

# Bethesda Episcopal Church

**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**8 May 2022**

**Prelude**

Voluntary in B-Flat

Jonathan Battshell (1738-1801)

**The Opening Acclamation**

*The people standing, the Officiant says*

*Officiant* 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.**

**The Collect of The Day**

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

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated*

**The First Lesson**

Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

**Gradual** The King of Love

Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

- 1 The King of Love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His and He is mine for ever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul He leadeth,  
And where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed; But yet in love He sought me,  
And on His shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with Thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still; Thy Cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight; Thy unction grace bestoweth;  
And O what transport of delight from Thy pure chalice floweth.

6 And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise within Thy house for ever.

## **The Second Lesson**

Revelation 7:9-17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

*The Lector concludes*  
*The People respond*

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

*The people stand, if able.*

## **Hymn 663**

From The 1982 Hymnal

## **The Holy Gospel**

John 10:22-30

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

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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

## **The Sermon**

Robert Bullock

**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.*

This week in our Anglican cycle of prayer, we remember the Church in Nigeria; and in the Albany diocese, the upcoming Young Adult Fellowship Day. And in our worship today, we especially remember and give thanks for our mothers.

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

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, *Lord, have mercy.*  
For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord: **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 President, and for the leaders of all nations, that wisdom and courage may prevail in the cause of justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, oppression, and degradation; for all affected by violence and war, and especially at this time, for the people of Ukraine, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the city of Saratoga Springs, and 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, especially at this time John, Laura, Bruce and Janice.

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 the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, 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.**

*The Officiant says*

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Officiant introduces the Confession*

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

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 Assurance of Pardon**

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

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

**At The Offertory**     **Hymn 343 (10am)**

From The 1982 Hymnal

*The Officiant says*

The Church of Christ,  
of which we are members,  
has taken this bread and wine  
and given thanks according to the Lord's command.

Let us now share together  
in the communion of his body and blood.

*All kneel*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Savior taught us, let us pray

*People and Officiant*

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.

**Agnus Dei** *Said at 8am; Sung at 10am*

Communion Service in Eb

Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

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

*The Officiant invites the people to receive Communion, saying*

The Gifts of God for the people of God

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

**At The Communion** (10am) Surrexit Pastor Bonus

Pietro Vinci (1540–1584)

Surrexit pastor bonus qui animam suam posuit pro ovibus suis,  
et pro grege suo mori dignatus est. Alleluia.

*The Good Shepherd has arisen, who laid down his life for his sheep,  
and who for his flock deigned to die. Alleluia.*

**The Post Communion Prayer** *Said by all, kneeling if you are able.*

O God, whose blessed Son did manifest himself to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open, we pray thee, the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**Dismissal**

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

**Hymn** (10am) 646

From The 1982 Hymnal

*Please stand as the ministers depart.*

**Voluntary** (10am)

Grand Choeur

William Faulkes (1863-1933)

## **Today at Bethesda**

The **Flowers on the Altar** today are given in loving memory of William H. Sutton, Sr., Cornelia May Sutton, Minna Jane Sutton, William H. Sutton, Jr., Muriel Armer Sutton, George Hodgson Sr., May Sutton Hodgson, Fred H. Hodgson, Rod O. Sutton, Albert M. & Elizabeth M. Chandler, by Shauna Sutton.

**Thank you** to Bob Bullock, our Verger, for preaching at services this morning.

**May special monthly envelope:** Donations from the Monthly Envelope in May will be directed to the Beaver Cross Camp Scholarship Fund. Beaver Cross, our diocesan camp in Greenwich, NY, seeks to make its summer programs available to every eligible child who wishes to participate in its activities, regardless of a family's financial circumstances. Each year, funds are raised to meet the need for scholarships. Please support this enriching experience for children from all walks of life.

## **Upcoming at Bethesda**

**The study of Genesis** meets today and throughout the month of May at 9:20. All welcome.

***Legs Misérables.*** is open to anyone interested in a leisurely walk and lively fellowship with fellow parishioners, friends and family. Please register with the church office if you want to go on one or more of these walks, via email ([office@bethesdachurch.org](mailto:office@bethesdachurch.org)) or phone (518) 584-5980. If you are registered, we can notify you if the walk plans change. Our first scheduled walk was cancelled due to rain, so the new schedule follows with further information about the first walk.

May 10—Saratoga State Park

May 17—Pitney Farm

May 24—Hudson Crossing

On May 10<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at the Creekside Classroom (down by Geyser Creek) in the Saratoga Springs State Park at 2:00 pm. We will do a short, more leisurely walk along the Geyser Creek trail, which is relatively, although not completely, flat. Some of it is paved. Please bring a water bottle and wear comfortable walking shoes or tennis shoes. If the weather is not suitable, the walk will be rescheduled if possible.

**Roof Replacement.** We are getting close to having the rest of the old roof removed. Only the lower east side remains but again the weather is getting in the way. Once the old roof is removed and made water-tight, we will no longer need to cover the pews.



Work has progressed nicely with the addition of metal roofing on the western side of the church.

Of course, much work remains – as the metal clad roofing, trim and gutters still need to be installed. The tentative completion date is early July.



Meanwhile, inside the church, work has started on the side door located in the memorial chapel, in the area next to the organ. Lamb Studios, which has a long history with Bethesda, removed the glass from the door and transported it back to their facilities for restoration. A temporary plywood insert was installed, and the beautiful wooden door will be refinished.

Fr Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge

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