

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday of Easter

24 April 2022

We continue to recommend that masks are worn throughout the service.

Prelude Antiphon V: How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

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.**

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

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery hast established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through the same 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

Acts 5:27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles out of the temple, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

Gradual Psalm 150

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

- 1 Hallelujah!
Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.

5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
6 Let everything that has breath *
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson

Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood and made us to be a kingdom, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand, if able.

Hymn #204

From The Hymnal 1982

The Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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.*

This week, in our Anglican cycle of prayer, we remember the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea, and in the Albany diocese, we pray for the clergy and people of St Paul's Church, Keeseville and today we pray for our brothers and sisters in the Orthodox Church as they celebrate the Easter Feast.

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

In joy and hope let us pray to the Father:
That our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection, we pray to the Father:
Hear our prayer.

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter, we pray to the Father:
Hear our prayer.

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, we pray to the Father:
Hear our prayer.

That he may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, we pray to the Father:
Hear our prayer.

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world, we pray to the Father:
Hear our prayer.

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them, especially at this time, John, Doris, and Bruce: we pray to the Father:
Hear our prayer.

That, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day, we pray to the Father:
Hear our prayer.

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, we pray to the Father:
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes with a Collect

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 *All stand. At the exchange of the Peace, please remain in your pew.*

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

At The Offertory Hymn #193

From The Hymnal 1982

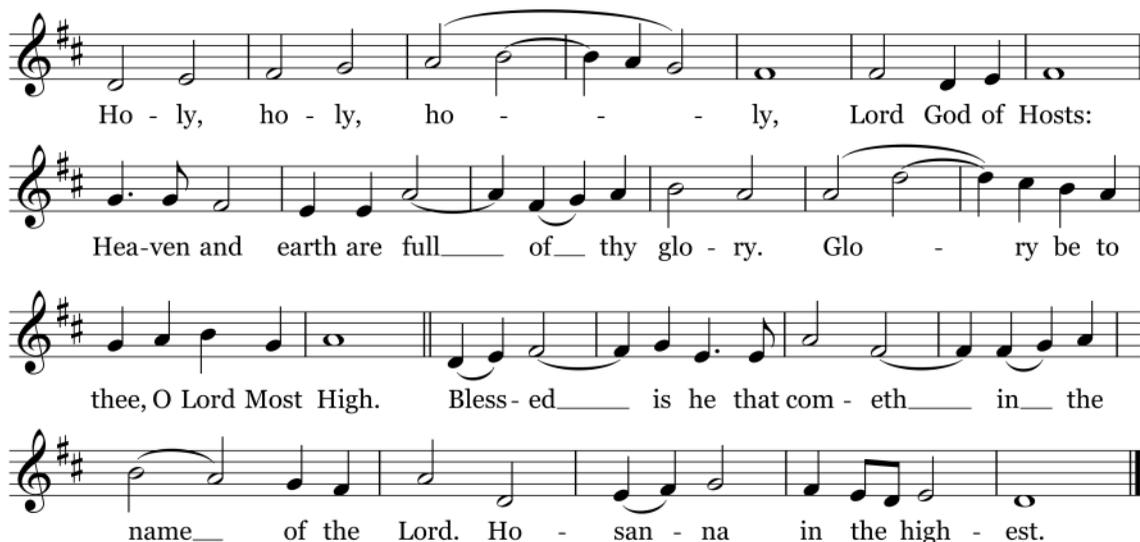
The Great Thanksgiving *Please stand.*

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 Easter

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. Who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

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.*

Prayer Book Page 340

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: Missa Quinti Toni

Orlando di Lasso (1532 – 1594)

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Communion is distributed at the chancel step. Please remain seated until directed by an usher.

At The Communion Blessed Are They

George A. MacFarren (1813-1887)

Blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.

John 20: 29

The Post Communion Prayer *Said by all.*

Almighty and ever living 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 and Dismissal

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.

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

Please stand as the celebrant departs.

Voluntary Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

Today at Bethesda

The **Flowers** on the Altar are given in loving memory of Nancy Gilliland by John Gilliland.

April's special monthly envelope is for the Clergy Discretionary Fund (CDF) at Bethesda. As the parish has been open and more visible in recent months, we have increasingly seen situations where assistance is needed. The CDF gives the priest-in-charge a pool of funds to pull from when small requests or pastoral matters arise. The fund remains the property of the parish. All gifts are tax deductible to the donor.

Thank you to members of the **Pastoral Care Committee** for delivering meals, baked goods and Easter flowers to those who are homebound and in care facilities. If there is someone who you would like remembered in our weekly prayers, please add their name to the list on the tract table at the back of the church.

We are pleased to report that we received \$1607 in donations from our special monthly envelopes in January and February. This assists us with the considerable cost of heating the church in winter months. In March we raised \$2015 to be divided among five local charities: Franklin Community Center; the Mother Susan Anderson Emergency Shelter, Lifeworks Community Action and the feeding ministry team at the Presbyterian – New England Congregational Church, and Christ Church Food Pantry, a ministry of the Episcopal parish in Ballston Spa. Thank you so much for your generosity and support.

Upcoming at Bethesda

Easter Lessons and Carols. On Sunday 1 May, there will be a service of **Readings and Music for Easter** at 10am.

Study of **Genesis** class will not meet today. Class resumes 1 May at 9:20am. All welcome.

Legs Misérables. Bethesda's **walking club** meets on three dates in May. If you wish to join fellow parishioners for a healthy walk, engaging conversation and lively fellowship, please contact the office: 518 584 5980. Dates, times and venues are listed below.

Wednesday 4 May	Pitney Farm at 10 AM
Tuesday 10 May	Saratoga State Park at 2 PM
Tuesday 17 May	Hudson Crossing at 2 PM

News

Financial Update: Year to Date March 2022 Income: Year to Date March, total Pledge and Plate giving was \$57,408, which is on budget. Our thanks to those who have helped us to have a good start to the year. Operational Expenses year to date were \$87,194, which is \$9,351 over the budget. The overrun is primarily due to expenses being paid at a different time than when they were planned in the budget. Thanks to generous giving at the end of 2021, we had surplus cash this year to cover the gap between Operational Expenses and Pledge and Plate Income.



Roof Replacement. The weather remains uncooperative – wind and rain are bad enough but snow? Despite the inclement weather, work on the roof continues. The south facing side of the church has had the old roof removed, and new plywood decking and ice/water barrier installed. Also, some of the new metal roof panels have been installed on the southwest side of the roof. The church has remained dry, and the debris has been minimal. A big thank you to the **Holy Rollers!** We were able to quickly remove the plastic sheeting, clean and prepare the church in time for Holy Week and Easter. If you would like to volunteer a bit of your time with the Holy Rollers, please contact the parish office.

In The Community

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.

- ◆ Microwaveable convenience meals
- ◆ Disposable plates/bowls and silverware
- ◆ 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.

Fresh vegetables 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.

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>.

Fr. Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge

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