

# Bethesda Episcopal Church

## **The Feast of Dedication**

**3 October 2021**

Due to the increase in Covid cases in Saratoga County we highly recommend that masks are worn throughout the service.

**Prelude**

Introit

Antony Garlick (b. 1958)

## **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 Collect of The Day**

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

O Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer: We give thee thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshipped in this place; and we pray that all who seek thee here may find thee, and be filled with thy joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*The people are seated*

## **The First Lesson**

Genesis 28:10-17

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

*The Lector concludes*  
*The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 **The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \***  
**by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,  
my King and my God.**
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.
- 4 **Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \***  
**whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find  
it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 **They will climb from height to height, \***  
**and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**
- 7 O God, you will turn back and revive us. And your people will rejoice in you.
- 8 **O Lord, reveal to us your mercy, and grant to us your salvation.**
- 9 I will listen to what the Lord God may be saying to me. For he will speak peace to his people,  
and to his saints, and to those who are being converted to the heart.

### The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:1–5, 9–10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

*The Lector concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

*The People respond*

Thanks be to God.

*The people stand, if able.*

### The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:12-16

*Celebrant*

The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

*People*

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, 'It is written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer"; but you are making it a den of robbers.' The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry and said to

him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read, "Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?'

*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.*

*Lector* With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "**We thank you, Lord**"

For the Church universal, of which this building is a visible symbol, **We thank you, Lord.**

For your presence whenever two or three have gathered in your name, **We thank you, Lord.**

For this place where we may be still and know that you are God, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us, **We thank you, Lord.**

For our past and a vision of the future that lies ahead, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the gift of the Holy Spirit and new life in baptism, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the pardon of our sins when we have fallen short of your glory, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the holy eucharist in which we have a foretaste of your eternal kingdom, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with your goodness, **We thank you, Lord.**

For all those who, in years past, have worshipped in this place and now rest in the peace of Christ, **We thank you, Lord.**

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

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

*We ask that you now wear your mask until after receiving Communion.*

**At The Offertory**   Now thank we all our God

1 Now thank we all our God,  
with heart, and hands, and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms  
hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us!  
with ever-joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns  
with them in highest heaven,  
eternal, Triune God,  
whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be, evermore.

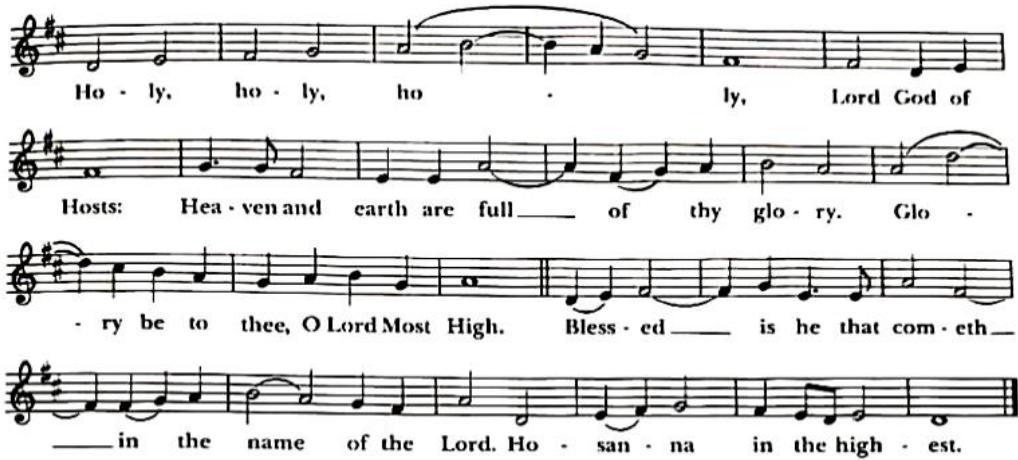
**The Great Thanksgiving**     *Please stand, if you are able.*

*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



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.

**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**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

Moonyeen Albrecht (1936-2020)

**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.

**The Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

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

**Voluntary**

This is the Day the Lord Hath Made

Warren Schmidt (1921-2010)



## *Notices*

In our Intercessions for the Church and Parish this week, we pray for:

Anglican Communion

The Church in Wales

Albany Diocese

For The Rt. Rev. Michael G. Smith, Assisting Bishop ; and

The Rev'd Derik Roy , Christ Church Ballston Spa

Our Parish

For those who have recently joined our parish community

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

To make a gift of Eucharist Elements for a month, or Altar flowers for a week, please contact the church office. Your generosity is appreciated.

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.

**Sunday School for children** is offered during the 10:00am service. For more information please see Sara Manny or call the church office.

**Fellowship after 10am service.** We are looking for a couple of volunteers to assist with refreshments after the 10am service next Sunday. Would you be willing to help? For further information, please call the office or speak to Fr Wallace.

**Parking.** Finding parking near Bethesda Church can be a nightmare. Parishioners and newcomers are reminded that the lot surrounding the church offers free parking for the first two hours.

Please keep in mind:

1. You are required to swipe a credit or debit card to enter/exit the lot. Your card is only charged if you are parked longer than two hours.
2. The lot is only accessible via the Congress Street gate. Certain spaces near Washington Street remain reserved for local residents, so do not park there.

Rates are as follows: First two hours are free. Additional hours: \$5 per hour up to \$20 maximum.

The **Bethesda roof project** has been delayed until early spring – about mid-March according to the new schedule. This is partly due to delays by the manufacturer for roofing material and the approach of shorter, colder days as well as possible inclement weather.

**Bible Study:** Jesus' seven great 'I Am' statements recorded in John's Gospel comprise a valuable resource for us to better understand and appreciate who He is and what He came to do. Join us Tuesday evenings at 6:30, to read and discuss each one of these profound statements. We will meet in the church. Please contact the church office to register.

**Book Group** – The Book Club meets to discuss "The Nine Tailors" by Dorothy Sayers on Thursday, 28 October at 7 pm. Please contact the office to sign up.

How to get your book: The library requested that individuals wanting copies of The Nine Tailors for the book group in October should request said copies at the library individually. They can provide either Saratoga Springs Public Library copies or obtain them through the Southern Adirondack Library System for readers. You can also order from Northshire Books on Broadway.

**Legs Misérables** Bethesda Walkers (aka Legs Misérables) will meet on three consecutive Thursday's at 2:30 pm: October 14, 21 and 28. **On October 14**, we will do a one mile walk along the Ellen Reid Soundwalk at the Saratoga Springs State Park, starting from the Creekside Classroom at 2:30 pm. The state park has many trails, but we will walk along the Geyser Creek trail, which is relatively, although not completely, flat. Some of it is paved and all of it is wide enough to allow for physical distancing. We wanted to start with a more leisurely and shorter walk that would accommodate parishioners of all ages and abilities and so will only do only one mile. Since we will be outside, masks are optional. For those who have them bring a smart phone and headphones to the walk so you can listen to the music that Ellen Reid has written for Saratoga Spa State Park. Please download the app for the Soundwalk before you arrive. Cell service in the park is not strong enough to make downloading easy. Here's the link to the Soundwalk app (<https://www.ellenreidsoundwalk.com/download>) It is at the very top of the webpage describing the Soundwalk on SPAC's website (<https://spac.org/ellen-reid-soundwalk/>).

Our next **Parish Workday**- We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Parish Workday. People with all talents and experience are welcome. You do not need to be "handy", just present! Coffee, donuts and lunch will all be served. There are a variety of projects we can tackle, including removing vegetation from around the church (bring your garden tools), removing wax from the pew cushions (bring your iron), some cleaning in the basement to get ready for the new furnace. Carpentry and basic electric skills and tools are particularly appreciated. Other project suggestions are welcome. We hope to be finished around noon, but stay for some lunch. Please let the church office or Steve Rucker know you are coming.

**LifeWorks Community Action** (formerly EOC). Thank you to all those who have donated. As you can imagine the need is ongoing. If you would like to help by donating here is a list of items needed.

- ◆ Foods low in salt, fat & sugar. Gluten Free foods.
- ◆ Household cleaning supplies.
- ◆ Sponges, laundry detergent, dishwasher detergent.
- ◆ Diapers (size 4 & 5) and baby wipes.
- ◆ Baby care products like baby shampoo and soap.
- ◆ Adult personal hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, deodorant.
- ◆ Did you have a garden this year? Do you have extra vegetables? Fresh veggies as well as other perishable food items like eggs, milk, butter, can be brought directly to the food pantry located at 39 Bath Street, Ballston Spa. Donations are accepted Monday - Friday from 9am to 4pm.

### Services

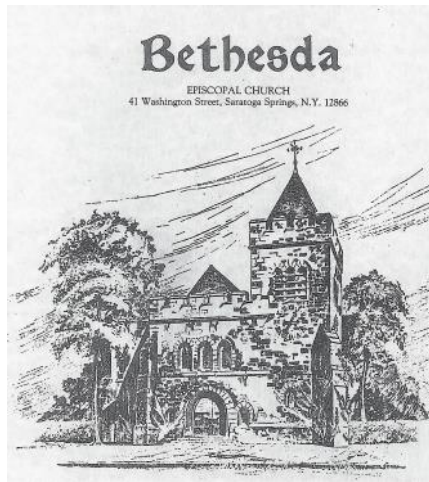
Monday to Friday	12 Noon Midday Prayers (Eucharist on Wednesdays)
Every Saturday	Vigil Eucharist (Rite II) 5pm
Every Sunday	Services at 8am & 10am.

**Advance Notice:** The Cathedral of All Saints, Albany, will hold its annual Bible Symposium on Saturday, 6th November. Garwood Anderson, President and Provost of Nashotah House Theological Seminary, is this year's presenter. His talk is on 1 Peter: entitled, "Aliens, Strangers, and Citizens: A First Century Vision for Twenty-first Century Christians." For further information and to register, please consult:

[www.cathedralofallsaints.org](http://www.cathedralofallsaints.org)

**Parish retreat in 2022.** Would you be interested in a three-day retreat at Holy Cross Monastery from 21-23 October 2022? Founded in 1884, the Order of the Holy Cross is a Benedictine religious order, in the Anglican/Episcopal tradition, located just south of Kingston, NY on Route 9W. The cost of the weekend is \$230, inclusive of (single) room and board. To reserve a place, a deposit of \$50 is required before 1 January 2022. For more information about the retreat, please speak to Fr Wallace. To learn more about the Order of the Holy Cross, consult their website at

[www.holycrossmonastery.com](http://www.holycrossmonastery.com)



## **The Parish Vestry**

### Churchwardens

*Class of 2022*

Darren Miller, *Senior Churchwarden*

*Class of 2021*

Catherine Berheide, *Junior Churchwarden*

### Vestry

*Class of 2021*

Pamela Houde  
John Van der Veer  
David Wilder

*Class of 2022*

Ann Bullock, *Clerk*  
Field Horne  
Steven Rucker

*Class of 2023*

Laura Kszan  
Marcia MacDonald  
Sara Manny

Karen Finkbeiner, *Treasurer*

### **The Parish Staff**

The Reverend Charles Wallace, *Priest in Charge*  
The Reverend Paul F. Evans, *Assisting Priest*  
Mrs. Barbara Latzko, *Parish Administrator*  
Mr. Robert E. Bullock, *Verger*

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