

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Day of Pentecost: Whit Sunday

23 May 2021

10:00am Sung Eucharist

Prelude

Feria Pentecostes

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

The Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is Risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.**

Hymn Come down O Love divine

1 Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

3 And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

The Collect of The Day

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

O God, who on this day didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Savior, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The people are seated

The First Lesson

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs-- in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gradual [Congregation says the verses in bold]

Psalms 104:25-35,37

- 25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! *
 in wisdom you have made them all;
 the earth is full of your creatures.
- 26 **Yonder is the great and wide sea**
with its living things too many to number, *
creatures both small and great.
- 27 There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan, *
 which you have made for the sport of it.
- 28 **All of them look to you ***
to give them their food in due season.

- 29 You give it to them; they gather it; *
 you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
- 30 **You hide your face, and they are terrified; *
 you take away their breath,
 and they die and return to their dust.**
- 31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
 and so you renew the face of the earth.
- 32 **May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; *
 may the Lord rejoice in all his works.**
- 33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
 he touches the mountains and they smoke.
- 34 **I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; *
 I will praise my God while I have my being.**
- 35 May these words of mine please him; *
 I will rejoice in the Lord.
- 37 **Bless the Lord, O my soul. *
 Hallelujah!**

The Second Lesson

Romans 8:22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise 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.

*The Lector concludes
 The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

The people stand, if able.

The Holy Gospel

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

*Celebrant
 People*

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But, now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many things to say to you, but you

cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

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 *Pease kneel, if you are able.*

Let us pray to God the Holy Spirit, saying, "Come, Holy Spirit, come."

Come, Holy Spirit, creator, and renew the face of the earth.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, counsellor, and touch our lips that we may proclaim your word.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, power from on high: make us agents of peace, and ministers of wholeness.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, comforter, give to all who are sick, or in special need, your strength and guidance.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, breath of God, give life to the dry bones of this exiled age, and make us a living people, holy and free.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, wisdom and truth: strengthen us in the risk of faith.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

The Celebrant concludes with a Collect

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 Peace

Please stand, if you are able.

*Celebrant
People*

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

At The Offertory

Komm heiliger Geist, Herre Gott

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand, if you are able.

*Celebrant
People*

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant
People*

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.

*Celebrant
People*

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface of Pentecost

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; according to whose true promise the Holy Ghost came down on this day from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to thy Church the power to serve thee as a royal priesthood, and to preach the gospel to all nations.

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*



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 Der du bist drei in Einigkeit Johann Alberti (1642-1710)

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

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

Please stand as the ministers depart, if you are able.

Voluntary Komm heiliger Geist, Herre Gott Friedrich Zachau (1663-1896)

Notices

In our Intercessions for the Church and Parish this week, we pray for
Anglican Communion The Anglican Church of Melanesia
Albany Diocese For increase in the gifts of the Spirit
Our Parish Those serving in the armed forces

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.

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 be Memorial offerings, and also offerings of thanksgiving. Your gift is appreciated by all.

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>.

Financial Update: Year to Date April 2021

Income: Year to Date April, total Pledge and Plate giving was \$76,167. This was \$842 over our Budget of \$75,325. Month of April Pledge and Plate giving was \$3,940 under budget.

Operational Expenses year to date were \$97,609 This was \$223 under the budget of \$97,832.

Year to Date April, Operational Expenses have exceeded Pledge and Plate Income by \$21,442.

In the Community

LifeWorks Community Action (formerly EOC). Thank you to all those who have already donated items. At this time LCA 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 LifeWorks Community Action 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.

Upcoming Services and Events at Bethesda

Legs Miserables. Weather permitting, Bethesda Walkers (aka Legs Misérables) will meet this week on Wednesday, May 19 at 2 pm at the parking lot at Hudson Crossing Park, County Road 42, in Schuylerville.

If you are coming from Saratoga Springs on Rt. 29, you will turn left onto Rt. 4 (just after the high school), and then right onto County Road 42 (about a half mile after you turned onto Rt. 4). The park is on the island just past the Champlain Canal Lock 5. The parking lot will be on your right. If you get to the bridge taking you across the Hudson River, you've gone too far.

We will walk up some steps to the west of the parking lot to get to the Eagle Trail, walking along the canal side of the island until we get to Eagle Point where we have a view of the dam. We will return to the parking lot by following the Riverwalk Sensory Trail on the other side of the island. The walk is about two miles in total.

Please visit the website for more information: <https://www.hudsoncrossingpark.org/>

You can find the map of the trails, which also shows the location of the parking lot by clicking the following link: <https://www.hudsoncrossingpark.org/the-trails>

Comfortable walking shoes or tennis shoes, a water bottle, and a mask should be all that you need for this walk.

The third walk, which will be in the woods, will now take place on Wednesday June 16 at 2 pm. It will be a bit longer, a bit more challenging because it will include a hill or two, and perhaps a bit muddier (depends on how much rain we have in June). Details to follow.

The walkers group is open to anyone interested in a walk on a farm, in a park, or in the woods and lively fellowship with fellow parishioners, friends and family. More than a dozen of us had a great time last week when the weather finally cooperated and allowed us to walk the perimeter of Pitney Meadows Farm. If you want to join us this coming Wednesday, please register with the church office by phone (518) 584-5980.

Services

Today:	Services at 8am & 10am
Wednesday, 26 May	12pm Eucharist
Saturday, 29 May	5pm Vigil Eucharist (Rite II)
Sunday, 30 May	Services at 8am & 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.
- ◆ The windows will remain open, please dress accordingly.
- ◆ The ushers will record your name and phone number upon entry.
- ◆ "You must keep 6-feet between you and others not of your household when entering the Church and throughout the time you are in the Church."
- ◆ Pews are color coded for each service, 8am use blue pews, 10am use yellow pews.
- ◆ Bathrooms are currently for emergencies only.
- ◆ 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 gifts 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.

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