organ performance in the US at the Eastman School of Music and Southern Methodist University, and in the UK at St John's College, Cambridge University. Music by Bach, Brahms, Guilant, as well as contemporary composers. This service begins at 12pm.

**Planning for Christmas Services.** We are starting our planning with a short survey to provide an estimate of attendance and group size. This survey was sent from Bethesda Episcopal Church to all who are on our email list; be sure to check your spam/junk folder. Please call the office if you did not receive the survey, if you would like to be added to the email list or if you need a hard copy. Thank you for your help. More information on December services will be available shortly, and all available service information is on the Bethesda website at [bethesdachurch.org](http://bethesdachurch.org).

## Weekly Services

Monday – Friday	Midday Prayers	12pm
Wednesday	Eucharist	12pm
Saturday	Eucharist (Vigil of Sunday) Rite II	5pm
Sunday	Mattins	7:20am
	Eucharist	8am & 10am
	Children’s Program	10am

### 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.

- ◆ A mask is required at all times. If you require a mask, an usher will provide one for you.
- ◆ Upon entry, please use the provided hand sanitizer.
- ◆ 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.

office@bethesdachurch.org  
www.bethesdachurch.org  
<https://www.facebook.com/bethesdaepiscopalchurch>  
(518) 584-5980